

## **PADISHAH RISING (EVER HIGHER)**

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**Publication date: 23 July 2016**

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Strange things are happening in the land of Tayyip Erdogan, the relentless rising Padishah of “secular” Turkey. During a few tense hours over the weekend of July 15-16 an alleged military putsch tried to overthrow the government, a fuming Erdogan proclaimed over social media (which his regime hates with a passion and has repeatedly blocked lest ‘un-Islamic’ influences hurt Turkey’s virtues.) In the deadly confusion that followed, tanks rolled, fighter planes roared overhead, soldiers fired at police, police fired at soldiers, attack helicopters launched missiles at the National Assembly building--and then, suddenly, the whole “putsch” collapsed like a house of cards.

Within minutes of this happy ending, Western governments released sanctimonious sighs of relief over Turkish “democracy” being rescued at the last moment. They poured congratulations and support upon Erdogan’s “democratically elected government” and its leader, who had saved the day by rousing good Moslems and sending them into the streets to defeat the “traitors.” None of these international high revelers, however, faced the historical facts about Turkey, both present and past, in order to react with greater circumspection: Turkey was, is, and will continue to be a [“huge liability”](#) for NATO and the West.

I cannot but share [Professor Daniel Pipes’s opinion](#) that Erdogan deserved to be ousted by a coup. Erdogan’s untrammled despotism, his methodical destruction of the Kemalist secular tradition, his political bullying and mobilization of the “devout” to pull Turkey into the fetid bog of Islamism are naked and despicable facts for all to see. His unabashed deployment of illegal Moslem immigration as a weapon of mass destruction against Europe is causing the most critical security threat ever against “EUtopia”--whose leaders continue to dither and tiptoe and twist their thumbs while their countries are being subverted by the masses of

Moslem “refugees” and “migrants.” Erdogan deserves the fate of so many other dictators who met a timely end despite being “democratically” elected.

What transpired during those surreal few hours in Turkey has been exhaustively covered by the media and I need not repeat it here. To boot, some observers have advanced the theory that the “coup” was nothing but a [pseudo-coup](#), Turkey’s [Night of the Long Knives](#), giving Erdogan the opportunity to destroy his opponents just like Adolf Hitler did his in June 1934.

Hoax or no hoax, however, two certainties are on the table “post-coup:” Erdogan gets a free hand in purging Turkey’s “democracy” of opposition, thus cementing his strategic purpose of turning Turkey into an Islamic “republic;” and the West needs to decide what to do with a potential ayatollah-in-mufti regime controlling one of the most strategically vital countries in the world--and abandon stroking Erdogan and his not-too-subtle Islamic clerical storm troopers.

Anyone who watched the failed *putsch* on television should have noticed two prominent facts about how Erdogan saved Turkish “democracy:” the mobs filling the streets of Istanbul comprised throngs of young bearded men, who left no one in doubt where their loyalties rest. Alongside the Turkish flag, banners replete with Islamist inscriptions fluttered, strident cries of “Allahu Akbar” filled the air, robed imams jostled front, back, and sideways with the milling pro-Erdogan multitudes, and sermons blared from speakers that miraculously popped up throughout the areas where the *putschists* tried to show control.

This was not the spontaneous “democratic” demonstration inane Western reporters enthused over, but a clear display of the mobilization capabilities of Erdogan’s AK Islamic political party.

**To repeat: This was not a popular rising for democracy; this was a fundamentalist Islamic demonstration of strength aimed to terrorize and subdue *anyone* opposing the Padishah.**

One news [story from Istanbul](#) put it thus: *“On social media, reports emerged of people attacking those drinking out in the streets in Istanbul’s traditionally secular district of Kadikoy. And even before the weekend’s events, there were signs that brazen mobs were already enforcing strict Islamist rule. A record shop launching a Radiohead album release in one of Istanbul’s hip neighborhoods, Cihangir, was attacked last month during Ramadan over rumors wine was being served during the holy month. With city squares now filled with Islamist supporters of Erdogan, many who witnessed the 2013 uprising in which those same spaces were occupied by people calling for freedom are fearful.”*

As we speak, Erdogan has unleashed an orgy of persecution, arrests, and dismissals to crush not only the [Gülen movement](#) he accuses of engineering the coup along with high treason and sedition, but *anyone* who might dare think Turkey could have a genuine *non-Islamic* democratic future. This wave of terror aimed at secular Turks, and what is left of a once mighty military-guarantor of the Kemalist anti-clerical, anti-Moslem legacy, presages a bleak Turkish tomorrow of Islamic oppression.

So, what is to be done with *this* Turkey now that the “rampart” of the West theory, so dear to clueless politicians, diplomats, and “thinkers” of the Western alliance, has all but collapsed? Prospects are not good unless a new way of thinking about things Turkish is implemented. This undertaking won’t be easy. Decades of treating Turkey with kid gloves, and nurturing the grossly exaggerated “indispensability” of this country to Western civilization, make changing perceptions an uphill battle.

Consider, for example, [this response](#) to Erdogan “saving the day” and salvaging Turkish “democracy.” Such opinions show how tough it is to penetrate the proverbial senator’s thick skull and cause a “conceptual shift” that will put Islamic Turkey in the proper strategic context. “Congratulating Turkey’s leadership on doing the right thing and helping stop the coup” only reinforces Erdogan’s practiced predator instincts and re-confirms his perception of Western leaders as a pusillanimous supine lot.

“EUtopia’s” reaction to the unfolding Stalinist purge in Turkey indicates how this perception Erdogan has nurtured for years translates into “real time” politics. Erdogan’s threat to reinstate the death penalty in dealing with the coup “virus” has mobilized Europe’s “humanists,” not to mention the US. The Euro-American coalition warned Erdogan “to respect the rule of law” and temper his crackdown on the “traitors” or face sanctions, including yet another interruption of the moribund Turkish bid to join “EUtopia.” But what Western leaders do not see--or refuse to recognize--is that *Erdogan has dispensed with the law long ago and pushes ahead according to his own definitions of a “legal regime.”* Hence, the Padishah [has refused to rule out the death penalty](#) and continues to thumb his nose at the Western softies as he has [always](#) done. It will be interesting to see the reaction of Western capitals when Erdogan shoots the first batch of “traitors.”

With the world spinning the wrong way, the West needs to begin **a sea change in its Turkish approach.**

A good start will be to internalize and digest Samuel Huntington’s words: *“The fundamental problem for the West is not Islamic fundamentalism. It is Islam, a different civilization whose people is convinced of the superiority of their culture and are obsessed with the inferiority of their power. The problem for Islam is not the CIA or the US department of Defence. It is the*

*West, a different civilisation whose people are convinced of the universality of their culture and believe that their superior, if declining, power imposes on them the obligation to extend that culture throughout the world. These are the basic ingredients that fuel conflict between Islam and the West” [The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order (1996) p. 217.]*

Huntington’s unassailable logic is a must-do jumping point. But, both “EUtopia” and the US appear poorly prepared to make this critical transition. While Europe wallows in “progressive” demands for tolerance, inclusion, assimilation, non-discrimination, “multiculturalism,” brotherly love, asylum rules, and humanitarian measures, Islamic terrorists are wreaking havoc. Governments though are busy with seeking legal opinions and constitutional interpretations and ***fighting the enemy on his own terms and not on the terms of total war.***

As for the US, fifteen years of unending wars “to spread democracy” have sapped the national resolve, amassed an enormous sovereign debt, and continue to test the patience of voters whose overwhelming majority feels marginalized and deceived.

Erdogan is an expert manipulator and juggler of the Islamic mob and a man skilled in brutally dominating others. His career so far as the “savior” of Turkey is best witness to these indisputable traits. He is unpredictable as he is prone to taking high risks at the whim of the moment. Western leaders make a grave mistake equating him with past dictators deemed “safe” for Western interests.

Erdogan promises conquest and an imperial future that test the limits of the possible based on aggression, manipulation, and hunger for an Islamic rebirth. His obsession with crushing the Kurds blinds him to the shifting fortunes in the Middle East. His long “confidential” support for ISIS-IS-Daesh, and the disaster such strategy has caused, taught him nothing. That he is a **major threat** to whatever Western leaders finally decide needs to be done is *not* the hysterical creation of the fevered imagination of what is now routinely called “Islamophobia” by the “tolerant.” **It is definable in no uncertain terms**--and the current post-*putsch* mayhem in Turkey should come as irrefutable proof and mobilize even those who have the intelligence of toddlers.

The Padishah knows how to use faces contorted with religious hysteria and will continue to do so while thumbing his nose at his “civilized” opposites. The West has no business feeding this man’s sick fantasies of grandeur and his thirst of unlimited power. For once, Western leaders should not be afraid to abhor a regime that deserves it and do what it takes to defang it.

