

እንድሕር ዘይሞትክን ጥዕና አለክን!

Three or four months ago if someone said to you that there is a threat of a death in the air that you needed to cut back what you breathe in, you would think the person has gone mental and needed an urgent medical intervention before anything worse happens. But as it turned out to be not the suspect was not far from the truth, the air we breathe has turned out to be at least for some already lethal and for the remaining potentially lethal if they do not hide behind the walls.

You would not blame the parties and personalities in high office in the so called civilized world for what they are! It's in their DNA's to pursue and submit to the philosophy of making money by all means come high or low water.

It is the people who put them in high office you might blame that they did not see this coming that their masters would short-change and give them less than they deserve at a time of crisis never mind when the going was easy and secured.

You now hear the media going around tell the people a vaccine is found and a trial has started in country A, oh no it is in country B, etc.

For a start a trial is a trial. It does not mean a success. And even if a trial is a success it will take months if not years to roll out the vaccine.

So why is all these euphoria about a trial of a vaccine? For the mass media it is a hype and it fills the gap they are left with after the products they used advertise for people to consume are not forthcoming, you guessed it right ..! People are now less keen spending their money on trappings they are not sure they would need at this point in time.

On the other hand the politicians instead of admitting the colossal mistakes they have committed and communicating with the people with honesty they still play with the emotions of the people by pulling off a ploy with no regard so as to allay the people's frustrations and dissatisfactions with the way they are led.

Outbreak of pandemic is no new news. It had visited the world three to four times in the distant past. Tens of Millions of people, had paid with their lives.

In the past governments may not have been to blame. There was no full understanding and medical knowledge to combat a virus but now the world is at a different level and could reasonably deal with an outbreak if mind and resources were put in the rightful place.

But they are not! Our leaders are in a different mindset. They are at war with each other and spent enormous resources to win a war they perceive or foment coming, instead of preparing against a war that is inevitable as it erupts with no advance notice and makes no deal or enter into a negotiations to mitigate the consequences. With the outbreak of

Covid-19, they are caught ill prepared leading to an unnecessary millions of people dying.

When the world is faced with global pandemic the world in turn would need Global executive body entrusted with strategic decision making to deal with the pandemic that all nations would have to abide and implement rather than depending on fragmented and delusionary and often self serving decision made by national governments the likes of which we saw here in the USA and UK. With everything they have at their disposal which they could have deployed they fare at the receiving end.

As I stated before, I am pleased to hear Boris Johnson is now out of the wood after being struck by the Covid-19. 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 this threat is behind, I suggested in earlier article that he needed to reflect what went wrong in the government his heads. To be fare he was not the only leader who got his math wrong, most if not all governments around the world got it wrong. But most also did not get worried their math 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 business as usual: 'them verse us' approach. For some, Covid-19 has given them the chance to exploit, both the pocket and mind of the mass who follow them day in day out.

I as an individual reject the idea that Covid-19 is 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 an uncompromising terms; 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 systems. Rest assured, It will not by itself and it is not in the business of doing so unless people change their way of life.

Listen to what the media and its handpicked guest on the air have to say: "This diseases 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, air tickets, 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 these rat race world had things gone the wrong way. 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, and it will be playing by the rule of democracy, he then is the best person to lead if he regains some common sense. Would he reevaluate or not remains to be seen.

But some media outlets appeared to be worried that Boris may delay exit strategy from lockdown. Being a victim himself that he would lean to the side of the victims rather than the profit making economy.

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 living and do 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 are dispensable. It is morally wrong to assume that if they were to be dead then the sooner the better.

It is also cynical to suggest that that these group requires a lot of 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 , with some understandably recovering at home on their own. Having only 300 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. But the trouble with the economy, though not only in Britain but all over the world, is that it is based on unsustainable and inflated wastage of resources 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 50 million people dead from Justinian plague and Spanish flu that started in the 5th to the 15th century and in 1918 respectively and now lessons are not learned.

What is the point saying, “ this virus 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 outbreaks by avoiding unnecessary delicatessen habits of luxury consumptions foisted on societies for commercial reasons? It is understandable if anyone, as they do in all parts of the world, eats anything for lack of choice, but consumption for exotic reasons, when other choices are available begs a belief!

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 has become self evident nations are sharing equipment and expertise to deal with global problems. It is time for all to think and think deep and avoid the shallow approaches they have adopted

Yared Huluf