
Armenia in ideology crisis

By A. Manvelian

AZG Armenian Daily #065, 05/04/2008

After the tragedy of March 1 Armenia faced a political, ideological and moral crisis. And if the incident was settled from the political point of view, the ideological and moral consequences proved harder to be removed. It is obvious that because of the confrontation of the new and the old authorities of Armenia suffered the Armenian people and the statehood itself. And the matter is not the international prestige of our republic, but rather in the danger of ruining our statehood.

We do not think that such attitude to the problem is exaggerated. Each country is strong with a nation, with a society, which is eager to establish a strong statehood. On March 1 everybody could see that no such society is present in Armenia nowadays. In 17 years we failed to develop an ideology, which would put the national interests above anything else.

One thing is clear: such situation is caused by lack of confidence, ideology and real political field in Armenia.

For years we have been working only to imitate national statehood. If the previous authorities considered national statehood a fictive category, the present ones do not observe it at all, in any ways. We were trying to build a statehood without its face and ideology. Its political model was taken from the West, its values were taken from the West, even the political parties were trying to fit the Western standards, and no one cared that the Republic of Armenia must have something unique, something very special for the Armenian nation.

For years we have formed a cosmopolite mass without any principles, which we used to call "population". Because of this anyone, who suggested any idea, even though that idea was destructive and ruinous, became able to collect the masses, and the mob followed that person.

The very first people to make use of that atmosphere were the very same authorities who established the immoral statehood. In 1998 new powers came to rule Armenia, and they were indifferent towards any national issue. An army of criminals came into power instead of a bunch of immoral, cosmopolite intellectuals. From their predecessors they inherited the immorality, the corruption structure and improved it.

Healthy society would condemn such rulers and cast them down. Instead we saw that the political and intellectual elite was so poor with ideas, that suggested nothing against the destruction of our own nation, and the authorities proved so mentally weak that did not manage to invent anything to replace their destructive policy.

In order to prevent the repetition of March 1 tragedy, we need political ideas and political figures of a new level. We need politicians who do not consider

politics just a dirty game, but we need people who would work to improve the society with political measures.

We could only add that the powers, which initiated the clash between the two parts of the Armenian people, cannot suggest any constructive ideas for saving the nation.
