

Natural Disasters or Divine Warnings

By Gulnar Ahmed

More than four times the numbers of natural disasters are occurring now than two decades ago, British Oxfam said in a study.

According to 2006 united nation report the number of natural disasters around the world has rose by 18% last year, killing nearly 92,000 people, affecting the lives of 157 million people, and causing hundreds of billions of dollars in economic damage.

In May 2008 the ninetieth deadliest earthquake of all time occurred in Sichuan province of China which killed at least 69,000 people, three months before china hosted the world summer Olympic.

And in the same year in October 2008, earthquake in the province of Boluchistan, Pakistan killing hundreds and displacing 120,000 people from their homes.

In 2008 Cyclone Nargis the worse natural disaster in the recorded history of Burma caused catastrophic destruction killing 146,000 with thousands of people missing

The year 2005 was the most destructive year in decades saw the aftermath of the 26th of December 2004 earthquake and Tsunami waves in Asia killing 225,000 people in eleven countries. It was one of the deadliest natural disasters in the history of Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thai land. It is the second largest earthquake ever recorded on a seismograph. This earth quake had the longest duration of faulting ever observed, between 8.3 and 10 minutes. It caused the entire planet to vibrate as much as 1 cm and triggered other earthquakes as far away as Alaska.

In 2005, the hurricanes in central and North America, notably Katrina, which triggered the flooding in the US city New Orleans, among the recorded Atlantic hurricanes it was the sixth strongest over all. It caused the massive destruction along the Gulf coast from central Florida to Texas. At least 1,836 people lost their lives making it the deadliest US hurricane since the 1928.

The 8th of October 2005 earthquake in Kashmir Pakistan was similar in intensity to the 1906 San Francisco at the time of Promised Messiah, 1932 Quetta, Pakistan earthquake and 2001 Gujarat, Pakistan earthquake. Up to 8th of November, the Govt. of Pakistan official death toll was 79,000 and nearly 1,400 also died in Indian administered Jammu and Kashmir.

The year 2005 also saw famine after crops were destroyed by locusts in Niger.

In the year 2005 the Sumatra earthquake was another major earthquake which occurred on 28th of March killing 1,300 people. The event caused panic in the region, which had previously been devastated by the Tsunami.

Huzur (as) says;

The knowledge that I have been granted about the calamities is none other than that death will run rampant on all side , that earthquakes of such severity will occur as will provides a foretaste of the day of the judgement. The earth will be turn up side down and the lives of many will become agonizingly distressing. Then, those who repent and forsake sin, to them Allah will show mercy. As all the prophets as had prophesied about this age, it was inevitable that all this should have come to pass. But those who set their hearts aright and follow the way Favoured by God shall have no fear or grief’

“.....God’s word informed me that many calamities will occur and many disasters will descend on the earth –some during my life time and some after I have gone and He will promote and advance this jam’at to full. A part of it will happen at my hands and some after me”. (The Will)

AIDS is now pandemic in Europe and Africa mostly in the Christian countries. In 2007, an estimated 33.2 million people lived with the disease worldwide, and killed an estimated 2.1 million people, including 30,000 children.

AIDS was first recognized by U.S centre for the disease control and prevention in 1981 and its cause, HIV, identified by American and French scientists in the early 1980s.

God had already informed Huzur (as) through revelation on 13th March 1907 about the forecast of this disease.

“A type of Plague will spread in Europe and other Christian countries which will be very severe”.

AIDS or acquired immune deficiency syndrome resembles plague and progressively reduce the effectiveness of the immune system and leaves individual susceptible to infections and tumours.

2009 Swine Flu Pandemic

It is a respiratory disease caused by Influenza A virus strain H1N1 and the cases have been reported in many countries around the world. In 1918 Spanish flu pandemic which killed 50 million people world wide was caused by the similar H1N1 strain of Influenza A virus. People who are infected usually have flu-like symptoms e.g , abrupt onset of fever, generalized bodyache, sore throat cough, diarrhoea and vomiting.

On June 11, 2009, WHO raised the worldwide pandemic alert level to Phase 6 in response to the ongoing global spread. A Phase 6 alert level means that a global pandemic is under way and that community level outbreaks are now ongoing in multiple parts of world. Until today 191 countries have arrived under the grip of swine flu. The latest statistics shows that the cases are rising dramatically and hundreds of thousand people have already been affected. As of October 2009 4,735 people have been killed.

This virus can infect any age group but fatality rate noted higher in the young individuals. The first wave of the Pandemic flu was in summer of this year which created great anxiety and fear among people. The second wave of the swine flu has just been started and scientists are planning their best to minimize the fatalities.

A vaccination program has just been started in many western countries to **minimise** the disease spread and impact on general population.

Huzur (as) says; see Tadhkirah page no 638 English edition:

“What God has told me is also the same, namely that if the world does not refrain and repent from its evil conduct, it will be afflicted with great calamities, one after the other. People will then become anxious, wondering what is going to happen. Under the stress of suffering many will behave like a mad man”. (Paigham Sulah, P 9)

According to the Red Cross, an average of 354 natural disasters occurred throughout the world each year from 1991 to 1999 and the death tolls from disasters are growing greater from 84,570 in 1995 to 249,896 ten years later. The report also says that eight out of 10 countries with the highest disaster deaths were in Asia. But, the United States topped all other countries with number of reported natural disasters.

The significant increase in incidence of natural calamities, e.g. earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, droughts, heat waves, pandemic diseases, famines and wars in the last two decades clearly is the matter of great concern for all of us. The religious leaders think the increase in occurrence of natural disasters is indicative of God's anger towards His mankind. We observe the drastic change in the natural calamities at the start of the new Islamic 15th hijri century. The rise of natural disasters was similar to previous Hijri century when Huzur (as) claimed that he is appointed by God Almighty as an Imam Mahdi and Promised Messiah as prophesied in the previous scriptures.

Promised Messiah said;

"It should be remembered that the mujaddids do not add anything to the religion, nor take anything away from it; they reinstate lost faith in the hearts. And to say that it is not obligatory to believe in the **mujaddids** is to deviate from the command of God because He says: "**And whoever disbelieves after this, they are the transgressors**" (24:56), i.e. after the sending of the **khalifas**, whoever remains a denier of them, he is among the transgressors".
(Testimony of Quran)

Therefore these natural disasters are not only indicating the God's anger and frustration but also pointing the advent of divine reformer and mujadid to guide people back into the right path and to reinstate the lost teachings once again.

Huzur (as) the Khatamul Khulafa and the Imam of the last thousand years also prophesise for a divine reformer after him.

Huzur says;

"Remember this Messiah, who is from this humble's progeny, who has also been named Ibn-e- Mariyam. Because this humble one has also been called Mariyam in Braheen"
(Rohani Khazain Vol 3 P- No 318).

Huzur was revealed in Arabic

"The moon of the prophets will arrive and thy affair will become manifest"
(Tadhkirah November 1892 page no 262, Revelation in Arabic

In the following prophecy Huzur (as) conveys happy news about the coming of the Jesus and addressed by God Almighty as Marriyam.

زور گاہِ خدا مردے بعد اعزازے آید
مبارک بادت اے مریم کہ عیسیٰ بازے آید

Translation (42): The promised Messiah received the revelation (Persian):

“A Man comes from the House of God with the hundreds honours. Felicitations, to you O, Mary that Jesus has come back again”. (Al-Bushra P57)Tadhkra page 684 urdu.

Similarly, the Bible also prophesised about the natural calamities;

Mathew 24:7

“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes, in various places.”

Luke 21:21

“And the great earthquakes shall be in various places, and famines and pestilences.”

We also find a similar prophecy of Huzur (as) in which God Almighty disclosed him almost similar warnings as prophesised in Bible.

Huzur (as) says;

God has told me that there would be great split in my movement and mischief makers and those who are the slaves of their own desires will depart. Then God Almighty will put out the split. But those who deserve being cut off, as being unconnected with the truth and given to mischief, they will remain cut off. Then there will be a great up rising, the first one, and kings will invade kings. There will be so much blood shed that the earth will be filled with blood. The subjects of a king will also fight fearfully among themselves. **There will be universal ruin and destruction. The centre of all this will be Syria. It will be the time of my promised son. God has decreed these events in connection with him.**

Thereafter our movement will spread and

Kings will become the member of the movement. (Tazikrah-tul-Mahdi Part11. page 2)

Last words;

“The Promise of Allah has come. He put down His foot and repaired the gap. Blessed is he who found and saw” (Tadhkirah 9 January 1903 page no 544)

آنکھ کے پانی سے یارو! کچھ کرو اسکا علاج
آسمان اے غافلوں اب آگ برسائے کو ہے

کیوں نہ آویں زلزلے، تقویٰ کی رہ گم ہو گئی
اک مُسلمان بھی مُسلمان صرف کہلانے کو ہے

THE END

(33:67) On the day when their faces are turned over in the fire, they will say, 'Oh, would that we had obeyed Allah and obeyed the Messenger!'

(33:68) And they will say, 'Our Lord, we obeyed our chiefs and our great ones and they led us astray from the way,

(33:69) 'Our Lord, give them double punishment and curse them with a very great curse'. (Aal Ahzab)