

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

# Daily Outlook

## AFGHANISTAN

The Leading Independent Newspaper

December 25, 2014

## Coexistence or no Existence

So as to exist with cooperation in an exceedingly diverse society it's necessary to develop respect and broadmindedness for others. Without these factors, it might be terribly troublesome to tighten the social bonds. The varied societies have inhabitants from totally dissimilar cultural, historical, religious, ethnic or sectarian milieus. Such societies, although have the advantage of being diverse and culturally wealthy, are noticeably at risk of conflicts, also. As there are teams of individuals with totally different ideologies and practices there are prospects that there are frequent clashes and disturbances. Therefore, it's necessary in such societies that totally different teams ought to settle for one another's existence.

The open-mindedness for others is best developed by realizing the actual fact that others have their reasons to be what they're. They need their own backgrounds and values and their own practices that have developed among them through their distinct history. However, people don't seem to be able to do so in such a large amount of cases. They, in fact, become the victims of utmost partisanship. They observe and perceive others in their own views and check out to weigh them as per their own values, that don't offer correct and just result. They base their analysis and understanding depending on their own frame of reference that is certain to be biased as they do not look after the objective truths.

The biased and ethno-centric approach towards others is certain to end in clashes and chaos. Such a state of affairs is actually noticeably prejudiced and might be used by others for their personal edges. History approves the fact that the heterogeneous societies that have had clashes among their completely different strata were dominated by others who solely reinforced those clashes through political means and in that manner pursued their own motives. In short, the societies that have such clashes are politically used by others and that they suffer severe loss as a result.

It is, therefore, essential for heterogeneous societies to develop a culture of co-existence. A way of belongingness to an oversized body; may be a sense for attachment to some national feelings, will solve the problem to a particular level. Binding themselves to national levels, the heterogeneous teams within the society might surrender their trivial matters and begin thinking in broader perspective. They need to be instructed to grasp that it's solely through collective efforts that they'll improve their survival potential in today's society. Their collective efforts will grow to be a synergy that may give them the chances of facing the overgrowing challenges of life successfully and dignity.

One of the simplest ways in which to exist in an exceedingly heterogeneous society is searching for the similarities among totally different teams rather than distinguishing the variations and creating them the bone of rivalry. In fact, the similarities among totally different human teams are larger than their variations. One of the biggest similarities among all the groups of people is that they're human beings and share an equivalent earth to survive on.

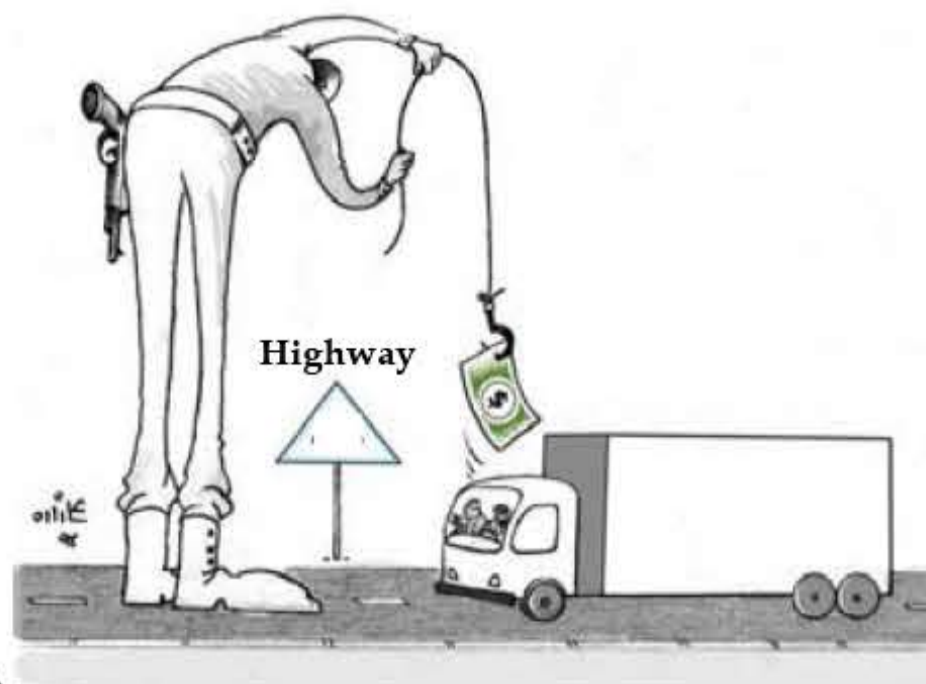
However, such ideas are solely thought of ideal and unworkable. In reality, people are divided into totally different strata and that they have myriads of disparities. There are fights among them and that they use deadly weapons in their fights that kill many at a time. Each cluster, in pursuit of proving itself higher or correct, makes machinations to decimate others. Others are aliens, foreigners, infidels and wrong-doers. Religions and social and political ideologies that have got to bring folks along have, in fact, compelled them to stand largely apart and divided. This can be extremely pathetic and doesn't show in the least that humans are the most superior of creatures and have the intelligence and gumption.

Afghanistan is one of the societies that are heterogeneous to a particular extent. There are folks from totally different ethnic groups who have their sub-cultures. Although they have embellished Afghan society with variety, there are instances when these strata have had clashes among each other. These clashes resulted in civil wars and influenced Afghan society negatively to a large extent. Other countries that had their interests in Afghan society used these clashes for their political functions and further added fuel to the fireplace.

However, nowadays Afghan society is standing in an exceedingly different position. It's in the course of developing a peaceful life for its folks. At this important juncture, it's extremely necessary that Afghan society should stand united and face challenges as a powerful nation. It should not let the variations among various strata to dominate their national integration. The younger generation will play an amazing role in this regard. They're educated and they have previously experienced the implications of decades of instability and wars; so, they'll better decide which path to choose.

It was mentioned by English thinker, Russell, "It's coexistence or no existence." If Afghan people ought to guarantee their national integration within the times to come, they will tested by the challenges because the international forces are withdrawing from the country, they have to find out to hold one another's hands tightly and check out to assist one another in nation building. They need to grasp that the varied groups within the country are essentially different elements of a healthy body and while not the support of any of them it might not be able to create the body complete and make it work and perform properly. Otherwise, the socio-political conditions might prove to be noticeably unkind and they might gust away, like light-weight straws, all the people who are at odds.

## Highway Police accused of seeking bribes



# Parental Alienation

■ By Hujjatullah Zia

Are you the targeted parent or the targeted family of parental alienation? If so, you may be confused, hurt, sad, frustrated, angry, ashamed, embarrassed, and simply long for the alienated child, however young or old, back in your life.

I do agree with the saying, "When it comes to contact with their own kids, some parents have been banished... seemingly exiled to spend the remainder of their days on a lonely asteroid in space. Like aliens they roam around lost, estranged from their home world - casualties of parental wars."

It does not immediately physically strike you. It does not scream, "Help! I am being alienated." It is a penetrating form of psychological abuse that permeates through a child's heart and mind. And that is where you must pick up the subtle clues the alienating parent and the children leave for you. That is where your vigilance and diligence become essential.

Parental alienation is a group of behaviors that are damaging to children's mental and emotional well-being, and can interfere with a relationship of a child and either parent. These behaviors most often accompany high conflict marriages, separation or divorce.

These behaviors whether verbal or non-verbal, cause a child to be mentally manipulated or bullied into believing a loving parent is the cause of all their problems, and the enemy, to be feared, hated, disrespected or avoided.

Indian Journal of Psychiatry released in 1988 that a child who was separated from his or her father for a period of three months or longer while between the ages of 6 months to 5 years old, suffered a 2.5 to 5 times higher risk of conduct disorder, emotional disorders and hysteria than a child that did not go through the same period of separation.

Severely alienated children treat the rejected parent with extreme hostility, disobedience, defiance, and withdrawal. They may resist or refuse contact, vandalize and steal property, threaten and perpetrate violence. A boy is quoted to say that he would like to give his father a hard kick between the legs, kill him in his sleep, and have him die a horrible death. Often these children behave well with all other adults except the rejected parent and people associated with that parent.

Some degree of alienation is present in 80 percent of divorces. A research shows when alienation occurs, it is harmful to the emotional growth and appropriate development of children. Rejection of a parent is alienation when there are insubstantial reasons for the rejection in contrast to a prior pattern of appropriate interaction.

Parental alienation and hostile aggressive parenting deprive children of their right to be loved by and showing love for both of their parents. The destructive actions by an alienat-

ing parent or other third person can become abusive to the child.

Alienated children are consumed with hatred of the targeted parent. They deny any positive past experiences and reject all contact and communication. Parents who were once loved and valued seemingly overnight become hated and feared. Alienated children typically appear rude, ungrateful, spiteful, and cold toward the targeted parent, and they appear to be impervious to feelings of guilt about their harsh treatment. Gratitude for gifts, favors, or child support provided by the targeted parent is nonexistent. Children with parental alienation syndrome will try to get whatever they can from that parent, declaring that it is owed to them. Even though alienated children appear to be unduly influenced by the alienating parent, they will adamantly insist that the decision to reject the targeted parent is theirs alone. They deny that their feelings about the targeted parent are in any way influenced by the alienating parent and often invoke the concept of free will to describe their decision.

Recognizing the alienation before it takes complete control may be the single most important factor in stopping it. It stops alienation from becoming a "syndrome."

If you see your children on a frequent and regular basis, spend quality time with them and they are able to see how much you care for them, even an adolescent mind may be able to recognize that what the other parent is saying about you just doesn't add up. It doesn't mean you ignore the alienation.

Your actions should be the same. However, your love and care may create a buffer against the other parent's misconduct and may afford you greater opportunity to protect the children.

The first sign of parental alienation sometimes comes from your own children. The moment one of your children states, "mommy said that you" or "daddy says that you" and then you hear the disparaging remark, even if a subtle one, it is time to take action. To what action do we refer?

While it does depend on the disparagement's severity, you should at least document the child's statements to the other parent and calmly explain to the other parent that such a comment was inappropriate when he or she made it to the child. You are not just stating what the child said but you are asking for an explanation and details from the other parent. You want to tell the parent what the child told you, you want the parent to explain exactly what he or she said to the child and you want a specific explanation why he or she said or did that. Why? In order to avoid a scenario later on of "he said or she said." Do you think a parent who alienates the children will admit to it? They don't.

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## The Productivity of Trust

■ By Ricardo Hausmann

The Nobel laureate economist Paul Krugman once quipped that "Canada is essentially closer to the United States than it is to itself." After all, most of its citizens live in a narrow band along the more than 3,000-mile-long border. Most Canadians live closer to more Americans than they do to other Canadians. The same can be said of corporations and governments. Most firms are closer to the government than they are to other firms: they interact with government rules and agencies more than they do with the rest of the business community. The quality of that interaction and its evolution over time is probably the most fundamental determinant of a country's potential for growth and prosperity.

But this is not the Weltanschauung - the worldview - that permeates private-sector discourse, especially the views expressed by most chambers of trade and industry and business associations around the world. Business organizations often hew to Ronald Reagan's dictum: "Government is not the solution to our problems; government is the problem." It is a great sound bite: short, recursive, and somewhat poetic. Unfortunately, it is also dangerously misleading. After all, even if government were the problem, then changing what it does must be part of the solution.

The truth is that markets cannot exist without governments, and vice versa. Governments are essential to the establishment of security, justice, property rights, and contract enforcement, all of which are essential to a market economy. Governments must also organize the provision of infrastructure for transportation, communication, energy, water, and waste disposal. They run and regulate health-care systems and primary, secondary, tertiary, and vocational education. They create the rules and provide the certifications that allow firms to assure their customers, workers, and neighbors that what they do is safe. They protect creditors and minority shareholders from miscreant managers (and managers from impulsive creditors). Saying that governments should get out of the way and let the private sector do its thing is like saying that air traffic controllers should get out of the way and let pilots do their thing. In fact, governments and the private sector need each other, and they need to find better ways to collaborate. The problem is that in many countries, both developed and developing, the current relationship between the private sector and the government is often dysfunctional. Not only is it characterized by deep distrust, but the broader society does not find a closer relationship to be either legitimate or in the public interest, and for good reason. The private sector often engages with the government in order to make itself more profitable. After all, maximizing profits is what CEOs are supposed to do. And the government has ways to help: It can force suppliers to sell their inputs more cheaply, repress workers' wage demands, protect the final market from competition by imports or new entrants, or lower their taxes. But these schemes make firms more profitable by making

their suppliers, workers, and customers poorer. Accepting such demands makes the government rightly illegitimate in the eyes of the rest of society, which cherishes higher priorities than redistribution in favor of the already rich.

Outcomes would be very different if the focus of the relationship were productivity rather than profitability. Productivity improvements, by lowering costs, allow firms to pay their workers and suppliers better, reduce prices for consumers, pay more in taxes, and still make more money for their shareholders. A focus on productivity is win-win. Governments can do many things, in a variety of areas, to raise productivity. Fresh produce requires a cold-storage logistic system, a green lane at customs, certification of good agricultural practices, and sanitary permits. Tourism depends on sensible visa requirements, convenient airports, road signs, hotel construction permits, and the preservation of cultural sites and coastlines. Manufacturing requires dedicated urban space that is adequately connected to power, water, transport, logistics, security, and a diverse labor force.

All of these productivity-boosting inputs require institutions that teach and extend industry-relevant knowledge and skills. None of them appears in the World Bank's Doing Business indicators or the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index. And yet, without these public inputs, the industries that depend on them cannot succeed.

That is precisely what happens in the absence of a sound and legitimate basis for cooperation between the government and the private sector. The result is inadequate provision of public goods that raise productivity and make everyone better off. To create such a basis for cooperation, many countries need a new compact between the government and the private sector. This will not be possible if business groups insist on putting taxes at the center of the discussion. Instead, they should focus on measures that raise productivity. More broadly, business groups should seek only those government policies that are unambiguously in the public interest. Demands that are perceived as greedy erode legitimacy and, ultimately, effectiveness. In this context, watchdog NGOs dedicated to scoring the public-interest value of what business groups ask for from the government could facilitate trust.

Perhaps most important, business associations do their members a disservice by seeking to impose on them a single voice. Doing so usually leads to a focus on policies that are preferred by all members - such as lower taxes - instead of measures that are important to the productivity of each member. Just as monopolies are bad for markets and politics, business representation in the private sector would benefit from more competition.

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