

Comeuppances!

I am pleased to hear Boris Johnson is on the road to recovery after he being struck by the Covid-19 over two weeks ago and now behind him. It was a scary moment for his family. His partner had to endure the challenge with yet unborn baby in the making. Mr. Boris Johnson had too much to worry and contemplate. Luckily, it appears this nightmare is over.

Now Boris is out of the wood, it is time to reflect what went wrong in the government's heads. Boris is not the only leader who got his message wrong, most if not all governments around the world got it wrong. But most also did not get worried their message was wrong, because it had little or no consequences in their direct lives they care most.

They addressed the issue thinking they were above and are safe from its dire consequences. It was as business as usual: 'them versus us' approach, and still it is. Covid-19 has given them the chance to exploit, both the pocket and mind of the masses who follow them day in day out.

I as an individual reject the idea that Covid-19 is a universal equalizer that it does not discriminate, black or white, rich or poor, powerful and vulnerable. Covid-19 does and does it in a clear and uncertain manner. But like all things with some exceptions to the rule - one of the exceptions is the case of Boris, but the majority of the times it attacks the usual suspects - the poor and old.

Some hope that this virus will reinstate some common sense in human thinking and way of life. Because now it has undermined the neoliberal and/or dictatorial-led economic system. Rest assured, it will not by itself and it is not on the business of doing so unless people change.

Listen to what the media and its specialists guest on the air are saying: "This disease will come to pass and things will go to normal sooner or later; humanity will win in the end, etc". It appears, they cannot wait to see Olympics, Wimbledon Tennis, football tournaments, holiday trips resume so they will sell insurances, bonds and shares and move forwards. In the world they know best.

PM Boris Johnson would have been also sadly remembered but quickly forgotten by those who would come after him in this rat race world. They would soon be jogging and jostling to win the support of billionaires and run the nations in accordance to self interest.

It is good that he has recovered and understand what it meant to be at the brink of being lost but somehow survived. He is lucky and must be grateful for his luck. He ought it to himself and those dead that the world is not only meant for making money and profits. He ought to reevaluate his thinking and make radical changes the way his country is run. If the nation is ruled by the Conservatives, he as it is, then he would be

the best person to lead rather than being lost in the disease, if he regains some common sense.

It is with regret to reiterate that at the beginning of the outbreak, his cabinet decided that about 250000 people could be dead and they accept this as an inevitable fact for herd immunity to establish and allow the rest of the surviving people to continue doing business usual.

For a start no body ought play the role of God and decide who to live and who to be dead. It is wrong to assume that people who are old who are going to be dead anyway should die now, if they are to be dead sooner or later.. It is also cynical that these group requires a lot government expenses if alive, so it would be a bless in disguise when Covid-19 consumes them at once.

To have 60% of the population infected as suggested also requires prior and extra ordinary preparedness in the provisions of hospital facilities, buildings, doctors, nurses and health workers. The country had no preparation at all let alone for mass hospitalization but also for ordinary days, months weeks and months, For 60% infection and recovery it should have been visibly clear for everyone that tens of millions of people would be in and out of hospital for treatment to recover, with some understandably recovering at home on their own. Having only 3000 ventilators in advance talking of herd immunization is a laugh if not a crime.

It is understood that the government intervention to delay the reaction against the diseases was not for a sinister reason but to keep the economy going. An economy, though not only in Britain but all over the world based on unsustainable and inflated wastage beyond the planet means to cope with. But this sleight of hand of the government did not stop the virus asserting its draconian authority. Like it or not the economy was forced to shut down and shut it did. But had the shutdown was a bit earlier many lives could have been saved. However, greed led economy does not know the limit. It will go on devouring anything and everything and finally itself. History repeats!

Over 30 million people dead from Justinian plague and Spanish flu and in the 15th century and in 1892 were not learned. What is the point saying, " it will come to pass" for the people who are dead who could have been saved had it not been for improper management of the outbreak? why would a dead person care for a world that did not care for him/her when s/he was alive?

Why did not humanity prevent this and similar out breaks by avoiding unnecessary delicatessen habits of luxuries of consumptions foisted on societies for commercial reasons?

At a time the whole world is confronted with invisible enemy, the world needs to be united and fight with all it can muster. Being inward looking and shunning to live side by side with others, as we have seen some have opted is not a way forward even for themselves let alone for others, as it became self evident nations are sharing

equipments and experts. It is time for all to think and think deep and avoid the shallow approaches,

Yared Huluf