

Fiji - Mercy and Compassion

Whatever the main players are doing in Fiji, for what ever reasons they may or may not have, we still can not have the West pushing for the upholding of an apartheid based constitutional set of electoral laws, right on our own back doors here in the Pacific.

Especially with the locals' perception is that of clever and often subtle but rampant corruption being overlooked during the last so-called "free and fair" election.

Australia and New Zealand need to realise that pushing for regime change in another country is always a dodgy policy that can result in unpredictable results, and dangerously causes almost as much real suffering as other forms of outright warfare. Regime change by 'remote control' through sanctions etc .. is a dubious business, as many years of failed international policy by others elsewhere should tell us.

What is needed among the West and Pacific Forum member countries is more patience for Fiji and mercy for the common people. And lets come up with a full on proposal for dealing with the complex problem in Fiji, and stop just simplistically using cave man clubbing type old school foreign policies and punitive sanctions.

Goodness me, our two countries even sign free trade treaties with very big countries that have not had "free and fair" elections in them since early last century! And we don't demand that they hold full on democratic elections before we will get involved constructively with them.

Insist on Apartheid Electoral laws being Followed in Fiji?

Surely, with all the fresh creativity that is represented in both the Australian Federal Parliament and the New Zealand Parliament and both countries cabinets at the moment, we can do better than be seen to support and insist on apartheid electoral laws being followed in Fiji?

And in the middle of it we must bear in mind that the whole thing should be for the benefit of the average person living in Fiji. Have they given the West, and specifically given us, their permission to run their country down, destroy their economy, deprive them of advanced medical support .. and so on, and so on? Do we have a mandate to do those things while at the same time not be providing Fijians with a viable alternative to their real problems - which is that Sir Paul Reeves and team's recommendations were not fully implemented, and through the process of time we ended up with an unbalanced constitution and

undemocratic set of laws in Fiji?

How are we going to answer many Fijian's feelings that their country was taken off them when the British Empire brought other nationalities to work and remain in the country? How do we answer those other nationalities fears when they say that they do not want to be driven into the sea, as certain forces in Fiji, which the current regime is holding back at the moment, want to do to them?

If the constitutional provisions of either New Zealand or Australia fell over or were corrupted and became unworkable - who would you sooner have step up to bat, and sort the situation out? Your own people, or foreigners?

Lets have more compassion and mercy for all the people living in Fiji and constructively help them sort their circumstances out in a useful and long term way.

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