

Is there a Prophet without honour except in his own country?

In 45 BC Cicero wrote: "Generally there is no nation, whether it's perfect and educated or a barbarian and uncivilized, which didn't consider it possible that future events may be recognized, understood and predicted by certain people."

Of course, he knew that in any community there are individuals who, due to their psycho-physiological, spiritual and religious differences and circumstances rank themselves to the "caste" of prophets.

Today this opinion is no less true than in the past. However, Cicero couldn't have assumed that in the XXI century A.D the number of prophets would be commensurable with the population in a country, such as Armenia.

Either because of unemployment or total illiteracy there are so many sophisticated "politicians", "social scientists", "experts" - economists, sociologists, political scientists and military experts in our society ranking themselves to the community of predictors-forecasters that ordinary people, using their "actual" and "scientifically proven" information, might as well "kill themselves."

With the development of mass media, with the proclamation of the right of total "freedom of speech", with total absence of liability for an attempt against the privacy of an individual, "forecasters" and "experts" are one of the sources of mass psychosis in the society.

No matter how the present was appraised or the future predicted, the goal of the mentioned "specialists" and "experts" is to attract and hold people's imagination.

This process of duping the vast majority of the population inexperienced in the matters of manipulation of public opinion looks particularly convincing if it is implemented in terms of democracy, individual liberty, happiness and justice, progress and triumph of technology and intellect.

Under the pressure of this hysterical pseudo-scientific and falsely compassionate propaganda the society enters into the world of irrational cults, false prophets, revolutionary reformers, anarchic "free individuals" suffering from megalomania.

Under "mass psychosis" the problem of facts simply disappears, and the vacuum of logical reasoning of an individual is filled according to the "predictors'" or "experts'" own interests and needs and promotes the growth of their mercantile ambitions.

As a rule, the more uncertain and vague is in time and space the prophecy or expert assessment, the greater is the chance that it would be perceived seriously and the less is liability for the damage to society in the moral aspect.

However, it should be noted that there will always be numerous opponents, champions of tolerance, who, "juggling" with fundamental principles of democracy (tolerance, freedom of speech, the right to their own opinion, etc.), will welcome the mass character of public statements of non-professional forecasters and experts. One thing is when an amateur expresses his opinion in the circle of friends, colleagues or at express polls, and quite another thing is when he is provided with a platform in the absence of feedback from the audience.

In the process of duping a certain part of the population, which strongly believes in the truth and power of the word, coming from "monitors" of mass media outlets, an army of "servants" is involved, which, often in favour of corporate interests and mercantile benefits is ready to provide "a platform" to any "latter-day" pseudo oracle if only he badly hurts his fellows.

It's necessary to welcome criticism, it is extremely important and actual for our society, but, at the same time, criticism should be constructive, factual with the relevant conclusions.

Criticism isn't the product of momentary emotions. At least moral responsibility should be applied for public statement. During a public speech it's unacceptable to present oneself as a "righteous man," and in everyday life do the same sin for which you denounced your opponent.

Somehow, elected representatives of the people who represent the will of the people at all levels of the electoral structures suffer from this "disease".

In addition to the latter-day "prophets-forecasters" and "experts", day and night involved in the processes of duping the population, the vast majority of domestic officials make a significant contribution to this process.

Since independence, multi-purpose programmes have been implemented in the country: in the spheres of education, healthcare, agriculture, recovery of economy, strengthening local self-government bodies, the recovery of the disaster zone, etc.

Let our readers judge the effectiveness of the implemented programmes, but from year to year only one program remains actual - the program of fighting corruption.

Dear high-ranking officials, predict, please, when will be positive developments in this direction according to your assumptions? An awkward situation is formed: you are struggling, and the number of Armenian customers in the offshore areas is growing.

I wouldn't like to finish the article this way, but God is my witness, the longer you write, the more you want to use negative examples, what my friends and family advised me. But I will refrain.

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