

Faith and Ideology.

The backbone of our lives is the trust in something we don't need to question every day. Like the framework of our coexistence. Complying without seeing a need for improvement opens a chance for exploitation, as our history testifies, leading to the collapse of all social dogmatic structures.

It happened to me in the early days when I witnessed a priest's vile behaviour at church. I saw my chance as a boy serving at the church's altar. I rang the bells at the most inappropriate moment. I was not asked again. And I found a high school far away from my town with towering six churches.

The American social and cultural unrest during the Vietnam War stimulated cultural changes in my Polish society, but for different reasons, beliefs, and core ideologies. Unlike the USA, which benefited materially from the outcome of World War II, Poland was subjected to neocolonial control by imposing a new power structure founded on foreign ideology. The Catholic Church and cultural events were the only platforms for allowable congregations of widely shared emotions, relevant information, and wisdom. Like many of my peers back then, I took the side opposite to the official ideology in activities on the cultural side.

Since then, I have had a continuous interest in the evolution of faith and ideology, the apparent merger of their premiss, and the consequent outcome. The faith in unspoken human values was codified and partially absorbed into the domain of ideologies. After all, both are foundational to larger structures of human coexistence, all with hierarchical characteristics. And their record points to the collapse all of them for similar reasons. They all had, until now, regional implications.

The evidence and facts show that our well-being and "progress" are measured by the matrix of GDP. The currency of it is the future hypothetical purchasing power of money. The engine of it is a hybrid of capital and profit. It has a religion-like status, with financial security as our salvation. That wouldn't be a problem if not for the underlying assumptions. That our common natural resources have no assessable value, and massive pollution no future legacy cost. The biophysical processes sustaining the necessities of our lives won't be indefinite without their quantifiable value.

Internalizing profits and externalizing costs became the theology's principles. The expansion of shrinking resources we use, forced internally neocolonial practices. The blood vein of this faith is relentless consumption. I explored this further in my "Intermission" project. The risk management practiced by the priesthood of this religion does not cover most of the human population.

My escapes from the urban environment helped maintain an even perspective on my life's realities. And I am forever grateful to my parents for the early introduction to the concepts of Faith and Ideology. As we are all "progressing" through the age of "make to believe technology", our faith becomes a troubling liability, along with vanishing reasons to justify our own logic.

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