

Honorable Lisa Godbey Wood
U.S. District Court
Southern District of Georgia
801 Gloucester Street
Brunswick, GA 31520

Honorable and Esteemed Judge Godbey Wood,

Greetings from Greece from where I would like to share with you an extract from conversations recorded in Bhutan: Radiant Jewel of the Himalayas, Keeping pace with a Peripatetic Education Minister. Our conversation began in Asia as the devil coronavirus jumped species and it was completed for publication as lockdown came to its close. It started out on the subject of peace, *peace as a process or happy sum of many good human acts and positive behavioral attitudes*. We talked about his little book (Gyal-Khab) with its strong tone of optimism on state, citizen and citizenship education. It reflects on the thoughts of President Andrew Jackson who said every good citizen makes his country's honor his own, Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru who said citizenship consists of service to the country and Socrates who said, I am a citizen of the world.

I asked him what does he have to say given that Socrates broke the law and so did the Kings Bay Ploughshares 7? He replied: In my limited understanding and unlimited admiration of Socrates, the philosopher represents an infallible sensibility, a wide-awake consciousness, a flowering of human genius that saw it all and saw it fully. What looks exceptional to us mortals is in essence the comprehension of truth as it is. Socrates didn't have to say it; it was enough that he was. As to the Ploughshares it may be helpful to put it through the prism of means and ends and seek to resolve the apparent tension between them. In my scheme of things, the means must justify the ends: if the end is noble, the means to achieve that end must be noble.

My response to Thakur S Powdyel: as a teenager it was greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for another. Now as an octogenarian, I say greater nobility has no-man or no-woman than to sacrifice freedom to turn back the symbolic atomic clock that stands at 90 seconds before midnight. Thakur's closing words: *I hope that Covid-19 will have a powerful cathartic effect on our world and that we will emerge a little better, more humane and much wiser. Not to learn*

anything redemptive from so much pain and suffering would be a tragic waste. I believe in the great goodness of the world and the collective merit of humanity, which can take us to the sunnier side of the street.

To the best of my knowledge the Kings Bay Plowshares like Socrates have not asked for leniency for their principled action but prison in the time of COVID-19 should I believe not be an option (659 new deaths today). My simple request is that any decision you hand down will return them to the sunny side of the street. In doing so I believe you will register one great act for humanity and make the world a little wiser.

Thank you for considering my request.

Yours respectfully,

Jeffrey Levett
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6/20/2020, Athens, Greece
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Referenced Publication

Bhutan: radiant jewel of the Himalayas, Keeping pace with a peripatetic Education Minister. 16 June 2020 <https://wsimag.com/culture/62510-bhutan-radiant-jewel-of-the-himalayas>

Enclosure (1)

Enclosure for the Honorable Judge Lisa Godbey Wood

JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR

{Dedicated to my most beloved UN Secretary-General}

193 tears for You Javier Perez de Cuellar!
193 tears, as many as the UN Member-States,
For You proud eagle of Peru and noble UN Secretary-General.
And may the tears be transformed into immense rain
To water the desolate consciences of the powerful
So that tall and evergreen trees grow up
And protect the peace from the heat waves of wars.
193 tears-rain to wash out the blood of millions
Of innocent people victimized by dehumanized wars.
193 tears of praying to God to bring catharsis to the human tragedy!

P.I.Karafotias

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Professor, International Relations

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