

THE EFFECTS OF THE COUP BEING UNSUCCESSFUL IN TURKEY OVER THE MIDDLE EAST

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1- FATE OF TURKEY BETWEEN TWO COUPS

Although the Ottoman State went weaker and lost some parts of her lands, it continued to be an international power in the world arena. Yet, when Sultan Abdulhamit II was overthrown in 1909 with a military coup, Ottoman State ceased to be an international power and the great downfall started.

After that period the rule of Committee of Union and Progress started and at the centre of the Islamic Caliphate the decree of the Muslims fell under the domination of the West. (The rule of Union and Progress started with the withdrawal from Libya. Libya was lost to Italians when they occupied her on the basis of the Ottoman State's declaration that she cannot place the importance Libya deserves.) Later on the Unionists led the Ottoman State to the WW I. Ottoman State got under a very big weight and lost most of her power. Afterwards, she and her allies faced a big defeat and started losing the rest of her lands and many treaties were signed to share the legacy of the Ottomans.

After all these, the new republican administration was established that abstracted itself from the Islamic world which was busy governing her current lands. The new rule abolished the Islamic caliphate and took strong measures to get rid of the Islamic rules from the lives of the people. After all these, the huge Ottoman State isolated herself by cutting her relations with the Muslims in the Middle East, Balkans, Middle Asia and by giving up her relations with Africa, India and thus confined herself to a tiny geography.

It is possible to summarize the whole last century as the battle of predominance between two dominions. One of them is the will of the West and the other is the will of the Muslims in Turkey. Since the day Turkey was given chance to express herself Turkish people have always chosen the politic staffs representing the people and the Islamic will. Whenever these politics staffs started doing serious and favourable jobs, the will of the West organized a military coup to grant Turkey to the will of the West once again. Four military coups had taken place in Turkey like this in half a century. So much so that Turkey was known to be a country where a military coup takes place in every ten years.

Now that the military coup has failed and the chain of coup d'états were broken that have continued persistently for a long time. For the first time in the last century, the will of Muslim Turkish people won a victory over the will of laic military power. Hence the Muslim world feel joyful over this failed coup as the historic correction of the coup organized against Sultan Abdulhamit II. Because by this means Turkey's role of becoming a major political power in the area will start again and her army will become the army of Mohammad that was once famous for being the glory of Islam, its power and bravery.

Whole world followed the coup news in Turkey closely. Because everyone knows very well that the outcome of this coup will change the whole world order.

2. Hope of the Muslim Peoples

The great victory of the Turkish people over the coup attempt gave the Muslim peoples a hope to make a great bounce. They themselves saw and witnessed with their own eyes that a military coup can be made unsuccessful and pulverized. Thus every society started thinking over their own wills. Peoples of the countries like Egypt, Yemen, Libya and etc. who are uneasy with the coups in their countries started asking themselves: “why the coup in Turkey failed and yet are successful in our countries?” They started discussing this circumstance and over the example of Turkey they started drawing lessons, making use of and utilising this event for their ongoing struggle against the coups in their own countries. If they are in a complaining position from a laic military authoritarian ruling, they started discussing the experience of Turkey to eliminate the secret state and how the victory of peoples will be realized.

Muslims spent that Friday night watching the news about the military coup in great anxiety and lucubrated with these upending questions: “How can this experience of Turkey be utilised?” Single-handedly this hope is a great win for the Islamic Ummah in their struggle for independence. Those who struggle for the independence are the first to feel and appreciate the value of this.

Coup d'état's becoming successful at the night of July 15 would have meant the downfall of the last fortress of Islam in this world. If this coup had been successful, the bitterness and hopelessness that would have covered the whole Muslims - and beyond that all the free people of the world - cannot be envisioned. Undoubtedly there would appear a dark and dreary scenery: think of a scene where the victory of evil echoes in every corner of this

universe! Scenery of a hopeless pain! Darkness with no gleam! Surviving from this disaster alone is a great blessing per se that requires being grateful to Allah.

3. Reactions of the Arabic Regimes

As the failure of the coup attempt in Turkey made the rulers of the distressed about their futures, it made the peoples of these countries joyful and gave them exquisite happiness. Those who fight with the future hopes of those peoples with every successful experience and heroic popular revolutions are those who want the people like themselves to rule over in order not to let the peoples of these countries think of revolutions, progress and development. They don't want people to think they deserve better conditions than they are already in. They don't enjoy inspirational examples being presented!.. Therefore, all these authoritarian regimes, which are the puppets of the west, try to distort the events taking place in Turkey either by organizing directly or becoming partners in financing or through media and try to support the military coup. Likewise, laic opposition in Arabic countries, even though they were supposed to side against the coup, wished the coup in Turkey to be successful. Because, Turkey's experience is a very clear example of a high level development experience. According to them, no matter how troublesome they may be and no matter how hell-like the lives of the people, a laic rule is regardlessly much better than the so-called Islamist government. This situation does not change even though this Islamist rule brought prosperity and or developed the country. For them the hell of laicism is much better than the heaven of Islam.

What is expected from them in any case is to distort the Turkish experience and to continue to misrepresent her leader Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and to increase level of fight against the Turkish experience through media. We will also witness the change of position in

several Arabic regimes and they will be seen doing other thing. Some of the can be counted as follows:

A- Embracing and Supporting the Gulen Congregation

In the recent future, creation of a vast and secure milieu will be seen to give financial and information support to this organization in those Arab countries objecting the Turkish Experience by opening new headquarters, schools and institutions belonging to the organization. The leading countries will be Egypt and the UAE. These countries will make an endeavour for the continuation of this congregation's Islamic face for the similar Islamic groups in similar religious symbols. By this means, they aim to clear the bad reputation of this congregation and fix the notoriety of it in the eyes of the Arabic peoples. Besides, they also aim to distort the experience in Turkey and to bring her leader into disrepute by strengthening Arabic institutions and by making people dependant on them. For this reason you will see that in the coming days the media screens and papers will be opened to Fethullah Gulen and his leading supporters. On the other hand, you will also see the flourishing of many of the institutions belonging to this congregation- either secretly or openly- in Arabic countries.

B- Supporting of Rebellious Separatist Military Groups in Turkey

They think of doing this by financing and supplying military intel and by providing convenience in sharing intelligence. Because, if the military coup failed the take over the rule in a country, what to do alternately is to breach the confidence in the country and to make the instability unremitting. In this way, they aim to prevent Turkey to have interest with Muslim Arab regions by resisting against the government and forcing it to be busy with herself and they also plan to make the experience in Turkey looks like going in instability to create a

negative image of Turkey in the eyes of the Muslim Arab peoples. You will see an increasing support given to those rebellious groups in the upcoming days. Besides, you will see an increase both in their demands and the number and the volume of their armed attacks. The target here is to parcel out Turkey once more, if not at least to stop her developing power and to weaken her.

C- Financing and Planning Bomb Attacks

They will do this by helping the carrying out of the bombing attacks and inflicting it on any armed Islamic, Kurdish, or Leftist group. The infiltration of those groups to Turkey happen under favour of Arabic intelligence services. The aim in that is to weaken Turkey by fastening the downfall of the political government and therefore to fasten the collapse of the politics in Turkey, weaken her power and to force Turkish politics to rule under the guidance of the US.

While Turkey won the favour and support of the oppressed peoples, she, at the same time won the hostility of dominant powers. Although it is true that this love of peoples alone wasn't availed in the rescue of the country from these dangerous conspiracies she would face up. Yet, Turkey can use this love of peoples for her own benefit, and turn it into a really powerful action. Undoubtedly, there are millions of refugees from other nations and Arabs that have taken shelter in Turkey. Furthermore, it is a truth that there are many people from all around the world who wish to live in Turkey. All these people shared similar feelings and ideas with those who resisted against the coup plotters and those who laid down their lives. Turkey can render the loves of these peoples towards Turkey into real effect in her "Bigger Turkey Project". She can easily do it via the organizations, institutions and studies which can benefit from the enthusiasm flood arisen from the love of these people.

4- Being on the Side of Democracy

Today democracy stands like an idol that is neither harmful nor helpful. Those who were elected by democracy are crushed under the tanks and yet those who defend democracy against to those who came by the tanks cannot get anything.

The coup in Turkey brought out into the open that the democracy oracles in the West have the capabilities of lecturing on other subjects as well. That was the lecture of “how to stage a successful coup against democracy.”(!) France, forgetting the attacks in Nice that had taken place several hours before the coup attempt, came to the point of asking President Erdogan to be respectful to the law and protection of the rights of the coup plotters. This also has taken place its place among the instruments of the West. This instrument proved that the victory of Erdogan in Turkey was not only won against a bunch of soldiers but also against the western capitals which entered the morning of July 16 with the feeling of complete defeat. Yes, those western capitals act like a person who is as if completely defeated and looking for ways to prevent his saving from going for nothing, who is trying to minimize his distress, and who is looking for ways to limit the effects of this victory.

You have all followed and seen the first commentaries and how the attempted coup was welcomed in the western media. But what is the most significant thing here is the question asked to the security and military experts “why the coup attempt in Turkey was not successful.” Experts didn’t see any wrong in answering this question from their own point of view and enumerated the musts of a successful military coup one by one! You have witnessed

the daring lectures of democracy philosophers on “how to plot a successful coup”, haven’t you?

When we take a look at the history of democracy, we cannot see anything the West did to enplace democracy in our country. Only thing they did was to weaken the Islamic countries by changing their social, cultural and legal infrastructure, and to support the rebellious groups which that were trying to divide the Ottoman State. One another thing they did was to dwindle down the sovereignty of the Ottoman State by giving larger zone of influence to religious and ethnic minorities, to enhance the severity of separatist movements, and to tighten the authority of Caliphate even more in favour of western oriented actors in the government and military organizations. For instance, in Egypt, the West cancelled the parliament for the successful settlement of the coup. The parliament was made inoperable for 20 years. No one at that time talked about the necessities of democracy and the rights of the Egyptian people.

This habit of the west still continues for us. Now you see, it is the West itself ministering and helping the survival of the dictatorship regimes. And then they judge as an underdeveloped dictatorship regime where the regime of democracy hasn’t yet settled. In fact, although being the products of these cruel governments that set up newspapers, universities, research centres, TV channels, their philosophers and insider spies unashamedly come to lecture on modern state and democracy.

They never truly support the democratic movement. They have never been arrested as suspects resisting against the dictators. After all, they themselves prefer to take side with the dictators when they meet a hard situation where the will of peoples contradicts with the dictators. This is the critical question here: Does our country need freedom or democracy? Or let’s ask this question in this way: Can a weak person attain democracy?

Even today, some political systems act meanly towards their people in presenting an elected parliament. And those which bestowed an elected parliament to their people sometimes present a disenfranchised parliament or present a parliament which is constituted with tricks and fraudulency. Namely, that means that the regime works for itself and protects itself. They never think of serving and actualizing or considering the wishes of the people of that country.

There has been some political movements that tried all possible varieties present in democracy. However, they saw that all the roads ahead of them were closed. Parliament is formed either with cheat or fraudulency or it has been disenfranchised or has been rendered twice a year to make it comply with the wished of the king or the emir. Press is under the rule of the hypocrites and the jurisdiction works for the well-being of the government. Even some public revolutions as in the cases of Syria and Libya, which were faithfully supported by the people, remained inconclusive or ended up with military coups as in the case of Egypt. In these extra-ordinary circumstances, leaders like Mohammad Siddik in Iran, Mursi in Egypt, Menderes, Erbakan and Erdogan in Turkey were oppressed from every way when they come to the government. And operations were plotted by the foreign embassies for their downfall. How dare can democracy come?! Who dares to bring it?! Two examples out of these couldn't survive from this wheel: Hamas in Gaza, and Erdogan in Turkey. If there weren't armed forces loyal to them, neither democracy nor the votes they got from people wouldn't help them survive. The destiny of the both would end up like Mursi, Musaddik and Menderes.

In fact if we want to protect democracy- if we ever want it- we have to be independent. But this democracy should be in line with our religion and values. Or else we can create a different model if we want to. Because we are free, we have a brilliant civilization, we have the power and the will to create the best, most benignant models both for ourselves and the world. However, these cannot take place until we are truly free and until we can decide for

ourselves. Without these, there will only be wars, blood and terror. This has been the same for all countries, even for those which oppress us right now, all along the history: No country has ever reached to this level without fighting, struggle and freedom.

The poet Sevki also says like this: “tell to those who build the bases of their countries with words, the duty of big armies is not to write books but to found a country.”

5- What Do We Learn from the Coup Attempt in Turkey?

As a matter of fact what has taken place in Turkey is full of lessons. However, I will only deal with the most significant ones here to keep it short. I am in the position here to state my opinions to my Muslim brothers in general and specifically to my Turkish brothers. My witnessing is the witnessing of a man who experienced two coups in three years: Egypt and Turkey. I know of the political arena of Egypt enough to be able to differentiate the differences between two countries. The words I utter in my witnessing might not be welcomed by some Turks or by those who are here right now. However, our religion teaches us to witness honestly for the sake of Allah without fearing from the reprimand of the condemnatory.

A- What Matters Most in Revolutions is the Leadership

The moment Erdogan went live as a free man was the moment of the declaration of the coup that was not yet successful. Therefore it is also the moment when the struggle started. Just as the moment of the commander of the coup was taken under custody is the moment of the suppression of the coup, likewise (if it succeeded) the moment Erdogan would appear dead or captivated would be the moment to call that the coup was a success. The moment it is understood that Erdogan was free and alive had become the moment that shaped all political positions and the attitudes at the squares. Although Binali Yıldırım went live and talked on

the phone to televisions, it didn't have a major effect over the people. Therefore it is an undeniable truth that the folks are shaped by their leaders. Or else, folks do not follow people just as they engage high offices. Some other politicians started to make statements only after Erdogan's appearance. Dissident political party (which kept dropping hints to the army for a military intervention for years and even several months before) was also among those who made statements.

The moment Erdogan appeared free and alive was the moment the plotters heart felt the fear in their hearts. After that moment the plotters started to retreat. The astonishment and teetering of the coup plotters increased and they were shaken rather well.

B- Decision of Struggling

If Erdogan had appeared only to make a statement, to propose a solution, to call for a mediation process or to announce that he would consent to the guidelines, he wouldn't have found such a great response from the people. However, his stance was sturdy, what he said was precise and clear: "Tanks on the streets cannot be the tanks of this nation, airports should be rescued, this is a coup attempt, those who took part in it will be punished severely. People should busy the streets and squares and save Ataturk Airport..." See, these short, precise expressions (short expressions which are free from emotional expressions such as the bombing of the place he stayed and attempted murder) put the people into acting position that attack, take risk, defend and move from the position of immobile audience who were trying to understand what was going on. People stayed in their homes in states of fear before this statement. They didn't know whether the tanks on the streets are the tanks of the plotters or the tanks that came to suppress the coup attempt. In any case they didn't know what their possible duty might be. Decision of struggling! This decision set the people and all forces in motion. Short messages sent from the Ministry of Communications to cellular phones were

asking people to spill out into the streets, Directorate of Religious Affairs were asking all the imams to open the mosques and sing the salahs and takbirs from their mosques, municipalities were sending their garbage trucks and fire engines to close military supply roads and military airport tracks. They all paralysed the coup plotters. People surrounded the tanks either with their bodies or with their cars. If the decision of struggling (call for hitting the streets) hadn't reached to the people, all these and other developments wouldn't have taken place. Only after the people received the call for struggling, did they hit the streets to do whatever they could to prevent the coup.

C- Lesson Learned from the Power Protecting the Righteous

If there hadn't been the armed forces loyal to him he established by earning their trust, neither the protection of Erdogan nor his rescue (nor the whole nation before him) would have been possible. No matter what the number of the people hitting the streets was, they wouldn't have resisted and persevered for a long time before the bullets, armed vehicles, tanks, and jets. Some of soldiers from the Special Forces stopped the attacks of the plotters in their headquarters, some of them hit the streets fight against the soldiers on the streets with bullets and light arms, and some asked people to hit the street with their cars and prepared them for a struggle by supplying weapons. The moment the armed forces fought back had been the scene where things got back on the rails. Another force faced the other force. How could it have been possible for the plotters where amazement and hastiness grew bigger to face an incredibly difficult situation which was never expected both politically and socially to be disposed to fight against a power whose leader was in charge and where things ran in its course? Later on, statements were published expressing the need to arm the public to fight back in such circumstances. If this bill passes, then only then Turkey will become a truly independent country. Because the armed people cannot be ruled by dictators and the coups can never bring these people on their knees.

D- Lesson of Tenacity

Coups are the other face of the public revolutions. Talking about coups and public revolutions are the epitome of talking about the war. Because what is won by one part is only equal to what is lost by the other part. Any tolerance showed to the enemy would make result of the coup similar with that of war. All along the history coups plotted against successful revolutions have always been like this. This is what Sisi has done to us. Normally, things would have ended by the captivity or murder of Erdogan. His headquarter would have been bombed three times and there would have been a raid with forty soldiers. The buildings of MIT and Special Forces would be bombed. Planes would exceed the sound velocity, hundreds of people would die at first night with bullets and or by the crushing of tanks and armed vehicles... Everyone was already given batting order. Because everyone knew very well that this was a coup and it is natural result is to survive or to die. There had been a minor failure in the assassination plan of Erdogan. Those who didn't understand what the situation was doubted whether to retreat or to re-deploy. This anyway helped their plan to ruin even more and led them to failure.

May Allah bless Turkey and her people and make this victory of her the starting point of the great victories of Islam. We wish from Allah to protect our people and our nation and want from Him to save us from coups and dictators. We wish from Allah Teala to bestow us a day where we live in an all-powerful country as a single Islamic community. And we wish that country to be a super power that disseminates the right and justice into this world full of cruelty and crime.