

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

# Daily Outlook

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### How to Learn Offering Services and Security from China?

If a state seeks to open wider to the outside world and build a strong economy through state-to-state and people-to-people exchanges, that will be China. There is a strong sense of hope in the public air in China since all individual and collective efforts are geared to alleviating poverty, promoting economy and building a moderately prosperous society.

All cities and provinces are strongly linked to one another through railways, highways, ports and airports and now China seeks to have similar linkage with the rest of the world. Modern technology, high-tech enterprises and e-commerce have brought the Chinese from all corner of the country very close as they do not feel the long distance. The high-speed trains, bullet trains and electric cars made the routes extremely short from one city to the next. Online shopping and e-payment through WeChat from miles away leave no distance between sellers and buyers. Shopping is done within seconds and no need to bother yourself with carrying physical money. Perhaps you will ask me about shoplifting or street crime. With all those surveillance cameras and alarms installed in stores and markets, shoplifting is impossible. Likewise, those surveillance cameras have reduced street crimes to a great extent and changed China into one of the safest countries in the world. There is no need to employ a large number of police on the street to prevent from crime, you are simply under the surveillance of cameras in the street, subway, buses, etc.

Your mobile is your totem and the key to all your challenges here. If you need an address, a taxi, bike, a movie ticket, a rail or flight ticket, hotel, food, etc. click one of the options in your mobile We-Chat. In cases such as buying a ticket or ordering food to your room/home, you need not consume a long time or pass a long distance, just order through your mobile.

Only few days back, I had a visit to Beijing-based Megvii Technology Co., Ltd. One of its product is Face++ which was launched in 2012 and offers services in detection, recognition, identity verification and analysis. Facial recognition is applied in various areas such as car rental, shopping, financial services and online-to-offline services.

This company also offers high-quality surveillance cameras for detecting criminal issues. According to Olivia Geng, in charge of international branding, more than 5000 criminal cases were resolved last year through the surveillance cameras, which recognize faces, pedestrians, vehicles and IDs. In case of noticing a suspect, cameras will give alarm.

Thanks to modern technology for offering good services and tight security in China as well as the rest of the world. In modern time, speed is a principle in business and it is gained only through modern technology. For example, customers are willing to gain the goods and their necessities as soon as possible and the sellers and businesspersons also want their money in short time. The fast purchases and trades will be done only by modern technology. In this case, China has developed to a great extent.

Security is one of the issues which can be ensured through modern technology the same as China does. If cities are equipped with surveillance cameras, criminals will be detected even before committing crime. In such a case, a city or a country will be safe and no one would dare commit crime. However, it should be noted that besides the surveillance cameras, there is a strong need for honest officials and police officers. If officials or police officers be involved in corruption or have hand with criminals, than capturing criminals will be really hard.

If we view the insecurity in Afghanistan, corruption is one of the main reasons behind it. For example, in some criminal cases in Afghanistan, the records are deleted, some security machines in government offices and customs are vandalized. Currently, even there is no clear record for the 10 percent tax detected from the citizens' mobile credit cards.

If Afghan officials seek to prevent crime as well as bring security, they have to install surveillance cameras in cities, mainly big cities such as Kabul, and utilize modern technology. These cameras, if handled properly, are believed to reduce crime and terrorist attacks to a great extent.

There is no doubt that China can be a role model for all developing and under developed countries in many cases, mainly facilities, services and security issues. To offer services and security to the public, Afghanistan will have to follow China in utilizing technologies and handling security as much as possible. Moreover, officials are supposed to practice honesty and campaign against not only poverty but also corruption to build a moderately prosperous society, as China is seeking for such a society.

### Lesson learned from the Nezamuddin Qaisari saga: Paradigm shift needed to transform 'Revenge to Justice' (P2)

By Upendra Baghel

Faryab province is highly factionalized with repeated clashes between two arch rival parties: Junbish-i-Millati and Jamiat-e-Islami party. Both are supported largely by two different ethnicities, namely Uzbeks and Tajiks, respectively and both supported the incumbent National Unity Government. Anti Government Entities (AGEs) including Taliban control larger parts of the province, mainly rural areas. Maimana is in the valley and all the hills around the valley are under the influence of AGEs and Taliban. Political factionalism and threat of Taliban have forced each group to have their own militias as their dedicated and committed force. These militias have also been utilized by the national government directly or indirectly to limit Taliban to some part of rural areas and preventing them from taking over the district centers and provincial center.

Many of these regional armed leaders were instrumental in putting break on Taliban expansion through their induction into Afghan Local Police (ALP), an initiative of the government to stabilize security situation. Qaysar was one of such district where ALP project was launched. These leaders exploited the weakness of the state and very tactfully, introduced part of their group into ALP and kept a part as back up force for their needs. Also, the leaders close to government were able to push their group members more into ALP and started getting state support including heavy weapons and vehicles, which further fuelled local conflicts and disputes between Junbish and Jamiat. Loose accountability and managerial mechanisms allowed them to divert government resources to forward their interests and also broadened their revenue stream to consolidate their powers and financial resources. These militias have been supported by the state and also armed by the state time to time. So, these are the field realities and political maneuverings in the province and its districts. The state building is a complex art where these maneuverings are undertaken in the larger interest of the state, which are peace, security and development.

But in the process, the state should not lose its primary focus: providing safety to its people and bringing stability for good governance and economic development. Threats by external sources, which is Taliban and AGEs, are the primary concern for the people and then internal threats, which are: violence-caused by factionalism.

On both aspects, the government has been losing focus and ground. The trust in the security institutions dipped to the lowest level, when Maimana was under threat in 2015 from Taliban and it was about to collapse. Residents of Maimana openly assert that security forces deserted their checkpoints and police stations. They claim that 'citizen militias prevented a major catastrophe in Maimana' and so 'the public confidence in government forces is very low and that in people's forces and militia is very high'. In the last three years, Afghan security forces have improved their capabilities but they need to win the hearts of the people to develop trust. Even now, residents of Maimana refer to the threats of 2015 and don't

trust security system. On account of this, whenever a campaign was launched to regulate citizen militia weapons, it could not muster much support and had to abandon efforts. Also, the criminal justice system and governance, which are used to address internal threats, could not be made functional. The read out charges of attorney general office (AGO) covers a period of few years and one wonders why these could not be brought forward as and when occurred. Whether there is mutual coexistence where insurgency and part of government both complement each other? This possibility cannot be ruled out as many times, the check points/ check posts are attacked without casualties, seemingly as per convenience. Telephone towers are switched off in evening and roads are left free of government security at dusk.

The same Qaisari asked the AGO to interrogate and take action against his rival group last year in March-April 2017 for killing his son and few others in a clash. He also threatened that failing which he would be forced to take revenge. The rebel groups were supported, armed and authorized by the government to maintain security in outskirts of Maimana and they were considered as Community Defence Force having close links with police in Maimana. Reportedly, the clash got erupted over some trivial issue with his son, who was on leave to Maimana during his college holidays. He alleged a section of police to facilitate the rival group members fleeing their dwellings to Taliban areas across few hills. The same people who were armed by the government later joined Taliban with all their heavy weapons and Humvees.

Faryab province needs an exhaustive review of the security situation and then develop a comprehensive solution engaging whole of the provincial government including military, police, attorney general office, local governance and local communities. In the absence of that a culture of factional violence and revenge may continue and the communities may continue to rely on the militia of armed leaders for their safety needs. Revenge is retaliation and it has been promoting conflict in the region. Justice can restore the balance in the communities though its nature of impersonality, impartiality and rationality.

The government and more over the Ministry of Interior should develop a mechanism to gradually disciplining and reining such leaders in policing system and imposing accountability mechanisms: converting them from a product of militia system to police system and transforming 'Revenge to Justice'. These efforts were never conceptualized and introduced. There are many such leaders in police who are double-edged swords and their skills and leadership may be utilized for state building and stability in their areas.

*Upendra Baghel is former Senior Police Advisor, UNAMA. He is an Indian Police Service officer from India having expertise in police, security, and human rights and humanitarian law. These are his personal views and not associated with any of his previous or present organization. He may be contacted via: Upendra.Baghel@gmail.com*

### Global Britain's Brexit Delusion

By Mark Malloch-Brown

What has happened to the United Kingdom? Ever since the June 2016 Brexit referendum, British foreign policy has all but collapsed.

With the United States in retreat, Russia belligerent, and China ascendant, there's never been a better time for Britain to engage globally. And yet Britain has checked out. The government's all-consuming preoccupation with the Gordian knot of Brexit has blinded it to what is happening beyond its borders.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. In the run-up to the referendum vote, the "Leave" camp's promise of a "global Britain" freed from the shackles of the European Union convinced many that a post-Brexit Britain would stand taller. But today, Brexiters' aspiration for Britain to lead the "Anglosphere" into a brave new world has been reduced to a comical delusion.

Consider India, which could potentially be a major trading partner for the UK after Brexit.

The problem is that Indians view Britain and Europe as one market. To them, Britain's quest to adopt its own rules and standards is a frivolous inconvenience. Before expanding trade and investment with post-Brexit Britain, India will likely pursue deeper ties to the EU. Britain's weakened hand is also evident at home. Despite success rallying global support to challenge Russian meddling in the UK - including the coordinated expulsion of Russian spies following a brazen nerve-

agent attack on English soil - the larger truth is that Britain is now Europe's weakest link. It's only a matter of time before Russian President Vladimir Putin probes the UK again, and when he does, Britain will have fewer tools to respond.

Meanwhile, with Britain joining the Trump administration by putting trade and investment before human rights and good governance, journalists, opposition politicians, and human-rights activists around the world are less safe. By retreating from liberal norms and siding with the United States, the government of Prime Minister Theresa May has become Trump's poodle. The "special relationship" has survived, but it is now a source of global uncertainty rather than a bulwark of stability.

The collapse of British foreign policy - and the country's tilt toward illiberalism - has come at a time of deepening global insecurity. The US and China are in the midst of a geopolitical rebalancing that will take a generation to play out. In an increasingly off-kilter world, Europe must serve as ballast.

But a Europe without Britain's traditional leadership, judgment, and diplomacy will be a lesser Europe. And Britain, by its own hand, will have been reduced to a pathetic curiosity.

*Mark Malloch-Brown is Chairman of Best for Britain, a Member of the UK House of Lords, and Former UN Deputy Secretary General and British Minister.*



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Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Moh. Reza Huwaida  
Vice Chairman/ Senior Editor: Moh. Sakhi Rezaie  
Email: outlookafghanistan@gmail.com  
Phone: 0093 (799) 005019/777-005019  
www.outlookafghanistan.net

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