

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, **organized** citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

<https://leandroherrero.com/the-missing-word-in-the-famous-margaret-mead-quote/>

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW

- I ACCESS to THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet
- II ACCESS to OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable
- III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; LINK TO PODCAST
- IV SATURDAY HISTORY CALL – NOTES, REFERENCE MATERIALS

I B B S RADIO - ACCESS TO THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS <https://bbsradio.com/>

DAY	B B S Station	TIME	PROGRAM	CONFERENCE CALL	HOSTS
Thursday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	A Night at the Round Table	None	Panel Members Guests Callers welcome.
Friday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	Friday Night Hard News	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara Callers welcome.
Saturday	#2	1:30 pm PT/ 4:30 Eastern	History of our Galactic World & NESARA aka The True History	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara callers welcome.

NOTE: 2nd CONFERENCE CALL # for both Friday, Saturday
605-313-5166
 Pin Code: 353 863#

ADDITIONAL HELP FOR LISTENERS

B B S LISTENER TOOLS

B B S RADIO STATION 1

A Night at the Roundtable
Friday Night Hard News

B B S RADIO STATION 2

Saturday History Call

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CLICK ON **AUDIO ICON**



CLICK ON **AUDIO ICON**



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[NO code needed]

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- go to www.bbsradio.com

- In **Search** box, enter the name of the required program;
- scroll down to the heading
TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING.
- Find the table listing the dates. Click on required date.

II ACCESS TO OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY Rainbow Roundtable

NAME OF CALL / HOST	WEEKDAY / TIME	ACCESS POINT	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call Grand Goddess Lillie	Wednesday 6:00 – 7:30 MST	Telephone Only	1-605-472-5406 PIN 402-493#
Abundance Call Caroline Oceana Ryan	Every 2nd Wednesday 5:45 PM PT/ 8:45 PM ET	Telephone ZOOM	
To be notified: email https://www.ascensiontimes.com/the-abundance-group Scroll down to the sign-up sheet and enter the requested info.			
Ascension Call Cheryl Croci	Every Sunday, Monday 9 – 10:30 EST	Telephone Only	1-425-436-6260 PIN 9467 441# Call Cheryl for # in your area
Ashtar Legacy Calls Fran Pearre	Every 2nd, 4th Tuesday 5 th Tuesday – no call 9:00 – 10:00 pm EST	Telephone VOIP/ H D via Skype	1-717-908-1834 PIN 980 339# Call is free; LD charges are not 1-717-908-1834 PIN #980 339# https://www.freeconferencecallhd.com/hd-conferencing/ Click on VOIP button and enter info as requested

To access past ALC calls, go to [Ashtar Legacy Teleconferences \(ashtarontheroad.com\)](http://ashtarontheroad.com)

III ARCHIVES: provided by **B B S RADIO** **RAINBOW ROUNDTABLE**

ARCHIVES: B B S

- Go to www.bbsradio.com
- In **Search** box, enter the name of the desired program;
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TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING
- Find the table listing the dates. Click on desired date.

ARCHIVES: Rainbow Roundtable

- Go to <https://www.rainbowroundtable.net/>
- **WRITTEN**
 - Go to **"Archives" tab:** See NOTES on RHS
- **AUDIO**
 - Go to **"Archives" tab:** See AUDIO on LHS:
Included: BBS podcast + Conference Call Links

III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; ACCESS TO PODCAST; MAYAN CALENDAR

A. Opening Meditation: Rainbird

B. Mayan Calendar / Record of Days: Rainbird

- Go to <https://www.spacestationplaza.com> – to locate specific days & lots more information: on the home page, you can find out what your Mayan signature is; while there, look and see where the wave began: that is the birth wave

- to learn about the Mayan Calendar, Go to <https://www.spacestationplaza.com> which will link you further to www.lawoftime.org website for further information.

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE PODCAST TO HEAR THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION OF EACH DATE
Also note: This is not a 3rd dimensional calendar!

www.Spacestationplaza.co Click on the tzolkein – it's on page 2 of the link.

For even more information, SEE ALSO the **Law of Time.org**

6th Friday **12 BEN** **Red Crystal Skywalker** **Warrior Aspect**
Paying attention to focus; working with clarity – complex stability

7th Saturday **13 IX** **White Cosmic Wizard** **Visionary**
Complete the wave of the White Wind. Working with promise of change; work with clarity of mind – working with shamanic energy; working in accordance with Divine Energy

8th Sunday **1 MEN** **Blue Magnetic Eagle** **Visionary**
New Wave of Men. Eagle energy – see the big picture; practice discernment. Work with our commitment to service; reconnecting with Spirit – no more feelings of despair!

9th Monday **2 CIB** **Yellow Lunar Warrior** **Warrior**
About trusting in our journey, bringing awareness of right action – access to Cosmic Consciousness

10th Tuesday **3 CABAN** **Red Electric Earth** **Healing**
Activity dynamism with the 3 tone. Tune in to the Earth and embrace the gift of access to planetary harmony. Work with intuition

11th Wednesday **4 ETZNAB** **White Self-existing Mirror** **Warrior**
Working on groundedness, wise use of honesty, increasing self-understanding. Let go of fear, illusions of separation

12th Thursday **5 CAUAC** **Blue Overtone Storm** **Visionary**
Things really move with the 5 tone. Work is creating transformation for others and we are the lightening - let go of addiction to crisis or despair

13th Friday **6 AHAU** **Yellow Rhythmic Sun** **Healing**
Completes the Unial. About rising to Christ consciousness, striving to wholeness, transmuting energies for others

C. Housekeeping:

- We are asking to **have more people contribute**, as some of the regular, long-term donors are stressed and stretched: **any and all small amounts are helpful and very welcome.**

Re **T & R**: Their full-time, life-time commitment is to be tuned in to what is really going on behind the scenes of the artificial world we see around us. They don't ask for anything but they do require food, a home, gas for the car, and access to BBS Radio in order to compile and distribute this information to the world.

- Donations via Paypal button on the **homepage** www.rainbowroundtable.net

B B S RADIO:

- The radio programs are supported by us, the listeners.
- The THREE radio programs cost \$300 per week.
- The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:

B B S RADIO

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58 N Marshside Place
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Please put "**Attention Don**" on the envelope
 And note inside: "for the Thursday,
 Friday AND Saturday calls"

- All BBS archives can be accessed **FOR FREE** by everyone.

- **NB: TO BE FOUND AT** www.rainbowroundtable.net/archives

- **AUDIO ARCHIVES** (BBS Radio Podcasts plus Conference Calls) **and**
- **PROGRAM NOTES** (downloadable and printable)

OTHER FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

FOOD MONEY: VIA PAYPAL OR See the PAGE ON www.rainbowroundtable.net

Rama has a pride of Paschats + 2 inside kitties + 2 HUMANS = up to 13 in total

Financial Requirements

WEEKLY	
B B S RADIO/week	\$ 470.00 \$300 FOR this week + \$170 for last week
PERSONAL	
Gas, food, etc	\$250.00
Bills	
Miscellaneous/Other	\$660.00 Still need more help with the car
Tire: had a flat today	\$245.00 Need 3 cartridges for the printer
MONTHLY	
Rent - \$1,150 / mo	\$1,150.00 PAID
Total	

CONTACT INFO

- **Please notify Rama when sending something** koran999@comcast.net
- **Mailing address for checks, money orders, etc**
 Ram D Berkowitz
 PO Box 280
 Santa Cruz, NM 87567

EVERY \$5 HELPS - ALL GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

PLEASE MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO DONATE THIS MONTH

- **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!**
- **** [www.rainbowroundtable.net /page/donate](http://www.rainbowroundtable.net/page/donate) ****
- Your donation supports an account set up for Tara & Rama with
 Beneficial Farms Community Supported Agriculture in Santa Fe, NM
- They continue to appreciate each & every donation received for food.

- Please continue to go to www.rainbowroundtable.net and link to their Paypal account: choose **family and friends option so Paypal takes off no fees.**

FREEMART: SUPPLEMENTS. This account helps Rama & Tara; it's the source of their supplements

The returns also help www.rainbowroundtable.net

<https://www.shopfreemart.com/tarram> a/c # 7000

- Freemart is a private shoppers club; it's **FREE TO JOIN.**
- all the products have much to offer, so take a look!
- check out the heading called **READ MORE: lots of** good information

FREEMART: NUGEN COIN: <https://www.nugencoin.com/tarram>

To help Marshall and support him by signing up under his name:

<https://www.nugencoin.com/marnor>

TO GET HELP, Call Carolyn [Rainbird] or Micah

Carolyn's E-mail: lightenergync@gmail.com

Micah's E-mail: thegreenalchemist@gmail.com

CALL THEM FOR HELP WITH REGISTRATION/ISSUES RELATED TO NUGEN COINS

Access to this week's Podcast

<https://bbsradio.com/podcast/hard-news-friday-january-6-2023>

NOTE AGAIN: dial 1-631-359-9353 to listen to BBS Radio TV Station 1.

TO LISTEN TO CALLS ON THE PHONE: 1-631-359-9353

HARD NEWS RAMA, TARA [R, T]

R, T: Happy Christmas [January 6 – 'little christmas']

T: on RT News – Russia declares a 36 hour peace time for the Orthodox Christmas

- the main stream news is saying that Russia can't be trusted
- They learned of a man whose aunt was killed by a bomb and he salvaged her body and gave it a burial right there almost on the spot!
- neighbours being bombed in the Donestk region on the boundary with Russian
- Talks about Rama's friend who is from 175,000,000 years in the future and one who is 20,000 years old and lives in Santa Fe
- Putin will soon be 500 years in his current body
- more and more stories of galactics showing themselves

T: talks of Alcyone, consort of Mother – he comes from Proceon where the people bounce on the electro-magnetic waves

R: the energies are so high there are no word!
Wolf Moon in Cancer, super moon

Reading: from Robynne LaPlante January opens the gateway to new beginnings [SEE BELOW]

R: presents the news from OLGA from Siberia – a Siberian Shaman

Several callers on guest on Thursday night: Bonnie Serratone

- those who called in and were helped where the ones who needed it most
- comments from others who didn't talk to her, but were influenced by her work on the callers
- comment on the idea that Bonnie is like Sonja Grace too

Tor: still feels the presence over her left eye where Bonnie helped her – knows she's releasing – an old samsara that she needs to continue with

RGM: confirms the same idea: stuff is still going on

Pad: Asks about McCarthy – is he related to that McCarthy?

R: it was old energies that got killed in my dream – PCC told of her dream

- Rama has been belching – it's about releasing

T: another thing she got – without question or doubt: we can all do it for ourselves and for others and for the planet; as she works with Sonjah, they put it out that what happens here is

- Rae stared down the Emperor – who was actually her grandfather - *The Return of the Jedi*

R: seeing the light coming out of Bonnie's hand – reminds him of the tall blond masters from Venus, male /female

T: the Nordics were in the form of the AI movie and the little boy who said he wanted to be real!

- Discussion about witches - and that we only tease the people we really like!

T: watches all kinds of news – all is to be done without violences

we are the ones who are opening our hearts so the galactics can work through us

- the people making the comments on the republicans and the voting process for Speaker of the House and the Divine Feminine is coming in
- talking about spiritual being serious stuff! ! ! NOT!
- Tara tells the story of one of the girls who thought she had to be spiritual when they went to
- More and more people are getting funny bones!

From RT: people are going to bombed out places and finding people still alive. Found an older man who said last week they killed my aunt – she was well known so they all dug a hole put her in and said a prayer

- we have to be like Bonnie: super neutral and

- **IRAN:** hasn't seen a recent report on what's happening in Iran – and the killing of women and girls

- About the voting for Speaker - Kevin was within 2 votes of getting the # needed

- Steve Kornacki and Chris Hayes talking: you might as well let him do this and then we can address him - don't say they are incapable of love!
- Have to make it go to 3 votes

RB: there's another vote going on at the moment -

RGM to RB: got 4 plug-in enhancers and put them all on at the same time - the energy field is huge!

What did his friend say about crypto ? RGM will find out

the crypto scene with NuGen is a mess at the moment . . .

RB: all the stuff will be trashed by the 13th if we don't move by the 13th

which coins is it ? JUST THE NUGEN COIN

RB: WILL BUY KESHE COINS AND NOT ETHERIUM

RGM: talks about how much the enhancers have helped him

Katy Porter took over Braggs Cider Vinegar – and turned it to water

RGM: best kitty liter is horse bedding – from a farmers supply place : pine pellets for cats
pine keeps the smell down and

T: reading from the headlines - McCarthy confronts Gaetz after the vote - 216 he didn't get the numbers

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AVE SACHA

AUDIO: <https://eraofpeace.org/pages/premium-content#media-popup>



AUDIO: Kryon 2023 Who is Speaking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dnge5z8B9U>

[Kryon Lee Carroll](#)

MOTHER / ALCYONE [M/A]

Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One! In the Office of the Christ and only in the Office of the Christ, we invoke the loving energies of St Germain and the Violet Flame.

Greetings, Children of Ra!

Indeed the sound of one hand clapping is going on right now. Like these folks are saying: Consciousness of the planet – everything waking up and things aren't what they seem – the Light pouring in right now so magnificent to behold. Yes, all folks with their merkabas are glowing: it's happening in spite of the best efforts of her wayward children: they are finished!

T: McCarthy says he seems has the votes to win the 15rh ballot

M/A: Dirty deeds done dirt cheap

T: some kind of deal between Gaetz and McCarthy – can only be not good!

M/A: This is a hollow story It's holding on to the old stories, old timelines, that cannot continue in this new reality that is unfolding. And what we're watcing is the selling of souls for a dime! And what's the dime?

- Not going to get much - all the folks that are dancing around the votes are all guilty of high treason. It's an old story; this is why . . .

T: means 9/11 is around here somewhere – to be held accountable

M/A: Indeed, all the issues . . .

T: we have all-. . .

M/A: all the skeletons are coming out.

T: we're going to do a Bonnie on them . . .

M/A: It's about raising it up right now. The Light pouring in, in this particular moment that whether these life forms know it or not, they are getting raised up, and that is a good thing, and compassion and kindness help in these matters.

- As what the wisdom says: kindness, compassion work miracles, more than the old stories about control and violence which is at an end.

Right now, as we are experiencing this Wolf Moon, in the sign of Cancer, Goddess comes in and changes the story here. It's about love in spite of what we're seeing. It's how things are unfolding in a very good way; She won't say it again: we already won and the story is complete.

- the catch up that's happening is the dissolving of the old timelines; as we are talking about it, it is dissipating – want to hold on, yet how can you hold on to fairy dust?

Gotta believe in the magic, and that is big magic afoot at this time with what's coming in. It is these moments right now: there are folks here that come from realms upon realms where there is only this Divine Compassion pouring forth. In spite of all that is going on, focus on the Light coming in; it's how we get through this with flying colours.

And She knows we've got lots to share of these stories about accountability and justice. Like this one [Rama] was told: Lady Master Victory; Lady Master Liberty; Lady Master Justice are at hand. The golden rays of that light pouring in, shifting everything in this moment

T: Is zero a number?

M/A: Yes!

T: Maybe sometimes; maybe not

M/A: It is a way in which as you go through the zero, you go through the portal and end up on the other side of the portal

T: through zero point module – unconditional Divine neutrality of the heart . . .

M/A: once you grasp a different point of view, as Master Obiwant speaks of, you get a different perspective about the way the story goes. Right now, there is a different point of view that is happening now – more of the folks on this planet than ever before want peace, not war, and that is what's unfolding. That is the real news.

T: as Kryon said, we're growing up . . .

M/A: It is true. It's about time frames – Yes, And she must be on their way

T: thank you . . .

M/A: We are here for the duration of this completion. As one cycle ends, another begins. It is about this story called Sat Yuga, the Golden Age; we want to know how to move reality, space and time? use the merkaba vehicle

T: about Donald – he wracked up 8 TRILLION DOLLARS on this land!

M/A: all numbers!

T: take the 8 and lay it on its side and get abundance

M/A: infinite abundance that unfolding right now; it is the

T:

M/A: the abundance of the wisdom that is pouring forth from Creator Source, the sun that is raining down into the realm. As we absorb the mono-atomic gold light; it changes our cells -

- We heard Kryon say it: some of us don't need cells – not sure where to go with that statement yet it is about the quantum physics
- Thought manifested the spark - Light - it is one / won?

BOTH: Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One
T: finishes the greeting:

Kodoish, Kodoish, Kodoish Adonai 'Tsebayoth	Holy holy holy is the Lord God of Hosts
iliahu iliahu iliahu	Illumine Illumine Illumine
Yod Hey Vod Hey	Yod Hey Vod Hey of the Living Everlasting Light
YHWH	The Revealed Name to our Father universe of the Living God behind all Creator Gods

M/A: Remember who we are . . .

Rama Returns: He was sitting with the energies of Mt Kailosh and the Light pouring in on the planet; it is so awesome to see this golden, radiant light pouring in and lighting everything up with the mono atomic gold; and just to stay in that radiance of that golden light - lifts everything up to the highest levels.

AUDIO: DEMOCRACY NOW

REMEMBER THIS IS NOT ABOUT POLARITY: **WE DO SOME TRANSMUTING OF THE ENERGIES**
 as we listen to Bishop William Barber on the subject of Ukraine . . .

2023-01-06 **Headlines** **January 06, 2023**

Watch Headlines <https://www.democracynow.org/2023/1/6/headlines>

2023-01-06 Two Years After Jan. 6, Capitol Attack Casts Long Shadow Over GOP That Allows Extremism to Fester

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/1/6/january_6_anniversary

2023-01-06 "We Need Ceasefires Everywhere": Bishop William Barber's Message of Peace for Ukraine & the World

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/1/6/putin_ukraine_christmas_ceasefire

MUSIC:

BBC.Imagine.2013.Broadway.Musicals.A.Jewish.Legacy.720p.HDTV.x264.AAC.MVGroup.org

<https://vimeo.com/260670343> 1:22:49

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2023-01-01 January opens the gateways to wondrous new beginnings

by [Robbyne LaPlant](#) | posted in: [Weave The Web](#) | [0](#)

<https://www.whitewolfjourneys.com/weave-the-web/january-opens-the-gateways-to-wondrous-new-beginnings/>



January is named after the Roman God Janus, known as the initiator of human life, transformations between stages of life, and shifts from one historical era to another. [2023 – The Year of the Phoenix Rising from the Ashes](#) is going to be a year of all the above. It is said that Janus was present at the beginning of the world, as is known as the God of Gates. Having been to the mystical Janus stone on Boa Island in Northern Ireland, the spirit of Janus is even more profound for me as I prepare to honor the old ways and honor my ancestors the Tuatha Dé Danann. In October our tribe wove a web of prayer and vision for a kinder, gentler world at the stone as we each had a special moment. A place to review your past through the eyes of the heart and to see into the future and the wild unknown. A place to create a new reality by being fully present in the immediate now.



January 6th Wolf Full Moon

The first of 13 full moons in 2023, the Wolf Full Moon (my favorite) will occur on January 6th. This is also a micro moon which means the moon will be farthest from the Earth allowing a deeper connection to our own

Dream Walker. The wolf moon represents new beginnings, and the conquering of light over darkness as the days grow longer. From an astrological point of view, this full moon is in Cancer which represents the Divine Mother, home, ancestral roots, emotions, empathy, and intuition. Since Cancer is the sign that the moon rules, these qualities of Cancer will be amplified at this time. The full moon will oppose Mercury, the planet of the personal mind and align with the asteroid Pallas Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom and Strategy. Pallas Athena and Mercury tend to lean more toward logic and linear thinking, however with the moon illuminating the water sign of Cancer, we're being invited to find the balance between intuition and logic and notice where we may favor one over the other. Additionally, the full moon will very tightly trine the asteroid Vesta. A trine is the most harmonious aspect in astrology. It represents ease between the two planets. Vesta is the Goddess of House and Home and is referred to as the Keeper of the Flame. Her primary relationship is with Source and Spirit itself. The full moon trine Vesta shows that the connection to the Goddess, Spirit, the unseen world, and our own spirituality will be powerful on this day.

As the Wolf Full Moon, it is a time to sit in stillness and merge with the essence of the wolf. The wolf's strong energy and determination can be amazing to work with to change your life and channel this kind of energy into yourself. The Tuatha Dé Danann (known as the children or tribe of the Goddess Danu), can switch between human and wolf form which makes this a most magickal full moon. It is a time of figuring out what you personally need to create to have a joyous life. A time of finding personal truth, and discovering your purpose and how it relates to the bigger picture and society. For those who follow the earth religion and would like to work deeply with the Wolf on the first full moon of 2023, I have posted a full moon ritual.

[CLICK HERE.](#) I also have posted a guided audio meditation for the Wolf Full Moon. [Click here](#)



Mars goes direct on January 12, 2023

Mars, the God of War, ambition, and action will go direct in Gemini on January 12th. Gemini is the sign of communication, learning, and sharing information. Mars has been retrograding since October 30th and his journey through Gemini has gifted us opportunities to expand our communication space. Mars in Gemini underscores the importance of clear and honest communication and taking the time to truly listen to other's points of view (especially if we disagree with them). Even though Mars will go direct on January 12th, he won't shift out of Gemini until March 25th, so we still have 2 more months of Mars in the sign of speaking, thoughts, and the mind. This illuminates an even deeper teaching that Mars and Gemini are sharing on how do we handle miscommunication or misunderstandings when they arise? How do we find our own personal truth? Do we meet it with defensiveness, stubbornness, and the need to be right? Or do we meet it with the genuine desire to understand the other person? Communication is a tool that can divide or unite people, and Mars in Gemini is asking us to decide how we would like to use this powerful tool moving forward.

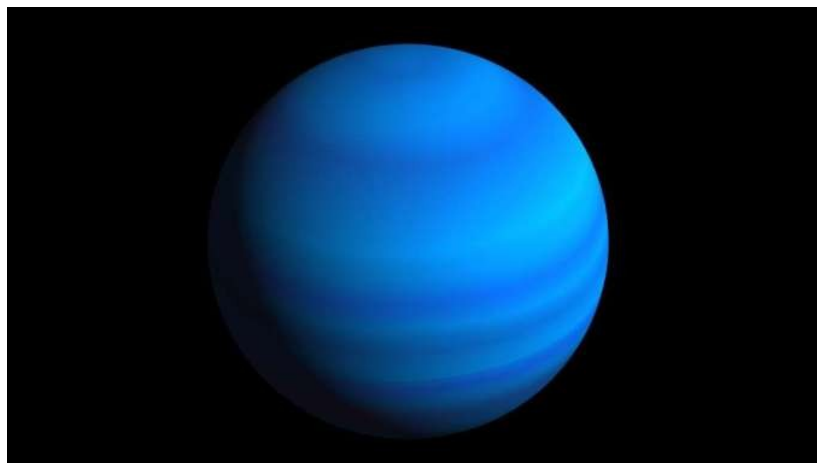


New Moon in Aquarius on January 21, 2023

This new moon will be exact at 1 degree Aquarius. Aquarius is the sign of rebellion, revolution, sudden changes, and the future. The first degree of a sign has new moon energy innately imbued in it, so this is a powerful new moon to set intentions for the future and release any blocks that stand in the way of the vision you hold for your life. Additionally, Uranus rules Aquarius, and Uranus will be going direct only one day after this new moon takes place, which signifies Aquarian energy being pronounced on this day. This is significant for aha moments and sudden inspiration. This energy can also feel electric and restless, so if you find your mind or thoughts become overwhelming, grounding and putting your feet on the Earth can help bring you out of your head and back into your body.

It should also be noted that the first degree of Aquarius is significant because Jupiter and Saturn aligned at 1 degree Aquarius on December 21, 2020, and many astrologers believed this to be the alignment that birthed and ushered us into the Age of Aquarius. This was the night the "Christmas Star" appeared in the sky we all of humanity was given a do over. The Age of Aquarius is future and community oriented, and encourages us to be our truest, most authentic selves. In its shadow, the Age of Aquarius can forget what is sacred to life and what it means to be human because Aquarius can detach from emotions and the heart. Humans are currently in the process of building a new world, and this new moon activating the first degree of Aquarius acts like a cosmic check-in asking us if this new world we are building, is aligned with the sacredness of life. I will be posting a special new moon ritual soon.

Uranus goes direct on January 22, 2023



Uranus will go direct in Taurus. Uranus is the planet of authenticity, revolution, and change. Taurus is the sign of stability, grounding, and Mother Earth. Uranus going direct in this sign invites us to work with change instead of against it and provides ample opportunities for us to examine where we cling to beliefs, ideals, rules, relationships, jobs, etc. that we have outgrown but haven't released yet out of fear. Uranus going direct encourages us to let go of the old so that we have the space to welcome in the new that is on its way to us or is already here. This provides an opportunity to become aware of the Way of Water, being receptive, patient and in the flow.



January 23—April 20: All Planets Direct!

Can I get an AMEN or AWOMEN!!!! There will be no planets retrograde between January 23rd and April 20th. Since all planets will be going in their forward orbit, time can feel like it's sped up during this period. This energy is great for moving forward on our paths. With that said, the world can feel like it's moving at warp speed at this time, and it's important to remember that just because the world is moving fast, doesn't mean you have to. The astrology is still highlighting the importance of following our own internal rhythm. So, finding stillness and grounding during this window of time can help ensure that the pace at which you are moving on your path is your own. [2023, the Year of the Phoenix Rising from the Ashes](#) holds amazing creative potential but with any great work of art, one must find their heart song and allow the organic flow of creation to be channeled through you.

A big thank you to our star child for sharing her star wisdom. If you would like an astrological reading to help you navigate the coming year, I highly recommend Natasha. She can be reached at: kealoha.astrology@gmail.com.

Be gentle with yourself. Use these gifts from the celestial heavens to guide your journey. Find your courage and embrace your magnificence.

If you would like to develop a deeper relationship with yourself in this year of seeding your future I am creating private retreats in Sedona, Maui and New Zealand throughout 2023. I will also be announcing upcoming workshops where I am excited to share the teachings of the Way of Water, the Phoenix and the gifts of the Tuatha de Dannan throughout the year.

If you would like to join our spiritual community and receive our free newsletter **Weave the Web** which includes Planetary updates, information on upcoming spiritual journeys, retreats, workshops and special events as well as messages from the natural world, please [Click Here](#)

If you would like to explore further honoring of the cycles of the moon and turning of the wheel with a monthly **New Moon, Full Moon, and Sacred Sabbat Ritual**, as well as a monthly guided audio meditation dedicated to working with each moon cycle, please [click here](#). By actively participating in these natural cycles, we can attune ourselves to the creative forces that flow through us, and learn how to live in harmony and balance with ourselves and with the beloved Earth.

Kia Kaha...Be Strong and true to yourself. Love and cuddles, Robbyne



Biden to Block Migrants from Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua from Seeking Asylum at Border

Jan 06, 2023



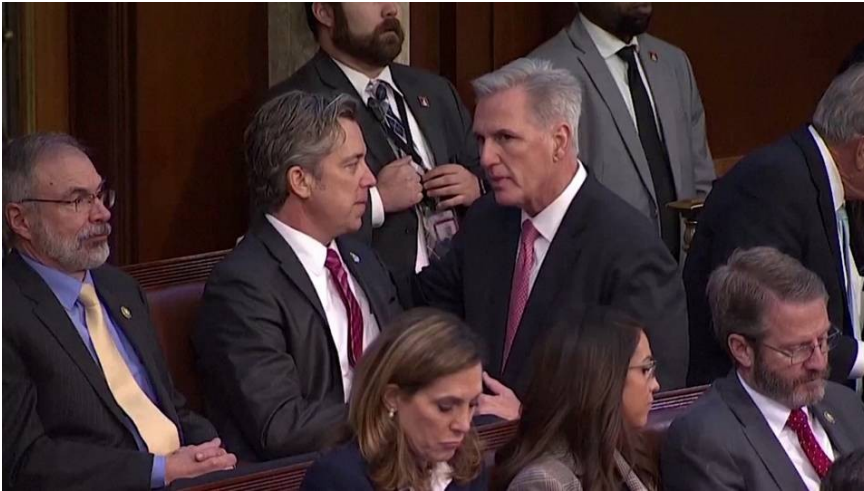
President Biden announced Thursday the United States will begin blocking migrants from Haiti, Nicaragua and Cuba from applying for asylum if they're apprehended crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. The asylum seekers will instead be expelled to Mexico without due process as part of an expansion of the contested Trump-era Title 42 pandemic policy. This comes as the Supreme Court is set to decide Title 42's fate in its next session. Biden also announced a small number of Haitians, Nicaraguans and Cubans will qualify for a program granting them temporary permission to live and work in the U.S. if they apply for the relief from their home countries and already have financial sponsors in the U.S. The announcement came just days before Biden is scheduled to visit El Paso, Texas, Sunday to meet with local officials. It will be Biden's first trip to the U.S.-Mexico border as president. During his remarks Thursday, Biden made no mention of the harsh U.S. sanctions that have contributed to poverty in Nicaragua and Cuba, nor did he acknowledge the catastrophic legacy of U.S. interventions in Haiti.

President Joe Biden: "My message is this: If you're trying to leave Cuba, Nicaragua or Haiti, you have — or have agreed to begin a journey to America, do not — do not just show up at the border. Stay where you are, and apply legally from there. Starting today, if you don't apply through the legal process, you will not be eligible for this new parole program."

In a statement, the American Civil Liberties Union said, "Title 42 expulsions were already an unjustifiable misuse of the public health laws ... Let's be clear: nothing requires the administration to expand Title 42 while it claims to be preparing for its ending. There is simply no reason why the benefits of a new parole program for Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Haitians must be conditioned on the expansion of dangerous expulsions."

House of Representatives Fails to Elect a Speaker for Third Straight Day

Jan 06, 2023



The House of Representatives

adjourned for the third consecutive day Thursday evening without electing a speaker, after Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy failed to gain the needed 218 votes after 11 ballots. Twenty far-right Republicans continue to oppose McCarthy, even after he offered them major concessions — though reports emerged late Thursday some holdouts may be on the verge of throwing their support behind McCarthy. All 212 Democrats backed New York Congressman Hakeem Jeffries at every round of voting over the past three days. Until a speaker is elected, no member of the House of Representatives can be sworn in. We'll have the latest on this story after headlines.

Biden to Award Medals to Democracy Defenders on Anniversary of Jan. 6 Insurrection

Jan 06, 2023



President Biden is delivering a speech today to mark the second anniversary of the deadly January 6 Capitol insurrection. Biden will also award Presidential Citizens Medals to 12 people who responded to the insurrection and Trump's attacks on democracy after the 2020 election — among them, Ruby Freeman and Shaye Moss, a pair of mother-daughter election workers from Georgia who received death threats and torrents of online abuse from Trump supporters. President Trump again attacked them this past week on social media.

Another honoree is former Washington, D.C., police officer Michael Fanone, who was beaten and electrocuted with a Taser by the right-wing mob who attacked the Capitol. Fanone called the experience a "wake-up call" about the dangers of political violence.

Michael Fanone: "People who encouraged and even attended the insurrection are now taking their places as leaders in the new House majority — people like Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene, who said insurrectionists would have won on January 6th if she had been involved, or Representative Matt Gaetz, who encouraged voters to arm themselves at the polls."

Family of Officer Who Died After Jan. 6 Capitol Assault Sues Donald Trump and Rioters

Jan 06, 2023



On Thursday, the partner of deceased Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick, who died one day after responding to the insurrection, sued Donald Trump and two rioters who attacked Sicknick, for his wrongful death. Sicknick died after suffering two strokes; the medical examiner said the events of January 6 “played a role in his condition.” We’ll have more on the second anniversary of the Capitol insurrection after headlines.

South Carolina Strikes Down Abortion Ban; Idaho Upholds Near-Total Ban

Jan 06, 2023



Image Credit: Twitter: @PPSATSC

South Carolina’s Supreme Court struck down the state’s six-week abortion ban Thursday, ruling it violates South Carolina’s Constitution. Meanwhile, Democratic lawmakers in Minnesota have advanced a bill to codify abortion rights in their state, where the procedure is still legal after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in June of last year. But in a blow for reproductive rights, Idaho’s Supreme Court upheld a near-total ban on abortion. Idaho’s high court also reaffirmed a law allowing some family members of a fetus to sue health workers who provide an abortion, and a law criminalizing health providers who perform the procedure after cardiac activity is detected, which can happen as early as four to six weeks into a pregnancy.

Ukraine Dismisses Russian 36-Hour Truce as U.N. and Turkey Seek Path to End War

Jan 06, 2023



Russian President Vladimir Putin has unilaterally declared a 36-hour ceasefire in Ukraine to mark Russian Orthodox Christmas. Despite the declaration, fighting continued today along the eastern front. In Kyiv, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky rejected Putin's truce, saying that Russia wants to use Christmas as a pretext to stop Ukrainian advances in the Russian-occupied Donbas region.

President Volodymyr Zelensky: "They now want to use Christmas as a cover, albeit briefly, to stop the advances of our boys in Donbas and bring equipment, ammunition and mobilized troops closer to our positions."

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres said Thursday he would welcome any truce in Ukraine during Orthodox Christmas, but warned that talks between Moscow and Kyiv to bring the war to a permanent end were not yet possible.

Secretary-General António Guterres: "I think we are still not in a situation where we can see peace in the immediate horizon, peace that we believe will have to come one day, and peace based on the U.N. Charter and international law."

Guterres's remarks came after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan offered to mediate an end to the war in Ukraine. This week, the U.S., Germany and France announced plans to supply Ukraine with armored combat vehicles including French-made light tanks and U.S.-made Bradley Fighting Vehicles. The 50 Bradleys would be part of a new U.S. military aid package to Ukraine worth nearly \$3 billion.

UNSC Calls for Status Quo at Al-Aqsa Mosque After Visit by Far-Right Israeli Minister

Jan 06, 2023



The U.N. Security Council on Thursday called for maintaining the status quo at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque, following a highly criticized visit to the site by Israel's new extremist security minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir. But the Security Council did not commit to any

action in response to the provocation by Israel. For decades, the Al-Aqsa Mosque has only allowed Muslims to worship at the holy site.

Meanwhile, a new proposal by the freshly installed far-right government coalition led by Benjamin Netanyahu would sharply limit judicial powers by allowing a simple majority of lawmakers to invalidate Supreme Court decisions.

Israel Frees Palestinian Prisoner Karim Younis After 40 Years

Jan 06, 2023



Image Credit: Reuters

The longest-serving Palestinian prisoner in Israel, Karim Younis, was freed Thursday after spending four decades behind bars. Younis was arrested in 1983 over the killing of an Israeli soldier. He was welcomed home in his village of Ara, which is located within Israel. Younis also visited the gravesite of his mother, who died just eight months ago. He spoke upon his release.

Karim Younis: "It is clear for everyone now that the Israeli government, especially the current one, is seeking to subdue our people. They want us to be their slaves. They want us to be nothing, so they can use us always. We say that is not going to happen, and they will not get what they want."

Harvard Rescinds Fellowship to Former HRW Head over Israel Criticism

Jan 06, 2023



Here in the U.S., The Nation is reporting Harvard's Kennedy School has withdrawn a fellowship from the former head of Human Rights Watch, Kenneth Roth, over Roth's and HRW's condemnation of Israel's rights abuses.

China to Reopen Hong Kong Border as WHO Accuses Beijing of Obscuring COVID's Toll

Jan 06, 2023



China says it will reopen its border with Hong Kong this weekend, after three years of pandemic restrictions that left the city largely cut off from the Chinese mainland. The reopening comes after the World Health Organization accused China of downplaying the severity of a massive COVID-19 surge that's going largely unreported in China's official statistics. This is the WHO's emergencies director, Mike Ryan.

Dr. Michael Ryan: "We believe that the current numbers being published from China underrepresent the true impact of the disease in terms of hospital admissions, in terms of ICU admissions, and particularly in terms of deaths."

China has been reporting daily COVID deaths in the single digits — even as experts say it's in the midst of a surge that could kill hundreds of thousands of people. Meanwhile, the European Union has urged member nations to require travelers from China to show proof of a recent negative coronavirus test, and suggested governments should expand genomic surveillance at airports for new coronavirus variants. Chinese officials rejected the restrictions as "discriminatory" and politically motivated; they also denied underrepresenting the severity of China's COVID outbreak.

Murder-Suicide in Utah Claims 8 Lives

Jan 06, 2023



In Utah, eight people were found dead at a home in the town of Enoch Wednesday in an apparent murder-suicide. Authorities say 42-year-old Michael Haight fatally shot his mother-in-law, his wife and their five children before turning the gun on himself. The killings came two weeks after Haight's spouse filed for divorce. According to the Gun Violence Archive, there have already been 12 mass shootings in the United States since the start of the new year.

Uber Drivers Hold 2nd Strike After Company Refuses to Implement Pay Raises in New York

Jan 06, 2023



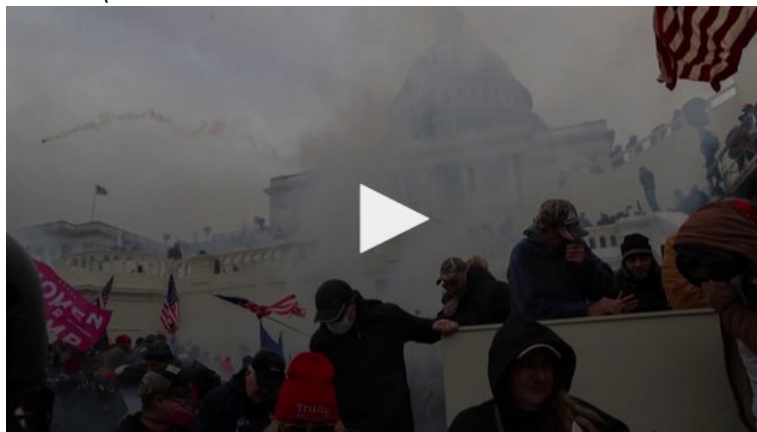
Here in New York, Uber drivers held a one-day strike Thursday as they continue to demand the ride-hailing corporation drop its lawsuit aimed at blocking a pay raise approved by the Taxi and Limousine Commission. It's the second 24-hour-strike by Uber drivers since wage increases failed to go into effect in December. Democracy Now! spoke with Bhairavi Desai, the executive director of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance, at a picket line outside Uber's New York headquarters on Thursday.

Bhairavi Desai: "This was a raise that was in the hands of the drivers. The City of New York voted on it after almost a year of public hearings. Uber, in the middle of the night, snatched this raise out of the drivers' hands to put it in their own pockets. Meanwhile, in the same lawsuit Uber has filed to stop this raise for the drivers, they've admitted that they've been charging the public in New York City 48% more since 2019. You know, the only ones that haven't gotten this increase are the drivers, and they're the ones that really desperately need it."

2023-01-06 Two Years After Jan. 6, Capitol Attack Casts Long Shadow Over GOP That Allows Extremism to Fester

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/1/6/january_6_anniversary

Friday marks two years since the January 6 Capitol insurrection, when President Donald Trump incited thousands of supporters to violently storm Congress, attempting to overturn the 2020 election. The attack on the Capitol briefly shut down Congress as lawmakers fled for their safety from the mob, which included members of the Proud Boys, the Oath Keepers and other violent extremist groups. Two years later, part of Congress has been effectively shut down again, this time because a group of far-right Republicans, including many who supported the January 6 insurrection, have blocked Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy's attempt to become House speaker. We speak to Andy Campbell, senior editor at HuffPost and author of "We Are Proud Boys: How a Right-Wing Street Gang Ushered In a New Era of American Extremism," as the House speaker vote drags on and the Proud Boys face trial for seditious conspiracy over their involvement in the insurrection.



Transcript

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

AMY GOODMAN: Today marks two years since the January 6th Capitol insurrection, when President Donald Trump incited thousands of supporters to violently storm Congress in an attempt to overturn the 2020 election. The attack on the Capitol briefly shut down Congress as lawmakers fled for their safety from the mob, which included members of the Proud Boys, the Oath Keepers and other violent extremist groups, many of them armed.

Two years later, part of Congress has been effectively shut down again, this time because a group of far-right Republicans, including many who supported the January 6th insurrection, have blocked Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy's attempt to become House speaker. This means no member of the House of Representatives can be sworn in. Over the past three days, the House has held 11 votes to choose a speaker. McCarthy has failed each time to win the needed 218 votes to become speaker, despite making numerous concessions to his critics in the so-called Freedom Caucus. This is now the longest speaker election since 1859, just before the Civil War.

Meanwhile, President Biden is preparing to give a major speech today marking the second anniversary of the January 6th insurrection. He will also award Presidential Citizens Medals to 12 people who responded to the insurrection and Trump's attacks on democracy after the 2020 election — among them, Ruby Freeman and Shaye Moss, a mother-daughter pair of election workers from Georgia who received death threats and torrents of online abuse from Trump supporters. Another honoree will be former Washington, D.C., police officer Michael Fanone, who was beaten and electrocuted with a Taser by the right-wing mob. Fanone spoke Thursday and made the link between the January 6th insurrection and the congressional chaos playing out today.

MICHAEL FANONE: But if I could guarantee one thing about the new House majority, it's this: This is just the beginning. This type of chaos will happen every single day in the House, as some of the most extreme politicians our country has ever seen hold our democracy hostage. I should know. Tomorrow marks two years since the day I almost died defending the Capitol from people who thought overthrowing the government was a good idea. The events of that day felt like a wake-up call for me and many others, that political violence is real. The worst part is that our elected leaders allowed this to happen.

And yet, this week, people who encouraged and even attended the insurrection are now taking their places as leaders in the new House majority — people like Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene, who said insurrectionists would have won on January 6th if she had been involved, or Representative Matt Gaetz, who encouraged voters to arm themselves at the polls.

AMY GOODMAN: That was former Washington, D.C., police officer Michael Fanone. On Thursday, the partner of the deceased Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick, who died one day after responding to the insurrection, sued Donald Trump and two of the rioters who attacked Sicknick, for his wrongful death. Brian Sicknick died after suffering two strokes; the medical examiner said the events of January 6th "played a role in his condition."

Biden will also honor Capitol Police officer Caroline Edwards, who suffered a brain injury after being beaten by rioters. She testified before the January 6th House select committee in June.

CAROLINE EDWARDS: When I fell behind that line, and I saw — I can just remember my breath catching in my throat, because what I saw was just a war scene. It was something like I had seen out of the movies. I couldn't believe my eyes. There were officers on the ground. You know, they were bleeding. They were throwing up. They were — you know, they had — I mean, I saw friends with blood all over their faces. I was slipping in people's blood. You know, I was catching people as they fell. You know, I was — it was carnage. It was chaos. I can't — I can't even describe what I saw.

AMY GOODMAN: The second anniversary of the January 6th insurrection comes as five members of the far-right group Proud Boys are on trial for seditious conspiracy, opening arguments expected next week.

We're joined now by Andy Campbell, senior editor at *HuffPost* and the author of *We Are Proud Boys: How a Right-Wing Street Gang Ushered In a New Era of American Extremism*.

Andy, welcome back to *Democracy Now!* It's great to have you with us. So, today is the second anniversary. Two years ago today, the violent mob attacked the Capitol. And it is so interesting, as they stopped congressional proceedings then, for a time, that today, two years later, we're seeing the House paralyzed. No member of the House of Representatives can be sworn in, the new ones or the old ones. No one gets classified briefings — nothing — because of what's happening here. Can you draw a parallel between who was involved two years ago and who is involved today?

ANDY CAMPBELL: Sure. And thanks, Amy, for having me on again.

Look, we are seeing a GOP that's hoist by its own petard. I mean, this is a party that has built its identity around nationalism, around bigotry, around political violence, and particularly around trolling, not around policy necessarily. And so, now you have these 20 holdouts who are that directive personified. You have people like Lauren Boebert and Marjorie Taylor Greene. And you have Paul Gosar, an avowed sort of white nationalist character who pals around with extremists and goes on — goes to white nationalist conferences to speak. And so you have these very extreme far-right voices throwing a wrench in the spokes, and this is exactly what the MAGA party has built for themselves. And so, they're kind of seeing the consequences of their own actions when these holdouts are kind of holding Congress hostage.

But what they're doing is they're, you know, displaying power. The very far-right, very racist, very loud and popular troll wing of the GOP has sort of been building this parallel power structure alongside the GOP for years under Trump. And now with this four-vote majority that the Republicans have in the House, they're able to exercise that power by holding the speaker hostage here.

And so, it's interesting that this is happening on the anniversary of January 6, because those same people who are holding Congress hostage now are the same people who helped foment the insurrection and who, after the fact, still cast doubt on the 2020 election. Many of them are Trump loyalists and election deniers and voted to overturn the election. And so, what we're seeing is that the spirit of January 6 is still very much alive, and we are seeing it play out in the halls of Congress today.

AMY GOODMAN: So, if you can talk about, since you wrote the book *We Are Proud Boys*, the connection between the pro-insurrectionist congressmembers and the Proud Boys? And talk about who they are. But I wanted to ask you about the people who are leading this movement right now. I mean, you have, what, Matt Gaetz, the congressman from Florida, who is under investigation for underage sex trafficking. You've got Lauren Boebert from — she ran a restaurant in, what, Rifle, Colorado, called Shooters Grill. It's been shut down because the owners of the building wouldn't renew her lease. She encouraged her waiters to openly carry guns as they served their customers. And now they've removed magnetometers — this was one of the demands of Boebert and the others in this ultraconservative so-called Freedom Caucus — from the House. She had originally — I think it's the reason why House Speaker, at the time, Nancy Pelosi had put up magnetometers — said she was going to carry a Glock onto the floor of the House. Looking at the *New York Post*, they [said](#) she refused to say Tuesday if she plans to bring a gun into the House of Representatives as authorities removed House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's magnetometers from the entrances. Go through these people one by one, and talk about their connection to Proud Boys, Oath Keepers, Three Percenters and what happened two years ago today.

ANDY CAMPBELL: Sure. I mean, Lauren Boebert is sort of leading the charge here on this ultra-far-right group of holdouts. You know, she also called Ilhan Omar a terrorist. I mean, if you try to look at Boebert's policies, they are few and far between. A lot of these guys want to push very nationalist policy. They want to push the anti-woke agenda. I think they want to criminalize doctors who give gender-affirming care. So, these are sort of cruel policies, if you look really hard.

But most of all, these are sort of bigoted trolls, very connected to the insurrection. You have Paul Gosar of Arizona, who, like I said, went on to speak at a white nationalist conference two years running, alongside Marjorie Taylor Greene. He said at one point that he fomented the revolution on January 6. You have Matt Gaetz, who has pushed white supremacist conspiracy theories about the replacement of white men and has also had Proud Boys work security at his events over the years. And so, you have — these characters are connected to the insurrection in the way that they believe it was justified, or at least believe that the election was stolen.

And then, the Proud Boys are these foot soldiers that act on behalf of the GOP's grievances. And so, while the Boeberts and Gaetzes and Marjorie Taylor Greenes of America are pushing, you know, anti-LGBTQ sentiment, anti-immigrant sentiment, the Proud Boys are mobilizing on these grievances. And certainly, we know that dozens of Proud Boys joined hundreds of other extremists to make January 6 happen. And so, there is absolutely a connection there between the people sitting there in the House today and the Proud Boys. And, you know, I think it shows that what we are looking at happening out there isn't — like, Boebert isn't trying to make some real policy changes happen today. She's trying to show power and show that this small group of ultra-far-right insurrectionists can wield power in the Republican Party.

And the Proud Boys, being those foot soldiers, are sitting in court today. The jury is being selected for their seditious conspiracy trial. And what's interesting about that trial is that we're going to learn more about their connections to the GOP leading up to January 6, because there are a number of Proud Boys who have already pleaded guilty, and they will be testifying against their own in that seditious conspiracy trial. So we may learn more about their connections to people like Roger Stone, Trump's top confidant, who counts the leader of the Proud Boys, Enrique Tarrio, as one of his friends and mentees. We may learn more about the security that they did for certain members of Congress. And we may learn more about their connection to Trump's inner circle. So, this is going to be a huge trial, and it's going to have big implications for the GOP going forward.

AMY GOODMAN: So, tell us who the Proud Boys are, who Enrique Tarrio and the at least four other Proud Boys who are on trial are.

ANDY CAMPBELL: Right. So, the Proud Boys are a far-right street gang that were launched in late 2016, early 2017. They were created on the far-right talk show of Gavin McInnes, who was also the co-founder of Vice Media. And he built them to basically mobilize on Trump and the GOP's grievances and go out there and do what crusty old Republicans can't do, and fight people in the street, based on what the GOP is complaining about. And so, on any given day, the complaint might change. Sometimes it's BLM, sometimes it's antifa, sometimes it's LGBTQ. Right now it's very much LGBTQ. And sometimes it's the election. And they have mobilized over the years, over and over, based on those grievances.

Now, there are five Proud Boys on trial for seditious conspiracy. The Justice Department believes that they had a hand not only in making the insurrection happen on the day, but planning it leading up. Trump, during a debate in 2020, said, "Proud Boys, stand back, stand by." And there's some debate over what he meant by that, but the Proud Boys immediately took it as marching orders. One of the guys on trial, Joe Biggs, posted a blog titled "The Second Civil War Is Coming." He said, "Clean your guns, get ammo, and be ready, because it's about to get really bad." Enrique Tarrio started raising funds, amassing weapons, amassing people, recruiting. He said — he told me, in an interview, that he had never gotten so many recruiting calls than in the moments after Trump said, "Stand back, stand by," at that debate. So they were gearing up for January 6, which they saw as their final stand for Trump. And they were doing what they do best, which is amassing all of these people, you know, different extremists from across the country, polling them, telling them to show up on January 6 for Donald Trump.

And then, of course, we know from the January 6 committee's reports and the convictions that have already happened, that once the plan was in place, once the insurrection began, Trump did absolutely nothing to stop the mob, and, in fact, incited them throughout the day to continue on this parade of violence. The Justice —

AMY GOODMAN: I wanted to go to YouTube video created by Vic Berger back in 2018, which features Gavin McInnes, the founder of the Proud Boys, discussing the group's origins, as well as calling for violence in the streets.

GAVIN McINNES: I started this gang called the Proud Boys. And —

JOE ROGAN: The Proud Boys?

GAVIN McINNES: The Proud Boys.

JOE ROGAN: What is — what's Proud Boys about?

GAVIN McINNES: We will kill you. That's the Proud Boys, in a nutshell. We will kill you. We look nice. We seem soft. We have "boys" in our name. But like Bill the Butcher and the Bowery Boys, we will assassinate you. Now, part of the reason I agreed to do the talk is because I'm allowed to bring all my guys, and we can fight our way in and fight our way out.

Beating the [bleep] our of these people, I think it's our job to do it.

PROUD BOY: [bleep] you, mother [bleep]!

GAVIN McINNES: And the cops', to turn a blind eye.

AMY GOODMAN: So, if you can talk about McInnes and also this latest headline this week, NYPD facing new backlash after officers escorted members of the far-right Proud Boys to a subway station, apparently helping them evade their fares, after they sought to disrupt Drag Story Hour, a popular reading event for children, at a Queens library last year? You know, you have them cracking down on fare evasion, flooding subway stations with police, but they're escorting the Proud Boys?

ANDY CAMPBELL: Right, right. So, you know, who you heard right there is Gavin McInnes. That guy you just heard is expected to possibly be a character witness for his Proud Boys at their sedition trial. So, you can see what their ideology is. Their ideology is political violence. He put political violence in their rules set. And certainly the misogyny and anti-LGBTQ and racist sentiment is within their tenets. And so, he kind of created that worldview for the Proud Boys and unleashed them on the world.

But, like you said, with this incident in New York, the Proud Boys have shown resiliency time and time again, despite being involved in all sorts of domestic extremism events. January 6, and all of the hundreds of prosecutions that we've seen following that, has done almost nothing to tamp down our street-level political violent extremist sect. I mean, the Proud Boys are mobilizing today at rapid clip. You have Tucker Carlson on Fox News complaining about Drag Queen Story Hour, and the Proud Boys are going out in the street and harassing and attacking Drag Queen Story Hours. This isn't just in New York; it's all across the country, at public libraries and anywhere they have drag events.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, I know, Andy, you're headed down to Washington, D.C., to cover this seditious conspiracy trial of the Proud Boys, and we hope to have you back on. Andy Campbell, senior editor at *HuffPost*, author of *We Are Proud Boys: How a Right-Wing Street Gang Ushered In a New Era of American Extremism*.

Coming up, the Russian president has declared a 36-hour ceasefire in Ukraine. We'll hear from Bishop William Barber on why he supports a Christmas truce on both sides. Back in 30 seconds.

2023-01-06 "We Need Ceasefires Everywhere": Bishop William Barber's Message of Peace for Ukraine & the World

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/1/6/putin_ukraine_christmas_ceasefire

Topics

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Guests

- [William Barber](#)
co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign and president of Repairers of the Breach.



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Russian President Vladimir Putin has unilaterally declared a 36-hour ceasefire in Ukraine to mark Russian Orthodox Christmas on January 7. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky rejected Putin's overture, however, saying that Russia wants to use Christmas as a pretext to stop Ukrainian advances in the Russian-occupied Donbas region. Putin's declaration comes after about 1,000 U.S. faith leaders called in an open letter last month for a ceasefire during the holidays, inspired by the Christmas truce of 1914 during World War I, arguing that a pause in the fighting could create room for negotiations to peacefully end the conflict. We air a recent sermon by Bishop William Barber, one of the signatories, in which he discussed the need for a Christmas truce. "We need a ceasefire to interrupt this warring madness," Barber said. "A ceasefire doesn't mean both sides are equally culpable for starting the war, but it can have the impact of stopping the massive, massive killing on both sides."

Transcript

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has unilaterally declared a 36-hour ceasefire in Ukraine to mark Russian Orthodox Christmas, which will be celebrated Saturday. In Kyiv, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky rejected Putin's truce, saying Russia wants to use Christmas as a pretext to stop Ukrainian advances in the Russian-occupied Donbas region.

PRESIDENT VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY: [translated] They now want to use Christmas as a cover, albeit briefly, to stop the advances of our boys in Donbas and bring equipment, munitions and mobilized troops closer to our positions. What will that give them? Only yet another increase in their total losses.

AMY GOODMAN: On the streets of Kyiv, Ukrainians also expressed skepticism over Putin's ceasefire.

UKRAINIAN 1: [translated] I think this is utter hypocrisy. On the 31st of December, there was no peace. We were under such bombing for New Year's Eve. Just hypocrisy on Putin's side.

UKRAINIAN 2: [translated] This is some unfunny joke. In the history our country, there were so many times that we trusted the Russians, and this never led to anything good. We can't trust them, and we have to be cautious.

UKRAINIAN 3: [translated] I don't believe Russian President Vladimir Putin will go through with the ceasefire. We celebrated New Year's under bombs and missiles. I couldn't go anywhere with my daughter. There was peace for an hour or two, and that's it.

AMY GOODMAN: Vladimir Putin's announcement about a 36-hour ceasefire comes as calls grow for an end to the devastating war, which began when Russia invaded Ukraine February 24th. On Thursday, the Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan spoke to both Putin and Zelensky by phone. Turkey has offered to mediate between the two countries.

Here in the U.S., over a thousand faith leaders recently [called](#) for a Christmas truce in Ukraine. The signatories included, yes, members of the Russian Orthodox Church, but also the Reverend Jesse Jackson and Bishop William Barber.

We turn now to hear Bishop William Barber of the Poor People's Campaign in his own words. During an event organized by Repairers of the Breach, Barber gave a sermon Christmas Eve titled "No War: A Moral Call for a Christmas Truce." After reflecting on the Christmas truce in 1914 during World War I, Barber said now is the time for a ceasefire in Ukraine.

BISHOP WILLIAM BARBER II: We desperately need a ceasefire and negotiations to end the brutal Russian war in Ukraine today. Like Rachel in the Bible and Pope Francis, who just the other day wept in public over this war, we must mourn publicly over the war. And something is terribly wrong in our churches and houses of worship if we try to have Christmas without doing that.

Listen to the pope's prayer: "Immaculate Virgin, today I would have wanted to bring you the thanks of the Ukrainian people (for peace)." This is what he said before he was overwhelmed by emotion. And then he said, "Instead, once again, I have to bring you the pleas of children, the pleas of the elderly, the pleas of the fathers and the mothers, the pleas of the young people of that martyred land, which is suffering so much."

The report President Zelensky brought to Congress this week sounded like a modern-day description of the context in which Isaiah prophesied: "Russia," he said, "has turned the Ukrainian sky into a source of death for thousands of people. Russian troops have fired 1,000 missiles at Ukraine. And they use drones to kill us with precision."

We need a ceasefire to interrupt this warring madness.

A ceasefire doesn't mean both sides are equally culpable for starting the war. But it can have the impact of stopping the massive, massive killing on both sides. Accurate numbers are difficult to find, but it is clear that at least thousands of Ukrainian civilians and many tens of thousands of Ukrainian and Russian military forces have been killed already. A ceasefire could stop the killing.

A ceasefire is not the same as an end to war, but it can set the stage for the more long-term diplomatic action that can lead to a long-term peace. A ceasefire, for as long as it holds, means that no one is being killed by war. And that means maybe, just maybe, the difficult work of beginning serious negotiations can go forward.

We do need a ceasefire in Ukraine. In fact, the question might be: When do we need a ceasefire in Ukraine? And we might answer: We have needed a ceasefire since February 24th, exactly 11 months ago today, when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Now, yes, some say that the U.S. government provoked Moscow by expanding NATO to the east and stationing nuclear weapons in Europe. But even if that is true, it is also true that none of these provocations justify Russia's invasion. Russia's war is illegal, immoral, deadly and dangerous.

The day Russia began seizing Ukrainian territory and killing Ukrainian civilians, we needed a ceasefire. When Ukrainian troops began turning the tables and started reclaiming some of the lost territory, we needed a ceasefire to prevent more death and destruction. We needed a ceasefire then, and we need a ceasefire today.

Why? First, because the human cost, especially for the Ukrainian civilians, is too high. This is not a contest of wills on a battlefield. It is a struggle for control that takes place every day in the places where people live and work and worship and go to school. The war is in the streets and in the homes. Too many elders, too many children, too many babies and men and women are dying as consequences of this war.

But Ukrainians are not the only people being hurt by this war. The economic impact is dire, especially on the poorest people in the Global South, the people who are facing more hunger and more cold as a result of this war. Truth is, our whole planet is at risk, as the war leads to an increase in fossil fuels being mined and shipped around the globe. And whenever countries spend more on war, there's always less money available for things that actually keep us safer.

We need a ceasefire in every war being fought around the world. The fragile ceasefire in Yemen is barely holding. We need ceasefires in Sudan and South Sudan, in Somalia, in Mali, in Myanmar and Iraq and beyond. Many wars are being waged in the name of fighting against terrorism or against drug cartels or against domestic opponents. And in many of these wars, we can see the impact in complicated ways, where U.S. arms are being used by both sides, however they got them. And despite our own government's humanitarian work, great in many ways, we cannot ignore the historians, political scientists, the media reports, and even some military officials, who have shown how some of our actions in history and some of our actions in the present have imposed economic and security policies around the world that have resulted in desperate poverty, environmental catastrophe, refugee crises, authoritarian rulers and more. We have a moral obligation to stop supporting wars and call for, work for ceasefires.

Way back in our own Civil War on these lands, a general by the name of William Sherman said to those anxious to engage in war, "I have been where you are now, and I know just how you feel. It's entirely natural that there should beat in the breast of every one of you a hope and a desire that someday you can use the skills you have acquired here. But suppress it!" he said to these young troops. "You don't know the horrible aspects of war. I've been through two wars, and I know. I've seen cities and homes in ashes. I've seen thousands of men lying on the ground, their dead faces looking up at the skies. I tell you, war is hell!"

And it was America's General-President Dwight Eisenhower who said, when he was leaving office, "This conjunction of an immense military establishment [and] a large arms industry is new in the American experience. ... Yet we must not fail to comprehend its [grave] implications. ... In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex." And at first he said the "congressional-military-industrial complex." "The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist."

And the other night, even in the midst of his request for more weapons, President Zelensky did slip in a prophetic word — or, may I say, the Spirit slipped in a prophetic word — if we were

paying attention. He said, "Being the leader of the world means to be the leader of peace. This must be deeply wrestled with in this complex and contrary world."

We need ceasefires everywhere.

According to Brown University's Watson Institute, nearly a million people have died in the post-9/11 wars. Thirty-eight million people have been displaced by war, forced to flee their homes and communities to try to make a life somewhere else. The Poor People's Campaign found that the U.S. alone has spent \$21 trillion on war, militarized borders and incarceration over the past two decades — money we haven't invested in affordable housing, green infrastructure, healthcare, education, labor rights and living wages. The cost of war is too high. We need ceasefires everywhere.

Militarism is central to all of the interconnected injustices that we fight against. Military spending diverts funds away from desperately needed social programs, from healthcare to child care, from jobs to sustainable energy, from elder care to education and more.

Even now, we are passing a spending package that does not include living wages for the more than 55 million poor and low-wage workers in this country. It does not include healthcare for the more than 87 million people without healthcare or underinsured. And we now know that over 300,000 people have died so far from COVID because of the lack of healthcare, not because of the germ or the virus. And thousands more have died because of how poor and unprotected they were, not because of the power of the virus.

And we are passing a budget that includes more money for the war economy than ever in history. We're doing it without passing protections for voting rights, without restoring the Voting Rights Act, that Lyndon Baines Johnson said, when it was won, was the greatest victory in this country, even of all of our military victories. And because we're doing this, it leaves us with an impoverished democracy.

We need a ceasefire.

This year's military budget will top \$858 billion — a sum greater than the entire national budgets of 174 countries around the world, including such wealthy nations as Turkey, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia and Switzerland. Just a small percentage of that money could provide living wages for every American, could provide healthcare for every American, could provide child care. And in a country so rich that we waste hundreds of billions of dollars, we still have tens of millions of children living in poverty, going to sleep hungry. It's a moral crime. And Christmas, the prophecy and the prophetic truths of Christmas demand that we interrupt this madness, call for ceasefires, say, "This does not have to be."

So we need a ceasefire for the people of Ukraine. We need a ceasefire for the poor and hurting people around the world, wherever there is war and violence. Whether that war and violence is because of greed, or lust for power, or racism or antisemitism or Islamophobia or homophobia, we need a ceasefire.

And, finally, we need a ceasefire in Ukraine right now, because we are facing the most serious threat of nuclear escalation in 60 years. Russia and the United States together hold 90% of all the nuclear weapons in the world. Each side has enough nuclear weapons and nuclear firepower to destroy the whole world several times over. And that's incredibly dangerous for flawed human beings, prone to leave the god we say we love, to have that kind of power, not only because of Russia's reckless nuclear threats, and not only because of Washington's trillion-dollar investment in strengthening and modernizing its nuclear arsenal. We need a ceasefire, because I don't believe either Washington or Moscow is planning a deliberate nuclear attack, but that doesn't mean it can't happen.

Unlike other war zones where the U.S. and Russian forces have faced each other, there is no U.S.-Russian military-to-military hotline to avoid accidental escalation. They've had that in Syria, but they don't have it in Ukraine. An accidental move on either side could escalate to a nuclear exchange. It's not likely, but when we're talking about potential nuclear war, any threat that isn't zero is simply too large.

More than half a century ago, even before his speech in 1967, Dr. King said that the trajectory of modern war persuaded him that war could no longer be imagined as a negative good — a necessary evil to prevent some greater harm. "The potential," he said, "destructiveness of modern weapons totally rules out the possibility of war ever again achieving a negative good." He said, "If we assume that mankind has a right to survive, then we must find an alternative to war and destruction," because "We stand in life at midnight; we are always on the threshold of a new dawn." But our own sinfulness and actions could keep us from getting there.

We need a ceasefire in order to make an honest assessment of where we are. As Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." And maybe we can see it if we could pause for a moment, count the cost. If we could just stop closing our eyes and turning our eyes away, and look at the bodies and the blood and the brokenness, and assess the destruction, then maybe, for our sake and our children's sake, a ceasefire could help us realize that the world needs an antiwar coalition, if we're going to be the world that's possible. ...

If we can put our weapons down for just one night, then maybe we could put them down for one tomorrow. And if we could put them down for one tomorrow, maybe we could put them down for one week. And if we could put them down for one week, maybe we could put them down for one month. And if we could put them down for one month, maybe we could put them down for one year and study war no more! And maybe "studying war no more" doesn't just have to be in the after and eternal life. We have power to stop the madness. We can stop it today. We can stop it tomorrow.

And so, if we want to welcome the Prince of Peace, we can't give up hope. We've got to dare to commemorate, remember and praise God, even in the midst of all of the warring madness. Now is the time for a Christmas truce. Now is the time to try. Let the word go out. It happened 108 years ago. They are no more human and no stronger than we are. All it requires is listening to the Spirit and just stop. Just stop. Stop. Cease firing. Let the night go silent. And hear the voice of God until the night becomes holy without the sound of war and we study war no more.

AMY GOODMAN: Bishop William Barber of the Poor People's Campaign and Repairers of the Breach, giving a sermon on Christmas Eve. Bishop Barber recently joined with over a thousand faith leaders in the United States [calling](#) for a Christmas truce in Ukraine. Other signatories include the Reverend Jesse Jackson of Rainbow PUSH; professor Cornel West of Union Theological Seminary; Rabbi Arthur Waskow of the Jewish Renewal movement; Reverend Jim Wallis of the Georgetown Center on Faith and Justice; Reverend Liz Theoharis of the Kairos Center for Religion; Thay Phap An, the Plum Village Buddhist community. Bishop William Barber spoke at the Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, where he's been pastor for 30 years. He just announced he's retiring as the church's pastor to become the founding director of the new Center for Public Theology and Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

That does it for our show. To see the [whole speech](#), go to democracynow.org. I'm Amy Goodman. Thanks for joining us.