

Vietnamese under napalm and carpet bombing, the Afghans under white phosphorus and cluster bombs, all bear witness to the barbarism of the West. In comparison, 9-11 killed a mere three thousand people. In terms of the terror perpetrated, 9-11 pales against the immense scale on which the above killings were conducted.

Ever since oil was discovered in the Middle East, Western interests have always considered it fundamental to control the major producers and therefore have control over the world in general. It is considered an enormous source of strategic influence and the greatest prize in the world. Therefore, the West continues to support brutal regimes and stifle movements for democracy and independence in the Middle East.

Under the maxim of the strong doing as they wished, and the weak suffering as they must, the corporate media



of aid organisations that support Somalia's economy, all on the pretext of preventing terrorism severely weakens the rule of law and order.

The 'enemy' in the shape of a bearded and turbaned Muslim Arab has been inculcated into the psyche of Western communities. So, the rampaging of Arabs on horseback, enslaving Negroes in Darfur, Sudan, is prime media fodder for consumption in the West.

The world is an increasingly unequal playing field, with wealth distribution becoming ever more in favour of the elite at the expense of the poor, who literally have to die in order that the rich can become richer by a few more

SOME GEOPOLITICAL REALITIES OF OUR TIME

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America has always adopted a policy similar to what George W Bush blurted verbally and publicly, that "If you are not with us, you are with the enemy". US leaders have always feared independent thought in politically independent countries. Therefore it habitually seeks to enslave such countries economically.

A case in point was the overthrow of a democratically elected government in Iran in 1953 in order to control their resources, for which a lackey in the name of Reza Pahlavi was installed as Shah. In spite of that, the Iranian revolution toppled the Shah, and the US attempted without success, to sponsor various military coups and lastly resorted to using Saddam Hussein to barbarically invade Iran, causing millions of deaths on both sides.

America hates Iran's independence and progress as a modern, advanced economy not subservient to American interests. Therefore, together with the Zionist movement in Israel and America, it pursues mercilessly, sanctions and threats to break Iran's will.

The mockery that is termed "Iran's nuclear ambition" as an intention to wipe Israel off the map does not stand up to basic logic, as Iran's leaders would naturally love their nation to continue to prosper in the shadow of a nuclear threat from Israel that is possibly supported by America. Defence systems installed with American Defence against an Iranian attack, but to eliminate any effective retaliation by Iran when they themselves are attacked.

America groomed and armed Saddam Hussein as their strong-man in the Middle East through the 1980's, and Iraqi nuclear scientists were even entertained at state expense and given training in sophisticated weapons systems. America supported Saddam when he used chemical warfare against the Kurds, and only managed to rename him as evil when he misunderstood instructions and invaded Kuwait. The 1990's were horrific years for Iraq's innocent population at the hands of USbacked genocidal sanctions imposed, presumably to bring Saddam to heel. The brutality continued, as the worst crime against humanity in recent times was committed in full public view with the invasion of Iraq in 2003. The false pretexts and blatant lies used to invade have never since been taken to account.

What commonly passes for a "strategic blunder" or "mistake" was in fact a cal-

Vice President Nixon meeting the newly-installed Shah of Iran, December 13, 1953

culated, deliberate and purposefully executed crime, although the preferred outcomes and prizes were not easily available. To this day, America kills as many Iraqi civilians as it wants, without any consequence to them. More than 1.3 million innocent Iraqis have been thus murdered.

Many of the so-called democratic governments of the West, joined in the killing of Iraqis and Afghans against the will of their peoples. Furthermore, public pressure has not made a positive difference to the peoples of poor countries suffering from the aggression of Western governments.

The horrors experienced by the Japanese from atomic radiation, the

has seen to it that intellectuals are complicit in their agendas, the public being led to believe that atrocities committed by rich countries are to prevent 'terror' coming to their shores or as humanitarian interventions to save poor wretches from a life of misery.

Poor countries like Somalia are blamed for acts of piracy on the high seas, without seeking the root causes, such as massive contamination of fishing waters by shipping companies, that rob the livelihoods of poor Somali fishermen, who resort to piracy in desperation. In addition, the closing down million dollars each year. This leads to higher crime rates, higher rates of imprisonment, higher infant mortality rates, and deterioration in a variety of measures of social well-being in much of the vast 'third-world'.

It is therefore our responsibility to educate ourselves of the facts, and see reality for what it is, rather than through the misty blinkers through which falsehoods are foisted on us by vested corporate interests and a fawning corporate media.

