

## NOCHE DIAZ: GOING INTO THE NEW YEAR FACING JAIL TIME AND FIGHTING FOR A FUTURE OF EMANCIPATION

A New Year, 2016, has begun. At this time we all look back and look forward. I am looking forward to a year of great challenges, and great possibility. There's a crucial new work by Bob Avakian (BA) on <a href="www.revcom.us">www.revcom.us</a>; the NEW Revolution Books has opened in Harlem, where I volunteer at with the NYC Revolution Club.

I also look back to see: The war on women going to infuriating new heights; Continued hounding of immigrants and refugees with fresh new rounds of nightmarish raids and deportations; Hopes trapped in the killing dynamic of "choosing" between imperialist wars and destruction or reactionary fundamentalism with neither being any good for humanity; We're told to entrust our planet's future to the same people destroying our

environment; And no end to the slow genocide of mass incarceration targeting Black People and Latinos. ALL THIS MUST STOP, and it CAN. We DO have, as the title of BA's new work captures, "The Science, The Strategy, The Leadership For An Actual Revolution, And A Radically New Society On The Road To Real Emancipation".

For over a year we have seen inspiring struggle against police terror. But we have <u>still</u> seen same old routine of police getting away with murder after murder. The system <u>still</u> refuses to indict these killer cops almost every time, and forgets how to prosecute when they *are* charged. **But they never forget to attack people who stand up** to <u>STOP</u> police terror. Go to <u>www.revcom.us</u> you'll see this. My comrades in LA; Grant, Iggy, and Alfredo in Chicago; Josh Williams in Ferguson; people who Shut Down Riker's Island during #RiseUpOctober; youth in Baltimore who rose up; and many more have come under attack for daring to challenge this system.

And in the first month of this year, I go to court facing a host of charges, "inciting to riot" being 1 of 4 misdemeanors along with several violations. Why? What are the authorities so interested in punishing? August of 2014 when Michael Brown was gunned down by a Ferguson cop, I led people to march in the streets to call out this injustice. We were penned in by NYPD and I was singled out for arrest. And what about Darren Wilson, the Ferguson cop who murdered Mike Brown? They couldn't find anything to charge him with. When a Grand Jury would not indict this killer cop, people's outrage poured into the streets, night after night. One of those NYPD pointed me out and said things like, 'I know you, you already have a case, you better go home, cuz when we get you, you ain't going nowhere for a long time, we're gonna put you away...' and then when I was in handcuffs another cop said, 'Let's take him down behind the truck where no one can see.'

Looking back to Aug 2014 something very old gave birth to something new. Mike Brown was another unarmed Black youth gunned down by this system's authorities, another addition to the body count in the centuries old oppression of Black people in America. But the defiant rebellion of the youth, which would catch fire across the land, ushered in new waves of resistance not seen in too long. I jumped in at crucial points to lead and join with people in the streets against this injustice; to stand with the defiant ones; to build the struggle to stop police terror; to point people to the source of this in this capitalist-imperialist system, and the solution which is a communist revolution; and to organize forces for that revolution, connecting growing numbers with the leadership for revolution, BA and the Revolutionary Communist Party he leads. I've been doing this since I, myself, got into BA when I was just a youngster full of outrage as I looked out at the world. And year after year I've been harassed, threatened, arrested, and slammed with charges.

And here again I face the possibility of jail time. *This cannot be allowed to go down.* The NYC Revolution Club has pointed out: "The authorities are sending a message: They say their RIGHT and ABILITY to use murder and terror must go unchallenged. Don't you dare protest police terror—and don't even think about making an actual revolution.

**The people need to send a very different message:** We are NOT intimidated. We will NOT be silenced by these attacks and threats. We will stand with Noche and rally others to stand with him."

Nothing good for the oppressed is ever won without struggle; and our movement will need to be able to defeat the system's attempts to crush and derail that struggle. Stopping police terror must involve tremendous struggle of all kinds of people, acting with the determination that POLICE TERROR MUST STOP and going further on what was accomplished through #RiseUpOctober, to draw the line for millions in society: WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON? And people need revolutionary leaders bringing them a real way out. That's what's at stake. Beating back this attack on me is a part of building up the strength of the people to end this system's madness.

Look, I'm NOT backing down in the face of this attack. The very reason I've been out there and will be out there is that because of BA I've seen not only the ugly of what this system does to people, and cannot do without; but most importantly that **this is NOT the way things have to be**, there IS A WAY to build a fight to END all this oppression, not to find a better way to live with it.

As I said, I was once just a youngster who looked out at the world and burned with outrage at this nightmare I was born into. But because of BA's leadership I'm living for a real revolution. So if **YOU** feel in your bones you have put up with this system for too long; If **YOU** are getting hip to the fact that all the grinding and hustling will just keep us trapped in the same old rat race; If **YOU** don't want to keep living in a world where any part of humanity is crushed and diminished; If the question "why?" or "what if the world could be another way?" keeps **YOU** up at night; You're not crazy. You're not alone. Your life CAN count for something. **Get into BA**, with all the urgency of the 7 billion people who desperately need another way. And then **GET WITH IT**. This is what humanity needs. A different world IS possible, not in some afterlife, but in actual reality. And **it's up to us** to make that a reality.

## FIGHT THE POWER, AND TRANSFORM THE PEOPLE, FOR REVOLUTION!

YOU ARE NEEDED

- Pack The Court January 27<sup>th</sup> 9am at 100 Centre Street Manhattan Criminal Court
- **Invite Noche to speak** in your classes, at forums or panels, or in religious institutions
- Statements of support <a href="mailto:StopMassIncarceration@gmail.com">Statements of support <a href="mailto:StopMassIncarceration@gmail.com">StopMassIncarceration@gmail.com</a>
- Go online to Sign and Spread the Hands Off Noche Pettition (www.change.org/p/hands-off-noche)
- Donate Indicate "Noche legal defense" stopmassincarceration.net

Email: NYCRevClub@gmail.com

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