

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



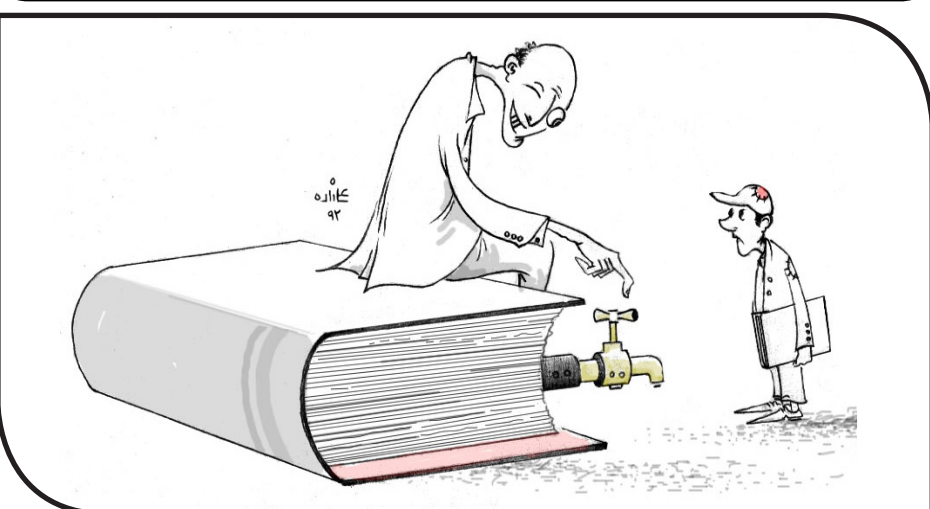
February 24, 2015

Juvenile Delinquency

Among the different trends of crimes, Juvenile Delinquency is considered one of most concerning for the modern societies. Juvenile Delinquency is basically an anti-social, illegal or criminal behavior on the part of youngsters or adolescents. The terms youngsters or adolescents here refers to every person below the age of 18. Youngsters are basically concerned as the backbone of society and the future of a society highly depends on the potential of its youngsters. If they are motivated towards the improvement of the society and are optimistic about the socio-political scenario and have conformist attitude towards the prevailing social, political and economic setups, they can prove beneficial for the society as whole. But if they are pessimistic, have negative approach towards the socio-political scenario and have non-conformist attitude towards the social, political and economic systems they fall the prey to delinquency. No existing society in the world is perfect. There are different factors in every society that are responsible for creating injustices and crimes and pollute the systems. Though in every society there is a system of maintaining justice but ideal justice can never be achieved as there are evident shortcomings. There have been development and improvement in the legal systems and law-enforcing agencies but the crimes have kept pace with these developments. Every sort of crime is a matter of concern for a society and is responsible for introducing disorder. The random crimes may be treated as a normal phenomenon but different trends and organized forms of crimes can really put a society on threshold of destruction. Juvenile delinquency is always a cause of panic for a society because of the fact that it indicates the deterioration of the society as the juvenile delinquents are going to be serious criminals in future if managed improperly.

The causes of juvenile delinquency can be linked with the general theories of the causes of the crimes but all the theories that hold true for the crimes as a whole can never stand true for juvenile delinquency all the times as the juveniles do not share the same characteristics like that of the mature people. They differ from the grownups in their attitude, psychology and emotional integrity. Therefore, they have to be dealt in a different manner; even the punishments that are suggested by the courts for the normal crimes must differ in the cases of juvenile delinquency so as to compensate for the differences. But it is important to have some familiarity with different theories of crimes in order to understand the causes of juvenile delinquency. The classical theories of criminology suggest that the causes of the crimes basically lie within the individuals who commit crimes. Crime is rather a rational choice that an individual makes through his free will. He/she always has the option of an alternative and is not under any sort of compulsive forces from the socio-political circumstances.

The current theories in criminology that are based on optimistic approach towards individuals suggest that the culture and society are responsible for intoxicating the individuals with the germs of crimes. The disorganization that creeps into social institutions and their interaction determines the individuals to commit crimes. Then there are theories that suggest that crimes are basically because of the psychological reasons. Stress, strain and tension may result into psychological and behavioral disorders that result into different sorts of crimes in the society. Moreover, there are theories that have more emphasis on group dynamics and consider crimes the result of interactions with delinquent groups. A single theory can never be considered perfectly fitting the cause of crimes within a society. Rather the causes of crimes may differ from person to person and society to society. Therefore, it would be appropriate to say that there are different factors contributing to crimes in different times and spaces. The same theories in criminology also stand true for most of the cases in juvenile delinquency occurring in different parts of the world. But, it should be kept in consideration that the theory of rational choice cannot stand as a strong theory as far as juvenile delinquency is concerned as the juveniles are not capable enough to make rational choices. Rather the other theories that relate to social evils and psychological strain and even unchecked freedom can be considered as more reliable theories in this regard. It should be noted carefully that the youth in the third world countries are more vulnerable to be caught in the web of crimes than the youth in the developed countries of the world. It is because the third world countries suffer greatly from different sorts of social, political and economic problems that deviate the youth from normal course of behavior and lead them towards crimes. Moreover, the psychological stress and strain on the minds of youth are immense in such countries and end up in the delinquent attitude. Poverty, limited opportunities, difficulties in getting education and pursuing the professions of their will, child labor, strict traditional values, lack of proper parental guidance and many other such problems make the youth delinquent. Juvenile delinquency is one of the major problems in our country Afghanistan as well. The socio-political and socio-economic scenario in the country has been very much vulnerable for the youth. The circumstances are further deteriorated by the continued wave of civil wars and terrorism. Though there have been certain improvements made since the installation of so called democratic government juvenile delinquency keeps on concerning the process of improvement. Apart from the traditional crimes like mugging, rape, robbery and murder youth in the country are dominantly caught in the web of terrorism. The unchecked juvenile delinquency in the country really points at serious concerns for the future of the country. Necessary measure must be introduced by the government in this regard to curb the situation appropriately and as per the scientific approach towards the solution. Severe punishments alone cannot guarantee a crimeless society and in the case of juvenile delinquency the matter gets even more complicated. Special considerations, special laws and special treatment must be in place to deal with the cases of juvenile delinquency otherwise the circumstances may get worse rather than getting any better.



Outcomes of War

By Dilawar Sherzai

Wars have always played a dominant role in human societies, if not positive all the times. There are many people in the world who consider that wars are necessary, though wars bring a lot of miseries with them. They even go to the extreme by calling them as a precondition to peace. But, on the other hand, there are many people who believe that wars are destructive and they destroy human civilization and annihilate human race. Therefore, human beings must not pursue wars; rather they have to run after the opportunities that can lead them towards peace and tranquility. However, such thinking is considered very much ideal; the desire that wars should not happen is a dream, while the fact that wars happen is very much a reality. Therefore, it is necessary to understand wars, their objectives, reasons and their effects, so as to have a proper understanding of politics and human societies.

Wars are basically launched to coerce wills. The Prussian military general and theoretician Carl Von Clausewitz defined war as follows: "War is thus an act of force to compel our enemy to do our will." Thus, wars are basically launched when wills are not attained or they are not agreed upon by the opposing party. Most of the times, wars are followed by failed political or diplomatic endeavors. Finding no compromise or agreement, the parties jump in the war and try to solve the issues through force.

War is not a new concept in human societies; rather they have been parts of different phases of history. But in the modern world of ours it has become more lethal. Earlier human societies were not very complex and even their interactions were not very much often. Today human societies are very much complex and they have very frequent interactions; further, unlike past, today the resources are getting scarce with each passing day while the number of people living on earth are increasing. Moreover, with the development in science and technology, there has been advancement in the field of modern weaponry, making wars more possible and more lethal. There are possibilities that the modern wars can well end in nuclear wars which if not controlled properly can really lead to the extinction of human race.

The reasons and motivations for wars are different. It should be noted that the motivation for war may be different for those ordering the war than for those undertaking the war. The people ordering the war form leadership, while the people undertaking the war form the military and even the people. It is quite possible that the leadership may be pursuing the war with the motivation of exerting its dominance over the enemy, while the soldiers forming the military may be fighting the war just because they are more motivated towards the money they are getting for the war. Nonetheless, it is necessary for a state to have the will of its leadership, its military and its people behind a war otherwise it may result into a failure (that is what happening in the war against terrorism). The motivations may differ, but there should be motivation. War uses force and force requires energy, which is provided by leadership, military and people, once that energy ends, the war cannot coerce its objectives. The reasons of the war may differ on different

occasions. According to Jewish Talmud, described in the BeReshit Rabbah, there are three universal reasons for wars; 1). Economic, 2). Ideological/religious and 3). Power/pride/love (personal). The reasons described by him are really one of the basic reasons but not the only reasons. Today with the development of the states and the growing importance of politics in them, political reason is one of the most dominant reasons. And it should be mentioned as well that it is not necessary that a particular war should have only a single reason. There can be different reasons for a single war and because of a single reason there can be various wars. John G. Stoessinger, in his Why Nations Go to War says that the parties who go for the war claim that morality justifies their fight. He further mentions that the rationale for beginning a war depends on an overly optimistic assessment of the outcome of hostilities (casualties and costs), and on misperceptions of the enemy's intentions. In short, there are different theories describing different reasons for war. These theories include psychological theories, economic theory, demographic theory and many others. They talk about the different reasons of war but none can be considered as a universal theory.

As there is no constant and universal reason for war, in the same way the strategic and tactical aspects of war keep on changing with the changing nature of human societies. According to Carl Von Clausewitz, "Every age had its own kind of war, its own limiting conditions, and its own peculiar preconceptions." The single factor that has always been constant is war's employment of organized violence and the resultant destruction of property and lives. The conducts of wars have changed with the changing societies as well. In the words of Ralph Peters, "The nature of warfare never changes, only its superficial manifestations. Joshua and David, Hector and Achilles would recognize the combats that our soldiers and marines have waged in Somalia and Iraq. The uniforms evolve, bronze gives way to titanium, arrows may be replaced by laser-guided bombs, but the heart of the matter is still killing your enemies until any survivors surrender and do your will."

The effect of the wars is the most tragic aspect of war and it can be measured by the amount of losses incurred by the involved parties. The losses of the war can be in the form of property and valuable human life. The result of the war can be measured by the outcomes of the war. The difference between the conditions before the war and after the war basically constitutes the outcomes. Sometimes the outcomes are in the favor of a particular party in the war, but on most of the occasions the outcomes are in the favor of none of the parties. The ongoing war against terrorism in Afghanistan may become one of the same types of war that ends in the favor of none of the parties in the war. More than a decade after the war, as the war is being concluded, none of the parties, US authorities and people, Afghan authorities and people, Pakistani authorities and people and Taliban, seems to be contended with the result of the war and each one finds its objectives not achieved. If not pursued properly from now onwards, this war is going to result in nothing more than a share tragedy.

Dilawar Sherzai is the permanent writer of the Daily Outlook Afghanistan. He can be reached at Outlookafghanistan@gmail.com

An Apple Does not Fall Far From the Tree

By Hujjatullah Zia

When a child is born, he is in chains at birth. Despite his free nature, his mother ties him with great force. He feels pain and suffering and weeps with anger. From the very beginning, his mother treats him against his natural tendency and comfort. Since his voice is free, he screams to rail against the torture and cruelty done to him. He weeps for being hurt physically. If you were tied up as a newborn, you would shout more painfully. What does this obsolete tradition originate in?

Jean Jacques Rousseau believes that this tradition took root when mothers disparaged their sacred task of nurturing their children and submitted them to foster-mothers. The employed nurses, who lacked motherly sincerity, tied up the children with ribbon for long hours so as to do their household chores with peace of mind. Moreover, they were sure enough that children could not hurt themselves that way and remained apathetic to their cries. So, their mothers enjoyed themselves on streets or wedding ceremonies regardless of what was being done to their children.

Rousseau maintains that there are women ready to breast-feed the kids, whose mothers deny it, in return for money but nothing can fill the vacuum of mother's sympathy. He accuses women of evading their motherly responsibilities - especially of breast-feeding their children. He adds that those who breast-feed the kids of others instead of their own are appropriate mothers neither for their kids nor for the kids of others.

Rousseau argues that if you believe that everyone must carry out his/her job properly, let's start from mothers. In case of their deficiency, Moral principles erode, natural feelings weather in the hearts and the domestic milieu, which is taking shape this way, fails to attract the spouses and to make the strangers to keep the decorum. The home will change into a tragic domicile.

However, if mother breast-feed their children, the decorum and moral principles will emerge automatically. The beauty and sincerity of a family is the antidote to corrupt morality and evil characters. Children's hustle and bustle will change into a solace. The family ties will grow stronger and the house chores will turn to amusement. If mothers neglect to nurture their scions' natural tendencies, children will lose the sense of affection towards their mothers. It is clear that if mothers do not nourish their children, they act against nature. Rousseau affirms that lavishing a surfeit of attention and care upon children is also against nature - and therefore destructive. In other words, idolizing children with the intention of letting them not to feel their incapacity, will lead to horrible consequence. Mothers, who attempt to save their chil-

dren from natural pain and suffering, will do great harm to them. Rousseau stresses on nature and urges parents to bring up their children in natural way. He states that let children experience the natural difficulties of life - such as sickness and pain. So, those who face the ups and downs of life bravely will be able to stand up on their own feet. Abraham Lincoln writes wisely to his son's teacher regarding training his child as, "Teach him if you can, how to laugh when he is sad... Teach him there is no shame in tears; teach him to scoff at cynics and to beware of too much sweetness... Teach him to sell his brawn and brain to the highest bidders but never to put a price-tag on his heart and soul.

Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob and to stand and fight if he thinks he's right. Treat him gently, but do not cuddle him, because only the test of fire makes fine steel.

Let him have the courage to be impatient... let him have the patience to be brave. Teach him always to have sublime faith in himself, because then he will have sublime faith in mankind."

Rousseau affirms that it is shown that the mortality rate among the children who live in opulence and lush surroundings is far higher than those who live in misery and suffering. He exhorts parents to expose their children to physical pains and prepare them to tolerate hunger, exhaustion and the torrid and frigid weather of multiple atmospheres so as to prevent them from greater dangers in the future. According to Rousseau, children are flexible and far susceptible to change than the old individuals. So, it is easy to train kids in any way before taking roots certain habits in them. One can bring up the kids strong without putting their health at risk. Yet if they fail to endure a small risk, they will lose their morale whilst facing greater jeopardy in the future.

He asserts that no one has committed suicide for suffering a certain physical disease, but it is only spiritual disease which breeds chagrin. Thus, if children be kept out of difficulties in their childhood, they will feel disappointment and may seek to commit suicide with facing only a slight challenge in their future.

Rousseau concludes in Emile that when a child is born, his infancy elapses with cries. The parents either threaten or pat the child to soothe it. In short, we either succumb to our own anger or to the child's tendency rather than choosing a middle way. So, the child learns either to order or to obey from the very first day, it is no more than slavery and mastery. Sometimes, the child is punished without knowing its fault or making a mistake. This way, we fill them with egotism, cruelty and lust for evil and then attribute the evils to nature railing against them for becoming wicked.

Hujjat Zia is the permanent writer of the Daily Outlook Afghanistan. He can be reached at zia_hujjat@yahoo.com

Chairman / Editor in Chief: Dr. Hussain Yasa

Vice Chairman: Kazim Ali Gulzari

Phone: +93 799 005 019/799 408 271/777 005 019

E-mail: mail@outlookafghanistan.com, outlookafghanistan@gmail.com

Address: V-137, Street 6, Phase 4, Shahrak Omeed Sabz, Kabul, Afghanistan

Sub Office: Shora Road, Street 10, District 6, Kartey 3, Kabul, Afghanistan

