

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

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Self-dependence via Self-reliance

The man is entitled to be the supreme creature given his superior mental capability owes 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 conception 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 understanding of the root causes of the quandary and flawed strategies leading to its proper solution. Consequently, efforts exercised in the pursuit of extraneous vague goals, fall short to devise an appropriate way out to the problems. Thus, we keep on oscillating between the issue and the disingenuous course leading to suitable solution.

There has always 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, which 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 from superiority complex never rises to prominence, unless it turns realistic.

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, we are reluctant to own the responsibilities for a self accomplished, fallacious accomplishment. There are multiple incidences of frauds and irregularities and embezzlements that have occurred on this piece of land till date no culprit is punished and no impartial accountability is exercised. In all such cases the accused public official and institutions begin shifting responsibilities. Nominal commissions and committees are constituted to fix the responsibilities; at the end of day, nothing, with exception to wastage of public revenue crystallizes. It's high time we demonstrate commitment to rise to eminence by setting examples of admitting and fulfilling our collective 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 seems 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 functionaries of the flawed system escape apprehension - they are subjugated to practiced system not the constitutional provision because of despotic brought up. The culprits of Kabul bank swindle to date, escape detainment and prosecution because of having influential ties. 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 taken in confidence. May the custodians of illusive slogans come forth to fight against all these social evils, injustices, biases and human rights violation?

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. Man owes the potentials of averting their disgruntled fate by exercising rational deeds following due course of actions.

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. 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 other good deeds appear forged for 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.

It is a renowned truism 'God help those who help themselves'. The dictum reminds us of the deep lying worth of selfless accomplishment of duties. Nevertheless, we have thought out to get others commit our undertakings. Seeing the degree of reliance on others, rendered our innate capabilities dysfunctional, the aforesaid saying never justifies our standing. Consequently we are likely not to execute our socio-political undertakings; resultantly every aspect of societal proceedings pleads grave attention and right direction. One of rational outlooks a realistic approach demand is self-reliance via self-dependence; we are regrettably deficient in. We are truthful and sincere to our obligations and responsibilities to a degree that is laudable in disguise. We have never helped ourselves; hence none of our problems leads to ultimate solution. Neither, the political affairs are streamlined, nor the socio-economic issues seek right directed. The time advances devoid of material gains. The distances travelled can't take us forth to an ambiguous destination.



Don't Miss a Single Chance

By: Hujjatullah Zia

When I remember, it'll be brown eyes and wild hair, a smile so wide and bright, you knew he was there. When I remember, it'll be warm, strong hugs, drinking black, strong coffee out of enormous mugs. When I remember, it'll be talking late at night, trying to get this life thing, just exactly right. When I remember, it'll be working side by side, jumping in his pickup, going for a ride. When I remember, it'll be shouting words of fun, with a brother and two sisters, not quitting till he'd won...."

Perhaps, you have the best intentions, but you are too busy. Between your job and your family and taking care of your home you barely have time to spend with your near and dear ones. Sometimes it happens that one loses his/her beloved one with the blink of an eye without anytime to spend with, then s/he will regret painfully. Life is too short; a small negligence will lead to irreparable loss.

You can tell what is important to a person by the way they spend their time. If relationships are important, you will make time for them. You will make it a priority to send birthday greetings, celebrate the joys and mourn the losses of your nearest and dearest. And if you want to truly live the good life, you'll expand this out to include friends and acquaintances who might become better friends with a little time and small gifts.

It is a great misfortune that I always fail to keep a regular contact with my friends and family. Moreover, I fear that I will never find a chance to live with my family members. Then, can anything heal the wounds to be left by the loss of my beloved ones? Never! There is a good story which teaches one to keep contact with their kiths and kin and value them in their lifetime; otherwise taking a bunch of flower to their insensitive graves or shedding bitter tears on their tombstones will hardly mitigate one's pains and sorrows.

A man drove to a flower shop to order some flowers to be wired or couriered to his mother who lived 200 miles away. He was just too busy to visit his mother on her birthday. As he got out of his car, he noticed a young girl sitting on the curb sobbing. The man asked her what was wrong. "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother. But I only have 75 cents, and a rose costs two dollars." The girl replied. The man smiled kindly at the girl. "Come on into the shop with me. I'll buy you a rose", he said.

He bought the little girl her rose and ordered his own flowers for his mother's birthday. He instructed the florist to

courier the flowers over to his mother's home the following day. As they were leaving, he offered the girl a ride home. "Oh! Thank you so much sir! Please take me to my mother", the girl said happily. The man was only too happy to oblige. He asked the little girl to direct him to her mother's place. The little girl directed the man to a cemetery, where she placed the rose on a grave. Her mother had died a few days ago.

The man returned to the flower shop, canceled the courier service, picked up a bouquet of flowers and drove the two hundred miles to his mother's house.

We should not take things for granted. Value what we have and count our blessings. How often have we got caught up in a never-ending process of 'busyness'? We fail to realize that at any time death can flatten all our material possessions and worldly achievements, status and power.

What really matters ultimately are the intangible things, the love, kindness, gratitude, generosity, compassion and care we show towards others. The development of these qualities is our true wealth; qualities that help us grow spiritually, qualities that lead us to true peace, happiness and freedom.

Let's not live a life that will cause us to regret when the time comes for us to leave everything and everyone behind. Let's do the positive things now, do them when we still can. Let's not wait before it is too late. Living a life meaningfully would entail touching others' lives so that they become more happy and peaceful. When a life is lived meaningfully, then that life can die joyfully. We are recommended to make the time for visiting our friends and relatives. We're all busy, and we all have things vying for our attention every second of the day. In order to invest in our relationships, we are supposed to make it a priority and carve out the time for it, even though it doesn't seem like a pressing need.

It is believed that the most precious gift in one's life is spending time with their near and dear ones. Hence, let's cherish this gift and develop a healthy relationship with our friends and relatives. It must be noted that "a healthy relationship will never require you to sacrifice your happiness, your other important relationships, your dreams, or your dignity." So, it is aptly said that, "The best gift you can give someone you care about is the purity of your full attention. That's what best friends do for each other every time they're together."

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Children; the most Vulnerable Class in Afghanistan

By: S.Najeebullah Wajahat (Akbari)

... Continued from Yesterday

Two generations of Afghan, as the result of the war, are figured to remain illiterate. In terms of education the hard-line suppressive regime of Taliban cost the biggest loss for Afghanistan. Violence and intimidation were used as a routine to prevent girls and women from school. In the course of time when Taliban were ruling Afghanistan only one million children were attending schools. While now according to the official statistics some eleven (11) million children are enlisted in schools all across the country. Afghan children confront multiple problems regularly and the prime concern of most of them is food and clothing. While in other (targeted) countries at least the basic rights of children like; food, clothing, security and education; are protected by the governments. No change and betterment should be anticipated in Afghanistan as long as the people have the same worries and concerns and the children face the same difficulties. The change only comes when youths and children are free of the concerns of food and clothing and receive standard education.

Education, Poverty, lack of shelter, insecurity, child harassment and gender-sex, under aged-marriages, abuse of international mafia, labor children abuse, family violence against the children and migration are the major problems in the life of most of the Afghan children and big obstacles in the way of their progression.

1- Education: although, in entirety the education system in Afghanistan has started working after the collapse of Taliban regime, yet it faces a lot of challenges and lapses. It has to overcome many shortcomings in both quality and quantity spheres. Mr. Farooq Wardak the minister of Education at the beginning of the last educational year told that about five million and three hundred thousand qualified Afghan children aged seven to eighteen, due to economic and social problems are prevented from attending school. He added that still some eleven million Afghans are deprived of education. Hamid Karzia the ex-Afghan president continuously requested Taliban not to fire or lock schools, instead of dealing them effectively and adopting an appropriate approach. Official reports say that recently 650 schools are locked in Northern provinces of the country where Taliban have stronger existence. It doesn't have any meaning except that children are deprived of school and education in these areas. More or less 40 percent of the schools are lacking buildings and children study under the tents or destructed buildings. On the other hand neither the teachers are paid enough salary to fulfill their requirements and work with peaceful mind nor they are provided security. In recent years many teachers have been kidnapped, tortured and some even have been shot dead or beheaded.

2- Poverty: poverty is one of the prime factors in vulnerability of Afghan children. Afghanistan is a country where millions of people including massive number of children live under the poverty line. Huge numbers of Afghan children



are forced to work hard physically. Being the only source of income, they are not only obliged to feed themselves but also to feed their families. Variant abuses; from verbal violence to physical punishment are practiced on them during the course of work. The only option they can find before themselves is tolerance to protect their jobs and source of incomes. Severe tireless work has caused them different physical and mental defections and diseases. Worse than them is that still cases are seen wherein parents sell their children as goods. A field research survey conducted by Human rights commission of Afghanistan notifies that over all fifty one percent of the Afghan children in some way or the other work but the due factor for 45 percent of them is poverty.

3- Under age marriages: in many areas around the country (mostly in villages and rarely in cities) still the custom is such that forces the girls to wed against their own will before they complete their fifteen. In many cases these under aged-girls are married to men who are two or three times older than them. This process is not restricted to the girls only. Some of the boys also (mostly in the villages) get married when they are younger than seventeen or eighteen. These illiterate and uninformed boys and girls become parent in the prime years of their marriages. These new mothers in one hand are obviously not ready for the training and nutrition of their children and in the other side are confronted to the death because of the delivery bleeding and early pregnancy.

4- Lack of house: the fourth factor which makes Afghan children vulnerable is lack of family and shelter. As earlier mentioned; thousands of Afghan children have lost their parents and houses during the long term war as a result they live in low standard orphanages and some even in streets. The report of mentioned survey approves that some eight percent of the surveyed children are living in orphanages, they lack family.

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