

CHALLENGES TO GLOBAL PEACE

The intermittent horrendous terrorist attacks have become a regular feature of modern day life across the globe. These occurrences which were, by and large, confined to different parts of West and South Asia have brought Europe and the US effectively within its sweep. The recent tragic events in France and California provide an illustration to the point.

There is enough empirical evidence to prove that in the post so called Cold War world, terrorism was employed by states as a weapon to achieve their strategic objectives and even settle scores with rival states. The events have established the fact that this perilous strategy not only was short sighted but explosive as well. The *djinn* once out of bottle became elusive and acquired autonomy of action. These groups are now pursuing their agenda and objectives with great alacrity and impunity. The states and the governments should have learnt a lesson and abandoned this strategy. However, it would be erroneous to conclude that the international terrorist groups, in spite of their autonomous existence and independent operations, remain without loose and invisible connections with states and governments. That these terrorist groups covertly continue to work for one or the other strategic/political/ideological/sectarian grouping is a bitter reality of our times. It is sad that the world has not still realized the peril of this dubious strategy. It is time that a united global stand should be taken against this stratagem. The regimes and / or states who adopt such strategies should be exposed and brought before the bar of world opinion. They should be made to face the sanction of global castigation and isolation.

The latest strategy which was revealed in the recent Paris terrorist attacks is clearly aimed at bringing about a sharp polarisation of the people of the world on the basis of faith and religion. This

modus operandi is obviously employed with the objective of foisting one group of people against the other and perpetuate social and political turmoil in which these terrorist groups would have a field day. It is also aimed at, in the reckoning of terrorist groups, creating the sympathetic pockets among populations. In some places there has been a reaction among the sections of population on expected lines in this direction. It needs to be recognized that it is a trap laid down by the terrorist strategists which needs to be avoided. The people need to be educated and made aware of this vicious game.

The overwhelming global opinion comprises the peace loving people and they would put all their weight behind the initiatives of peace and harmony. Therefore, the opinion makers all around the globe should use all the means available to them and educate the average common people against this nefarious game plan of dividing the humanity. A united mindset of the world opinion would give a harsh blow to the operators of terror and fear. They would realize that the space for them is shrinking fast despite the weapons they are wielding to terrorise the people. There is an urgency to move in this direction to save the world from the horrors of terrorism and its aftermath.

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***We Wish Our Readers a Peaceful
New Year***