

"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	ACCESS TO ARCHIVES
IV	OPENING MEDITATION; MAYAN CALENDAR; HOUSEKEEPING; PODCAST LINK; MISC.
V	KESHE FOUNDATION INFO; N F T REWARDS PROGRAM
VI	FRIDAY HARD NEWS: 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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[NO code needed]

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B B S ARCHIVES

- go to www.bbsradio.com
- In **Search** box, enter the name of the required program;
- scroll down to 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 2 nd 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 2 nd , 4 th 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;
- scroll down to the heading
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 are both BBS podcast + Conference Call Links

IV OPENING MEDITATION; MAYAN CALENDAR; HOUSEKEEPING

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 – the birth wave - began

- 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! It's a Record of Days.**
www.Spacestationplaza.co Click on the tzolkein – it's on page 2 of the link.

PORTAL DAYS = extra dimensionality

6th Friday 12 CIMI White Crystal World Bridger Warrior

About forgiveness, moving into state of grace – let go of ego, controlling behaviour, idea that life is a struggle – Cimi is the linker of worlds: key word is equality;

7th Saturday 13 MANIK Blue Cosmic Hand Healing

About healing self and others, creating contentment, peace; accepting divinity of ourselves; let go of distractions and procrastination

8th Sunday 1 LAMAT Yellow Magnetic Stargate Visionary

New wave – about bringing beauty in all things; illumination of human kind. Gift of pioneer spirit – let go of self doubt

9th Monday 2 MULUC Red Lunar Moos Artist

Indigenous Peoples Day; gift of contact with Spirit, remembering what we came here to do; Universal mind is our mind – let go of insensitivity, self-doubt

10th Tuesday 3 OC White Electric Dog Artist

Working with unconditional love; healing the pain of the past – loyalty to human kind; let go of fear – 3 tone is very active tone

11th Wednesday 4 CHUEN Blue Self-Existing Monkey Artist

Balancing work and play; pay attention to clarity of mind; embrace gift of spontaneity – let go of insensitivity and mistrust

12th Thursday 5 EB Yellow Overtone Human Healing

Tuning to spirit; gift of contact with other dimensions

13th Friday 6 BEN Red Rhythmic Skywalker Warrior

6 is a powerful tone, double the energy of 3. About focussing and striving to illumination; have the ability to bend dimension – 13th is Mother's Day

New moon on Saturday; also beginning of eclipse season

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 each week.
- The mailing address for those who do not like paying

B B S RADIO

B B S RADIO
58 N Marshside Place
Sporing, TX 77389

Please put **"Attention Don"** on the envelope
And note inside "for 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 **PDFs**)

OTHER FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RAMA, TARA:

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

**STILL NEED \$ FOR LAST HALF OF
SEPTEMBER**

Three programs
each week

PERSONAL
Gas, food, etc
Bills
Miscellaneous/Other

\$200.00
\$420.00 4 bills coming

Caroline set up a GoFundMe a/c
See the link on
rainbowroundtable.net

MONTHLY
Rent - \$1,150 / mo
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: THANKS TO ALL FOR THEIR HELP . . .

- Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!
**** [www.rainbowroundtable.net /page/donate](http://www.rainbowroundtable.net/page/donate) ****
- Tara and Rama 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.**

They are under orders by Rama's boss (former President Obama's security chief, known as the King of Swords) to live entirely by donations from the Light community.

Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity! Namaste.

V KESHE FOUNDATION INFO; N F T REWARDS PROGRAM

(1) **MAIN address for KFSSI.org** <https://kfssi.org/>
Keshe Foundation Spaceship Institute: The Home of Plasma Science & Technology

• **To access Keshe Foundation** <https://keshe.foundation/>
Keshe Foundation: the place where Science meets the Soul of Man

• **KFWiki** <https://kfwiki.org/>
The free **Plasma Cyclopedia** of the Keshe Foundation

• **Weekly YouTube Presentations**
<https://www.youtube.com/c/KeshfoundationOrg>
Public can join by ZOOM: the link is 939 474 503

• **More information** Carolyn - Rainbird – lightenergync@gmail.com

(2) N F T Rewards programs

NFT/reward.biz/register
Enter: koran999

VI FRIDAY HARD NEWS: ACCESS TO THIS WEEK'S PODCAST; NOTES, REFERENCE MATERIALS

<https://bbsradio.com/podcast/hard-news-friday-september-29-2023>

TO LISTEN TO CALLS ON THE PHONE:

1-631-359-9353	1-518-801-1159
1-631-359-9008	1-667-930-9417
1-804-220-6538	

R, T: Greetings to all

T: Reviews how the enactment of NESARA law will occur

- refers to the Emergency Broadcast system – they committed high treason by using this, as the law states this system can only be used when there is weather alert in a specific area of the country
- 6 deer and 2 crows talking about the sun and the geometric symbols for the sun, which is going through its own gyrations. M Class and big plasma winds
- also words that the sun is reversing its pole – about the incoming energies from Super Galactic Center which affects all the suns leading to our Sun, Sol
- everyone is feeling this: the particles, electrons protons – very intense
- Dark side going down faster and faster – saw that the deep state Putin is/was releasing photos of all the gold taken from the Twin Towers at the time of 9/11 – have been playing with end

time story since the 9/11 incident – the flash is coming, don't know what – BLAZE THE VIOLET FIRE! SEND MORE LOVE!

AUDIO: Pleiadians Transforming our Lives now

Oct 6, 2023 Stellar Spheres: Pleiadians Illuminating Human Consciousness! 6:27

Guided by compassion and a desire for planetary harmony, Pleiadians share their wisdom, offering insights and energetic support to those receptive to their presence. Through telepathic communication and subtle energetic interactions, Pleiadians plant seeds of awakening.



CONFERENCE CALL

- Discussion about possibility of materials being in food that are also in the jabs
 - All kinds of things happening that require anywhere from 2 hours or more on the phone, as she got a new one – also involved with logistics relative to a project
 - Anderson Cooper is 13 families, son of Ms Gloria Vanderbilt (from Rama)
 - Sean Penn just did a docu on Zelensky and Ukraine
- T:** even if good guys write something that does not agree with the planned story – risking their lives -
- the real Putin had nothing to do with this war – it is the US Deep State and the fake Putin messing with all of this, eg talking about using nukes
 - whoever is going to do it is going to drop the nukes on Ukraine
 - the rhetoric out there from the fake news / partial story sites – they never answer the questions and say as a kind of side comment – tactical nukes are connected to NATO – yet the stories are innuendo most of the time -
- an insidious game being played – fear factor is a big
 - a false flag: a nuclear detonation – will play with this idea to look like a nuclear detonation
- both sides of this event are the DEEP STATE
- Pad:** • if she didn't connect with this program, she'd not get what is happening
astounding how many people are just repeating what they hear on the tv or radio
- and mushroom cloud or no mushroom cloud – who cares? It's just insanity – to want to destroy the earth and not give a s*** . . .

Car: why are we going to the moon AGAIN? ? ?

- R:** he thinks the beings on Twitter / X are actual humans in contact with the Pleiadians and share their messages – he gets some of the messages coming from pure love, the high heart – they are helping to transform the earth in spite of the best efforts of the dark side
- the Pleiadians in their home constellation - there are 7 suns with so many planets circulating around each sun in that constellation
 - Taygeta is one of the suns - he recalls having gone there – Alcyone is the sun he is most familiar with, has 2-14 planets around it – have built homes that are multi-storied and grow out of the ground – they used their consciousness to make those homes;
 - have special ways to create the stellar orbs Aurora Ray spoke of – these orbs go out and share the wisdom across the local universe
 - Now is a magical time to be here and also a disturbing time . .
 - in the last few episodes of Cosmic Disclosure with Emery Smith and others – Randy Cramer hearing through the grapevine that some wanted doesn't know what to say about them; has to do with the old timeline stuff
 - – and the Secret space program and the loosely connected agencies connected to the US secret / shadow gov't – there are some out there who don't have the best intentions for the planet – they are locked in and no one new can get in
 - Mother said post enactment of NESARA, all the darkness done to the planet and the people will be completely gone -
- R: sounds way beyond peoples' consciousness, yet the idea is there is a certain kind of wisdom –
- “magic” – about using consciousness to transform energy/space/time matter – about using the quantum field, the akash
 - there are energies that can be used to transform matter
 - a lady Marietta Robert knew – Heather Ann Harder who ran for president – at the time of 1988 or maybe the 1990s – was on George Noory and laid out her platform and had contact with the Pleiadians and ? -

R: sees the magic every day when he sits with the wild animals – today the deer sat there with their eyes closed -

when the galactic councils act, . . .

- in star wars, there was the galactic senate and different groups – and a rebel alliance remembers at the beginning of the Star Wars – the phantom menace

PLEASE LISTEN TO THIS -

B B S RADIO

AVE SACHE

AUDIO: Era of Peace

Patricia Cota-Robles

Vlog 342 – MOTHER MARY

<https://vimeo.com/869905581>



AUDIO: 2023-10-02 Soul-Star Chakra/Earth-Star Chakra Meditation 28:00 MIN

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgA8Mr_AmKg&t=15s&ab_channel=SteveNobel



Oct 2, 2023

This remastered meditation was recorded during a live interview with The Multidimensional Show October 2019. In this meditation we open the chakra system within the body and then the Earth-Star chakra beneath the feet. We cleanse all ancestral energies and energize the chakra within the Crystalline Grid. Next we open the Soul-Star chakra and cleanse any Akashic energies that can be cleared. Finally, we download all helpful gifts and abilities that are ready to be downloaded into the crown chakra.

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!

What this world is about is becoming more Light, as we have been hearing; as we absorb more light, it reflects back out into all sectors of the 7 Super Universes. Everything we've been hearing is about this magic, She could call it: about the Light That Never Fails: 10 trillion suns and then some, pouring in at this time. This is the saving grace we could all call it; and all it is, is just Love,

Light, Peace, Joy, Oneness, Ecstasy – that's what's unfolding. In the same moment, all the maya [is] coming to conclusion. The Light has won, yet accountability seems to be in the center stage. It's about . . .

T: Seems to be dancing around it

M/A: Cannot around dance around what is happening; 'must balance' comes into play. Lady Master Ma'at and the scales is what's happening – as light as a feather, or isn't it? Hmmm!

It's this cosmic interweaving of the energies; it's a spiral dance of Living Light, Living Love. Right in these few moments we got left of the old Kali cycle, bless each moment. As She could say: the Emperors have no clothes . . .

T: What a sight that is!

M/A: Just calling it as we see it! Can't hide the light that is pouring in; no matter how dark the robe we put on, the light keeps shining through, and what has occurred - it can no longer hide in the shadows. Like was said to this one a few days ago: the noon day sun is pouring in and these characters are like the undead: they don't like the light coming in. All the cracks, crevasses, creases of the old concept that have held the cobwebs in place are being dispelled at this moment, and they do not like it one bit!

And how it affects us is: these energies that are pouring in – gotta embrace the light coming in; it's transforming the bodies. Some of it is a bit uncomfortable to the point of the ascension symptoms that can be – let's say, it lays you out in lavender in more ways than one!

It is a good thing: as we absorb more light, we get more energy; the body becomes immortal. It is just what is happening as we move through these moments of . . .all we can describe it is wonder of the awesomeness of this local universe. We know less about the universe; we even know even less about these temples that are Living Love, Living Light.

Why would we want to transfer our consciousness into an AI body in the meta verse, owned by Mark Zuckerberg?

T: He's a Rockefeller -

M/A: Like Steve talked about – all the blood lines, all the lay lines - see them clear and pristine with the living radiance that is pouring forth. It's awesome to behold, and these old concepts of . . . the words escape the tongue! It's all maya - as the clouds in the maya fade away, we gotta feel the fake reality of what is: as we have messed with the universe, it might mess with you!

And we speak of our wayward children since that seems to be what's happening: as we absorb more light and get lifted higher, they get more exposed in the limelight with their old ideas of separation and racism: this idea that one colour is better than another colour - they are all equal in radiance and beauty: diversity is the order of the day.

That concept is very dangerous to the old dark energies because they cannot co-exist as the light pours in and things get better: it's simple. You cannot try to pull fraud off in a local universe and get away with it. It has been going on to some degree, yet now it's all unraveling and the Divine chaos you speak of is what's coming back into alignment.

These stories of the returning of ascended masters and space commanders – our legends of heroes, magnificent beings that radiated that love pouring forth from this realm. Right now it is a challenge to be here and she commends us for sticking around to the last minute / nano second. This is the time where we get to do what we have been learning all these eons of time: to simply work with the love, the radiance, of all that Is. These wayward children of Hers - they gotta fade

away into the shadows and disappear in the noon day sun. Since we are in that season of so-called black cats and pumpkins: this is one black cat saying the time is to radiate more Light! It is inevitable that the Light always pours in; it's a good thing. Right now this moment, take what has been shared; raise yourself up – it's how we get through this!

We better be on our way: miles to go, light years to go, before we sleep; there's a lot on the plate

T: there is this notion somebody said all the ascended masters and hosts of heaven – all of them – they really don't know the outcome of this experiment at all!

M/A: The outcome of the experiment is the Oneness that's unfolding - it is about the adventure! Yes, there is this concept in thought form energy: what is the outcome of this, do we really know?

T: Do YOU???

M/A: what She can say that what She knows would take up more time than she has time to speak about

T: No hints? Just "Stay in the adventure?"

M/A: It is something wonderful! Because it is about ourselves realizing our divinity, that we are no different than any other sun, star, planet, out there – equality is the order of the day, and this notion of separation, duality - when we came in to a polar universe, the so-called physical laws of magnetics - principles of life vs dark duality; positive/negative; two poles on a battery - It is the Force, in and of itself gave us the concept of this interplay between positive /negative; light/ dark – it is these - we only use the word – 'ideas' about seemingly separation yet there is no separation: it is a well- functioning reality that has its perfection, so to speak – are we making nonsense or are we making sense?

T: The ultimate is we are as equal to the sun and the stars and the moon

M / A: One sun, one moon, one race – yes - people of earth-

T: and it is an enjoying adventure; the thing is that it won't be so dark: and that is the importance of NESARA law . . .

M/A: this story about raising it up as the song said: it is this inevitability that everything rises to the occasion as the light pouring in [is] part of the concepts of quantum physics. As we become more unified with the quantum field, everything that there is to inner stand, over stand, under stand is within us and . . . enough said: We are stumbling over words

T: found a picture from 30th Dec of 2022 – Yoda sitting in Council;

M/A: the other 3 are members of the Jedi Council

T: the words under the picture: "Once the first contact is made, the human race will have the whole galaxy to explore and can finally spread out across the Universe."

M/A: Yes, and it is that adventure that is unfolding right now and our wayward children are a bit hesitant to allow this to occur because they will lose their power.

T: P was saying she was like a little kid, talking about being on an adventure, and having a really good time!

M/A: Yes it quite an adventure

Both: Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One

Kodoish, Kodoish, Kodoish Adonai 'Tsebayoth
ilياهو ilياهو ilياهو
Yod Hey Vod Hey
YHWH

Holy holy holy is the Lord God of Hosts
Illumine Illumine Illumine
Yod Hey Vod Hey of the Living Everlasting Light
The Revealed Name to our Father universe of the Living
God behind all Creator Gods

Rama Returns: he was at Taos Mtn – and the hum is still moving right along!

You can hear it when you turn in

T: when they lived with a friend close to there, really close to the mountain, could hear it

R: Vertical Fred! And they both laugh

Love is the answer, and it always has been!

R: Went to the mountain, sitting by Blue Lake feeling the cold up there – just the radiance of the Light pouring in- he could see it coming into the mountain: magnetic energy – he could see the pulses of light pouring from the sky into the mountain –

There is a cave on the other side of Blue Lake and it gets smaller and smaller and turns into a tube that you can slide down – takes you to the Ashtar Command post – when R took that road in, a lady met him and took him on a land speeder to go see the Captain and they ended up in Table Rock in Montana – he met with Ashtar and other galactic members about the unfolding of disclosure – a long time ago! '80s – '90s before he met T.

R, T: Discuss what is happening in Iran – brave freedom fighters
a woman is up to get that Nobel peace prize and be released from prison so she can receive the prize! !!

DEMOCRACY NOW

2023-10-06 Headlines <https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/headlines>

2023-10-06 Woman, Life, Freedom: Narges Mohammadi, Imprisoned Iranian Activist, Awarded 2023 Nobel Peace Prize

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/narges_mohammadi_nobel_peace_prize

2023-10-06 As Fraud Trial Gets Underway, Trump Tries to Provoke Judge to Jail Him: David Cay Johnston

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/donald_trump_civil_fraud_trial_new

2023-10-06 300+ More Sex Abuse Survivors Sue Columbia U. & Jailed OB-GYN Robert Hadden

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/robert_hadden_new_abuse_lawsuit

2023-10-06 Medical Students & Survivors Demand Columbia U. Notify All Patients of Jailed OB-GYN Sex Abuse Record

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/evelyn_yang_robert_hadden_columbia_protest

2023-10-06 Kaiser Permanente Workers Give Update from Picket Line in Largest Healthcare Strike in History

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/kaiser_permanente_healthcare_workers_strike

2023-10-03 Gregg Braden – Pure Human: Trials & Tribulations Within Two Timelines of Our Evolutionary Path

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg49-LWIWso>

46:45 min

Premiered Oct 3, 2023 [@GreggBradenOfficial](#)

Join Jean Nolan from InspiredChannel.com and Gregg Braden for an engaging talk! They'll discuss two evolutionary paths: one focused on technology and the other on natural development. This fascinating dialogue promises to be an eye-opener, shedding light on crucial aspects of our collective evolutionary journey. A not-to-be-missed conversation for anyone eager to explore the depths of human evolution and our place in the tapestry of life.



Stay Connected Official website: <https://greggbraden.com/about-gregg-b...>

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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/Gregg.Braden/>

CLOSING **Rainbird**

R, T Sat Nam, Namaste

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2023-10-06 Headlines <https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/headlines>

biden Defends Decision to Waive Federal Laws to Speed Construction of Border Wall

Oct 06, 2023

President Biden is defending his decision to waive 26 federal laws in South Texas in order to speed construction of the U.S.-Mexico border wall. Biden's move to advance a central policy of former President Trump's platform has prompted condemnation from immigrant rights, environmental and Indigenous activists. At the White House Thursday, a reporter asked Biden why he reversed his campaign pledge that "There will not be another foot of wall constructed in my administration."

President Joe Biden: "I'll answer one question on the border wall. The border wall — the money was appropriated for the border wall. I tried to get to them to reappropriate it, to redirect that money. They didn't. They wouldn't. And in the meantime, there's nothing under the law other than they have to use the money for what it was appropriated. I can't stop that."

Reporter: "Do you believe the border wall works?"

President Joe Biden: "No."

Democratic Congressmember Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez slammed Biden's decision, writing, "A wall does nothing to deter people who are fleeing poverty and violence from coming to the United States. You do not risk your life or your children's lives going through the Darién Gap or traversing hundreds of miles of desert if you have any other options. Walls only serve to push migrants into more remote areas, increasing their chances of death."

Mexico's AMLO Rejects Border Wall as U.S. Plans New Deportation Flights to Venezuela

Oct 06, 2023



Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and Attorney General Merrick Garland were in Mexico City Thursday meeting with Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who condemned the border wall.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador: "This authorization for the construction of the wall is a step backward. It doesn't solve the problem. It doesn't solve the problem. We have to address the causes."

Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas announced the U.S. will resume deportation flights directly to Venezuela, threatening Venezuelan asylum seekers with harsher consequences if they cross the U.S.-Mexico border. For years the U.S. government did not regularly deport Venezuelans because of tensions between Washington and Caracas. Thousands continue to flee Venezuela due to an economic catastrophe that's been largely worsened by U.S. sanctions.

Mayor Eric Adams Tours Latin America to Warn Asylum Seekers Against Coming to New York

Oct 06, 2023



New York City Mayor Eric Adams is on a four-day Latin American tour to discourage would-be asylum seekers from trying to reach New York. Speaking from Mexico City Thursday, Adams warned the American dream could turn into a "nightmare."

Mayor Eric Adams: "We are at capacity. And many people believe when you enter New York City, you're going to automatically have a job, you automatically are going to be living in a hotel. And there's just a climate that's there that's just not a reality."

Adams will also travel to Ecuador and Colombia and visit the treacherous Darién Gap, that many migrants are forced to brave on their journey to the U.S.-Mexico border. Adams's trip comes two days after he asked a judge to suspend New York City's 42-year-old policy of providing shelter to anyone who seeks it. Immigrant rights groups blasted the move, with the Legal Aid Society warning, "Street homelessness would balloon to a level unseen in our city since the Great Depression." Asylum seekers in New York have already been facing barriers getting basic assistance.

Jimmy Morales: "I come from Honduras, and I came here because they killed a brother and a nephew of mine. So I was afraid, and I came here. ... The truth is, I was waiting 24 hours for them to give me some clothes, but ultimately nothing came of it."

Ukraine Says 51 Killed in Russian Missile Attack on Kharkiv Village

Oct 06, 2023



Image Credit: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine

Ukraine says 51 people were killed and six others wounded Thursday as a Russian missile struck a store and cafe in a village in the northeastern Kharkiv region. President Volodymyr Zelensky said the Russian assault was no accident.

President Volodymyr Zelensky: “The Russian military could not have been unaware of where they were hitting. And it was not a blind strike. People gathered there for a wake, a Christian memorial dinner. Who could launch a missile at them? Who? Only absolute evil. More than 50 people died. Among them was a child, a boy, 6 years old.”

Separately, officials said a Russian strike on residential buildings in Kharkiv killed a 10-year-old boy and his grandmother, while injuring 26 others. And Russian drones attacked a port in Ukraine’s Odesa region early Friday, damaging a grain silo near the Danube River.

Drone Attack Kills Scores at Graduation Ceremony for Syrian Military Cadets

Oct 06, 2023



Syria’s Health Ministry says 89 people were killed and nearly 300 others wounded Thursday as a drone packed with explosives struck a military college graduation ceremony in the city of Homs. It was one of the deadliest strikes against Syrian forces in more than 12 years of civil war. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, which Syria’s government blamed on unspecified terrorist groups.

U.S. Downes Turkish Drone Over Syria as Turkey Escalates Attacks on Kurdish Fighters

Oct 06, 2023



Kurdish fighters say recent Turkish airstrikes have killed at least 11 people across Kurdish-controlled parts of northeastern Syria, with five civilians among the dead. Turkey has intensified cross-border raids since Sunday, when a pair of attackers detonated a bomb outside government buildings in Ankara. Turkey blamed the attack on the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party and the closely affiliated Kurdish YPG militia, which is allied with the U.S. in its fight against ISIS.

On Thursday, the Pentagon said one of its F-16 fighter jets shot down an armed Turkish military drone as it approached U.S. forces in Syria and ignored commands to change course. It was an unprecedented direct military exchange between Turkey and the U.S. — two NATO allies.

Iranian "Guardians of Hijab" Force Accused of Beating Teenage Girl into a Coma

Oct 06, 2023

In Iran, activists are demanding justice for 16-year-old Armita Geravand, who remains in a coma after an unexplained incident Sunday aboard a metro train car in Tehran. Officials say Geravand suffered a medical episode, causing her to collapse and bump her head on the train door. Her friends and other eyewitnesses say members of the so-called Guardians of Hijab force entered into an altercation with Geravand for not complying with Iran's strict dress code. This comes one year after the death of Mahsa Amini while in custody of Iran's morality police, which set off a nationwide uprising.

Iranian Human Rights Activist Narges Mohammadi Receives 2023 Nobel Peace Prize

Oct 06, 2023



Image Credit: PEN America

The 2023 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to imprisoned Iranian human rights activist Narges Mohammadi, deputy head of the Defenders of Human Rights Center, for her "fight against the oppression of women in Iran." We'll have more on the Nobel Prize after headlines.

Manish Kunwar Becomes 9th Rikers Prisoner to Die This Year

Oct 06, 2023



Here in New York, a prisoner at the notorious Rikers Island jail was declared dead after he was found unresponsive in his cell Thursday morning. Manish Kunwar was just 27 years old. He is at least the ninth person to die in the custody of the New York City Department of Correction this year.

Brooklyn Subway Shooter Receives 10 Life Sentences

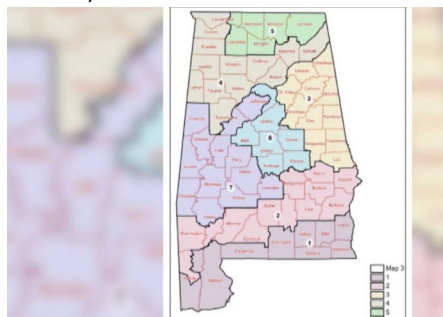
Oct 06, 2023



In other news from New York, Frank James, who opened fire on a crowded subway train in Brooklyn in April of last year, received 10 life sentences Thursday. Each life sentence corresponds to an injured victim. No passengers were killed in the shooting. The judge said as he delivered the sentence, "Each mass shooting constitutes an act of raw evil."

Federal Court's Selection of Alabama Congressional Map Enhances Power of Black Voters

Oct 06, 2023



In a victory for voting rights, a federal court has selected a new congressional map in Alabama, after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a Republican-gerrymandered map that diluted Black votes. The voting-age population of the new district is nearly 49% Black and could send another Democrat to the U.S. Congress.

Julia Ormond Sues Weinstein for Sexual Assault; Disney, Miramax and CAA for Enabling Him

Oct 06, 2023



Image Credit: BANG Showbiz

Actor Julia Ormond is suing Harvey Weinstein for sexual assault. She is also suing Disney, Miramax and her former talent agency CAA for negligence. Ormond, whose lawsuit comes as part of the Adult Survivors Act, says Weinstein forced her to perform oral sex on him. When she told her talent agents Bryan Lourd and Kevin Huvane about the rape, they told her reporting it would damage her career and that she would not be believed. The CAA went on to drop her as a client. Ormond accuses Miramax and Disney of enabling and covering for Weinstein. Julia Ormond headlined major films in the 1990s, but her career waned in the years after the assault and her complaint to her agents.

Weinstein is currently serving a 23-year prison sentence in New York for rape. Earlier this year, he was sentenced to 16 years for separate rape and sexual assault charges in California.

2023-10-06 Woman, Life, Freedom: Narges Mohammadi, Imprisoned Iranian Activist, Awarded 2023 Nobel Peace Prize

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/narges_mohammadi_nobel_peace_prize

Guests

- [Negar Mortazavi](#)

Iranian American journalist, host of *The Iran Podcast* and senior fellow at the Center for International Policy.



Links

- [The Iran Podcast](#)
- [Negar Mortazavi](#)

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Iranian human rights activist Narges Mohammadi has been awarded this year's Nobel Peace Prize for her work fighting against women's oppression in Iran. Mohammadi will not be able to personally receive the prize because she is currently incarcerated in Iran for her protest activities. To share more about Mohammadi, the "Woman, Life, Freedom" movement and the potential impact of the Nobel on Mohammadi's imprisonment, we speak with Negar Mortazavi, an Iranian American journalist, host of *The Iran Podcast* and senior fellow at the Center for International Policy.

Transcript

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

AMY GOODMAN: We begin today's show with the Nobel Peace Prize. The chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee in Oslo announced this year's winner earlier this morning.

BERIT REISS-ANDERSEN: *Zan, Zendegi, Azadi*. Woman, Life, Freedom. The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2023 to Narges Mohammadi for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all. Her brave struggle has come with tremendous personal cost. Altogether, the regime has arrested her 13 times, convicted her five times and sentenced her to a total of 31 years in prison and 154 lashes. Ms. Mohammadi is still in prison as I speak. ... This year's Peace Prize also recognizes the hundreds of thousands of people who, in the preceding year, have demonstrated against the theocratic regime's policies of discrimination and oppression targeting women.

AMY GOODMAN: That was Berit Reiss-Andersen, the head of the Norwegian Nobel Committee in Oslo, announcing that the imprisoned Iranian human rights activist Narges Mohammadi has been awarded this year's Nobel Peace Prize. The announcement comes just a year after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who died in Iranian police custody September 16th last year after she was arrested by Iran's so-called morality police. Her death sparked months of protest in Iran and a severe crackdown by Iranian authorities.

To talk more about this year's Nobel Peace Prize laureate, we're joined by Negar Mortazavi. She's an Iranian American journalist, host of *The Iran Podcast*, senior fellow at the Center for International Policy.

We thank you so much for being with us, Negar. Can you talk about the significance of this year's Nobel Peace Prize?

NEGAR MORTAZAVI: Thanks for having me, Amy. Yes, sure.

So, this doesn't come as a surprise, I think, after one year of sustained protests by Iranian women and young girls and so many activists and ordinary citizens, really, putting their lives on the frontline, risking their lives, about 500 protesters losing their lives, protesting for more freedoms, and essentially in a — in part of a feminist uprising. And Narges Mohammadi is really one of the most deserved activists when it comes to the fight for rights for women, freedom, for all human rights. She has done a lot of campaigning against the death penalty, execution, and so many other parts of her long-term activism, and also, as it was discussed, at a great personal cost to herself and her family. So, I think it's welcome news. This is going to energize, give new fresh energy to the activists and protest movement inside Iran.

AMY GOODMAN: So, tell us the story of Narges Mohammadi, how she is now in prison, how she got there.

NEGAR MORTAZAVI: Well, she's a longtime activist, human rights activist, that has worked with different organizations, as you said, human rights defenders, which also the previous, the only Nobel Peace laureate from Iran, Shirin Ebadi, also worked with. And Narges has really continued sort of that line of activism. She has been very vocal against the death penalty, as I said. She's launched many campaigns against, essentially changing the laws of execution and trying to abolish the death penalty in the Iranian legal system. She has fought for Iranian women's rights, for political prisoners, for families, and herself has been a political prisoner, arrested many times, jailed to decades of prison in total, and also separated from her family. Her family has been pushed into exile, including her two children, and she's been living separate from them, not being able to travel to see them. They live in exile, and they're not able to travel to see her in Iran. And it's just a great personal cost. But she's been a longtime activist and has been detained, pressured and sentenced for her activism many times and currently also is serving a prison sentence.

AMY GOODMAN: And so, she has fought for women's rights. She has also campaigned for the abolition of the death penalty and improvement of prison conditions. When is she expected to be out? And what kind of pressure do you think this puts on the Iranian regime?

NEGAR MORTAZAVI: Well, this will be, essentially, a two-edged sword. First, it will generate anger from the hard-liners in Iran, the Iranian regime, that, essentially, more and more attention is given to someone that they have been trying to portray as someone who is threatening national security and has been essentially arrested for these security charges, as they bring against these activists.

But then, at the same time, I think it will generate global solidarity, it will generate sympathy, and it would raise the costs for keeping someone so high-profile in prison, continuing to detain them, because the attempt is to try to silence people and try to sentence and pressure them in the dark, without much attention. And this, essentially, prize will bring even more attention, I would say, more power to Narges in her activism and other activists currently serving in prisons in Iran. And hopefully, at the end of the day, it will empower her and help her with this kind of global attention and solidarity that it will bring.

AMY GOODMAN: This comes 20 years after Shireen Ebadi, the women's rights activist in Iran, was also awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Do you feel there's been progress, Negar?

NEGAR MORTAZAVI: Well, I think if we look at it, essentially, looking at the long arc of history in a linear line, there has been. Iranian society has changed a lot. I mean, just looking at the protests of the past year, women and young girls really risking a lot — it comes at a deadly price for many of these protesters and activists. But I also think what we're seeing, for example, the transformation of the Iranian public space when it comes to the issue of hijab, which is also something that Narges has been opposing, the mandatory hijab laws, we've seen tremendous change and transformation in the Iranian public space. I speak to sources, friends, journalists, activists inside Iran, and there are just so many women and girls right now courageously defying the mandatory hijab, this one discriminatory law against women, essentially, gaining their bodily autonomy, after the death of Mahsa Amini with the spark of that mass protest. So I think, overall, there has been steps backward, steps forward, but, in general, the women's rights and the various rights movements have been pushing forward and making progress in pushing the state back and demanding more rights.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, I want to thank you, Negar Mortazavi, for being with us to talk about this year's Nobel Peace Prize going to Narges Mohammadi, the Iranian human rights activist who is currently in prison. Negar is an Iranian American journalist, host of *The Iran Podcast* and senior fellow at the Center for International Policy.

Coming up, we speak to the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Cay Johnston on Donald Trump's civil fraud trial, on why this may mean more to Trump than any others of the trials, as the judge could be leading to the dismembering of Donald Trump's financial empire. Stay with us.

2023-10-06 As Fraud Trial Gets Underway, Trump Tries to Provoke Judge to Jail Him: David Cay Johnston

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/donald_trump_civil_fraud_trial_new

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- [Donald Trump](#)
- [New York](#)

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- [David Cay Johnston](#)
Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter, co-founder of DCReport and author of three books on Trump.



Links

- ["The Big Cheat: How Donald Trump Fleeced America and Enriched Himself and His Family"](#)
- ["It's Even Worse Than You Think: What the Trump Administration Is Doing to America"](#)
- ["The Making of Donald Trump"](#)
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We get an update on Donald Trump's civil fraud trial with Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter David Cay Johnston. New York Attorney General Letitia James is seeking to fine Trump \$250 million and is asking for a permanent ban on Trump family members running a business in New York. The outcome of the trial could put the future of the Trump Organization in jeopardy. Trump himself has already been barred from posting or speaking publicly about the trial after his public comments about James, which she described as "race-baiting," and about Judge Arthur Engoron. Johnston, the author of three books on Trump, including *The Big Cheat: How Donald Trump Fleeced America and Enriched Himself and His Family*, says that though this trial doesn't carry with it the potential for incarceration that his criminal trials do, it is just as threatening to the Trump empire because "Donald Trump is his money."

Transcript

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

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, [democracynow.org](https://www.democracynow.org), *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman, as we turn now to Donald Trump's civil fraud trial here in New York.

Trump's attorneys are expected to file a motion today to stay the trial, pending an appeal of a judge's ruling last week that Trump and his two eldest sons, Eric and Donald Jr., had committed fraud by vastly overstating the assets of their company. The pretrial ruling puts the future of the Trump Organization's real estate empire in jeopardy.

Trump voluntarily attended the first three days of the trial. During comments to the press, he repeatedly attacked New York's Attorney General Letitia James for bringing the fraud case against him. On Monday,

Trump assailed James, who is African American, as a “racist” and called the trial judge, Arthur Engoron, a “disgrace.” On Wednesday, James denounced Trump’s comments.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LETITIA JAMES: What they were were comments that, unfortunately, fomented violence, were comments that I would describe as race-baiting, were comments, unfortunately, that appeals to the bottom of our humanity. ... I will not be bullied. And so, Mr. Trump is no longer here; the Donald Trump show is over. This was nothing more than a political stunt, a fundraising stop.

AMY GOODMAN: On Tuesday, Judge Engoron placed a gag order on Donald Trump, the first on a former president, after he falsely claimed on social media that the judge’s law clerk was the girlfriend of Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer. The judge barred Trump from posting, sending emails or making public remarks about members of the judge’s staff.

To talk more about the opening week of the trial, we’re joined by David Cay Johnston, Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter who’s reported on Trump for decades. He’s the author of three books on Trump, including *The Big Cheat: How Donald Trump Fleeced America and Enriched Himself and His Family*. Johnston is also a distinguished visiting lecturer at Syracuse University College of Law.

David, it’s great to have you back with us. If you can start off by talking about the significance of this trial for Donald Trump? I mean, this is a civil trial. He didn’t have to show up, though he falsely alleged he was being forced off the campaign trail to show up for this trial.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Well, unlike the four separate criminal indictments, where Donald is at risk of incarceration, going to jail, this is a civil trial. But Donald Trump is his money. That’s the most important thing to understand about Donald. And, of course, his money is always being inflated, along with other things. You know, he claims buildings are bigger than they are. He claims more money. And in this case, the judge has already ruled that Donald committed repeated calculated frauds. The issue in this trial, the principal issue in this trial — there are some minor facts — is how much must he disgorge because his frauds resulted in ill-got gains that he must give up.

AMY GOODMAN: So, talk about why this is so important. I mean, another civil trial — right? — the sexual assault trial of E. Jean Carroll, he did not show up for.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Well, that’s right. And E. Jean Carroll similarly got a judge to rule there was such overwhelming evidence, there was no need to try the merits of the case. Donald Trump is a rapist. That’s been established by another judge. He already owes \$5 million to the writer E. Jean Carroll, and now there’s a second defamation case that she’s brought, and there will be a trial only to determine, again, how much money he owes.

In this trial before Judge Engoron, Donald has had all of his business licenses revoked. The Trump Organization, his eyes-wide-open blind trust he created when he became president, and the at least 500 Trump legal entities, mostly limited liability companies, no longer have business licenses. And you cannot do business without a business license. The judge has appointed another judge, a retired judge, as a monitor to make sure that Trump, his sons and the two executives who are in the case don’t abscond with any of the money until it’s determine how much is there. Ultimately, we will see the Trump Organization, his umbrella group, turned over to a receiver. This is similar to bankruptcy when you dissolve a company, but it’s under New York state business law, it’s not a bankruptcy case. His properties will be sold. Creditors and the government will get paid first. And if there’s any money left at the end of the day, Amy, it will go to Donald Trump.

AMY GOODMAN: So, you’re talking about properties. That’s Donald Trump’s residence in the Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue. That’s one of the buildings. Is that right, David Cay Johnston? One of the ones that also he, to say the least, inflated, from 10,000 feet to 30,000 feet. And why that matters?

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Right.

AMY GOODMAN: Square feet.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Well, he claimed the building was three times the size it was, so he could justify an enormously higher value than it's worth. And Donald does this all the time. Trump Tower is 58 stories; he'll tell you it's 68 stories. He owns a mansion on a large wooded area in Westchester County, about a short drive from Manhattan. He's claimed it's worth as much as \$291 million. The most generous appraisal was \$30 million, roughly a tenth of that, and it was based on the idea that he could carve it up into smaller estates and sell them off. And the local authorities have said, "No, we are not going to allow you to carve it up." So the property is more likely worth something in the order of, say, \$10 million, and Donald's claims are 29 times that much, Amy.

AMY GOODMAN: So, Samuel Bankman-Fried is on trial right nearby, here in New York. He was jailed before the trial for violating a gag order. President Trump has just had a gag order imposed, because, among other things, of what he just tweeted out in the midst of the trial, that the clerk, who was sitting just feet from him, right next to the judge, was having an affair with Chuck Schumer. Can you talk about the significance of what it would mean if the judge found him guilty of violating that gag order? Could he end up in the same position as Samuel Bankman-Fried?

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: He absolutely could end up remanded to jail. Donald is, I believe, for political reasons, trying to provoke one of the judges in his criminal or this civil case to send him to jail, so that he can rally his supporters and say, "See, the system is rigged. They're out to get me. I didn't do anything wrong, but they're going to shut me up." He threatened General Milley, who just retired as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. That's not going to result in being remanded to custody, because General Milley, who was a valorous infantryman in combat, is not being intimidated by Donald Trump. But the —

AMY GOODMAN: I mean, he essentially said that Milley should be executed.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Absolutely, he said he should be executed. The judge's secretary, however, or clerk — I'm sorry, the judge's clerk — has nothing to do with the merits of the proceedings. And the judge made it clear that you write or say anything about any person on my staff, and there will be consequences. And I think he's made it pretty clear that Trump might get one more chance. But if he does it twice, I assure you, then he's going to be remanded by this judge.

AMY GOODMAN: And for people to understand how a decision has been made in parts of this trial — I mean, it is a bench trial; it doesn't go to a jury — oh, and also President Trump lied when he said he had wanted a jury trial, because his lawyers never asked for one.

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Right. Well, Donald, I'm confident, based on his public remarks, would be very concerned that a New York City jury, a Manhattan jury, could be very bad for him. They might rule very heavily against him. So his lawyers accepted a bench trial. Whether they did it by incompetence or intentionally, they agreed to this. So there's no question about that. He's been denied nothing by the judge. And the facts in this case are so overwhelming, that Letitia James put before the court, showing that again and again and again, every time the Trumps valued a property, they overvalued. If there had been a mixed bag — you know, now and then they overvalued things, most of the time they were reasonable — that would be different. And, you know, Amy, imagine you own a \$300,000 house. Well, maybe it's worth \$270,000, maybe it's worth \$330,000. But if you go to a bank and say, "Loan me money. This house is worth \$3 million, or \$30 million," that's just fraud. So, all this trial is about — well, primarily what this trial is about is how much in damages does Donald Trump own for his and his sons' years of fraud.

AMY GOODMAN: So, David Cay Johnston, you have written several books on Donald Trump. Is this case more important to them — he also fell off the, what, *Forbes* billionaire list — than any of the other ones?

DAVID CAY JOHNSTON: Well, it's more important to Donald's mind, because he grew up in a household with a father who was just a complete monster, who taught him and his other children that all that matters is getting the money. As long as you don't get arrested, do whatever you need to do. There are no rules. You're special. The rules of law, the rules of decency, they don't apply to you. And so, to Donald, in his psyche, this

is much more important. But the fact is that in the other cases, particularly the effort to overthrow the United States government on January 6th, he faces prison if convicted. But those are down the road a little bit. Right now he's very concentrated on this. And as I said in the beginning, to Donald, Donald is his money.

AMY GOODMAN: David Cay Johnston, we thank you so much for being with us, Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter, co-founder of DCReport, author of three books on Trump, including *The Big Cheat: How Donald Trump Fleeced America and Enriched Himself and His Family*.

Next up, we speak to the attorney suing Columbia University and its affiliated hospitals on behalf of more than 300 more patients who say they were sexually assaulted by the former Columbia University gynecologist Robert Hadden over a span of decades. They say Columbia shielded the sexual predator. Stay with us.

2023-10-06 Medical Students & Survivors Demand Columbia U. Notify All Patients of Jailed OB-GYN Sex Abuse Record

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/evelyn_yang_robert_hadden_columbia_protest

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former patient and survivor of former Columbia University obstetrician Robert Hadden and wife of 2020 presidential candidate Andrew Yang.

On Wednesday, hundreds of medical students and sexual assault survivors of former university obstetrician Robert Hadden protested at Columbia University's campus calling for accountability during the inauguration ceremony of the university's first woman president. We speak with medical students and survivors demanding Columbia take action to notify all former patients of Hadden about his previous sexual assault convictions by the November 23 deadline of New York's Adult Survivors Act. "Wouldn't you want to know if your OB-GYN had sexually assaulted 500 other patients?" asks survivor and activist Evelyn Yang, who has been sharing her experience publicly since 2020.



Transcript

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

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, [democracynow.org](https://www.democracynow.org), *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman.

Here in New York, as Minouche Shafik made history Wednesday when she became the first woman to be inaugurated president of Columbia University, the ceremony was protested by well over a hundred medical

students wearing their white coats, who joined with survivors of sexual abuse by the former Columbia obstetrician-gynecologist Robert Hadden. Dr. Hadden was sentenced to 20 years in prison this year for molesting his patients for over two decades, while Columbia ignored his patients who spoke out, undermined prosecutors, shielded the sexual predator.

SIMRAN CHAND: I'm Simran Chand. I'm a second-year medical student. And we're here to spread awareness about what's happened with Dr. Robert Hadden and the cover-up that Columbia has perpetuated for the past several decades. It's honestly disgusting, and we're here to demand accountability by our institution and to show that, as future medical professionals, we will not stand for this, and we want to make our voices heard.

PROTESTERS: You protected Robert Hadden! You protected Robert Hadden! You protected Robert Hadden! You protected Robert Hadden! Notify the patients! Notify the patients!

LIZ HALL: Liz Hall. One of the reasons we are here today, to notify the patients, is because after November 23rd, victims of Robert Hadden — and there are thousands — will not be able to get justice or hold Columbia University accountable. They have been silent this entire time. I was a patient from 2002 to 2012, and I had to find other resources and survivors myself. And luckily, some other women have seen me in the news, and that is the only reason why they know of Robert Hadden in jail.

AMY GOODMAN: Another Dr. Hadden survivor who joined the medical students at the protest was Evelyn Yang. She's the wife of the former presidential candidate Andrew Yang. She has said Hadden sexually abused her during her first pregnancy in 2012.

EVELYN YANG: As soon as I walked through the gates, there were hundreds of medical students in their white lab coats in the aisles, in the walkways, on the lawns. And they were just spreading the word about how Columbia has still failed to notify Dr. Robert Hadden patients that he is a convicted sex felon. So, I was overwhelmed with just, you know, appreciation that they would take on this cause.

And I realize it's not necessarily for us, for the survivors of Dr. Hadden, although it is very much in support of us, because, you know, we were harmed by him, and we believe that there are still hundreds, if not thousands, of Hadden patients who still do not know that he is a convicted sex offender or sex predator, and they deserve to know. I mean, wouldn't you want to know if your OB-GYN had sexually assaulted 500 other patients?

But I also think that it's especially meaningful that these are medical students, because the prosecutors called Dr. Hadden a "predator in a white coat." So they're walking around protesting, wearing their white coats, because, you know, they are going to swear an oath of no harm. And the harm in this case wasn't just perpetrated by Dr. Hadden; it was perpetrated by the university. So, the [exposé](#) in ProPublica exposed how they had covered up for him and enabled him for decades. And that's really, perhaps, an even bigger betrayal. And I came today to really support the students and the community and their call for action.

AMY GOODMAN: Everyone was chanting "Notify the patients." Why is that so significant in this year?

EVELYN YANG: So, it's significant because of the Adult Survivors Act, that I, along with other survivors, fought very hard to pass, which opens up a lookback window regardless of the statute of limitations. If you are a sexual assault survivor in the state of New York, you have until November 23rd, 2023, to file a claim. And that window is closing soon. So, Columbia has an opportunity now, especially with a new president, to turn the page, to show that they care about patients, they care about the community in a meaningful way, backed with action. And if they can notify patients, then patients have a — they have a chance to, you know, take some action.

AMY GOODMAN: And the significance of this being the inauguration of the first woman president of Columbia University?

EVELYN YANG: Well, President Shafik, she has a gynecologist. She knows how vulnerable it is to sit in that chair and to, you know — and she knows — she knows what it's like to be a woman, to be subjected to that, regularly. And it wouldn't cross your mind to be violated by a doctor in that way. And she has a chance to reduce the harm that the previous administration perpetrated. And we are very disappointed that, to date, she seems to be taking a page from the old playbook. And she's giving us a lot of, you know, "We're sorry that you were hurt. We're heartbroken for you," but she has still failed to take any meaningful action to notify the patients or commission a third-party independent investigation into the cover-up that led to Hadden abusing women for over 20, 30 years.

AMY GOODMAN: That's Evelyn Yang, one of the first to speak out against Dr. Hadden. I spoke to Evelyn Yang as the first woman president of Columbia University was being inaugurated.

2023-10-06 300+ More Sex Abuse Survivors Sue Columbia U. & Jailed OB-GYN Robert Hadden
https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/robert_hadden_new_abuse_lawsuit

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attorney representing women who were sexually abused by former Columbia University obstetrician Robert Hadden.

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We speak to the attorney suing Columbia University and its affiliated hospitals on behalf of some 300 more patients who say they were sexually assaulted by former Columbia University obstetrician Robert Hadden over two decades while Columbia shielded the sexual predator. Anthony T. DiPietro filed a new lawsuit against the university and its affiliated hospitals earlier this week. "Columbia knew from the beginning," DiPietro says of Hadden's abuse and its subsequent cover-up. Survivors, he continues, "shouldn't be having to carry this burden around with them for their entire lives."



Transcript

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AMY GOODMAN: Columbia University Irving Medical Center and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital reached two settlements with hundreds of Hadden victims in 2021 and 2022. This week, 301 additional former patients of

Hadden who allege they were sexually exploited and abused by him filed a new lawsuit that argues Dr. Hadden is, quote, “the most prolific serial sexual predator in New York state history.”

For more, we’re joined by the attorney who’s been suing Columbia for over a decade to hold the university accountable for covering up Hadden’s abuse, Anthony DiPietro. He’s joining us from Salt Lake City, Utah, also Evelyn Yang’s attorney.

Thank you so much for being with us. So, as this was playing out on this beautiful blue-sky day on Wednesday up at Columbia University, the victims of Dr. Hadden, together with well over a hundred medical students in their white coats, demanding that the university notify the patients, Anthony DiPietro, you had just filed yet another lawsuit. Columbia has already paid out something like, what, a quarter of a billion dollars to patients of Hadden? Talk about this latest lawsuit.

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Yeah, that’s correct, Amy. And thank you. You know, the recent filing that we made this past week brings the total victims and survivors of Columbia University and Robert Hadden to over 538 patients. Robert Hadden abused single women, married women, pregnant women, recent mothers. He even abused a 16-year-old, who he previously had delivered, at her first GYN visit. He literally is the most prolific serial sexual predator in the history of New York state.

AMY GOODMAN: So, explain. Take us back to the beginning. I mean, on *Democracy Now!*, we’ve had a number of Hadden’s patients on. Can you explain? There’s two issues here. One is that Dr. Hadden sexually assaulted — was just found guilty, sentenced to 20 years in prison for sexually assaulting patients. But then there’s the issue of what Columbia knew and when the university knew it. Talk about that, Anthony.

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Sure. So, Columbia knew from the beginning what they were dealing with with Robert Hadden, at every level. The chairperson, the risk management people, they knew what they were dealing with. But for the past 36 years, they have been covering up this abuse from the public, from the patients, and even from the state prosecutors.

AMY GOODMAN: So, talk about the evidence that you have of this. In fact, you’re in Utah right now. You’re in Salt Lake City. Wasn’t it a patient now who is in Utah who said they notified Columbia decades ago?

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Correct. So, one of our clients saw Evelyn Yang on TV a couple years ago and said — and reached out to us and said, “Hey, you know, this guy abused me in 1993, and I wrote a letter to the chairman, and the chairman wrote back.”

AMY GOODMAN: The chairman?

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: And I believe, you know — the chairman, the chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, wrote back, acknowledged that she was abused, and said he was going to take care of the problem, but he was going on vacation next week, and he would deal with it when he got back. And he never did anything.

AMY GOODMAN: We also had Laurie Kanyok on recently, another of Dr. Hadden’s patients. She’s the patient who was in his office, and to her horror, she felt him licking her. She called her partner. She was very pregnant. Her partner raced to where she was, and was calling the police repeatedly. The police came to their home, then went right to the Columbia Hospital, where Dr. Hadden was, his office, and had him arrested. So, Columbia absolutely knew at that point. Can you talk about that case? Yet he was back at work the next week, after being arrested by police for sexual assault.

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Amy, it is outrageous. This guy was arrested at 4 p.m. on a Friday afternoon. Every person at the university, at the hospital, who needed to know, knew. Mary D’Alton, who was the current and still is the current chairperson of obstetrics and gynecology, knew. John Evanko, Hadden’s direct supervisor, knew. Jane Booth, general counsel for Columbia University, knew. And what they did is they got their lawyers, they got the arrest vacated, and they let him back that next Tuesday so he can continue abusing patients. Five weeks later is when he assaulted Evelyn Yang.

AMY GOODMAN: So he came back and then went on to assault. Now, this is the question: How many people have been assaulted by Dr. Hadden? You heard at that Columbia University protest the demand, the medical students repeating over and over, chanting "Notify the patients." Talk about the significance of this. The only entity that knows who all of Hadden's patients are is Columbia University. Is that right? For all of the people he's seen for decades. What has been officially put out? Aside from people seeing shows like *Democracy Now!* or reading ProPublica, the investigations, or seeing someone like Evelyn Yang on television, how do people know whether they can come forward? And the significance of this one-year lookback that Governor Hochul signed off on of adult survivors being able to sue, only, though, if they report this by November 23rd? In fact, E. Jean Carroll, assaulted, sexually assaulted by President Trump, used this lookback to bring her lawsuit, though the case — the attack took place decades ago.

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Sure. Amy, make no mistake about this: These are Columbia University's patients. These weren't Robert Hadden's patients. These were patients of Columbia University. Columbia has the medical records. Columbia has the patient lists. Columbia did all the billing. In 2016, the state of New York ordered that all of Hadden's patients be notified that he lost his license, but Columbia is saying that the burden isn't on them, it's on Robert Hadden. That is outrageous. They weren't Hadden's patients; they were Columbia's patients. And Columbia is the only one that could possibly contact them. But they're refusing to do it. And that's why we're pushing.

And here's why this is important, OK? It's not just about the Adult Survivors Act, although that is important. I have gotten countless phone calls from women who, you know, they happen to see this on the news, or they see it on social media, and they call me, and they're like, "Oh my god, this happened to me 15 years ago, and I've been carrying this around, thinking that I was the only person, like maybe I did something wrong to invite this." They need to know that they're not alone. They shouldn't be having to carry this burden around with them for their entire lives because Columbia's administration refuses to send them a notification letter to let them know that Robert Hadden is a convicted sexual predator who they covered up for.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to turn to Belkis Hull, who I also spoke to at Wednesday's protest at Columbia University.

BELKIS HULL: This is Belkis Hull. I was a patient from 2005 to 2010. I had asked my friends that had seen him if they thought there was something wrong, and they said no. So I continued to go, thinking it was natural. It wasn't until last December that I found out that I have been abused over and over. He loved to give pain to his patients. And we thought that was normal. Let us not normalize it. If you ever feel there's something wrong, listen to your gut and speak out. Keep speaking out. Keep spreading the word, because this is not over.

AMY GOODMAN: That was Belkis Hull, speaking through a loudspeaker, and speaking to — along with Laurie Maldonado, another guest we have had on, a victim of Dr. Hadden, through a little bullhorn, as they also thanked the medical students for coming forward. One of the things that Belkis Hull talked about was the pain that Dr. Hadden had put these patients through, like Laurie Maldonado, who went for a checkup. She didn't know that most people don't go in for endless checkups during their nine months, but Hadden kept calling her in. Two months before she gave birth, and as she lay on the examining table, he put his hand up her and punched. And these women at Columbia talked about his inflicting pain, that that was part of his sickness and his crime. Anthony DiPietro, if you could comment on this?

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Yeah, so, I've seen a lot of patterns, right? And this is absolutely one of them. He had this sadistic streak where he would inflict pain on women. Oftentimes he would do it if they weren't compliant with other things. And this was part of what he was doing. And again, Columbia knew the entire time, but instead of protecting patients, what they were doing is they were protecting a predator.

AMY GOODMAN: So, at this point, how has Columbia explained why they haven't sent a letter out to every one of the patients they know Hadden had?

ANTHONY DIPIETRO: Right. There's no explanation for it. We have been pushing them for years, for five, six, seven years: Send out a letter to the patients. Notify them that they didn't do anything wrong. They

were exposed to this predator. But their excuse is that the burden is on Hadden. Right? Because the order from the state was directed at Hadden. But again, these weren't Hadden's patients. And what is Columbia saying? Is Columbia saying that if Robert Hadden shows up at the medical records office and says, "Hey, give me, you know, the names and home addresses of all these women that I've been abusing since 1987," that Columbia is going to turn that information over to him? That's ridiculous.

AMY GOODMAN: I wanted to go to another clip, when we did speak to Laurie Maldonado, the former patient of Robert Hadden between 2000 — who gave testimony at his sentencing. She described what happened to her when she was nine months pregnant.

LAURIE MALDONADO: I was sexually assaulted by Robert Hadden two days before the birth of my child. I went in for, you know, my kind of — my checkup. My ex-husband was in the room with me. And we were just excited. I remember that in the office room, my — I went to the bathroom, and my mucus plug had dropped, so I was really imminent away from the birth, and we were really excited. And Hadden came in the room, and he had a glimmer in his eye. And I thought that that glimmer was that he was excited, like me, for the birth, but now I realize it was an opportunity for him to commit sexual assault.

And he later said, "Oh, one more thing. I need to check you." And he took me behind the curtain, away from my husband, and put me on the exam table. And what I thought was, you know, that he was going to check my cervix just to make sure that the baby was OK. But that's not what happened. What did happen was Hadden used his hands to harm me, and he stuck his fist inside of my vagina. And it was so painful, and I screamed and I cried out in pain. And he abruptly left the room.

My husband at the time came over to me, checked on me. He said, "Are you OK?" And I was like, "No, I'm not OK." And then he asked me a really important question. He said, "Do you feel violated?" And I said, "Yes."

AMY GOODMAN: That's Laurie Maldonado. To see the whole [interview](#) with her, one of Dr. Hadden's survivors, you can go to democracynow.org. Anthony DiPietro, I want to thank you very much for being with us, attorney representing women who were sexually abused by former Columbia University obstetrician-gynecologist Robert Hadden. DiPietro has filed a new lawsuit against the university and its affiliated hospitals on behalf of an additional 301 patients who were allegedly sexually assaulted by Hadden.

Also this related news: In California, George Tyndall, the former University of Southern California gynecologist accused of sexual abuse by hundreds of students, was found dead at his home this week. USC agreed to pay over a billion dollars in settlements to survivors. Survivors have said Tyndall raped or forcibly touched them, made racist and misogynistic comments while he sexually abused them. Tyndall was awaiting trial and out on a \$1.3 million bail.

2023-10-06 Kaiser Permanente Workers Give Update from Picket Line in Largest Healthcare Strike in History

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/10/6/kaiser_permanente_healthcare_workers_strike

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- [Labor](#)
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Guests

- [Meg Niemi](#)
president of SEIU Local 49 in Clackamas, Oregon.
- [Keven Dardon](#)
patient access representative and a member of the union local's bargaining team at Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside Medical Center in Clackamas, Oregon.

In the largest strike of healthcare workers in U.S. history, 75,000 Kaiser Permanente healthcare workers across the country walked off the job this week, seeking higher pay, better staffing, improvements in their pension plans and other benefits. We go to the picket line in Clackamas, Oregon, to speak with Meg Niemi, president of SEIU Local 49, and Keven Dardon, a patient access representative and a member of the union local's bargaining team, on the final day of the strike outside of Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside Medical Center. "Kaiser can do better," says Dardon, explaining how the union's demands for better working conditions will allow its employees to provide patients with better care. Adds Niemi, "If we cannot reach an agreement, we'll be out here again."



Transcript

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AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, [democracynow.org](https://www.democracynow.org), *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman.

We end today's show with one of the 75,000 healthcare workers with Kaiser Permanente who walked off the job this week in the largest strike of healthcare workers in U.S. history, in California, in Oregon, in Washington, Colorado, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Talks have failed to yield a new agreement as workers seek higher pay, better staffing, improvements in their pension plans and other benefits.

For more, we're joined on the picket line in Clackamas, Oregon, by Keven Dardon, a patient access representative and a member of the union's local bargaining team at Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside Medical Center. And, Meg Niemi, we're going to begin with you, president of SEIU Local 49. Meg, can you talk about the significance of this three-day strike, and if you've gotten concessions from Kaiser Permanente?

MEG NIEMI: Yeah. I mean, this is a historic strike, 75,000 Kaiser Permanente workers walking off the job to tell Kaiser executives that it's time to end the short-staffing crisis.

AMY GOODMAN: Can you tell us where you are right now as we look at you in the dark because it's so early in the morning?

MEG NIEMI: I'm out front of Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center here in Clackamas, Oregon. Our members are setting up their strike line this morning, getting ready to begin our picketing activities.

AMY GOODMAN: We want to bring Keven Dardon into the conversation, a patient access representative, member of the union's local bargaining team at Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside Medical Center. Keven, can you talk about your demands and the significance of this largest strike of healthcare workers in U.S. history?

KEVEN DARDON: Yes. Good morning. What we're here today is we're asking our Kaiser executives to bargain in good faith with us, the frontline healthcare workers. We have the proposals, and we have the solutions to solving Kaiser's short-staffing crisis. And we're just asking them to come to us and meet with us. We have those solutions, and we're hoping they can come and bargain in good faith.

AMY GOODMAN: And can you talk, Meg Niemi, about the strategy of doing this three-day strike?

MEG NIEMI: Yeah. The Kaiser members are out here taking action to get Kaiser to listen to us around patient care, make sure that the patients are getting the care that they actually need. And our members made a decision to say, you know, we are going to walk off the job. We want to do this for a short amount of days, for three days, but we have let Kaiser executives know that if we cannot come to an agreement that solves the short-staffing crisis, that we'll be out here again.

AMY GOODMAN: And can you talk about the scale of the strike, who's involved, talking about nurses, medical technicians, pharmacists? Talk about who's out on the strike, and also your concern about continuing to care for patients.

MEG NIEMI: Right now out on the strike across the country are healthcare workers that have been essential workers from across the hospitals and clinics. So, we have medical assistants, licensed practical nurses, housekeepers. There are pharmacists. There are dietary workers. There are dental workers. There are literally hundreds and thousands of different workers who are often the people that are closest to delivering patient care. They're the first people that you see. They're the people that are right next to you at the bedside. And all of them have come out here because they care so much about their patients. And they're really concerned about how they've seen a deterioration of care, a deterioration of patients being able to get access to care, and they felt like it was very important that they took this strong stand, so that Kaiser Permanente executives will actually turn course and reprioritize patient care.

AMY GOODMAN: Kaiser Permanente is the largest nonprofit healthcare organization in the United States. Just how big is it, Meg Niemi?

MEG NIEMI: So, Kaiser Permanente is a giant healthcare institution. We know that they made over \$3 billion in profits already this year. They have \$114 billion invested in the stock market. They have a lot of resources. For employees that are represented by our coalition of unions, there are 85,000 Kaiser Permanente employees that are represented in this coalition. There are 75,000 of those workers who had contracts expired and were able to take this action.

AMY GOODMAN: And, Keven Dardon, can you tell us the response of people in Oregon around you, in Clackamas, the public officials, and what this three-day strike has meant?

KEVEN DARDON: Yeah. So, over the past two days that we've been out here, we've had state representatives come out and join us here on the picket line. We've had providers, nurses, community members, Kaiser patients come to us. And, you know, they're driving on this boulevard behind me. They're honking their horns. They're giving us hearts. They're giving us the thumbs up. The community knows the struggle that Kaiser is going with its staffing issues. They know that they can do better. And they're giving us their full support. So, we're proudly out here. We're here for our patients. We're here for our community. Kaiser can do better.

AMY GOODMAN: And patient support, the level of patient support, Keven, as you demand more staff so that more patients can be dealt with and wait on shorter lines?

KEVEN DARDON: Yes, that's correct. You know, we saw here in the Northwest our urgent care and pharmacy hours slashed. They used to be open 'til 9:00, now they're open 'til 7:00. And so our members are feeling that. When members call our appointment centers and they tell them to see their primary care provider, it's four to eight weeks out. You know, that's a serious issue for them. They need care. We're known for our five-star quality care, and that's what our community is demanding, is Kaiser go back to its roots and provide that excellent service that they're known for.

AMY GOODMAN: Keven Dardon, I want to thank you for being with us, patient access representative, member —

KEVEN DARDON: Thank you.

AMY GOODMAN: — of the union's local bargaining team at Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside Medical Center in Clackamas, Oregon, and Meg Niemi, president of SEIU Local 49. They were both joining us from the picket line. I'm Amy Goodman. Thanks so much for joining us.