

Many Western suicide bombings were planned and executed by citizens born and bred in a democracy, with equal rights, justice and fairness. They had also been born into a society of affluence and plenty, compared to the dirty back alleys of suburban Lahore, Kabul, Fallujah or Islamabad. Yet, they chose to sacrifice their lives in order to drive home a message to the developed world, that the actions of "great" powers had not been fair to their Muslim brethren in West Asia.

Any person who has closely followed the

who respect the rights of that region to be politically self-governing and masters of their own resources, no one should complain. It is our experience, however, to expect otherwise.

The people of Iraq have a righteous anger at the perpetrators of mass mayhem and chaos of their once proud and glorious land. Rightly, they blame the "coalition of the willing", as death hangs in the air. The survivors who have witnessed their mothers and sisters being raped by US soldiers, the innocent victims of religious and moral degradation at



POINTS TO PONDER ABOUT JUSTICE AND GLOBAL PEACE

Western agenda for the oil lands and its invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, will now know beyond any doubt, that the populations of the "free" world have been blatantly lied to, by their governments and continue to be misled with impunity.

In Iraq for example, as a result there continues to be killings and massacres, with most victims being either civilians, or those enlisting in law enforcement for a living, while those responsible are almost always still "living free".

The looting and spoiling of the treasures of an ancient civilisation by greedy foreign invaders continued unabated, with no consequences for the criminals. The double standards which have always been applied, in estimating the respective values of a life in say, the US or UK to one in Iraq or Afghanistan have gained more legitimacy after 9/11. In the aftermath of any intervention, I have not seen any statements by the world leaders acknowledging the folly of this policy.

If there is an opportunity for peace and freedom, and it is properly advanced by people

places like Abu Ghraib, children who witnessed their families being blown to pieces by cluster bombs and US army tank shells will certainly seek to avenge their losses someday. We must ask ourselves, "If someone did that to us, would we seek otherwise?" Of course, they are then referred to as "evil terrorists, who hate peace and freedom". Surely, it is not "them" if they are British born Britons who speak with a cultured English accent and perform etiquette so becoming of Englishmen?

Despite our best collective efforts, all the peace-loving people could not stop these "wars". Now we must consider our failing at a deeper and more important level. Our own emotions have been conflicted by the injustices and frustrations at our impotence.

For many years in the past, the Cold War helped keep the two super-powers in balance, avoiding nuclear war (mutually assured destruction). Dictators were set up here and there by both the Soviets and the Americans, to protect key interests in each region. After the collapse of the USSR, some dictators

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seemed to have outlived their usefulness, the most recent classic example being Mubarak of Egypt. While being armed by the very powers that have since scorned them, a few attempted to defy the dictates of the remaining super-power, the US of A.

After 9/11, the self-centred West, lead by the US/UK alliance feared that these weapons could be given to "terrorists" such as those referred to above who had suffered at the hands of hegemony or had a "grievance". Since the Middle East has always been the main source of cheap oil for the US, which consumes a quarter of the world's oil with only five percent of its population, the neo-conservative brains in the US administration argued that 9/11 was an excellent excuse to take over the world's second largest oil reserve. Hence the Saddam - Al Qaeda lie.

In appropriating and protecting vital resource supply lines, the moral argument of advancing human values was promoted. Hence the "evil dictator", "killed his own people" line, now used on Gaddafi of Libya. Visions of "liberal democracies" (corporate colonies) with Western values were allowed to take hold. Cultural and social independence seemed abhorrent to these visionaries. One must not be deceived that they ever wished these populations to have similar comforts and quality of life; on the contrary, such dreams were to be inculcated in their tainted minds, much like a drug dealer introducing a teenager to their first "hit", free of charge.

The leadership elite of our Western societies is very invested in the idea of continuing with "a way of life" of material consumption for their own societies. This translates to cheap fast food restaurants, two-car families, hearty meals and snacks at home, affordable clothing, health care and entertainment, and warm and cosy beds for the

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