

CONFLICTS OF CIVILIZATIONS: HEADING TOWARDS DISASTER

The biggest tension in the world today is the confrontation between Islam and the West. It is more dangerous because the life-line of the Western prosperity and growth pass through the oil fields in the Middle East where the fundamentalist Islam gets its nourishment. The mouth of the volcano lies in the region around Israel, who is equipped with modern arsenals to keep its supremacy over the Islamic nations who would like to annihilate Israel (only if they could). Israel is an ally of the superpower leading the Western economy and military strength. So the hate of Israel can only simmer in words, and not in actions. Any action will be tantamount to bringing upon doom on the countries in the region.

However, the survival of the Western economics and the geo-political dominance over Earth's raw-material and labor resources, depend on the vital supply of oil from the Middle East. Control of the oil fields by the West would increase the advantage of the Western economy over countries like India, China and other Asian economies, whose rising strength threaten the Western superiority.

The politics of the Middle-East is full of contradictions: The Islamic culture on one hand is in conflict with Western values and culture; on the other hand the West is the protector of political stability in the region marred by religious rivalries among different Islamic groups. The poverty in the region is also a fertile ground for growing faiths in religions. The societies, which have seen little reform in modern time, and remained stagnant in superstitious beliefs and practices, which are in disharmony with the idea of democracy and human rights, are pulling the world towards violence and terror.

The most effective way for the West to operate in this region has been the strategy to utilize the conflicts among different Islamic groups so that the power to control oil resources may not go out of hand. Depending on the situation they support one group, or the other, without any other purpose than to seek dominance over the vital energy supply. If necessary, they ally with the most fundamentalist group, violating the most basic of the human rights, in order to keep the

enemies of Western dominance, in check. Some claim that the west has contributed to the rise of the terrorist organization Al-Qaida, whom the West fears most these days. Even today they finance and give military trainings to the enemies of the states, who are not willing to serve the interests of the Western economy.

Governed by the economic interests and filled with the ambition of maintaining hegemony over other nations (as they had done in the past) they follow the strategy of utilizing antagonism among religious groups to secure their goal. This treacherous policy, though successful, has not gained any respect for the Western values. The confrontation between Islam and the Western culture is getting worse due to such political maneuvers.

However, the dissatisfied groups have little means to challenge the Western economic and military superiority. Therefore, they choose the path of terrorism. By killing themselves in suicide bombing with a hope to weaken the enemies, the terrorists are, in a desperate way trying to assert their power over the super modern weaponry, supported by the highest technological innovations of time. It may seem pathetic. But, it keeps the Western power alert and vigilant about their securities terrorist threats.

The newest introduction to counteract terrorist activities is the invention of “drones”, which can search, find and strike targets with sophisticated weapons with the help of robots. These unmanned military crafts are becoming the most effective equipment to combat the growth of terrorism in Afghanistan and Pakistan these days. Thus while on one side the West is killing the terrorists, and at the same time financing rebel activities against “undesired” state by supporting the terrorists (as in Syria), the West is moving along a dangerous path.

The nations, ambitious of getting out of the grip of the Western dominance, are exploiting this situation by siding with the opponents of the groups allied with the West. Recently the conflicts in the Middle East around Syria and Iran have divided the members of the Security Council into two groups: On one side US, UK and France, and on the other side China and Russia. The West would like to intervene militarily in Syria and Iran on the pretext of democracy and human rights and peace and security in the region, while the Chinese and Russians, after the military

intervention of NATO in Libya, have fully understood what may lie behind the Western cry of democracy and human rights in Syria and Iran. NATO has sent patriot missiles in Turkey, neighboring Syria and Iran, while the Russians have equipped Syria with sophisticated ballistic missiles, which may evade the Patriot Surveillance.

With the rising economic owe in the West, and the increasing economic power of China and Asia, when two former socialist/communist countries have joined hands against the Western hegemony in the World, the World is entering into another phase of history. With globalization, the disparities between rich and poor are increasing. More the west is being exposed about what they have done in history, and what they are doing now, the cultural clash between Islam and the Western culture, in particular, is becoming more and more intense. More and more science and technology is dismantling the edifices of religious beliefs, more and more the young generation in the West is and more and more losing illusion about the meaning of life and getting drowned in a chaos of information, which pushes them into a consumer culture without meaning. More the Western culture is being transported through social networking and media entertainments to disrupt the traditional societies, which have not been exposed to the good side of the western cultural heritage, more the young generation in the developed countries are falling into an abyss of a cultural vacuum. Neither they are able to identify themselves with their own traditional heritage, nor can they absorb what are good in the Western society. This generation floating in the “vacuum” is an easy prey of the modern consumer culture, which is overwhelming all and emerging as the globalized evil. More the issues of democracy and human rights are being abused in order to tear down traditional patterns and change cultural practices, traditional societies are becoming disillusioned about the meaning of democracy and human rights.

Economic crisis, cultural clash, terrorism and the market culture transforming the urban areas in Asia a “big-bazars” are more and more increasing the risks of a global disorder. With it the young generation all over the world is being imprisoned inside a bubble of “nothing” created from “nothing”, which is expanding fast inside a “vacuum” of a valueless world floating directionless at this moment of history in a free-market.

In this situation the world is warming up as the result of fuel consumption needed to sustain this

economic development in the world. The global warming is becoming an issue of great concern, threatening the future of mankind. Many argue that the consequences can be catastrophic both politically and economically. Experts are forecasting that the changed weather pattern of Earth will bring with it more flood, cyclones and droughts disrupting the agricultural production while creating inundation of valuable fertile lands in some places, or lack of water needed for irrigation in other areas. The feared rise of the sea-level in the near future, as the results of melting of ice capped on the poles, may push population in hundreds of millions from coastal areas, creating economic refugees who may contribute in creating political turmoil. Scarcity of food supply compounded with the migration of population to new areas brings omens of potential danger and catastrophe on Earth. Seen in the perspective of the conflicts, already raging on Earth, the future of Earth is full of serious warnings.