

Ervad Jamsheed Burjor Sidhwa writes:

Liberals, It is you who need to change!

1) Considering the insults you heap on our Religion, Vada Dastoorjees and us peaceful old-fashioned traditionalists, May Ahura Mazda bless you with compassion.

2) Considering the contempt you harbour towards time-honoured practices, May Ahura Mazda enrich you with kindness.

3) Considering your reliance on denigrating language to express yourself, May Ahura Mazda bless you the nourishment of dignity within your vocabulary.

4) Considering the self-imposed agony you seem to unnecessarily put yourself under, May Ahura Mazda bless you inner peace.

5) Considering the confusion you appear to create for yourself whilst wanting to reinvent the wheel, May Ahura Mazda bless you the ability to find the merit in what already exists.

6) May you begin to consider that it is not traditionalism or orthodoxy that inhibits our co-habitation with any religion or culture.

However, conspiring in the name of reform, certainly does.

7) May you also understand, that the good old fashion values demonstrated by traditionalists, only make us better human beings who appreciate the world we were born in to.

8) Considering the apparent irresponsibility you demonstrate through your actions, May Ahura Mazda raise your understanding that you were born as a Zarathushtee, through HIS will.

Your obligation is to continue upholding its values. Not dismantling them.

9) May you and anyone who likes sitting on the fence, be spared from the disgrace of falling in to the trashcan of history.

For it is only time-tested fundamentals that eventually survive ignominies, despite any trash the belligerent may throw.

ØHistory has yet to applaud anyone, who has unwittingly challenged HIM and HIS followers.

ØHistory has not recorded anyone, who was forgiven, for dismantling time-tested institutions of faith.

It is for quite some time now, that the squabble generated by our liberals has begun to sound like dribble and boringly predictable.

Apart from when they equaled our aging, mild-mannered Vada Dastoorjees to the Afghan Taliban, while all they (Dastoorjees) did was to stand up to defend our Scriptures & Codes of conduct from the risk of degenerating.

Unfortunately for them misguided liberals foes (shamefully from within our own community), their modus operandi reeks of.

- 1) Deviously planned smooth talk to project a savvy image in a bid to lull the unsuspecting.
- 2) Botched attempts to present examples and references by twisting truth and facts.

Well, by now if you have identified yourself as a liberal modern thinker, let me tell you a couple of things clearly. It will save you from exhausting your energies from futile attempts to re-invent the wheel.

- 1) The false savvy image you try to project may perhaps impress your friends (both non-Zarathushtees & Zarathushtees), who may trust you at face value.
- 2) Presenting twisted truth examples to coax ill-change, reveals more of your ill-perceived thought than you'd like to think. Trying to make the false look like the truth, puts you in more confusion than you started with.

Neither of the above will really get you anywhere.

Reaction to liberal modus operandi is making increasing numbers of Zarathushtees becoming more ardent followers - respectfully seeking to understand the significance of our traditions and cultural doings.
More Zarathushtees are seeing through your liberal falsehoods. And your friends will eventually find out, that you misplaced their trust.

Your modus operandi gives you away, despite your masquerade.

For example, before using foul language to address our High Priests and level the term Talibanisation, have you honestly peered into yourself and asked what you have done for the community and just how maliciously you choose to operate ?

It is you who are demonstrating distinct Talibanistic characteristics, not our Vada Dastoorjees.

Our Vada Dastoorjees have done nothing wrong in issuing joint decisions to continue our time-tested practices, and reflecting the sentiments of the majority of well-meaning Zarathushtees.

Please be informed, that Islamic texts define a Taleban, as one who chooses to study and learn about the creator through the scriptures of the Koran. Nothing wrong with that. It was not until devious applications of political agendas became apparent, that the word Taleban came to be tarnished in to its current corrupted form.

Should liberals want to use the word Talibanisation in that corrupted form, they are simply showing just how Talibanised they themselves are, because infact they are the ones who are relying on manipulating facts.

- Ø Just like the manipulated context of examples they put forward.
- Ø Just like ridiculing Dokhmenishini, while even non-Zarathushtee experts have agreed on its eco-friendliness.
- Ø Just like blaming those that endorse same culture marriages, etc. Cheap & low-grade, indeed.

Before according Blame on our High Priests, all Zarathushtees should ask themselves, just how much of their own lives they have dedicated to upholding the tenets of our religion.

Like well-meaning parents, generations of Vada Dastoorjees & Orthodox Mobedaan, have fully trusted the community to uphold our tenets. And so we did until a few years ago. In Iran & India both.

Unfortunately, just as well-meaning parents also have the unenviable task to correct their rebellious teenage children, today's group of Vada Dastoorjees have had to get firm with those that are ever too willing to give away the exquisite lineage we were born in to.

Our Vada Dastoorjees can well continue to hold up their heads high in the dignity they deserve and the rest of us ordinary Zarathushtees can well continue to pursue the good old time-tested path shown to us by our ancestors. They have made a valid stand indeed.

Through their action our Vada Dastoorjees are inadvertently reminding us ... NEVER to forget the price of our birth as Zarathushtees. A Price which was paid for by some unnamed Grandfather & Grandmother of OURS only some generations back.

Please do not insult our ancestral sacrifices through your uninformed willingness to give up on our traditions & culture.

Let the emptiness of this below space be a symbol to show the emptiness within you for being unworthy of their sacrifices.

a) Some of our ancestors gave up the Holy Land of Iran, their homes, their farms, their possessions, their families & friends and sought refuge in India. It was not as if life became a bed of roses once they got to India either. They were harassed by invading Arab Moslems right until the 16th century and endured numerous tragedies. Ask yourself - what are you willing to give up today?

Wiser than you liberal lot, are India's leaders who have always recognized us Parsees, despite our few numbers. They have admired us for who we are and who we choose to remain.

b) Many of our ancestors gave up their lives in defending Iran, our religion, Atash-Behrams, Atash-Kedehs, as the invading Arab armies ran over Iran. Many were raped, savaged, mutilated, pillaged and persecuted in all unimaginable ways through the centuries. Ask yourself do I know enough of my history to sit amongst a few people and talk about it, leave aside having to stand up against Sword & Dagger wielding invaders ?

More dignified than you liberals, is the Islamic leadership of today's Iran, who openly recognize the Originality of Asho Zarathushtra & today's living Zarathushtees in Iran.

How can you look yourself in the mirror and elect to criticize your own lot?

I have personally audienced with Ayatollah Khamanei & the then President Rafsanjani and heard their accolades in public. President Khatami continues with the same respect for Zarathushtees. The Islamic Govt sent a delegation to India not too long ago, to invite Zarathushtee businesses to Iran. What more can one expect ?

Ask yourselves you liberals, How much more respect do others have to give us, for who we are, before you begin to appreciate your own?

For without this appreciation, your endeavors are pathetic.

As pathetic as drawing parallels with Jewish Orthodoxy without stopping to think of the whole picture (again).

Should Zarathushtees wish to compare our High Priests or the Orthopractic amongst us, to the Jews, they should also consider, that the Jewish people wouldn't have survived were the majority of Jews not have pulled together under their clergy.

The Jews were dispersed out of their homeland through the savagery of Arabism at the same time as our own ancestry. If you care to count, it would be about 2 dozen generations back. Not a long time at all.

Orthodox or whatever, it was that Zeal demonstrated by Jewish Priests that ensured the longevity of the Jews through 12 centuries of displacement in various parts of the world. It was precisely their doggedness in not giving up their equally ancient faith which pulled them through the atrocities of Nazi Germany.

It was that very Zeal that encouraged the Allies after the 2nd World War, to recognize the needs of the Jewish people (albeit relieve their own countries off Jewish refugees) that recreated Israel.

Yes, the Jews may have gone extra militant to survive in the hostile world around them since the 1950s, but survive they have today.

Strip the Jewish people of their dogmatic faith, and they might as well have been extinct. Strip the Jewish people of their language and traditions, and they would be like today's confused Iraqis, who are Assyrian / Babylonian by lineage and yet call themselves Arabs.

With respect, should anyone want to use Jews as an example, please be fair in doing so and looking at the whole example in an honest context.

Zarathushtrianism stands undisputed by the Vatican, Jewish, Hindu and Islamic Clergy as a revealed religion. It was given to us by our Paigumber Asho Zarathushtra Spitama and we Traditional / Orthodox choose to uphold it out of our own free will.

To us, religion is clearly eternal and not the subject of votes and modifications to suit the whims of its own-born who elect to step out of it.

Like the rest of us Traditional / Orthodox, please seek to understand just why our traditions and codes are what they are. If you did, through dialogue, we would not have the conflict you impose on us.

Should you elect to only shout but never talk with mutual respect, you are welcome to step away from our religion.

But please depart with dignity and leave those that are life-time subscribers in peace.

The least that the hard-lined Orthodoxy will credit you for, is having the courage to walk away, rather than sabotage like a fugitive and be found spitting in the same plate that held your sustenance.

May Ahura Mazda's Divine Will prevail upon us all.

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