

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

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Misfortune Hits Afghan Migrants

Misfortune has once again hit Afghan migrants as around 1,200 Afghan and Syrian asylum seekers have been arrested by Greece in the past few days. Greece official announced a couple of days earlier that these asylum seekers were arrested as they were attempting to reach other European nations through Greece.

There are thousands of Afghan migrants who have left Afghanistan and have moved to other countries so as to find better lives and there are many who are in the process of doing the same. Greece has been one of the countries that receive thousands of Afghan refugees every year. According to a calculation about 50,000 migrants enter Greece illegitimately every year. There are many who use Greece as a doorway to Europe and eventually move to other European countries.

The issue of refugees is an international problem and requires proper attention from international community. The refugees who leave their homelands in hunt of better lives, most of the times undergo different sorts of sufferings before they reach a place that is safe for them. Most of them are not even fortunate enough to reach to the destination they set for and end up in detention center, refugee camps and even death. Frequently, they fall victim to the ill intentions of human-smugglers, who discriminate them as much as they can. Moreover, they have to endure severe kind of psychological depression and stress as they go through the worst kind of experiences.

The migrants and asylum seekers are mostly from the third world countries that suffer from wars, conflicts and political and economic crunch. Finding no assurance of secure life, they move towards the developed countries of the world in search of contentment and bliss but, regrettably, there are many who do not earn the blessed end. Afghanistan is one of the most dominant countries in this regard. Decades of wars and terrorism along with droughts and deficiency of basic requirements have forced millions of people to leave their country. Although there has been notable decrease in this regard, millions of Afghan refugees are still living their lives in neighboring countries (like Pakistan and Iran), European countries, Australia and America; whereas, there are thousand others who are still in different kinds of camps and detention centers around the world waiting for some sort of sympathy and attention. The circumstances faced by these refugees are not always hospitable and they have to bear the brunt of different sorts of reactions. Though in some countries they are welcomed affectionately, in others they are treated in a very harsh manner.

Greece has been one of the major countries that have been experiencing the inflow of migrants. In deed there are thousands of refugees that have traveled from different parts of the world in search of secure life and better living criterions. Greece, though have not been very much strict to refugees, has now to consider the situation seriously as the international economic depression hit the country very hard and it is suffering from lack of financial resources to support its own people. Consequently, the migrants are going to face serious problems in the near future.

Most of them have to be sent back to their countries, which would generate problems for them in a sense that they have to resume their lives from the very start as they had left everything once they had set for the journey. Though there are many who do not opt to settle in Greece and move to other European countries, the influence of large number of refugees is really very serious and has to be dealt with seriously.

As the movement of the refugees is a great problem for the refugees and the countries from where they move, in the same way it is problem for the countries to which they move. It is not always an easy task to control the flow of refugees by any government. It has to keep in deliberation its own people and policies and at the same time has to respect the international policies and regulations regarding the rights of the refugees. Besides, it has to adjust for the compensation of the refugees who move in, and have to deal with the issues like multiculturalism, terrorism and racism, suitably.

Though, the problems are great in this regard, the developed nations of the world do have the potential to absorb the shocks of refugee influx. Most of the European countries, America, Canada and Australia in this connection have been playing dominant role in compensating for the refugees and asylum seekers from different countries of the world. On the other hand United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has been making sure that the rights of the refugees are secured appropriately. Though the situation has not turned to be perfect, there have been developments made in this regard.

However, there are still very serious problems that the migrants face. The political and social changes in different countries of the world also have influences on them and decide their future. There are many who are still in different sorts of camps and detention centers, away from their loved ones and suffering inhumane treatment but the political decision makers, instead of treating them as an international problem, try to use their issue for political purposes.

Definitely there are political and diplomatic concerns for all the governments of the world to consider, but the issue of migrants is more important than such concerns, as it involves the precious human lives and the lives of human beings stand more sacred than any other concern, belief or ideology.

The World's Renewing Engagement in Afghanistan

By Abdul Ahad Bahrami

With the security challenges worsening in Afghanistan, there are increasing concerns from the United States and its NATO partners as well as regional players such as China and Russia. As the Middle East is being embroiled in complicated multi-facet crises, Afghanistan's specific situation and its future stability is getting more important for most of the major Western and regional actors that have been stakeholders of the Afghan conflict in the past over a decade or regional actors who are gradually becoming engaged with Afghanistan's issues. In past fourteen years of the conflict, Afghanistan has been more important for the United States and other NATO nations contributing forces in the war. However, many relatively new players with minimal role in the past fourteen years of the war in Afghanistan are now emerging in the conflict in Afghanistan. Despite that, there seem no major disengagement from NATO and the United States as it was expected before the drawdown of US forces before 2014.

According to the reports, US president Barack Obama called on all NATO member states to support Afghanistan and help stabilizing the country. After a meeting with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Obama said all NATO members should continue providing training and other supports for Afghanistan after the alliance's combat mission ended in 2014. The US president said that NATO officials would consider how to better support Afghanistan's National Security Forces (ANSF) to do their job right. The comments are coming as the embattled Afghan army and police forces are struggling to fight the new threats from the insurgency waging a deadly offensive this year. Recently at a meeting of NATO member states in Turkey, NATO member states agreed to continue a military-civilian mission of the alliance beyond 2016. It is expected the NATO members will further discuss the current Resolute Support mission and the newly agreed mission beyond 2016.

The recent pledges and commitments from the United States and NATO alliance is indicating the West's wariness about a possible disengagement from Afghanistan affairs and its consequences for the country as its needs support of its international backers more than ever. As relations between Afghanistan and its Western supports strained during last years of President Karzai's ruling, the United States and NATO allies seemed increasingly frustrated with Afghanistan's developments and were expected to try to quickly disengage from Afghanistan once their combat mission ended. It was feared the funding from the international community would dry up with the conclusion of the NATO combat mission and drawdown of the American troops from Afghanistan. However, with the efforts of the National Unity Government (NUG) to repair the relations with the West and woo their supports, now the United States and other NATO member countries seem to be cautious in ending their role in Afghanistan. With a new era in relations between Afghanistan's NUG and its western supporters, the United States agreed this year to delay withdrawal of thousands of its troops from Afghanistan that were scheduled to leave the country by end of 2015. In the meantime,

the US has signaled hints to keep a residual force in Afghanistan for training purposes while originally Washington was planning to draw all forces from the country by end of 2016 except keeping a small contingent for protecting diplomatic premises. More importantly, when the leaders of the NUG were visiting the US this year, the United States announced it would ensure continued funding for the ANSF at least until 2017. The latest decision of NATO for a military-civilian mission in Afghanistan for the next decade also came as a major positive development for the West's continued engagement in Afghanistan's security in the upcoming decade.

There were major factors for change of the West's approach for maintaining a more robust presence in Afghanistan than they planned before 2014. The first important factor was the NUG taking power in Afghanistan which quickly managed to improve relations with the West. The second is perhaps the gravity of the chaotic situation in the Middle East and the growing insecurity in Afghanistan. This helped the US and its NATO partners to quickly realize the urgency of the situation for today's Afghanistan that has become a legacy of the NATO in the world. There were revitalized concerns for the US and NATO about what will happen in Afghanistan while a number of Middle Eastern countries are being lost to wars and chaos and as new players such as the Islamic State group are emerging on the ground. The has been a said 'pivot' in US policy to the Far East, while in practice the United States seems itself increasingly unable of disengaging from its previous war legacies such as Iraq and Afghanistan as well as its spheres of dominance such as the Middle East.

However, a key issue is the competing roles of the West with regional players such as China and Russia. China has increasingly been engaging in Afghanistan's peace and reconstruction efforts as the country has set an eye for playing a role in ending the long-lasting conflict in its neighboring Afghanistan. Afghanistan has also been increasingly interested in enhanced ties with China as it sees a potential for Beijing to help ending the conflict and reconstructing the war-ravaged nation. Former president Hamid Karzai, who is still back and forth in Western and regional capitals with attempt to keep influence in the Afghanistan politics, told in a televised interview with China state media that China can play an important role in Afghanistan. He asserted that the anti-insurgency war in Afghanistan cannot be won without cooperation from regional countries.

This is while Russia is also finding renewed interests in Afghanistan's security due the prospective of security in the Central Asian States. The Central Asian States as well as Russia have been alarmed with the worsening security in Northern Afghanistan. However, due to crises in Ukraine and the strained relations between the West and Russia, there has not been a cooperative environment between the West and Russia over the common concerns in Afghanistan. Still, there is space for the two major sides to cooperate in Afghanistan for saving the country as well as protecting the neighboring central Asian states. For the government of Afghanistan, the competing approach of the Western powers, neighboring countries and other regional players in Afghanistan is an opportunity. And it must seize it efficiently.

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Beauty of Deeds Dominated over Look

By Asmatyari

The scenery displayed an exceptional exquisiteness and gorgeousness -every sight got fixed at it unhampered. Perhaps both the selection of pigments, perfect composure aided by unmatched thoughts helped the artist produce such a master piece," I commented to one of the onlooker at an art exhibition organized by a private institute, earlier. Frequently, most of the people muster up their entire recollection and profound inclination towards the scenery than the one who carved it. It is to none's surprise everybody praised the artistic creations they were attracted to. The query who should, whether the artist or the scenery itself be credited for such a creation overwhelmed me for past couple of weeks? Lastly, I learnt, it is both the power of dazzling and marvelous thoughts that adds into the look of a creation. It is therefore, Confucius the scholar of all time says, "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it."

The notion is supported by saying beauty is in the eyes of the beholder. What one individual considers beautiful may not be beautiful to another. To me, beauty is not only something that pleases the eyes, but also pleases the other senses and the mind. I think true beauty makes you see beyond the lovely sight. It will give you insight or realization of something interesting beyond just the outward appearance. Mostly the people are attracted towards an apparent look of an object, without feeling concerned about the internal makeup of thing. It is commonly observed people pretend to wear thick mask of makeup without being considerate about their routine undertakings. We have to imbibe that appearances are probably deceptive.

In a world with so much freedom the definition of what is considered beautiful is variable. One person may find beauty in a flower, or a flock of geese flying south for the winter, while another may consider them images far too common to encompass real beauty. When beauty moves beyond its basic definition and into the realms of artistic expression, the word beautiful becomes even more subjective. The question posed to us for this assignment was to define how we have incorporated beauty and art into our everyday lives.

It is the most celebrated rational, beauty should not be defined as physical appearance solely. In fact, beauty is defined specifically by dictionary as a characteristic that provides a perceptual experience of pleasure and happiness. It has no relation to features of our face or body, but rather character traits and qualities. Therefore it is high time for us, especially women in this society to realize this fact and change our perception of the way we see beauty. What should be regarded as requisite in someone would be pleasant character traits, or some might name it as inner beauty.

As a matter of fact, when we are younger and growing up we admire things that appear beautiful from the outside. We are tempted towards beautiful men and women without considering much about their real inner self. But as we grow and enter into adulthood

we start admiring things that are beautiful from the inside. Outer beauty remains no longer the tempting aspect for us. In comparison, the outer beauty diminishes with growing age as wrinkles and blemishes start developing on the body whereas the inner soul remains genuine for the rest of the life no matter how we appear from the outside.

In our daily life we pass by many things, sometimes we give them attention by observing them in a way that our minds are set to and sometimes we do not even bother to look. We might see and find the beauty in these things using the ways of knowledge such as reason, emotion and languages. When I think of these things I come to conclusion that they must belong to a certain area of knowledge such as science, religion, arts and mathematics. However in order to examine these things we need the ways of knowledge, so after all the areas of knowledge depends on the ways of knowledge. Most of the times it turns out that not every person on earth looks at the things as others do.

Mostly we do not get to conclusion based on our own narrow, self-ascribed and non-resilient version of definition about the subject - we see and understand things not as they are but as we are. This obstinacy leads to creation of egotism -we begin to deem our deeds praiseworthy and else's blameworthy. I believe there is more than one vision for everything. Usually, we grasp an insight to the subject from one and the only dimension, negating the others intentionally or unintentionally. How can a person preoccupied by biases tend to subdue his inventions and creations while rendering others matchless? Most of the time we are dictated by biased judgments -we discriminate on the flawed grounds of ethnicity, religion, sect or specific social group we represent. Even our likes and dislikes are shaped on grounds of favoritism and nepotism.

The most significant of all is attributing beauty to the deeds; every man being is bound to exercise, subsequent to being entitled supreme creature. The query worth reply is which deed should be considered beautiful out of countless deeds? The society we inhabit at date is in the pursuit of happiness, charms, wealth and luxury at the cost assassination of moral values. The deed attributed for the welfare of greater majority is both morally and socially are acceptable and liked deeds. If a political leader underestimates every troubles on the way to making the country developed and prosperous with applauds. This deed is granted the status of most favored deeds -certainly is a beautiful deed. If a public servant strives not to wastes every resource and time dispensed to his discretion, earns status of executing the dearest and praised undertakings -deemed the beautiful assignment. Similarly, the beauty of store merchant is immensely indescribable when look after the quality and hygienic effects of goods.

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