

## ANARCHISM 06

The crew lives under the impression that under its governmental framework living conditions are more or less thriving. There is no longer severe poverty, there is enough food and enough work. This impression is consolidated among those who live at the center of whatever hegemony, in the vicinity of the ivory tower of the most modern and up-to-date ships. Among this more privileged crew life is so good that plans are carried out to make the ship even bigger so as to give room to the unprivileged. To this end refugees from more fortunate ships are welcomed and both the social infrastructure on board of the ship as well the consumer market is thus enforced.

To this end arkists are the exact opposite of these refugees who want to make it to the ship and enjoy the life of consumers. Arkists simply acknowledge that nature cannot handle the burden these enormous ships pose on her. They just prepare for the worst and thus rather than building boats to make it to the ship they build boats to escape it. Now while the builders of those so-called lifeboats have generally attempted to work in marginalized and most precarious conditions, the creation of a movement to represent them becomes a form of syndicalism, a union in which solidarity among the lifeboat-wrights can be established.

Arkism then is a recognition of a phenomena that has been historically always present at times individuals have had the sensibility to more or less symbolically create their poetic lifeboats to escape the imminent danger that power structure poses. They have revived their human power in the face of state power, a human power however that never comes to terms with the latter which might as well use their lifeboats as mere decorations or a form of art to show off as a syndrome rather than a symptom.

Arkists are in fact the clear manifestation of a symptom, a cry for freedom in the face of the monolithic creation of power structures. Anarchism symbolizes with a most modern and efficient but most unsustainable ship. In the course of human history the rise of power structures have been always preceded by movements advocating for freedom. The rise of empires have always been contrasted by libertarian alternatives: Taoism as an alternative to the Chinese Empire, Stoicism to the Roman, Mazdakism to Islamic, Levellerism to the English, Transcendentalism to the American, Makhnovism to the Russian.

The rise of libertarian voices is but a natural outcry against the unnatural constitution of power structures that are

bound to suffocate life as much as they suffocate in the first place these voices. Authoritarianism precludes the total extinction by means of a more or less direct violence of any heretic liberal thought. The ship on board of which each citizen of the world lives in are but authoritarian enforcements of centralizing social containers. Through violence and more recently through persuasion individuals whose ancestors had set up century long traditions to live in harmony with their nature environment have given up these traditions to be part of the ship.

The abundance and lavish life on top of the ship however is soon getting compromised. The automation the ship has perfected to sustain the crew and itself has quickly depleted resources it first thought unlimited. The life of these ships are but the accelerated history of empires, of giant mushrooms quickly raising and falling compromising with their poison not only the crew of bacteria within it but also the very surrounding. The whole of science is now considering how to keep these mushrooms alive. Arkism is far more humble; it considers how a more down-scaled life can be resume without such centralized and unsustainable creations.

The centralization that a ship actuates is in effect greatly amplified and far reaching thanks to the technological apparatus sustaining it. There can be no way to compare a modern ship with the empires of the past. The official history hails at its convenience the glory of these political trophies obfuscating the many facts that only a personal and direct testimonies can reveal. In a more advance version the history brings forward these testimonies, it brands itself as anti-imperialistic the facto only becoming a stronger empire, a much wealthier ship expanding itself with the victims of older empires. Either way the issue remains, the issue of a much more invasive and restricting governance structured by the very ship and the technological apparatus sustaining it. Until this apparatus will be able to sustain its crew finding new resources to sustain it and sustain itself life on board of the ship will be rather tollerable if not rather enjoyable. Once there will be no longer any resources to exploit it is very likely as it is already happening that the ship itself will exploit the crew itself to sustain its apparatus.

Arkism then warns that a cycle may come to an end and a new one will begin, a new one much resembling the allegory of the galley, a galley in which the crew is chained to row. While not forced to do any physical labour the crew in modern ships are

forced to do much administrative labour, a most consuming and stressful labour needed to keep the giant enterprise of the ship afloat. This labour in itself is most unnatural and most perverting, detaching humans not only from the natural environment and the sustainable life they could carry on there but also from their very nature.

The only reward for the mentally stressed crew is the possibility to increase their level of consumption which in turn makes the ship far more voracious and in need for new resources. While with physical labour especially if directed to produce one's own food very little is needed to gratify a person, the administrative work on board of the ship leaves the crew members with such an emptiness they are unable to fill. The arkist movement works right on this filling, right on cultivating and harvesting of a life under extinction. It is a pacifist and non-confrontational but very operative restoration and preparation for a new and real life off the ship.