

Commentary

Joe Biden's Presidency-the First One-Hundred Days

by Anil Shrivastava 'Musafir'

President Joe Biden is a likable man. What could be a better way for him to start his presidency than doling out free money to his fellow Americans? He lost no time in sending stimulus checks of \$2,800 to every family in America making below \$112,500 per year whether they needed it or not.

Furthermore, in his speech to the joint chambers of the Congress on his 99th day in office, Mr. Biden called for universal preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds, as well as two years of free community college, a national paid leave program and \$800 billion in tax credits for families and workers. He also promised not to raise taxes for people making less than \$400,000 per year.

In addition to the above, He plans to spend 6 to 9 trillion dollars on infrastructure and social welfare. There are two caveats to the success of his plan. First, the Senate may not pass his proposal. Secondly, his plan will add another 6 to 9 trillion dollars to the existing 28 trillion-dollar national debt (and increasing every second) that the U.S.A. owes to the world.

President Joe Biden is a lucky man. He is getting credit for the mass immunization of Americans against Covid. The vaccinations were made available to him through "Operation Warp Speed" initiated by the previous administration.

During the first hundred days of Biden's presidency, America's GDP grew at an annual rate of 6.4%, the economy added 1.38 million new jobs and the unemployment rate fell to 6.2% from a February 2021 high of 14.8%. Before the virus struck the U.S, the unemployment rate was at an all-time low of 3.6%. Then came Covid and everything fell apart. "if you hit rock bottom, the only way to go is up."

Mr. Biden, on the day of taking office, promised unity and said that he'd take a bipartisan



approach in governing the nation. Contrary to his promise, his approach, so far, has been "my way or highway." His first test came In February when 10 moderate Republican senators called on him to seek a compromise over his proposed \$1.9 trillion Covid relief bill. They soon exited his

office with nothing.

The most remarkable act of Mr. Biden was reversing everything that the prior administration did through a series of executive orders. Those orders included the reversal of taxes, energy, Iran, climate, regulation, the border, the police, and press conferences. Mr. Biden is bent on bringing the United States under one-party rule. His loose border policy is a step in that direction.

Mr. Biden is faced with a three-pronged challenge in the area of foreign policy. They are coming from the aggressive and defiant actions of North Korea, China, and Iran. All those countries are thumbing their nose at the U.S. to test Mr. Biden's resolve as relates to foreign policy. However, Mr. Biden is the first experienced person to hold the highest office in the land after George Herbert Walker Bush. I hope that he will be prudent in dealing with America's adversaries.

Mr. Biden is a good man. He has restored the dignity of the office with his civility. He has displayed empathy, passion, and compassion for his fellow human beings. He seems to relate to the struggles of the middle class and the poor rather than only the affluent. I wish him success.