

“The Rivers of Blood of Trinidad and Tobago 2017-2024 placed in the Context of the Perfect Storm Battering Trinidad and Tobago at present” Daurius Figueira 16 January 2025

2024: The Rivers of Blood in Trinidad and Tobago (T&T).

The official figure given as at December 30, 2024 for the annual murder toll for T&T was 616 victims. This figure, while not the final official figure for 2024, has already exceeded that of the 605 of 2022 which was the highest then on record. To understand this 2024 reality as that of the period 2017 to 2022 which together constitute the rivers of blood of T&T in the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century one must place T&T within the Caribbean context of the illicit trades of Latin America and the dynamics of two irreconcilable illicit business models, one in its death throes, the Colombian illicit business model and the other, the hegemonic Mexican transnational trafficking organisations model, (MTTOs) which is in expansionary mode internationally.

The Colombian Model

The Colombian model is a mono product mode, dependent on the production and export trans-nationally of powdered cocaine. Their major market was the USA but the MTTOs investing heavily in synthetic drugs such as fentanyl, methamphetamine, ketamine, amphetamines, other synthetic opioids collapsed the US powered cocaine market. The Colombian trafficking organisations faced with tonnes of cocaine and a vast surplus of coca leaves and coca base/paste took the decision to flood the European market with a tsunami of powdered cocaine regardless of losses to interdiction in Latin America and Europe. A reckless gambit as the MTTOs and their apex partners in Europe as the Ndrangheta already control European drug markets as they ratchet up the transition from plant based illicit drugs to synthetic drugs in Europe, whilst supplying also the cocaine market of Europe. The Colombian Dons in this gambit has awakened every transition route through the Caribbean and from Caribbean islands to Europe and are seeking to open new transition points they never used before. This strategy has placed the Colombian model on a collision course with the MTTOs and drug wars between both model are raging in the Caribbean island chain seen in Puerto Rico, T&T, Martinique, Guadeloupe, St Vincent, St Kitts and now Antigua is on the boil. Pax Mexicana is now moving to squeeze Colombian activity in the Caribbean island chain leaving them limited to the Dominican Republic as Haiti is now under the hegemony of Pax Mexicana as is Jamaica. The Colombians have lost the engagement for Europe as they are now limited to smuggling through ports as Antwerp, Rotterdam etc and their old base in Spain as the MTTOs regularly give up their shipments for interdiction in this war. Colombian kilo bricks are now washing up on the coast of European nations washed by the Atlantic ocean, the North Sea etc. This engagement has also spawned a hot war in the illicit trades of Europe especially seen in the Netherlands. The impact of the push back of Pax Mexicana in Europe on the invasion of the Colombian Dons was seen in the marked fall in interdictions in the ports favoured in 2023 in 2024 as the Colombian Dons are pushed back to their old base in Spain.

To understand the nature of the impact of this tsunami of cocaine transiting the Caribbean from the Colombian Dons on its way to Europe you must grasp the present reality of the rapid evolution of the business model of the Colombian Dons playing catch up with Pax Mexicana in a desperate bid for survival as players in the illicit trades of Latin America in the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Colombian Dons have now launched a multi modal business model where: a) they have embraced the horizontal integration model of the Medellin and Cali Federations of the bygone era of cocaine production and smuggling. The Dons are now transporting their product to Europe, particularly Spain, where they are now handing it over to their Gangland affiliates of Europe who handle the wholesale and especially the retail markets for product. They are once again building an operational presence in Europe as in their glory days of dominating the supply of cocaine to the US market, especially on the Eastern seaboard. b) they are attempting to revive the broker intermediary model where they sold product wholesale to European brokers who resided in Latin America who then consolidated shipments

for clients in Europe, especially the Ndrangheta families and clans. Pax Mexican destroyed this broker intermediary system by embracing the Ndrangheta families and clans as full partners making these brokers irrelevant who were then given up to state agencies in Europe. The Colombian Dons are now seeking to build a system of brokers in Europe and in Latin America who they would sell their product directly to in Europe or in Latin America. These brokers are all bottom feeders seeking to become market players thereby putting them on a collision course with Pax Mexicana, and they are being rolled up. c) the traditional model invented by the Norte Valle Federation of wholesaling your product in Latin America to buyers who then contract Colombian smugglers to move this product to consumer markets or the buyers moves it themselves.

The volume of cocaine of the Colombian Dons transiting the Caribbean island chain in 2024 has more than doubled with this sheer volume of product coupled to the new, evolving business model of the Colombian Dons driving a feeding frenzy on the ground in the Game in the Caribbean island chain. Those who desire product and are willing to kill for this product are now in a feeding frenzy as the tsunami of cocaine is simply chum on the water driving gun violence, gun culture and predatory behaviour. A most potent lesson is the explosion of product in transit to Europe driving the reawakening of a boom in smuggling via mules and swallows, the body of aircraft and air cargo bound for Europe. Cells specialising in moving mules and smugglers to Europe via air links are always soft targets for predators which trigger the war for turf, reprisals for attacks on cells etc, a catalyst for gun violence at the lowest level of the Game which escalates into full blown war between trafficking organisations and predators. The abiding lesson for the Caribbean island chain is that the present business model of the Colombian Dons is chumming the waters of the Game stimulating an escalation of predatory gun violence where those who have no product are using gun violence to secure product by force by any means necessary which spurs retaliatory and preemptive gun violence to protect the product and turf of the Colombian Dons and their affiliates. To this reality you must now add the war for hegemony between the two dominant irreconcilable transnational organised crime business models in the Caribbean and Europe in a battle to protect their hegemony, Pax Mexicana, and to preserve their failing mono product business model, the Colombian Dons. To this you must add the actions of the have nots and displaced in the Game who are preying on both business models to steal supply by any means necessary. In the Caribbean island chain this terrain of power relations that drives gun violence to the point where the social order is faced with the collapse of its legitimacy as the State, its institutions of the national security apparatus and the political system have repeatedly proven to be not fit for purpose given this landscape of power relations being constituted by the illicit trades of the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the Caribbean island chain as well as in Latin America as in Ecuador.

#### The Business Model of Pax Mexicana

The business model of the Mexican TTOs/Pax Mexicana is constituted and driven by a discourse with its worldview, instruments of power and an order of power driven by the maxim of generating and amassing wealth to the benefit of the organisation and its members towards the projection of local and transnational power to the benefit of the organisation and La Raza. La Raza traces its genesis to Aztlan which today is part of the state of Utah of the USA. This discourse of La Raza, its emancipation and assertion of self-determination as expressed by the organisation, is the intent and purpose of the organisation which demands the formulation of a discourse of spiritual power and spiritual reality which is of/for and serves La Raza, hence the belief system of Santa Muerte which embraces the knowledge of Aztlan. This overarching discourse drives the embrace of all illicit and licit means which are effective generators of wealth necessary to the task set for the organisation. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century the Mexican TTOs have repeatedly shown the planning prowess to formulate and operationalise an entirely new hybrid business model that is rooted in the digital technological advances of the 21<sup>st</sup> century enabling this organisation to expand the opportunities offered by the rapidly evolving digital era. With reference to the illicit drug trade Pax Mexicana took the decision in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to revolutionise the illicit drug trade by moving away from illicit drugs which depend upon plant based inputs as cocaine

and heroin, relegating them to second tier drugs surpassed by synthetic drugs which are now the tier one illicit drugs of choice. An expansive menu of synthetic drugs were/are invested in with ongoing research and development which constantly adds to the menu forcing States to play catch up with the illicit drug markets through constantly expanding the menu of prohibited substances. It has now reached the stage where State prohibition is always playing catch up and policing is behind the loop of a dynamic market. The next revolutionary move is to locate drug labs in the consumer markets of the North Atlantic where you feed the precursors to these labs scattered throughout urban areas which produce manageable quantities of product that facilitates stealth production and distribution. The MTTOs have now applied this format to cocaine production in the North Atlantic where they move coca paste and coca base to consumer markets, which is much easier to smuggle than powdered cocaine as interdiction structures only have eyes for powdered cocaine. Small urban labs turn these coca inputs into powdered cocaine in the heart of cocaine markets in the North Atlantic. The MTTOs continue to utilise their smuggling methodology of the continuous persistent drip, where small amounts are placed in a menu of smuggling methods which exploit all means to enter a market illicitly simultaneously. This multi mode constant drip methodology inundates the interdiction agencies of the State which enhances the efforts to corrupt the staff of these said agencies of the State. MTTOs operatives indicate as a matter of fact the depth of penetration they enjoy of such agencies of the USA state. This illicit drug strategy of the MTTOs deliberately destroyed the cocaine market of the USA with a menu of synthetic drugs and changed forever the illicit drug trade of Mexico and its order of power which resulted in the political demise of the political parties intent on turning illicit drug trafficking into a state enterprise, namely PAN and PRI and their Mexican drug smuggling allies summed up in the personage of El Chapo and the rise of MORENA, the rank outsider suppressed since its foundation and led by Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. The evolution of drug trafficking in Mexico, the result of the deliberate action of the MTTOs has changed the order of power of the social order of Mexico and its politics as a result. What must also be understood is the level of investment the MTTOs have made and continue to make in the Mexican economy impacting the quality of life on the ground of La Raza. The tourist plant of Acapulco and Cancun and the empires of specific Mexican oligarchs are some potent examples. Pax Mexicana! As the digital revolution of the 21<sup>st</sup> century rapidly evolves the MTTOs are intent on ever expanding the menu of opportunities for generating wealth by illicit and licit means through exploiting opportunities afforded by this revolution. The MTTOs have long gone past cloning credit and debit cards and stealing identities through simplistic methodologies. They are now targeting big data, its storage and transmission to illegally break into and exploit the data that is stolen to generate and amass wealth. To be always ahead of the curve partnerships and alliances have been formed with various transnational organised crime groups who specialise in this field of activity on a world scale. Particularly weak targets where Pax Mexicana operate will be subject to repeated attacks whenever the State presents itself as an enemy of Pax Mexicana, especially in operational zones where state agents and politicians have entered the ongoing war between the Colombian Dons and the Mexican TTOs in support of their traditional Colombian overlords. Incessant attacks against the digital infrastructure of the State and private sector shall be unleashed as a countermeasure to waging war on Pax Mexican in favour of the Colombian Don. Another measure utilised is the dumping of counterfeit US currency in such targeted economies. The MTTOs are then committed to projecting their soft and hard power in all social orders they operate in. The manner in which they have changed the Game in the USA exemplified by the new US Gangland is a lesson that must be learnt by those in all operational zones of Pax Mexicana.

The MTTOs then run a fully horizontally integrated business model rooted in a cellular structure defined by the principle of fail safe/redundancies where operational cells operate on a strict need to know basis. No cell or a member of can turn and give up the entire management structure as with the Colombian model. There is a strict division of labour where smugglers don't retail, producers don't smuggle, money transporters don't produce, smuggle and retail and money launderers do none of the

above. Security is charged only with security and Sicarios only with termination, both handled by the Hawk. This strict division of labour is driven by a regime of strict discipline, rigidly policed and enforced where you are expected when interdicted to plead guilty, which means no trial, make your jail in silence and the organisation will take care of you and your family. The most despicable betrayal is then an informer. The MTTOs expects the national security apparatus of any operational zone to engage with them in a fight to the death which intensifies the discipline of the organisation, this is why the MTTOs simply don't pay bribes to agents of the state. State agents they target are turned into smugglers in their own right, always under the discipline of the organisation, generating wealth for the organisation. All cell leaders of the organisation are required to hand over to the organisation hostages as confirmation of your fidelity to the organisation. The organisation always knows where your family is located and will eliminate them whenever you break the disciplinary code. The MTTOs do not wholesale their products to external parties, all products of the organisation are kept within the ambit of the business model of the organisation. In the illicit trades the organisation defines the purity level and retail price of the illicit drug. MTTOs' meth, cocaine, fentanyl etc at the retail level always have a higher purity and lower price than its competitors. The retail cells who breach this marketing dictum are dealt with in keeping with the disciplinary code.

#### The Business Model of the MTTOs in Transition Zones

A smuggling transition zone is the geographic space utilised to smuggle illicit products to the consumer nations of the North Atlantic. The Mexican TTOs have devised a specific variant of their business model for smuggling transition zones, with the Caribbean island chain being included as West Africa and specific states of Latin America. The maxim of this specific business model of Pax Mexicana is as follows: a) In the Caribbean island chain the premier affiliates of the Mexican TTOs are Jamaican transnational organised crime, Puerto Rican transnational organised crime and Haitian transnational organised crime. These affiliated TOC groups in turn embrace affiliates from organised crime/Gangland of the specific islands of operation. b) Affiliates and the affiliates of the affiliate are expected to fully develop the local market for illicit products to its fullest potential, whilst simultaneously expanding explosively the menu of illicit activities in the island that are part of the business model of the MTTOs such as: sophisticated attacks on property as cash in transit, ATM machines, bank vaults, attacks on bank cards, insurance fraud, counterfeiting of currency and commodities, attacks on persons to acquire property and transnational attacks on IT systems, data bases to breach and exploit data stolen to generate wealth, human smuggling, prostitution and gambling. This menu of illicit activities must support licit investments in the entertainment industry, hotel and other forms of accommodation, tourism, restaurants, manufacturing, agricultural production and financial services. There is also the expectation that production operations for illicit drugs will eventually be established in specific islands of this transition zone for both plant based illicit drugs and synthetic drugs. The strategy calls for turning these markets into consumption and small scale production centers for synthetic drugs. To accomplish this maxim the Mexican TTOs pass the knowledge and technology of production to their affiliates, indicated by the expertise passed to premier smuggling TOC groups of Nigeria and Afghanistan to produce industrial grade crystal methamphetamine. The operational presence of Pax Mexicana in the Caribbean island chain has then changed the nature of the illicit trades and Gangland of the Caribbean. But the Mexican TTOs entered aggressively into the Caribbean island chain for strategic reasons dictated by its engagement with the Colombian Dons for hegemony over the illicit trades of the North Atlantic, Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa. The strategy of the Colombian Dons to challenge the hegemony of Pax Mexicana over Europe meant the Caribbean island chain became a zone of engagement in this war to break Mexican TTOs' hegemony over illicit European markets. It must be understood that this war is also impacting specific state in Latin America as in Ecuador whilst in the key dual markets of Brazil Pax Mexicana remains unchallenged and in Venezuela Pax Mexicana is now exercising hegemony to the detriment of the Colombian Dons. Pax Mexicana has now integrated Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana into a nexus with

Brazil, which also includes parts of Colombia. Brazil is the premier consumer and smuggling markets of the Western Hemisphere attracting volumes for local consumption and export that dwarfs those of the North Atlantic. This nexus explains potently the reality of T&T especially the war between both business models that exploded from 2017 to 2022, 2024.

The Impact of the War Between the Mexican TTOs and the Colombian Dons on T&T

The push of the Mexican TTOs into I&T in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century was a direct result of the strategic plan driving the Brazil nexus and integrating the Caribbean island chain into it. The instrument of power formulated to operationalise this strategic plan is the Eastern Caribbean Trafficking Pipeline (ECTP) which runs from the coastline of South America heading North through the Eastern Caribbean island chain encompassing the smuggling points to Europe in the Eastern Caribbean island chain ending in the Greater Antilles. Martinique, Guadeloupe, Sint Maarten/St Martin, the British Virgin Islands and the US Virgin Islands are the premier smuggling points of the Lesser Antilles, the other smuggling points being heavily invested in for evolution into premier points are T&T, Barbados and St Lucia. The premier smuggling points of the Greater Antilles are the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico with Jamaican and Haiti being heavily invested in to evolve into premier points. The integration of T&T into the order of power of the MTTOs is premised on a different division of labour for Tobago from that of Trinidad unlike the model of the Colombian Dons. Tobago is fully integrated into the ECTP which has evolved in the MTTOs order of power in Tobago an entirely new structure of the illicit trades never seen before in Tobago and entirely different from what exists in Trinidad. Coastal runners of Tobago are now meeting the mother ships in the Atlantic, moving loads to land which are moved to Trinidad and other islands of the Eastern Caribbean, used locally and exported to Europe. This MTTOs order of power on the ground in Tobago is then a prime target in the war between the Colombian Dons and Pax Mexicana. In fact it is the assault on this structure in 2024 that kick started the unleashing of the Sicarios in 2024 first in Tobago, then in Trinidad. Supply to Trinidad is also sourced by coastal runners based in Trinidad from the ECTP and from Venezuela particularly from Falcon and Nueva Esparta states. It must be understood that movement along the ECTP is dual flow as product moves North, returning mother ships move various commodities including weapons and ammunition sourced in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic with some sourced from Haiti. The next reality of importance is the dual flow pipelines to and from Europe connected to the ECTP where transnational organised crime affiliates of Pax Mexicana as now moving hashish to the Caribbean along with other commodities as synthetic drugs, arms and ammunition, fake goods. These groups are also targeting the tourist sector of the Caribbean with emphasis on bank card fraud, identity theft, prostitution in all its diversity as child prostitution, gambling etc. Semi submersibles, yachts, light aircraft, go fast boats and mother ships use this pipeline to move product to Europe directly or to West Africa. In both Trinidad and Tobago every link between both entities and Europe are exploited to smuggle product to via a multiplicity of smuggling modes.

The History of Engagement in T&T

The foundation for the war between the Colombian Dons and Pax Mexicana in T&T was laid in the period 2010 to 2015 under the government of the People's Partnership. In the order of power of the Colombian Dons in T&T during this period, groups affiliated to a specific federation took the decision to create their monopoly over the ganja market of T&T and to become ganja players in the Caribbean market even though they controlled no production capacity to realise this dream which turned into a nightmare. Assured of supply from the Colombian Dons, these groups and the overarching federation now moved to corner supply from Jamaica and St Vincent. The power relations driven by this desire soon resulted in elimination of MTTOs' affiliates in T&T especially in Trinidad. The overarching federation these groups were all affiliates of also sought to operationalise their desire to become premier cocaine trafficker4s to the USA and Europe, moving cocaine sourced from the Colombian Dons. The operationalisation of the desire of this federation resulted in action that constituted them as the premier enemy of the MTTOs in T&T. In the fourth quarter of 2013, Pax Mexicana responded to

these acts of war with the intent to erase the entire structure of the Colombian Dons in T&T. From 2017 to 2022 the main engagement erupted with the strategy to erase the major federations on the ground affiliated to the Colombian Dons, which was achieved. In 2023 the engagement level was reduced as the Colombian Dons and their affiliates were in reorganisation mode which reduced the level of engagement. What then happened in 2024?

What must be understood is the reality that the engagement of the MTTOs with the Colombian Dons which commenced with the fourth quarter of 2013 was part of the overall strategy to break the back of the hegemony of the Colombian Dons over the illicit trades of Venezuela. As the engagement commenced in T&T in the fourth quarter of 2013, the engagement in Delta Amacuro state of Venezuela was already underway. As the escalation heightened in T&T towards open warfare in 2017 to 2022, the Colombian Dons were being displaced and replaced on the ground in the illicit trades of Venezuela. From 2013 when Maduro replaced Chavez with the unleashing of mass accelerated strategy for regime change in Venezuela, the Colombian Dons embraced the role of being the shock troops for mass on the ground in Venezuela using Gangland under their hegemony. The Colombian Dons desired direct control of the Venezuelan state and its institutions as the Central Bank. The Colombian Dons then turned their backs on El Cartel del Sol which was serving their interests in the Venezuelan state since the 1970s. Maduroismo that had no choice now, faced with its eminent demise, but to use Venezuelan state institutions as the FANB to break the back of the Colombian Dons in Venezuela by going to war on its Gangland whilst Pax Mexicana dealt with the Colombian smuggling organisations in Venezuela. The destruction of the hegemony the Colombian Dons and the gun violence its business model organically generates as its “normality” by Pax Mexicana and Maduroismo is potently illustrated by the marked decrease in the annual murder toll and murder rate of Venezuela from 2016 to 2024 exceeding a decrease of 90%, whilst in T&T we have sowed and constantly reap Rivers of Blood from 2017 to 2024. Whilst the validating elites of the T&T media who have embraced regime change in Venezuela continue to push “manufactured” statistics on Venezuela’s murder rate driven by a questionable methodology where all killings by state agents in the course of their duty are classified as murders, which is NOT applied to countries deemed servile to mass, only his enemies. The hard reality is the gun violence that is organically generated by the business model of the Colombian Dons and the strict discipline of Pax Mexicana where violence must serve the generation and accumulation of wealth only, by the organisation.

In response to this loss of hegemony over Venezuela, the Colombian Dons flooded T&T with Spanish speaking illegal migrants under their order of power to establish a new foothold in T&T, a new command and control structure to deal with the new operational reality of Venezuela and T&T. They then retreated to Sucre state to establish their new command and control operations for T&T and the Eastern Caribbean with its smuggling operations to these countries. The other abiding lesson from the Latin America illicit trades of the 21<sup>st</sup> century the masses of T&T must learn is that whenever agents of the state of a specific country enter the war between the Colombian Dons and the MTTOs using the powers they are imbued with by the state to swing the outcome of the war in favour of their traditional Colombian overlords, the MTTOs respond with expanding the boundaries of this war to include agents of the state, politicians and most importantly the drug smuggling families of the oligarchy of the country who managers for the Colombian Dons in the smuggling zones. The strategy of this war embraces giving up their enemies to the US Federal agencies with extradition requests that follow. This is the lesson of Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras which T&T must learn well for the prosecutable evidence exists all that is required is political will to go to the grand jury for indictments. When faced with a political and national security apparatus under the will of the Colombian Dons prosecuting a war against them, the Mexican TTOs move to destabilise the social order at its core, its legitimacy, which further dismantles the social order letting loose anarchy expressed as societal violence.

The Reality of 2024

Using TTPS data available on its website the murder toll per quarter for 2023 and 2024 can be aggregated for year on year comparison. For the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2023 the murder toll was 141 victims, for 2024 it was 143 victims, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 the toll was 147 victims whilst for 2024 it was 141 victims, which meant that 2024 was trailing 2023 by 5 victims in the murder toll for both years when you aggregate the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters. What must be noted is that the murder toll of 2023 is simply not acceptable but we have now become a social order fed by comparisons to extreme records therefore seeking to make “lower” annual murder tolls acceptable which are in themselves unacceptable, this is simply the depravity of the validating elites of T&T. In the third quarter of 2023 the murder toll was 162 victims whilst in 2024 it was 192 victims and for the months of October and November in 2023 it was 77 victims compared to 88 victims in 2024. The third quarter of 2023 and 2024 recoded spikes in the murder toll but in 2024 the toll exceeded that of 2023 by 30 murder victims, and in the two months of October and November, the murder toll of 2024 exceed that of 2023 by 11 victims. What then happened in the third quarter of 2024 that set in motion a murder spree that lasted to the end of 2024? It was the outbreak of the war in Tobago between the Colombian Dons and the MTTOs that triggered the resurgence of the said war in Trinidad that had entered a period of transition in 2023, as the Colombian Dons and their affiliates in T&T were in retreat licking their wounds (that is those who survived the onslaught) planning their counterattack towards resurgence and hopefully victory. This counterattack was then launched in Tobago in an attempt to take control of the first stop on the ECTP heading Northwards utilising the classic methodology of a violent turf war common to the methodology of the Colombian Dons, forever changing the nature of the social order of Tobago. The Spanish speaking illegal community under the order of power of the Colombian Dons evaded taking part openly and publicly in this war as the heavy lifting was done by T&T nationals led by surviving lower level functionaries of Colombian Dons affiliated federations that were exterminated by the MTTOs in Trinidad. This leadership structure utilised in attacking the Tobago arm of Pax Mexicana sent a message to the MTTOs indicating that the low level survivors of the decimated federations were now forming cells seeking to rebuild these federations through turf wars. By attacking MTTOs’ interests in Tobago first, these cells were now calling out the MTTOs and they replied with unleashing the Sicarios in Tobago and Trinidad simultaneously. From the third quarter going into 2025 it was now necessary to end this threat posed by the Colombian Dons and their affiliates in T&T once and for all. The proclamation of the State of Emergency on December 30, 2024 is no solution to this problem generated by two transnational organised crime models in a fight to the death as they are irreconcilable. The prime, apex targets of this war are now in police custody which then amounts to protective custody, which in no way ends the conflict, it simply postpones it as it kicks the can further down the road in 2025, and the MTTOs are noted for their patience, as the state of emergency has in no way disrupted the illicit trades as product is constantly leaving for Europe. In 2024 key players of the newly formed cells have been removed both in Tobago and Trinidad, owners of front operations in Trinidad washing the illicit money of decimated federations have had debt collectors of these resurgent cells knocking on their doors which has chummed the water feeding predators intent on receiving money by menace, who are not bona fide debt collectors simply extortionists. In 2024 home invasions combining murder with robbery some of which with a modus operandi which speaks to a serial killer/s with a robbery crew operating in Trinidad with a preference for a specific victimology, their preferred victim type must be noted.

In 2020 with 403 victims, kill events with 2 or more victims accounted for 87 victims or 21.588% of total murders. In 2022 with 605 victims, 115 murders were the result of kill events with 2 or more victims. In 2024 as at December 30, 2024 the murder toll was 616 victims with 111 victims of kill events with 2 or more victims, or 19.0194% of the annual murder toll. The picture that then emerges is a two tiered murder reality driven by two different modus operandi. In both murder realities there is a diversity of operators and reasons for the violence, especially gun violence but in the kill events involving two or more victims the handiwork of the Sicarios is most visible given the modus operandi

utilised. The reality that is abundantly clear is the existence of streams of interpersonal violence which drive an annual murder toll of 500 victims and more. When you add the drug wars with the Sicarios unleashed this pushes the murder toll into the 600 plus realm. When the movement and mobility of the population is restricted the interpersonal violence falls as in 2020 but this does not stop the work of the Sicarios. The response in 2024 is to place the prime targets under arrest under the regulations of the SoE which amounts to protective custody and can only postpone the violence, unless we now live under permanent States of emergency. The propensity to violence in the social order of T&T is the public health problem not crime. This problem is the product of the neocolonial discourse by which we constitute and hope to integrate individuals into the order of power of the State in T&T, there is then a crisis of political legitimacy in T&T. In 2024 a major contributor to social violence and the toll of murder victims was the action of those displaced from the illicit trades with the erasure of the two dominant federations affiliated to the Colombian Dons in T&T and those seeking employment in the illicit trades but found no vacancies as a result of The Cleansing. The war of the haves vs the have nots was the first acceleration in action of the murder toll in 2024 to outstrip that of 2023. This war brought out the Sicarios. The have nots then moved to exploit soft targets who supposedly possessed the assets they sought to take. The premier terrain of operation of this have not strategy was in the geography previously controlled by the Sheron federation in Central Trinidad but is was also evident in the spaces of transition from St John's Road, Tunapuna to Sangre Grande and Toco. It then became island wide and appeared in Tobago.

The most potent abiding strategic reality that has emerged from the period 2017 to 2024 in the history of the illicit trades in T&T is the precarious strategic position the drug smuggling families of the T&T oligarchy now occupy. This precarious position as it unravels from 2025 onwards will deepen the legitimacy crisis of the political system and deeply destabilise a social order already faced with an existential crisis. These drug smuggling families of the T&T oligarchy are all under the order of power of the Colombian Dons and are all showing the impact of the collapse of the US cocaine market upon the sustainability of their business model. They must then diversify to survive but the markets of the North Atlantic all under the order of power of Pax Mexicana especially the domain of synthetic drugs. If they venture into smuggling synthetic drugs into these markets that is a declaration of war against Pax Mexicana. At present they purchase kilo bricks from the Colombian Dons, pay Colombian smuggling groups to move the cargo to the North Atlantic where their representatives living in these markets collect and sell the product on wholesale markets. They can seek to get in on kilo bricks and synthetic drugs production for themselves but where are the consumer markets for them to smuggle and sell to? There are none in the North Atlantic free of the hegemony of Pax Mexicana, which means war in the consumer markets which extends to their country of origin in T&T. Not even in the supermax prison system of the USA are you insulated from the reach of Pax Mexicana! Presently they sell their kilo bricks predominantly on the East Coast of the USA, presently a drug market devoid of a notable presence of the Colombian Dons with their Gangland affiliates now displaced from the drug markets replaced by affiliates of Pax Mexicana. The operational structure in the drug markets of the USA of the T&T drug smuggling oligarchs are under the surveillance of Pax Mexicana, penetrated and their order of battle exposed. Those established in the UK likewise but under surveillance of the Albanian crime families and clans who are premier affiliates of Pax Mexican in Europe. A most intractable enemy to be faced with! Members of the bloodline of the T&T drug smugglers of the oligarchy resident in the North Atlantic are known and surveilled by Pax Mexicana in the North Atlantic, which means these drug smuggling oligarchs are naked, weak and vulnerable in the North Atlantic drug markets where they can project no power, constantly seeking anonymity in these markets, seen in their penchant for purchasing strip malls. The business model of the MTTOs does not sell its products to persons and groups external of the organisation and these families of the T&T oligarchy offer the MTTOs nothing of strategic value to them. These drug smuggling oligarchs are an aberration created by the Colombian Dons who followed the Medellin and Cali federations. As the system of brokers who served the Ndrangheta



families and clans in Europe to the personal benefit of the brokers, was dismantled by the very Ndrangheta families and clans now apex partners of Pax Mexicana to benefit from a superior business model, the T&T drug smuggling oligarchs are destined for the same fall, as they are all now dinosaurs in the illicit trades of the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and thereafter.

The abiding lesson of the gun violence of 2024 is the move to eliminate the last of the organised crime groups holding allegiance to the Colombian Dons in T&T. The December 30, 2024 State of emergency is then seeking to postpone this strategic maxim. The question that then arises from this maxim is if after this task is completed will the war now move further up the food chain of the illicit trades of T&T knocking on the door of the oligarchs?

#### The Context

This reality of the illicit trades presented must not be extracted from the overarching context of the social order of T&T in 2024 going forward. It must be viewed within this overarching context: 1). The collapse of the gas based development model of T&T where the colonial/neocolonial muscovado bias was applied to export natural gas in a liquefied form. The four trains erected rapidly exhausted the supply of shallow margins gas constituting a gas supply crisis that has negatively impacted government revenue, raised external and internal government debt levels and had the knock on effect on the level of demand in the economy. Two different governments from 2010 to 2024 have failed to solve this grave problem nor has an alternate development model been formulated and rolled out. T&T's development is now in crisis and stasis simultaneously, awaiting the outcome of the geopolitics of the USA and its new president's attitude to the Maduro presidency in Venezuela. Passive neocolonial dependency at its worst. 2). The inadequacy of the state and its institutions to grapple with and mitigate grave social problems that threaten its legitimacy and with the fact that its institutions are not fit for purpose. The apparent failure to bring the State and its institutions screaming and shouting into the 21<sup>st</sup> century points to the reality that the politics of race cannot ensure public safety and the sustainability of the social order. The State and its institutions remain the captive of stasis which is the product of the politics of race whilst the social order is faced with grave terminal risks generated by the collapse of its development model, the strategic engagement of two transnational organised crime models that are violently incompatible and a State and its institutions and a political system thoroughly not relevant to third decade and thereafter 21<sup>st</sup> century realities. 3). The penchant presently exhibited in the social order to resolve all conflict no matter how trivial with no regard for the rule of law, the consequences of the action of extreme violence, its depravity and the scale and magnitude of response in reference to the nature of the conflict and its threat posed to personal safety. The embrace of violence as a safety mechanism in the social order is then driven by a nihilist devotion to graphic violence as self-gratification, the projection of personal power and rank and as an effective defence of self under assault whether physical, emotional, psychic, real or perceived. This is the action driven by self hating schizophrenics plagued with deep inferiority complexes rooted in their non-white bodies expressed via a discourse of race hate for their premier enemy non-white race. By being devotees of this white supremacist discourse of race hate for your non-white race enemy you relentlessly seek and hope to attain wholeness, which is a fleeting chimera, a mirage for your discourse of race hate is rooted in white supremacist discourse which incessantly demeans you the user. Nihilist violence is then your means to attain wholeness but the only possible outcomes from this strategy are rivers of blood and serving time in prison as normality. This is then massa strategy to destroy the non-white races at the level of the idea. The bi-polarity, schizophrenia and narcissism exhibited by colonised and neo-colonised non-white races are singularly different in their nature and presentation from that presented by massa. When this white supremacist neo-colonial discourse is hegemonic in a social order where the order of power is still that of massa plantation, where power, privilege, wealth and impunity are joined at the hips which openly and ceaselessly subverts relentlessly, the rule of law in favor of the politicians, the oligarchs and the politically connected there is no democracy, there is no State and its institutions devoted to and relevant to prosecuting the rule of law regardless of power exercised, impunity for a

visible minority is then driving an order of power where the rule of law is policed selectively, only for the poor, marginalised, powerless, the underclass and the non-politically connected. This is then an order of power in the 21st century rooted in the order of power of massa plantation where the powerless are constantly challenged to embrace the only solution the order of power offers them self-hate driving nihilist violence for nihilist violence is an attempt at self-medication which the political system and the order of power is denying you.

When transnational organised crime sets up shop in this social order, it is quickly embraced by the order of power, as power and privilege grasp greedily the means to get rich and amass more power and impunity and the poor and marginalised embrace the promise of power, rank, wealth, violence and the gun culture. Both sides of the social order are then self-medicating, but power and its validating elites constantly blame the poor and marginalised for embracing an order of power rooted in criminality whilst they embraced it first thereby selling impunity to the Colombian Dons, fully exposing the poor and marginalised without effective state intervention, to the hegemony of the Colombian Dons, who then commenced building an alternate social order in these spaces. Then miraculously we had a gang problem not a transnational organised crime problem with their local organised crime affiliates. Gangs are not organised crime in T&T because Africans do not have the mental capacity to create and run organised crime organisations. The self hate expressed as race hate is endemic throughout the social order of T&T. With the arrival of Pax Mexicana we are now faced with a new order of power that threatens to dismantle massa order of power. The overriding reality is that T&T is today in a perfect storm which the political system is incapable of mitigating. The 1962 Independence Project has failed miserably! You sow the wind, you reap the whirlwind!

#### Witness Testimony

The witness left Piarco airport on January 8, 2025 on a direct flight to Schiphol airport, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. On the morning of January 9, 2025 upon arrival, the disembarking passengers found that the finger connecting the aircraft to the terminal was blocked by a team of Immigration and Customs officials intent on vetting every passenger in search of those those who make regular trips from Schiphol to Trinidad and the Caribbean especially those with European passports. They were searching for swallows and mules, which means they are supposed to be shaking down the luggage, cargo and the body of the aircraft. After exiting this special operation the witness now moved through the immigration and customs checks to enter the departure space for flights to European destinations. At the customs check point brand new ion scanners are in operation. The witness upon reaching the airport for the European country of residence was greeted in the arrival hall by the sniffer dog and its handler with a sniff check done of the passenger's body and all the luggage. Then came the interrogation from the customs officer, when it was established that the witness came from Trinidad then another officer joined the interrogation and all the luggage of the witness was given a thorough search by the second officer, whilst the first officer kept the passenger engaged in the interrogation. An old technique to sweat the target to see their response such as sweating, nervousness, incoherence etc as they are pressuring a mark to see if they break under pressure. They are then hunting swallows and mules. This is the reputation of T&T in Europe today in its security apparatus and when combined with the druglandia of Europe, the Netherlands, you are now faced with double jeopardy where everybody is a suspect even though you don't fit the profile, especially if you are non-white.