

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



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Controlling the Deviant Behavior

The people living in a society do not necessarily accept all the norms and values of the society. There are certain individuals who think otherwise and may even go against the established norms, and thus deviate from the established ways of the society. Such deviation is not something abnormal but it tends to generate many other social problems when it gets intense. In intense cases deviation may even turn into serious crimes like murder, abduction, robbery and terrorism.

When people deviate they break social manners, social code of conduct in business and mutual agreements between the parties. They may go against the social manners of family and marriage. They can break promise and law of the state. They, as a matter of fact, revolt against the codes or norms that they do not consider correct or truthful. They can either do it willfully or simply by negligence of their responsibilities. In either case, they bring about a disturbance in the perceived social order. However, all the deviating individuals do not deviate in the same manner. Some deviations may result into very minor offences, while others may bring huge loss to others and thus the societies have established a mechanism of control to deal with such deviating behavior.

When deviation takes place on a larger scale, it can break the bonds of the society. The society, then, faces disorganization that may lead to disintegration and chaos. The function of institutions and groups is affected. Social problems of unrest among people develop. Even the social control may get paralyzed and the social order may lose balance.

One of the basic reasons of deviation is the failure to learn the norms of society. In fact, socializing institutions fail to perform their roles. Family is the first institutions teaching norms of social life. Parents play important role in this process. Siblings are the second to socialize their members of family. If both or one of the parents is absent by death or by other reason, the child fails to get proper learning, required affection and needs of satisfaction in the family. He becomes disturbed emotionally and seeks protection in the company of others outside the family. He learns anti-social activities, like smoking, gambling, abusing and deceiving others in association of bad neighborhood. He gets into the habit of deviance and becomes delinquent. Delinquency enters into his social life. He becomes criminal in adulthood and gets into the company of big criminals.

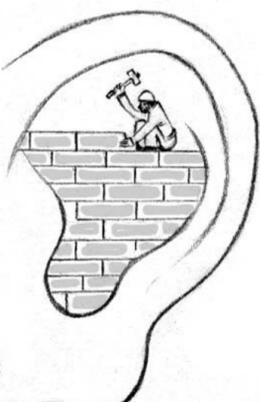
School and college are the next socializing institutions of education. If a person in not attracted by study, it means there is a great possibility that he may divert his attention towards other activities. However, there are occasions when school and college do not pay much attention towards proper socialization of the students so that they are able to become active members of society and take positive part in social life and social issues. They mostly concentrate more on the curriculum and academic excellence not on the social bonding of the students.

Neighborhood can also play a role in socialization of the individuals. There are many social activities that a neighborhood can promote so as to strengthen social bonds. They can have gatherings on different occasions; celebrations can be arranged; there can be different sorts of parties and even meetings to address the social issues they are facing. Meanwhile, a neighborhood that does not have many houses and the families mostly live their individualistic life without much interactions with others is bound to generate an environment that is not favorable for socialization. On the other hand, neighborhood can also play a role in promoting deviance. If there are certain groups or houses in the neighborhood that are non-conformist, they will definitely influence others and there may be a rise in deviance in such environment.

Moreover, one of the important factors is to understand that humans strive for attaining peace and ease in their social lives. This objective is achieved by having basic facilities of life. If there is dearth of basic requirements and the concerned authorities are not able to provide those requirements, there will be an urge for deviance in such environment. People will break the norms and values and even law to fulfill their requirements of life.

Like many other societies, our society also suffers from deviance to a large extent. There are many who go against the norms and values of the society and many others who break the law. In the short-run the best way to curb the situation is having a strong control mechanism. Our law and order system, in this regard, has the key role to play. Unfortunately, that seems to be very weak in our country and is not able to control the situation. It is neither properly developed nor it is based on true justice.

In the long run, however, we would have to deal with the actual causes of the deviance and among them raising the standard of living of the people and institutions is the most important. Therefore, we must strengthen our institution and at least provide basic requirements to the people so that they have the required trust on the society, social life and realize the worth of norms and values.



Seeking Peace to Support Democracy

By Hujjatullah Zia

Amid concerns about escalation in militancy and civilian casualties, peace talks still make headlines on national and international newspapers. The post-Taliban Afghanistan is considered a democratic state based on approving Constitution, to the international standard, and conducting presidential and provincial elections, as celebration of democracy, and constituted parliament - which is the beating heart of democracy in a state. The public rights and dignity are considered natural and inviolable and any kinds of discrimination and distinction on the grounds of race, sex, color and beliefs are not acceptable at all in the Constitution. People, constitutionally, can exercise their fundamental rights, namely the rights to life, liberty and property, under the spirit of democracy. All are deemed equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.

The state has committed to found an order based on democracy and people's will and establish a civil society void of violence and bloodshed on the basis of law, social justice and protecting integrity and human rights and dignity. People's inalienable rights are highly underscored in the law and the state has promised to reinforce social, political, economic and defensive institutions. The words like "liberty", "freedom of expression", "human dignity" and "natural rights" is mentioned frequently in the law and considered state's responsibility to respect and protect. After all, the United States Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) are also recognized in the Constitution.

However, the question is that does the executive branch enforce the law in its true form? Needless to say, people's rights and dignity are violated on a large scale and they suffer in one way or another. Forming "a civil society void of oppression, atrocity, discrimination as well as violence" is no more than a dream for Afghan nation and people lose their lives on day-to-day happenings such as terrorist attacks and explosions carried out by warring parties, mainly the Taliban and self-proclaimed Islamic State (IS) group. Their rights are trampled upon in the worst possible way. Despite constitutional law, one falls the victim of discrimination, especially in judicial system, on his racial and sexual backgrounds. Based on a survey, law-breaking has been mostly done by the state rather than the nation. For instance, bribery, administrative corruption, etc. are rife in the government's machinery - this bitter fact is accepted by the officials. Afghanistan's nascent democracy is under serious question since the terrorist attacks have been intensified across the country. An increase in civilian casualty is a matter of great concern for the people. To the unmitigated chagrin of the public, the blood of scores of citizens was spilt flagrantly without any reasons and many more are susceptible

to terrorism and insecurity. Moreover, the Taliban's Omari Operation and emergence of the Islamic Stage group has given a fresh impetus to insecurity in the country. On the other hand, seeking peace talks for more than a decade has reached deadlock and will hardly ever come to fruition - especially as the Taliban has been split in many parties. The government's good will and declaration for peace have been responded by bullet and non-combatants took the brunt of terror and violence. As a result, a report released by the United Nations says that internal displacement due to conflict has escalated by 40 per cent from 2014 to 2015 in Afghanistan and an increase resurfaced this year. Based on the report, about 118,000 people fled their homes in the first four months of 2016. Hence, democracy will be on the verge of collapse if this trend continues. So, is there still a sense of hope and trust for bringing in security through peace talks?

Since orchestrating talks with the Taliban's central party, led by Mullah Akhtar Mansour, reached deadlock, Afghan government seeks another door for bringing peace, which is initiating talks with Hezbi-Islami Afghanistan (HIA) led by Gulbadin Hekmatyar. With almost two-month stay of HIA delegation in Kabul, a draft of peace agreement, which includes 25 issues, has been made and will be sent to the government and militant group's leaders. The key components of the agreement are said to be lifting sanctions on the HIA and removing names of HIA members from UN and US blacklists, the release of HIA prisoners and allowing the party to openly commence its political activities and resolving the issue of Afghan refugees. Will peace agreement with HIA ensure the rights of Afghan people and support democracy in Afghanistan?

With the Taliban's splinter group, one of the fighting factions as HIA will not mitigate the security challenges. Therefore, it does not seem a great achievement, if it comes to fruition without any whistle-blowers. In other words, when a peace agreement does not prevent from the Taliban's spring offensive and civilian casualties, it will not be a real breakthrough. So, how can we talk about peace while the warring parties have intensified their attacks and the graph of mortality remains high? In peace negotiation, the public rights and freedom should be prioritized.

The state will have to provide a secure environment for the nation so that they can exercise their rights and dignity without any barriers. Of course peace is vital in a society, but many other challenges such as breaking law, mainly by the influential figures, administrative corruption, etc. should be turned a blind eye. Moreover, the government has to redirect its efforts and energy on seeking peace with more significant parties or take a military deal if not fruitful; otherwise it would be flogging a dead horse.

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Student Stage and its Importance in Our Life

By Ahmad Shah Karimi

The supreme value of the student period is incalculable. Student life is the most precious life. The way in which you utilize this period will decide future. Your happiness, your success, your honor and your good name all depend upon the way in which you live now. In this period you are preparing your future. The world has put its faith in you. Your family, elders, friends and others keep their hope upon you. Now is the time for you to wisely mould your life, your character and your entire nature in any way in which you make up your mind to do so and you must do it now because time flies and when you realize that it is too late to do what you wanted.

It is like the laying of the foundation for a building you wish to construct. If this building is something very important to you, then just think how much more important its proper foundation becomes in your view. The strong and continued existence of the building depends certainly upon the foundation. This is the stage you are in now. Let your preparation be wise, correct, unique and of such a kind that will lead to your true welfare, and lasting happiness. You should acquire knowledge of subjects not like history, geography, mathematics, etc... but also human nature, science of self-control, discipline and more importantly the proper relationship between you and the world. However, it is said that "student life is golden life," because student life is the most important part of human life. It is the period of pure joy and happiness. In this period, the character of man is built therefore, it is called the formative period of human life. Every student should try his/ her best to make the best use of his/her time. The primary duty of a student is to learn and to acquire knowledge. He must do all his work at the right moment and maintain punctuality and discipline. As a result, he should remember that if a student becomes successful in his career is because of using this period wisely.

The 25 years of human life should be dedicated to acquiring good health, perfect character, self-control, and all that is necessary for you to know in order to live your life righteously. Get the most out of this period because it is the time that each and every second is considered like opportunities that knock your door for once. So, grasp everything that this period offers you and think of it like something vital that your life, career and success depends on it and if you do not make use of it then nothing worthwhile happens after this extraordinary interval that you have right now and all that you have to do is to be a hard-working student and an understanding boy/daughter whose dream is to be a better person in his/her life,

family and community which put its high expectations upon you since you are the one who can bring huge change in lives others. Your dream becomes reality if you work hard with full energy, perseverance, passion and all that is essential for using this period in any way possible.

On the other hand, this period will give you the most fundamental experience while you contribute with other people who differ from you in many ways for instance, his/her character, lifestyle and way of thinking and so on... These things certainly bring a great amount of variety in life as the ingredient does in the food. This is going to be the most important experience which is a rare thing to happen in other walks of life. Furthermore, commit to yourself that you will get most out of the opportunities that come in your way as you study your lessons and a good education is the transformation of a student in any field he studies. Besides, when you take the most advantage from this priceless time than the possibility of getting a well-paid job increases and lots of people are going to provide you opportunities to work with them since you can meet their requirement. In other words, the positive utilization of this period will get you to the next levels and you will have an easier time finding a job if you are well educated. Besides, there is a saying, "our education our future" which simply means that today's studying and sustaining some so called difficulties will be our future's relief. So, putting the time, energy, persistence, for this wonderful and outstanding period actually shape personality, future and most importantly, the rest of life that lots of responsibilities when you tie the knots and expect to run an incredible life afterwards and you wish to provide all the necessities that your spouse, children and other family members expect you to give them. The translation of all these things to reality comes from receiving and gaining a good education that you can do now since you have the time and capacity of doing it without too much difficulty. Finally, this is the crucial period of receiving a good education. Education is the all-round development of an individual into a useful member of society. We must see that student life and period is fulfilling this aim. The success and failure of student life can be judged by the amount of time he puts for education. Unfortunately for us and in our society is not receiving the right amount of attention that it deserve. I hope things get proper shape and all of the students hold themselves accountable and utilize this period to lay the foundation of future its success and achievements. If misused, defeat is sure and nothing good will happen thereafter.

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