

## Biosong Blog 16 (September 14, 2022)      Power

I am a human being, so I read and hear about ‘current affairs.’ Doing that reminds me about different ways in which Power affects our lives, beginning with political power. In our multi-level governments and corporations, our predominantly left-brain attention has fostered bureaucratic procedures and hierarchies of influence that are often arbitrary and inflexible.

People were divided into different social classes by inequality of wealth for centuries. In our time, the class-intolerance has lessened, but not the inequality of wealth, which in some ways has increased. That has always provided fuel for political power.

The dominance of left-brain attention enhances political power insidiously. Bureaucracy, combined with technology, enables governments and corporations to monitor and control the population. Politicians and bureaucrats are as much the victim of this as the rest of us. It’s not anyone’s fault that well-intentioned policies to provide better aged-care languish in ‘red tape,’ or that our most vital healthcare workers and teachers feel frustrated in their workplace.

Technology has complicated the way that ‘news’ is spread around, which makes it harder to sort out truth from lying. At my age, all this seems rather ‘unreal.’ It’s as if an unnatural, synthetic, layer has been superimposed on top of the Real World in which we actually live. Political structures exist on our behalf, employ many of us and provide services, but they have created their own set of Values, principally around economic strength, that are not the same as the more life-sustaining ideals that human beings naturally apply to our lives.

So I suggest that **human power**, which includes the life-forces and special qualities I have mentioned, along with breadth of mind and Intelligence, is what will maintain our Creativity and guide our evolutionary progress. Many small, but worthwhile, examples of this are happening right now, in every corner of the world, though not in the headlines.

The time scale of this kind of progress is beyond our knowing. The broader our thinking the less impatient we are. Political powers tend to destroy or neutralise one another over time, but many human lives may be lost or injured in that process. Creative change at the level of the substrate of our mind, to produce a new *Gestalt*, can happen in sudden bursts, but is mostly gradual and slow.

**Human power** comes from our BELONGING – from the systemic principles that give us Relationality. We are part of a larger, organic **system** whose power lies in its connectedness. What sustains our BEING is the work of BELONGING that we do every day. That work is done at all three levels of connectedness that I described earlier (in Blog 9).

Firstly, when we spend time in the local community gathering resources, achieving common goals, and building collective **spirit**, we generate more **human power**.

BELONGING to the natural world is still felt, to some extent, by all of us, in our gardens and trips into bushland, but I suggest that, to strengthen this fundamental connectedness, we will probably need to revive some of the attitudes and practices whereby human beings have worshipped and communed with Nature for centuries, until fairly recent times.

Thirdly, the spiritual relationship we create with something greater than ourselves, through meditation, prayer or quiet contemplation, may prove to be the strongest element of our **human power** and Creativity.