

## ***THE WAY OF THE WORLD***

*The 'way of the world' is fraught with anxieties, pitfalls and if not on the throes of a 'war of civilizations' it reveals a myriad of events that bespeak of conflict and little cooperation by world leaders. A kaleidoscope of constantly changing patterns of behavior makes us wary of moral and ideological principles for realpolitik in practice while the world stutters. Practical politics (like drill or no drill impasse in Congress) seem lost in the abyss of Muslim intransigence, a rebirth of Russian imperialism, and a 'lame duck' President – allegedly blamed by another author for 'cooking the facts' in preparation for attacking Iraq.*

*Challenges, some dormant, others active of Global Jihad pose a continuing threat, along with a sick economy, weak housing market and energy demands, Congressional malaise, a country divided by cultural and religious apathy, and competitions from a rising China and India together with Russia's seeming return to the old days of its hegemony/dominance over neighbors—all part of the mix, cry out for steadiness at the helm.*

*Presumptive candidates Barack Obama, silver-voiced American Idol', inexperienced and still very much the enigma to many and John McCain, war-hero, a veteran of Congress and soon to be 73 years of age in a tumultuous world and questionable seas.*

*To assess this 'potential' let's look at the 'lost years' of both. Each have written books about their youth, their parents, and experience. Obama (Dreams from My Father) talks about formative years in Hawaii, California, New York and his days as a community organizer. Less is known of his years between 1995-2004 (run for Illinois State Senate and later for US Senator). Here he reveals with near certainty 'an old-fashioned, big government, race-conscious liberal.'*

*The foci is Hyde Park –not to be confused with the home and burial place, in New York of FDR-but a cultural haven near the University of Chicago of what could be described as ‘capital’ of black America and locale of the Chicago Defender, Hyde Park Herald-a voice. Articles Obama wrote, associations he made with white and black radicals such as Reverend Wright Father Pfleger, James Meeks, Bill Ayers and Bernadine Dohrn, the latter two as ‘Weathermen’(youthful bomb revolutionaries of the turbulent sixties)-a startling contrast of his current image of post-racial, post ideological bipartisan, culture-war shunning politician familiar from current media coverage and purveyed by the Obama campaign. Set-asides, affirmative action their porridge among other choices that seem to be part of the rant of Jeremiah Wright, black superiority and the continual cry for pay-backs from racist white America. Obama owns a home in Hyde Park and the collective explanation about Wright, and the others of nearly 20 years seems to fly in the face of Obama’s resume. John McCain(Faith of My Fathers)describes the great example set by Grandfather and Father McCain, both 4-Star Admirals and how he nearly was thrown out of the naval academy, continuing his wild ways as navy pilot, shot-down to endure the hell of nearly six years of captivity by the North Vietnamese, sustained by his credo of duty, honor and country. As a maverick Senator, aggressive in thought and belief he sometimes overreached in relations with those who wished his support. Before our God we are all sinners, and how we mature, seek salvation and God’s grace is our crucible!*

