Short paragraph about pandemic

During the pandemic, we can’t help keep asking: what’s wrong with humans? Chinese Government concealed the outbreak of COVID 19 for weeks in January; WHO (World Health Organization) failed to recognize the situation as pandemic, but not epidemic; most people from other countries underestimated the seriousness of the pandemic, especially for those who have not experienced SARS in 2003; Donald Trump is reluctant to recognize the wide-spread of pandemic in the country … Domino effect. The list is endless.

Obviously, some political leaders do not want to recognize the inconvenient truth as they dare not to stop the machine of capitalism to maintain and boost the economy. Capitalism is incapable of being stopped (or stopping) no matter how many lives are risked.

A medical expert from Hong Kong stated that we should have developed the vaccine against COVID 19 much faster as long as Hong Kong Government did not cut the funding for research for vaccine of SARS. Undoubtedly, the HK Government is so short-sighted. Nevertheless, why isn’t there any other funding from the world to support the research? David Harvey has given us an answer in one of his recent articles: we have known Coronavirus for a long time, but the vaccine is not profitable. Again, it’s the problem of capitalism.

Compared to the pandemic, I’m much more worried about the post-pandemic world. This pandemic will be over finally, but isolationism and hostility has already wide-spread. Will the world become more liberal or authoritarian, more left or right? I have one more concern from Hong Kong’s perspective: If China becomes the engine for economic recovery after the great recession, the world will be led by the Chinese Government. Will the world turn a blind eye on the Chinese Government’s infringement on human rights, including brutal suppression on the democratic movement in Hong Kong and the genocide of Uyghurs?

Pandemic, disaster and the end of the world can be overcome, if we have a more just international society.

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