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The revoltingly laundered language adopted by the mainstream media, that reflect Western dominance in Non-Westerr regions is designed to mislead the ignorant. For example, an occupying invader that oppresses its subjects, where citizens overcome their instincts in their struggle for freedom and good order is maintained, is callously called "stability" Similarly, when a rampantly corrupt Western client puppet rules tyrannically, brutally silencing voices

of dissent, with no vestige of "democracy" in sight, that too is "stability", which actually only perpetuates the status quo and preserves Western interests, despite millions of disenfranchised citizens yearning for relief.

The same 'stability' reigned in places like Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Bahrain, Algeria, Morocco, Yemen, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan until Tunisia and then Egypt erupted. Citizens of these countries had paid a heavy price for many decades, merely so that their autocratic leaders and Western oil companies with their governments' collusion could freely exploit their wealth and bleed these countries dry. The vast majority of people there lacked any rights, had a subsistence livelihood, with no hope or dignity.

These regimes arm themselves with much weaponry and security to preserve themselves, at the expense of social welfare, health, education and development. Leadership usually passes from father to son in the monarchies, and in elections where only the ruling party is allowed to win at any cost. For now, these eruptions are limited to the so-called "arc of instability" (ironically the earth's oil-belt) and largely Islamic US-European client states, but the same problems that triggered revolt there, such as rising inequality of income distribution, acute indebtedness, persistent unemployment, unresponsive and corrupt governments, span the globe.

The nineteenth century European elites of industrial capitalism paid slave wages for very strenuous work until workers organised themselves to establish some equilibrium in the industrialized, developed nations, where structural development ensured some protection for the workers. However, it was only a matter of time before the industrialists moved their slavery offshore, to the by-then colonized and impoverished third world. Later still, under the guise of "globalization", production shifted to sweat shops of the East and South.

The present "Information Age" is no different. Rather than spread the wealth generated, equitably, the ruling classes (politicians and industrialists) exploit it virtually unhindered. Many of the transnational companies primarily based in the United States, whose "net wealth" exceed by several times, the total GDP of medium-sized nations, are now the new colonialists, who by virtue of "foreign investment" suck poorer countries dry with no bloodshed or territorial aspirations.

The "Global Financial Crisis" several years earlier saw governments reward large bankrupt industrialists (who had stashed away their billions in private) with public monies rather than help the newly jobless and homeless, made as such, as a direct result of the formers' criminal acts. The media, working for corporate interests, continues to gloss over the GFC's impacts and claim that the recession is over.

The traditional political ideologies or even extremists of sorts had no voice in what erupted in Egypt, for example. They were merely pent-up frustrations that resulted in a people's collective awakening to facts, hitherto submerged under fallacies spread by their



government.

The media has always been complicit in misinforming the public that it is only those "other" countries that are to blame for their own dismal destinies. However, politicians in the US for example, quickly convert their political influence into immense personal wealth, and actively encourage their client accomplices in the Third World to become corrupt. While almost literally owning US institutions they write much of their laws (including legalizing torture of foreign citizens and renditioning them overseas for secret torture) often with no regard for international law.

It necessarily follows, that autocratic pseudo-democratic regimes pretend to

BROTHERS IN ARMS BEHIND THE PRESENT-DAY TYRANNIES

Lasantha Pethiyagoda

operate in a free-market economic system which hugely favours their own personal financial interests rather than the people's welfare. In addition they openly flaunt the riches expropriated, in multiple grandiose palaces, fleets of the most expensive cars and a retinue of minions feeding on the scraps. Judging from the uprisings in the Middle East, it would be a mere matter of time before popular movements topple these oligarchies.

The fawning corporate media adeptly manage the morality narrative which exonerates Western governments while being quick to condemn the individuals in the spotlight. It is unlike in the case of Saddam Hussein, a former close ally of the US, who became a demon overnight to suit the agenda for war,

after Afghanistan appeared not to have enough worthwhile "targets" to bomb. (It was already rather in the "Stone Age")

The Afghan Mujahedeen headed by Osama Bin Laden who were actively nurtured by the CIA but became evil monsters (subsequently one of the first species of "terrorist" discovered - a term now designating any anti-American or anti-Israeli thought, speech or act) when a culprit had to be manufactured for causing 9-11. Not even the best propaganda effort could whitewash the fact

that Mubarak had been foisted on the Egyptians and maintained for three decades as the US point man in the Arab world.

In a remarkable about-turn when the human tide was fast turning against the regime, the same contemptible media and political cabal self-right-eously proclaimed sympathy for the Egyptian people, praising their uprising as heroic and pouring scorn on their dictator, not acknowledging and reconciling the fact that the US was as guilty as Mubarak (if not more) The despicable pretense that the West is inspired by the demoratic aspirations of their countrymen speaks volumes about those who hide behind these masks and condone wholesale destruction of entire societies without shedding a tear and jumping on the bandwagon when it suits them.



NO TO PEOPLE SMUGGLING

Face-to-face community meetings with Afghan, Iraqi, Iranian and Sri Lankan communities throughout Australia will be conducted by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship during March. Posters, brochures, news articles and DVDs in Arabic, Dari, Farsi, Pashto, Tamil, Sinhalese and English will be available.

The information communicates the dangers to which family and friends are exposed when using people smugglers to come to Australia by boat.

Tell your family, friends and loved ones—don't risk it... say no to people smugglers.



www.youtube.com/notopeoplesmuggling