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Christmas Letter 2016

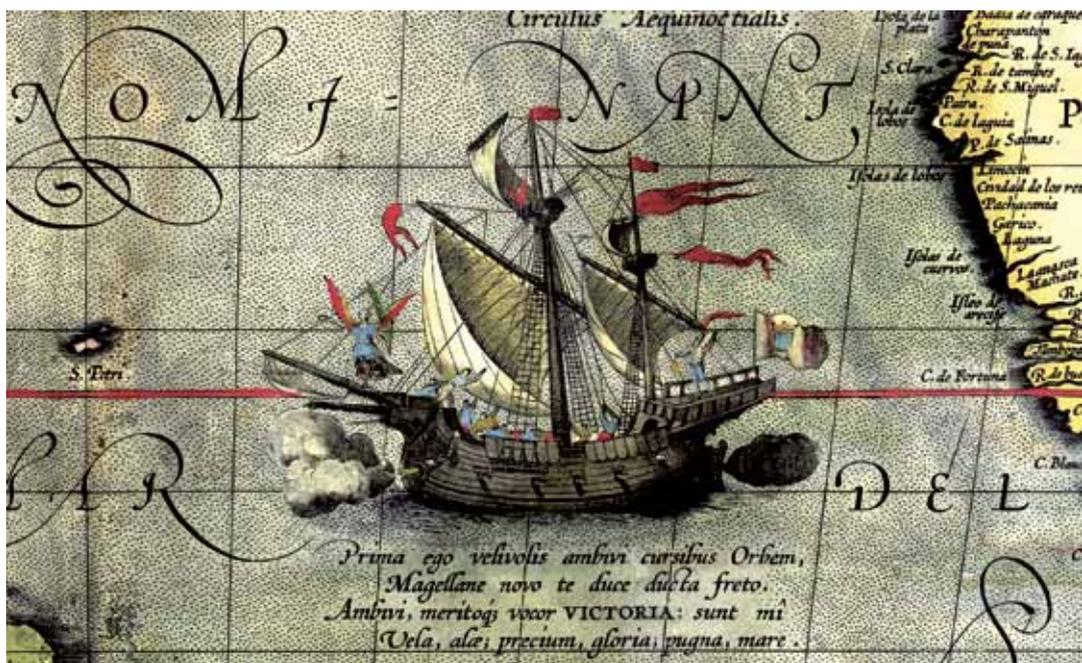


A Christmas greeting from the Martinus Institute

Major issues of our time – Brexit and the American presidential election

Two major issues have characterised the political scene in 2016: the referendum in the United Kingdom about its relationship to the European Union, and the American presidential election. As we know, the referendum resulted in the UK now being on its way out of its collaboration with the EU.

The November presidential election in the USA has surprised and shocked many people around the world since one of the candidates – the republican Donald Trump –



expressed unusually striking, almost hateful, attitudes, for example, that the USA should build a gigantic wall along the Mexican border, a wall that Mexico should pay for, and that climate change is a bluff. After Trump's election victory, which will make him the 45th president of the USA at his inauguration on 20th January 2017, many questions have emerged: Where is the world heading? What role will the USA have in the future? Is the USA as a superpower on its way towards dissolution? Will there be a civil war in the USA? What about NATO? What about world trade, and so on?

In an increasingly globalised world, many fear that the American election will create a more isolationist USA with incalculable and unpredictable consequences for world peace and world trade. The nationalistic idea is currently spreading throughout Europe and the USA.

But can a population's choice of president, a job that has been called the world's most powerful one, turn the course of evolution away from the longing and hope for future world peace and the united states of the world or the world state? According to Martinus' analyses, the answer is no; there is a higher world plan. The world state came into existence when the first circumnavigation of the Earth was completed. This first circumnavigation of the Earth took place from 1519-1522 and was known as the Magellan-Elcano expedition. Two quotations from two different lectures by Martinus describe very well what we are witnessing at the moment:

"Many people regard war as something terrible. They are anxious and afraid that it will destroy mankind and so on. But there is absolutely no reason to feel like that. The entire world plan is in God's hands. Those who are in power

today have their power only from the Godhead. They have it – not by virtue of their own insistence or their own abilities; they have it by virtue of the fact that the Godhead places everyone where they belong. Eisenhower is in his place, and Khrushchev is in his. The various rulers are each in their place as long as they can carry out the way of being that fits the present situation. It has of course to fit in with the guiding of the present situation forward to a lighter state.”

Martinus’ 70th birthday speech, the Danish edition of KOSMOS, no. 7, 2012

“Mankind’s real trouble and misfortune today is that he swears by nationalism. The individual human being is no longer a member of a primordial forest tribe or a citizen of a self-sufficient community in which horses are the ultimate means of transport. It has reached much farther in its transformation from animal to human being, its transformation into being “in God’s image”. But now it has to realise that its worship of the national idea can result only in isolation, in exclusion from the world state that is now becoming a vital necessity both for itself and for all its fellow human beings. It must learn to adapt itself to the thought that the world state must take precedence over its own individual nation. For the world state is not something that is in the process of coming into existence. It came into existence with the completion of the first circumnavigation of the Earth, and since then it has been steadily stabilising its existence. All human beings today are citizens of this world state, but they are not aware of this. But the great majority still swear by the nationalistic idea, and with this attitude the birth of the world state has to take the form of nothing but a harrowing anarchy. And it is this anarchy that is reflected in the war of everyone against everyone else and is the cause of every dictatorship and every loss of personal liberty. It therefore becomes necessary for every highly developed human being to remember the Christian words about one state and one government or one flock and one shepherd; just as one must love one’s neighbour as oneself one must also learn to love the world state as one’s own state, one’s own native country.”

*A lecture by Martinus at the Martinus Institute on 20th November 1947,
from the Danish edition of Kosmos no. 7, 1971*

As a counterbalance to the drama on the current political scene, it can be a good idea to remember that the evolution of the world also has many positive sides. Child mortality is decreasing, health care is improving, the number of extremely poor people is being reduced, and more and more girls have the opportunity to go to school. These are just a few of the examples that the Swedish doctor Hans Rosling illustrates with his pedagogical statistics (www.gapminder.org). The Canadian psychologist and linguist Stephen Parker demonstrates statistically in his book *The Better Angels of Our Time* (2012) that human beings over the centuries have become less violent, more peaceful, more humane and more civilised.

In an overall perspective human rights in the world are improving continuously; this is manifested in many ways including in an increased tolerance of differences in sexual orientation.

Not least in the Scandinavian countries we can welcome the fact that vegetarianism and veganism are currently increasing substantially. In Sweden a study undertaken by *Djurens Rätt* (Animal Rights) shows that about 10% of the population in 2014 defined themselves as vegetarians, which is an increase of 4 percentage points since 2009.

We are thus at this moment witnessing a world where evolution appears to be going in two directions, and where many painful experiences still lie in wait. But in keeping with the fact that more and more people engage in solving global questions about peace, human rights, education and sustainable development, we also see an increased insight into the fact that the road to peace and freedom can go only through internationalism.

“Internationalism” is thus mankind’s absolutely only way to liberation from darkness to culture, to freedom, to peace and happiness.

Book 23 (The Necessity of Spiritual Science, chapter 18)

New letters in the letter data base

In November 2016 sixty-seven letters to and from Martinus were added to the Letter Data Base on the Martinus Institute’s homepage (<http://www.martinus.dk/da/brevdatabase/>).

This data base should not be regarded as a way of worshipping Martinus but as documentation of how Martinus was as a person. In addition, the letters have woven into them many pearls of wisdom in the form of brief analyses. In these letters he repeatedly expressed his enormous gratitude for all the help and support he received.

Read, for example, about vaccination in letter-id 30903 (unfortunately the letters are only in Danish). We can read about being possessed by writing the word *besættelse* (possession) in the search box; then two letters pop up in which Martinus has written about the subject. In the last of these two letters he also deals briefly with the use of electric shock therapy.

There are many letters about Martinus’ visits to Iceland in which he, in very inspiring, flowery language, describes his unforgettable visits to this land of sagas, the kingdom of the king of Thule.

Martinus mentions, as quoted above in his 70th birthday speech, the American president, Eisenhower.

In the letter data base one can read that Anna Ørnsholt (who translated Martinus into English) in a letter dated 25th February 1955 wrote the following to Martinus:

... When you read what I write here, please don’t think that we are far too stupid. Lulu and I still read your books; and a week ago there was so much written in the newspapers here about Eisenhower, Churchill and Attlee. We were reading your “Cosmic Consciousness” and we thought there was so much that could perhaps help the situation if the three leaders could read some of it. It is particularly Chapter 11 that we thought would be suitable. So we thought about typing Chapter 11 and sending it in English to the three of them. But we

thought that we ought to ask you first if you had anything against us doing so. I will of course write that it is your material that we have translated, and where you live etc. Lulu has previously written to Churchill and received a very nice reply from him.

So what do you say to our suggestion? Of course, if you don't like the idea, we will not send it. But we hope you will let us send it!

Please reply as soon as possible. A postcard will suffice...

Martinus answered Anna Ørnsholt on 1st March 1955:

... I have nothing against you sending Chapter 11 of "Cosmic Consciousness" to Eisenhower, Churchill and Attlee. I think it is a good idea. Unfortunately, the great personalities at the height of their greatness cannot do very much, even if they would like to. But we can hope for the best. And I thank you in anticipation for your good idea...

Some months later, on 7th June 1955, Anna Ørnsholt wrote to Martinus:

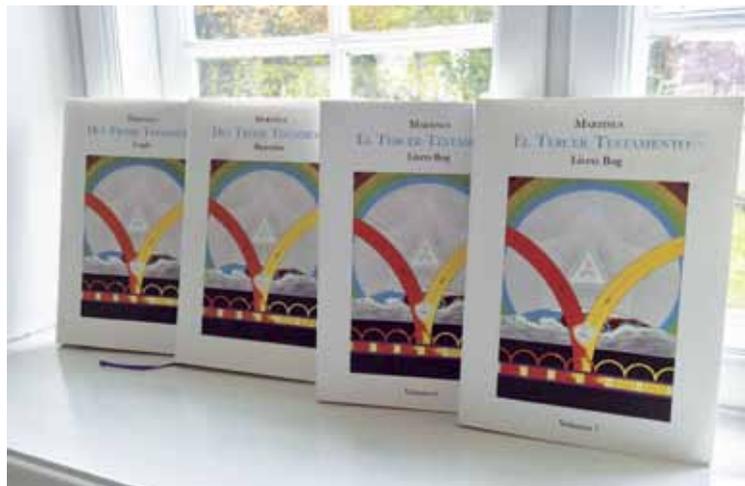
... I told you that I sent "Cosmic Consciousness" to Attlee, Churchill, Anthony Eden and Eisenhower. I received a reply from Attlee through his secretary, and from Eisenhower through the American consul-general in Madras. He wrote: "We acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21.3.55 addressed to President Eisenhower containing a selection of Martinus' writings. Since this office has the authority to deal with the American government's affairs in South India, your letter has been sent to us from The White House to be answered.

The president would like to thank you for your kindness in sending him the excerpts by Martinus. The feelings that are expressed in them are very inspiring and are in complete accord with the primary goal of the president and the American government, that is, to attain world peace." (Translator's note: Back-translated from the Danish since the Martinus Institute is not in possession of the original English.)

New publications

In the autumn the Martinus Institute republished two books in hardback with dust-covers, namely, *Logik* (Logic) and *Bisættelse* (about funerals and our microcosmos). All the earlier editions of *Logik* and *Bisættelse* – from the first edition of each in Kosmos to the most recent editions – have been digitally compared.

A few spelling mistakes and typographical errors have been corrected. A complete list



of corrections is available on the Institute's homepage. Both books will also be published as e-books.

This autumn the Institute has also published the final two volumes of *Livets Bog* (The Book of Life) in Spanish. Spanish is one of the world's major languages, and the Institute therefore takes great pleasure in the fact that the work is now accessible to many Spanish-speaking readers. Both books will also be available as e-books from the internet bookshop Amazon.

We would like to conclude this year's Christmas Letter with an excerpt from Martinus' Christmas Greeting from 1960:

"It is raining and the wind is blowing. The autumn storms are sweeping over the Earth. The trees have long since lost their leaves. The splendour of summer has gone. Very dark days are upon us. A little snow shower has already hinted that winter is here. The year cycle's epoch of cold and night rests upon our Nordic latitudes. We are currently experiencing the contrast that is darkness, which makes the memories of the bygone summer shine and give rise in us to a longing for a future spring and radiant summer. What wondrous lights these memories and longings turn on in our minds! And is it not a great blessing that the law of the cycle thus carries the joy of an already experienced radiant summer over into the cold, dark days of wintertime, there creating hope for a future new summer? How could this joy and this hope and the associated enlivening thoughts in the darkness otherwise come into existence?"

But we do not live only in the year cycle's winter darkness. Mankind also finds itself in the great cosmic spiral cycle's winter darkness. It is this winter darkness that characterises itself in the form of the unhappy fates, the epoch of war and sufferings. In this darkness there is also hope and longing for a cosmic spring and summer. Indeed, mankind is even so far advanced in this cycle's winter zone that this zone begins to be penetrated by a corresponding cosmic spring's increasingly lighter and milder climate. It is the first gentle wind of this cosmic spring that we meet in the form of the Christian world's Christmas gospel, among other places. This Christmas gospel is a fairy tale from real life. It stimulates neighbourly love. Enormous forces have been set in motion. Millions of lights are switched on both outside and inside, on the streets and in people's homes. The entire Earth is overflowing with millions of loving Christmas greetings in the form of letters and gift packages in order to create a festive spirit, light and joy in the minds of the people to whom they are addressed. Enormous efforts are made to collect money or the means to create Christmas joy for those people who live in impoverished, destitute, cheerless homes. Everyone wishes that everyone should be happy on the feast days that are the birthday celebration for the child who was born in Bethlehem and who was the Godhead's own great Christmas gift to mankind. In the cosmic light of this divine Christmas gift all the generations of the Earth will be blessed."

The Institute and the council wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Willy Kuijper Per Jan Neergaard Trine Möller Jacob Kølle Christensen
Peter Bendtsen Mary McGovern Pernilla Rosell Steuer

Would you like to make a donation to the Martinus Institute?

Donations are the principal foundation of the Institute's work. They help us carry out a great number of ongoing tasks, such as publishing books in many languages, translating Martinus's works, providing information and education, digitalising Martinus's works, and much more.

To send a donation to the Martinus Institute please see our homepage: <http://www.martinus.dk/en/martinus-institute/gifts-and-legacies/>

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Translated by Mary McGovern



