JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL

Posted on April 25, 2005 by Keghart



Category: Opinions

"Justice will Prevail" e-mail letter was addressed to Hon. Irwin Cotler, Minister of Justice on 24 April 2005 and it was circulated as an open letter to MPs, academia in Canada and to personal friends. The issues raised in the letter remain relevant after a decade of its distribution as many in the higher echelons of the governing bodies of the country continue to espouse a pro-Turkey and anti-Armenian stance with respect to the Genocide of the Armenians. From time to time Keghart.com has exposed such individuals and will continue to do so until Justice prevails.- Editor.

-------- Original Message -------
Subject: Justice Will Prevail
Date: Sun, 24 Apr 2005 22:23:31 -0400
From: Dikran Abrahamian <dikran.a@rogers.com>
To: Honourable Irwin Cotler <Cotler.I@par.qc.ca.host83-server.com>

The Honourable Irwin Cotler
Minister of Justice
Government of Canada
Ottawa

I never had the chance of enjoying the presence of my paternal grandmother and of my maternal grandfather. One was raped during the years of the Armenian Genocide, and the other was "lost" in uncertain circumstances in Syria ... A story that is quite common in almost every single Armenian Family that was uprooted from its ancestral homeland under the pretext of security during the first world war. I'm sure that you've come across to similar stories one too many times.

As a citizen of Canada I take this opportunity of the 90th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide to extend my deepest gratitude to all our representatives of all political stripes for spelling out loudly the following words in our parliament, "this House acknowledges the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and condemns this act as a crime against humanity"

I am confident that all peace and justice loving people of all ethnic backgrounds share this feeling of gratitude towards our parliamentarians; however, it was regrettable that our Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs tried to defeat the motion of a "private member". Economic reasons, an "ally", etc. were provided as reasons to quash the motion. Too bad for this line of reasoning. Weren't these the same "reasons" that kept the outcry of several nations silenced? Since when our country has distanced itself from lofty ideals and justice for the sake of expediency? Doesn't it sound a bit hollow when we talk about Kosovo, Rwanda, Sudan to name a few? Our government is showing blatant hypocrisy to say the least.

My political philosophy and views have no bearing on my harsh judgment with respect to the stand of our government. I hasten to say that I am not a conservative, indeed I belong to no political party; however, I will urge fellow compatriots to reconsider their allegiance to the Federal Liberal Party

which has lost its moral orientation in so many ways. Armenian-Canadians in general have fond memories of Pearson and Trudeau who were firm in their beliefs. What we see today is a struggle to keep the ship afloat no matter what it takes, and I don't think this time around my compatriots will be so loyal, and they will keep their options open.

Like many Armenian-Canadians I don't "hate" Turkey or the Turks. Far from it, I wish prosperity and progress which in my humble opinion will lead to an understanding and a just conclusion. Ignorance has been one of the main hindrances of realizing what happened during the first genocide of the 20th century. Furthermore, and this may come as a "shock" to some compatriots, I wish that Turkey becomes a member of the European Union for a number of reasons. Rule of the law will be more prevalent, human rights abuses will be more rigorously monitored in line with the norms of Europe, overt oppression of the Kurds will not be permitted. Most likely the decade old blockade which is hanging like a Damoclean sword at the throat of Armenia will be lifted, because Turkey will not be permitted to unilaterally act in deciding the fate of its neighbour.

Your honour, in memory of my "lost" grandmother and grandfather I beseech you to do your best to erase this blemish from our government and the Liberal Party. I know that you are a kind, compassionate and just man, and you will do your best to continue your work in the field of Justice.

Respectfully Yours,

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