ORIGINAL ARTICLE



A Test for Existence

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ABSTRACT

Dear reader, does not COVID-19 remind you of the pandemics from the previous two examples? However, the situation is now not exactly the same – there is no World war. I truly hope that this time the higher powers that govern us have not included a war as an inevitable necessity to change our course.

Key words: Asteroid, COVID-19, human civilization, pandemic, world war

ear reader, which human civilization are we now? The one that will continue the path forward or the one that will have to be, once again, erased from the face of the earth, and replaced by a new version. How does this sound to you? A very cruel and inhumane hypothesis? Or yet another computer game? Some scientific studies actually suggest that there may be truth to this hypothesis. Here are a few specific examples:

We already know of several universal catastrophes throughout the history of the earth that has brought doom to almost every living creature on the planet. Following each of those catastrophic events, life on earth emerged and developed again. What we talk about here are the catastrophes caused by huge asteroids colliding with the earth. Each of those collisions has been fatal for life on earth. The evidence of one such collision is the crater Chicxulub located in the Yucatan Peninsula, at the Gulf of Mexico. Its age is about 65 million years, and its width is about 177 km. It wiped out 75% of life on the planet and was considered one of the reasons for the extinction of the dinosaurs.

There is no scientifically proven evidence that there were human civilizations in existence at the time of the Chicxulub asteroid collision. However, there is evidence of a human civilization that existed about 4.4 million years ago, which has disappeared without a trace. This is the civilization of the humanoid *Ardipithecus ramidus*, widely known currently as Ardi. The traces of the Ardi civilization were discovered

in 1994 in the Middle Awash region in Ethiopia by an international scientific team. The team's first discovery was fragments of the bones and the skull of a female individual. From those, the scientists reconstructed the skeleton of a humanoid, which they called *Ardipithecus ramidus*. The ancient humanoid that lived 4.4 million years ago became known worldwide by the pet name Ardi. We know that Ardi's teeth and skull were very similar to ours, and much more similar than the chimpanzee's. We also know that they walked upright. And... that is all. Ardis civilization has disappeared without a trace. The reason, for now, is unknown. Another similar example for a humanoid race that disappeared without a trace is the famous Lucy (Australopithecus Afarensis), dating 3.2 million years ago.

So how did those ancient civilizations disappear? Here's my hypothesis. I think that, in their development, they gradually diverted from the path that the higher powers had planned for them and took a wrong direction. Probably after a number of tests carried out by the higher powers, it became clear that the return on the right path was not possible. And then the asteroids came and did their part. But I cannot accept that in nature something that was created, had reached certain stage of development and created its own energy field, can disappear. To change, to recycle, yes! but not to disappear. I think that the energy field continues to exist in nature, and in the new beginning which follows, in the newborn world, this field finds its place.

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Now let us focus on our civilization. Why do not we review some historical facts in search for an evidence of actions taken by the higher powers to correct the direction of our development and put us back on the right path? Furthermore, what are the criteria that distinguish such actions? For now, I can't define what "the right path" means. But I think that the most important criteria, indicating that a higher power is getting involved in an attempt to correct out course, are the following: When this happens, a huge number of people die in a short period of time. Throughout the history of our civilization, the events that have repeatedly caused the highest loss of human life have been wars, accompanied by or followed by pandemics. Neither the wars nor the pandemics could have been prevented. They were not subject to human control. It is time to face the facts.

First, the asteroids, we are already well aware of their deadly role. And are we taking measures to eventually prevent a possible asteroid collision? Sort of. Here are some specific examples of such actions: NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) collaborate on a program, called AIDA, which aims to explore the various possibilities of deflecting the course of near-earth orbiting asteroids. The project also provides for a real asteroid deflection test in 2021.

Sophisticated automatic systems are now in place for monitoring asteroids, and singling out those that can be in a dangerous proximity. These monitoring systems, working to protect the earth, periodically provide information about potentially threatening asteroids. There are a number of international agencies in charge of detecting dangerous space objects. Some of those agencies are: Lincoln Near-Earth Asteroid Research, Team LINEAR; Near-Earth Asteroid Tracking, Team NEAT; Spacewatch, Lowell Observatory Near-Earth-Object Search, Team LONEOS; Catalina Sky Survey, etc.

Is everything that has been done so far sufficient?

Here is what a rudimentary test, perhaps conducted by extraterrestrial forces, shows: On the morning of February 15, 2013, the so-called Chelyabinsk Meteor exploded over the Ural region in Russia. According to some unconfirmed sources, the meteor was intercepted and destroyed at about 20 km above the earth's surface by an air-defense military division near Urzhumka. This extraordinary collision affected the residents of the Tyumen, Kurgan, and Sverdlovsk regions of Russia as well as the northern territories of Kazakhstan. The most damages were registered in the Chelyabinsk region. NASA estimated the blast power of the celestial body to be at 500 kT, which is 30 times more powerful than the Hiroshima nuclear bomb. The diameter of the Chelyabinsk Meteor at its entry into the atmosphere was 17 m and the mass – 10 thousand tones. While military actions had never been officially confirmed, the aftermath of the explosion shows that, despite all the agencies and programs, including the military, this meteor was detected only at its entry into the earth's atmosphere. If it was a little larger it would have reached the earth's surface and caused perhaps the destruction of entire cities. The result of this test, assuming it had been conducted, is clearly negative. It is quite possible, if we do not take decisive measures, the next meteor of the size of 2–3 km in diameter that collides with the earth, to cause the extinction of most of the existing life on the planet and trigger yet another evolutionary beginning.

Now, what about the wars and the pandemics?

We will discuss only three examples here: One from the ancient history, one from a century ago, and a currently on-going one.

The year is 1347. Wars are fought all over Eurasia. However, the war victims seem to be insufficient to change the path of development of our civilization. And so, a pandemic of bubonic plague appears (the so-called Black Death). The disease was caused by the bacterium Yersinia Pestis. There are no data about the exact number of human deaths caused by the bubonic plague. The number varies depending on the location. In urban centers, the greater the population before the outbreak, the longer the period of high mortality. The Black Death killed between 75 and 200 million people in Eurasia. In 2007, the American historian Philip Delider, who specializes in studying the middle ages, writes: "The recent research points to a mortality rate of around 45%-50% of Europe's population in a 4-year period. However, the number varies significantly based on the geographic location. In Mediterranean Europe, in the regions such as Italy, South France, and Spain, where the plague lasted for about four consecutive years, the number of deaths is probably closer to 75-80% of the population. In Germany and England, the number is probably closer to 20%." According to the Norwegian historian Ole Benediktov, the mortality rate reached 60% of the population of Europe. Finding a cure was impossible at that time. At present, while the bacterium still exists, the disease is 100% treatable by antibiotics.

Going back to my hypothesis, the combination of wars and pandemic in the 14-century resulted in loss of human life that was finally sufficient to ensure that our civilization is back on the right path. What followed was the development of significant social, economic, and political changes.

The year is 1914. The First World War had just begun. Four years later, when the war was finally over, more than 15 million people had died. Again, similar to the previous example, those numbers were insufficient to change the path of our development and the war was followed by a deadly pandemic. In 1918, the pandemic of the so-called Spanish influenza began. It was caused by the flu viruses' types A

and B. It lasted until December 1920 and spread to the whole world. The flu reached even the Arctic and the remote island archipelagos in the Pacific Ocean. The number of victims was between 50 and 100 million. Moreover, very peculiarly, there is no clarity in the historical and epidemiological data about the geographical origin of the pandemic. Perhaps it was an alien source? However, it is clear that one of the main factors for the emergence of the pandemic was the enormous increase in the number of people traveling globally.

What followed the combination of a war and a pandemic in the early 20-century were significant, but obviously insufficient, social, economic, and political changes. I say those were insufficient because only 19 years later the Second World War began. This was a global war. It ended in 1945. The victims were between 70 and 85 million. Finally, the loss of human life was sufficient to lead to the necessary change of the path of our development. The World War II was followed by sweeping changes that impacted the whole world. The 75 years that followed were a period of extremely dynamic development. And gradually, it seems we may have again strayed away from the right path.

The year is 2019, the month of December. The new Corona virus 2019-nCov appeared now better known as COVID-19. It was first identified in China and is a new strain of Coronavirus, which has so far not been discovered in humans. Only 3 months later, on March 3, 2020, the WHO declared the epidemic of COVID-19 as a pandemic. Within 3 months, the virus has already spread to over 114 countries. There is currently no specific treatment yet for this disease.

Dear reader, does not COVID-19 remind you of the pandemics from the previous two examples? However, the situation is now not exactly the same – there is no World war. I truly hope that this time the higher powers that govern us have not included a war as an inevitable necessity to change our course. But I think there are some conditions that we have to fulfill in order to avoid the war, and ensure the results of this "Test for Existence" are positive. First of all, in the coming months, and not more than a year, we probably need to find a specific treatment for the COVID-19 disease. Far more important, however, is to understand where in the path of our development we are again making mistakes and how much time we have to correct it.

The current situation with the fight against the virus gives us a few clues. For example, it turns out that hundreds of millions of us, using the modern means of communication, can work in our homes and do not have to use personal or public transit to go to work daily. Furthermore, many of our children can be schooled in our homes using video link and so, again, saving on transportation and fuel. Many of us during the crisis will probably be satisfied with simpler and more economically prepared food and will understand that the luxury food is unnecessary. Moreover, according to scientists from the World Climate Council, one of the biggest carbon dioxide pollutants globally is the production of meat by the food industry. According to those scientists, if we want to stop global warming, it is imperative that we drastically reduce our meat consumption. One steak every 2 weeks is the maximum that one person can eat to not disturb the balance in nature. At present, 2 ha of land are used to feed a person eating mostly meat. Can people be vegan? We certainly can, and the same 2 ha necessary to feed one person with a meat-centric diet, will be enough to sustain a healthy lifestyle for 80 individuals with a vegan diet. Breaking the balance in nature – this is probably one of our major mistakes.

Dear reader, what other mistakes are we punished for by the COVID-19? It is likely that each of us will not only feel deeply what those mistakes are, but will also feel a deep, inexplicable need to fight with all his might to correct them. Was there a way for us to wake up, without the coronavirus pandemic, and understand these simple things at a subconscious level? I don't think that was possible. Probably the combination of "war and pandemic," however cruel it may be, is the only way to correct the path of the development of our civilization when we have made gross mistakes. And making mistakes at the lower stages of development is obviously inevitable.

Dear reader, I hope that we have already reached a higher stage in our development so that we are able to understand in a timely manner where we are wrong and correct our mistakes without the need for pandemics and wars.

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