

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind



April 01, 2015

Nurturing Peace and Brotherhood is a Crying Need

"It is true, political problems are not solved by love and mercy. But the world of politics is not the only world, and unless political decisions rest on a foundation of something better and higher than politics, they can never do any real good for men. When a country has to be rebuilt after war, the passions and energies of war are no longer enough. There must be a new force, the power of love, the power of understanding and human compassion, the strength of selflessness and cooperation, and the creative dynamism of the will to live and to build, and the will to forgive. The will for reconciliation."

Historically, Afghan nation underwent great suffering. Thousands of people were perished or had their limbs amputated in jihad against the Soviet, in civil unrest and in the war imposed by the Taliban regime, in suicide bombings, etc. The glorious victory in the Jihad against aggression brought us national honor. We deem it a religious incumbent to fight for our rights and dignity and fight to save our religious values, moral and cultural norms from erosion. In other words, whenever our social and cultural standards are exposed to decadence, we should voice our concerns against the phenomena. We do appreciate "the sacrifices, historical struggles, jihad and just resistance of all the peoples of Afghanistan", and admire "the supreme position of the martyr's of the country's freedom." The Mujahidin, who lost their lives on the grounds of safeguarding religious values, ethical code, national unity and territorial integrity, have to be considered the heroes of our history. We should value our martyrs' blood - shed to cultivate compassion and devotion - and nurture their human ambitions. In short, our martyrs were the epitome of humanity, who sacrificed their lives to protect our nation and uphold our religious beliefs, moral standards and national and cultural values.

The high ambitions of jihad, however, fell into ruin and the characters were totally besmirched. The sanctity of jihad violated and ignored the call of conscience through shedding the blood of our brethren' for satiating carnal and corporal pleasures.

Rather than maintaining the outcome of jihad, the financial interests and physical desires with no sense of responsibility were pursued. The inalienable rights and dignity of innocents were trampled. It was stoop so low to be bogged down in vicious issues and moral turpitude. The nondescript violence and atrocity, which originated in voracious appetite for everyday life and pleasures, put our national honor under question.

Under the Taliban, Afghans suffered in the worst possible way. The Taliban's fundamental ideology and radical interpretation of religious texts led to heavy loss across the country. Claiming divine legitimacy, the Taliban regime ruled Afghanistan at gunpoint. The carnage and genocide perpetrated by the illegal potentates outraged our people's conscience. They adopted a discriminative attitude towards Afghan nation on the basis of religious beliefs, race, color and sex. Women and girls were bereft of their basic rights, especially from going to school or presenting in public, kept within the four walls, sustained mental and physical tortures and had their honor and reputation tainted with impunity. Behind the specious façade, the Taliban self-righteous rulers surpassed religious law, moral norms and cultural taboos. Despite murdering the innocent individuals, they felt no tinge of guilt.

Needless to say, Afghan women were supposed to be totally subjugated to their spouses. They were not entitled the rights to freedom and property. Seemingly, women were considered the epitome of evil and inferiority, as if they were doomed to live a horrible life. The violators of women's rights were not prosecuted at all. So, women were treated as a social pariah under the Taliban.

Ill-fatedly, Afghans are yet the quarry of terrorism and suicide bombings. Afghans are appalled by the sudden murder of their compatriots on the streets, in markets, restaurants, mosques, etc. The nascent democracy was no more than a flash in the pan. The security situation is deteriorated after the presidential election held about six months ago. To the Afghans' unmitigated chagrin, the violence and bloodshed continue unabated.

We have to learn from checked past and do not let the history repeats itself. Our nation should instill the morale of brotherhood in the society through practicing religious tolerance and ethical codes. Revitalizing national solidarity and territorial integrity is not impossible. Moreover, we are all human born with certain rights and dignity and have to respect them in the best possible way. "There must be a new force, the power of love, the power of understanding and human compassion, the strength of selflessness and cooperation, and the creative dynamism of the will to live and to build".

The war and violence will lead to human loss and social and political destructions and sow the seeds of discord - the fact proved by history. Afghans have to bridge the gap between past and present and value our national glories. Let us "form a civil society void of oppression, atrocity, discrimination as well as violence, based on rule of law, social justice, protecting integrity and human rights, and attaining peoples' freedoms and fundamental rights".



Social Awareness

By Dilawar Sherzai

It is imperative for a human being to be well cognizant of the society in which he exists. He needs to have such cognizance since it would be likely for him to realize his character, position, privileges and duties. In this manner he would the capacity to play a constructive part in the society.

Socio-political consciousness aids the individuals in the society to make thoroughgoing usage of shared life as it is by the dint of social life that human beings have made stunning accomplishments. The tasks and activities, which are else difficult to be achieved, become very common and are achieved without considerable exertion through supportive actions. Socio-political consciousness, however, is not in human character by instinct. It has to be settled within him through appropriate sustenance and inculcation. Socialization, in this regard, has a very compelling role. Children who are born in a society do not essentially become social in the actual sense of the word. Particularly in today's society when the people have become very much motorized and worldly, it is tough to see children get effortlessly allied with the social and political collections. Social isolation is prevalent and social interactions are now upheld through technology. Having such a scenario in hand, it is vital that children are socialized suitably and this has to be instructed to them that their relation with the society is of great standing and they have a responsibility to the surroundings wherein they reside.

In this connection, the role of family is immense. As family is the primary institution in which human beings learn and practice their social lives, the outlook, conducts, thinking and notions that are settled in the start of family life are indeed very hard to disremember. Parents who are able to give sufficient time to their children and share love and warmth with them have the aptitude to make their children accountable social and political beings. Cooperativeness among the family members makes them comprehend how they can produce collaborations through collective exertions and make human beings human in true sense. Sense of responsibility, task-sharing, dependability and adoration can initially be developed in children through their families. It is really important for all the children to get cultured from their families and understand that all the people are central in one way or the other. Everyone desires to be treasured, appreciated and respected. Consequently, a kind of kindness has to be developed within the attitude of the children so that they also apprehend the significance and the necessity of others. They should learn sharing their figurines and playing in teams according to the team rules. Families are surely rudimentary and vital; thus, it is really essential that the institution of family must be used to the maximum degree so as to spread socio-political consciousness.

Schools, colleges and universities can also play a marvelous role, but eventually it is the overall society wherein the individuals get their education and involvements of socio-political live. Hence, they have to obtain everything from the society. There are certain means that can be agreed within the societies by the individuals

to develop socio-political consciousness. One of the most imperative steps in this regard is to have the nerve to play a role within a society in a productive way. Solution-oriented approach can play a remarkable role in this connection. An individual wishes to make sure that he has a role, in one way or the other, in the solution of skirmishes within the community or society. Some people strive to circumvent conflicts and are limited to their comfort zone; nevertheless, such an attitude would never benefit them be a responsible being. On top of the resolution of the conflict, an individual has to attempt not to let the conflict be erected and go out of control. In brief, he needs to play an active role in the conflict and end hiding himself behind others in such condition.

In order to be socially aware, it is needed that an individual ought to augment his compassion towards the social fairness and accord. He requires having the capacity to judge others and their actions as per the requirements of justice not as per their social rank, appearance or affluence. He needs to understand what the basic rights of the human beings are and must endeavor to safeguard them. Furthermore, he must examine the social and political verdicts in the society on the foundation of justice, not on ethno-centric prejudices.

An important way of attaining socio-political consciousness is to have more info about the society nearby. It is central for an individual to know about the social issues and ills and attempt to play a part, no matter how small, in their eradication. Today, in human societies there are evils like poverty, bigotry, discernment, chauvinism and some others; they all play their role in making human societies suffer. It is essential for an individual to recognize them, receive them as issues and try to face them in certain techniques.

It is, without any doubt, easier to live a secluded life and always be limited to one's comfort zone. Yet, it is really significant for socio-politically sentient individual to come out of his comfort zone and be counted within the social life. It is also vital that an individual should be the part of multiplicity, and must strive to intermix with others so as to acquire from them. It will also develop a sense of broad-mindedness for others and supports in upholding coherence.

Displaying kindness and responsiveness can play a farfetched part in getting nearer to others and fastening the social bonds. Comprehending the pain of others when they are hurt and understanding their position is of key importance to invigorate the social responsibility. Courteousness and responsiveness are also obligatory in this regard. It is also central for an individual, who craves to develop socio-political consciousness, to be prepared to listen to others and ask them for response regarding his attitude and conduct. However, it should be kept in mind that the borderline between what is social and what is personal should never be despoiled as it is one of the rudimentary requirements of consciousness. Being excessively social may interrupt the social ties and associations, and may even cause skirmishes.

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Yemen Crisis Pleads Political Solution

By Asmatyari

The beginning of twenty first century witnessed catastrophic human casualties; more than 1.5 million people lost their lives during mid of first quarter of the century in Middle Eastern (Iraq, Syria and Palestine) and South Asian states (Pakistan and Afghanistan). With exception to the aforesaid some other states in Africa (Nigeria) and (Ukraine) in Southeastern Europe too, run across socio-political turmoil that led to human calamities. The stream of blood is flowing down the streets of Middle East where a group of fellowman tries to subjugate the other in the quest for dominance of the ideals superior, divine and inimitable to them. Following the golden principles of equity of deeds in war and love, the renowned group relies to every extreme means that could more effectively serve their vested interests. The militants groups resort to every deed that could wreak great losses to their confronting opponents.

The flare of blast-off ongoing loud in the aforesaid countries subsided not, the Middle East took to another military expedition in Yemen. The emerging crisis of Yemen beleaguered the bloodletting of ISIS underway in Iraq and Syria. In order to restrict the advances of Houthis, Saudi Arabia took military expedition by launching aerial raids that led human casualties inhabiting in different camps. According to international media earlier warplanes carried out a fifth night of air strikes around the capital Sana that led several casualties. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) an air strike killed 45 people at a camp for displaced people in northwest Yemen, previously. Likewise, the Doctors without Borders (MSF) reported score of bodies and injured people were taken to hospital that operates near the camp.

On the other hand Arab states led by Saudi Arabia pledge their allegiance with the kingdom vowed to support the ongoing aerial operation against the Houthi rebels who are said to have advanced towards the capital Sana. Formerly the meeting of Arab League took place in Sharm el Shaikh where the members of Arab League, Arab states, including Egypt, Jordan and most of the Gulf monarchies, have thrown their support behind a Saudi Arabia-led campaign of airstrikes to counter advances Houthi movement in Yemen; Washington is providing only intelligence and logistical support, but Saudi Arabia is leading the bombing while Egypt, with the largest Arab army, has pledged to send ground troops "if necessary." Speaking at the same meeting, Nabil el-Araby, the secretary general of the Arab League, vowed that the Saudi-led airstrikes against the Houthi movement would continue until the Houthis had surrendered, and apparently closes the window for negotiation to a prompt end to the violence.

The center of gravity of international media shifted to discuss the Yemen's crisis, with host speakers' found favoring the side they share ideology and interest with. It should be remember one shouldn't display favoritism on any ground. Muslim media particularly must exercise a rational broadcast in the bid to mend the differences instead of widening them. It's the course to pave the way for political and congenial solution.

Following through the root of crisis, primarily it's more about bad governance and rampant corruption that simmered to turn violent

by the end of the day. According to the 2009 international corruption Perception Index by Transparency International, Yemen ranked 164 out of 182 countries surveyed. In the absence of strong state institutions, elite politics in Yemen constituted a de facto form of collaborative governance, where competing tribal, regional, religious and political interests agreed to hold themselves in check through tacit acceptance of the balance it produced. The misuse of power and politics rendered some factions powerful and influential, discerning many others. These discriminatory policies by central government yielded some rebellion against it. It is said that the group seek political support from Iran. The Houthi movement, which originated in the north of Yemen and follows a version of Shiite Islam, has seized control of the country's capital, Sana, and other large cities in part by allying itself with military and security forces still loyal to Yemen's former strongman, Ali Abdullah Saleh. Mr. Saleh was removed in 2012, after an Arab Spring uprising, in a transitional deal brokered by Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states. The Houthis have previously fought as many as a half-dozen different civil conflicts against Yemen's central government. None of the previous battles have succeeded in eliminating or fully disarming the movement.

There is only a political solution to the situation in Yemen. The intervention tempts to intensify the existing dilemma escalating the sectarian tension across the Muslim world which may inflict irreparable losses in Muslim societies. The intent that foreign intervention to back a legitimate government, doesn't serve the interest of Yemenis is futile exercise. Every state prior to partaking in military intervention in Yemen must ponder that would only produce disparity and widen the chasm of hatred amongst Muslims' sect. It should be learned that the political solution cannot be hatched outside Yemen, it has to be a homegrown political solution, and otherwise it has no future. As witnessed the hapless president Hadi does not have enough strength within Yemen to tip the balance in his favor, even to stand his ground and defend his little enclave in Aden. Henceforth, all the main players on the ground in Yemen should be taken on board to carve an agreeable solution to the problem.

At present, the Houthis are not the only player, but the army sections that are loyal to the former President Ali Abdullah Saleh are another important player. There are plenty within the Yemeni army - the Special Forces, the Air Force and many sectors of the military - that are still loyal to Saleh and they are the ones spearheading the fight right now against Saudi Arabia. The only political solutions one can rely on is broad based consensus developed between the disputing factions which should unnecessarily include not just the elite forces of the former regime and their armed opponents and the Saudi and US appointed replacements, but the people representing the majority of the Yemenis themselves. This is a credible course to end up the endless bloodshed of fellowmen and turn the world a peaceful place to live in.

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