

LETTER to, General Parvez Musharaf:

(By Rasool Bux Paleejo)

Sir, I venture to invite your attention to the fact that among the many factors contributing to the creation of a serious perception among the minds of thinking Sindhi-speaking people of Sindh, that, they are being, step by step, marginalized red-indianized and virtually eliminated as the historic matters of their five thousand-year old homeland and all its resources in accordance with a sinister and diabolic, comprehensive plan, set a-foot from day one of the establishment of Pakistan, is the factor of the stage-by-stage marginalization of Sindhi-speaking lawyers and judges in the judiciary at the provincial and national level.

That the Judicial system of the country is far from ideal, can be judged from the books and interviews published and seminars held on the subject. The latest public perceptions about it are embodied in the press reports of two recent events. A meeting of the Public Account Committee was held on 28-04-2005 and was addressed by Federal Law Secretary Justice R. Mansoor Ahmed, MNA Col. R. Ghulam Rasool Sahi, PML-N leader Choudhri Nisar Ahmed and Parliamentary Secretary Defence Tanveer Ahmed. The very next day a seminar was held on 29-04-2005 at Islamabad entitled "Role of Judiciary Streaming Democratic Institutions" which was addressed by Mr. Wasim Sajjad, HRCP Chairperson Asma Jahangir, HRCP Secretary-General Iqbal Haider, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Mian Raza Rabani, former president of Supreme Court Bar Association Hamid Khan, and president Lahore High Court Bar Association Justice(retired) Fakharun Nisa Khokhar and others.

On the above occasions, the high-ranking speakers gave a vent to their perceptions of our judicial system which, considering the fact that they represented a very wide spectrum of political and legal opinion, can be ignored only at our national peril.

The above views however do not cover the entire spectrum of public views on the subject. There is more to it that was not touched at the above two events. No one at any of the above events mentioned the ethnic bias of the system as applied to Sindh.

Sindhi- Speaking people constitute even after the over half a century long pressure of population from out side, more than sixty eight (68) percent majority of the population of the province. Thanks to what is perceived by many as a planned marginalization of the sindhi speaking majority in judiciary, only 6 out of 19 sitting judges of the sindh high court are sindhi speaking . A similar state of affairs would be found to be prevalent with regard to the sub-ordinate judiciary also.

One very simple but most effective device for marginalization of the sindhi-speaking majority in the judiciary is said to be in vogue, is to elevate aged sindhi-speaking lawyers and judges with only a few year remaining eligibility for service.

On the other hand the other gentlemen are elevated at a very young age enabling them to become Chief Justice of sindh and Supreme Court of Pakistan in due course of time, if possible. The result is that there has been no sindhi-speaking Chief Justice of Sindh High Court for quite a number of years nor is there any such prospect for a long time to come .

To add insult to injury, some beneficiaries of the unjust system are hawking the absurd and ridiculous theory that Sindhi-speaking people- the people who gave the world extraordinary people, like Shah Latif, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Shams-ul-Ulma Mirza Qaleech Baig, Allama I I Qazi, Dr. Hotchand Molchand Gurbuxani, Shams-ul-Ulma Dr. Umar Bin Daoodpoto, Molana Ubedullah Sindhi, Shaheed Peer Subghatullah Pagara, Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, Ghulam Muhammad Bhrgri, Hidar Bux Jattoi, A.K Brohi, Shaikh Ayaz, Air Marshal Waqar Azeem Daoodpoto, Justice Mohd Bux, Justices Velani, Justice Bachal Memon, Justice Durab Patel, Justice Fakhr-u-Din G Ibrahim, Lalchand Amardino Mal Jagtiani, Najumudin Shaikh, Iqbal Akhund, Makhdoom Muhammad Zaman Talibul Mola, Justice Abdul Qadir Shaikh, Justice Tufail Ali Abdul Rehman, Justice Sajjad Ali Shah, Justice Muktar Junejo, Dewan Deedal Mal, Peer Husam-Din Rashdi, Shaikh Abdul Majeed Sindhi, Muhammad Usman Deeplai Engineer Abdul Rasool Memon, Dr Nabi Bux Baloch, Ustad Bukhari, etc lack merit .

Some elevations at the Superior Courts level are over -due. But it is apprehended that the above mentioned imbalance may be perpetuated rather than redressed through new appointments over the vacant posts.

We the people here in Sindhi believe that such a problem requires to be addressed honestly, courageously, seriously and expeditiously so that the wrongs are redressed and Justice is done to all concerned, not the least to the federation and all its peoples.

Yours Sincerely
Rasool Bux Paleejo
President Awami Tahreek.



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