

Chapter C.2 The rise & fall of Enlightenment?

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VI. My self-delusional model for the rise & fall of Enlightenment

What is Enlightenment?

Science focus: Only one other period of “real science” during all history – ancient Greece, post Plato & Aristotle, pre-Roman conquest (100 – 300 years duration)?

Egyptian “technicians” - Engineering excellence surpassed capabilities of Greek logic.

Greek argumentation, deductive logic - Plato & Aristotle

Fusion: from Data, with Love – scientific method and thinking, ?”phaenomenun”? - Greek term

Writing - Economic availability of papyrus, Alexandrian “book confiscate/copy/return”

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Historical context for Enlightenment

I suspect (coincidental in timing, ca. 3,000 B.C.) :

Early Egyptian science & Enlightenment? Pre-Great Pyramid period

Mesopotamia

Indus Valley

Meso-America - ?Moche pre-Inca?

Stonehenge

The idle rich? (eg Amateur scientists of current Enlightenment)

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What ELSE is Enlightenment?

Multiple conflicting hypothesis – Perhaps some of the Greeks thought like this, or am I coloring this (eg Sigmund Freud's work)?

Pro-Active Tolerance - Not just tolerating, but driving different ideas, and listening.

Bright, but not yet famous – People are in it for the interest, inspiration, and excitement not so much the money, glory, and power.

Enlightenment isn't us – it's not a property of any individual nor sub-group, it's extremely sparse (< 1e-4), and may be only a fleeting, rare property of the thinking of any individual (i.e. perhaps NO individual is consistently enlightened, and those that are enlightened are only so in an extremely limited temporal/ subject fashion)

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Traditional Killers of Enlightenment

Greeks: Conquered by the Romans, burned the Alexandrian Library

Romans, Persians - Why didn't they pick this up? Greek architect/ slaves to Roman project managers and statesmen

~1,500 years lapse until Renaissance in Europe

Muslims protected the teachings – but pursued only in a limited fashion

Constraints of the Churches?

The Collapse of Complex Societies (Joseph Tainter)/ Enviro-Destruction (today – Jared Diamond)

VI. My self-delusional model for the rise & fall of Enlightenment Alternative Killers of Enlightenment

Betrayal by the Professional Scientists: Game / cheating theory leads to “science suffocation” by those diametrically anti-thetical to Science/ Enlightenment (eg almost all of today's scientists would have been monks in the Middle Ages, memorizing & re-interpreting the Bible to suit politics of the day) “Out-voted” by the rabid mob...

Sun & History - Crazy, one-dimensional historical analysis for a “solar signature” based on Ivanka Charvatova's work on sun barycenter movements (identifies ALL major climate cycles 1.6 through 2402.2 years!). Very suggestive of pre-Old Egyptian Kingdom Enlightenment

Loss or suffocation of the Amateur Scientists – who may be the true “fire of Enlightenment”, even today, especially today. Historical impact of sun, collapse of complex societies...

VI. My self-delusional model for the rise & fall of Enlightenment When & How will our Enlightenment End?

Soon: The OTHER period of “real science” only lasted 100 – 300 years. Ascendant powers (India and China, Islam) are NO guarantee of Enlightenment

Quickly: - Crazy, one-dimensional historical analysis for a “solar signature” based on Ivanka Charvatova's work on sun barycenter movements (identifies ALL major climate cycles 1.6 through 2402.2 years!).

Routinely: Every 200-400 years globally there is a huge turnover of societies and civilisations (the latter in the sense of Arnold J. Toynbee)

Charvatovan warm period: Could precipitate this? Careful – as with Toynbee's civilisations, times of trouble should also be a major driver for the RISE of Enlightenment!

VI. My self-delusional model for the rise & fall of Enlightenment A Scenario for the End of Our Enlightenment?

Consistent, Persistent D3 thinking by Scientists: and the smothering of the tiny fraction of “strong thinkers”.

Negative Societal Impacts: - The diversion of huge resources and attention to grossly mis-prioritized themes consequently pulls attention and priorities from real problems..

Time of Troubles, Thinking that doesn't work: Every 200-400 years globally there is a huge turnover of societies and civilisations (the latter in the sense of Arnold J. Toynbee)

Politics of Scientists versus the King : Could precipitate the end? Careful – as with Toynbee's civilisations, times of trouble should also be a major driver for the RISE of Enlightenment!

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A Scenario for the End of Our Enlightenment?

Pissed off once too many times: It's likely that bad scientific advice, and political involvement (as with today), will cause embarrassments and political failure of leaders, who won't be happy.

Fire the scientists: - Taken far enough, the influence of scientists could be strongly net-negative. Coupled with the point above... the argument to cull the ranks becomes convincing for everyone except the scientists.

Wait – save one or two: Don't go too far – we still need architecture and arts etc?

Memories of the Stupidity, Dishonesty, and Delinquency of Scientists: As extreme as religion can be, they knew the scientists were far more wacky and politically manipulative!

VI. My self-delusional model for the rise & fall of Enlightenment Dark Ages, or New Enlightenment?

Historically – Dark Ages: “Conquer & kill” is a different set of skills from science, but you need both.

History doesn't have to repeat itself - We may not be vulnerable to Societal collapse?

Evolution of Minds, Evolution of Meta-Thinking

Sorry for us – Conquest by the better bio-minds! (Neanderthals, and successive emigrations)

AND – Enlightenment is not a property of the masses, scientists or not.

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