

Reply to Marya Mushtaq: “Abdul Khaliq Hazara and the Ethnic Cleansing Narrative”

By Inayat Balkhi

Source: <http://www.hazara.net>

A few days ago, I came across an article written by Maria Mushtaq (<http://pakistanblogzine.wordpress.com/2011/10/22/abdul-khaliq-hazara-and-the-ethnic-cleansingnarrative-by-marya-mushtaq/#comment-2615>) with bogus and contradictory arguments about Hazara Democratic Party. The writer has called HDP a pseudo secular party without giving any arguments. This article will focus on the political practices of Hazara Democratic Party, which clearly nullify the writer’s views.

If secularism is considered to be a political movement of middle class aimed to separate church from the state or drawing a line of demarcation between religious and political affairs, then HDP is by all means is a secular party. HDP has always considered religion and politics to **be** two different **entities** and has always been vocal against **the** so called religious politics which is aimed to create a theocratic society. Theocratic societies bear contradictions with in it and these contradictions have brought more sufferings in our contemporary age; in form of the theocratic states-Iran and Saudi Arabia. Their internal contradiction has taken worthy lives of Human beings. In each of these religious states the opposite sect is victimized. HDP knows that a theocratic society not only **binds** the human creative minds but is detrimental to the very fundamental existence of Hazara nation in Pakistan and Afghanistan as well. The political stance of HDP has always been ethno- secular and moreover, the party manifesto reveals the same fact and thus calling HDP a pseudo secular party is nothing more than defying the fact.

The ethno- secular stance of HDP has not been against any other ethnicity. Rather she has bridged the gap amongst different ethnic groups in Balochistan. Despite ruthless and horrifying eleven years, the political leadership of Hazaras did not blame a particular ethnic group for this bloodshed. HDP on occasions condemned the terrorist activities against **other Shia minority**. Even the party has condemned the target killings of Sunni Ulema as HDP believes that hidden hands are involved **in spreading** sectarian violence, which is aimed to ignite civil war and instability in Balochistan.

Marya Mushtaq without giving any reason called HDP as an agent working for ISI. **She** has also **alleged** that Hazara nationalists enjoyed support from ISI in the past but, she seems to neglect the fact the present cadre of HDP including Abdul Khaliq Hazara went against **the ISI’s policies of toppling** down people’s democratic revolution in Afghanistan from the platform of HSF. Abdul Khaliq Hazara (then Vice President of HSF) and other secular nationalist and progressive student unions in Universities of Pakistan formed a common platform by **the** name of All Pakistan Progressive Student Alliance (APPSA) to support the peoples revolution of 1979 in Afghanistan and fight against religious extremism which was being cultivated by Gen Zia ul Haq regime and other neighbouring countries in the region.

HDP is the outcome of series of discussions among the secular political workers of Hazara community after 9/11. HDP has been **openly** critical **of** the role of security

agencies and ISI in their press releases and processions, since her establishment. Today, HDP is the only active secular voice in Balochistan. HDP has contributed much to the integrity of the people of Balochistan and raised the issues of provincial exploitation of Balochistan by the federation and openly criticised the role of military in the political affairs of the state, just like other anti-establishment political parties of Pakistan.

HDP from the inception have been critical of the surreptitious role of security agencies and the government for supporting the terrorists. The party even has, time and again, mentioned that Balochistan has become the hub of Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorists and the government and the security agencies are not taking any action against them.

Meeting with President Zardari makes Marya Mushtaq **assume** that the party is pro-establishment. The general secretary of the party has time and again mentioned in one of the meetings with friends that our meeting with Prime Minister and President is not a negotiation at all, but a formal protest. And we all know that protests consequently results in table talk. It is note-worthy the global protest was launched by the Hazaras of the world in 35 countries within weeks on the call of HDP. President of Pakistan and the Prime minister of Pakistan **were** compelled to meet with HDP. Both the president and Prime Minister have assured them that the perpetrators will be brought to justice. We saw that HDP did not receive Rahaman Malik, when he came to Alamadar Road for expressing **sympathy** with Hazaras, but, HDP did receive the delegation of PML N when they visited Hazaras; which in itself bears an anti-establishment political message. By going through the recent press releases, one can conclude the protest is still **continuing** and now the Party is asking government to act upon their promises. By going through press releases of the party every students of Politics can easily conclude that HDP is a left and secular party with anti establishment tendency, if it is studied by an unbiased minds.

In support of my arguments given above, I have selected the first paragraph of the press released issued by the party on 2nd April 2011. I hope that Maria Mushtaq will read and understand it. It is given below.



Date: 02 April 2011

Ref: _____

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السلام علیکم!

آج ایک مرتبہ پھر کوئٹہ شہر کے معصوم شہریوں کو دہشت گردوں اور انتہا پسندوں نے خون میں نہلایا اور عوام کو خون کے آنسو زلانے پر مجبور کیا۔ کوئٹہ کی فضا ایک بار پھر سوگوار ہو گئی اور درجنوں گھرانوں میں صدف ماتم بچھ گئی ہے۔ ایسے حالات کیوں اور کس وجہ سے رونما ہو رہے ہیں یہ صورتحال تمام سیاسی جماعتوں، سول سوسائٹی، میڈیا، وکلاء، طلباء، دانشوروں اور تمام طبقہ فکر کے لوگوں کو سوچ و فکر کی دعوت دیتی ہے۔

ہزارہ ڈیموکریٹک پارٹی کا شروع دن سے یہ موقف رہا ہے کہ افغانستان میں عوامی انقلاب کو ناکام بنانے کے سلسلے میں پاکستان اور ایران کے حکمرانوں اور اسٹبلشمنٹ نے جس طرح کے کارنامے انجام دیئے وہ کسی سے پوشیدہ نہیں اگر ایک طرف پاکستانی حکمرانوں نے افغانستان میں جہاد کا سلسلہ شروع کیا تو دوسری طرف ایرانی حکمرانوں کی جانب سے افغان انقلاب کو ناکام بنانے کے سلسلے میں تمام توانائیاں اور سرمایہ اس جنگ میں جمونک دیا گیا اس جنگ کا جو اثر ہمیں موصول ہوا اس کے نتیجے میں پورا خطہ بیرونی قوتوں اور استعماری طاقتوں کا آماجگاہ بن گیا۔ جہاد کے دوران یتیم ہونے والے بچوں کو خصوصی تحریک دی گئی اور انہیں اپنے مقاصد کیلئے استعمال کیا گیا۔ ہمارے حکمرانوں کی عاقبت نااندیشیوں کی سزا ہمیں مل رہی ہے اور قدرت از خود ہم سے انتقام لینے پر تلی ہوئی ہے۔ آج ہمارے حکمران گھروں سے نکلنے ہوئے ڈرتے ہیں عوام کے خون اور پسینے کی کمائی کو اپنی حفاظت اور سیکورٹی پر خرچ کرتے ہوئے ان کے چہروں پر کوئی ملال نہیں ہوتا لوگ مرتے ہیں غور تیس بیوہ اور بچے یتیم ہو جاتے ہیں انہیں کوئی فرقی نہیں پڑتا یہ ان کے لئے ہر روز کے معمول کا واقعہ ہوتے ہیں ہم دھماکوں میں مرنے والے لوگوں کے لواحقین اپنے پیاروں کو تلاش کرتے رہے یا مذہبی منافرت کا شکار لوگ اپنے عزیزوں کے تابوت کا ندھوں پر لیتے پھرے۔ حکمرانوں کو کوئی احساس نہیں۔ گزشتہ کئی سالوں سے بلوچستان میں آگ اور خون کا کھیل کھیلا جا رہا ہے پورا صوبہ بالخصوص صوبائی دارالحکومت مسلسل بد امنی اور خوف کی لپیٹ میں ہے۔ سیاحت کاروبار، تعلیم، زبوں حالی کا شکار ہے اور عوام کی معاشی بد حالی میں مسلسل اضافہ ہو رہا ہے عوام کے جان و مال کی حفاظت حکومت کی ذمہ داری ہوتی ہے لیکن ہمارے حکمران چونکہ صلاحیتوں سے بے بہرہ ہیں لہذا امن و امان کی صورتحال دن بدن خراب ہوتی جا رہی ہے۔

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