

Scenario 105

PPP's DEMOCRACY HURRAY!

PPP's GIMMICKS ON BB's MURDER:

In **ARY's TV** program titled '**Idraak' dated 3rd March 2012**, a documentary on Benazir Bhutto's assassination [27th December 2007] was shown. It was basically a replica of Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik's 'revelations' made in the Sindh Assembly on 21st February 2012 in which he had tried to wash a dirty linen of his announcements during the previous four years since the PPP came into power in 2008.

In tall media statements to befool the innocent members of the PPP and the strayed people of Pakistan at large, Rehman Malik had repeatedly trumpeted that:

'We know the people behind the BB's assassination; we have reached the criminals involved; we'll bring Musharraf back as he was involved in BB's murder and lastly that we have arrested four people and the interrogation is on'.

The same like shouts were given by the President Zardari himself and, more prominently during the 2011's anniversary of Benazir Bhutto at Garhi Khuda Bux giving an obnoxious call to the Chief Justice '*Chief Sahib! Where are BB's murderers?*' [By their own record they all knew that the four murderers were in jail since 2009 and five had been killed.]

The drop scene of the drama was presented in the Sindh Assembly on 21st February 2012 by reading a report through a police officer named Khalid Qureshi. As a matter of fact, the investigation into BB's murder on 27th December 2007 should have been started from a fatal episode of three months earlier which had occurred in Karachi. To refresh the memories, the event is briefly given here.

On 18th October 2007, Benazir Bhutto's cavalcade was creeping through towards the Jinnah's mausoleum over an especially fortified, bullet - proof truck, waving lustily at her followers and occasionally wiping

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her tearful eyes. At 11.50 PM, when the cavalcade reached the Karsaz Bridge, Benazir stepped down to use the makeshift washroom built in the lower deck of the truck. Just 20 minutes later someone tossed a grenade on the right side of Benazir's truck to break the three rings of security cordon through explosion. In the ensuing confusion, a suicide bomber sneaked under Benazir's truck from the left and detonated himself.

Simultaneously, a sniper showered bullets on the truck's screen to ensure nobody could escape to safety. The cavalcade soon turned into a crying grave yard; human flesh and limbs flew around leaving 143 people dead at the spot. Later the toll went up to 154.

Benazir Bhutto was not atop the truck at that fatal moment; the explosion was powerful enough to rip off a door of her truck. The assassination plan later revealed the prior knowledge of Benazir's security arrangements in detail; the suicide bomber had successfully evaded the jamming devices fitted into two vehicles immediately in front and behind Benazir's truck. 21-year old suicide bomber had 15-20 kg of an explosive mix of C4 and TNT on his body; for Benazir Bhutto, two police jeeps accompanying her got the whole burden and torn into pieces.

Al Qaeda, along with local militant groups affiliated to it, was suspected but did these groups have assistance or tacit approval of *jehadi*-minded elements in the administration? Benazir herself told media next day that:

'... I had made it clear (to Gen Musharraf) that I won't blame Taliban or Al Qaeda if I am attacked, but I will name the three / four officials as I know quite well my enemies in the Pakistani military and intelligence establishment'.

The PPP insiders disclosed their identity to *Outlook* naming Brig (rtd) Ejaz Shah, DG IB; Ch Pervaiz Elahi, the CM Punjab; former DG ISI, Lt Gen Hameed Gul and Hassan Waseem Afzal, a former official of the NAB.

Categorically named in Benazir's letter, Hassan Waseem Afzal was then Secretary to the Governor of Punjab; appointed to this post after he was removed as NAB's Deputy Chairman on Benazir's insistence during her Abu Dhabi meeting with Gen Musharraf in July 2007.

Hassan W Afzal had incurred Benazir's wrath because he had made it his personal mission to pursue corruption cases against her in UK, Spain and Switzerland. On his instance and personal interest there were only two persons against whom the Interpol had issued 'Red Notices'; Benazir Bhutto & Inam R Sehri of FIA who had once arrested Hassan's real & only

brother in law [named Javed Zia] in September 1995 in a an embezzlement case.

The FIR filed by Benazir Bhutto in Karachi carried as suspects *'those four names which were given to Gen Musharraf'*, neither of Taliban nor of any other *Jehadi*-group.

Neither Mr Malik, being the Federal Interior Minister, nor Khalid Qureshi, the mighty senior police officer of the FIA ever bothered that from where the links of the investigation ought to be picked.

Coming back; the astonishing facts were that the said ***'Final Investigation Report'*** was actually finalised by the Punjab Police and one Additional IG Ch Abdul Majeed was the Team In-charge. Because it was not the JIT report and no officer of FIA or of Rehman Malik's recommended officer was included in that Punjab Police's team so that report was once declared as 'bull**** & useless' by the FIA and Rehman Malik both.

On 16th July 2009, UN Commission's three member team was there in Pakistan on PPP government's call. A copy of Punjab Police's aforementioned investigation report was also handed over to them secretly during interaction between the Commission and Rawalpindi Police. FIA and Rehman Malik only got clue of this fact in April 2010 or if known they did not bother for it. This report had already been discussed on DM Digital TV Manchester UK in four live programs held in April 2010.

The highlights of that investigation had already been mentioned in a book published in UK [***Judges & Generals in Pakistan Vol-II***] wherein it had been discussed that why the PPP's Rehman Malik and the FIA had shown total dissatisfaction over Punjab Police's Report.

However, in a 180 angle move Mr Malik presented the same Punjab Police's report in Sindh Assembly through Khalid Qureshi against all the ethics of professionalism omitting the name of Ch Abdul Majeed, Adl IG of Punjab Police altogether. One can see the details in that book.

Later, Rehman Malik had not only accepted that report but also owned it after it went published in above mentioned book though its *challan* was submitted in the court in April 2010.

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HIDDEN HISTORICAL FACTS:

Let us move further; referring to **pages 245-246 of Qayyum Nizami's book** [*Jo Dekha; Jo Suna*]: a veteran columnist, late Irshad Haqqani was once called by Malik Meraj Khalid, Prime Minister in the interim government of 1996 and told [on the breakfast table] that the then CJP Sajjad Ali Shah had met him [the interim PM] and told:

'Most of the judges on the SC bench hearing Benazir Bhutto's petition were holding opinion of re-instating her government back in line with Justice Nasim Hassan Shah's judgment in Nawaz Sharif's case in 1993.'

President Farooq Leghari had got air of that development. Mr Leghari had also known about one Kh Tariq Rahim who had tried to convince the judges that the army wanted BB's re-instatement. Due to Leghari's timely handling, the 'agencies' had conveniently managed to convey to the judges of the bench that **'the army is not interested in the come back of Ms Bhutto.'** Democracy upheld again.

One can imagine the bravery of our superior judiciary that even in the 'top democratic era' of 1990s, the judges were always found ready to play at the tunes of their army counterparts and the intelligentsia should have raised the victory signs over our superior judiciary's bravery.

Sorry to interrupt in between. One can recall a beautiful sketch of army vs politicians' relationship in Pakistan just in few words; only **Ayaz Amir** keeps acumen to say so:

'The common factor between both parties [PML(N) & PPP] is gangsterism and corruption. Shahbaz Sharif resembled nothing so much as a Mafioso don. What does Asif Zardari look like? In any Godfather sequel he can easily get a part. As for moneymaking it is hard to figure out who beat whom: the PPP leadership or the Muslim Leagues?

My own guess is the Sharifs were professionals: subtle about their money. Zardari left a trail, which goes all the way to Rockwood, French submarines, Amer Lodhi, and my favourite grand admiral, Mansur-ul-Haq.

As for evidence, was their evidence against Al Capone? Is there evidence against a single patwari or thanedar across the country? Thieves do not leave receipts or footprints except when they get careless. Zardari was careless or he would not have been caught out over Rockwood.

But if in all other respects the two representatives of the people are equal, in one important characteristic they differ. The Sharifs became a threat to the army, attempting to play politics with it.

Except for the brief Sirohey episode during Benazir's first stint as prime minister, the PPP never tried to mess around with the army. In fact after each of her two dismissals Benazir took care to blame elements within the intelligence agencies and not the army as a whole for her troubles. Even now she is desperately waving an olive branch in General Musharraf's direction.

The army's political analysis therefore has all been wrong. Since Zia's time the prejudice which has never quite left the minds of senior Generals is that somehow the PPP is a security risk [forget Gen Hamid Gul's plans]. The facts speak otherwise.

Gen Beg and Ghulam Ishaq Khan, trying to scatter obstacles across the PPP's path in 1988 by building up Sharifs. Then one after the other receiving a kick from him. Leghari and Gen Karamat ousting Benazir in 1996 and thus ensuring the birth of the Heavy Mandate and the writing of their own obituaries.

Why is Pakistan's political landscape littered with such fools?'

In nut shell our Pakistan's civil dictators would continue to make mockery of the country 'to uphold democracy' but no army dictator; they are anti-democracy.

The fact remains that Gen Ziaul Haq and Gen Abdul Rehman's sons were also seen in the parliament and in cabinets successively but only after the death of both the Generals, not in their lives. Other Generals, Corps Commanders, or the ISI Chiefs seldom opted to strengthen the 'democracy in Pakistan' through this way. This prerogative always remained with the politicians whether belonged to the PPP, PML(N) or PML(Q) or similar heavy mandated parties.

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REHMAN MALIK'S DUAL NATIONALITY:

On 4th June 2012, a 3-member bench at the Supreme Court of Pakistan headed by Chief Justice Iftikhar M Chaudhry suspended Rehman Malik's

membership of the Senate for holding the British citizenship which he had concealed while contesting the Senate election in 2008. Mr Malik was proceeded against on the basis of Article 63 (1c) of the Constitution. The interim order, however, did not state whether Malik could continue as the Interior Minister but he was unable to function as minister after the suspension of his membership of Parliament. In the past, he had been functioning as a Special Advisor on Interior to the Prime Minister before being elected to the Senate.

The Supreme Court had also issued notices to 14 other parliamentarians, including the then Finance Minister Abdul Hafeez Shaikh and an MNA of PML(N) Khwaja Asif. Earlier, the SC had suspended the membership of Parliamentarian Farahnaz Ispahani, the then media advisor to President Asif Ali Zardari, for holding US citizenship.

Rehman Malik was desperate to take with him to Pakistan the Renunciation of Nationality (RN) declaration certificate during his visit to the Home Office **on 29th May 2012**. The British government fast-tracked Mr Malik's application for renunciation; he spent three hours in a huddle with the Home Office bureaucrats to finalise the covert mission. Malik failed to achieve it as he had already been summoned by President Asif Ali Zardari to Pakistan the same evening though he had already held meetings with Home Secretary Theresa May and Immigration Minister Damian Green a day ago for his RN.

The declaration of renunciation bearing a stamp of registration was sent to Rehman Malik on 30th May, stating that his **".....status has been renounced with effect from 30-05-2012"**.

Why it took the Home Office four years to issue a declaration which normally takes under two weeks. The fee for registration of a declaration of renunciation in April 2008 was £385, according to the Immigration and Nationality Regulations 2007 which was £229 since 6th April 2012. The bank receipts had shown that Mr Malik had deposited £229 as '*application process*' fee and not £385 – meaning thereby that he might have been moved the Home Office in 2008 but his application was duly processed after deposit of the required fee.

Rehman Malik claimed that he filled the form RN on 25th of April 2008 to apply for the renunciation. But, as per comments of Sibghat Kadri, Britain's first Muslim Queen's Counsel who has practised law for over four decades:

"It is obvious from the letter of the British High Commission produced in the Supreme Court that Mr Malik remained a British citizen until 1st June 2012 when his declaration of renunciation became effective.

Mr Malik lied on oath to the Supreme Court in his affidavit in which he first stated that he had renounced his British citizenship in March 2008, later amending it to 25th April 2008. In my opinion it is no longer a question as to when he renounced his British nationality but a serious matter of perjury."

However, the matter died down as per usual practices in Pakistan but, in my opinion, Mr Malik could be advised by his legal advisors in a better way. He should have stated the facts in the apex court that he had applied the British Home Office in March or April 2008, whatever be the case, but he had got it '**formally renounced**' on 30th May 2012.

What was the option left with the SC bench; taking a drastic or the worst step the bench could have notified it that he was not the proper Senator since 2008. What consequences;

- *Repatriate back the Senator's pay & allowances since 2008 – Mr Malik was quite capable of returning that meagre amount; his business estate runs into millions of Sterling Pounds.*
- *The Senator's seat declared vacant – the Election Commission would have declared his vacancy and re-election. There were no worries for him. President Zardari was in his pocket; new nomination papers could have been filed; he would have been elected as new unopposed Senator from the Sindh Assembly again.*
- *He had to resign from the Interior Minister's slot; no worries were there – Zardari would have asked him to continue his assignment as an Advisor – he had already been do so earlier.*
- *What about decisions taken by him during his void period of 2008-12; not affected – practically not possible to be reverted. Otherwise, these was a strong precedent of the Supreme Court in case of CJP Dogar, when he was removed in March 2009, his judgments and decisions remained in tact as taken in routine.*

Now imagine; had Mr Malik gone through this exercise, which was not tough but only time consuming – he would be raised his height above mountains in Pakistan's political history; instead of being called liar & cheat in his political career and also in court documents.

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He was a former bureaucrat; but wasted a golden chance of getting political legitimacy by going truthful.

STATE LEVEL CHEAT IN SWISS CASES:

A little background about of **Corruption Cases against Zardari** in the Swiss Courts:

On 22nd May 2008, the then Attorney General [AG] Qayyum Malik sent letter to the Swiss Authorities apprising them that Government of Pakistan had no intentions to pursue the said investigations and trial in \$60million money laundering cases connected with SGS and Cotecna involving Benazir Bhutto & Zardari AND that the cases may be treated as closed. AG Qayyum Malik was also sent to Switzerland to urge the concerned Swiss officials to make sure that the investigations had been expeditiously ended.

Thereafter, the Swiss authorities closed the cases **on 25th August 2008**. No further communication, in this regard, was made with the Swiss Authorities till after the 16th December 2009 judgment of the apex Court which, struck down the NRO, and ordered the government to reassert its status as a civil party in the case pending in Switzerland.

Earlier; in November 2009, when the PPP government had known that they had been betrayed and beaten in the National Assembly due to their internal intrigues and the NRO was not going to get accent by majority of the members on floor, they successfully managed to snatch and lift away the whole record of SGS and Cotecna cases from the Swiss offices through Wajid Shamsul Hassan and Rehman Malik; recall the GEO TV's footage of those days in which Mr Hassan was shown running away on a footpath of Geneva with hefty boxes of record.

Later; **on 6th March 2010**, Wajid Shamsul Hasan, the then Pakistan High Commissioner in London, rebutted the media report, called it baseless, malicious and unfounded. He said that **"...they [the 12 boxes] are kept in safe custody in the same condition as they were left by NAB Prosecutor General Dr Danishwar Malik."** The insiders believed there was no 'valuables' documents left in the boxes.

This clarification though did not state the location of the boxes, but Mr Hasan told that the shifting of the boxes from Geneva to London was not

a clandestine affair but was transparent and done in broad daylight. A press release issued by the Pakistan High Commission in London contained that the NAB had been asked to send Dr Danishwar Malik to London to take the boxes to Pakistan after checking the seals put on them in his presence and there was no tampering.

'The Statesman' of **6th March 2010** had, *inter-alia*, remarked that it was still available on record that while convicting the late Pakistani premier Benazir Bhutto and her husband Asif Zardari in **August 2003**, consequently leading to the confiscation of the duo's assets, the Swiss Examining Magistrate David Devaud had studied his verdict with the guidelines provided by the UN Convention on Corruption then under discussion in the UN Chambers.

Under that UN convention, the Swiss judge had also ordered that the assets confiscated from Benazir Bhutto and Zardari be returned to Pakistan. The said UN Resolution was adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution on 31st October 2003; had finally come into force on 14th December 2005 after 30 ratifications.

[Switzerland's notoriety as a safe haven for illicit funds, leading to an estimated one-third of the world's illegal wealth being deposited in its 400 odd banks was first challenged in 1999-2000, after legal action was taken by the World Jewish Council on behalf of the Holocaust victims.

Judge Edward Korman of the United States District Court in New York had then approved a \$1.25 billion settlement between several Swiss banks and the plaintiffs. It was actually this particular development that had dented Switzerland's banking secrecy initially.

Armed with the legal powers to force disclosure and freeze assets, Switzerland quickly developed a legal climate, which in many ways now leads the global fight against corruption, but this transformation did not take place without complications or criticism.]

Coming back; PPP's gimmicks to write a letter to Swiss authorities for reopening of the cases had violated the whole judgement of the Supreme Court passed on **16th December 2009** and a number of other subsequent judgements passed in the NRO implementation case, which had ordered the executive authorities to seek the revival of the Swiss cases.

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The Supreme Court went upset. Meanwhile a 2-member enquiry team, comprising of Secretary Establishment and DG Intelligence Bureau constituted to look into this latest state sponsored forgery. The nation had to wait what was at the tip of that iceberg – nothing but disappointment.

Attorney General Munir Malik informed the SC that the government would appeal the Swiss government decision; the matter got adjourned. Whatever immunity President Zardari enjoyed by virtue of his position lapsed when he left the presidency in just over two months.

It may not be out of place to mention that when the PPP government had taken reigns of the government in 2008, Justice (rtd) Qayyum Malik, who was the Attorney General of Pakistan (AG) in Gen Musharraf's times, was kept in tact with the same posting though PPP high ups were die-hard enemy of his person.

[One can recall the judgments passed by J Qayyum Malik against Benazir Bhutto and Zardari in 1997 and the famous episode of J Qayyum's quit from judiciary in 2001 over Saifur Rehman's audio tapes row.]

A revelation that a letter was written **on 22nd November 2012** to the Swiss authorities, through Dr Nicholas Jaanding, their lawyer in Geneva, in secret and running counter to an earlier letter to them at the behest of the Supreme Court, really jolted the whole nation. Three leading figures of the last PPP government – the Federal Law Minister Farooq Naek, PM Raja Pervaiz Ashraf and the Federal Law Secretary Yasmin Abbasey – conspired together to deceive the judiciary and by extension the whole nation.

*[While bowing their heads at last before the Supreme Court Bench hearing '**implementation of NRO judgment**' in early days of November 2012, Farooq Naek had secretly visited Switzerland to settle the whole game. After putting their cards in order there in Switzerland, the PPP's law minister and the Attorney General (AG) had submitted to the bench that the long awaited letter would be sent to the Swiss authorities for re-opening of Zardari's cases. The said letter, approved by the SC was then despatched **on 5th November 2012.**]*

The three high heads urged the Swiss government to refrain from [possible] re-opening money-laundering cases against President Zardari, and wrote another letter after seventeen days asking that the effects of a previous letter be annulled. The second letter contained that the government

of Pakistan had closed all such cases against the President, and that the cases would remain closed and never be re-opened.

The Swiss authorities acted on the contents of the secretly sent second letter [because it suited them and their economy] and withdrew all previous letters written by the government of Pakistan regarding the money-laundering cases.

On 26th June 2013, Attorney General [AG] Munir A Malik informed the Supreme Court during proceedings of the NRO implementation case that a second letter signed by the then Federal Law Secretary Yasmin Abbasey was sent to Swiss authorities under explicit directions of the previous government without the apex court's knowledge. AG Mr Malik told the bench that:

"I received information about refusal of the Swiss authorities on the night of June 20, 2013, and was required to file an appeal by June 24. We have filed an appeal with the request to condone the few days' delay."

The 3-judge bench of the Supreme Court and many others in the courtroom were astonished when the AG Mr Malik placed a copy of that letter before the court. The letter written by the then Federal Law Secretary Justice (r) Yasmin Abbasey, contained that:

'The requests for mutual legal assistance made earlier in 1997 were illegal, having no legal effect, are hereby withdrawn by the government of Pakistan and may be treated as never written.

Further, that the orders regarding closure of the cases by former AG Abdul Qayyum on 25th May 2008, were final and could not be reopened under the Swiss laws.

AND that the steps taken on the orders of the SC were essentially political and in the eyes of the Republic of Pakistan, the criminal proceedings had been closed and could not be reopened.'

[Editorial page in **'the News'** dated **28th June 2013** is referred]

Accordingly the Swiss lawyer conveyed the decision of Pakistani authorities to the Swiss government. ***The Swiss authorities had conveyed their approval to the government of Pakistan on 4th February 2013, but it was brought on the record on 14th June 2013,*** and that too after the incumbent government asked its ambassador in Geneva

to start proceedings. The incumbent government could appeal against the decision of the Swiss authorities within 10 days.

The letter said that the government was not interested in reopening cases against President Asif Ali Zardari and sought a reply stating the closure of cases from Swiss authorities which were subsequently closed by Swiss authorities on 4th February. ***The court was told that the ministry of law had also destroyed all the proof related to the second letter till the PML(N) government had to procure its copy through Pakistan's Ambassador at Geneva on 14th June 2013.***

The then Federal law Secretary, Yasmin Abbasey, didn't display the insight that, in the current age of open media and judicial oversight, a letter, officially written by one government to another, could be kept in the dark forever. No way – she had no acumen to defend her act displayed on eight live TV channels of Pakistan and more ridiculous when appeared in abroad. Referring to Sa'ad Rasool's essay appeared in ***'Pakistan Today'*** of **30th June 2013;**

As a side-note, the defense of the Law Secretary (in this case) by the PPP stalwarts, is no different from the defense launched by the PML(N) supporters in the aftermath of the Mehran Bank scandal, or even the supporters of the Supreme Court in the aftermath of the Arsalan Iftikhar case.

When will our partisan loyalties be trumped by the voices of our conscience? When will truth, reason and law, be celebrated over the ideals of being more loyal than the king?

For thinking minds, this fraud by the PPP government is the reflection of a much larger malady of acute corruption in our politics.'

At that time, the Chief Justice Iftikhar M Chaudhry could only pass remarks that the then AG [Irfan Qadir] and Law Ministry kept the court in the dark.

Transparency, honesty and accountability do not matter in Pakistani politics – in fact it never have been since decades.

PPP's HIGH BLOWN DEMOCRACY:

For the first time in the history of Pakistan, a democratic Government completed its tenure so the rhetoric that no democratic Government was given a chance to die its own death. What excuse next Government would bring now? PPP left no room for true democrats to convince the people that democracy is the best system - unluckily they never witnessed a true democracy and for them PPP's oligarchic mindset was the democracy.

Referring to ***Mughal Ejaz's essay*** on media dated **22nd February 2013**:

'When democratic governments fail to deliver; when they snatch even the basic right of 'Roti, Kapra aur Makan', it becomes hard to defend democracy for those who preach it a better system of governance. Why the PPP was so sincere to defend democratic set up? For the betterment of country or its voters? Never... they defended democracy because they found it a very convenient system to loot, plunder and make merry with unlimited powers.'

Tauqir Sadiq, brother in law of PPP's General Secretary Jahangir Badr, was one example to embezzle Rs:83 billion [only]; there were other hundreds who minted money. They were the party beneficiaries who were chanting slogans in favour of President Zardari after Swiss courts refused to open cases against him. In short, the democracy under PPP government was identified for its unique features of corruption, unemployment, killings, murders, nepotism, poor growth rate, debts and inflation.

The announcement, in the last week of February 2013, of five new non-executive directors for the State Bank of Pakistan's Board of Governors raised eyebrows - out of seven vacant seats, five were filled. The nominees themselves – Mehmood Mandviwalla, Shahid Ahmed Khan, Nawaz Tiwana, Iskander Khan and Iqbal Hasan – were all known names, but for the wrong reasons and blurred past history.

Mehmood Mandviwalla was brother of the then Federal Finance Minister Saleem Mandviwalla; Shahid Ahmed Khan was an 'imported' technocrat; Iskander Khan was Pakistan Sugar Mills Association's Chairman when the Supreme Court had stopped sugar prices from skyrocketing; Tiwana, a former PIA office bearer and a jail-mate of President Zardari – who was being obliged then just one month ahead of general elections.

Running the financial coffers of the State, taking decisions on interest-rates and managing the structure that could sustain the economy of the country was a serious task – which had been undertaken without a full

quorum in the SBP BoG for a number of years. There was a need to appoint individuals with the experience of having managed financial and business institutions – and having managed them well. It appeared the PPP government was refusing to learn from Tauqir Sadiq's unmerited appointment as Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA)'s Chairman.

It was a moral and constitutional obligation of PPP's elected executive to make appointments on merit, as per their oath to uphold the constitution. All appointees of that government, selected to head PIA, PSO, OGDC, Hajj Directorate, Railways, CAA, Auditor General, PEPRRA, PEMRA, CDA, FBR, NHA, NAB etc had only accumulated losses to those organisations and brought nothing but misery for people and exchequer.

The PPP government selected a high school crony to head PIA, under whose tenure PIA routes were sold for a song. He was replaced by another crony who cancelled contracts with all manufacturers and instead awarded sole rights to an unknown firm located in Dubai, which resulted in grounding half the fleet. While PIA losses mounted and over three thousand more were added to the already overstaffed airline, a CFO related to co-chairperson was appointed in CAA, who embarked on loot sale of traffic rights to all airlines, in violation of all rules for such bilateral agreements.

What was the benefit to public of Rs:2.4 billion taken out of Benazir Income Support Program [BISP] and spending on media projection?

It was during the tenure of that PPP government that our state owned rail and air public transport system collapsed; our industry ground to a halt because of crippling electricity shortages; lawlessness breaking previous records under the garb of reconciliation; whereby target killings and extortion were endured.

The major issues remained as of poor governance; lack of transparency and corruption were pasted to PPP's government like glue to paper and yet they felt that all those abuses were the perks of power they earned through 2008 mandate – while holding of flags of democracy high.

PPP MINISTER'S WHITE LIE :

On 16th March 2013, Minister for Interior Rehman Malik said that Chief of Army Staff General Ashfaq Pervaiz Kayani should be awarded with the

title of field marshal for **his services to democracy** in the country. Rehman Malik, while talking to media men at the Pakistan Sports Complex, said:

"If today the government is completing its tenure, the credit for that also goes to General Kayani as he always supported the democratically elected government.

The law and order situation have improved in the country as the security plan devised by him remained successful during the past five years in foiling the threats posed by terrorist elements.

When I became interior minister, the main challenge was that of terrorism. However, we have succeeded in breaking the backbone of terrorists.

In the war on terror, Pakistan not only lost over 40,000 precious human lives but also suffered economically."

One could compare the tall claims made by the then Federal Interior Minister with that of the actual figures available with media. The following is the chart of statistics taken from **www.SATO.org / Pakistan** for the whole decade. A little comparison would reflect that how much successful the PPP government had gone to tackle the terrorism menace and how much victorious Mr Malik's policies were:

Fatalities in Terrorist Violence in Pakistan 2003-2013

	Civilians	Security Force Personnel	Terrorists/ unidentified	Total
2003	140	24	25	189
2004	435	184	244	863
2005	430	81	137	648
2006	608	325	538	1471
2007	1522	597	1479	3598
2008	2155	654	3906	6715
2009	2324	991	8389	11704
2010	1796	469	5170	7435
2011	2738	765	2800	6303

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2012	3007	732	2472	6211
2013	3001	676	1702	5379

The fact remained that the war on terror was not only Pakistan's war but the reality was that Pakistan was fighting this war for the entire world. Mr Malik, the PPP's Interior Minister, in response to the media questions, had categorically told that ***'the recent incidents of bombing in Quetta and Karachi were a part of the conspiracy to destabilise Pakistan – Lashkar e Jhangvi was behind a series of terrorists activities like that'***.