

Washington Visits Are Preludes to More Betrayal

Pakistan's army chief visited the United States on a five-day visit starting from the 10th of December. Such visits have become a regular event for chiefs of the powerful nuclear-armed Muslim army. Even though these chiefs have command over brave, well-trained, well-equipped troops that have a high aspiration for martyrdom, supported by a strong defense industry, these visits have become a competition from one army chief to the other. Each one tries to outdo his predecessor in betrayal and treachery. Each army chief prepares a list of deliverables for the United States policymakers and decision-makers. He presents these concessions at strategic forums. Then the success of a visit is gauged by how well a chief is received by the power corridors of US foreign policy. The greater the treachery is, the higher the treason is, the stronger is the reception.

This visit by General Asim Munir is no different from those of his predecessors. An army chief of a powerful nuclear-armed state should be expected to have an independent course of action, that would secure the interest of Muslims of the region in this world and the Hereafter. The main decision maker of a powerful nuclear-armed state demonstrated a lack of any ingenuity. He parroted the same failed narratives that the previous army chief namely General Qamar Javed Bajwa had been trying to set in the six years of his tenure. The current army chief as well was found repeating the old mantras of geo-economics and connectivity, the disdain of block politics, and regional stability and security. Truly, this was unbecoming of a person who commands one of the most powerful armies in the world.

In the statement announced by the military's media affairs wing, the army chief is found complaining of not being heard as if he was reporting back to a superior. Thus, he is reported to have underscored the importance of understanding each other's perspectives on regional security issues and developments affecting strategic stability in South Asia. His interactions were also described by such expressions that generally represent disagreement, or a lack of substance like, "the leaders reiterated the intent to increase interaction and explore ways to expand the scope of mutually beneficial engagements." Another similar statement is that the chief "highlighted the importance of resolving the Kashmir issue." Yet another statement is, "Both sides agreed to continue engagement for exploring potential avenues of bilateral collaboration in pursuit of shared interests".

This visit has "do-more" written all over it. Since the removal of General Musharraf, the Pakistan army chief visits have become something similar to private visits that are absent of any sovereign state visit requirements. All meetings are closer to courtesy calls than what would be required when the representatives of two or more states meet officially. Such visits by the Pakistani army chiefs have become attempts to bribe. They are in reality photo-op sessions to confirm the passing of the baton to the new chief. The expected results are the subduing of all factional infighting.

There is a feeling of desperation in the Pakistani power corridors when a contender is not afforded the photo-op opportunity. An example is when Prime Minister Imran Khan wanted earnestly to meet or talk with President Biden. Such is the depth of debasement of the honor and prestige of the Muslims of this region. The people and state are surrendered to the US to achieve its regional goals and safeguard its interests. Compare the reciprocal visits between India and the US with what takes place in these sham visits. In the last Indian Prime Minister's visit to the US, 53 mutual agreements and frameworks were announced for mutual collaboration and assistance covering almost all fields of life. One will find that the most powerful person in Pakistan has only a list of names to show for success.

