

The Hurricane Season from Hell is Happening Right Before Our Eyes.

Shanshan, Boris, Bebinca, Helene, Krathon, and Milton rage across the globe.

The past two months (September/October 2024) have seen an unprecedented string of floods, hurricanes and other extreme weather events sweeping across Europe, East Asia, South Africa, the Gulf of Mexico, and the southeast of the USA, while other un-named Atlantic storms hit Africa and Europe.

First [Shanshan](#) hit [Japan](#) back on August 29th.

Then [Boris](#) ploughed through Eastern and central Europe, flooding Switzerland

[Unprecedented snowstorms](#) engulfed [South Africa](#).

[Bebinca](#) slammed into Vietnam and Southeast Asia, [inundating Shanghai](#).

[Helene](#) wreaked devastation in [Mexico](#), [Florida](#) and [South-Eastern US](#) states right up to the Carolinas, while record breaking hail storms pummelled [Oklahoma](#).

[Nepal](#) has been [hit by flooding, along with the Indian state of Bihar](#)

[Krathon](#) has [smashed](#) into the Philippines and [hammered Taiwan](#), followed by [Julian](#).

[The UK](#) had massive [rainfall](#) with [Devon and Cornwall](#) on the west coast hit by unnamed [storm surges](#), with [Liverpool](#) flooded.

[Dunedin](#) in southern New Zealand [flooded](#), with the heaviest rainfall in a century.

[Bosnia-Herzegovina](#) experienced severe flooding, along with [Budapest](#) in Hungary.

The [Shurpur](#) and [Mehalayha](#) districts in northern [Bangladesh went under water](#).

[There](#) were flash floods in [Chiang Mai, Thailand](#).

And in [Kogi](#) in Nigeria

And in [Johor](#) in Malaysia

[Milton](#) pummelled [Florida](#) while she was still trying to recover from Helene.

[Coulommiers in France](#) went [under water](#).

Its [even been flooding](#) in the [Sahara Desert](#).

That's, what, at least 16 major floods in disparate regions of the globe in just two months?

As it splits off further and further from reality, the mainstream television and print media can hardly be said to be joining these dots, still speaking of "[freak weather](#)" and of

[“one-in-a-hundred-year storms,”](#) as if these catastrophic chaotic events can be told that now they are over, to go away, and not to come back for at least a century. Here, uncritical idealism is reaching insane dimensions of delusion – on the one hand fantasising that our idealised power extends to dictating to “mother nature” (while speculating wildly about geoengineering even further “control” of the uncontrollable), while at the same time unable to grasp what actually IS within our power, namely, to control ourselves, by modifying our greenhouse-gas emitting ways.

For the non-deluded critical idealist, who knows what climate scientists have long told us that such chaos would be the outcome of the fossil fuel industries continuing business as usual, the real tragedy is not simply the thousands upon thousands of isolated flood-based catastrophes occurring in the actual lives of actual people all across the globe, devastating though those disasters are for those individuals. The real tragedy is the inability of humanity to see itself as a whole, and to unite in action against the world-destroying nihilism of the business leaders of today and their hired public relations teams (aka “governments,” politics now having become a branch of industry). Unable to heed its own warnings, and to appreciate the impact of its actions upon itself, humanity is instead fragmenting into warring factions, each acting as if it has its own atmosphere, partitioned into property like the land beneath its feet. But there is only one atmosphere, whole and unpartitioned, and we all share it equally, one lungful at a time. And so we all have to suffer the consequences of the actions of the greedy, stupid few. *Riza gar panton ton kakon estin ho philarguria.*

With the ongoing retreat of the [Thwaites Glacier](#) and the melting of [Greenland icesheets](#) continuing unabated while the [Arctic permafrost is slowly thawing](#) to a methane-belching mush, the inexorability of catastrophe for the sake of the profits of the anonymous fossil fuel moguls is spectacularly tragic. Yet still, these industries and their political spokespeople tell us to **adapt** to climate change, rather than trying to make them stop causing it, all the while reciting a puerile chorus of weasel words, chanting “You can’t prove I’m causing this,” like a planetary bully-game of “why are you hitting yourself?” Their myopic greed is destroying our world.

This is what’s wrong with the media’s “consciousness raising” attitude to tackling this problem. The challenge is not to change the behaviour of the masses. The challenge is to change the behaviour of the tiny handful of captains of industry who are making money as fast as their government cronies can print it. All the hee-haw about consumers changing their ways and households going solar: it’s like going up to the screen and trying to effect what’s going on in the movie by grasping at the moving images. The only way to affect what’s going on in the story on the screen is to alter what’s going on in the projector, or better yet still, in the camera. With movies as with business, it’s the moguls that make the decisions, and the mogul system per se, the very corporate structure which funnels profits upwards and responsibility downwards, out the bottom to be swept under the rug by the PR department, aka the _____ * Party (*insert political party name of choice).

These oligarchs will never stop capitalizing on the opportunity to make countless billions of dollars. To imagine them eliminated is sheer uncritical idealism. The critical idealist

understands that the real challenge is not to eradicate their greed, but simply to reorient it, and to get them to start making countless billions of dollars off of renewable energy instead. Which they easily could, but since power makes stupid (and we are talking about the most powerful people in the world), we are also talking about the stupidest people in the world. So of course, if geoengineering doesn't work (and it won't), then their idea of renewable energy is nuclear, substituting one big problem for another even bigger still, all the while keeping a broadly comparable technology to fossil fuels in place -- an industry based on mining, maximally industrial from end to end, and producing a highly problematic form of pollution. This industrial hegemony can only be broken with a paradigm change in the form of geothermal energy, for not only nuclear but also solar and wind remain fully implicated in this same industrial paradigm. The real paradigm change can only arrive when we realise that we can mine the energy itself, bypassing all combustion, conversion, and pollution problems in one fell swoop. But the hope for seeing this paradigm change without first being dragged through ruinous catastrophe (of which the past two months of storms and floods will in retrospect seem only a minor overture) must be admitted to be shrinking day by day as inexorably as the melting of the polar ice-caps. Perhaps Schopenhauer was right, and optimism actually is irresponsible foolishness. I hope he will be proved wrong, but I live in fear of him being proved right.

STOP PRESS. October Update: *the storms and floods just keep on coming...*

In [Makkah](#) in [Saudi Arabia](#), in [Oman](#), [Dubai](#), [Morocco](#) and the [Sahara Desert](#)
[Kirk's remains](#) flood [Belgium](#). [Spain](#), [Portugal](#) and [France](#) with floods near [Paris](#)
In [Spain](#) and [France](#) with [red alerts issued in many French regions especially in the south](#).
[Worst in French history, France underwater, Saint Malo inundated](#)
In [Bologna](#), [Liguria](#), [Tuscany](#), and in [Sicily](#) in [Italy](#)
In [Senegal](#)
In [Nepal](#)
In [Sumatra](#) in [Indonesia](#), in [Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia](#) and in [Singapore](#)
In [Chennai and Bengaluru](#) in [Southern India](#), in [Bengalore](#), and in [Sri Lanka](#)
In [Brazil](#)
In [Yunan](#), in China
In [Casterton](#), [Victoria](#), Australia
In [Vancouver](#), [British Columbia](#), [Canada](#)
In [Blackpool](#), UK
In [Roswell](#), [New Mexico](#), [USA](#) with rainfall records [broken](#).