

By M.Yasin Bidar

Afghanistan, human rights, and Taliban.

I feel honoured to have been given the chance to express my views in this important gathering of a section of Afghan diaspora with his excellency Richard Benet , UN envoy on human rights.

Ladies and gentlemen,

More than a year has elapsed since the takeover of power by Taliban in Kabul. A year of sorrow, a year of sadness and tragedy for a nation that has lost its freedom and independence.

Harsh violation of human rights , and in particular, women rights by the new administration in Kabul, is an open secret . They imposed strict Islamic laws, forbade women from attending educational institutions or working, and banned music and “non – Islamic” holidays. The first steps they took was to steal our identity as a nation by replacing our national flag, national anthem and our national and historic days from our calendar, like the first day of our new year which is centuries older than Islam itself and celebrated with great joy for centuries. Likewise, in their first term in power (1996/2001), they destroyed the greatest Buddhas of the word located in Bamiyan province central Afghanistan, a real valuable historic heritage. All in the name of Islam.

On Friday 30 September, while I was writing these paragraphs, international media reported that another crime against humanity took place in Kabul. A huge suicide attack in West Kabul at a school ,where more than 50 children (school students)were reported killed and more than 100 wounded. This is not the first such violence that take place around educational centres in Kabul. Over the past year, the Hazara community who are the inhabitants of this district have become repeatedly ,target of such killings. The real aim behind such massacres is ethnic cleansing or genocide.

Further, the new administration, not being broad based , cannot represent the diverse Afghan society and, unfortunately, by not showing intention to finding a solution to the problem, has caused another round of war and bloodshed to begin. At the moment full-fledged war is going on in three provinces, Panjshir, Andaraab and Baghlaan.

The Islamic republic of Afghanistan , a democratically elected regime, came into being after the 9-11 , on the basis of a constitution , approved by Afghan people in a referendum . It was for the first time in our history to have an elected government. It could be considered the biggest achievement of Afghan people over the past century. Despite the fact that it was overshadowed by corruption. The Talib administration, dissolved the government and suspended the constitution.

That apart, as mentioned above, while they have suspended everything belonging to the past, themselves , have no solution for any of the current problems of Afghan society. No experience , no knowledge and no cadre to handle the state apparatus. People are dying of hunger. People are so desperate to leaving the country.

Afghan society will have to fight for another half century to reach a democratically elected government again.

We, as part of Afghan diaspora, look forward to the UN and other international organisations to, politically and economically, stretch a hand of support to the poor Afghan people in order to enable them to get back to where they were before 15 August 2021, and recover their stolen freedom and democracy.

Ladies and gentlemen,

People of the world are well aware of the happenings in Afghanistan. Nobody is left on our planet, I am sure , who does not know , who the Taliban are , where they come from and what they are up to.

Those who have been following the developments of the past half century in Afghanistan know very well that whatever is happening in Afghanistan today is the continuation of a well-drawn plan by the intelligence services of the neighbouring country of Pakistan (ISI) backed by the USA , or the USA has turned a blind eye , implemented step by step over the past half a century.

It is worth mentioning that Russian invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, was a god given opportunity for Pakistani intelligence to more openly and with more self-confidence implement their strategy. Pakistan's ex-dictator Ziaul Haqq's cooperation in bleeding the soviets in Afghanistan came with Pakistan's plan to install a client regime in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. The United States never controlled the Pakistan's ISI or for that matter the mujahideen , even though it paid for the operations.

“ Zia circumventing US legislation aimed at non-proliferation, also used the cover of Afghan Jihad to acquire a nuclear weapon capability for Pakistan. With help from the United States, Zia modernised Pakistan’s military and prepared for a broader Jihad to expand Pakistan’s regional influence, building a cadre of Islamist guerrilla and giving rise to Pakistan’s ambitions to create a client regime in Afghanistan that resulted in the Taliban’s ascendancy and ability to provide sanctuary for Al Qaeda.”¹

This is what is exactly what is happening today in Afghanistan.

¹ Haqqani ,Hussain “ Pakistan between Mosque and military” p 325

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