High Birthrate Causing High Death

By Mohammad Zahir Akbari

Afghanistan is on the 11th highest birth rate in the world, and also the highest birth rate in non-African countries. In the country of Niger, a western African country, (at 52 births per 1,000 people) and a country suffering from war, there were 52 births; but in Afghanistan (at 47.2 births per thousand) compared to Afghanistan, has roughly 40 births per 1,000 people. Birth rate in Afghanistan is considered high, meaning that out of 10-20 births per 1,000 people are considered low, while rates from 40-50-60 are considered high. There are problems associated with both extremes; high birth rates may stress government welfare and family programs. Additionally, a large birth rate in a country can include educating a growing number of children, jobs for them when they enter the workforce, and dealing with the environmental impact of a large population. Low birth rates may stress the governments ability to provide support for the old, the elderly and the senior welfare system or stresses families who must support the elders themselves. There will be fewer children in the country (working-age population) to support an aging nation. Afghanistan is at a highest birth rate, the population growth is a serious problem such as being unable to provide education, employment, maternal, infant health and etc. Some link this to religion, culture and traditions but the main reason is the social security demand, there is a kind of competition among families, especially in the rural area, to have more sons and form strong families, because small families are considered weak and easily pressured by other families or regions. The government officials do not seem serious enough to take tangible actions.

In a recent survey conducted by Human Rights Watch and Ad- vocacy Consortium (HRAC), it was revealed that poor leadership within the government and the upsurge in violence have led to a sharp rise in human smuggling in Afghanistan. It also revealed that at least 47 percent of Afghans believe that the government is not doing enough to address the issue of human smuggling. The government’s activities to prevent it. Among the probable reasons are the following: To do so they fail victim to human smugglers and ultimately tragedies and misfortunes. In the presence of such tragedies and their persis- tency, the government officials do not seem serious enough to take tangible actions.

In its short term policy, it must have no tolerance for the smugglers or agencies and must not carry their activities without hesita- tion. In its medium term, it must have qualitative steps to curb the smuggling. The government, in this regard, must take tangible steps to curb the smuggling. Another fact is that the people being smuggled do not always have adequate economic resources to support their families and their lives. The border control police or forces in different countries have left the country in search of peace and tranquility. And, most of them use the illegal ways to do so; therefore, they availed the services of human smugglers by holding on to money paid to the smugglers by would- be migrants. A recent news report revealed that human smuggling has now taken Kabul who take advantage of the feelings of those who are desperate to achieve a better life.

Currently, Afghanistan is largely hit by this problem and there are many human smugglers in the country, particularly, in the capital Kabul where take advantage of the feelings of those who are desperate and to seek a better life as well. Among the probable reasons are the following: To do so they fail victim to human smugglers and ultimately tragedies and misfortunes. In the presence of such tragedies and their persis- tency, the government officials do not seem serious enough to take tangible actions.

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