



Royalweeks



ROTARY CLUB OF ALLEPPEY DISTRICT 3211
CHARTERED AS 7339TH CLUB ON 25.07.1949

We meet on Wednesdays at 7.00pm
at Revi Karunakaran Rotary Hall, Alleppey

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The terrorism virus- the designers, hackers and the victims

India, Paris, Beirut, schoolchildren some months back in Pakistan and many more such inhuman barbaric acts targeted towards innocent civilians. What is this all about?

Terror unleashed by the Islamic State of Syria and Iraq (ISIS) – LET, Taliban etc Who are they? What motivates them? Where do they operate from? When did they come into existence? Why do they spew terror? How will the madness end? These are questions for which answers do not come easy. Any attempt to unravel the tangle only creates more knots.

I am as well as a majority of us are ignorant when it comes to understanding geo-politics. The growth of Germany under Adolph Hitler and the collapse of the Third Reich followed by the creation of two Germany's, which later united into one... The conversion of Japan from a rogue nation during the Second World War into an idealistic country shortly after... The growth of the USSR as a superpower and its eventual break up decades later into about fourteen weak nations and Russia... The endless conflict between Palestinians and Jews (or is it the other way) over a narrow

tract of land... The growth and fall of the Shah of Iran and his successor, Ayatollah Khomeini...

The creation of a powerful tyrant called Saddam Hussein in Iraq, kept a nation of conflicting people under repressive control before being fished out by his erstwhile backers, the USA. A millionaire Arab called Osama bin Laden, who gave up his plush lifestyle to lead a holy Jihad from desert hide-outs for a cause that is not clear to him nor the world, before being eliminated by the creator. And now, a Syria-based terror cult, led by an ascetic-looking sadist who rose from the ashes of the vanquished Saddam Hussein, which is ostensibly trying to establish an Islamic State from Iraq and Syria based on tenets that are anathema to Islam (literally a religion of peace!)

Continued..

Every morning has a new beginning. A new hope, it is a perfect day, as it is God's gift. Make your day blessed, hopeful and helpful.



One day you will be just memory for some people. Do your best be a good one?



In life, don't be so emotional, that it hurts you! Don't be so practical that it hurts others. Change your thoughts and you change your world.



RI-President



K.R. Ravindran

President



Adv. V. Deepak

District Governor



C. Luke

Assistant Governor



Prof. S.Gopinathan Nair

I have never been able to understand the dynamics of these events, most of which unfurled in the region where two large continents – Europe and Asia – meet. I have worked in the region the better part of my life I have never been able to understand the role of America – a nation located far away from the epi-centre of these seismic upheavals – in making demons in the Middle-East, all of whom eventually become monsters and their backers coming in to liberate them.

“To understand international geo-politics, you have to take for granted some facts. The US and UK, for example, is a good nation. Whatever they do or say is for the good of the world. So they decide and certify other nations. If they say Germany or Japan or any other nation is bad, then we have to take it for granted that these nations are bad. If they say that a particular nation is good, then we have to accept blindly that nation is good. Once you get this basic rule right, then you will understand everything that had perplexed all. Like everyone America could make a mistake in their judgement? I wonder. “Of course”, they make mistakes at the drop of a hat. But that is beside the point. They are just like the courts in India. First they hold someone guilty. Then they exonerate that person altogether on appeal. Still later, in the highest Court, the “not guilty” judgement might be overturned, only to be set aside once again by a full bench of the Court! You may feel that something is not right. You may even feel that the whole issue stinks. But you don't say so as that would be sacrilege. It would be contempt of the Court and the court has to be assumed to be infallible. The same applies to the US as well. Irrespective of whether the Republicans or Democrats are in power; irrespective of whether the shots are called by a Kennedy, Reagan or a Bush or an Obama, the Americans and their administration are always right. They stand for Democracy. They stand for Equality. They stand for Freedom... Are the Blacks the equals to Whites? We should not question this. The Blacks may not have Equality. But when America, as a nation, says they are equal, then they ARE EQUAL”.

The anger is understandable, the angrier we are, the likelier that the terrorists will win. Maybe not the ones with this name, but someone using similar methods and provoking us in similar ways making our reaction their instrument for victory. When leaders of the affected nations talk of a no nonsense response for the horrible massacre be it in Paris or any other part of the world it is easy to understand where these leaders are coming from, but is a different matter altogether as to what these reactions might end up unleashing.

The argument is not rooted in a soft reading of terrorism by placing in a large human and political context. Those that ask for instance why does the world care so much for Paris but not at all for Beirut where a similar carnage took place a day earlier, try and make us locate the actions of the terrorist in a broader cultural political context. The trouble with terrorism is that it is increasingly difficult to make sense of it in traditional ways. Terrorism is a unique structure, which behaves in ways that run counter to most natural human instincts, and this is what it gives it power and resilience.

Terrorism is a contagious form of lunacy. It infects everything it touches and does so with ruthless efficiency. It enacts a symbolic form of violence using a specific set of devices. The potential target selected needs to be symbolically significant for the maximum effect and victims are randomly chosen. In its purest form, terrorism renounces all causality, no demands to make, selects victims without any profiling and executes them simply for the effect. Most importantly in this form the terrorists renounce their own life thereby completely rendering null and void a fundamental premise of civilisation is founded. i.e. you will act with a degree of rationality because each of us value our life as much as others do- whatever our differences, we can appreciate each other in this truly human level. When we try to tame terrorism it gains. Its greatest asset is our approach to retaliate. The more fearful, suspicious, paranoid we are, the more we unleash targets both visible and invisible, our investment in security, surveillance the more permanent the victory for terrorism. The strength of terrorism lies in its ability to gather all that would normally weaken it. It wants to be attacked, seeks opposition, more powerful the better. Since the preciousness of human life is no longer agreed it does not matter who is destroyed- the idea again takes fresh roots.

Terrorism in a conceptual sense, is an idea that depends on media for its existence. What happened in Beirut was understood differently than what happened in Paris, New York etc because the media saw the former as a routine conflict in a troubled area and latter a terrorist strike in the heart of civilisation. This transformation in meaning is a result of the media and its consumers. The more we fear terrorism, the more terrorised we are and the risk of us being infected by this virus is more. This virus cunningly feeds on many of our impulses. For example, the desire to be strong and strike down any one threatening us, the hierarchy that exists between different grades of human lives which value few lives to be more valuable than others, the deep need to separate people into groups and rank them- the them and us.

If we need to win terrorism we need to have the wisdom to forego some of our most natural instincts like the beliefs we are riveted and suspicious of. We think it is the sign of weakness but in logic they are innovative hallmarks of strength. Then victims like us will be able to identify the designers and hackers of this virus.

Rtn. PHF S Sasidharan

Three month calendar of events



January, 10, 2016

FIRE (Family Involved Rotary Entertainment)
Camelot Convention Centre Alappuzha

February 06,07, 2016

District Conference
Windsor Castle Convention Centre,
Kottayam

June 19, 2016

Awards Night
Trivandrum Club,
Trivandrum

Club Business

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2015

The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn. Adv. V Deepak. Rtn. Madhu Mohan invoked the blessing of Almighty. In Presidential address Rtn. Adv. V Deepak mentioned that 5 members from our club Rtns. Deepak, Gopinathan Nair, Vijayalakshmi, Krishnan and George Thomas attended District TRF Seminar held at Kovalam on 15th November, he informed that hall where meeting was conducted was named after our former member Late PDG Rtn. Revi Karunakaran. He was of the opinion that the meeting was organized in a very efficient manner when compare to the other similar seminars. The participation was huge and it crossed 750 mark. There was an offer to upgrade PHF level and to become PHF for 250 USD and 12 members from our club utilized the opportunity. He also congratulated Rtn. Jacob Neroth for being retained as Member of Kerala State Productivity Council, and also for attending 42nd Annual Management Committee held at Delhi. Rtn. Jacob Neroth shared his experience at 42nd Annual Management Committee held at Delhi, and he highlighted the words of eminent speakers at the meeting. He also gave a brief description on the activities of Alleppey Management Association in the capacity as President. AG Rtn. Gopinathan Nair talked about District TRF Seminar he said one of the highlight of the Seminar was Lucky Dip sponsored by Rtn. Sudhhendra Babu, the winner got a Diamond Ring. Then Secretary Rtn. Krishnan Venugopal thanked Rtn. Jacob Neroth for sharing his experience and AG for sharing happenings at District TRF Seminar. He concluded with a special thanks to the host for the day Rtn. Madhu Mohan.

Rtn. Krishnan Venugopal

Host for Family Dinner meeting on 28/11/2015

- Rtns. Subramaniya Iyer, Indu Dutt, Ajith Vani, Sabil Raj, Rajeev R, Dr. Arun Babu, Roy Raj and Shan T P.

Member Column

LET'S ATLEAST DO OUR BIT FOR THE CHANGE

Elections to the local bodies of the state are being touted as an extremely crucial affair as the assembly elections are just few months away. The winning party obviously would have an upper hand over their counterparts in 2016 elections. No wonder the ruling and the opposition parties are leaving no stones unturned to woo the voters in the form of innovative campaigns. On the other hand, we the commoners still mulling over what to believe and whom to believe as NOTA option has been withdrawn this time and it is mandatory to vote if you are visiting an election booth!

If the figures are to be believed approximately 40% voters don't turn up for voting in an election. Of course this figure differs by meagre margin state by state but reality is still the same. Doesn't this fact leave us with a doubt about legitimacy of our elected governments? Are they really "By the people" if the 2/3rd of the populations doesn't even turn up to exercise their basic right. Many among us don't cast vote. There would be some who opine that a single vote won't matter so it's okay to not vote. Some denounce that no one's worthy enough to get in to the power while some prefer to go out for shopping instead of getting out in the sun or rain, standing in a queue and casting their vote. And then it's also many among us who complain and crib about the wrong government.

The main reason for the majority of the population to not to vote is the rebellious attitude as a mark of protest. They hide their lethargy towards the whole occasion by accusing politicians on being corrupt. Another main reason for the people to refrain from voting is indifference. Hypothetically let us take my own case. I live in a town where everything is accessible to me or affordable to me. I don't have any complaint which directly affects my bread and butter. A bad government doesn't directly take a hit on my life. Hence I don't depend much on the government and so are the majority of the city dwellers. So when we see that it doesn't make any difference to our lives we prefer treating a voting day as a rest day. I also blame the toxic and ugly politics taking place these days where the prominent leaders who place their own selfish motives ahead of the State's or nation's interest.

But have you ever tried to view things situation with another angle ? Voting is a synonym of change. If the people of India think that the ruling government is not performing its duties satisfactorily, they can show it the door by voting against it. Refraining from doing so can result in the same party, or a worse one, being elected for the next five years. Remember the previous government and how it was thrown out when it became unbearable to tolerate them? It is a national attitude to think that in country as populous as ours a single vote wouldn't make any difference. However by avoiding casting their vote they improve the chances of the unsuitable ones winning the polls.

Bringing in a change in this complex country is certainly an uphill task but not exercising your conferred right is not helping either. Let us at least do our bit for a change.

Prof .S.Gopinathan Nair

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S Sasidharan

The four Way Test

of the things we think, say or do

- ☀️ Is it the truth?
- ☀️ Is it fair to all concerned?
- ☀️ Will it build Goodwill and better friends?
- ☀️ Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Family Gallery



Our Language is called the Mother Tongue, because The Father never gets a chance to Speak.



Medical College Professor to a girl student: "Which human body part expands 5 times its normal size...?"

Girl Student: "Sir I can't answer this question, it's too embarrassing..."

Professor asked the same question to a male student.

Male Student: "It's the Pupil of a human eye..."

Professor: "Correct."

Then Professor turned to the female student and said: "Listen lady, Not only your thinking is wrong, but your expectations are also very high..."



A woman goes to a doctor and explains: doctor whole day I am fine but when I get up in the morning I get these random black lines all over my body, hands and legs

After full examination doctor asks her: what does your husband do?

Woman: he is a Carpenter

Doctor: so ask him to remove the pencils from his ears at night when he goes to bed.

Happy Birthday

Tiya Jacob Neroth	20.11.2015
Antony Malayil	23.11.2015
Sajan Nair	27.11.2015

Wedding Anniversary

Joseph Thayyil	25.11.2015	Rohit Vinod Balaji	28.11.2015
		Liya George Thayyil	28.11.2015
		Dharsak Krishnan	30.11.2015

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