

WHY JIMMY CARTER ?

By NAVALMANECK

Editorial Note :— Are you wondering whether Dini Avaz is entering in Politics? No please ! What then is this American Election doing here?

Read and you'll know. Man has, in him, a craving for Religion and a power-

ful current of devotion to God. This article from one of our seasoned writers shows how the spiritually dry land of America eagerly absorbs a few showers from the infinite sky of Religion.

“IS GOD DEAD?”

A few years back, this was the most favourite question asked by the rationalist pseudo-intellectuals of the U.S.A. And what was their most favourite answer to this question? It was :

“God is not merely dead; he never was.”

Drunk with the arrogance of their power, stupified by the amazing achievements of their science and technology and unable to discriminate between what is real good and what is mere lustful, these pathetic pundits in the name of the absolute freedom for all individuals, went all out to advocate unrestrained pursuit of the material paradise on earth. In this pursuit, God was naturally a hindrance and so they gathered together and passed their judgement that the Lord was not the Truth but a Myth, a Figment.

Thus, though God remained in the lives of the fortunate devout individuals, He completely went out of fashion from the national life. Even the American leaders hardly ever mentioned Him. How this victory of the unbridled self-indulgence over the self-restraint and moral rectitude

brought about appalling misery and suffering to that nation is recent history. The family life broke up, the problems of free sex and drugs were aggravated to horrifying proportions, crime and violence shot up and the country lost its greatness.

A dark period for the American nation dawned. The forces of evil advanced speedily. They killed Kennedy brothers and Martin Luther King as also Medgar Eavers. The C.I.A. turned against its own people. The MAFIA scored startling successes. The wicked and the sinful overpowered the noble and the righteous. Ordinary criminals instead of living in prisons where they belonged, occupied even the White House.

The nation's moral fibre was damaged. The result was that, on the international stage, this materially and militarily most powerful nation on earth suffered crushing, humiliating defeats. A tiny Vietnam humbled it. A lilliputian country like Cambodia put the U.S. giant to flight. The murder of nationalist President Allende of Chile by the C.I.A. was uncovered; the world was outraged. In Portugal, Spain and Greece, the ruthless dictatorships of

KHORDAD SAL MUBARAK

Auspicious is the Day on which Zarathushtra was born.....

“ In whose birth and progress the waters and trees rejoiced;
In whose birth and progress the waters and trees evolved;
In whose birth and progress the whole Creation of Spemino sang in divine ecstasy :-

Million thanks to Thee Oh Ahura that an Athravan is born—
He who is spitma Zarathushtra!”

—*Fravardin Yasht*

Salazar, Franco and Papadopoulos — propped up by the U.S. support — came to an end. In Angola, the pro-American forces were routed. Kissinger’s much-trumpeted unprincipled diplomacy became the target of international ridicule. The whole nation became the target of international pity.

The God of materialism, science and technology floundered, faltered and ultimately failed. Within a short period of less than 15 years, it gave to America nothing but shame, disgrace and humiliation. It snuffed out the basic greatness and virtues of that nation.

**A SOFT VOICE FROM THE
TEN COMMANDMENTS**

At such a dark period of the American Nation’s history, the first stage of the Presidential election of 1976 began in the second half of last year. The “Primaries” of both the political parties commenced. The bugles were sounded, the drums were beaten and the candidates of both the parties lined up for the race to secure the nomination of their respective parties.

Amidst the deafening din and sonorous fanfare of the campaigning machines of the various candidates came a soft but firm voice :

“I’ll never tell a lie. I’ll never knowingly make a misstatement of facts. I’ll never betray your trust. If I do any of these things, I don’t want you to support me.”

To a few upright Americans, weary and dispirited by the state of the union and disgusted with the scandals of their leaders, this soft voice came as a soothing and cool breeze of hope and sanity.

That the voice did not immediately reach to many others was quite understandable. Because it was the voice of Jimmy Carter, an obscure politician whose political experience was limited to a four-year term of the Governorship of the very small Southern State of Georgia. At the national level Jimmy was not much known and heard of. He had no political base. The party bigwigs just ignored him.

And there were giants in the race for the Democratic Party nomination — powerful politicians and national figures all: Henry Jackson, Mo Udall, Frank Church, George Wallace, Adlai

Stevenson (Jr.), Sergeant Shriver, Milton Shaap and so on.

But once he overcame the difficulty of his obscurity, Jimmy scored shattering wins in the Primaries. The giants fell by the wayside. Long before the party's convention was held, Jimmy had clinched the nomination with enough number of delegates in his pocket. He has now become a political phenomenon, a marvel, a miracle.

Rivals were flabbergasted. Political pundits were baffled. Party stalwarts were confounded. Everybody started asking : How did it happen?

WANTED, MORAL LEADERSHIP

The answer is very simple indeed. The American people are fed up with their leaders of past thirteen years and with the fools, who used to question the existence of God — these false prophets who were to lead them to a material and scientific El Dorado — these lunatics who thought their morbid ideas could replace religious commandments. This brought them nothing but shame and humiliation. They now yearn for moral leadership — a leadership which will not be blinded by the arrogance of power, which will not worship the gods of materialism and technology, which will lead the nation back to the basic values which made the U.S.A such a great country and which will restore the moral courage and spiritual hope of the nation.

In Jimmy, they found such a leader and flocked to him. They are basically a great people — these Americans. But for the vigilant and courageous Americans themselves, the Watergate scandal, the C.I.A. atrocities, and corruption and moral degradation in high places would

never have been exposed. They now crave for sagacious and just leadership.

This is the secret of Jimmy's success.

A MAN OF RELIGION, A RARITY !

Jimmy is a man of unshakable faith in God. He is deeply religious. In a day, he prays, not once, but several times. He says : "I have never in my life said a prayer asking God to let me succeed But I do ask God to help me do the right thing."

Jimmy asks his countrymen to turn to God and religion for the solution of all their problems. He calls for a spiritual and moral revival in the nation's life. Like the so-called rationalist moderns, Jimmy is not at all ashamed of either acknowledging the limitations of human mind and capacity or believing that the moral revival can only be brought about if it has the basis of faith in God and religious principles.

Jimmy has the courage of his convictions. He is a Baptist Christian and "his religion has always been a central and natural part of his life," as the "Newsweek" put it. Though a successful farmer and merchant (his income last year was a little over Rs. three lakhs which is moderate by the American standards), Jimmy is an active member of the Southern Baptist Church.

Years ago, he became a Deacon of his Church, taught religion at Sunday schools and toured the neighbouring states to help organise new churches. Actually, in the American politics this kind of religiosity is a drawback — but not to Jimmy, who is proud of it. His religion to him is "like breathing", he says.

To those critics who say that his religion will clash with his duties as a political leader, Jimmy asserts that there cannot be, and should not be, any conflict with the political principles and religious commandments. He maintains that the Bible "Doesn't say you have to be two people." **He says that politics cannot be divorced from religion and moral values.** According to him the duty of politics is to establish justice and moral uprightness in this sinful world — through adhering to these values.

Jimmy also phoo-phoos those who say that being a Baptist he would not be able to carry people of other faiths with him. Essential principles of all faiths are the same. The point is whether we are ready to put into practice these principles.

One of Jimmy's heroes is Mahatma Gandhi, whom he considers "the embodi-

ment of quiet courage." So far, Jimmy has kept his campaigning clean. He doesn't dwell on Watergate and the fact that Ford pardoned Nixon. When asked why he allowed this golden opportunity to slip away, he replied: "I'd like during my campaign to contribute to the healing of nation's wounds, and not exacerbate them."

Jimmy refuses to blame Ford in any way for Watergate. He says: "I don't believe Ford ought to be held responsible for the Watergate scandal. **I think it would be unfair."**

Jimmy intensely dislikes secrecy in the Government. That is why he condemns Kissinger's unprincipled diplomacy and his penchant for secrecy. He promises the American people that he would be open and frank, would find out if there is any wrong-doing, make it publicly known and punish the guilty.

**NOT UP TOWARDS MARS, BUT
DEEP WITHIN OUR OWN SELF**

Today, when the American Viking is exploring the Mars, Jimmy virtually goes to the American people "with Bible in one hand and a ballot box in the other", as a Negro priest in Philadelphia put it.

It is difficult to predict whether Jimmy would be able to defeat the Republican candidate (Ford or Regan) in November. It is also difficult to say if elected what manner of a President Jimmy would ultimately turn out to be. But one thing is certain.

To the American people, Jimmy has brought a new powerful ray of hope. He has re-opened before his nation the religious spiritual, moral and ethical way. He has shown to his people that what was on the surface

all these years (which brought them the defeats and shame) was just the dirt and froth. He has dived deep into the heart of that nation of Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Lincoln, Thoreau, King and Kennedy and come up with the real gems, which in the past made the U.S.A. such a great nation — faith in God and His religious commandments and disciplines, spiritual way of life and staunch belief in the supremacy of ethical and moral values.

Whether Jimmy wins or not he has already done a lasting service to his people by showing them the only right path — that of faith in God and religion, love, hope, charity and compassion.

How I wish the so-called rationalists and half-intellectuals of our community try to draw some lesson from this American experience! But I believe, that is expecting too much from these prejudiced and unscientific minds. Poor fellows! They don't have the scientific and technological knowledge of the Americans, nor have they the American virtues of hard study and open-minded scholarship.

[So here goes! The spiritual thirst is ever alive in man, because he has in him a ray of the Infinite Light, God, and that ray craves intently to merge in its Source — Editor]

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[Contd. from Page 20 - (Zohak)
He lifted up the flag and shouted at the people who had come round him.
"Listen my fellows! Listen, those who love Ahura Mazda and his 'Yazata's'; This man Zohak is the devil himself. Let us unite ourselves, find out Faridoon and help him to kill this devil (To be continued)

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