

Thinking Allowed...

THINK OF THE NATION FIRST

By Hasina Sajun

For the first time, there are any signs of something being done or planned for the good of our masses. So what does everyone do...look at each action or word thru a microscope, finding fault and criticising the day-to-day events.

Rise above it Pakistanis, put aside petty grievances and pernicious jealousies. Let's say that the best man has won, now instead of showing him up in a bad light whenever you can, give the man a chance... look at the odds he is facing. Don't sit and pass judgement just yet, atleast a year before you start to run him down.

The liberty to have a healthy opposition is one thing. Why should anyone take opposition to mean creating a law and order situation...creating chaos so the man doesn't get a chance to attend to the basic problems facing him. For the first time you have been given the liberty to oppose...so what do you do...misuse the liberty.

We pay too much attention to, day-to-day politics, and not enough attention to basic policies. In the last two decades has anyone been allowed to or took the action of raising a single objection to the burning issues, may be just the end of the Ayub or Yahya regime.

For the first time reforms have been planned to help the poor. Nobody bothered about the poor before. Now when someone is trying, each one can try to help that effort and if not help, the least one can do is to hold our tongues...if no constructive criticism is coming forth.

Why only during the war, was rumour spreading warned against. This should be on top of the Comments for Pakistanis. The second should be the eradication of our major national shortcomings...Thou shall not Envy.

ENVY

What is making us react to news of impending reforms the way we do...Think. The fear of losing something we possess? Envy...?

How many of us have gone to Orangi, Korangi, Federal B Area, in a public bus! or even in a taxi...see how far it is. How much money, time, and energy the poor need to step out in search of their livelihood.

Look at our town planning, the poor could have been rehabilitated nearer their work...the rich could have been given large plots on the outskirts of the city. He has the means to make the most of those open areas, and far it may be — a rich

man's job or days earnings are not lost if he is not at work at the dot of his time.

Unless each earning member of the family has one rupee on him or her daily he cannot step out for work as their daily transport costs them one rupee from Korangi, and if they are late due to the bus drivers or breakdown, they may have to take a rickshaw (or else their jobs are at stake) so where will that extra money come from.

How can a teacher give her best to her pupils if she has cooked for the family and given packed lunches, worked from early morning and then if she misses a bus or the bus is late (not that there is any such thing as a timetable for the bus services like all other civilized countries). If she has a tight budget and she has to take a taxi or rickshaw, and regretting naturally the extra expense, what can her best be like then?

JUDGEMENT

How can you sit on judgement of the poor. You wonder that they agitate for their basic rights. Agitation for ones rights are one thing and creating mischief by encouraging and inciting Gheraos, and students take over of colleges and schools are another matter. These anti-State activities,

to blacken the name of the elected party...where will it get anyone. Create an extra chaos, to frighten us, the cowardly civilians! An honest, courageous, united civilian population should back and raise the morale of the Armed Forces, otherwise how can they find the heart to sacrifice their all...sacrifice for petty minded, ready to flee the country pessimistic civilians...? How can they... why should they!

The Government must take all precautions to see that honesty prevails at all levels. One honest administrator can induce honesty down the line thru his department. So the top administrators must be of the best calibre.

Every single one of us has sunk into lethargy. The easy way into our chosen path. Each of us forgot our responsibilities. Our values have been in quicksand and our conscience under sedatives.

What do we want?

A happy united hardworking Islamic State. Then let's think of the Nation first, think of the consequences of mischief making activities... at what cost to the nation?

Put the Nation first. If each of us can answer before God that we are honestly cooperating with the Government, checking its excesses, standing up for our rights, then we won't have to wonder what next...we will be able to see the results.