

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



February 25, 2015

## No More Terrorists to be Released

The meeting of President Ghani with the officers of military was much important. The meeting was attended by a number of important officers of Afghan National Army and Police. President listened to the demands of top brass of military and police and vowed that after this, no kind of relaxation will be given to the terrorists who have killed or injured the security forces of the country. Similarly, the president ensured his complete support for the security forces of the country with a vow to equip them with all the needed equipment and making all the efforts to bring them to the level of an advanced army.

We witnessed a number of events during the tenure of last president Hamid Karzai when a number of terrorists were released under a number of excuses. These releases gave birth to a number of complications. It was demoralizing for the security forces who had caught these terrorists after valuable sacrifices. The release was like ignoring their efforts and sacrifices. There were some hidden and open voices against these releases by the soldiers and officers. Similarly, the civil society also arranged a number of demonstration against these releases. It was also confirmed that a number of these released terrorists had joined the lines of terrorists and started again their functionality against the state forces. It simply meant that our forces had to work once again to catch or kill those who were once caught by our forces. It was also the practice of ex-president Karzai to decrease the sentences of prisoners on a number of occasions like Eid, New Afghan Year and others. Such a pardon from the head of state is not something out of routine and such practice is seen in a number of other countries but terrorists and state enemies are not given any kind of relaxation in such pardons. However, such a pardon in our country applies equally to all. There were also reports that a number of dangerous terrorists were released in the darkness of night, without any kind of legal or judicial prosecution. These dangerous terrorists were also reported to have strong links in the cabinet and parliament of the country.

However, majority of these releases were done on the recommendations of High Peace Council (HPC) as a part of their efforts to build trust. According to HPC, in order to bring Taliban on the table of negotiations and win their trust, it was necessary to give them a positive signal and establish trust between them. It was also said that Pakistani government had also asked the release of a number of terrorists. However, it is fact that these releases have failed to bring any kind of breakthrough in the peace talks and the process of peace talks is as fruitless as it was in the last 12 years of democratic government. Taliban have not only agreed to do any kind of cooperation with either Afghan or Pakistani government for the promotion of peace and security in Afghanistan but they have continuously increased in their demand with the progress of peace talks. It simply meant that these releases failed to address their sole purpose and it can be called the failure of the vision of government. At the same time, it was a dangerous move of government to release into society the terrorists who can be very dangerous to the mere existence of the society. Although the present unity government has also expressed its deep desire to hold talks with Taliban and other groups but it has been made clear that such peace talks would always be held without any unfair condition and the release of Taliban will not be taken as an option to be acceptable for the resumption of trust and peace talks. President Ghani also expressed his support for meeting the needs of the security forces so that they should be able to function properly and ensure the security of the country from all the internal and external threats. This important decision of the president was much needed as due to the release of terrorists, the security forces had become demoralized. There were also reports that large number of police forces of Maidan Wardak province had threatened to leave the force if their salaries were not raised. They had complained that instead of increasing, their salaries had been decreased and it was not able to meet their needs. In the same way, there are also complaints from the lower staff of police force that they are not given their promised benefits. Now that the president has assured his personal interest in solving the problems of security forces, we can hope that their fair demands would be met. As the summer gets closer, we are in fear of increased insurgency and terrorism in different parts of the country and our forces must be given absolute support to be successful in this war against terror. In the last months, the civil society arranged a number of demonstrations to express their support for the security forces and laud their efforts and sacrifices. In this meeting, the government has also expressed its unconditional support for the security forces and we can hope that our forces would be able to perform their best in the protection of the borders and civilians of the country.



Violation of Rights

## Way-Out to Self Earned Troubles

By Asmatyari

Man is entitled to be the supreme creature as his superior mental capability owns a peculiar attribute in his inferior body. Deeds are executed in the light of perception thought-out in one's mind based on sensational judgments. The mental supplement involving rational discourse is never brought into practice that enables man learn beyond the limits of superficial sensory perceptiveness. The sensory perception of man lies within a restricted limit; nevertheless his mental perceptiveness is boundless and is at par with excellence.

Most of the problems, we encounter on daily accounts are associated with a flawed reception of the root causes of the quandary and flawed strategies leading to its proper solution. Consequently, the right course falls short, following efforts are exercised in the pursuit of superfluous and vague goals. Thus, we keep on oscillating between the issue and the disingenuous course leading to reprehensible solution. One of the degenerative understandings, commonly witnessed is an objective view of the issues. It has always been effortless, holding someone else responsible for our erroneous deeds. We have all turned professionals in disowning the ill-consequences, some of our ill-strategized feat brings. We spare not, any opportunity to earn credits for other selfless undertakings; conversely, reluctant to own the responsibilities for their own fallacious accomplishment. The aristocratic, despotic regimes and absolute rule instilled in most of Muslim countries whilst denying liberal democracy—the ruling class steers the fate of the nation, consequently the pages of history are filled with blunders individuals committed and the nation is left to reap for generations, which no one realizes.

Muslims exert greater effort on preserving absolute religious dogmas, tradition without being contemplative to coincide it with demands of changing contemporary world. Religion has turned a collection of congested beliefs in which no timely and compatible interpretation stands permissible. Religion anchored on dogmatic interpretation annuls creativity and innovation and unswervingly dictates the political and social arena of our daily undertakings – thus completely restraining advancements with changing world and grooming circumstances; the Muslim society therefore could not prosper to date. The conservative elements have always taken measures to curtail the collective success and prosperity of the society terming the innovative developments anti-religion. They have always struck at emotional nerve of their adherents; intellectually kept in dark, denied access to scholarly approach thus made an unnatural bond to the forged prescription. We could not draw a clear distinctive line between licit and illicit deeds. The plague of narrow-mindedness has worst affected us to the level that our ill deeds are fortified to the height of truth and others good deeds appear forged to us. The poison of biased understanding injected into the bloodstream of society has maligned their moderate disposition to extreme one. Freedom of thought, providing a sound basis of intellectual progress is not only given the status of ill recognition but also un-Islamic.

There has ever been a wide chasm between thoughtful comprehension of obligation and veneration; in contemporary afghan society

one finds verbal utility the other overshadowed by heedless inculcation. Virtues, earnest faith, superior deeds and heavenly rewards, only come via repeated veneration, is widely propagated, negating the underlying worth of dutifulness. The binding principles of duties of immense significance are deemed inferior whilst religious dogma and set ritual superior. This is the state of superiority complex and the society suffering superiority complex, never rise to prominence, unless turn realistic.

Inhabiting in constant state of denial is yet another problem overshadowing our collective wisdom. We advertently commit to disown the responsibilities for our committed and deliberate ill-deeds and mishaps instead bother not in shifting the responsibilities to another institution or official. Thus the guilt is neither fixed nor is guilty brought to book. Many problems in the third world countries are associated with flawed or delayed fixation of responsibilities; the culprit either escape owning the unlawful activity or keep on shifting the responsibilities from one to another stakeholder. Finally, no one is brought to book and hence justice delayed is justice denied. Particularly, when justice is to be exercised against a high profile person, then the anticipation of recovery and evenhandedness die its natural death. This intimate an extreme demonstration of sanity, dutifulness and own responsibilities for inappropriate unintentional deeds. It is a moral transferring act that may aspire our leaders! It is high time; the public office bearing individuals in this piece land learn the height of the impartial and rational extension of responsibilities.

Another pivotal problem –the fallacious and social structure enrooted on an erroneous classification system supporting proprietors, feudal lords and ruling elites. A superior ethno-political elite ruling for generations draws economic and political privileges. The lower class or ethnic groups are denied access to fundamental rights and necessities of life. The system directly supporting, promoting and protecting injustices seem unlikely to extend space to talent, competence, capabilities, as an alternative recommendation, inducement and influential financial status help earning preferential societal position. Nonetheless, the whole functionalities of the flawed system escape apprehension –they are subjugated to practiced system not the constitutional provision because of despotic brought up. It is imperative that constitutional safeguard is provided to hapless citizens seeking justices over authority and power abusers. The injustices cracking the socio-political fabric of society and widen the societal divide across ethnic lines, must be curtailed. The politically under-privileged ethnic group rendered vulnerable with increasing the sense of insecurity and should be given in confidence. May the custodians of illusive slogans come forth to fight against all these social evils, injustices, biases and human rights violation? The recklessness multiplied our impediments and thoughtfulness offers a permanent way out to it.

It should be underlined that a sustainable triumph with continuous and unending effort, encompassing a dynamic mechanism, pursuing a workable strategy seems plausible and workable. Problems and crisis are the integral part of every society, as long as a pragmatic solution is not working out. We own potentials of averting their disgruntled fate by exercising rational deeds following due course of actions.

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## ISIS – A Spot of Disgrace on the Face of Islamic World

By Hujjatullah Zia

Muslim scholars are outraged about the Islamic State's brutality and perversion of Islam, calling it savagery, deviant and heretical. Sunni and Shiite alike have joined forces against this outrage. "ISIS fighters have exhibited repulsive savagery and cruelty. Even as they butcher Shiite Muslims and Christians in their effort to touch off a broader ethnic and sectarian conflict, they pursue a calculated strategy of killing fellow Sunni Muslims to gain and hold territory. The beheading of an American journalist, James Foley, has shocked the conscience of the world." John F. Kerry affirmed in his article, "What we are confronting is nothing less than a violent extremist enterprise. It has employed violence, intimidation, and genocidal brutality to impose its will across large swaths of Syria and Iraq. The Islamic State controls more territory than Al Qaeda ever has, which means it has access to money on an unprecedented scale to finance its mayhem." The three-day conference, organized by the Muslim World League group of non-government organisations, is being attended by senior clerics from across the Muslim world to discuss how Islam can combat extremism.

The head of Al-Azhar, Sunni Islam's most prestigious seat of learning, has called for education reform in Muslim countries in an effort to contain the spread of religious extremism. Speaking at counter-terrorism forum in the Saudi holy city of Mecca, Al-Azhar grand imam Ahmed al-Tayeb linked extremism to "bad interpretations of the Koran and the sunna", the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). "There has been a historical accumulation of excessive trends" that have led some people to embrace a misguided form of Islam, he told the gathering. "The only hope for the Muslim nation to recover unity is to tackle in our schools and universities this tendency to accuse Muslims of being unbelievers," he continued.

Tayeb's comments come days after he expressed outrage at the Islamic State group (IS) for burning to death a captured Jordanian pilot who took part in US-led air strikes against the jihadists in Syria. On 4 February, after ISIS released a video showing Maaz al-Kassasbeh dying in a cage engulfed in flames, Tayeb said the jihadists deserved to be killed or crucified.

Tayeb blamed unrest in the region on a conspiracy by what he called "new global colonialism allied to world Zionism". He said that this plot has exploited "confessional tension" in conflict-hit Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Libya. The opening day of the conference also heard a speech from Saudi King Salman who called for "an efficient strategy to combat terrorism". The monarch's speech, read by the governor of Mecca, said, "Terrorism is a scourge which is

the product of extremist ideology ... It is a threat to our Muslim nation and to the entire world." The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria seek to impose their warped beliefs at the point of a gun. In other words, it rules at the barrel of a gun and the blade of a knife, and that's the only language its adherents seem to understand. They murder innocent individuals into frenzy, without feeling an iota of mercy. Their religious stereotypes are anathema to sound reason and Islamic sharia. The Islamic State's fundamental ideology and spurious claims are considered heresy by Islamic clergy.

After all, it is a great pleasure to see that the difference between real Muslims and the perverted ones are clear for the world. As a result, it is remembered vividly when U.S. President Barack Obama gave a speech in Cairo few years back asserting as, "I know, too, that Islam has always been a part of America's story. The first nation to recognize my country was Morocco. In signing the Treaty of Tripoli in 1796, our second President John Adams wrote, "The United States has in itself no character of enmity against the laws, religion or tranquility of Muslims." And since our founding, American Muslims have enriched the United States. They have fought in our wars, served in government, stood for civil rights, started businesses, taught at our Universities, excelled in our sports arenas, won Nobel Prizes, built our tallest building, and lit the Olympic Torch. And when the first Muslim-American was recently elected to Congress, he took the oath to defend our Constitution using the same Holy Koran that one of our Founding Fathers - Thomas Jefferson - kept in his personal library.

So I have known Islam on three continents before coming to the region where it was first revealed. That experience guides my conviction that partnership between America and Islam must be based on what Islam is, not what it isn't. And I consider it part of my responsibility as President of the United States to fight against negative stereotypes of Islam wherever they appear."

Obama's statements are agreed upon strongly and there is no propinquity between Islamic preach and ISIS's practices. The Islamic State has besmirched Islam via their oppression and barbarity. Terrorists, the ISIS in particular, are like cancer in Middle East and have to be liquidated so as to prevent the society from the pathetic state of moribund. Obama's words still stand and he said on Thursday, "Muslim communities, including scholars and clerics, therefore have a responsibility to push back, not just on twisted interpretations of Islam, but also on the lie that we are somehow engaged in a clash of civilization; that America and the West are somehow at war with Islam or seek to suppress Muslims." He added, "The notion that the West is at war with Islam is an ugly lie.... We are not at war with Islam. We are at war with people who have perverted Islam."

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