

First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.


-Mahatma Gandhi

STOP ACID ATTACKS

Of course the government holds responsibility of containing the acid attacks as the Supreme Court has shifted responsibility of checking the sale of acid on local governments. The recent horrendous case of acid attack in Kashmir has exposed the delinquency of the concerned officials who were supposed to check the illegal sale of the acid because had the officials took the Supreme Court ruling in a tight perspective the victim in Kashmir would have leading a normal life. It is however good that the Jammu and Kashmir Government has agreed to bear the treatment expenses of 24-year-old acid attack victim and ensure her complete rehabilitation, even as the police would file a charge-sheet in the case in the next few days but what is disturbing is the fact that non-serious attitude of concerned officials has led to this precarious situation wherein the victim is struggling for life in a hospital in Chennai. The woman was hospitalized with burns after acid was thrown on her in Hawal area in Srinagar on February 1, this year. The case is a big lesson for the concerned officials because their non-seriousness has led to the difficult situation which has defamed the government in J&K and also put the entire family of the victim girl into deep trouble. The incident should be taken up as very seriously as the verdicts of Supreme Court came after churning the conditions of the concerned cases in the best possible manner. It is good that J&K administration has started a drive to check the sale of acid in the UT thus regulating the entire gamut but had these steps would have been taken earlier the present problem should have been avoided and the victim of the recent Kashmir acid attack had never faced the situation from which she is passing today. There is no doubt that the administration is duty-bound to provide for not only the treatment of the victim but her complete rehabilitation as well. It is promising that the doctors in Chennai have indicated a positive prognosis for the treatment. 'Better late than Never' phrase best suits the situation in the J&K UT because the market committees have started regulating the sale of the acid in the UT thus regulating the entire gamut but had these steps would have been taken earlier the present problem should have been avoided and the victim of the recent Kashmir acid attack had never faced the situation from which she is passing today. There is no doubt that the administration is duty-bound to provide for not only the treatment of the victim but her complete rehabilitation as well. It is promising that the doctors in Chennai have indicated a positive prognosis for the treatment. 'Better late than Never' phrase best suits the situation in the J&K UT because the market committees have started regulating the sale of the acid in the region.

NECESSARY STEP

Looking into the unfortunate incident of stampede at the Cave Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi on the wee hours of January 1, 2022, it has become necessary for the government to go for crowd management because the horrendous experience on the aforesaid day was an eye opener for the people as well as the dispensation sitting at the helm. No one in the country or even abroad had ever expected to have such an unfortunate incident taking place in the holy shrine of Maa Vaishno Devi because since times immemorial there was no incident similar to this one despite the huge rush of devotees thronging the Cave Shrine. Reportedly, to prevent untoward incidents at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, a high-tech crowd management system has been approved by the government for the aforesaid shrine. Besides, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has constituted a high-level committee to ascertain the reasons behind the stampede incident at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine. The Committee is headed by Principal Secretary (Home), Government of Jammu and Kashmir. As per reports, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has taken the decision of online registration of pilgrims to the extent of 80 per cent of the total number allowed for Yatra. Token system and group system for releasing the pilgrims in Darshan queues in batches has already been put into practice. Besides, the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) based crowd management system for live tracking of the pilgrims has been approved and soon the same will help in effective management of crowds all along the Yatra and at spots where there is rush conventionally. This initiative by the concerned quarters was a must looking into the tragic incident which took place on the very first day of the year 2022. As the government is proactive in carrying out initiatives to avoid any mishap in future the people visiting the shrine should also show the extreme level of maturity to avoid any kind of unfortunate incident in the future because had the people acted maturely on the day of tragedy many lives would have been saved and people will not have to pass through difficult times.



OFF 'D' CUFF

Spark your inner potential

are courageous.

You Need 'Courage' Every Day

Further, apart from achieving great things, you need to be courageous in your day-to-day life as well. Life, as you know, puts everyone through a lot of difficulties at every step; from when you get up in the morning to when you go to sleep every night. Without keeping a motivated and strong mindset it would be tough to go through such difficulties.

Those who face every challenge bravely are the ones who emerge successful in life and for that, it's necessary to spark the inner potential. You must believe that you are a brave soul who can go through any phase of life.

So, start living bravely and achieve your potential for making life fulfilling and happy. And for that make a habit to-

Accept the Presence of Insecurity & Fear

It's difficult to be courageous without accepting the presence of insecurity, fear, and anxiety in life. Accept their presence but do not let them overpower you. Embrace them boldly. When you accept them, they will start making you brave.

Shri Sudhanshuji Maharaj

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay- a leader of masses

■ TILAK RAJ BHAGAT

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was born on 25th of September 1916 at Nagla Chanderbhan village in Mathura District of Uttar Pradesh. He was fondly called Deena by his family members. Deendayal means 'One who has mercy for poor and is kind to the poor'. He had a very difficult and tough childhood as he lost his parents by the age of 7 years. He was brought up and educated at his maternal grandfather's home. Thus, deprived of love and affection of his parents in childhood, Pandit Deendayal gained strength from the negative forces and sufferings around him and developed a unique personality. He was a brilliant student during his school days and did his schooling from different places such as Gangapur, Kota, Rajgarh, Sikar and Pilani. He was honored with a gold medal for securing first position in the

➞ Samarpan Diwas ⬅

board exam by the Maharaja Kalyan Singh of Sikar along with a monthly scholarship of Rs 10 and Rs 250 per month for books as recognition of his merit. Pandit Deendayal went to Pilani for intermediate where he obtained distinction in all the subjects and topped in board exam of 1937. Then, he joined Sanatan Dharma College Kanpur in 1939 and qualified BA in first Division. In 1939, he moved over to Agra and joined St John's college Agra to pursue a Masters Degree in English Literature but could not continue his studies and did not take up his exams due to some family and financial issues. Deendayal came to be known as Panditji for appearing in the Civil Services examination, wearing traditional Indian Dhoti-Kurta and cap. Again, at this exam, he topped the list of selectees.

Pandit Deendayal came into contact with Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh through his classmate Balaji Mahashbde. In 1942, he joined RSS as a full-time worker called 'Parcharak'. There, he met the founder of the party K B Hedgewar, underwent a 40-day camp in Sangh education, and a second-year training in RSS education wing. After this, he became a lifelong Parcharak of RSS, first for Lakhimpur district and then as a regional organiser of UP and was rewarded as an ideal Swayamsevak.

In 1949, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya started monthly 'Rashtra Dharma' paper from Lucknow in view of spreading the ideology of Hindutva nationalism. Later on, he also started weekly 'Panchjanya' and then daily Swadesh from Kanpur. He wrote a

Hindi drama on Chandragupta Maurya, as biography of Shankracharaya and translated Marathi biography of Hedgewar.

In 1951, Dr Shyam Prasad Mukherjee founded Bhartiya Jana Sangh. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was rewarded to party by RSS, bestowed with the responsibility of moulding it into a genuine member of 'Sangh Parishad'. He was appointed as General Secretary of party's Uttar Pradesh branch and later as the All-India General Secretary. He remained General Secretary for 15 long years.

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's message was to build a strong and prosperous Indian nation on the foundation of Indian culture which guarantees freedom, equality and justice to all (Dharamayajna), maximum good to all i.e. benefit to the last man standing in a line.

He visualized a decentralized polity and self-reliant economy with village being the core, throughout India, as an

independent nation cannot rely upon a Western concept like individualism to capitalism. In 1968, in the capacity of President of Jana Sangh, while addressing thousands of delegates in the Calicut session, a message was delivered through his speech that we are pledged to the service not of any particular community or section but of the entire nation. Every resident is blood of our blood and flesh of our flesh, we shall not rest till we are able to give to every one of them a sense of pride that they are children of 'Bharat Mata'. We shall make Mother India 'Sujala Suphala' (overflowing with water and laden with fruits) in real sense of these words. As Dashapraharerna Dharini Durga (Goddess Durga with her 10 weapons) she would be able to vanquish evils, as Lakshmi she would be able to disburse prosperity all over and as 'Saraswati' she would dispel, the gloom of ignorance and spread the radiance of knowledge all around her. With faith in ultimate victory let us dedicate ourselves to the task. On dark night of February 11, 1968, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was found dead at Mugal Sarai Railway yard. This day is observed as 'Samarpan Diwas'. The country soon realized Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's vision of building a self-reliant India. In 1965, during Indo-Pak War, India had to depend on foreign countries for weapons. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay had said at that time that we need to build an India that is self-reliant not just in agriculture, but also in defense and weaponry.

(The author is a former Chief Engineer J&K).

Zero tolerance towards corruption

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

The problem of corruption is faced by India and our politico-administrative system and public institutions are facing the canker of corruption. The corruption in the public life is a very serious matter and it concerns all of us. The corruption is eating the vitals of the administrative machinery and our politico-social system like a termite and there is urgent need to address this problem to save our institutions from adverse effects of corruption. It is so sad that the corruption has been institutionalised and there is no sector of the country where the canker of corruption has not raised its ugly head. We need to attack the monster of corruption with all force at our command and free the public and private institutions from the danger of corruption. It is so good that the NDA government headed by BJP has declared the policy of zero tolerance to corruption and it should be seen how the zero tolerance to corruption is implemented on the ground. The policy of zero tolerance to corruption should not remain merely a pious declaration and in that case there is no use and purpose of the policy of zero tolerance to corruption. The corruption is number one enemy of our democracy and country and it should be fought on a war footing to free our institutions and public offices from the menace of corruption. Since the BJP government has declared corruption as the number one enemy of the country and has declared that corruption in the public life will not be tolerated and so it is a matter of some satisfaction but it is to be seen as to how will the BJP government fight the war with the hydra headed giant of corruption and free the country and society from corruption. The corruption is universal in nature and in India the corruption is seen from top to bottom of the administrative hierarchy and no segment of the public life is free from the curse and bane of corruption. Some attribute the wholesale corruption to democracy and take it as the bane of the democracy. The corruption has no place in our politico-administrative and public system and as such it is the burden of duty of all of us to contribute our might in the fight against the corruption. Corruption is seen everywhere in our public and private institutions and the problem of corruption needs to be addressed on a war scale to free our social and public system from the corruption. The transparency and good governance are the aims of the government of the day and therefore the war against the corruption has got top most priority in the scheming of the government. Our institutions are falling prey to the demon of corruption and these needs to be freed from the virus of corruption so that our institutions are saved from the infection of corruption. It is a recognized fact that no work is got done anywhere without greasing the palms of the corrupt and dishonest officials and this is a serious matter and demands our attention. The dishonesty and moral degradation has infected our system and all our institutions are invaded by the demon of corruption due to the dishonesty. Therefore if we have to succeed in our fight against the corruption, we should attack dishonesty and moral perversion to defeat corruption. The corruption was at its low after the freedom of the country and there was negligible corruption during the decades following the freedom but in nineties it reached to its nadir and today corruption is a mass scale phenomenon and is tearing our public system and threatening our existence. The corruption has crept into our administrative and political ladder and it is has become cancerous and needs early surgery to save our public and administrative system from corruption. The corruption has assumed enormous proportions and has invaded our politico-social and administrative system and it needs to be fought sincerely to save the society from falling apart. The corruption stands today institutionalized and its presence is felt from top to bottom of the administration structure and it is not so easy to win war against the menace of corruption. The fight against the corruption needs strong will power and determination and we are fortunate enough

YOUR COLUMN

Woman is enemy of woman

Dear Editor,

Following old saying 'woman is enemy of woman', women keep on pulling each other's legs. In the race to exalt ourselves and demean others, women are forgetting our wisdom. Women hang around with our neat manners. Whatever the location, offices, neighborhoods, schools and colleges etc. Everywhere this example fits 'Why is her sari whiter than mine?' No matter how literate we may be, we have not been able to get rid of the adage that woman is the enemy of woman. Believe me, we are slaves even when we are free because we cannot tolerate the advancement of any other woman in our field. However, no matter how much we try to be good, 'this thinking is not ours, we are educated and intelligent' but we cannot digest success of any woman around us. Now talk about family. However, there are very few joint families left now, family relationships like Darani-Jethani, Sas-Nuh, Nanad-Bharjai are still competing with them in such a way that I always look higher than the other in everything. Neither the mother-in-law nor the daughter-in-

law is willing to give up. Just like if the bridegroom praises the tasty vegetables made by bride, then mother-in-law gets angry. No matter what, she kept pretending. She thinks that until today it used to taste like my vegetables and now it seems to me to be stupid? The daughter-in-law thinks that now that I have come to this house, let Choudhary go. In the same way, if a boy sits next to his mother and talks for two hours, giving her respect, then the daughter-in-law gets burnt. As a result, gossip and daily quarrels start at home. The boy gets caught in the middle of the discussion. It is often seen that another woman has a hand in ruining a woman. In the same way in the office women keep on reconnoitering each other to see what the other is doing. Instead of trying to recover, she wallows in her sadness and thus, experiences more failure. Which parlour does she go to? What does she wear? Whom does she communicate with? Women caught in the trap of these questions unknowingly become the subject of discussion of others and get into a state of stress. Feeling jealous, they tend to look down on each other. The women of streets are no less. Urbanization and TV serials have spoiled these women. The politics of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law are creating divisions in their families as well as spoiling their relationships. In the race to show off by putting on new suits

(The author is a retired Education Officer and Columnist).

Political gimmickry of tainted politicians

■ MAHADEEP SINGH JAMWAL

We must understand India was colonized for years which led to weak political system & weak foundation of Democracy in India and most of the voters were first & second generation without minimum education in past which led to nation instability and corruption. It was thought that we will be looking for better leaders as we will be becoming literate every passing day but as we became literate, we elected criminals and tainted to be our law makers and those brought to courts in chains were given security cover at the tax payers money that is paid for the development of the country. Indian politics is worsening day to day. Most of the political leaders are criminals in all type of elections and more than 40 per cent elected representative in parliament, legislative assembly and local bodies are charged with criminal charges. After the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, it was concluded in a survey by association of democratic reforms that nearly 43 per cent of the newly elected members of the lower house have criminal cases against them. In the 2004 national election, the percentage of candidates with pending criminal cases was 24 per cent which rose to 33 per cent in 2009, 34 per cent in 2014 and 43 per cent in 2019. Thus, the increase in the member parliaments with criminal charges in these times will cause a strong impact among the faith of citizens of India in the democratic structure and its functioning mechanism. This can cause disastrous effects among the democratic spirit of the people and the faith they put up in the Constitution. Why government do not think of amending Representation of Peoples Act, 1951 to have stricter laws against serious offenders. To stop the politicians from turn coating for personal gains, why the government does not make laws? We can easily conclude that it is ignorance, lack of awareness which led to worst candidates to get elect. Off and on these politicians are exposed for having their connections with smugglers, mafia and dons. A trend of winning elections seen for the last some year by way of communal polarization between Hindu and Muslim and it is growing like cancer for Indian democracy. In India ideology seems nowhere in political campaign for nation growth but the campaigns are centered about polarization, religion, fake commitments and smoky slogans. The Indian politics is now based on lies and deceptions.

The power hungry politicians' in the guise of saint, social reformer, peoples' Messiah and as Demi-Gods are doing appeasement politics, doing dynastic politics, doing caste-based politics, doing corrupted politics. Instead of creating self sustained family structure we are creating dependant society by distributing freebies to have a vote bank. An invisible undercurrent is putting societal relations in peril.

The fourth pillar of Democracy that is supposed to be an exponent of misdeeds especially of those in power seats that cares deeply about headline management and prefer to keep their cards closer, is now a well controlled pillar.

The latest 'World Press Freedom Index' has put India at number 142 of the 180 countries.

For India, the latest report has blamed an environment of intimidation created by BJP supporters for any critical journalist, who, the report said, is marked as "anti-state" or "anti-national".

Today, working generation that is highly educated and next generation that is going to take literacy rate to a remarkable percentage in India will have neither tolerance nor ignorance to wrongs and it will help to fix the India political system in near future to be free from tainted leaders.

If people will be honest to elect good leaders, politics will be nice to develop the country. Political parties are the vehicles of democracy. The hunger of power and position can make people go to any extent which we even can't think of. Today politics has become most profitable profession.

This is my personal opinion based on my own analysis of political affairs.

I ardently hold that politics is an echo of the society. Unless the society as a whole doesn't respect and value honesty and integrity, we can't and shouldn't expect the politicians to be on the same platter, after all they are a product of the system in place. If a politician wants to be representative of people, he is supposed to live and work with his people.

Political scientists are of the opinion that one of the main function of party in power to propagate itself, to monitor the opposing party, and downgrade the opposition.

In India, political parties fund themselves through donations.

We can feel that most of the political parties are using black money collected at donation. Why the political parties not think of forming committees to have transparency as to the funding of the parties.

The whole system needs to be changed. People, especially educated and affluent must start engaging in governance only then we can weed out tainted and illiterate leaders from the political scenario.

A reform movement that advocates a change that will preserve the existing values but will provide improved means of implementing them is the need of the hour.

under the pretext of evening walks, the walk has no effect on the thinkers. It has become a habit of women to pretend to be kitties. Fortunately, if a more beautiful woman than them came and started doing the work honestly, then all together they would start spreading her hair. It's funny that these 'giant women' let that woman stay there longer. Some women do not work for themselves and do not tolerate others doing so. Some, for fear of shaking their throne, keep the poison in the atmosphere by talking back and forth about that diligent working woman. They keep the temple of education as the arena of politics. My sisters! What kind of society are we creating? Who is walking lamely with slutty thinking and lame politics and where neither we nor our future generations are safe. If women are not liberated, they are not liberated from the domination of women alone. My point is not to blame all the women, but class of such women, if they change their minds then we can be truly free. Otherwise, there is no point in holding many conventions on Women's Day every year, and there is no point in holding lengthy speeches in the name of women's emancipation. It would be better for women, instead of advising others to improve, to change mindset and wash away the stigma of the so-called 'woman is enemy of woman'.

Vijay Garg.