

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



December 15, 2015

## Fighting Dominant Social Evils

There have been many evils in human societies that have been disrupting the smooth development and improvement. Though there have been efforts to overcome them, they have kept on existing in some way or the other. They clearly depict that human societies are never perfect and there are always certain shortcomings. It is important to understand those shortcomings and strive to find out the main causes of those evils and their appropriate solutions in order to support the societies move towards perfection.

Though it is a matter of concern that a social evil erupts in a society, more concerning, however, is when the evil keeps on increasing or gaining strength and starts penetrating within social fabrics. One of the basic reasons that any evil gets promoted within a society is the appreciation and support it gets from within the society members. Or there may be indifference on the part of society members towards the evil. The members of the society may neglect the evil and thus support in promulgating it. Therefore, it is necessary that an evil must be considered an evil and must be treated in the same manner; i.e. an evil must be punished; otherwise it may get out of control very soon. The indifference of the members of the society plays a significant role in helping the social evil gaining magnitude and penetration.

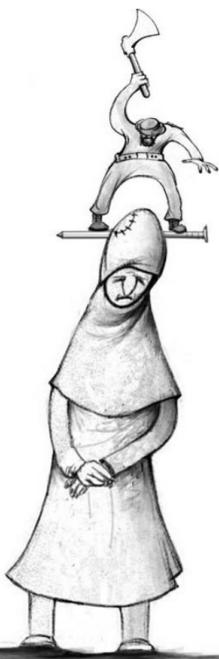
The example of Afghan society in this regard is very much relevant. There are different social evils that get no proper attention by the members of the society. For instance, the evil of corruption has penetrated deep within Afghan society and most of the institutions in the country are being influenced by it in some way or the other, yet it is not being taken as much seriously as it should be taken. People consider it an integral part of their social life. They complete their tasks through corrupt ways without even feeling guilty. Corruption, unfortunately, is a way a routine. It is no more weird to find corruption; the weird incident is to find someone being honest. Such a social value is really very much pathetic and it has kept on feeding corruption to a great extent. People's indifference towards corruption around them is really very sad; there has not been any comprehensive movement or there have not been series of protests to condemn corruption within Afghan society.

It is common to find people, who complain against corruption, getting involved in corruption easily. It is easier for them to get their tasks done through some bribery and recommendation than to follow the honest, lengthy and tiring process of 'honest means'. They quite easily forget their demands for corruption-free society and higher standards of honesty.

It is not to deny that the people responsible for controlling the corruption must play a role in controlling the corruption, but the importance of social movements is very much vital in facing a social evil. The control mechanism within a society can enforce a law and can control a social evil by force to a certain level but if the society members do not support the mechanism it is very difficult to control the situation. For example, the violence against women in Afghanistan has been identified as social evil by the control mechanism, yet it has not been controlled as Afghan society is not yet ready to accept it as social evil. The society members do not consider it inhuman and unlawful to carry out violence against women. It is very much normal in patriarchal Afghan society to find husbands beating their wives, fathers beating their daughters and brothers being violent to their sisters. And when there are cruel incidents of violence against women, the society members, except few, do not come to the roads to protest and shun such incidents as social evils.

Same is the case with the evil of drug use. The people of Afghanistan use drugs as if they are part of their normal lives. People use it as painkillers and as medicine to fight against cold weather. Though in some cases people do so because they are not fully aware of their negative consequences but at others they just do so because they are totally indifferent towards the issue. They know that using such drugs may lead them towards negative consequences, yet they are not ready to avoid them and find out ways of getting rid of them.

It is really imperative to note that the sustainability of any social evil within the society largely depends on the attitude of the society members towards the evil. If from the very beginning the society members realize that social evils are negative and they are hindrance for the development of the society and may generate problems for them, there are possibilities of fighting the social evils properly, but if the society, either due to ignorance or negligence or individual considerations, remains indifferent towards evils, it would be very difficult to control them. Therefore, it is necessary that as a part of society, we must feel our responsibility and be very much vigilant. It is our responsibility to rise against the social evils, stand against them and raise our voice. Unless we respond to those evils we do not have the right to complain about them and we do not have any way of avoiding them.



## No #MuslimsAreNotTerrorists

By Dwaipayan Regmi

Exclusive for the Daily Outlook

Today, there are more than 1.6 billions of Muslims in the world. Their population counts as one major proportion on earth. Muslims have done wonderful progress, be it in academic carrier, or in medical carrier. They are not less competent in any aspect of the competition be it in nuclear weapon, or faculty member at top universities.

Life of Muslim communities away from their home however has been proved to be worth huge trouble. They have to face huge insults, blaming and face abusive words time and again. One part of the world believes that Islam religion itself is the religion of terrorism. They hold the belief that, since all terrorists are Muslim, all Muslims are terrorist.

The attack of France was claimed by ISIS after hours. Before they claim itself, it was regarded 'Islamic attack', indicating that entire Islamic religions are involved in the attack. It was directly blamed to Muslim followers. Not unless I read the story of Muslim mother, whose eight year child, after hearing the news asked to her if she should tell that she was not a Muslim in her school, I felt how dominating the society actually is.

I am Hindu, untaught from Nepal where the country itself was Hindu years back, unless it got secular decade back. I had Muslim friend, Mohammad with whom I grew up sharing games, food, studies and everything. Still today, we meet and talk of those days. He was good friend of mine and he was not a terrorist, and he is not a terrorist.



Dwaipayan Regmi @dwaipon - 3h

I am Hindu from Nepal. I grew up with Muslim friend, we used to eat together, play together. No he is not a terrorist. #MuslimsAreNotTerrorist

Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Al Qaeda are terrorist group that is operated by Muslims. But they being responsible for more than 100,000 deaths of Muslims in past years must be enough instances to prove that Muslims are not terrorist. Apart, the Holy Koran 5:32 quoting whoever kills a person, it is as though he has killed all mankind and whoever saves life, it is as though he has saved all mankind should build up enough proof that Islam religion is guided by peace and harmony.

There was this story that I found in Aljazeera:

"An ISIL member stopped the car of a Christian couple.

ISIL member: Are you Muslim?

Christian man: Yes, I'm Muslim.

ISIL Member: If you are a Muslim, recite a verse of Quran.

Christian Man recites a verse from the Bible.

ISIL member: Okay, you can go.

Later his wife tells him: Why did you tell him you are a Muslim? If he knew you were lying he'd have killed us both!

'Do not worry!' answered the husband. 'If they knew the Quran they wouldn't kill people.'"

So, when Holy Koran itself makes a clear quote about how life is treated,

is not this foolishness to blame religion instead of bunch of people?

It was before ISIS took the credit of attack, Islamic communities got united over social medias making #MuslimsAreNotTerrorist and #TerrorismHasNoReligion a huge trend. Being aware that they will be affronted for the entire shootings, Muslims all over the world got united and made a huge campaign. Stereotyping is one major cause why Muslims are assaulted for any terrorism act. Opposing of resettlement of Syrian refugees by Governors after the attack can be treated as clear example of consequence of stereotyping. On going through few youtube videos, right after Paris attack, they were critically blamed by various bloggers and free opinion makers. No longer are all Germans treated as evil, or Europeans as Columbus, but any Islam follower is a criminal, usually terrorist in their vision. 2014 Global Terrorism Index portrayed the data stating most terrorism activities were carried out by Muslims.

Also, decline in Non Muslim Terrorism could be counted as another reason for Muslim community's assaults. Since Tamil Tigers no longer exists in Sri Lanka, Maoists are already into mainstream politics in Nepal, FARC no longer terrorize Colombia or IRA is no more a huge burden in United Kingdom, terrorist group from Islam community are been able to show their presence to the world. Another important aspect that should not be ignored for the cause of terrorism includes poverty, illiteracy and individual disciplinary act. In 2013, 152 terror attacks were noted in Europe, being just couple of them with religious motive. Same year in Greece, Popular Revolution forces shot and killed two members of right wing political party name Golden Dawn. It was in Italy, numerous terror attack were there including sending bomb to journalist. Extremist Buddhist killed many Muslim civilians in Burma and few in Sri Lanka as well. In 2014, University of Carolina came up with the data that after 9/11, 37 Muslim related murders were there out of 190,000 murders in America. All these news stays beyond the light, but news of Al Qaeda attacking Kenya and Tanzania 20 years ago probably is within mind of everyone.

Both World Wars were not initiated by Muslims. 20 millions Aborigines were not killed in Australia by Muslims. Nuclear Bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were not dropped by Muslims. 50 million Indians were not killed by Muslims in South America, or nor were 180 million African were made slaves by Muslims. It is difficult to change mind of every individual of the world, but one thing we all need to accept is, religion are means to existence. They all teach us way to lead a better life, rather than provoking crime. Hence, 'respect' is utmost necessary thing that we need to practically implement in our life. Terrorism and Crime should not be differentiated on the ground of religion. A feeling may emerge that Nepal has not yet been victim to understand. But, 13 Nepalese were killed in Iraq years back. Nepal is small country, that probably may mean nothing to rest of the world, small secular country with majority of Hindu religion. However, we do hold the belief that religion does not bind anyone for criminal activities. We believe terrorism has no religion, and we believe that Muslims are same as us. Criminal or terrorists must be punished, entire effort must be devoted to eradicate terrorism, however, on this mission, and other innocents must not be affected.

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## Good News Against Global Warming!

By Muhammad Rasool Shah

Global warming has always been taken as a myth. As it entails a lot of technical terms associated with scientists and geologists so public opinion keeps changing with the changes in the views and ideas of these scientists. It was taken as a myth invented, tailored and groomed by scientists working for the agenda of some specific countries or politicians. It is the reason why, there are people who believe in it, who moderately believe in it and who consider this an absolute nonsense.

One of the past American presidential candidates Al-Gore gained much fame and respect due to his campaign against global warming. At one hand, he was considered a person having sincere ambitions to worry about the worsening global warming who was much serious in fighting this situation. On the other hand, he was also accused to be working against some nations or multinational organizations. However, all his sincere efforts were also not enough to change the mindset of many people in this regard. Last few years witnessed much horrifying implications of global warming. It looked as if all the ominous predictions of scientists were battering on the land and sea, leaving behind losses of billions of dollars and killing hundreds. More frightening was the fact that the pattern of weather was changing in different parts of the world. Parts of the world that used to be very hot had lost this intensity of heat while the coldest regions were experiencing moderate weather. Some driest places experienced the greatest rainfall, resulting in floods and the resultant catastrophes. Increasing number of typhoons and storms in different parts of the world brought unprecedented destruction. The storms are not new but the number and intensity of these storms have greatly increased in recent years. However, these consequences of global warming are easy to be understood for common people. For scientists, some other factors show the impacts of global warming. Not going much deep into technical terms, we can also try to understand two scales in this regard. First is the world temperature, which has been rising due to the global warming. This increase in world temperature gives birth to some many other weather-related problems. One of the most dangerous is the increase in rate by which the polar ice is melting resulting in the rise in the sea level. The increase in world temperature and sea level are the two terms that are showing ominous trends. The increase in temperature can disturb the balance of different weather elements in different parts of the world, giving birth to abnormal and unexpected results. The rise in the sea level not only endangers many cities to be drowned but they also make the storms dangerous. Last week, when almost 200 nations of the world agreed upon a unanimous declaration regarding global warming, it was declared a great triumph of all the nations. It is remarkable in a sense that all such conferences in past were never able to give any result. The participating nations never agreed on a single statement to stop the hazardous effects of global warming. The biggest obstacle was the opposition from major industrial nations of the world that feared that any such agreement might hinder their economic growth. At the same time, powerful and influential multinational corporations were busy in lobbying against any such legislation that might negatively affect their production and profits.

However, this time the scenario was slightly different. For many decades, different nations and multinational corporations were able to hire the services of scientists, tried their best to prove that global warming was just a myth, and carried no reality. Now, the brisk and perilous changes in world weather patterns and resultant weather elements of storms, flooding, drought and others made them think beyond the temporary gains. In the same way, the public opinion in this regard was clearly in favor of doing something to fight the threat of global warming. It is the reason why, the participating nations were able to come up with a unanimous draft in this regard.

Though this agreement is regarded a very small step but it is big in a sense that all the nations and corporations were able to give up their differences and agree on a law for the broader benefit of the humankind. This single step is just the beginning and would definitely provide the world leaders with an opportunity to make better laws in future and make earth a safer place to live. It is the reason why, all the world leaders, scientists and public showed great jubilation and satisfaction for this and there was the shower of praises from all corners.

In Paris, world leaders agreed to bring down the world temperature by 1.5-2 degrees in coming years. This might seem a very small target but in terms of geology and science, it is going to be a remarkable achievement. The bad thing is that, although all the nations have agreed to work to achieve this target but no alternate mechanism has been suggested in case a nation fails to abide by this. And as I mentioned before, the good thing is the unanimous agreement of all the nations to acknowledge this problem. Once a problem is acknowledged, efforts can be made to resolve it. But it is a big problem if we refuse to recognize a problem and it was the case with the concept of global warming. Now that it has been acknowledged, better steps can be taken in future. Some of the smaller nations were also not happy, as this agreement did not mention anything for the compensation of those nations that were badly affected by the disastrous impacts of global warming. For example, the Philippines has experienced its worst typhoons or sea storms very recently and it was needed that rich nations should have announced some kind of relief but this point was left without any agreement. Although the term 'global warming' is frightening but there are so many positive things as well in this regard. The world has gone through the worst ages of fossil fuel consumption and industrial expansion. New technologies and methods are underway with the help of which more efficient and cleaner means of energy will be utilized. However, most importantly, more and more people are becoming aware of their individual responsibilities in this regard. As it was mentioned by Al Gore in his documentary, the first and the last point of action lies with us; the public. The day we start consuming less energy, become wise in our daily utilities and show a sense of responsibility in this regard, we will be able to use less. Fewer products will be manufactured, less fuel will be consumed and less pollution will be the result. As a result, world temperature will fall or become stable and we will be able to leave behind a safe, healthy and secure world for our coming generations.

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