

Arab Spring Destination

Even though the long journey of Arab spring that was started in Tunisia appears to be fading its momentum and seemingly trapped in Syria for a while, it will continue its revolutionary campaign throughout Middle East countries before reaching its final destination. And that final destination country is fated to be aged kingdom of Saudi Arabia. To many observers, the kingdom of Saudi Arabia has become a symbol of what is wrong and evil in Islam and in Arab world. Particularly this impression has got resonance after 911 tragedy, in which most of the hijackers were Saudi nationals, and for being the citadel of Wahhabism the doctrine that underpins and steers terrorist groups. Till recent time, Saudi Arabia has been one of the very few countries in the world not to accept the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In response to the continuing criticism of its human rights record, the Saudi government points to the special Islamic character of the country, and asserts that this justifies a different social and political order.

“God did not create evil. Just as darkness is the absence of light, evil is the absence of God.”

says Albert Einstein

The Saudi thugs and mobs who have been torturing vulnerable human beings are Godless creatures who are stripped off the light of God that warms and shines human soul – the light of love, compassion and human dignity. One of the irony of contemporary world politics is that a kingdom that denies and violates the rights of one half of humanity, women's right, a kingdom that is governed by sharia, dark age religious dogma, and a kingdom virtually straight from folk tales of “*Arabian Nights*” is the member of human rights council of UN and worse it was given a seat in security council.

This world-class irony and fallacy is not funny anymore for those Ethiopians, who have become the victim of vicious crime against humanity and for those of us who have endured a psychological trauma seeing all this. There have been a lot said in media about the situation and designated Ethiopian governmentl institutions have been working all around the clock to deal with the wide range aspects of the problem. However, this tragedy reminds us once again that our past and present arch enemy that enables this situation to happen is neither outside nor among us. It is poverty the number one public enemy that makes our citizens vulnerable whether in face of drought that starves millions to death or migration that ends up being a prey to sub-human Arab vigilantes.

Fortunately at this juncture of history, the golden generation of our time is well positioned to eradicate poverty once and forever. Within a dozen years our country will become prosperous middle-income country wherein citizens are content at homeland and immigrants knocking the door to flock in. This statement would probably have been considered as a fairytale decade ago but not this time. No one dares to deny the country's fast track progress at this point and no doubt that the country will achieve its national developmental goal for simple reason that the trust and thrust of Ethiopian people is behind it.

Speculating on Arab Spring destination, aside geopolitical and socioeconomic reasons that cause Arab spring, there is a long held belief that, it becomes the will of Allah to set the fire of Arab spring on Arab countries so that to free Arab world from darkness of ages and to enlighten minds and hearts that are full of hatred, contempt, bigotry and ignorance. Arab spring is designed to clean what is

wrong in Islam and Arab world. The fire of Arab Spring that was torched in Tunisia bears a resemblance to a wild fire that is started at the periphery of a forest and eventually makes its way to the center. Arab Spring has burned its way through Libya, Egypt, Syria ... and going to engulf its ultimate destination – the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the bulwark of evil and terrorism.

The stalemate between the rebels and the government forces in Syria looks like a situation in which Arab spring takes a second breath before it spills over to the next Allah chosen neighboring country in order to resume its long journey in the direction of the bastion of Evil. There would be a few candidate countries to fall and crumbled in its way before the Arab spring makes its final touchdown in Saudi Arabia. But make no mistake the voyage of the spring dragon seemingly spontaneous and full of twist and turns has purpose and designed in heaven.

Insha Allah!

Befekadu Wolde Gabriel