

Solar Minimums May Be the Final Piece of the Puzzle That is The Fall of Western Civilization

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One of the most common memes in academic discussions in regards to the modern era has been to compare *Western Civilization* to the Roman Empire. This is not surprising considering Amsterdam, London, and then Washington all compared themselves to Rome while constructing *Romanesque* government buildings and laws.

The approximate period of 500-100BC was the ascension of that civilization; The general population were overwhelmingly poor or working class and their loyalty and respect of *The Republic* was high. They trusted the civilian government that sent them to fight the hard slogs of the Punic Wars with Carthage. Carthaginian Commander Hannibal was Hitler and there was a feeling that Rome was fighting for it's very survival against this highly sophisticated Naval power. The men who fought these tough battles were citizen soldiers much like the draftees the US & other western countries used up until the early 70's. The population was mostly homogeneous and the family unit was strong with fertility rates high. Women were burdened with the job of creating and nurturing many children so they could go off to some far off place to be butchered for The Republic. This period would be compared to 1700-1970 of The Western Civilization. WWI & II, but even Korea and Vietnam were the Punic wars that saw so many poor & working class citizen soldiers sacrifice themselves fighting a powerful enemy that they thought threatened their very *way of life*.

By the 1st century BC Rome is the most advanced and powerful civilization on Earth and the material wealth of the Romans skyrockets. Many of them do not have to work as they appreciate commerce, science, and arts. Men & Women are increasingly less interested in marriage and no-fault divorce is enacted. Birth rates start to decline below the replacement rate. In the 1st-3rd centuries AD the government tries to revive marriage with a 'bachelor tax' but it doesn't work as family values are decimated. The *citizen soldiers* are replaced with professional soldiers who expect compensation and are loyal to the military itself, not the state. As the empire expands in a series of *wars of choice* it is becoming increasingly multi-cultural with the new citizens coming from conquered territories. Their loyalty is in question but Rome depends on them as mercenaries to defend the declining state. The government and the military industrial complex replace the private sector as the sole entity that is responsible for everyone's well-being. There is moral decay and brutality as Julius Caesar brags about killing 1 million *Gauls*. This period could be compared to 1970-present. By the 400's Rome is being pillaged by Visigoths & Vandals and never made it to the 500's.

There was something else going on in the 400's that wasn't happening in the preceding centuries. Although corruption and immorality was ripe, the scientific & historical record shows the climate cooled but more devastatingly it became erratic. Long dry conditions interrupted by intense deluges. Cold weather when it wasn't supposed to be cold. Although solar activity records only date back to the 1600's, these conditions were almost certainly the result of a combination of low solar activity & high volcanic activity-much like the post *medieval warm period* that saw solar minimums like the *Maunder &*

Dalton and large volcanic eruptions like *Tambora* which combined with the *Dalton* created freezing summers. The result during the 400's was rising food prices which along with the other factors created deep dissatisfaction as the economy faltered.

In today's world Western countries have recklessly created wars in Muslim lands only to accept millions of refugees. The argument has been made that these immigrants are necessary due to inadequate birth rates of the white population which leads to faltering economic growth. On the other hand developed countries like Japan, Korea, and Taiwan also have low birthrates but they *don't* create wars in the Middle East and *don't* accept massive influxes of Arab refugees. The two issues seem to go hand-in-hand like a *Neo-Romana* invading territories, raising their civilizations to the ground, and acquiring both their skilled & non-skilled workers. In both the USA & WE the tension builds between the recent immigrants and the indigenous or mostly Caucasian population punctuated by lone-wolf random attacks. The Caucasian & African American population in the US is increasingly suspicious of the government as that same central government raises the debt ceiling again & again; To pay for entitlements + the military industrial complex and other government subsidized programs that create employment. It has spent trillions in middle eastern wars in Iraq/Syria which are now being fought by Kurdish & Arab mercenaries who expect to be paid \$1000 a month while the Syrian government only pays it's conscripts \$50/month. Be that as it may, everything hums right along as cheap food & energy powers a service sector economy of affordable hotels & restaurants. Non-military manufacturing had moved to Asia by the 1980's.

Enter the monkey in the wrench. After 200 years of healthy solar maximums, solar activity has been plummeting since 2010 and the first solar minimum will hit bottom around 2021. By the 2030's solar physicists now confirm that a *grand solar minimum* will consume most of the rest of the century. Volcanic activity has also been on the increase and more is expected as eruptions occur most often during solar cycle peaks or at solar minimums. In previous articles I published in this newspaper I chronicled increasingly intense and erratic weather patterns that have coincided with the lower solar activity since 2010. The latest is a cold front descending into the US Midwest in late June dropping temperatures to near freezing and snow 200km south of Moscow in Tartarastran. Wheat futures immediately rose 6%. At this time food is still cheap as the world now takes cheap food stuffs for granted. A change of this reality in the future could shake the global world order to it's foundations.