

Bangladesh People Suffer and Pay for Awami League's Wasteful and Extravagant Council

News:

Bangladesh ruling party Awami League held its 20th National Council in the heart of capital Dhaka - Suhrawardy Udyan - on 21 and 22 October, 2016. The Council was more of a show off programme to prove Awami League's muscle power and financial strength. The capital Dhaka and major cities and towns were illuminated while big gates, archways and digital displays were installed at parts of the city spending huge money. City dwellers suffered due to stringent security and restrictions on vehicular movements in several areas of the capital during two day long council/festival. The government managed and forced both electronic and print media to give massive coverage of the council. Secular intellectuals and media personalities also made big buzz in the televised talk shows about new leadership.

Comment:

Giant showdown council is usual and intrinsic part of democratic political culture. Extravagances and huge spending at the cost of people are seen in almost all democratic countries including the USA. Capitalists and big businessmen offer financial donation to major political parties, help them to come on to power and get favourable policies passed by these corrupt politicians. People in general are the ultimate sufferers and helpless in this cruel system where politics is a business and councils are more like fashion shows.

Democratic political parties organise councils to make sure people's participation at every level. Through council grass root leaders and activists elect new leadership for the party who offer new vision for nation and guide the people to materialise that goal. Unfortunately the theory remains as a myth having no practical application. Sheikh Hasina claimed herself daughter of democracy and her party Awami League the most democratic party in the country still top leaderships of the party were not elected by the councillors but whimsically appointed by her. What is the point of organising such a costly and exorbitant council ceremony - question arises in the minds of the general people.

Awami League new leaderships failed to offer proper vision and guidelines for the nation. In the council senior Awami League leaders were more interested in next parliamentary election and they talked more about election strategies and criticised opposition parties than anything else. Their main mission is to remain in ruling so that they can misuse the power to build their own fortune. Sheikh Hasina's vision is to make Bangladesh a middle income country by year 2021 and by 2041 a business hub for east and the west. Such a shameful and short-sighted vision is certainly not fitting for the Muslim whom Allah (swt) blessed with the Guidance (Al Quran). Allah (swt) says:

﴿هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظَاهِرَهُ عَلَىٰ الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ﴾

“It is He who sent His Messenger with guidance and the true way of life so that it may dominate over all other ways of life, although those who associate others with Allah dislike it.” [Surah As-Saff: 9]

Democratic system and its politics fail to offer real change and to guide the nation to its deserving destination - a super power that provides solution for human's problems. Only Islam and Islamic ruling system – the Khilafah (Caliphate) presents that vision and it can certainly bring the real change to the people of Bangladesh.

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