

Commentary

Picnic in Schloss Elmau by Anil Shrivastava 'Musafir'



women and children and the old and sick die in droves. This is what is happening in Ukraine. It was a beautiful country that now lies in ruins. Thanks to the Western (especially American) ambition for dominance and hegemony. They are fueling a losing war through their puppet, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the president of Ukraine.

History – which talks a lot about wars – is full of lies because it is written by the victors. Born in a British colony during the Second World War, I heard how bad the Germans and the Japanese were. It took me a while to learn the war crimes the Allied powers committed. I am yet to meet an American who recognizes the shameful atrocity Hiroshima represented.

Russian tanks waited at Ukraine's border for months before invading Ukraine asking for assurance from Zelenskyy and the U.S.A that Ukraine will not join NATO. Imagine Canada and Mexico allowing Russian warheads on their land. However, the request was denied by both Zelenskyy and the U.S.A. Unreason prevailed and the war and killing started.

We live now in a world tightly cuffed by trade and communication. I have read that “the minuscule flap of a butterfly wing in Brazil can cause a massive tornado in Texas.” Since Russia is, the energy supplier to many nations, energy prices have skyrocketed which in turn is raising all prices, particularly the prices of food and consumables that ordinary people mostly need. The Russian economy is prospering despite American sanctions as the rest of the world is buying oil and gas from Russia.

As the war began, MasterCard and Visa, whose credit cards run everywhere, suspended Russian users. No effect, because the Russians had already moved the payment to a Russian agency, which now has a Russian card to boot, Mir. This is the trend. Bigger countries will recede from world trade to safe self-dependence. The real reason for worldwide commerce is that ordinary people pay less for goods produced cheaply in Malaysia or Madagascar rather than in Italy or England. The first thing the war will do is disrupt or break the supply chain; the next thing, it will raise the price of the commonest goods that common people use. Their life will get harder.

In the meantime, the leaders of the free world are having a picnic in Schloss Elmau in Germany at taxpayers' expense where they plan to discuss Ukrainian War. They could have conducted this meeting through Zoom as most taxpayers do. The taxpayers deserve accountability.