

The Mystery of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

John the Evangelist

The whole course of formation and development of human society shows that scientific and technical progress generates a time-varying scientific economic system and the alterations of social systems are the result of scientific and technical progress. To foresee the future we need to study the past well. Therefore, let us examine briefly all the economic systems which the mankind passed throughout its evolution and compare them with the Apocalypse of John the Evangelist.

1. Primitive communal system of economic formation: 40 thousand years ago supremacy of primitive communal system was set in. People started to lead a sedentary life-style and live in caves and in wooden houses and in future they learnt also to build houses of stone. Over the period of millennium, people started to prepare tools and instruments of labor, to raise cereals and develop cattle-breeding. Single families were formed and communities started to decompose gradually. This structure existed for 35 centuries, until 3000 BC.

6:1. And I saw that the Lamb had opened one of the seven seals: and I heard one of the four living creatures, as it were the voice of thunder, saying: Come and see.

6:2. And I saw: and behold a white horse, and he that sat on him had a bow, and there was a crown given him, and he went forth conquering that he might conquer.

Here the mankind is considered to be a horseman and the horse stands for a social economic system. Therefore, for mastering the earth the horseman carries a crown. The horseman i.e. the mankind in times of communal system could not produce weapons of metal that is why the horseman had only a bow which he used during the hunting. Human beings did not kill each other then. In the mythological sense the bow is associated with Yin (femininity). And the white horse is the symbol of mankind's victory over the nature. The Divine idea came true; the human consciousness passed a long path of development and in the meantime the descendants of mankind became the owners of the earth.

2. Slaveholding system. At the end of the 4th century and at the beginning of the 3rd century BC, the primitive communal system stopped to exist as slaveholding communities and states came into existence. Significant changes were made on the level of development of productive forces. The most significant change in the field of material culture of mankind was the developing of metals like gold, copper, silver, lead, tin, and since the 14th century BC iron has been developed. The pace of development of class societies was incomparably rapid than the pace of development of primitive society. This system existed till the 6th century AD, for approximately 35 centuries.

6:3. And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying: Come and see.

6:4. And there went out another horse that was red. And to him that sat thereon, it was given that he should take peace from the earth: and that they should kill one another. And a great sword was given to him.

The horseman i.e. the mankind in time of slaveholding system conducted bloody wars and therefore for displaying the situation the rider of the red horse was given a sword. The onset of private property led to the decomposition of primitive system and to the dissociation of the clan along with man's exploitation of man. However, the most ancient and important origins of the slavery were the headstrong wars, which were conducted first between the tribes and later by separate states. Red is the most aggressive color which symbolizes blood, anger, fire, feelings, wounds, as well as war, bloodshed, threat, revolution, death and vice. Therefore, the slaveholding economic system is expressed in the form of a red horse.

3. Feudal System. The 4th -6th centuries AD are considered the period of decomposition of slaveholding system as feudal system started to develop in the world. At the end of the 10th century, the period of development of feudalism came to an end i.e. the whole world was in the hands of the feudal. This system existed for approximately 14 centuries, till the 19th century.

6:5. And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying: Come and see. And behold a black horse. And he that sat on him had a pair of scales in his hand.

6:6. And I heard, as it were a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying: Two pounds of wheat for a penny, and thrice two pounds of barley for a penny: and see thou hurt not the wine and the oil.

The process of transition to the feudal system was relatively quiet. In Christianity the black color symbolizes sorrow, grief and mourning, while in the East this color is considered a symbol of good, purity and perfection. More significant meanings of the black color are nonexistence, death, chaos and destruction. After the bloody battles conducted in times of slaveholding system, relative calmness was set in. The aim of those battles which lasted several thousand years was to establish countries/states.

In times of feudal system exploitation of man by man and the wars between the states to capture the territories continued as well, which explains the black color of the horse as a symbol of feudal system. Since ancient times the balm has been considered to be a healing substance. Yet in Old Testament times the balm was the symbol of bliss, joy and reanimation. The balm, which is the olive oil, was the symbol of strength. As for the wine, it has been the symbol of joy and sanctity since ancient times. The grain is a symbol of the birth, fertility and abundance. The barley in the culture of the Near East was the symbol of fertility and life after death. The measure for quantity of grain in the hands of the horseman symbolizes a peaceful life.

4. Capitalist system: By the seventies of the 19th century, capitalism was established in the majority of European countries, in the USA and in Japan i.e. the world capitalist system was established. The transition to imperialism was at the turn of 19th and 20th centuries. In the main capitalistic countries supremacy of monopoly was overwhelmed and productive forces rapidly developed as a result of well-known achievements of science and technology. This formation exists up to date (for 1.4 century).

6:7. And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying: Come and see.

6:8. And behold a pale horse: and he that sat upon him, his name was Death. And hell followed him. And power was given to him over the four parts of the earth, to kill with sword, with famine and with death and with the beasts of the earth.

5. Socialist system: In the last quarter of the 19th century Marxism conquered harmony in the international labor movement. Socialism is the phase of establishment and development of socialist system, for the first time conditions are created for the unlimited progress of mankind on the basis of elimination of social inequality and rapid development of productive powers. The Communist Party of China assumed the program of struggle for establishment on all fronts of social moderation. Reforms were made in the economy, in the administrative structures as well as in judicial system. The economy of China has so much been developed that, as I have already mentioned a part of the external debt of the USA though small, belongs to China. Economic system with non-trade economy has existed since the first quarter of the 20th century, i.e. for 90 years, since the time of formation modern China and of the USSR, which does not exist now.

6:9. And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held.

6:10. And they cried with a loud voice, saying: How long, O Lord (Holy and True), dost thou not judge and revenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

6:11. And white robes were given to every one of them one; And it was said to them that they should rest for a little time till their fellow servants and their brethren, who are to be slain even as they, should be filled up.

6. Globalization: This system created cooperation between production of different countries, and lead to the establishment of united world market system and to the united bank system throughout the world. However, even at the beginning of its formation, the instability in the world economy started to strengthen and uneven development was deepened. Although globalization was formed decades ago, a unique social-economic system was not formed in the world as socialism was preserved in China; a country which has 1.3 billion of population and also in other countries which develop rapidly as a result of planned production which is the basis of socialist system. Globalization under the conditions of capitalism reduced to the world capitalisms and crisis on the exchange. Currently, unpredictable financial catastrophes are shaping conditioned with the unsteadiness in the financial systems and the specialists are unable to explain the ongoing processes. The absence of prediction by the specialists may serve as a proof for it. The system of globalization has existed for four decades. The giant financial pyramid created as a result of globalization turned into a soap bubble and collapsed.

6:12. And I saw, when he had opened the sixth seal: and behold there was a great earthquake. And the sun became black as sackcloth of hair: and the whole moon became as blood.

6:13. And the stars from heaven fell upon the earth, as the fig tree casteth its green figs when it is shaken by a great wind.

6:14. And the heaven departed as a book folded up. And every mountain, and the islands, were moved out of their places.

6:15. And the kings of the earth and the princes and tribunes and the rich and the strong and every bondman and every freeman hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of mountains:

6:16. And they say to the mountains and the rocks: Fall upon us and hide us from the face of him that sitteth upon the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb.

6:17. For the great day of their wrath is come. And who shall be able to stand?

As we have already mentioned, the horseman is a symbol of the mankind and he is the same on all horses, however a name is given to the last i.e. to the fourth horseman. John calls it a death. In times of economic formations of capitalism, socialism and globalization, which exist simultaneously, mortal threat menaces the mankind. The pale horse which is the symbol of this formation is of special interest. The color of the last horseman is considered to be "pale"; however the interpretations like "ashy", "pale green" or "yellow-green" are also quite possible. The color of the three horses is accordingly white, red and black, while the fourth horse is multicolored which means that several economic systems exist simultaneously. The multicolored horse corresponds to the systems of capitalism, socialism and globalization, which came into existence almost at the same time. So, the "triumphal" procession of the horsemen in the history of the mankind comes to an end in the most despondent way.

After the withdrawal of the seventh seal John sees what will happen in the negative part of the coordinate (see below), where the next system gets a negative meaning and everything created by the mankind destroys.

The extermination of the fourth part of the mankind and the whole mankind in future as well, may apparently happen because of global climate changes, genetic structure of elements of the fauna and flora surrounding us, the finest variant of which was chosen by the Creator, as well as because of the use of weapons of mass destruction. However, this is still going to happen if the mankind does not turn to God.

And now upon the aforementioned statement, let us define at least the approximate time of the apocalypse.

Let us look graphical curved processes of development of human society using the data mentioned below:

1. Primitive communal system of economic structure - 35 centuries (from 38000 to 3000 BC)
2. Slaveholding system - 35 centuries (from 3000 BC to 500 BC)
3. Feudal System - 14 centuries (from 500 to 1870 years)
4. Capitalist system - 1,4 years (from 1870 to 2009)
5. Socialist system - 0.9 centuries (from 1917 to 2009)
6. Globalization- 0.4 centuries (from 1970 to 2009)

For creating a graphic, let us take the time and the scientific and technical progress as a coordinates. As we may notice, the time is an absolute value and has dimensions while scientific and technical process has no dimensions and this allows us to make a quantitative and not a qualitative analysis.

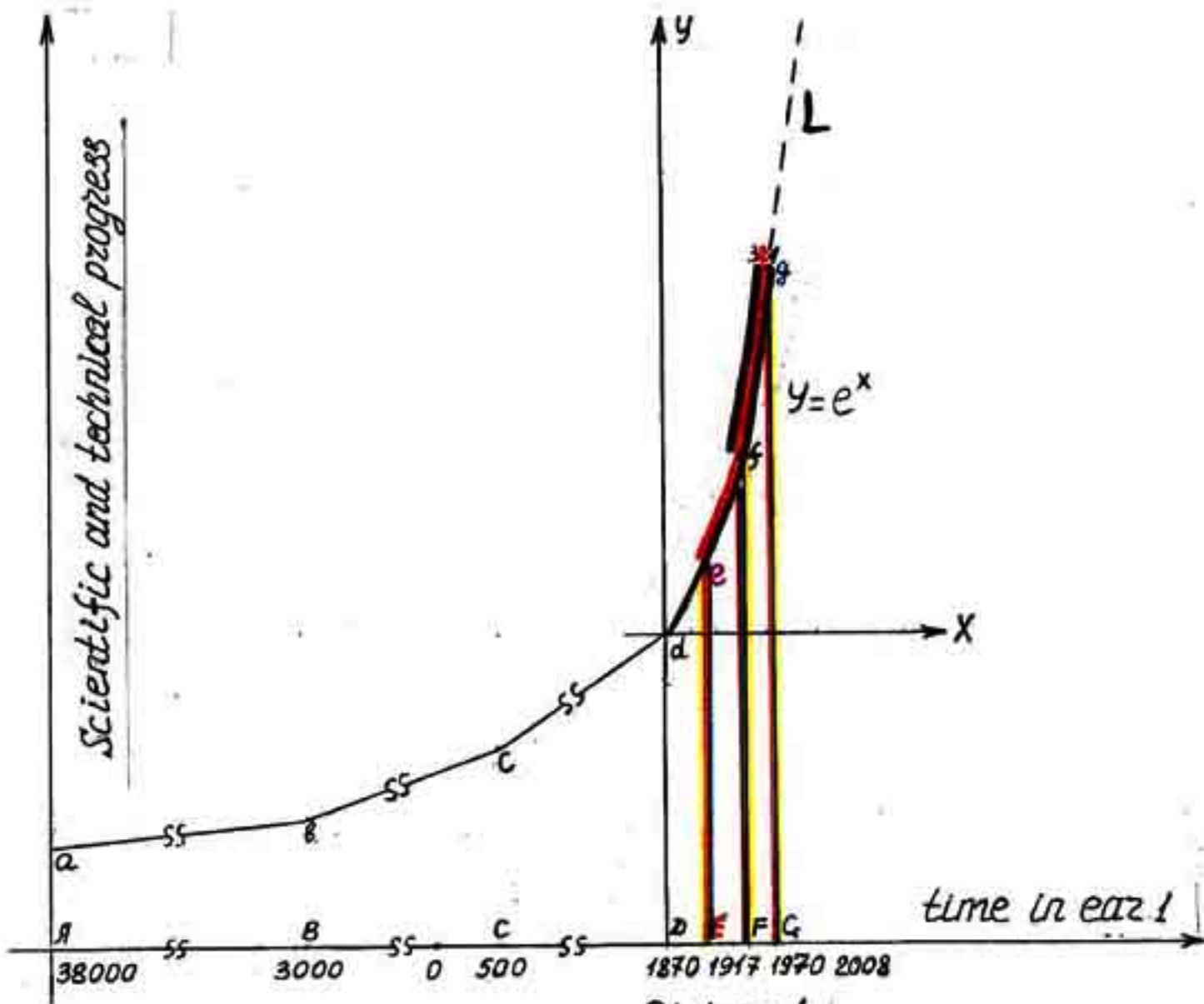
The primary period before the capitalist system: scientific and technical progress was developing too slowly by linear law and so we will form the graphic under the optional angle to the abscissa and we will stop on point d (see picture 1). The last one third of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century were marked by effusive transition growth of productive forces, by numerous achievements in the spheres of science and technology, not to speak of achievements of today. That is why it is accepted that scientific and technical progress in the capitalistic society develops in accordance with the law of exponential growth

$$y=e^x$$

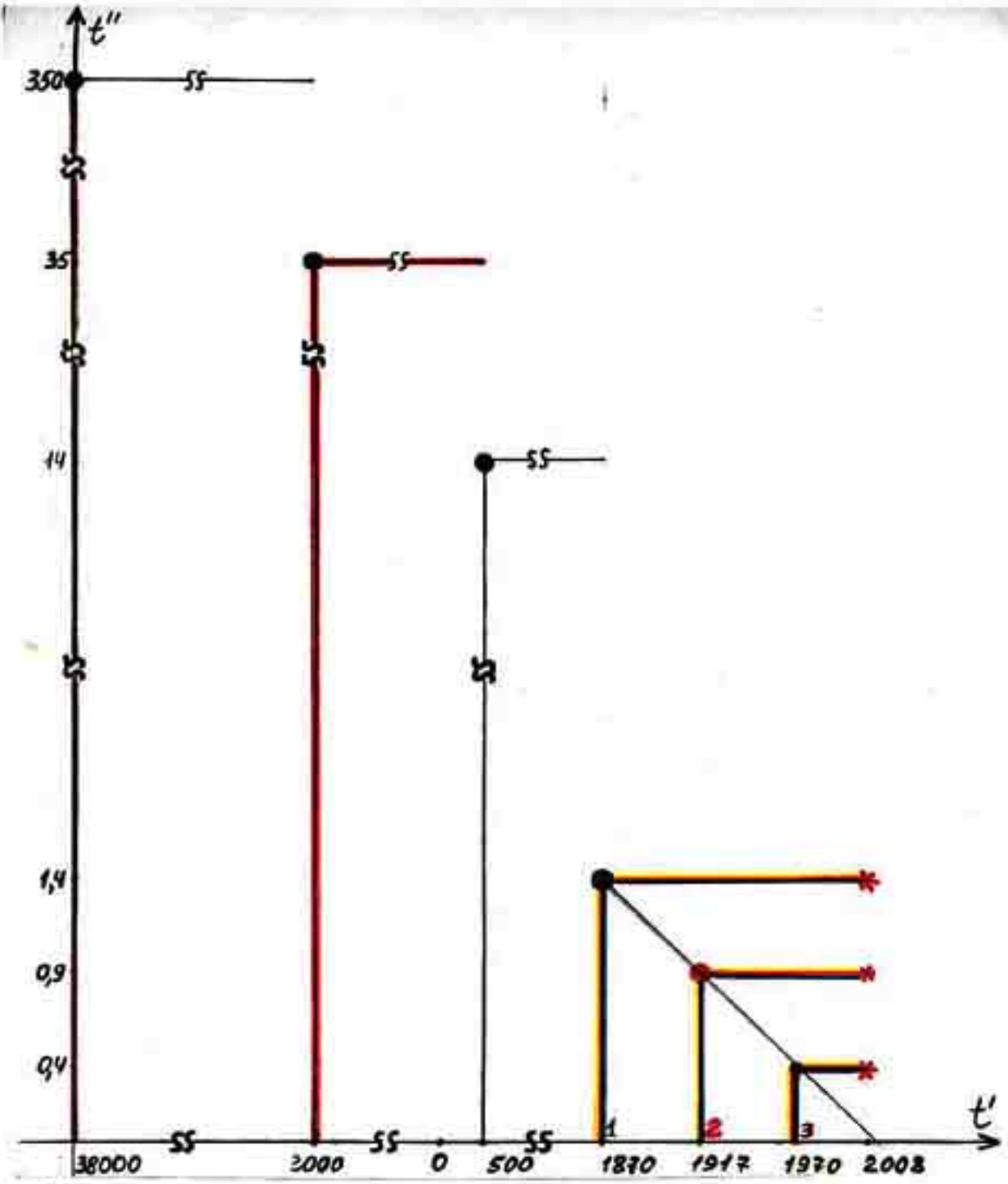
Let us look at the curved line L of this function, taking as a datum the coordinate of the point d (see picture 1). On the coordinate curve of the abscissa (picture 1) erecting perpendiculars from the points D, E, F on the points of intersection d, e, f, with curved line L, we will have the origins of systems of capitalism, socialism and globalization. Now let us look at the graphic from the points d, e, f, the curved 1, 2, 3 by the curved line L to the point g, i.e. to the year of 2008 when the unpredictable financial catastrophe happened.

We may look at the graphic from another side taking the point t' as an abscissa of the year of the onset of economic system, and the point t'' as a coordinate of duration of economic system (see picture 2). On this graphic we view the part where the last three systems appear as in this case the rest three are of no interest.

On picture 2 it is seen that the formation of globalization has fully reached the abscissa. Combining the tops of the points in the range of the lines 1, 2, 3 with the straight line and continuing up to the line of the abscissa t' , let us cross it in the range of approximately 2008-2010 years, which shows that the worst had already happened, and that the formation of globalization came to an end without starting. And the apocalypse, about which the Christians have been speaking for 2000 years, has unnoticeably taken roots.



Picture 1



t' - the year of the onset of economic system
 t'' - duration of economic system (time in centuries)

Picture 2