

Packing the Ark: Anarchism Unpacked

Etymologically speaking anarchism goes against any form of power, in particular the illegitimate forms of power that are too big and thus too far from what it aims to govern. In Greek however the arkeions were the magistrates residing in their palaces in the city. They were those in charge of not only dictating but also preserving the law.

In this respect the arkeions were some sort of archivists and that is why this later term in the humanities has such negative connotations. Anyone who archives is bad; he or she is immediately labeled as a dictator wanting to seize power and do something evil.

Certainly looking at how all the new neocapitalist enterprises freely seize people's data and archive detailed profiles for each one of us is but a business to be really concerned about. In the same fashion we ought to be concerned about the billions of users who just, for the sake of some vanity, feed these industries most obsessively.

These are the new citadels we are living in. Perhaps real politics do not exist anymore but the world and our lives have entirely gone virtual or at least for the virtual we strive and live. The more humanity civilizes itself into these new digital terrains, the more laws and persecutions and censorship are issued to monitor our digital actions.

By now these laws are only for our own good but who knows whether they will limit our lives on earth one day. Paradoxically then the very medium of free expression might in fact turn into the medium in which one cannot just say things and one ought to use a certain language and avoid certain terms and so forth else one is immediately deleted. He or she becomes an outcast and there is no way for he or she to be taken back in a trajectory in which there is much of a fake appreciation.

We then ought to superimpose our thinking. We cannot just yell at this or this other person whatever insult. All the political debates occurring in the digital interconnected world can simply be seen as a distraction from perhaps the new regime of power that has established itself in the past decades and even more so in the last few years.

Who is really shaping our lives and future? One may in fact conceive politicians as simply the puppets of a new form of power, the power of the data thirsty industry, perhaps the real cause of the actual desertification affecting planet earth (not in a literal sense but too strong is the correlation between a pixel and a grain of sand).

Now we could be angry about all digital producers in general and mark them as the actual new fascists of a new data fascism to come, yet my opinion here defers from that of the most. I do believe we shall not comply with nor feed the new data industry

turning us all as their subordinate slaves. I have been very strict in not doing so as far as sharing any of my content. As a matter of fact I only shared the container I have developed to host my content; I merely share a framework in the framework.

Yet I do believe that the operation I am undertaking, basically that of scavenging what is left of life in its periphery is a very essential one. It is then a form of archival but while the archivists really detaining power expand their storage and suffocate life on earth, archiving in the margins is a form of not only self-survival but also an attempt to rescue human life at large.

As I said and intuitively understood before it is a form of stowing, and therefore of packing within a limited environment under limited circumstances the very essence of life we find under threat by the actual archivists. I am not sure that in this respect I am unarchiving and that the term anarchy is correct. I am also archiving and certainly using the techniques I have scrambled here in there and no sophisticated cutting edge technologies.

In doing my peripheral and existential archiving I feel the tremendous consequences humanity will challenge with the new data regime increasing its power, yet I am not contributing to this power in the least. I am fully excluded from it, from any of its channels if not some sporadic attempt I immediately eliminate. Power is most indifferent from my doing and really angry if I attempt to emerge with my autonomous undertaking.

All said I believe I am contributing against power. I create an anti-environment to it, a parallel and more human and more meaningful alternative, a more endangered one. I am however not an individualist. I conduct my life and devote it to my children. I help my neighbours especially where they have not turned into some petty bourgeoisie and are still in sincere need of help.

I thought of many terms to relate to my operation as some sort of ark builder, a tebahist from the ancient word tebah used for Noah's Ark and Moses basket but not for the ark of covenant which in fact contained laws. I then tried to look into less religious terms such as larnax drawing from other and older versions of the deluge.

Yes I am the builder of an ark and this ark is my own power, a spiritual one which in a stoic fashion lets me endure also the time we live in, much affected by the new arkeions, the new powerful ones if we can ever associate persons to such a technological evolution. I am creating a parallel archive, a small version of the Babel tower, like a temporary building, a vehicle where to take shelter and regain knowledge after the big tower will collapse.

I don't fight however like an anarchist nor I am politically active, but I am active and I am creating this window of meanings saved and rescued by a flood, the flood all this chatting and mumbling will increasingly bring about (not the biblical god but all other gods did send the great flood as they could not tolerate all the noise humans were making).

In this respect, my activism is really that of scavenging meaning knowing and very much feeling that whatever direction human politics will take some form of catastrophe will always generate from it also paradoxically from those directions that seek from the start to emancipate, to liberate and to make the world a better one.

In this respect I am deeply ideologyphobic. Neither do I understand any person who fully embrace a faith blind eyes, nor I see how there can still be these large movements in a century followed by one in which the pursue of whatever idea has brutalized human nature and nature at large. I stand for freedom self-governed by individuals who were able to grow out of all the oppressive conformism that societies, even the most democratic and liberal never seem to be able to do without.

There are currents and there are counter currents. These are also struggles within also the most trained of stoics but somehow by living according to our nature and cultivating it, I believe it is the key not to be carried away and always have an objective understanding, a wisdom that can see through things beyond any for of political populism that is so harmful for humanity.