

HYPOCRITES ON THE MOVE AGAINST ISLAM

The recent unrelenting spate of killing of the worthy son of Islam in Iran is naturally disturbing to any true and peace loving Muslim. It makes one wonder in what direction is the fate of the Muslim Ummah now drifting.

Who are these criminals and for what object are they out to eliminate the dedicated and capable officers of the newly established Islamic Republic of Iran?

Apparently it is only a small section of well armed men from a bunch of hypocrites, having no sensible aim of life nor any regard for Islam or their country, who are out to disrupt the progress of the Islamic rule of law. These criminals, be they members of Mujahideen-e-Khalq or any other party, who failed in their selfish designs to dominate the government elected by the masses, have now embarked upon systematic sabotage against Islamic rule in the Country.

The past history is full of records of crimes and conspiracies by hypocrites against Islam. The Prophet of Islam had much difficult time in having to face up with munafiqeen- the hypocrites much more than Kuffar-the infidels. Their persistent maneuvers against Islam did not allow the Prophet to pass away in peace from this world.

According to Early history of Islam, fifteen men among them some prominent companions, had conspired to kill the Prophet on return from the expedition of Tabuk by pushing him from his camel as he rode by night over the highest part of Al-Aqaba. But they fled unsuccessful in their inhuman design as a result of the alarm raised by Hozafa - the Prophet camel driver.

Again history tells us of the persistent harassment by the hypocrites during the Islamic rule of law by Hazrat Ali a.s. Moawiya and his henchmen embarked upon all methods of treason and conspiracy against Ali a.s. including the barbaric elimination of his most able men.

When Ali a.s. despatched Malik-e-Ashtar to take over the governorship of Egypt to restore peace, Moawiya being very apprehensive of this, conspired to get rid of him. With some temptations, he instigated a Chief who lived on the confines of Arabia and Egypt and with whom Malik was to break his journey, to poison him. The Chief poisoned Malik with so deadly a poison in a cup of honey that he died instantly before he could step out of his house. On hearing this, Moawiya became very jubilant and promptly despatched six thousand horsemen under Amr bin Aas to seize upon Egypt. Reaching Alexandria and in the fighting that took place there, Mohamed bin AbuBakr who was still the Governor from Ali a.s. in that area fell into the hands of his enemies, who inclosed him alive in the skin of an ass and the bundle was thrown into flames to be burnt to ashes.

Thus we see how the true sons of Islam when out to establish the rule of law and justice, were cruelly eliminated in the hands of the hypocrites who could not exist to see them alive. As history repeats itself, it should not surprise us today if we see similar things happening in Islamic countries.

It is however essential that we should recognize and beware of hypocrites who are not only inside Iran but they do exist everywhere - perhaps some of them not far from us. Misguided by foreign ideologies or anti-islamic Western media, they are out to misguide others. By extending hands of friendship and offer of all kinds of favours, they tend to deviate us from the path of true Islam. Let us not be mistaken by their outward garb of Islam and be lured with their tempting generosity. In sermon 192 of Nahjul Balagha, Hazrat Ali a.s. has warned us and described their characteristics in these words:

“I warn you of the hypocrites, because they are themselves misguided and misguide others, and they have slipped and make others slip too. They change many colours and adopt various ways. They support you with all sorts of supports and lay in waiting for you at every watch-base. Their hearts are diseased while their faces are clean. They walk stealthily and tread like the approach of sickness (over the body). Their words speak of cure but their acts are like incurable diseases. They are jealous of ease, intensify distress, and destroy hopes. Their victims are found lying down on every path while they have means to approach every heart and they have (false) tears for every grief. They eulogies each other and expect reward from each other. When they ask something they insist on it, if they reprove (any one) they have adopted for every truth a wrong way, for every erect thing a bender, for every living being a killer, for every (closed) door a key and for every night a lamp. They covet but with despair in order to maintain with it their markets, and to popularize their handsome merchandise. When they speak they create doubts. When they describe they exaggerate. First they offer easy paths but (afterwards) they make them narrow. In short, they are the party of satan and stings of fire.”

What episodes take place in the Islamic Republic of Iran today is perhaps severe test of faith not only for those who are afflicted but also for us. The tragic losses of life and their sacrifices call for our sympathy and understanding since they are for the noble cause of upholding the tenets of Islam. Let us not allow the blood of the martyrs to go in vain let us speak and do that which does not harm but promotes Islam in the world.