

The Khomeini Government in Iran and the Logic of Evil (1)

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This message is related to last month's message. It seems that people who clearly distinguish between good and evil these days are regarded with suspicion from society at large which considers cooperation and harmony as only achievable through the rules of self-preservation. The United States now seems to be reaping a bitter harvest from the three menaces of Iran, the International Olympic Committee, and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (Japan has the two pest of the mass media with leftist leanings and the coalition of opposition parties). It seems that the United States is being eyed with suspicion in the global community where the rule is survival of the fittest, and they are experiencing an unfortunate situation where their rights, statements and treaties are being ignored. This is just the outcome that was predicted by many experts and intellectuals around the world at the beginning of the 1980's, where just now the "logic of evil" is becoming rampant. It must be that the loss of order in the world is becoming a reality as a manifestation of this decadent world nearing its end.

Up until last year the governments of many countries were having trouble coming up with countermeasures against domestic problems such as student radicalism, extremist terrorism, and strikes and demonstrations. Now it seems that the Middle East has become the focus of attention around the world, especially the lawless country Iran with its hardline foreign policy, and Afghanistan which has fallen victim to the Soviet Union's loud discordant voice in declaration of its expansionist policy. The situation seems to be escalating to such an extent that the internal problems of each country has temporarily been pushed to the background.

What is very interesting about this is that the same phrases can be heard in the criticism by Iran directed to the United States which issues from typical "reasoning for a weak nation," and the response of the Soviet Union to the United States which is typical "reasoning for a strong and evil nation." These are remarks like "bring the imperialist United States to its knees," or "we are not in the wrong, the United States is; they are the ones who put pressure on us, slander us without justification, spread rumors, interfere with our internal affairs and agitate anti-Iran and anti-Soviet activities."

But it has become clear as we watch the unfolding of these events that the Soviet Union is motivated by the "logic of power" which is fueled by unbridled and unquenchable lust for power and control, while Iran consistently operated under the "logic of revenge." The revolution in Iran was not caused by the poverty-stricken masses demanding more adequate food, clothing and shelter. In the case of the Iranian revolution, they are trying to draw the whole world into their desire for revenge on the Shah of Iran in the spirit of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

The assertions of Khomeini and the radical students who took over the United States Embassy are heeded only because this is an Islamic region and the government is an Islamic revolutionary government. Such demands and behavior would never be accepted in any other country where religion and the state are separate.

Unlike India, Spain, Italy, or South American countries, the Islamic nations have a system of aiding the poor that is built into their economic system along with the guarantee of a livelihood for the clergy. The merchants always tithe one tenth of their income to the Islamic clergy, and a portion of this goes to help the needy. Unlike other countries, poverty-stricken people do

not starve to death. This is why an unusual phenomena exists in Iran where there are *a great number of college students who represent the poor.*

Further, the reason that there are many poor people who are illiterate and ignorant is because, like the Islam clergy, they live in a society where they can somehow get by even without working. They live in a country where they can live without going to school and developing their talents and abilities.

In a way, their thinking follows the "logic of lazy and selfish people," and the reason they are able to devote themselves entirely to revenge is because they have no other goals which they can devote their lives to. These people have no wholesome goals in life. Khomeini has forbidden music and has taken away from his citizens everything aesthetic that nurtures kindness in human beings. He does not allow any other outlet for human dissatisfaction or desires except to make people burn with the urge to fight. All means of heightening one's sensibilities have been taken away and all the interest and energy of the populace is directed solely on raising anti-American sentiments.

There is no longer any room left for international laws or normal foreign relations, and Iran has become a hotbed of "self-centered logic" which has a wide disparity with the good sensibilities of the international community. This type of hotbed is something created by religious fanatics and puritans alike, as well as by communist and socialist revolutionaries, and these ideologies consistently give rise to the psychopathology of lack of human emotions. In Iran, Khomeini, just one member of the radical clergy who lacks education and is knowledgeable only about religious dogma, came to be called Imam (savior) by the citizens. On the other hand, the Shah of Iran, a progressive intellectual who attempted to promote the industrialization of his country by importing technology, and who planned to improve and

modernize the lifestyle of the general public, as well as implant a desire for education in his people, was banished by the great outcry of the lazy masses who preferred Islamic religious ritual to making efforts towards personal growth. The low wage handicraft industries provide work consisting of repeating the same monotonous tasks, which is actually what those people who do not wish to grow prefer (of course there are exceptions to this).

—Message to be continued—

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