Are There Wise Americans?

Professor Sattar Kassem
10/10/2006

Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the United States has been trying to prevail, but domination seems elusive and very costly. She has been waging wars, spending hundreds of billions, twisting arms, threatening and giving flashy promises, but the winds haven't been blowing the desirable direction.

Apparently, the US has been excelling only in making enemies. Anti American feelings have been rising particularly in Arabia, Islamia and Latin America. American troops are facing increasing resistance in Afghanistan and Iraq; Hezbollah crippled American ambitions in Arabia; Iran is on the move and her military arsenal is posing a real challenge; North Korea jumped over the red lines; the Arab regimes are dwindling, and Latin America is becoming loyal to the poor. Generally, the US hasn't been successful, and her policies have been counter-productive.

Rethinking policies at times of failure isn't a difficult task. Once the curve starts falling, or policies seem destructive, one should reassess and re-evaluate. When that one is the strongest nation on earth, thousands of scientists, academicians, intellectuals and politicians are expected to enlighten the path. If the administration goes astray, the people should redirect the compass.

The American administration has been wasting hundreds of billions of dollars on wars that are culminating in increasing American losses and more dangerous threats to American security. I always thought that the Arabs are the least sensitive people toward the mal-policies of their leaders, but now I think that the Americans are winning the cup.

What could have happened if the American administration spent all of that money on education, health care and city renewal? What if it devoted 20% of that drained money on building friendship with other nations? What would have been the internal social and ethical fabric in the US if the Americans decided to fight terrorism through fair and just international policy?

Those who see failures as victories are idiots who will finally find themselves behind history. I am an Arab who has been witnessing the disastrous and catastrophic outcome of self-deceptive policies. Wise Arabs have been lodged in cells or graves, and the whole Arab nation has been suffering humiliation and degradation particularly from the US. Probably, the Americans need to learn from the experiences of nations.