

## A LOOMING CRISIS OF CHANGE

Peter Adamis 14 November 2015



### MIDDLE EAST.

The Middle East, the Pacific Region, Terrorism, Refugees & Trade Agreements have all the hallmarks of a looming crisis that will transform the world as we know it today. Are we heading towards a crisis that will involve every nation and the lives of billions? If history is to be our guide, unfortunately the answer can only be in the positive. But life with its twists and turns can always be as elusive about the future

The Middle East has been a hotbed of emotions and religious intolerance ever since the demise of the Ottoman Empire. Under the Ottoman Empire, massacre of innocents by rulers throughout their rule did occur at the same time religious tolerance was being observed as long as it did not conflict with that of Islam. Today one is of the opinion that nothing will change until the nations responsible for the misery realise that what they have started will not accomplish what they hoped for. It is and never was about Islam or about creating a Caliphate, it is more about the few trying to create a State that will control minerals, oil reserves and other hard to obtain resources that will rival and change the course of economic stability within the world as we know it.

In the meantime millions are suffering needlessly in order for those responsible to achieve their long term objectives. Life its self means nothing to them as long as they achieve their objectives all under the auspices of Islam being used emotionally to appeal to the young and the radical. The call to Islam is but a sham by those using Islam to attract followers who soon find out that their view of fighting against the "infidel" is not what it seems and many who try to escape ISIS/Daesh/ISIL end up being executed as an example to others and to instil fear into new recruits. If ISIS/Daesh/ISIL truly believed that Islam was under threat, the world's Islamic people would be up in arms, but the world well recognises that ISIS/Daesh/ISIL is nothing but a "death cult" to use Tony Abbot's words.

Therefore, let us put matters into perspective and consider whether ISIS/Daesh/ISIL can learn anything from the past and wonder whether what they are trying to achieve in the Middle East is any different to the past or worth the misery they have caused. The lessons of history are based on the following slaughter of millions by the following: Genghis Khan and the millions he and his followers exterminated, The Spaniards and the Conquistadores exterminating millions in the new world, King Leopold of Belgium exterminated 15 million in the Congo, Australians and their extermination of Aborigines, Hitler exterminating millions in WW2, Stalin exterminating millions in pre and post WW2 in Russia, The Japanese and their vicious atrocities in China and other Asian countries, Mao Tse Tung and the extermination of millions of his Chinese opponents, Mau Mau in the Congo, The Indonesians in the 1960s and the extermination of the Chinese, Pol Pot in Cambodia, Angola, Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia. The list is just endless.

The situation in Middle East will pass and soon it will be forgotten as a bad reminder of a group of radicals trying to create another nation within a power vacuum created by none other than those whose forbearers believed in the freedom of man and the end of colonialism. The So called Caliphate will wither away and die and eventually will be consumed by discontent, disunity, desertions and disorganisation. All of which are characteristics of an organisations coming apart at the seams. Putin of Russia has played his cards extremely well and by his involvement has exposed the West inadequacies and as such has spurred further aggression against ISIS/Daesh/ISIL or whatever they call themselves.

## **EUROPE**

**A modern invasion of the West.** Putting all of the above aside, we who live in Australia were transfixed to the screens and our mobile devices reading, watching and monsterring the influx of Middle East refugees flooding into Europe. I remember holidaying on the beaches of Chios in Greece, an island off the coast of Turkey and watching refugees arrive by rubber floats and dilapidated boats with scores of families eager to make a new life in the west. Greece in its wisdom could no longer keep within its border the numerous refugees, thus creating an avalanche of human refugees crossing borders.

Many of the refugees could be followed by the refuse left behind in their makeshift camps and the long snake of people trekking in unfamiliar and alien territory, crossing nation's borders and enduring many hardships until they had reached Austria, Germany and other welcoming nations. Other nations were not as welcoming and harsh measures were soon meted out to these refugees, who did not deserve mistreatment and violent methods being used against them.

Students of history would be reminded of the many waves on barbarians who invaded the Roman Empire seeking a haven from those who pushed them out of their ancestral lands and coming into conflict with the Roman Legions. Rome was to rue the day when it savagely slaughtered a peace loving barbarian people living on its borders who were in fact a barrier against further incursions by other barbarian tribes.

Will Europe do the right thing and accept the new refugees, stem the human tide arriving on their doorstep or will they come to their senses and bring about a lasting peace in the Middle East and allow the refugees to return back home. There are many lessons to be learnt from the past and using modern concepts and methodologies the problem of refugees can be solved. The West, the coalition and that of Russia and its allies must come to the same conclusion that the earlier the demise of ISIS/Daesh/ISIL and its pseudo caliphate the better.

## **AUSTRALIA**

**Economic security.** How does Australia it handle its looming local domestic issues with refugees, its commitment to the West in its battle against terrorism in any form, the recent trade agreement which is fraught with danger and could create major issues down the track for Australian companies being sued under the trade agreement.

One hopes that the ministers have done their homework and have looked after the interests of Australia, its economic stability and its security to ensure its longevity long after we have gone. I write this as an observer, seeing the new trade agreement between the USA and Japan who are jointly rewriting the rules to suit them at the expense of their regional partners.

**Detention Centres and Refugees.** When discussing border protection, one is reminded of the similarities between the Netherlands and Australia. While the Netherlands strengthen their sea walls by monitoring and maintenance, keep out the ocean from flooding its lowlands and that of Australia strengthening its borders. Australia using legislation, offshore detention centres its small but highly effective maritime resources, drones and local support. Whether these which in this case refugees coming to Australia thinking that risking their lives for a brighter future is well worth the risk of a sea voyage and flooding Australia and its cities.

I am reminded of Andrew Peacock who in the early nineteen nineties at a Defence and Foreign Affairs Policy Group meeting advised us of his concerns for Australia's future leaders where they would have to grapple with potential waves of refugees arriving on our doorstep. History has proven him right. Refugees arriving on our doorsteps are but the tip of the iceberg and we the public are unaware of what is being conducted on our behalf. Ministers responsible for our borders are aware that they are battling against the tide. A tide that one hopes will not overwhelm our will and rights to allow who is allowed into this nation of ours.

**Concentration Camps or Detention Centres.** Refugee and detention Centres have become to be seen as concentration camps and Australia may well rue the day that these centres have been created. One must remember that the first concentration camps were a creation of the British army during their war against the Boers in South Africa and the nation once called Rhodesia after its founder. The concentration camps kept the families and relatives of the Boers under appalling conditions. What is hilarious on the other hand is the attitude of the Boers towards their families being placed in such concentration camps is that they knew that they were safe and therefore the Boers took the fight up to the British and its colonial forces of which Australia and New Zealand were a party to.

One hopes that we in Australia do not reflect on our performance and wonder whether we could have taken another approach. Strengthening our borders, seashores and vital assets are a must and take priority if we are to safeguard our resources for future generations. Drones, use of local resources, real live satellite imagery, and patrolling of our shores by rangers and law enforcement agencies can be one deterrent, backed up by a small ready reserve force of men and women trained for the tracking apprehending of any refugee attempting to come uninvited into Australia. Better these measures than seeing the development of further detention centres.

However despite worldwide condemnation of our refugee policies, I for one believe that taking measures to strengthen our borders and the stem the boats policy and using the detention centres as a last resort is a good one. I cannot see why such boats cannot be checked for their seaworthiness, be provided with food and other provisions such as medical aid, fuel, clothing and the boats returned to their port of origin even if its near Indonesian waters and other regional nations. Alternatively, Australian law enforcement agencies target the sources of human misery such as the smugglers and destroy their organisations

altogether. Those that do manage to bypass our border protection provisions can be dealt with in accordance with the rule of law and/or sent to areas that require manpower such as the Kimberley's, agricultural farms, mining, forestry and other manpower depleted industries.

## PACIFIC

**The Pacific.** Under the radar is another potential conflict that is slowly raising its ugly head and that is the problem with China asserting itself amongst the artificial islands in the Pacific region? This has the potential to develop into a full grown war which will long lasting consequences and do much harm to the good will on all sides. China on one hand is asserting its rights in the disputed area; a region which appears is a neglected but often used waters by a number of Chinas neighbours.

The USA which has taken on the role of the world's policeman is demonstrating that China cannot have it all its own way and the other region leaders are looking towards the USA for leadership. The USA is aware that it is being tested and cannot afford to leave its allies in the lurch for the alternative of doing nothing will send a strong message to the rest of the world that China is the new policeman and as such regional leaders must comply with the will of the Chinese government.

I am of the view that the Chinese in their wisdom will realise that it is not in their interest to be the perpetrators or to be seen as fuelling the dispute into a full blown battle in a war where millions would be affected. I am therefore of the belief that the Chinese will realise that if they are to be taken seriously as world leaders, they will come to the conclusion that with leadership comes responsibilities and as such can bring about peace and prosperity by resorting to the world of law. Only then will China be seriously considered as an equal and therefore take its rightful place in world affairs.

**The USA and Japanese Alliance.** Consider that Japan changed its constitution to enable its defence force to partake in world conflicts should not come as surprise monitoring the Asian Pacific region. The USA I must say have wisely invested in Japan and its superiority in the fields of technology such as artificial intelligence, Robotics, Nanotechnology, and now closing the gap in military hardware. Whether this alliance is as bulwark against the new player, China or whether the alliance is based on mutual cooperation and benefit remains to be seen. Whatever the case maybe, one is not alone in thinking that the alliance is for the benefit of the few against the many. We live in interesting times.

As always I apologise to the purists for the grammar and punctuation



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