Cosmic Systems v. the Armor of God

Client nation America is under assault, some of its states more than others. The tragic death of a man in Minnesota at the hands of a police officer sparked an immediate reaction. Many used Amendment I's "right of the people peaceably to assemble" to form marches in Minneapolis. The officer, whose tactics resulted in the man's death, has been charged with seconddegree murder and is awaiting trial.

The victim is black. The officer is white. This event was the long-awaited spark that terrorists who operate freely within the country were waiting to have happen. They seized upon the event as an excuse to insert themselves among the peaceful marchers. As the marches progressed, the terrorists began unlashing various methods of destruction on private businesses including bricks, hammers, axes, fire, guns, and murder. Having glommed onto the protesters, local authorities were unable, or chose to remain ignorant, about how to distinguish between the two.

From this chaos, two terrorist groups began to intensify the violence while making demands on the citizens of the community to support the movement financially. Money flowed in from those ignorant of the conspiracy.

It is important for us to recognize the difference between the peaceful marchers and the violent insurgents. They are not peaceful. They are criminals. They are organized. They are terrorists hiding behind catchy-sounding titles: Antifa and Black Lives Matter. Taking advantage of the resultant conflagrations a third player is already busy preparing a major propaganda offensive on the United States.

Here are three reports that bring to light who are the players and the fomenters of this well-organized rebellion plus those who happily glom on to it for their own advantage. We begin an article by Bowen Xiao of *The Epoch Times*:

Antifa, Other Far-Left Groups Exploit Protests for 'Revolution'

Communist groups—including the extremist organization Antifa—are hijacking what started out as peaceful protests over the death of an unarmed black man to usher in a revolution, according to officials, experts, videos, and anarchists' own words.

That charge comes amid an unprecedented and coordinated effort behind the riots, the likes of which have never been seen before and which span across multiple states and involve often violent street-level tactics.

Officials from both sides say that outside groups have exploited the recent momentum to further their own agenda. Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, a Democrat, noted that "bad actors continue to infiltrate the rightful protests" and that <u>80</u> percent of the rioters have come from outside the state. Federal officials including President Donald Trump have pointed to Antifa.

<u>Bernard B. Kerik</u>, former police commissioner of the New York City Police Department, said Antifa "100 percent exploited these protests," noting that their various websites control and dictate where protests start.

"It's in 40 different states and 60 cities; it would be impossible for somebody outside of Antifa to fund this," he told The Epoch Times. "It's a radical, leftist, socialist attempt at revolution.

Operations including coordination, equipment, and travel costs would likely cost "tens of millions of dollars," Kerik said. A friend of his, an FBI agent, told him she was at Newark airport on May 29 where she observed "probably 25 of these Antifa kids walking in through the airport."

"They're coming from other cities," he said. "That cost money. They didn't do this on their own. Somebody's paying for this.

"What Antifa is doing is they're basically hijacking the black community as their army," Kerik said. "They instigate, they antagonize, they get these young black men and women to go out there and do stupid things, and then they disappear off into the sunset.

Photos later pulled offline appeared to show protesters with military-grade communications radios and earpieces, Kerik said, noting: "They have to be talking to somebody at a central command center with a repeater. Where do those radios go to?"

Andy Ngo, a journalist who has covered Antifa extensively, <u>said the group</u> is organized in "multiple units" with scouts that monitor the perimeter of an area, providing live audio or text updates. Others carry out violent missions with weapons and firebombs.

The extremist group is "horizontally" organized; it doesn't have a public leader, since it's part of their ideology that there should be no authority, <u>Ngo said.</u>

According to John Miller, the NYPD's deputy commissioner of Intelligence and Counterterrorism, these outside radical groups have organized scouts, medics, and even supply routes of rocks, bottles, and accelerants "for breakaway groups to commit vandalism and violence." These groups have planned for violence in advance, using encrypted communications, he said. Mike Griffin, a longtime political activist from Minneapolis, <u>told The New York</u> <u>Times</u> there were people he never witnessed before demonstrating, including "well-dressed young white men in expensive boots carrying hammers and talking about torching buildings.

"I know protests, I've been doing it for 20 years," he said. "People not affiliated with the protests are creating havoc on the streets."

Communism expert Trevor Loudon, meanwhile, told The Epoch Times that Antifa is only one part of the picture, noting that "every significant communist or socialist party in the United States has been involved in these protests and riots from the beginning."

According to Loudon, "Communist Party USA, Liberation Road, Freedom Road Socialist Organization, Democratic Socialists of America, Revolutionary Communist Party, Workers World Party, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation" have been involved, among others.

Hijacking Peace

One protester who came upon <u>a large pile of bricks</u> while filming live called it a "setup," as a man by his side quipped, "Ain't no damn construction around here."

Police departments in several states in recent days have warned of materials being purposely planted in certain locations so as to fuel rioting.

The Kansas City police department in Missouri <u>stated</u> on Twitter that it "learned of & discovered stashes of bricks and rocks" in some areas "to be used during a riot," and asked people to report such cases to authorities to be removed.

Days later, the Minneapolis Police department <u>warned of</u> "incendiary materials and accelerants" such as water bottles filled with gasoline found hidden in bushes and neighborhoods.

Bricks and similar objects have appeared in <u>Manhattan</u>, <u>Baltimore</u>, <u>North Carolina</u>, and more. Protesters <u>outside the White House</u> were caught throwing bricks. There have also been false alarms, as the Frisco Police Department in Texas found that one pile was from a legitimate <u>construction project</u>.

Some videos, meanwhile, show African Americans <u>objecting to</u> bricks being handed to their peers.

Loudon, who is also a contributor to The Epoch Times, said the bricks and other examples were part of a "terrorist military operation" and that the whole thing had been "completely organized and long preplanned."

"If the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis hadn't sparked these riots, the next one would have," he said. "People need to understand that there are hundreds of foreign-trained agitators and organizers operating in this country, and tens of thousands more disciplined communists."

Numerous social media posts and videos also depict African American protesters objecting to rioting perpetrated by groups of white men clad in full black outfits—the black costume has long been associated with Antifa.

In Oakland, a group of Caucasians dressed in full black gear and armed with hammers started destroying and breaking into a building as African Americans nearby <u>voiced their opposition</u>.

One video <u>appears to show</u> a predominantly white crowd of people destroying a Minneapolis Police Department building, some also dressed in full black gear. Another video purportedly in Baltimore shows African American protesters begging white people, also clad in black, to stop rioting.

Peaceful protesters in Washington, meanwhile, <u>tackled an "Antifa rioter"</u> who was hammering the pavement to get blocks of concrete to throw. Protesters then handed over the rioter to the police.

At a May 30 press conference, Attorney General William Barr said the violence <u>appears to be</u> "planned, organized, and driven by far-left extremist groups and anarchic groups using Antifa-like tactics."

In a twitter thread, Ngo said the destruction of businesses isn't only opportunism but is tied to Antifa and Black Lives Matter (BLM) ideology to "abolish capitalism & have regime change. To do that, they have to make economic recovery impossible."

"Militant antifa cells across the country mobilized to aid BLM rioters," <u>Ngo</u> <u>said</u>. "Every part of the rioting has a purpose. Fires destroy economy. Riots can overwhelm police & even military. All of it leads to a <u>destabilized state if</u> <u>maintained</u>."

Communism Core

Gabriel Nadales, a former Antifa member, <u>told Jan Jekielek</u>, host of The Epoch Times' "American Thought Leaders" series, that to really be a part of Antifa is to do two things:

"One is to share their violent ideology and be willing to fight for them at any turn, and the second is to actually do it. It's not just about having anti-conservative beliefs," he said.

Communist groups have played a role in the recent protests. On May 27, the Democratic Socialists of America's (DSA) Twin Cities chapter <u>issued a call</u> for supplies for "comrades protesting at the 3rd precinct (at Lake and Minnehaha Streets)." An AutoZone store was <u>set ablaze</u> in the same area, amid widespread looting.

Such groups also appear to have played a role in funding. On May 28, DSA's Twin Cities chapter <u>asked on Twitter to</u> "Please also give to the TCDSA solidarity fund, because people will need help in the days and weeks ahead!" DSA chapters in <u>Seattle</u>, <u>Memphis</u>, <u>Los Angeles</u>, and <u>Metro Atlanta</u> have called for donations amid the protests.

The DSA also formed a national anti-fascist work group at the convention in 2019.

Other communist groups, such as the Workers World Party, <u>have backed the</u> <u>protests</u>, while some groups, such as the Revolutionary Communist Party, called for an "<u>actual revolution</u>."

Liberation News, a newspaper of the Party for Socialism and Liberation, wrote <u>in a</u> <u>staff statement</u> on May 26 that it's a "critical period" to "sharpen our resolve to build organizations capable of waging militant class struggle."

*Ivan Pentchoukov contributed to this report.*¹

NOTE: The Epoch Times is published weekly by the Epoch Media Group in New York, Washington, Houston, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Subscriptions may be obtained from readepoch.com *or by calling 917-905-2080 or from its Web site:* <u>https://subscribe.theepochtimes.com/p/?page=tv</u>

The next report clearly identifies Black Live Matter as a terrorist organization. It may be rightly said that the phrase, in lower case letters, "black lives matter," is obviously a correct opinion. But when using capitals, Black Lives Matter, things take an ominous turn. Here's why in this column by James Simpson, a writer for Capital Research Center's Web site: <u>www.capitaresearch.org</u>.

Black Lives Matter: Racist Provocation with Radical Roots

At the time of this writing, prosecutors had just dropped charges against the last three of six police officers accused in the death of Baltimore drug dealer Freddie Gray. The decision closes an ugly chapter in that sad story, in which the highly politicized Baltimore City state's attorney, Marilyn Mosby, accused them of murder. The city descended into days of violence and destruction after Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake infamously gave space to rioters "who wished to destroy." But that riot was only one chapter in a still-evolving story of death and destruction provoked by a false narrative of oppression and police brutality.

¹ Bowen Xiao, "Antifa, Other Far-Left Groups Exploit Protests for 'Revolution'," *The Epoch Times*, June 4–10, 2020, A1, A4.

The Black Lives Matter movement (BLM) casts itself as a spontaneous uprising born of inner-city frustration, but it is in fact the latest and most dangerous face of a web of well-funded socialist/communist organizations that have been agitating against America for decades.

BLM claims to be non-violent. According to its website, "The Black Lives Matter Network advocates for dignity, justice, and respect. ... Black activists have raised the call for an end to violence, not an escalation of it."

Yet BLM activists are routinely observed screaming violent obscenities and attacking police. For example, this past July, 21 police were injured by rocks, steel pipes, and fireworks during a demonstration in St. Paul, Minnesota, where protesters shut down the interstate for five hours. One officer suffered a spinal fracture after a concrete block was dropped on his head. At a Minneapolis fair protest last summer, BLM activists shouted, "Pigs in a blanket, fry 'em like bacon!"

In her recent book *The War on Cops*, Manhattan Institute fellow Heather Mac Donald argues that the BLM movement and the fallout from it have made the inner city much more dangerous, as police forces adopt hands-off policies in response to growing hostility. Some call it the "Ferguson effect," named after the Missouri town where a young black man, Michael Brown, was killed when he tried to kill a white police officer. Cops across the nation are afraid to patrol black neighborhoods and are overly cautious when dealing with black suspects. Despite their diminished forcefulness in high-crime neighborhoods, police are still being assaulted and killed.

Crime had been trending down for decades, but in 2015 homicide rates increased dramatically over 2014. In Houston, homicides were up 25.2 percent; in Washington, D.C., 54 percent; Baltimore, 58.5 percent; Milwaukee, 72.6 percent; and in Cleveland, a whopping 90 percent. Overall, homicides increased 17 percent in the 50 largest cities—the greatest increase in 25 years.

Capitalizing on inaccurate and sometimes outright deceptive media reporting on police-involved shootings, BLM agitation has provoked numerous police killings, violence, lawlessness, and unrest in minority communities throughout the U.S., culminating most recently with the horrific ambush-murders of five policemen in Dallas and three in Baton Rouge, with many more wounded. If allowed to continue, BLM agitation could lead to greater civil unrest, anarchy, civil war. With the support and sympathy of President Obama, the Black Lives Matter crowd appears to be spoiling for just such an outcome.

Black Lives Matter began in 2013 with a Twitter hashtag, #BlackLivesMatter, after neighborhood watchman George Zimmerman, called a "white Hispanic" in the press, was acquitted in the killing of black teenager Trayvon Martin. Radical-left activists <u>Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi</u> claim credit for the slogan and hashtag. Following the Michael Brown shooting in August 2014, **Dream Defenders**, an organization co-founded by (the **ACORN**-affiliated) **Working Families Party** activist and **Occupy Wall Street** organizer <u>Nelini</u> <u>Stamp</u>, popularized the phrase "Hands Up – Don't Shoot!" which has since become BLM's widely recognized slogan. Not surprisingly, former **Communist Party USA** vice presidential candidate Angela Davis sits on the Dream Defenders advisory board.

Garza, Cullors, and Tometi all work for front groups of the Freedom Road Socialist Organization, one of the four largest radical Left organizations in the country. The others are the Communist Party USA, Democratic Socialists of America, and the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism. <u>Stamp</u>'s ACORN—now rebranded under a variety of different names after its official 2010 bankruptcy—works with all four organizations, and Dream Defenders is backed by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), ACLU, and Southern Poverty Law Center, among others.

The Freedom Road Socialist Organization is a hereditary descendant of the New Communist Movement inspired by Chinese dictator Mao Zedong and the many communist revolutions occurring throughout the world in the 1960s and '70s. Freedom Road split into two separate groups in 1999, **FRSO/Fight Back** and **FRSO/OSCL** (**Freedom Road Socialist Organization/Organización Socialista del Camino Para la Libertad**). Black Lives Matter and its founders are allied with the latter.

Freedom Road is comprised of dozens of groups. The radical-left model is based on building alliances of many organizations, small and large, working separate issues but dedicated ultimately to the same thing: overthrowing our society to replace it with a hardcore socialist (or communist) one.

BLM is one of many projects undertaken by Freedom Road. Except for the website, BlackLivesMatter.com, there is no actual organization. The website implicitly acknowledges this, describing #BlackLivesMatter as, "an online forum intended to build connections between Black people and our allies to fight anti-Black racism, to spark dialogue among Black people, and to facilitate the types of connections necessary to encourage social action and engagement."

Its wide network of affiliates and partner organizations like the **Communist Party USA** and the remnants of the **ACORN** network allows BLM to turn out large crowds. Many participate simply to protest, commit violence, loot, or all three.

Freedom Road, for example, was prominent at the Ferguson protests and took video of the event. It even created a Black Lives Matter button. Following are more Freedom Road organizations involved with BLM.

Carl Davidson and Pat Fry, co-chairs of the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, exploited the revolutionary atmosphere of the Ferguson riots to create an eight-point plan for "Left Unity" demanding "a common aspiration for socialism."

Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment (MORE), is Missouri's rebranded ACORN group. It created an illustrative chart offering a snapshot of the Left's grievance agenda. Capitalism is always the problem. Socialism is always the solution.

Islamist organizations have also jumped on the BLM bandwagon, reminding us of the unholy alliance that exists between them and the radical Left. In September 2015, the Muslim Brotherhood-front **Council on American Islamic Relations** (CAIR) joined BLM activists in storming California Governor Jerry Brown's office. CAIR also participated in the Ferguson protests. Meanwhile, **ISIS** is reportedly recruiting American blacks for its cause.

Intellectual Genealogy of Black Lives Matter

"We must be ready to employ trickery, deceit, law-breaking, withholding and concealing truth. ... We can and must write in a language which sows among the masses hate, revulsion, and scorn toward those who disagree with us" – Vladimir Lenin

That quote from the Soviet Union's first leader captures the entire essence of the Left's strategy. No matter what the issue, no matter what the facts, the Left advances a relentless, hate-filled narrative that America is irredeemably evil and must be destroyed as soon as possible. The BLM movement is only the latest, but perhaps most dangerous variant on this subversive theme.

Communists use language and psychology as a weapon. Their constant vilification of enemies is a form of psychological warfare. It puts America and Americans on trial. The verdict is always *guilty*. Facts don't matter because the Left does not want to resolve the problems they complain about. They use those problems to agitate and provoke, hoping conflict becomes unavoidable and thereby creating a self-fulfilling prophecy. Their hatred is *tactical*.

Obama's favorite Harvard professor, Derrick Bell, devised Critical Race Theory, which exemplifies Lenin's strategy as applied to race. According to Discover the Networks:

Critical race theory contends that America is permanently racist to its core, and that consequently the nation's legal structures are, by definition, racist and invalid ... members of "oppressed" racial groups are entitled—in fact obligated—to determine for themselves which laws and traditions have merit and are worth observing. ...

Derrick Bell's theory is in turn an innovation of Critical Theory, which was developed by Marxist thinkers of the Frankfurt School who were affiliated with the Institute for Social Research, founded in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1923. The Institute's left-wing scholars were mostly Jewish and fled Hitler's Germany in the 1930s, relocating to Columbia University's Teachers College in New York. Critical Theory, which discredits all aspects of Western society, rapidly infected the minds of newly minted college professors, who then spread its poison throughout the university system.

We know it today as political correctness. One of its most famous purveyors was the Frankfurt School's Herbert Marcuse, longtime associate of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Julian Bond. Marcuse invented the concept of "partisan tolerance," that is, tolerance for leftist ideas and intolerance of all others. The Southern Poverty Law Center applied Marcuse's strategy in developing its "Hate Watch" list, and *Rules for Radicals* author Saul Alinsky used it in his own life's work.²

"The Gospel According to Xi"

The final article of importance reveals clear, cosmic assault on Scripture. The piece is entitled, "The Gospel According to Xi" by Matthew Taylor King of *The Wall Street Journal*:

With the world distracted by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Chinese Communist Party has restarted its long-running campaign against Christianity. Provincial authorities have banned online religious services. Officials in Anhui (än-hwā) province reportedly removed crosses from two churches in April, adding to a tally of defaced churches that stretches into the thousands.

Believers in China already are under more pressure than at any time since the Cultural Revolution, and a new phase is beginning. Beijing no longer wants simply to repress religion but to transform it. Xi Lian (lē-äŋ), a professor at Duke University Divinity School, tells me that the Communist Party wants to "create a new version of Christianity shorn of its transcendent visions and values."

² James Simpson, "Black Lives Matter," <u>https://capitalresearch.org/article/blm-roots/</u>, September 21, 2016.

The centerpiece of this campaign is a major new undertaking to rewrite holy scripture. China's state-run Xinhua News Agency said late last year that Politburo Standing Committee member Wang Yang had presided over a meeting of so-called scholars and "religious people from the grassroots level" to discuss "making accurate and authoritative interpretations of classical doctrines to keep pace with the times."

It would take years to create official state translations of the Bible, Quran and other religious texts. Purging passages deemed incompatible with "core socialist values" while retaining a measure of the original poetry—this would require literary achievement and deep religious knowledge, both of which are lacking in the party's handpicked experts. Even entertaining such an idea reveals Beijing's staggering "arrogance of power," Mr. Lian says, noting that Chinese emperors never attempted such a feat. The Chinese Embassy in Washington declined to comment.

Why does Beijing seek, as Mr. Lian puts it, "to drain Christianity of its spirit"? One explanation is generalized hostility to religion. The Communist Party "sees religion as an enemy," says Sophie Richardson, China director at Human Rights Watch. The country's constitution nominally guarantees religious freedom, she says, but Beijing wants religion "to be either eradicated or co-opted."

Other religious minorities have suffered greatly in recent years, most notably Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang (Shin-jyäŋ) province. But the party sees Christianity, which some estimates suggest is the country's fastest-growing religion, as a unique threat. Mr. Lian cites three major reasons. First, Christianity is an international religion. Bonds

of affection and solidarity link Christians around the world to their brethren in China. Second, it is congregational: "You have this ability to mobilize a stable, reliable community." Congregations helped topple dictatorships in South Korea and Poland. Third, and perhaps most important, Christianity's "transcendent vision, transcendent values" present the Communist Party with an insuperable "moral and ideological rivalry," Mr. Lian says, because Chinese people largely see the party's Marxist-Leninist foundation as a spent force.

Xi Jinping says his goal is to "sinicize" [modify by Chinese influence] religion. But Christianity already has been sinicized, Mr. Lian argues—and not by the party. Over decades Chinese evangelists leavened the staid faith of the missionaries with millenarian themes and charismatic practices, sustaining believers through the cataclysms of Mao's rule and the post-1978 "reform and opening up" period's wrenching social changes.

This helps explain why the religion—especially in its unregulated, underground form—is winning so many converts.

Christianity in China has grown from about four million believers in the early 1950s, when Mao expelled Protestant missionaries, to more tan 60 million today. Beijing's problem isn't that Christianity is too foreign; it's that it's become too Chinese.

The U.S. can't dictate events on the ground in China, but the White House would be wise to make religious freedom a pillar of its China strategy. President Trump should speak out for freedom more often. Rhetoric is not an idle thing. Words give hope, and hope shared widely can remake nations. The Trump administration should back up its strong words with action. It can build on its Xinjiang sanctions and punish those responsible for persecuting Christians. And the State Department should closely monitor threats to house churches, seminaries and the Nanjing Amity Printing Co., the main producer of Bibles in China.

If Christianity is to survive in China, the country's Christians will have to summon the virtues that sustained the faith in other times of persecution: integrity of witness, solidity of friendship, faithfulness unto death. For those of us raised in a free society, their burden is hard to imagine. But Christians know no greater comforts than the cross and the Bible—reminders of weakness transmuted into victory, testaments of God's love for a fallen world.³

Mr. King is the Journal's Joseph Rago Memorial Fellow.

How do we orient and adjust to these reports? First, recognize these are not sorrowful blacks mourning the loss of a fellow citizen. They, plus many white and Hispanic, have been coopted by terrorist infiltrators. We are now prepared to objectively evaluate the coordinated assault on our nation by these terrorists.

Many ordinary citizens plus far too many authorities, such as mayors, senators, police chiefs, et al., have been shamed into bowing down to Black Lives Matter terrorists. If you are every confronted by such a person demanding your genuflection, I suggest you respond with the following response: "I bow to no man except to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and I suggest that you do the same."

On the following page is a passage about the "armor of God" that provides strength and courage for the present hour:

³ Matthew Taylor King, "The Gospel According to Xi," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 4, 2020.

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the full <u>armor of God</u>, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

v. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but angelic terrorists: against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

v. 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

(End TAG-01: The Armor of God.)