

HOW ENLIGHTENED WORLD MAY BE REALIZED?

The ideas of the enlightened world may appear totally out of tune with what the reality of the world and history tell us. The games behind the dynamics shaping the world appear very different from what the enlightened world envisages.

Though history and reality of the existing social order is a result of the interactions of different competing groups in the world and reflects the projections of human nature, it is not representative of the higher-nature of man. It only accounts for the period of history when the lower-nature of man has triumphed and it still holds sway over human civilization.

The desire of man to overpower others, rob others of their opportunities and wealth, and impose one's hegemony creating insecurities and misery of life of people, who are weak, speak of the lowest level of human nature. At this level human beings do not see life beyond their animal instincts. Success of capitalism is a success of this story of this lower-man.

The scientific theories of the origin of the universe and evolution of life have fueled the development of this form of the system where animal nature of man has gained the priority. Big-bang tells us that there is no meaning and purpose behind creation and all have started as an accident. In this accidental world life has begun as an equally accidental occurrence, when organic molecules have joined by a flick of accidents to form the macro-molecules of life. These macro-molecules, caught into the laws of nature, have gradually formed more complex life-forms, finally bringing the existence of human species on Earth. Here competitions for survival and development of life by preying on the others and building strategies of defense around one's own are seen as the only right modes of conduct for an intelligent creature.

The way human history has developed during the modern time, speaks of this unethical and immoral nature of man, which is characteristic of human beings who have not discovered higher-nature of human possibilities through modes of co-operation and exchange, which may secure life of all. Life of the higher-man adopts a new mode, which teaches man to share, help and

empower others in order to help them find ways to secure livelihood. It requires from man the ability to see life as an arena of love, brotherhood and compassion for all.

Many in the modern world may call this view of love and compassion as a religious sentiment - a hangover from the past cultural teachings—which has no scientific basis. Science teaches man to compete, defeat and develop and accumulate wealth and power to create the ground of affluence and security which cannot be challenged and destroyed by others. Western nations have been doing it since the beginning of the modern time.

However, the emergence of power of the Western countries was possible due to the scientific and technological innovations and creativity. The innovations of man were utilized in accumulating wealth and power in a few hands. For the innovations to find a breeding ground one needed market and investment. The merchants and traders could provide this ground. However their interests were nothing but profits and accumulation of wealth and power. Innovations were thus hijacked by the traders, and the bankers of that time. Then they gave shape to the modern culture. The creative man became the prisoners of the lower-nature. The modern civilization has progressed in the same way since then.

Not only the creative man, but also the spiritual-man has remained captive in the hands of the profit-making economic class exercising hegemony over political power. Traditional monarchs, as well as religious clergies have succumbed to their interests. The churches in the West had sided with the capitalists in order to find their own breeding ground outside the boundaries of their own countries. Similarly, monarchs had risen and fallen, as consequences of economic power game under the control of the bankers and the merchant class. The same appears to be true even today.

CHALLENGES OF AN ENLIGHTENED WORLD

The challenges of the enlightened world are to understand the mechanisms by which human history and civilization has become prey to the lower-nature of man. By recognizing the

necessity of evolution of man towards a higher-path, one needs to prescribe ways and means to free the higher nature of man from the captivity of the profit loving human beings. In this regard one must be guided by a vision and view of the unity of living world and the harmony and the order which may further the cause of freedom of the higher-man. One needs to understand the links that exist among institutions that perpetuate the dominance and hegemony of the financial class and their collaborators coming from other cultural areas. The understanding of their relations to the military-industrial complex is most essential to find ways to free humanity from the evil forces of our time.

Main point is: One must not accept the reality of history, as it is today, as the foundation of building the future of mankind. It should be considered as erroneous and immoral path where humanity has been led by traders and bankers of the 18th and 19th Century Europe. Recognizing it as a path of the lower-man, human beings should throw the existing system and replace it with an ethical and moral system that can bring human evolution to a higher-path. We need a system change—a radical overthrow of the monopoly-capitalism in the first place (instead of making economic theories by keeping capitalism as something sacrosanct).

One argues that only profits and personal freedom to make gains and accumulate power motivate human being to be innovative, creative and keep themselves engaged in economic affairs that can bring new innovations and rapid development.

This is the position of those, who are dominated to believe that there is no gain in making sacrifices for others, and working for the cause of mankind at the expense of one's own personal interests. It is the belief of those, who do not see the way everything are dependent and entangled with each other, and do not know that the source of one's own happiness and peace is the happy and peaceful life of the other's. They do not understand that the true source of lasting freedom for oneself is the freedom of the fellow human beings, which can only be created with the power of love and being compassionate to the sufferings of others.

Those, who reject it as a sentimental religious attitude, in order to hold on to their animal behavior, seem to be determining the cultural premise of the technological age today. The

movement of this lower nature of the mind must be challenged by the enlightened women and men willing to build the new premise for a new civilization.

As long as the elements, which threaten the realization of an enlightened democracy all over the world, are not brought under the control of a universal body, which will have the authority to deal justice in furthering premises of freedom for mankind, the idea of peace will remain elusive. In a world, where different nations conceive democracy and freedom in different ways, and practice and implement them in the context of their individual culture following narrow political interest, leaving the issue of human progress to an organization like the UN, as it is now, where every nation is trying to find opportunities for their interests, will not help to create an enlightened world.

WHERE AND WHEN ENLIGHTENED DEMOCRACY MAY WORK?

The ideas of the enlightened democracy cannot be implemented in a society unless the citizens are free from hunger and basic needs and are exposed to knowledge and information with which they may explore the conditions of freedom available in life. It requires a society that may provide access to high level of education and awareness of the possibilities that may lie outside the beliefs and ideologies which form the backbones of the existing social structures. Only in a society where human beings feel secure in exploring the possibilities of one`s development without being threatened by authorities jeopardizing the search of freedom and meaning of life, the enlightened democracy can take roots. It is a society of enlightened human beings, who understand the possibilities of life as an evolving being and explore into higher and higher realms of consciousness, which can only be achieved through joint efforts. In such a society, people are stimulated to analyze conditions of life with reason without bearing prejudices, and encouraged to make independent judgment about the developments of the society with the aim of correcting its course. People are given opportunities so that all may contribute with ideas and actions in shaping the evolution. Using knowledge as the foundation of an enlightened life, when people are inspired to creative activities with the aim of changing the social reality, which may open greater dimensions of freedom, the spirit of the enlightened society may come forth. By creating conditions of free choice and thus building a foundation of a new reality, not dictated

mechanically by the forces of nature, or coerced by existing structures of power governing the social and political dynamics, the enlightened society offers ways to recreate the world according to higher needs of the mind.

However, it does not profess a random development in different directions following different ideas. It adheres to the vision of development which may unite all to build a social environment of harmony where all may live in peace. It connects man to its cosmic nature, where all are entangled in a whole fulfilling the meaning of a purposeful design (cosmos is not an accidental random manifestation of laws as big-bang theory teaches, but a purposeful creation arising from a cosmic mind where existence of the tiniest micro bodies to the largest cosmic structures are all manifestations of a cosmic consciousness). To create such a world one would need an education system and an enlightened civil society that will provide guidance to people.

Knowledge and power of creativity alone are not sufficient to attain the awareness and goal directed towards the higher evolution of man. People will need guides in exploring the possibilities of freedom and understanding how to work in fulfilling the vision of an enlightened world. Thus the enlightened world envisions the rise of the enlightened teachers and guides. It will be a society free of fundamentalism of religion, belief or ideology and open to all ideas which may bring progress with universal appeal to all, who seek a common frontier of development for mankind without consideration of race, culture or nation.

There exists no such society yet. However, there exist a few societies (for example in Scandinavia) which have the possibility to evolve towards this direction. These societies have already secured their population from hunger and basic needs. The population not only enjoys a high level of social security, they possess enhanced social awareness about the value of cooperation and dialogue, and bear a strong humanitarian tradition from the past. The level of basic education among the average population is appreciable and the possibility of availing information from different corners of the world is substantial. Moreover, the channels of the information are not coerced and manipulated by ideologies, religions and beliefs. With it the political and social system are more transparent to public scrutiny. The legal system functions without corruption and interferences of politics and other interest groups. The equality of all as regards access to justice is a strong pillar of the society. The hold of power of religion and

fundamentalist ideas is low, which creates a condition for scientific knowledge and reason to have a greater place in the development. Moreover they have economic resources to build the education system and the enlightened civil society required for the fulfillment of the goal.