

# *The Impermanence of the Nation State*

Throughout human history, we have seen evidence of great empires falling by the wayside. Countries come and go, to be replaced by other countries. People migrate from place to place and where they settle down, they create a new country with common shared interests and values. Boundaries of countries change. Everything changes eventually.

The Roman Empire lasted for a thousand years, yet it eventually fell by the wayside to be replaced by other nation states in its place. Anyone who has studied history knows of many examples of nations and cultures becoming extinct. The Chinese civilization has lasted for over 5000 years and even it changed ruling dynasties over the centuries.

One of the popular beliefs is that our nation will last forever. That somehow, it is immune to the changes of time. If this were true, then where is the evidence that we will continue forever in our present form? There is no evidence of this in human history. It's against the universal laws and it is against reality. Everything changes over time.

The challenge for us is to recognize that our nation will change and to decide how we want it to change. If we refuse to acknowledge the obvious fact that nations change, we are only helping to speed up that fateful day with destiny. Understanding the impermanence of the nation state allows us to prepare for the change and to deal with the conflicts within and outside of our borders. The change is coming whether or not we want it to. The question is what are we going to do about it.