

RICH IN POLITICIANS, WE DESPERATELY NEED STATESMAN

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OUTLINE:

- (1) Introduction: Political arena of world has abundance of politicians who ~~that~~ work for their vested interests. Therefore, society requires statesmen who work for the national interest.
- (2) Understanding the term 'Politician' and 'Statesman'
- (3) Crises due to selfish motive of politicians.
- (4) Why world requires statesmen
 - (a) Prioritize national interest over personal benefits
 - (b) Think about masses before himself
 - (c) Protect human rights in all cases
 - (d) Stabilize economy ^{with} over long term goals over short term policies to win votes
 - (e) Promote democracy in the country

over power lust

- (6) Elevate living standards of common man instead of giving undue benefits to elites for staying in power
- (7) Promote meritocracy that brings forward visionary leader in future
- (8) Strengthen judiciary to protect masses from arbitrary power exercise of politicians.
- (i) Frames policies that give relief to populace than to those in power
- (ii) Foster political reconciliation with opposition to avoid deadlocks in policy making over political polarization
- (4) Recommendations to bring forward statesmen
- (5) Conclusion.

Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (RA) was selected as first Khalifa of Muslim. He used to announce after every namaz to select someone else as your Khalifa and abdicate him of this responsibility. However, when no one rejected his bayah then he started working for Muslims interests. When he was dying he gave all his property to Bait-ul-maal. This is the perfect example of leader and statesman who did not forget about his nation at the time of death. Today, if ~~we~~^{one} looks around the world, the one can find that world has large number of politicians who work solely for their own benefits. Masses are just tool for them to gain political power through their votes. Once they gain power, they forget all their promises of keeping interest of common man ~~at~~^{as} their priority. Therefore, society requires statesmen who works for them. They need a leader who prioritizes national interest over personal benefit. He thinks about common man before himself. He frames policies that give relief to populace than giving undue

benefits to elites- He stabilizes national economy with long term goals over short term policies- Thus, political arena of world is rich in politicians who work for vested interest and now society is in need of statesmen who work for national interest-

The main difference between politician and statesman is that politician always works for his own interest while statesman always prioritizes the interest of the common man- The motive of politician is to gain, maintain and regain power but statesman gains power and uses it for the welfare of masses- Politician has short term goals while statesman thinks about long term benefit of his country- James Freeman Clarke said, "A politician thinks of the next election. A statesman thinks of the next generation". Politician has power lust but statesman has lust to develop his country and ease the life of common man- Hence, politicians and statesman are two opposite characters with different vision and goals-

These politicians are the causes of many crises of the world because of their selfish motives. There are large number of people who are living under extreme poverty. According to World Bank Group, almost 700 million people are living in the extreme poverty. The politicians are living the luxurious lives but common people are facing abject poverty because of their mismanagement and poor handling of economy. Besides, people are dying due to diseases, hunger and terrorist attacks. Many of the children are out of school. This has put the country's future at stake. Common man does not have access to basic necessities of life. These are just few examples. Hence, selfish motives of politicians have made the life of common man wretched and miserable.

While facing all these circumstances, the society is now longing for statesman that ^{who} prioritizes national interest over personal benefits. Society is in need of leader who can bring equanimity and peace in their lives by prioritizing national interest. Society is looking

for new Nelson Mandela in this century. Nelson Mandela was jailed by apartheid regime. When released, he chose forgiveness over revenge, despite personal sufferings. He served as a president for 5 years and worked solely for South African people and led South Africa out of apartheid. Thus, society wants the person having this quality as its leader.

Society needs statesmen who thinks about masses before himself. He considers common ^{man} problems as his own ^{their} problems and always eager to find its solution. Society is looking for a leader who has qualities of Hazrat Umar (R.A) who used to patrol at nights to ensure none of his subjects was in distress or need. His compassion and justice is not just limited to humans. He was also careful about animals. Leader having these qualities can feel the pain and sufferings of common pain. Hence, society needs a leader who is not alienated from populace and can feel their problems.

In addition to that, society needs leader who protect human rights

in all cases. Provision of basic human rights is the essence of living a peaceful life. However, in today's world, violation of human rights is rampant. Lives of people are not protected. Justice is denied to common people. Society needs a leader who safeguards human rights like Hazrat Ali (R.A) who did not use force to acquire his armour. Rather, he filed a complaint to court and even gave up his case when he was unable to present any evidence in court to prove the armour as his own. This degree of passion is required to give up your right to protect the standards of human right. Therefore, society needs a leader who is a guardian of human rights.

Society needs a leader who works to stabilize economy on long term basis over short term policies to gain votes. Politicians play with economy by providing temporary solutions like putting artificial cap on Rupee to strengthen it against dollar or banning imports to bolster foreign exchange reserves. These are ephemeral solutions that can lead to economic crisis in long run. Lee Kuan Yaw, founding Prime Minister

of Singapore adopted long term policies to strengthen economy. Singapore becomes prosperous and strong economics from poor one. Society needs a visionary leader like him who thinks for both future and present. Statesman always strive to promote democracy in the country. Politicians always hate democratic transition of authority. There are many instances in the world that prove this - The history of Pakistan is marked by years of dictatorship and even general elections are alleged as rigged. On other hand, statesman favours democracy. Muhammad Ali Jinnah always envisioned Pakistan as a democratic state working with the constitution. He said, "Let us lay the foundation of our democracy based on truly Islamic ideals and principles". Democracy is called as government of the people. Therefore, society needs leaders that favours democracy.

A true leader always struggle to elevate the living standards of common man instead of giving undue benefits to elites for gaining their favour. The provision of basic necessities of life to

poor man is more important for him than to concentrate his ^{wealth} on ~~power~~ in the wealth of those in power. In the reign of Hazrat Umar (RA), the living standard of people was improved to an extent that it became difficult to find a righteous person for Zakat. On the same hand, he always ~~the~~ dealt those in power with iron hand and kept check and balance on their wealth and affluence. Therefore, society is in search of leader like Hazrat Umar (RA) who is benevolent to them instead of being biased.

Statesman is always wary of the future of his country. He always ensure meritocracy in his state that will bring forward visionary leaders in future who are true and beneficial for their land. Abraham Lincoln appointed his opponents to top government positions - such as William H. Seward (Secretary of State) and Salmon P. Chase (Treasurer of State) - because they were most suitable and capable people for those positions. This results in development of country on all fronts. This also averts emerging and present crises in the country. Hence, statesman is loyal to his

country by securing its future through ensuring meritocracy.

A loyal leader always strengthens judiciary to protect masses from arbitrary exercise of politicians. Judiciary plays a role by keeping check and balance on the legislation and on the conduct of politicians. Judiciary ensures that legislation does not go against the constitution. If judiciary is strong, the human rights will be protected. After apartheid, Nelson Mandela created Constitutional Court of South Africa - an entirely new body to ensure constitutional supremacy. He ensured the separation of power and protected judicial appointment from political manipulation. Hence, statesman always make judiciary a powerful institute to ensure justice in the country.

A statesman always frames policies whose target is to achieve give relief to populace instead of those in power. This is common around the world that many policies of government put common man at disadvantage position. In contrast to that, the provision of solace to the common man is the primary motive behind statesman's

the
policy making. During Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt launched The New Deal policy that favoured poor farmers and workers over business tycoons. He said, "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much... it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." Thus, Statesman's policies are common-man centric.

A wise leader always fosters political reconciliation with opposition to avoid deadlocks in policy making over political polarization. Instead of making ^{his} rivalry with opposition a national matter, he extends olive branch to his opponents to run the country smoothly. Winston Churchill formed coalition government with labour party, despite being from the conservative party. They worked closely and worked for the development of USA. A Statesman always sets aside personal grudges for achieving greater good. Therefore, a Statesman always cooperates with opposition for the sake of national interest.

The world has large number of politician and we need statesman- Therefore, we need to bring some changes and reforms - Society should bring an end to dynastic politics - System should create fertile ground for emerging young leaders - Literacy level of masses should be increased so that they get to know who is seasonal politician and who is statesman - Power of media and judiciary should be increased - Judiciary and media should be made independent - Democratic institutes should be strengthen - Therefore, these recommendations can play a role in bringing forward true and loyal leader -

In a nutshell, if one looks around the world, it becomes clear that we are surrounded by politician with selfish motives. There is scarcity of statesmen who works for national cause - Therefore, society needs statesmen who protect human rights, promote democracy and frame policies that ameliorate the lives of poor and common man - He should have quality to set aside his own interest and keep national interest at ^{his} top priority -

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The proposed recommendations have potential to give rise to statesmen-
Society needs to remain hopeful
and positive about the change
and on one day there would come
a change.