

RULING OF MAN

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A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF THE
RULING OF MAN BY MAN, AND ITS DISAS-
TROUS EFFECTS ON THE WELL-BEING OF
MANKIND

BY

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FOREWORD

The time is opportune for the publication of our comrade Humphrey's pamphlet "The Ruling of Man by Man". Today in Spain the long oppressed workers are demonstrating to the world that Anarchism is not only the most beautiful ideal system of society that man has yet dreamed of, but above all the most practical.

As in the early days of the Russian Revolution, when the workers shook off the shackles of the old system, unhampered by the abstract theories of the armchair revolutionists, the instinctive genius of the common people found expression in free association.

Inspired by the teaching of the anarchists they immediately set up committees for the expropriation and distribution of food, fuel, tools and housing, by so doing they were the greatest factor in bringing the revolution to a successful issue. Unfortunately they allowed the politician to come in and seize power and so thwart their efforts and build up the tyrannical slave state of the U. S. S. R.

The Spanish people have a long tradition of Anarchist teaching. In Catalonia as they destroyed the system they built up the new. In all industries they took over they have proved that by free organisation, based on free agreement, the industries can be run more efficiently and economically. The authoritarian press, both of the left and right, are suppressing these truths; they do not want the people to know that only through Freedom can life be sweet and clean. Such knowledge would be dangerous to their ambitions, it would frustrate all their plans of being the new masters of humanity.

The coming Social Revolution must eliminate all vestige of government, in so far as it fails to do so, it will be a failure, for all that remains of the old will poison the new. A successful revolution must be a complete negation of its base of departure. Proudhon's statement is a profound truth, that "A half completed revolution is a counter-revolution in itself"

This is the ideal and hope of the anarchist when the "Ruling of man by man" will cease; then will vanish war, poverty and crime, and man will be able to meet his brother in fellowship.

Fellowship is life, lack of Fellowship is Death.

M. Kavanagh.

RULING OF MAN BY MAN

A brief review of the history of the ruling of man, and its disastrous effects on the well being of mankind.

The title contains but five words, yet they strike at the whole structure of society. In the minds of most people "Ruling of man, by man" has existed for all time. That is not so; ruling of man can be said to have had its origin in the struggle between fear and reason, when man in his ignorance of the forces of nature, attributed the sound of the wind in the trees and the storms, to pleased, or angered spirits; and the destruction by lightning and earthquakes caused him to recognise his helplessness against these unknown powers.

The egoists of that time made use of this disturbed state of mind among their fellows, and commenced the submission of the many to the dominance of the few.

Rulers have functioned for so long that no one can reasonably ask for further experiment, they have become so much a part of our life, that almost every one agrees that society could not carry on without leaders to guide and protect us from the other fellow. How very curious it is that everyone thinks they are alright, but that it is the "other fellow" who needs control.

Man is the only animal that has degenerated to such a low moral state, as to need control, guidance and protection from members of his own species. Notwithstanding all those thousands of years of control, guidance and protection, he is the only animal, that kills, tortures and persecutes his own kind.

The following extract is from the first issue of the "World Citizen" an official organ of a society desirous of setting up a new set of Rulers.

"The coming of Anarchy in Europe is now imminent; the reign of panic-fear draws nearer and nearer, the unconscious primitive beast in man is straining at the leash.

Europe cannot survive as a comity of nations, with central organisations gone, the nations will return to Anarchy, to the rule of gangster elements. Men will fight men, regardless of nationality, like wolves in defence of their mates and young."

Has this writer just dropped from the clouds, does he know nothing of man's history under rulers? Has

there been any cessation of "killing of man by man" since rulership became an institution? What of the last twenty years blood-bath?

Anarchy means no ruler, that is all, it contains no reference to chaos, could a state of anarchy be worse than things are today. We see a state of anarchy in the bird and animal world, also, anarchy must have existed with primitive man, and mutual aid was the order of the day, as it is among all vegetarian birds and animals at the present time. We must remember also, that it was during that long period of Anarchy that man evolved all his human sympathies, social and moral qualities, which the rulers are doing their utmost to suppress.

Evidently the editor, like so many others, is unable to visualise human life under anarchy: that man reached a far higher moral state of society under anarchy than under the guidance of religious rulers or under the control and protection of selected rulers, good or bad, under these man has sunk beneath the jungle plane.

Some people attempt to excuse the existence of this unnatural institution of government by pointing to a leader in a herd of cattle, or a flock of sheep. What a confession of intellectual inferiority and moral degeneracy, a drop back to the level of sheep!

This comparison is a fallacy; the so-called leader in a herd of cattle is a "pioneer", a searcher after food, for new feeding grounds. In no way does he dominate his fellows, the herd is free to follow, or remain, as they please, it is their social nature that urges them to keep together. This social custom exists among all vegetarian birds and animals, among flesh-eaters it is seldom seen, they have to track down their prey and seldom more than a pair go together. The wolf is perhaps, the nearest approach to the social state, but this is an emergency measure rather than a normal custom, they form packs during times of scarcity, for protection, and to enable them to attack larger animals, not as man does, when ordered by his rulers, to kill his own kind; animals have no rulers, their's is free association.

Man is by nature a vegetarian, hence his strong social nature, these two characteristics in man goes to show, that the editor, and others who think there is a "tiger element in man" are quite wrong. The "primitive beast in man" exists only in man's perverted nature, and disappears with the disappearance of that which perverted his nature.

Let us look at the results of these rulers of men, their successes and failures, as they would were they employing a mechanic. From him they would expect a continuous chain of successes, they would not tolerate a continuous chain of failures, as we do from the ruling classes. I know of nothing that can be said in their favour, other than that they are true to their own class, irrespective of colour or nationality, as they have shown on so many occasions, when it has been a case between the rulers and the people. The blood ties of Fascism are so evident in this direction, that they should not need to be mentioned.

Governments exist for the avowed purpose of preserving the freedom of the people. What a reflection on the mentality of mankind, who for many hundreds of years have accepted this fraud. How can they govern without restricting the liberty of the people; every law generates a need for another law, we now have so many laws that one could not read them through in a lifetime, yet there are millions of people who think they are necessary, because of the other fellow, what a handy fellow he has been to governments.

All have heard the saying "Those whom the gods wish to destroy they first drive mad" Are not the rulers of today mad, are they not leading the world on to destruction? Known history shows that it was rulers who first generated fear and hatred between the clans and tribes, and they have never ceased. Who is it but the ruling classes that are systematically generating hatred between the peoples of today, the world over? A few years ago the British Government developed such deep hatred of the German people, that one could not imagine that any further friendship would be possible, yet we see, above all people, Lloyd George visiting Hitler, and at the same time that Hitler is murdering democracy and freedom in Spain. When will the people see through the sham, hollow mockery of the whole business?

They are able to develop this friendship as there is no natural enmity between any people and the social nature of mankind; and now it is our former ally, Russia whom they wish us to hate. It was the Czar who organised the pogroms on the Jews; to their credit the people of Russia have ceased the unnatural practice. Not to be outdone the degenerate German Fascists have revived the horrible business, and our cultured English gentlemen follow suit, but -- be it noted -- it is the poor or

middle-class who suffer, not the really rich Jews.

An outstanding example, and at the same time an open confession, of the conscious and deliberate cultivation of the war mania, was given by Lord Salisbury on the 6th July 1898. In the House of Lords he said: "It is useless to talk of war with the Boers, the people are not prepared for it." The next day the press commenced an intensified campaign of slander on the Boers. The people were demanding war in November.

Let us look around today and see who is demanding war; certainly not the people in any country; even in Japan there are peace movements and demonstrations demanding that the Japanese government cease war. In this country we see the government piling up huge stocks of war material, spending millions in that direction, and at the same time medical men and others are calling attention to the widespread semi-starvation among the people. Can anyone show that governments have been a success on the international field?

When this country was ruled by Barons, there was continuous warfare between them, our castles are relics of that period. As the number of Barons decreased the frequency of their wars decreased. When kings came into power civil wars between them was the order of the day, when one ruling house came into power, civil wars ceased. International war is simply an extension of civil war, while ruling classes exist, wars will exist. This should be obvious to anyone. To the ruling classes any international movement among the people is like a red rag to a bull. Every set of rulers is fully aware that if national boundaries were abolished, their end would be near.

Language has the same basis in all birds, animals and man. Speech is simply a regulated expression of our thoughts, feelings and emotions. A national language is a developed dialect, more specialised in the modulations of sound. A man does not change, mentally or physically when he learns another language. The people of India have been divided by their rulers in the past, by means of religion and dialect, as the rulers have done with all other nations. All these differences are fostered by rulers as they form excuses or means, whereby they can generate race hatred, and so lead on to war.

Who can estimate the cost of war in life and wealth during the intervening periods as well as during wars, or the degrading and degenerating effects on mankind?

At the top is the diplomatic service made up from members of the ruling class. Diplomatic is a respectable name for cunning, or deceit. These people are specially trained to be false friends, and are paid according to their ability in this direction.

Then we have the Army, Navy, Air Force and Police. These again are controlled by members of the ruling class, who seem to regard man simply as cannon fodder. The rank and file of the army, navy, air force and police are selected from the most physically fit of the nation.

The rank and file of the police are a mixed lot, physically fit, but with different mentalities, some regard every worker as a potential criminal, especially if he is in opposition to the ruling classes, this antagonism is particularly noticeable with many magistrates and judges, they make every excuse and give encouragement to Fascist brutality, and seek every opportunity to punish their opponents.

The immense number of people employed in these organisations of destruction and suppression of the people, are non-productive, but consume immense amounts of wealth. All the people that are engaged in producing the needs of these organisations, that is, their housing, food, clothing, war material, means of transport, such as motors, ships and railways, etc. again are unproductive because all they produce enables the armies of destruction to carry on their destruction of life and wealth.

Then we must not omit the colossal sums paid, every year, as interest on the war debt, on money used entirely for destruction. Without rulers this colossal army of destruction would cease to exist, they would not be needed.

One would have thought that religion and culture would, in some way, have influenced the ruling classes for good, but we find the contrary to be the case. From its very commencement religion has had a demoralising effect on mankind. In all probability religious sacrifices led to cannibalism. Certainly superstition, the forerunner of religion, was the channel through which fear and hatred of other clans were generated, leading to war, then slavery.

What an hideous record lies behind the Roman Catholic Church, steeped in mysticism, supporters of slavery, most active in generating wars, morally the most debased set of people that has ever existed, and

the organisers and inventors of the most inhuman and debasing forms of torture ever known. For hundreds of years it has boasted of taking its child victims and so distorting the development of their mentality, that it is almost impossible for them to reason for themselves; they become dependent on a priest to make decisions for them.

What is the result of this tremendous expenditure of wealth and waste of labour? We see a large number of people living lives of luxurious ease and debauchery, a larger number living what can be called an acceptable method of life, a state of comparative ease and comfort, we also find a much larger number living a life that is continually changing, sometimes above, then below the border line; a life of uncertainty. Then we have millions who are continuously below the border line, living lives of semi-starvation. At the same time we see the ruling classes deliberately organising the destruction of the necessities of life, and giving subsidies to farmers and other controllers of food production, on condition that they do not produce those necessities.

When we urge that, ruling of man be abolished, we are told that there will be chaos, robbery and murder, no one will work, everything will be destroyed and we shall all be starved to death. Is not this chaos and mass destruction here now, an accompaniment of capitalism? Is it not being organised by those very rulers, without whom, we are told we could not exist. In their last war ten millions were killed, and twenty millions, more or less, severely injured. Under this same rulership in this country 400,000, are killed and injured every year of peace, of which 75 per cent could be prevented, if proper safeguards were taken.

How can a system of Anarchy be worse than the rulers are preparing to do in the next war? Many people fear civilisation will be destroyed.

Another bogey that is often quoted is, that Anarchy will destroy the family! what piffle! The family existed before mankind; it originated in the jungle. Family life under capitalism is impossible, the conditions in this country can only be maintained by persistent conflict with the ruling powers, their ideal standard we see in India and China, in British owned factories.

Can Anarchists be more brutal than Mustard-gas Mussolini, Blood-bathing Hitler, the mad axe-swinging Goering, the religious Roman Catholic Inquisition of

Spain, which was in use up to a few years ago. And we must not forget the Fascists of Olympia fame. The Bolsheviki of Russia have maintained the reputation for brutality, but to their credit they abolished the Jewish pogroms. Highly cultured rulers of Germany have revived this unnatural religious practice, and our cultured British Fascists are following suit. Can any class do worse?

Under these ruling classes physical degeneracy is so widespread, that two out of three are unfit for the army and many women are unfit to become mothers. First they suppress knowledge that would help to prevent it, they have always created the conditions that favour mental and physical degeneracy. The Church created the custom, prevalent for many centuries, that all must marry and become parents; no matter how ill-suited two people may find themselves, they must continue to bring children into the world, but at long last the people have formed eugenic societies to combat this, and other evils resulting from this religious custom. The Russian Bolsheviki have done mankind an ill-service by encouraging Jewish colonization, Jews have been reduced to their present plight by their religious ban on marriage. British rulers are doing the same in Palestine.

Religious bodies have persistently opposed the spread of knowledge, recently they formed a society to suppress the teaching of evolution, as that knowledge tends to break down religious and racial barriers.

There is another capitalist institution that must be mentioned, the Legal Profession, this would not exist were it not for the existence of private property and money which is its symbol.

Like all other capitalist institutions, in every part of the world, it is a mass of deception and corruption, from top to bottom. It has two functions, one to punish the victims of capitalism, the other, to divide the plunder stolen from the producers. I have heard that there is honour among thieves, but I have never heard that there is honour among rulers. This legal profession is another parasitic organisation; it lives on the labour of others, it consumes but does not produce.

The ruling classes of the world stand condemned by their own records. From the very commencement it is one long continuous failure. They originated war and hatred between the people; apart from rulers there is no race hatred, no religious or colour bar, Germany and

Russia have demonstrated this during the last few years with the Jews, and the British Government in India.

They stand condemned, not because the crimes they are perpetrating have not been committed before, but because they have those historical records spread out before them. One cannot claim on their behalf, the appeal of the Christ "that they know not what they do"

There is one excuse in favour of rulers, they exist because of the apathy of our forefathers, our own apathy and servile subjection to authority, our mental laziness, the shelving of our responsibility and placing it on the shoulders of others; we cannot escape the responsibility and blame for the present state of affairs.

People continue to vote for a government for several reasons; they are born into an old established system, they learn at school, and from association with their fellows, that government has existed for all time. They see an immense, complicated and intricate system of production and distribution of wealth, through the medium of money, they see the huge factories, railways, shipping and complicated, foreign exchanges, their vastness overpowers them. To-day we are like our forefathers were when they began to reason about the forces of nature; an inferiority complex is developed in the people, they accept things as they are, and believe their rulers, when they tell them that society could not carry on without a ruling class.

Let us take a look at these rulers, and see what qualities they possess that gives them the ability to rule their fellows, yet make such a disastrous failure of all they undertake, and we shall find it quite true, as an old philosopher once said "There never has been a man good enough to rule another"

Our knowledge of evolution and heredity show us that no one person can possess any quality or ability that cannot be found in every other normal person, male or female, black or white. It is quite true as William Morris said: "There never has been born a man good enough to be master of another" On the laws of heredity we can say that there never has been, and never can be, a born ruler, or a born criminal. The knowledge we possess of the evolution and construction of the brain, enables us to say, that the man who is convinced he is a born ruler is an "insane egoist" as we see in Mussolini. There is another sentiment that gives others a desire to rule, namely Vanity. When this is stronger than

the intellect, the person will use all his abilities in achieving something, or some position, that will enable him to crow over his fellows. These types can never claim any intellectual achievement. Hitler, and some of our British Fascists suffer from this affliction, and are insanely vain.

The majority of the ruling class wish to rule, not because of a special ability to rule, but because it gives them the power to hold the people in subjection, while they and their class take from the people the results of their labour, and after they have possession of this wealth, they need military and naval forces to enable them to hold foreign markets wherein they dispose of the surplus wealth. Were it not for foreign markets they would be unable to amass the enormous sums of money. With no foreign markets the surplus would have to be destroyed, and they would rather destroy it than give it back to those who produced it. In fact their actions in Spain indicate that they would sooner destroy mankind than give the people their own, their liberty and true freedom.

One may ask is it possible to give the people freedom? Human nature being what it is would it be wise to abolish government? What is this human nature that needs controlling, for without control we should be murdering each other, who is it that says this? Certainly not the people, but the ruling classes. If it was true how do they account for the existence of any life on this planet. No animal needs a ruler, and the primitive peoples had no prisons, or similar institutions, these came into existence after the ruling of man became a part of man's so-called civilisation. If man did possess such a propensity, an inherent disposition to kill members of his own species, man could never have evolved, for as one man approached another the inclination would be to kill, not to associate. No, there is no evil in human nature. It is perverted human nature which the psychologists are studying, therefore their premise being wrong their conclusions also must be wrong.

One may wonder why the cultured and religious ruling class are so inhuman. In ruling their fellow men they are performing an unnatural task, having no innate ability for the job they must misuse, or suppress, those given them by nature for their own preservation. The result of this misuse is the suppression of all the human sympathies; we see man, throughout history, a denatured

creature, a fanatic of a most destructive type, instead of cultivating peace and harmony between the peoples of the world, they organise discord, hatred and war.

Mankind has developed into two classes, wolves and sheep. Seldom will a flock of sheep turn on a wolf, in his absence they are happy and contented, but at his approach they become disorganised and fear-stricken.

In his political life man has lost all initiative, he does not know what he wants, rulers lead or drive mankind wherever they wish. Yet see what man, in the absence of rulers, has achieved on the economic field, and the end of his achievements is not in view. One may argue that we need good rulers; man has been selecting good rulers for thousands of years. The day has gone for good rulers, there is no place for them in capitalist society. Kings, presidents dictators and similar people, are the figure heads of the "power" behind the throne. Hitler has been well termed the "Loudspeaker" of the German capitalists.

Why do we need rulers or a government? Why delegate our responsibility to another? Why give such power to individuals who do not possess the ability to perform the things we impose on them? Surely it is more to our credit to manage our own affairs. We need to reverse the situation, we should decide what we require and where organisation is needed, select the people who possess the particular abilities needed for organising. Whereas, organising is a natural ability, ruling of man is unnatural. The only laws we need are nature's laws; they are beneficial, man made laws have always led to disaster.

Governments have never given a lead to progress, their laws have always followed an advance on the economic plane, and have always opposed the progress of the people. The difference in the mentality of the people and the ruling class has recently been demonstrated in Spain; the first thought of the conquering Fascists was destruction, in the form of loot and massacre, but the Anarchists first thought was the feeding of the people.

In the ordinary life of the people rulers play no part, but so soon as they impose their authority, the people suffer.

Pro: Sir Elliott Smith said: "Man has not changed for 60,000 years" which is quite true, for we know man has not changed since he became human. It is in this

fixity, this permanency of human nature that our hope lies. When we look back on the long history of man, and note the infinite changes and modifications of man's social life, all the struggle and strife, the illness and disease which man has inflicted on himself, one can only marvel that nature has stood up against it. But under the present system man is defeating nature, for a long time he has suppressed natural selection, hence the widespread mental and physical deterioration. No other change in humanity is required, our mental and physical qualities are the same now as when man emerged from the animal plane.

There is no function in man, mental or physical, that cannot be found in the higher apes, our moral faculties, emotions and sentiments, our intelligent or intellectual abilities are similar, the function is the same in each, the only difference is in capacity.

All human beings have the same faculties, irrespective of colour, but there is a wide range in their capacity, there is no difference in function between a person who cannot be a musician and a musical genius, both have the ability to judge sound, but there is a wider range in one than the other. The same applies to every phase of our character; the ability to perceive colour variations is possessed by every living creature, it is by the variation of colour that we are able to distinguish one thing from another. It has been proved by experiment that small insects such as the green fly selects its food by colour. If we trace this up to man we see this ability to distinguish variation of colour in many degrees of capacity, giving us an object lesson in permanency of function, and persistency in hereditary transmission, enabling us to understand the variation of capacity in children as well as in adults; and what is more useful, that native peoples have the same faculties as all other people, but not the same knowledge.

The Roman Catholics start their child's training, and religious education from the moment it can understand words, they so pervert its reasoning powers that it can never understand the crimes of the Church, and can always be relied upon to fight against freedom.

Capitalist culture and religion does not develop in us the spirit of toleration and natural human sympathy, and co-operation but the opposite; it develops competition, greed, hatred and all the evils in society today.

A good analogy of human nature can be seen in the violin. The strings representing the brain; the frame on which they are fixed, our body; and the player, the environment, Violins can be found in many sizes, shapes and qualities, as can be seen in mankind.

No player, no music.

A good player will get the best out of any instrument; he will be able to adjust it to the best advantage. A poor player will get some harmony. One who knows nothing of a violin may strike a pleasing note, but so soon as he attempts to play a tune he will get discord.

Human nature is a high class instrument, every string can give a beautiful, pleasing tone; but it is in the hands of ignorant players, and has been for thousands of years, hence the discord we get from all over the world.

Governments being ignorant of the instrument in their hands have no faith in humanity. Having failed to master the instrument, they would sooner smash it than let a good player bring out its best—that player's name is FREEDOM.

What can we do ?

The ruling class knows the value of educating the child in the way they wish it to go. This is one of our first things: we must cease to hand our children over to them, they make them our enemies, the enemies of freedom. Teach the child the brotherhood of man, and so kill nationalism, the bulwark of the war-monger.

Never vote a person into power over others, but accept one's own responsibility. Work on the lines of an ordinary slate club where the members decide what they want, then choose a secretary and treasurer to carry out those desires; but not to rule the club.

Remember: The price of liberty is eternal vigilance.

Adopt the golden rule: Each may do as he pleases providing he does not interfere with the liberty of others. If a principle is worth while we should live up to it.

Do not forget there never can be a good leader, he can only lead by self-assertion over others.

Co-operate with those who desire to produce for use and not for profit.

Adopt as a maxim "Whatever stage you reach that's the place to start from." There can then be no stagnation.

Please pass this pamphlet to a friend.

NO MASTER

Saith man to man, we've heard and known
That we no master need
To live upon this earth, our own
In fair and manly deed;
The grief of slaves long passed away
For us hath forged the chain,
Till now each workers patient day
Builds up the house of pain.

And we, shall we, too, crouch and quail
Ashamed afraid of strife;
And lest our lives untimely fail
Embrace the death in life?
Nay cry aloud and have no fear
We few against the world;
Awake, arise the hope we bare
Against the curse is hurled.

It grows, it grows, are we the same
The feeble band, the few?
Or what are these with eyes aflame
And hands to deal and do?
This is the host that bears the word;
No Master, High or Low!
A lighting flame, a shearing sword,
A storm to over-throw.

William Morris

THE BRITISH LLANO CIRCLE

The Circle was formed for the purpose of forming SELF-SUPPORTING COLONIES producing for use and not for profit.

The colonies can be formed of individual holdings, those having large allotments and those able to make things needed by the land workers.

In all countries there are such colonies, or groups already in existence. In the U.S.A. the Llano Colony has over 700 people living without the use of money.

The Capitalist system must go. The colony is a means of developing abilities, and providing opportunities to prepare the people for a new society.

All can help in some way.

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