



I W C

N e w s l e t t e r

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*“He drew a circle round him thrice  
 ‘Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout’ – he said  
 But love and I had the wit to win.  
 We drew a larger circle and took him in.”  
 Edwin Markham*

## Revolutionary Citizenship in an Emerging Cosmopolis

In his visionary analysis in *Parapolitics* of an emerging world community (Chapter 17, “Ex Chaos Cosmopolis”), Professor Raghavan Iyer observes “the emergence of an inchoate but increasingly vocal body of world opinion that has crystallized the principle that no nation can live, or lay down the law unto itself or be the judge and arbiter of its own conduct in international affairs, and in internal matters of international importance.” He notes the statement of former President Jimmy Carter that no U.N. member-nation can claim that mistreatment of its citizens is solely its own business. The current vivid images of self-sacrificial protests, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa, make us all witnesses to revolutionary demands for freedom, democracy and protection of human rights. The threats and acts of violence by governments against their own citizens test our governments’ capacity to act upon the principle that President Carter declared. Have we reached a point in human history where universal principles of human rights have become moral imperatives that no government, business or citizen can resist without shrinking into an ineffective path to extinction? With insightful anticipation of such conflicts, Professor Iyer envisions an emerging cosmopolis as follows:

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**The Voyages of the Sorcerer II: Global Ocean Sampling Expedition** Essay on p. 5.

Theme for 2011: The New Learning: Pathways to Global Culture  
 Aim 9. To assist in the emergence of men and women of universal culture,  
 capable of continuous growth in non-violence of mind, generosity of heart  
 and harmony of soul — Declaration of Interdependence

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Citizen Diplomacy in Iran**

**Forum: Saturday, April 9  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Concord House, 1407 Chapala St.  
Speaker: Phyllis Davies**

Phyllis Davies, an international peace activist, author, business woman, organic farmer, poet, and frequent television and radio host, will report on her travels to Iran as part of a team of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. This group, founded during WWI, is dedicated to active non-violence, and is one of the few groups admitted to the Islamic Republic since the Revolution in 1978. She will illustrate how, in her experience, genuine good will and recognition of common humanity can overcome barriers based on perceptions of “the other” as “the enemy”. She will report on the aspirations of Iranian citizens for democracy and the resistance of the government to that ideal.

For more information: (805) 967-1055  
[www.worldculture.org](http://www.worldculture.org)



### **The Voyage of the Sorcerer II: Global Ocean Sampling Expedition**

**Forum: Saturday, April 16  
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Concord House, 1407 Chapala St.  
Presenter: Russ Lewin**

After his groundbreaking work of sequencing the human genome in 2001, J. Craig Venter and fellow scientists embarked upon an around the world voyage aboard the Sorcerer II, a 100' sloop, to sample and sequence the wide array of microbes in the oceans of the world. The goal was to gain a better understanding of how ecosystems function and to discover new genes of ecological and evolutionary importance. The tools and techniques involved in sequencing the human genome were used to sequence the harvested microbes that account for over 50% of the biomass on earth.

We will discuss the astounding discoveries of the expedition, and the implications for creative application and development of clean energy production, medicines, new materials, and eco-intelligence.

One of Dr. Venter's primary motives for the expedition was to inspire young people to enter the newly emerging fields of science.

(Note: See p. 5 for a fuller description.)

## Revolutionary Citizenship

“Love as well as wit could win the battle between future and past, between the contradictions of international politics and the context provided by the emerging cosmopolis – the love of humanity cannot forever remain in the abstract. It must become a concrete love of persons, involving thoughtful consideration of others, interest in their growth and welfare, and sufficient self-confidence to identify meaningfully with wit the unhappiness and anxieties of the less secure who will crowd the cities of the world. Perhaps, we can already witness small portents of the shape of things to come. Indications are positive at present and promising for the future. People of compassion and charity around the world intuitively understand authentic affirmations of fundamental universal propositions. A Yevtushenko could understand and celebrate a Martin Luther King more ardently than most Americans could. It is possible for men in distant places to identify with those rare harbingers of the authentic language of the human race. Many young people for a variety of reasons are afraid to be joiners. Some are seekers, perhaps needing more help than they know. The universal will not limit the capacity to communicate with or reach out to anything outside. ... We need an adjustment on the part of each person in every given situation of the critical distance between the human agent and the limited structures, systems, and ideologies, which he handles as instruments of his human purpose. This readjustment is the contemporary revolution.”

The remarkable and inspiring fact about the current protests that we are witnessing

today, is that young people are not passive but are at the center of these revolutionary efforts to transform arbitrary and corrupt political systems. Having suffered silently without freedom or opportunity, they are now demonstrating courage, creativity and spontaneity using the few resources they have to confront armed Leviathans. Our test of global citizenship is what can we do in thought, speech and action to support their authentic use of universal principles of human rights with their own human potentials.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose death anniversary is April 4th, proclaimed the following: “Freedom is not won by passive acceptance of suffering. Freedom is won by a struggle against suffering.” Speaking of the global scope of the revolution he helped lead, Dr King wrote: “These are revolutionary times. All over the globe men are revolting against old systems of exploitation and oppression, and out of the wombs of a frail world new systems of justice and equality are being born. The shirtless and barefoot of the earth are rising up as never before. ‘The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light.’ We in the West must support these revolutions ... Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit [of our founding] and go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal opposition to poverty, racism and militarism. With this powerful commitment we shall boldly challenge the status quo and unjust mores and thereby speed the day when ‘every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill be made low; and the crooked shall

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Revolutionary Citizenship**

be made straight and the rough places plain.’

“A genuine revolution of values means in the final analysis that our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in their individual societies.... The call for a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one’s tribe, race, class and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all men.” (*Where Do We Go From Here?*) These visionary propositions are still relevant and inspirational for those who would be “citizen pilgrims” on an ideal, continuously evolving and ever renewing journey to global citizenship portrayed by Professor Richard Falk in his essay, “The Making of Global Citizenship”.

Carolyn Dorrance

**Brotherhood and Interrelatedness**

**Eventually the civil rights movement will have contributed infinitely more to the nation than the eradication of racial injustice. It will have enlarged the concept of brotherhood to a vision of total interrelatedness.**

**Martin L. King, Jr.**  
*Why We Can't Wait*

**In April**

**Anniversaries**

- 1st William Harvey, English physician b. 1578
- 1st Sergei Rachmaninoff, Russian composer, pianist, conductor b. 1873
- 2nd Charlemagne, German King of the Franks and Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire b. 742
- 2nd Hans Christian Andersen, Danish author, poet b. 1805
- 3rd Washington Irving, American author, essayist, historian b. 1783
- 4th Martin Luther King, Jr., African-American clergyman, civil rights leader d. 1968
- 5th Joseph Lister, English surgeon b. 1827
- 5th Booker T. Washington, African-American educator, orator, author b. 1856
- 6th Raphael, Italian High Renaissance painter, architect b. 1483
- 7th William Wordsworth, English Romantic poet b. 1770
- 8th Hugo von Mohl, German botanist b. 1805
- 9th Charles Baudelaire, French poet, critic, translator b. 1821
- 9th Paul Robeson, African-American singer, actor, activist, lawyer b. 1898
- 10th Hugo Grotius, Dutch jurist, playwright, poet b. 1583
- 10th George William Russell, Irish nationalist, writer, editor b. 1867
- 13th Thomas Jefferson, American political philosopher, Founding Father and 3rd President of the U.S. b. 1743
- 14th Christiaan Huygens, Dutch mathematician, astronomer, physicist, horologist b. 1629
- 14th Arnold J. Toynbee, British historian, author b. 1889
- 15th Leonardo da Vinci, Italian artist, scientist, inventor b. 1452
- 15th Guru Nanak, Indian founder of the Sikh religion 1469
- 15th Matthew Arnold, English poet, cultural critic d. 1888
- 15th Leonhard Euler, Swiss mathematician, physicist b. 1707
- 16th Anatole France, French poet, journalist, novelist, Nobel laureate b. 1844
- 16th Charles Chaplin, English actor, filmmaker, musician b. 1889
- 17th Thornton Wilder, American playwright, novelist b. 1897

(Con't. p. 5)





## ***The Voyages of the Sorcerer II: Global Ocean Sampling Expedition***

... Come, my friends,

'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.  
Push off, and sitting well in order smite  
The sounding furrows;  
for my purpose holds  
To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths  
Of all the western stars, until I die.  
It may be that the gulfs  
will wash us down;  
It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,  
And see the great Achilles,  
whom we knew.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Ulysses*

The ocean is one of the last great frontiers on our planet. Since 2003 scientists at the J. Craig Venter Institute have been on a quest to unlock the secrets of the oceans by sampling, sequencing and analyzing the DNA of the microorganisms living in these waters. While this world is invisible to us, its importance is immeasurable. The microbes in the sea, land, and air sustain our life on Earth. This is why Dr. Venter

*(Continued on page 6)*

### **In April**

#### **Anniversaries**

- 18/19th David Ricardo, British economist, member of Parliament b. 1772
- 21st Peter Abelard, French philosopher, theologian, logician d. 1142
- 21st John Muir, Scottish-American naturalist, author, conservationist b. 1838
- 21st Max Weber, German political economist, sociologist b. 1864
- 22nd Immanuel Kant, German philosopher b. 1724
- 22nd Vladimir Lenin, Russian revolutionary, politician b. 1870
- 23rd William Shakespeare, English poet, playwright b. 1564 & d. 1616
- 23rd Max Planck, German physicist, Nobel laureate b. 1858
- 23rd Serge Prokofiev, Russian composer b. 1891
- 23rd Miguel de Cervantes, Spanish author, playwright d. 1616
- 24th Edmund Cartwright, English clergyman, inventor b. 1743
- 25th Oliver Cromwell, English soldier, statesman b. 1599
- 26th Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor, philosopher b. 121
- 26th David Hume, Scottish philosopher, economist, historian b. 1711
- 26th John James Audubon, French-American ornithologist, naturalist, painter b. 1785
- 27th Edward Gibbon, English historian, member of Parliament b. 1737
- 27th Samuel F. B. Morse, American painter, inventor b. 1791
- 27th Herbert Spencer, English philosopher, political theorist b. 1820
- 28th Kurt Gödel, Austrian-American logician, mathematician, philosopher b. 1906
- 29th C. P. Cavafy, Greek poet, journalist b, 1863 & d. 1933
- 30th Carl Friedrich Gauss, German mathematician, scientist b. 1777

(Con't. p. 6)

### ***The Voyages of the Sorcerer II***

and his team have been on their voyage of microbial discovery. Since we know so little about our oceans and the microbes that inhabit them, Venter and his team are exploring the ocean from a gene-centric viewpoint. Several key questions arose that the expeditions hoped to answer.

- i. Is the ocean a homogeneous blend of microbes, or does it change from location to location?
- ii. If it does change, how much and over what distances?
- iii. Do the genes of the microbes sequenced vary widely?
- iv. Can newly discovered genes form pieces of a puzzle in the quest to generate eco-friendly fuels and products?
- v. How can an enhanced knowledge of the microbes and their genetic makeup help us understand the deeper and more subtle workings of our planet and the lives upon it?

In part, the voyages of the Sorcerer II were inspired by two of the great voyages of discovery – the H.M.S. Challenger expedition led by Captain George Nares, and Darwin's expeditions on the H.M.S. Beagle. The Challenger oceanographic expedition was designed to take a sample of the ocean floor every 200 miles to discover the life forms therein. Departing from Halifax, which is where the Challenger departed, the Sorcerer II took sea water samples every 200 miles and then analyzed the DNA structures of each sample. They used the same algorithms developed in the quest to sequence the human genome. Each genome has a unique mathematical solution that determines its specific characteristics.

The microbes in the ocean account for

*(Continued on page 7)*

### **In April**

#### **Observances and Acknowledgements**

- 4th (2011) Gudhi Padwa, Hindu festival celebrating the new year and the arrival of spring in the Marathi culture of northern India, one of a number of such celebrations held throughout the Hindu world on different days and months
- 5th British Museum founded in 1753 to promote universal understanding
- 6th Expedition led by American explorer Robert Perry reached the geographical North Pole in 1909
- 7th U.N. World Health Day celebrated
- 12th Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, first human in space and first to orbit the earth, both in 1961
- 12th (2011) Ram Navami commemorates the birth of the Hindu deity Ram
- 17th (2011) Mahavir Jayanti celebrated to honor the birth of Lord Mahavir, founder of the Jain religion
- 17th (2011) Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Christian Holy Week and the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
- 18th (2011) Theravadin Buddhist new year celebration
- 19th (2011) Pesach or Jewish Passover celebration begins
- 20th Radium isolated as an element by Marie Curie in 1902 for which she received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911
- 22nd Earth Day official date, celebrated worldwide on various days (41st anniversary in 2011)
- 24th (2011) Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus (Western and Eastern Christians celebrate on the same day in 2010, a rare occurrence which happens on only a few years each century)
- 24th Library of Congress established in the U.S. in 1800
- 25th Discovery of DNA structure by Watson & Crick in 1953
- 29th Discovery of the electron by J. J. Thompson in 1897

***The Voyages of the Sorcerer II***

over 50% of the biomass on our Earth, as compared to animals that comprise only 1/1000th of the Earth's biomass. Each milliliter of seawater contains over one million bacteria and ten million viruses. This stimulated Dr. Venter's thinking that there was obviously an unknown and unseen world in the oceans that could be vital to a better understanding of diversity on the planet.

One of Dr. Venter's primary motives for the expedition was to inspire young people to enter the field of science. The Sorcerer II is a 100' sloop with a carbon fiber rig. It can travel between 200 – 250 miles per day. The voyages have taken samples from all of the major oceans as well as many lakes. Samples were collected on board and then flown back to the lab in the United States where they were sequenced and analyzed.

We will discuss the stunning discoveries of the expeditions and their implications, as well as some creative applications.

Russ Lewin

*"The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever."*

*Jacques Yves Cousteau*

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