RALLY AROUND OSKANIAN

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Category: Opinions

Avedis Kevorkian, Philadelphia, PA USA, 7 october 2012

Some time ago, I wrote that all Armenians in the Diaspora should boycott Armenia and do everything in their power to get their host countries to also boycott Armenia and to put pressure on international agencies to also boycott Armenia––because of the rampant corruption in the country.

Naturally, I was attacked for expressing that view.

I am back again, and I say to all those Armenians who think that by supporting the crooks and thieves and thugs (hereafter CTTs) who are ruining Armenia no matter their criminal ways are, somehow, expressing a "love of the homeland, and we must not say anything unpleasant about the CTTs," don't bother to attack me and to criticize me and to defend our "beloved homeland.

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Don't bother, because I am angry as I can be and still avoid obscenities.

What has touched me off this time is what the CTTs are doing to Vartan Oskanian, who is probably one of the few honest men in Yerevan and certainly not one of the CTTs.

The CTTs are accusing him of financial irregularities, It appears that his Civilitas Organization received $2-million from Jon Huntsman and Oskanian is accused of money-laundering and other related crimes.

If the truth be told, the CTTs are obviously angry that $2-million came into Armenia and they didn't get their filthy hands on it. That Oskanian is using it honestly and and for good causes also rankles the CTTs.

But, obviously, the real reason is they fear that Oskanian would run for president of Armenia. Why an intelligent, sensible, talented man should want to live in Armenia, much less want to be its President, is beyond me.

Perhaps, the CTTs should challenge Oskanian's sanity and his right to walk the streets without a

leash and a keeper, instead of challenging his honesty and integrity with obviously false charges.

But, these CTTs are really serious about the threat he poses to their kleptocratic regime.

That their case is weak––which doesn't mean they will lose in the corrupt farce that is called the Armenian legal system––is evidenced by the fact that Oskanian's Passport is not lifted, and the comment that was made by one of the CTTs that "Of course, Vartan is free to travel," which is his/their coded words to Oskanian to self-banish himself from Armenia and not further embarrass the CTTs and not pose a threat in next year's elections.

I understand that Huntsman, himself, has indicated that there has been nothing wrong in Oskanian's handling of the money. But in Armenia's corrupt society, it is a matter of "Don't bother me with facts, my mind is made up."

So, you may ask, "Other than venting your spleen, why are you writing."

I am glad you asked.

In addition to my earlier suggestion about boycotting Armenia, I think that everyone in the Diaspora who has access to Facebook, Twitter, and the other "social media" that have been used to topple corrupt Middle East governments and stir the juices of millions of others, use them to raise the loudest fuss about the wickedness now going on in Yerevan, and bring on the world's condemnation.

Why am I so strongly on Oskanian's side and so sure of his innocence? I saw him in action while I was living in London and was overwhelmed by him. Also, I was told by someone in the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (the UK's State Department) that never had they seen anyone from an "emerging nation" as impressive and as competent as Oskanian.

Admittedly, that didn't change the UK's views about Armenia (that is still influenced by Washington!) but the Brits knew they were dealing with someone quite remarkable.

Oskanian is now faced with a difficult dilemma. Stay and be falsely imprisoned (apparently his "crime" could put him in jail for 20 years!) or leave the country and enable the CTTs to say that his departure "proves" their case–––and, of course, allow them to continue to rape the country.

So, if the Diaspora really gives a damn about Armenia, its path is clear: use the social media to raise a fuss and demand that the false charges against one of the best men in Armenia, Vartan Oskanian, be dropped, that his Parliamentary immunity be restored, and a heavy load be lifted from above his head.

Otherwise, all you people out there may end up lamenting the death of Armenia in your lifetimes.

And, what is also so sad, is just when Armenia was enjoying the concern of the world about what happened to the axe-murderer in Baku, the CTTs, so obsessed with their own corruption and greed,

are now doing their best to smear their own country.

My mother used to say: “A fish begins to stink from its head,” and the stink of the Armenian fish is reaching the West because of the Armenian head.