

# Old Wine again in Old Bottle!

Bestow upon us universal brotherhood, peace and love, prayed all the churches across all the countries of the world! In India, people of all religions greeted each other. Businessmen printed their calendars and diaries according to their traditions. The Positional Astronomy Centre, Calcutta, under Government of India, on its part published the 'Rashtriya Panchang' that is used as the basis for preparing calendars of all religions across all states. These calendars brought details about festivals, auspicious (Shub kaal) & inauspicious (Raahu kaal) days, phases (Parva), eclipses (Graham), besides government holidays, to the public. These include festival dates of all religions. Most news papers deliver these calendars to the homes of all their subscribers. The promotion of stupidity, irrationality and bigotry kick started again with the New Year celebrations. This is one aspects of the new year celebrations. The goal of these traditionalists is to make the people enjoy in the most enthusiastic way, the same old crap under a new name. The Indian Government took it up on its shoulders the responsibility of spreading this bigotry. And governments in every other country have their own ways of manipulating and exploiting their people for serving the capitalists and feeding the imperialists.

USA's NATO expansion program has ignited a rift between Russia and Ukraine. Ukraine is pushed into the war front. Sanctions are imposed on Russia. The disasters brought about by this war are devastating the economies of many countries. They have caused adverse effects on all the people of backward and developing countries. The people of the world are reeling in the widespread crisis. In the so called developed countries which boasts of having advanced cultures, racial discrimination still continues; The imposition of sanctions by dominant oppressor countries on the oppressed countries still continues. Developed countries aka capitalist exploiters are ready to fight each other for economic supremacy. They are in the thought of perpetuating the covid panic. All these are the consequences of the crisis in each of these 'developed' countries. This is the inherent crisis of Capitalism.

And behold, in the country that claims to be the largest democracy where women are excelling in politics and holding high political positions, including the position of first citizen, the poor constitute the majority and continue to live in deplorable conditions. Even though women get elected as presidents of Gram Panchayats or Mandal Parishads or Zilla Parishads they are still behind their husbands; the actual power and actual authority is held by the male counterpart. This is the state of women's freedom and liberty. Such is the nature of liberty and equality provided by laws. The problem of burqa continues to haunt. Honor killings against love still continue. Common man is confused between the messages of greatness and Amritkal delivered on New year, Republic day and new budget presentations and between the slogans of Country is under threat, Constitution is under threat, Religion is under threat and further unity (secularism) is under threat.

Not just the analysis of the new Union Budget in all languages on all T.V.s; outwitting the middle class and the upper middle class, providing more concessions to the monopolies and

ripping off the common man under beautiful schemes, are all a routine every year in the budget 'festival'.

The conflagration created in Kashmir has not subsided. The instigation of differences based on regions has not stopped. In the name of uplifting religion, the incitement of religious fundamentalism, caste and ethnic chauvinisms has not stopped. Enforcement of anti-people laws, suppressing true people's movements and arresting activists has not stopped. The oppressed people of the country, the unemployed youth, the women trapped in the traditions, the people suffocating in ethnic conflicts, in border areas and in war zones - all need to acquire the knowledge about the constitutional system, its organs and laws that are perpetuating these conditions. Love for the Nation cannot be reduced to mere sloganeering like save the nation, save India, but must stand on a firm foundation.

This kind of interpretation is not new, but it has to be made again and again. The New Year messages, Republic day messages and budget speeches are all old ones repeated again. Events are the same, so are the speeches and promises. Old Wine again in old bottle!