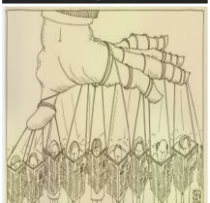
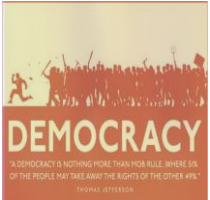


2012

Why Democracy Has Become A Conceptual Illusion? “Priority Governance for One in Millions”



“Eighty-five percent of the world’s wealth,” according to David Rothkopf in his lecture, ‘Super Class: The Global Power Elite and the World They are Making,’ at Carnegie Endowment, “is controlled by the top 10 percent of the people in the world. Forty percent of the wealth of the world and of the United States is controlled by the top 1 percent of the people in the world. The 1100 billionaires on the planet earth have a net worth that is equivalent to almost twice that of the bottom 2.5 billion people on the planet earth.” There is no room for the slightest doubt that these are technically engineered “Cycles of Artificial Affluence and Inescapable Circles of Endless Deprivation” by the beneficiaries of politics, democracy and bureaucracy. In a capitalist society, and to that matter in any religion including Islam, there is nothing wrong in making money and accumulating wealth. Eyebrows rise when one out of a millions’ right to make money and accumulate it results in extreme poverty and shameful deprivation of billions others. What are the consequences? The one in a million has state-of-the art options and facilities at his disposal to do business or have a lucrative job; educate his children in well-equipped and well-staffed schools, colleges and universities; avail world class medical hospitality; travel in first or business class; and buy luxury items for self and family without even looking at the price tag. HE IS THE TARGET BUYER of TODAY and TOMORROW. HE HAS BECOME FOCUS OF POLITICAL AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE KNOWN AS PRIORITY GOVERNANCE LIKE PRIORITY BANKING! GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND BUSINESS PLANS ARE MADE FOR HIM – THE ONE IN A MILLION! Other 999,999 people are not qualified for recruitment; do not have the requisite collateral to qualify for credit to start their own small businesses; their children either go to ill-equipped and ill-staffed education and coaching centers or remain out of school; they either have to go to government hospitals or die unattended; travel like animals; and often go to bed hungry. THIS IS JUST A MILD UNHARMFUL HUMANE GLIMPSE OF DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL DELIVERY SYSTEM ENGINEERED AND MANAGED BY HIGHLY EDUCATED PUBLIC SERVANTS RIGHT UNDER THE NOSE OF SO-CALLED PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES! Welcome to the world of CONCEPTUAL ILLUSION called DEMOCRACY.

Zahid Hussain Khalid

Written for my blogs at Slideshare, Wordpress and Facebook

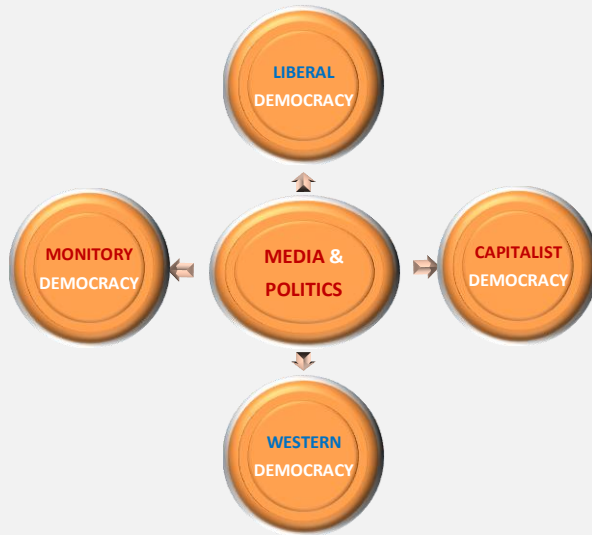
9/3/2012



Why democracy has become a conceptual illusion?

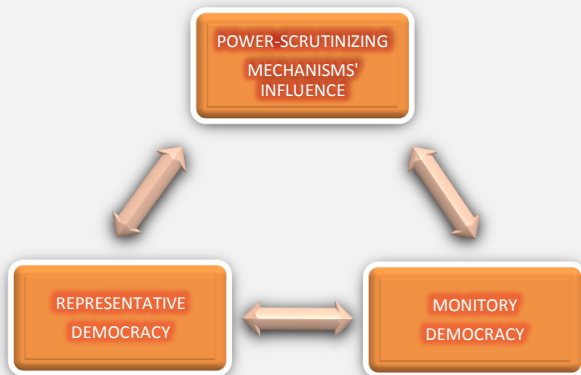
By Zahid Hussain Khalid

Democracy by definition is a concept that has many debatable aspects. It, by most popular definition, is a “government of the people, by the people, for the people.” A noble laureate has re-defined it as “a government of one percent, by the one percent, for the one percent.” Thomas Jefferson has this to say about democracy: “A democracy is nothing but a mob rule, where 51% of the people may take away the rights of the other 49%.”

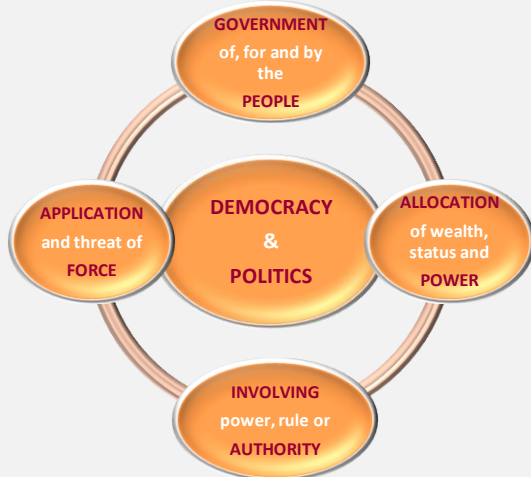


John Kean in his lecture “Monitory Democracy? The Secret History of Democracy since 1945,” delivered at the School of Journalism, Fudan University, Shanghai on 29 October 2008 “rejects dead or zombie descriptors such as ‘liberal democracy’ or ‘capitalist democracy’ or ‘Western democracy’. It supposes as well that Fukuyama-style ‘end of history’ perspectives and maritime metaphors (Samuel Huntington’s ‘third wave’ of the seasimile has been the most

influential) are too limited to grasp the epochal change - too bound to the surface of things, too preoccupied with continuities and aggregate data to notice that political tides have begun to run in entirely new directions.”

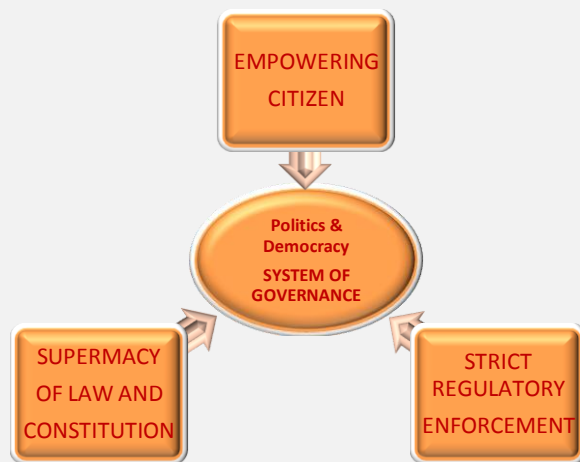


He claims that the “world is now living through an historic sea change, one that is taking us away from the old era of representative democracy towards a brand new form of ‘monitory’ democracy defined by the growth of many different power-scrutinizing mechanisms and their spreading influence within the fields of government and civil society, both at home and abroad, in cross-border settings that were once dominated by empires, states and business organizations.”



What is politics? “Politics,” according to Harold Lasswell, “is the process of who gets what and how?” It accordingly “allocates wealth, status and power.” Political System is defined by Robert Dahl as “any persistent pattern of human relationship that involves...power, rule or authority” and a “Political Association exists if,” Max Weber believes “...its order is carried out...by the application and threat of force.”

Oscar Ameringer defines politics as, “the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich, by promising to protect each from the other.”

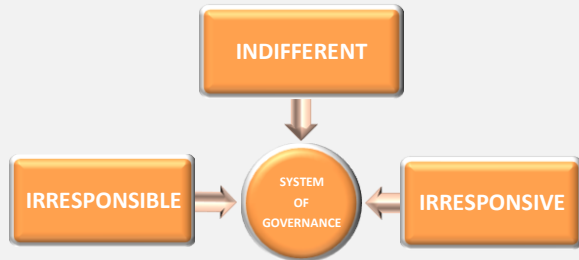


I will define politics and democracy jointly as a promised System of Governance that aims at judiciously empowering its citizens through accepting and adhering to the supremacy of law, constitution, its indiscriminate applicability from a man-in-the-street to the head of the state, strict regulatory enforcement and constant review even if the application and threat of force is necessary to establish its writ.

This is a conceptual framework for the assessment of the performance of a democratic set-up any where in the world. This conceptual framework has a triumvirate analytical approach: Empowering citizens; enforcing supremacy of law and constitution and strict social, economic, political, diplomatic and military regulatory enforcement and its vigilant monitoring, review and re-invention. Adding to that, I personally agree to Max Weber’s idea of threat and application of force emphasizing only as and when extremely necessary. I will list and discuss the reasons for agreeing with Max Weber in detail.

The questions are who is really empowered? Who are above law? And who benefit from democracy?

EMPOWERING CITIZENS



Before discussing different aspects of “empowering” and “dis-empowering” citizens it will be appropriate to see the reasons for an arrogantly indifferent, irresponsible and irresponsible system of governance.

Why democracy has been ridiculously re-defined as “a government of the one percent, by the one percent and for the one percent.” When social and economic issues are discussed in media and conferences, illiteracy and resource constraint are cited as two reasons for social unrest and economic mess presently visible both in developing and developed countries excluding a few emerging economies. I tried to trace out reasons for the social unrest and economic mess and came up with a clockwise Cycle of Nine Social & Economic Evils below:



Majority of the social scientist unanimously declares that the listed social and economic evils are a direct consequence of illiteracy and ignorance. They are trying to combat and eliminate these evils from different platforms with an expenditure of billions even trillions of dollars on the sustainable improvement in social and economic indicators and war on terrorism respectively and at the same time complaining about the resource constraint too. To me their conceptual approach is partially right but their actions on different social and economic fronts at government, donors and foundations levels ARE totally WRONG, MISDIRECTED and financially WASTEFUL. I forcefully stress that their focus on illiteracy and complaints of resource constraints are ill-judged and misplaced for the following two reasons:

- People in any country are either at the receiving end or at the delivering end. Some are found at both ends. System of governance and distribution of resources are managed by highly educated and technically the most skillful experts in social, economic, political, diplomatic and military disciplines. They are at the Delivery End as policy makers and decision takers. The majority of illiterate people are at the Receiving End. Their role begins and ends only in election rallies and at the election polling booths. They vote for political parties of their right or wrong choice and that is it. After that their elected representatives have to “work for the people they represent from inaccessible forts” and their actions and outcome of those actions are visible only on television screens and in print media. The delivery system does not have a door that opens in voters’ homes.



What happens behind government’s closed doors? Protocol’s Blue Book comes into action immediately after the public representatives take oath of office constructing an iron wall between the majority of the voters and the voted few. The Blue Book permits only a few privileged and their lobbyists to have access to the “so-called representatives of the people”

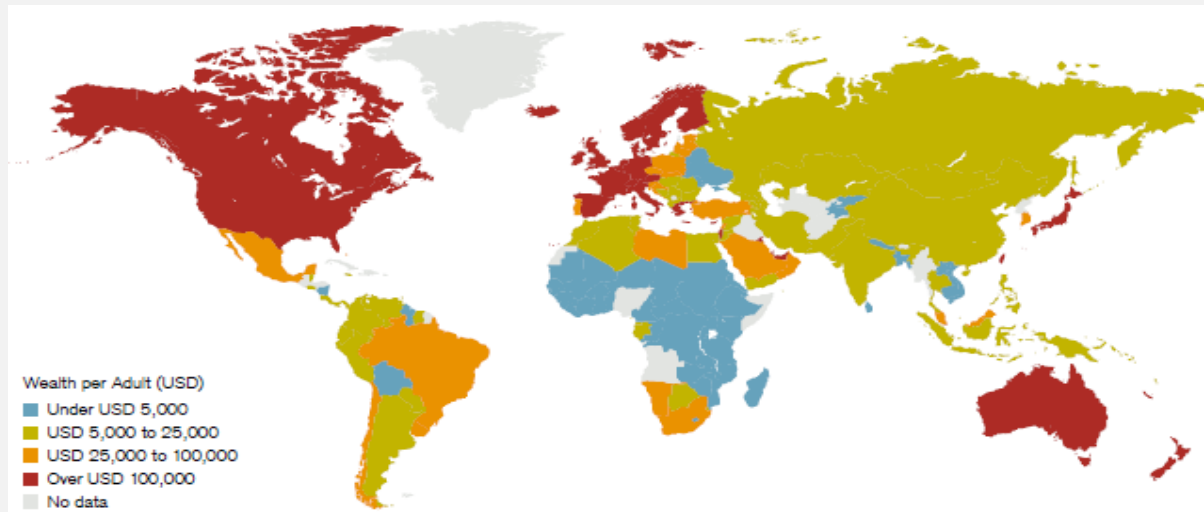
in the corridors of power for sharing their perspectives on social, economic, political, diplomatic and military myths or realities on ground as they see in their own interest with those in power at the CAPITAL HILLS in different parts of the world. Do their perspectives coincide with the genuine concerns of the voters? That question needs to be seriously discussed and debated not illiteracy and ignorance in a flawed way that they do.



- There is evidently no resource constraint in the world either capital, natural or human. Credit Suisse Research Institute estimates that global household wealth totaled USD 231 trillion in mid-2011, equivalent to USD 51,000 per adult. Yes it is PER ADULT! WILL ANYBODY CALL THAT RESOURCE

CONSTRAINT? If it is true and it is true then why hundreds of millions of adults and their families are living below poverty line?

Credit Suisse Research Institute maintains that financial crisis would appear to be more than a modest setback in a benign decade for household wealth accumulation, which saw aggregate wealth **DOUBLE** from USD 113 trillion recorded for 2000. Since the start of the millennium, net worth per adult had still risen by 67% as of mid-2011 when measured in current dollars and by 36 percent when exchange rates are held constant.

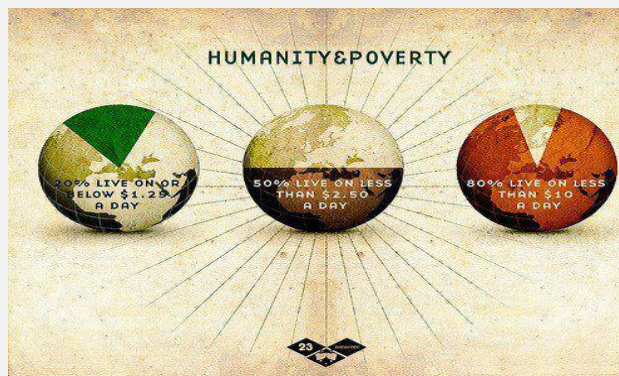


Source: James Davies, Rodrigo Lluberas and Anthony Shorrocks, Credit Suisse Wealth Databook 2011

Where has all the wealth gone?

It will be hopefully interesting to read a few lines from David J. Rothkopf's "Small super-class of people posted on Sun, April 06, 2008:

"If you counted every person on the planet with really global power -- the fattest of the fat cats, the biggest of the big cheeses -- you would end up with about 6,000 people. At least that's what I came up with while preparing a book on the subject. I tried to identify all those who could influence millions of lives in multiple countries on a regular basis -- a metric that gives you about 6,000 power players of various kinds. There are heads of state and other government leaders, for example, CEOs of the biggest companies, and heads of the biggest banks and investment firms.



Most of the world's 1,100 or so billionaires make the cut -- two jumbo jet-loads full of men and women who have a net worth almost twice that of the poorest 2.5 billion people on the planet. The group also includes big-time religious leaders, media moguls, few terrorists, a few criminals, and a bunch of miscellaneous actors, singers, scientists, writers, and other cultural icons who not only have an audience but can move it to action.

That's 6,000 people on a planet of 6 billion. Each one, in other words, is literally one in a million.”

What the illiteracy and ignorance have to do with a system of governance that encourages the accumulation of wealth in the hands of “literally one in a million?” What about the remaining 999,999?

Who these “ones in millions” are?

The reasons for social and economic unrest, therefore, are not illiteracy or resource constraint. The reasons are flawed strategic policy decisions by public representatives and their thinking hats. These flawed strategic policy decisions, evidently influenced by vested interests and their lobbyists, have widened the gap between less or more than one percent lucky individuals and their families and billions of people below poverty line. This is not an outcome of illiteracy and resource constraint. This is an intentionally engineered outcome of an inexcusable criminal conspiracy of public representatives and their highly educated social, economic, political, diplomatic and military strategists and public servants at the helm of affairs in connivance with corporate tycoons. Hundreds of examples from different countries can be listed to substantiate and prove this allegation.

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH DEMOCRACY OR CAPITALISM. THE PEOPLE AT THE HELM OF AFFAIRS ARE WRONG! THEIR CONCEPTS ARE WRONG. THEIR METHODOLOGY IS WRONG. THEIR PLANS ARE WRONG AND ABOVE ALL THEIR INTENTIONS ARE WRONG. THEY DO NOT REPRESENT PEOPLE. THEY REPRESENT BIG CORPORATIONS AND CORPORATE TYCOONS.

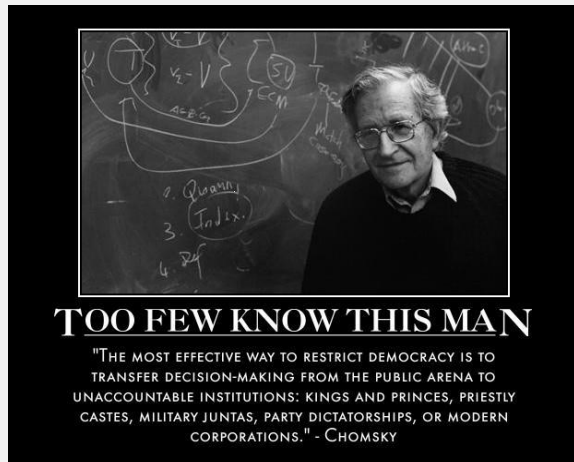
DEMOCRACY IS TURNED INTO A DECEPTIVE TOOL OF FOOLING AND EXPLOITING MAJORITY OF PEOPLE BY A MINORITY OF POLITICIANS AND CORPORATE CARTELS WITH THE HELP OF CIVIL AND MILITARY BUREAUCRACY, MAINSTREAM MEDIA OWNERS AND JOURNALISTS.

For example, “Eighty-five percent of the world’s wealth,” according to David Rothkopf in his lecture, ‘Super Class: The Global Power Elite and the World They are Making,’ at Carnegie Endowment, “is controlled by the top 10 percent of the people in the world. Forty percent of the wealth of the world and of the United States is controlled by the top 1 percent of the people in the world. The 1100 billionaires on the planet earth have a net worth that is equivalent to almost twice that of the bottom 2.5 billion people on the planet earth.” Please keep in mind that was in 2008! Now the rich have become richer and by all estimates poor have become poorer.

There is no room for the slightest doubt that these are technically engineered “Cycles of Artificial Affluence and Inescapable Circles of Endless Deprivation” by the beneficiaries of politics, democracy and bureaucracy. In a capitalist society and to that matter in any religion including Islam there is nothing wrong in making money and accumulating wealth. Eyebrows rise when one out of a million’s right to make money and accumulate it results in extreme poverty and shameful deprivation of billions others.

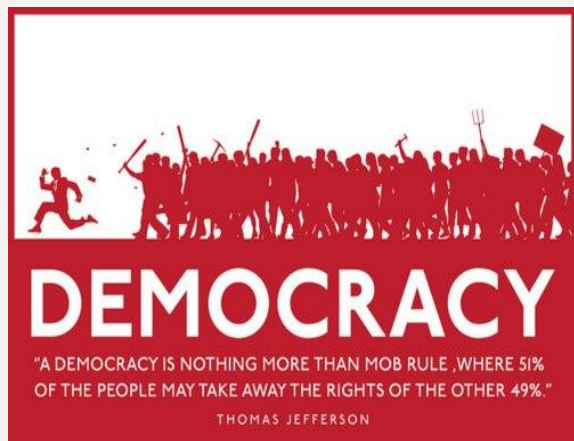
WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES?

The one in a million has state-of-the-art options and facilities at his disposal to do business or have a lucrative job; educate his children in well-equipped and well-staffed schools, colleges and universities; avail world-class medical hospitality; travel in first or business class; and buy luxury items for self and family without even looking at the price tag.



HE IS THE TARGET BUYER of TODAY and TOMORROW. HE HAS BECOME FOCUS OF POLITICAL AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE KNOWN AS PRIORITY GOVERNANCE LIKE PRIORITY BANKING! GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND BUSINESS PLANS ARE MADE FOR HIM – THE ONE IN A MILLION! Other 999,999 people are naturally not qualified for recruitment; if skilled, they do not have the requisite collateral

for acquiring credit to start their own small businesses; their children either go to ill-equipped ill-staffed education and coaching centers or remain out of school; they have to go to government hospitals or die unattended; travel like animals; and often go to bed hungry.



THIS IS JUST A MILD UNHARMFUL HUMANE GLIMPSE OF DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL DELIVERY SYSTEM MANAGED BY HIGHLY EDUCATED PUBLIC SERVANTS RIGHT UNDER THE NOSE OF THE SO-CALLED PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES FOR ONE IN MILLIONS! Welcome to the world of CONCEPTUAL ILLUSION CALLED DEMOCRACY. NOW DOES ANYONE REALIZE WHO IS EMPOWERED AND WHO NEEDS TO BE EMPOWERED? WHO HAS BEEN FOCUSED AND WHO DESERVES TO BE FOCUSED?

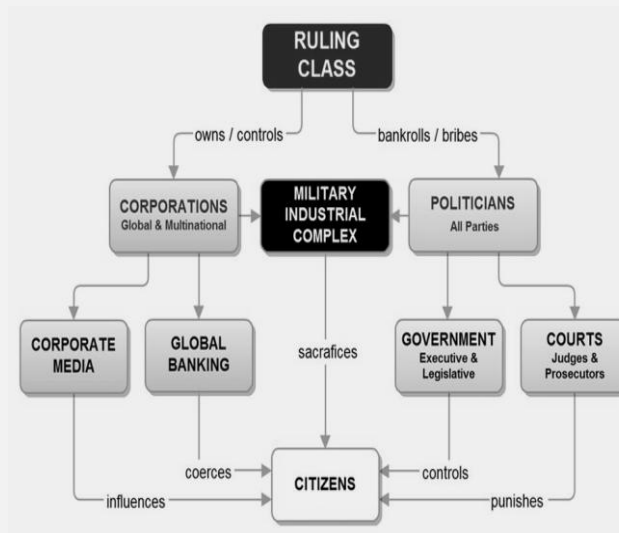
The one gets what he wants at the cost of 999,999 voters! This is a glimpse of PRIORITIZED DEMOCRACY. IS IT A REALITY FOR ONE WHO IS BLESSED OR AN ILLUSION FOR 999,999 UNLUCKY ONES?

Why this discrimination is allowed in the name of DEMOCRACY and FREE ECONOMY under the fake garb of artificial demand and supply phenomenon that is evidently nothing but speculation and manipulation patronized by public servants with the connivance, consent and approval of public representatives and big corporations and heartless cruel business cartels.

This is where democracy has failed to deliver. This is what remains to be focused. This is what needs to be prioritized to empower 999,999 disempowered victims of democratic illusion. When that is done there is no harm in ONE having all the wealth in the world in a capitalist democratic world.

SUPERMACY OF LAW AND CONSTITUTION

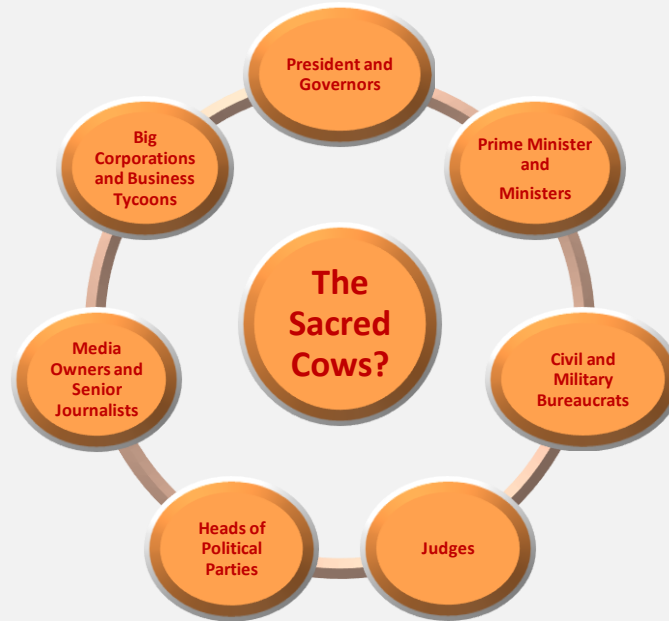
Constitution of a country is a code of conduct that applies to each and every citizen of the country irrespective of his / her social, economic, political, diplomatic and military status, religion and caste. Looking at the constitutions and conduct of governments' business manuals, one interestingly finds a surprisingly arrogantly and foolishly ignored and globally accepted contradiction and that is the declaration of across the board equal applicability of laws and a long list of exemptions known as legal and constitutional immunity extended to important public office holders and government officials working under or on behalf of the public office holders. The justification for these exemptions, which are accepted across the globe, is the facilitation of public office holders and government officials to perform their duties without confronting the hassles of legal intervention from in-genuinely aggrieved parties. Nothing can be more absurd for the reason that a state and a government always have enough resources to respond to any legal action without even getting involved in legal proceedings by hiring the best legal brains and to convince the courts that the plea of the aggrieved parties are not maintainable. Why this contradiction needs to be addressed?



When one looks at the profiles of the beneficiaries does he find any one in politics, government and media left excluded from the OFFICIAL and UNOFFICIAL lists of UNTOUCHABLES? Can one expect uncompromising across the board justice, dedication and patriotism from these UNTOUCHABLE SACRED COWS?

The public office holders and teams of public servants at their disposal are entrusted with the

responsibility to make policies and take decisions regarding extremely sensitive situations with far reaching consequences in five territories on the national activity map popularly known as social, economic, political, diplomatic and military domains. Any intentional and / or unintentional error of



judgment and / or a wrong decision often dis-configure a country's elements of national power to an irreparable and irreversible extent. Such sensitive judgments and decisions need to be constantly scrutinized, reviewed, probed, discussed, debated and challenged not only at government accountability platforms headed by either government officials or investigators appointed by the government and through fake media trials by journalists and anchors alone. The civil society also needs to have parallel public platforms for carrying out independent investigations and bringing the culprits to book and permanently putting an end to the possibility of any similar error of judgment action replay. Why this is not happening? It is not happening because people are not truly empowered the way they are supposed to. This is where the highly educated kind-hearted honest God fearing entrepreneurs and professionals need to come forward. They are there but need the courage to make their presence weighed and felt.

Now there are two sides of the story. First says that there are no sacred cows and a long list of accused and punished public office holders and government officials will be thrown on the table. Before doing that they forget the "Plea Bargaining Option" that is another source of officially patronizing and legalizing corruption of three players involved in accountability process: accountability platforms, accountability officials, the politicians, civil and military bureaucrats and business tycoons. Add to that the pressures of power of all sorts and the known and unknown levels of affluence of the culprits beyond one's imagination. Does anyone need to go into history of political and corporate plea bargaining and put the list of the beneficiaries on the table? Immunity and plea bargaining provide cover to fearless corruption, political and official misconduct and corruption when the culprits are apprehended with unchallengeable proof.

REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT

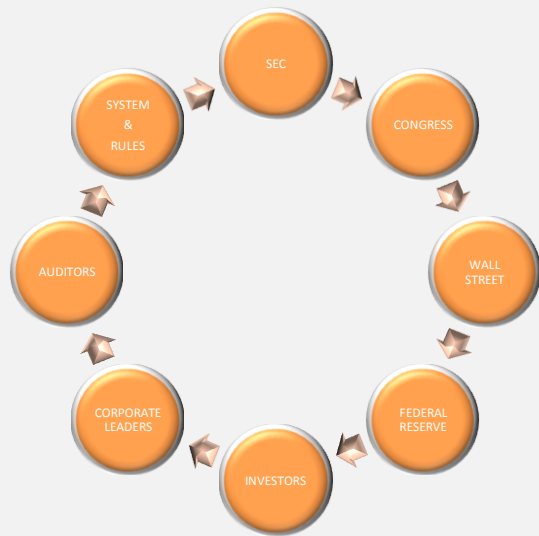
Economic management of a country reflects the level of a democratic government's seriousness in delivering what it promises to its voters in its manifesto. The most challenging task for public representatives is to create a balance between affluence and deprivation through business regulation. Business regulation provides a framework for business activity in a healthy competitive environment within and outside a country. The purpose is to protect investors and institutions, employers and employees and market forces and domestic and commercial consumers and customers. The failure of governments to do that results in economic instability, social unrest and political uncertainty within a country, a group of countries and even across the globe. The present millennium has started with all negative social, economic, political, diplomatic and military indicators reflecting failure in Regulatory Enforcement at national, regional and global levels and resulting in across the board BLAME GAME.



"CATCH ME IF YOU CAN. CAN ANYONE DARE TO SEND THEM TO JAIL"

Richard T. Cormack in one of Center for the Study of the Presidency's Issue Papers for the Administration discussing the great asset bubble and bust of the late 1990's draws an interesting BLAME GAME picture: "The former head of the Securities and Exchange Commission points to Congress for failure to heed his warnings. Congress points to some dishonest people on Wall Street for having misled investors. Wall Street analysts point to

the Federal Reserve complaisance. The Federal Reserve points to the irrationally exuberant investors and greedy corporate leaders. The greedy corporate leaders point to their auditors. The auditors point to complexities in the derivative system and the rules which allowed them to operate the way they did. And so on around the circle of blame." He concludes that the blame is widely shared. There was a massive systems failure. This is just one of massive system failures that have turned global economy and its fundamentals upside down.



It did not happen in America alone. It repeatedly and endlessly happens in most of the countries across the globe and culprits get away with their intentional or unintentional contribution in this criminal massive system failure that shakes up a country's economy and at times global economic system. Their anticipated apparent collapse is widely discussed in media. There are two specific examples of the well-organized contribution of policy makers and regulators in an economic mess. Instead of coming up with timely innovative workable policy and regulatory initiatives, they intentionally added fuel to the fire.

The story of present global economic mess and consequent social unrest and economic turmoil begins with war in Iraq. Iraq is geo-strategically an important country situated in an equally sensitive oil production and supply zone. It was obvious that any action in such an economically sensitive zone had to automatically raise questions about the possible adverse global economic outcome of such an action. There were two very important platforms where the possible actions and their expected outcomes were discussed and analyzed in detail. One was a vast network of think tanks and research institutes and the other was a group of nine former White House cabinet and senior national security officials.

I have selected a summary of a conference report, "AFTER AN ATTACK ON IRAQ: THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES," by world's top ranking think tank Center for Strategic and International Studies (**CSIS**) and "Oil ShockWave – Oil Crisis Executive Simulation" by Securing America's Future Energy (**SAFE**) and the National Commission on Energy Policy (**NCEP**) to examine the implications of a global oil shortfall and to explore possible responses to, and protections against, such a crisis. First report was published in November 2002 and the second in 2005!



**FINDINGS OF CSIS CONFERENCE:
"AFTER AN ATTACK ON IRAQ: THE ECONOMIC
CONSEQUENCES"**

Anthony Cordesman, set out the following no-war case plus three scenarios as a foundation of the economic analysis:

In the no-war case, CSIS panel projected that oil prices would decline from levels near \$30 as they began the project (but closer to \$25 at the time of the conference) to near \$20 by the end of next year and remain at \$20 in 2003.

- **The Benign Case** (40-60% probability anticipating a quick and decisive victory in a period of four to six weeks, without significant impediments)

- **The Intermediate Case** (30-40% probability indicating that the fighting could extend for 6 – 12 weeks)

- **The Worse Case** (5-10% probability expecting that the fighting in this case could last 90 to 180 days)

WHAT DID THE CSIS PANEL EXPECT?

THE BENIGN CASE SCENARIO



- Iraqi oil production ceases for three months.
- It is resumed slowly in the second quarter and reaches two-plus million barrels per day (mbd) by the third quarter.
- Other OPEC countries make up for most of the lost Iraqi oil.
- The U.S. announces intent to use the strategic petroleum reserve (SPR), calming the oil market.
- In the end, no drawdown of strategic oil reserves is deemed necessary.
- Even so, there is limited panic buying on the oil market.
- Oil prices therefore spike at the initiation of hostilities.
- But continued high OPEC production and incremental non-OPEC production allow prices to fall to the low \$20s by the third quarter.

THE INTERMEDIATE CASE SCENARIO



- Iraqi oil is off the market for six months.
- Popular sentiment prevents Gulf Cooperation Council countries from increasing production.
- Fear of oil shortages results in stockbuilding.
- The U.S. government releases one mbd of SPR oil.
- OECD allies do likewise.
- Nevertheless, global stocks remain tight through 2003.
- Lower global growth and hence demand for oil, higher non-OPEC production, and some easing in Middle East oil production cause prices to fall to an average of \$30 in 2004.

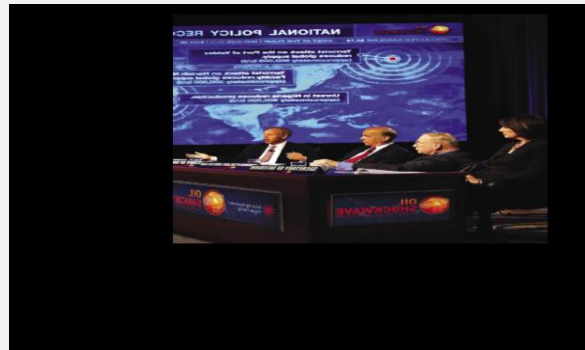
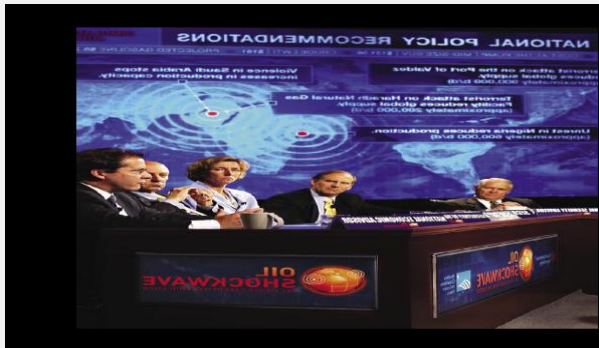
THE WORSE CASE SCENARIO



- The Republican Guard sets most oil wells in Iraq on fire.
- As a result, Iraqi oil is off the market for all of 2003.
- Acts of sabotage reduce oil exports in other Middle East oil producing countries.
- There is discussion of the use of oil as a political weapon against the U.S.
- There is a major oil supply disruption of five to six mbd.
- There is a quick release of two mbd from SPR and one mbd from other International Energy Agency strategic stocks.
- Consumer hoarding further exacerbates the situation.
- Oil prices spike to \$80 per barrel in the first quarter.
- The oil supply-demand situation improves over time, but slowly, with prices falling to an average of \$40 in 2004.

What I have failed to understand after carefully going through CSIS report is the reason for increase in oil price from \$25 in 2002 to \$147 in 2008? Particularly, when nothing mentioned in the Intermediate Case and Worse Case Scenarios happened at all. I looked for the reason and here is what I found.

The group consisting of former White House Cabinet and senior national security officials participated in a simulated working group of a White House cabinet. Their task was “to explore the potential security and economic consequences of an oil supply crisis. This event—Oil ShockWave—was a sophisticated scenario exercise developed by Securing America’s Future Energy (SAFE) and the National Commission on Energy Policy (NCEP) to examine the implications of a global oil shortfall and to explore possible responses to, and protections against, such a crisis. The events that comprised Oil ShockWave, while **fictional**, were carefully designed to reflect real-world conditions and events.”



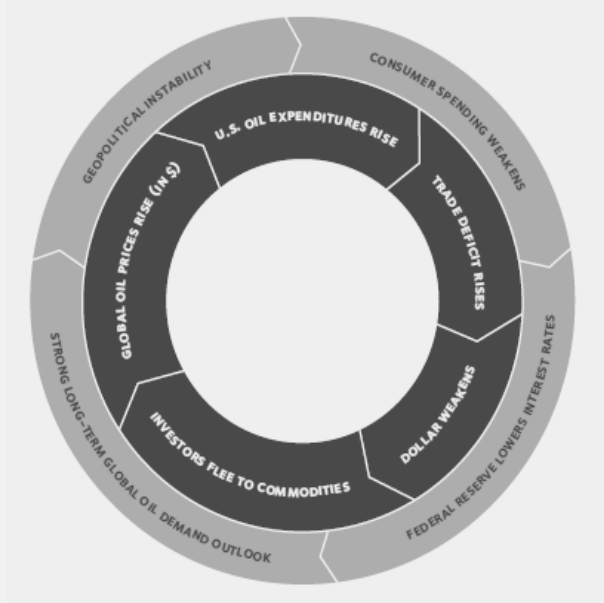
Oil ShockWave, a crisis simulation developed to explore the vulnerability of the global energy system, showed that even relatively small supply disruptions can cause the price of oil to rise dramatically. In one exercise, a roughly 4 percent global shortfall in daily supply caused a 177 percent increase in the price of oil (from \$58 to \$161 per barrel). As a result, consumer spending plunged, GDP dropped, and the economy went into recession. The current account deficit rose to unprecedented levels and there was a historically significant decline in the S&P 500.

Was that merely a fictional simulation or a signal to the commodity market speculators to go for the kill? This is what highly educated globally acknowledged outstanding technocrats were doing in Washington to derail and destabilize global economy for the benefit of handful of banking and financial string pullers behind the scene, as I repeatedly say, right under the nose of PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES.



Left to right: Carol Browner, Robert M. Gates, Richard N. Haass, General P.X. Kelley (Ret.), Franklin D. Kramer, Don Nickles, Gene Sperling, Linda Stuntz, R. James Woolsey

OIL, THE DOLLAR, AND THE ECONOMY



This is what they did. They destabilized the global economy at a massive scale by “artificially creating an environment” for increasing oil price from \$25 to \$147 – a massive slightly less than six times or 588% increase! During the crisis simulation they discussed the expected impact in detail. Did they come up with any idea or plan to make sure that instead of waiting for the situations to take an ugly turn they had to stop that from HAPPENING instead of PREPARING for CONFRONTING the OUTCOME? What did they do? In answer to this question, I heard only the sound of their snoring. Earlier it had happened in the case of stock market and housing bubble was also about to burst thanks to sleeping policy makers and regulators.

THE WORSE IS YET TO COME

In their baseline scenario they mentioned Nigeria – I will replace Nigeria with Iran. They have discussed terrorist attack on Saudi Arabia – I will replace terrorist attack on Saudi Arabia with American attack on Iran and as a reaction Iran’s possible attack on Saudi Arabia and American Allies in the region. Now I have three questions for these highly acclaimed simulation experts. Did any of their assessment become a reality on ground? How come the prices of oil had jumped from US\$25 in 2002 to US\$ 147 per barrel in 2008 while none of the reasons for such an eventuality listed by them was and in sight? Who benefited from this oil-price jump and who suffered the most? Do they or the public representatives they work for or report to have any answers to my questions? Or are they preparing for another ShockTherapy?

Why did I focus on United States of America for trying to establish that democracy in reality has become “a government of one percent, by the one percent, for the one percent?” I had to unwillingly but necessarily do that because United States was and is a blessed country of people representing bouquet of mixed races and cultures. A country every young boy and girl, with exceptions of course, dreams to become a citizen of. What has happened to that country of global youth’s dream? Why it is in social, economic, political, diplomatic and military mess? The country is in a mess because it has taken a wrong strategic policy turn. Instead of becoming a world leader by its actions to make the world a better place it has tried to impose and protect corrupt and irresponsible regimes across the globe through so-called League of Democracy using the theory of pre-emptive strikes and a declaration as ridiculous as “you are either with us or against us.” Will the cradle of democracy become its grave? Will a community of American leaders remembered with respect for reconstructing a destroyed world will be known from now on as assassins of democracy and development? Will the dream of the world’s deprived people to see their sufferings end not come true? Will the democracy be ultimately given up as an unworthy conceptual illusion? The answers demand a leadership that does not work for mafia’s other than voters.

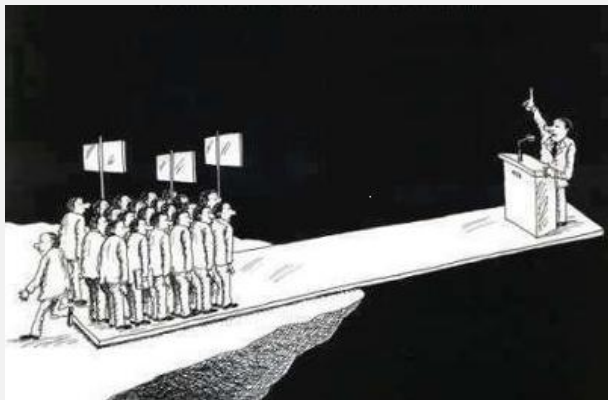
IS IT FAIR TO BLAME THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE ALONE? WHERE IS THE CIVIL SOCIETY?

Politics and democracy both are alien words for Pakistan and Pakistanis. That is why for their definition and popular perceptions I had to discuss the realities on ground as presently witnessed and discussed in the developed countries particularly United States of America. In developing countries like Pakistan,



between the government and the governed, there is a third force that is civil society – knowledgeable, educated, connected through social media and actively involved in social, economic, political, diplomatic and military discussions and dialogues. What the civil society needs is to be grouped together in major areas of interest(s). In addition to interaction through social media, it has to create socially, economically, politically, diplomatically and militarily active platforms for meaningful discussions on the five territories on the

National Activity Map. Not only that they must be encouraged to voice their concerns and expectations through mainstream media for making their purpose, effort and demand public. The strength of their platform will, **though reluctantly**, earn a respectable prominent place in news disseminating channels.



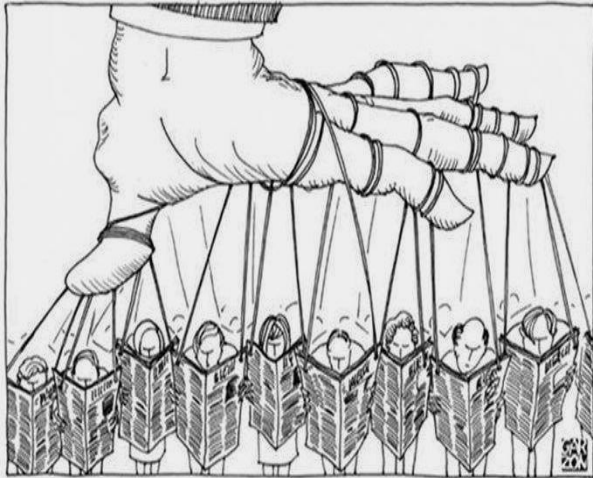
Civil society has to understand the real power behind a democratic government and that power is the power of a vote. This power is not just thrown into the ballot box. It is entrusted to a voter's trusted representative. If that representative realizes that and works for safeguarding the interest of the voter he deserves to remain in power. In case he betrays the trust of the voter than his mandate to represent voters of his constituency will stand

void. He can be stripped off the power to represent the voters simply by submitting a no confidence application in the election commission or any other appropriate forum for which the necessary amend-



ments can be made in the constitution. If the sacred cows representing people and employed by the people have self-acquired the constitutional and legal immunity, then those who have brought them into power and those who pay their salary bill also have the right to throw them out when the fail to deliver.

Civil society also needs to create powerful Public Accountability Commission parallel and above the Public Accounts Committee and National Accountability Bureau to oversee their activities. If they try to cover up the crimes of those in power then Public Accountability Commission will take them to court seeking a fair trial and justice. The clauses of immunity to public office holders and public servants will have to be withdrawn to make sure that they do not become almighty after taking oath of office and becoming a senior civil and military bureaucrat. Blue Book will have to be thrown into the DUSTBIN.



A fully equipped powerful Network of Consumer Protection Platforms has to be created in all districts of Pakistan with Federal and Provincial Headquarters to monitor, evaluate and review tasks assigned to them and re-invent the system to bring it in line with the needs of the public. Media has proved to be the most unreliable consumer protector as a result of its dependence on advertising revenue. It needs to be monitored and watched more carefully than the socially irresponsible corporate sector. Pakistan's markets are

allegedly flooded with sub-standard low-quality over-priced products that are over-advertised in print and electronic media just to keep the media on the side of corporate criminals. That needs to be thoroughly probed and once it is proved not only such products, the companies that manufacture, produce and market them but the media outlets will also be taken to court and till a verdict is not given they will have to be boycotted across the country.

The positive and negative implications of globalization on national social, economic, political, diplomatic and military inputs and outcomes cannot be ignored and over-looked. At the same time the conduct of ministries, government departments, wings, ministers and government officials has to be monitored to make sure that they do not take undue advantage of the globalization and its impact as they have done in the past to their advantage and are engaged in such endeavors at present too. Government has to cut its expenses. Public office holders and government officials have no right to avail those facilities that are denied to the people for unacceptable reasons.

The government has become a financial burden on people. If this burden is not removed as soon as possible then it can be expected that the people will ultimately throw in the towel and teach the public representatives and public servants the real meaning of Good Governance. It will be good for them to understand that and prepare themselves for the ultimate because those who bring them into power can take that power back from them also. **The time has come and IT IS RIGHT NOW!**