



COUNTERFEIT DEMOCRACY AND PSEUDO-GEOPOLITICS

Many political leaders in our so-called democracies come to power and are kept in power by causing the majority of people to believe that the leaders are motivated by altruistic intentions. The myths are best swallowed under the influence of the vigour generated by nationalistic pride and indignation at any slight caused by an inferior 'enemy'.

There are much greater chances of deceiving the public if they can be maintained in a state of animation that detracts from the boredom of material consumption in a land of plenty. Issues like 'terrorism', or reach of a non-existent nuclear missile are portrayed in solemn tones to an awed public, while any denials or contradictions will be made illegal under various guises such as 'sedition' for example. People who independently verify the truth and attempt to expose it are scorned, and labelled as 'enemy sympathisers', while the leaders privately express their contempt at the gullibility of their subjects while celebrating victory.

Take for example the wanton destruction of an entire province of an occupied land as 'retaliation' purportedly for the loss of one "mate" as exposed by Wiki Leaks recently. While millions of people are forced to languish with no power, medical services or food and water, the rest of the world would look on impotently. The leaders of the so-called 'civilised' world, devote their best technological resources towards murdering innocents and destroying the hopes of future generations. Not only do they sound indignant at the slights against them, but they seem to enjoy the brutality and mayhem, knowing they are powerful.

One only needs to read ancient religious texts to see that they had always believed it a religious duty to exterminate conquered peoples entirely, and not spare even their animals. Believers like to show they have moved on from such medieval practices. But these same politicians who condemn the barbarism of their 'enemy', while perfecting and using very sophisticated weapons of mass destruction are following similar psychological patterns.

Cruelty is entrenched, while compassion is ridiculed. The leaders know they can increase their popularity by lying to their people and appealing to their created hatreds, which have nothing to do with any economic management issues. For example, after WW2, the unbearable Japanese prosperity was met with creation of a myth about unfair labour conditions and 'cheapness' of imports from Japan. A similar story has been deliberately floated about China. An apathetic and parochial nation would not know any better.

The creation of so-called 'Western values' was supposed to include tolerance and respect for individual liberty. However, there is no evidence in history, of it ever being applied to a country of conquest. In fact, events have always been quite to the contrary. Europe for example, had always persecuted peoples in Asia, Africa and South America (not to mention indigenes of North America, southern Africa and Australia) It only ceased after prolonged and bitter struggles against racism, genocide and numerous atrocities, and the realisation of their futility.

The European record on this score is vastly more ignominious than the records of Muslims, Indians or Chinese. So, while the West claims superiority, the claim must stand qualified as limited to technol-

ogy and industrialism but not on morality or religious values.

What leaders may call their 'moral responsibility' is therefore nothing but falsities designed to mislead. Clear examples of countries reduced to rubble in the last few years bear adequate testimony to this fact. They deliberately inflict large-scale suffering to undeserving and innocent populations, while diminishing any hope of progress or improvement in their wretched lives. Freedom from oppressive dictatorships, liberation from the rule of tyranny, democracy, liberty, milk and honey, they proclaim from their lofty perches while their actions have again and again proven to have nothing to do with human happiness or welfare.

The reality would be somewhat like this. As human beings we tend to regard ourselves as the purpose of creation. If we were Americans, then America would be God's own country. If we were white, God has cursed the blacks. Armed with these thoughts, we would go to battle to win and conquer for God and country. Without an enemy, there would be nothing to conquer, so we make enemies, and create them in the minds of our subjects, so they will keep us in power. If we truly loved our neighbours, it would be difficult to feed the delusions alluded to above.

Another example of an intoxicating delusion that has leant wings to murderous atrocity is that of creating an imaginary notion of special instruments of divine will. In religious history, when a people invaded a Promised Land, they were fulfilling the divine purpose. Rome too was

evil.

To top it all we have a media that is beholden to the elite crony network while professing to reflect public opinion. When reporting any political topic, say an unfolding atrocity perpetrated by the powerful against an impoverished weaking, the facts dissolve into pretentious fiction. A prime recent example was the murders on the freedom flotilla in international waters. Statements that condone and even glorify unilateral "war" are made to contrast with much smaller acts of the "others" even if they do not constitute, in essence, an "enemy". Soft phrases like "excessive", or "disproportionate" or "pound" are used to describe massive mayhem and murder. Defenceless cities and towns are relentlessly bombarded from the air, and when the terrorised population flee screaming, it is reported in the lightest of terms, like "displaced villagers are seeking shelter in the countryside" or "we witness an exodus of people whose lives have been disrupted by the war". When the powerful are aggrieved, they use terms like "bestial atrocities, blood-stained tyranny, brutal terrorists, free peoples of the world". To counter this sham, we should avail ourselves of alternative independent media.

We must not discard the futures of our fellow brothers and sisters. Not only is it unworthy of sophisticated man, but quite contemptible of self-respecting human beings. We must acknowledge the good, bad and ugly and see the world for what it is. Awareness must prevail over apathy, knowledge over ignorance and the unity of all peoples against global tyranny must triumph in order that our children may inherit some hope for the future.

Lasantha Pethiyagoda

Bring your Nephew/Niece/Brother or Sister to

STUDY IN AUSTRALIA

"STUDY HOSPITALITY, TOURISM, RESORTS, EVENTS OR COOKERY"

@

William Angliss Institute | Specialist centre for foods, tourism & hospitality

Keeping people out of desk jobs for 70 years

CRICOS:01505M

"DIPLOMA, ADVANCED DIPLOMA, AND BACHELOR DEGREE COURSES ARE AVAILABLE".

This Institute is specialist centre for Hospitality, Tourism and Culinary Arts.

For Total Free Visa Processing

SHEFFIELD EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANCY | **OEAC** Qualified Education Agent Counsellor

<p>Australia: P.O.Box 193, Chadstone Shopping Centre, Chadstone, VIC-3148. Tel: +61 387074812, 0425 663222</p>	<p>Sri Lanka: 91/4 Maharagama RD Pillyandala Tel: +94 11 2616125 0777 838403</p>	<p>1/1 Trinity Gardens Pallekelle, Kundasale, Kandy Tel: +94 812420418 0777 802065</p>
---	---	--

Email : Sheffield.officers@gmail.com | Web : www.sheffieldec.com.au