

Next morning of human rights day

Muslim

11/12

Human rights

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IT was early morning of December 1994 - the next morning of the International Human Rights Day. The clear, chilly winters air did not seem to presage anything wrong.

New day peered into windows and knocked doors, waking people back to the life along with its daily needs.

Suddenly, a jet-fighter dashed by, its roar dispelling the last dreams' mist of still sleeping Chechen children. A terrible explosion shook the world, then another, another ...- now everyone understood that Russians have come...

That is how Russian invasion into Chechnya, on December 11, 1994, started. A statement, issued the same day by Yeltsin's administration named the invasion as "an operation of the Interior Ministry, disarming the illegal armed groups and restoring the Constitutional Order in the republic of Chechnya". This "operation" continued 21-month, "disarmament" being performed with a complete set of the contemporary warfare:

planes, tanks heavy artillery, carried on by the ruthless mercenaries. It resulted in about 120,000 killed in utter destruction of the capital Grozny, towns and villages of Chechnya.

the complete independence. This was going to be a fateful battle for this small Muslim nation in their centuries long struggle against the Russian colonizers.

But as far, as the International Community is concerned, the invasion with the subsequent massacre of scores of thousands of civilians, displayed an absolute bankruptcy of the UN, along with its numerous Committees and Commissions, the supposed "guardians" of the Human Rights throughout the world.

On the other hand, this unprecedented breach of the International Law, carried on under full gaze of the entire world, has revealed the unequivocal absurdity of all solemn declarations (the famous "Universal Declaration on the Human Rights" being one of them) and treaties, once a colonial power is left free to trample the colonised nations.

On the next day after the Human Rights Day, the world became a witness how those "notorious" Rights were used as a cash money by the International Supreme Body.

Boutros-Boutros Gali's "Note of Concern" was tantamount to Clinton's urge on Russia to "spell less blood" in its cynicism. No any action, prescribed by the UN Charter, and then, in "definition of aggression" (Resolution 3314 (xxix)) was undertaken against

Chechnya declared its independence on 6 September 1991, along with many other republics - members of the Soviet Union and of the Russian Federation. By the end of 1994, however, no any ex-member of the Soviet Russian Federation remained outside of the new "Democratic" Russia. The borders of the renewed Russia were regarded inviolable by the International Community and no any liberty movement throughout the region was encouraged.

Thus, the only aim of the Russian invasion on December 11, was to quill down the Independence movement and to place its puppet Administration in Grozny, one that would sign a treaty with the metropolitan, confirming the Chechnya to be a Russian colony.

For the Russian military the invasion to the tiny Caucasian Republic was supposed to be something like going out al-fresco. Gen. Grachov, then the Russian Defence Minister boosted that the task could be completed within a week by a 1000 men-strong paratroopers' detachment. There seemed to be nothing different of what Russian army had been previously doing in Moldova, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, where few tanks would disperse crowds of unarmed protesters. For the Chechens, meanwhile, this invasion became another eloquent argument in favour that there was no alternative for

(xxix) was undertaken against the aggressor. Various concessions and deductions were managed by the West from Russia, through bargaining the person's right for life (many European leaders, as well as their American counterpart, would at once become "concerned" about the "Violations of the Human Rights" in Chechnya, whenever a compliance of Russia was needed).

From the other hand, the UN proved the Biggest Human Rights' Abuser itself. Due to UN's carfty structure and machinery, no member country of this Global Organisation could offer its help to the massacred Chechens. Yes, Chechnya was not recognised as an Independent state at the same time, Russia is insured of its colonial conquests: "any attempt, aimed at the partial or total disruption of ... the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with... principles...of UN" (G.A.Res. 1514(xv).Art.6). But, do this (or any other) fact justify the silent consent of the world with the drama, that was launched by Russian Empire on December 11, 1994?

If, a previous day, world could be proud of the achievements on the field of the Human Rights, that day on December 11, the world had to witness two crying violations: Russians drowning in the blood the very notion of Humanity in Chechnya; and UN issuing a "warrant" for the aggressors to kill!