



Razor's Edge

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Today's Oppressed Was Once The Oppressor

NEW YORK, N.Y., Nov. 27 (PinoyGlobal) - Of late, former House Speaker Jose De Venecia Jr. has been ludicrously invoking principles, which are incongruous to his checkered background. He tries to project himself as a man of integrity without showing the usual goose pimples that accompany the barefaced hypocrisy despite the citizenry knowing how insatiably corrupt he is. His chutzpah is not even subtle as evinced by the theatrics of sainthood he puts on only because the hypocrisy suits his predicament.

He even sought spiritual guidance from Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz who naively believes him to be a victim. De Venecia has that oppressed kitten-look with his "pobricito" or lugubrious eyes now that he is in the barren side of the political fence. Indeed, it is amazing how people could change appearance out of power. French writer Rochefoucauld was absolutely right when he said that "virtue is only a form of vice," and that "Virtues lose themselves in selfishness as rivers in a sea."

This truism clearly depicts Joe De Venecia. As speaker he was implacable in swatting opposition against President Arroyo in Congress. Now he is her worst nemesis, because of misunderstanding over anomalous deals. This is reflected in his antics exposing her misdeeds, which makes him appear a hero instead of villain. The few in the opposition who believe him think he has a well or inexhaustible depot of arsenal against GMA.

Maybe so, but why is he exposing her only now, could it be because he was sequestered from sharing on the failed overpriced ZTE deal through his son and

many more thereafter that he is nonstop divulging anomalies in the administration he once defended to the death? Does he mean to say he has a retarded conscience like someone who cannot urinate in a public toilet because of a bashful kidney? Are we to believe he has gone into a marathon of whistle blowing because his conscience has suddenly activated like a toy soldiers jolted by the Ever Ready bionic battery, until he dies of fatigue?

Now that they are at each other's throat he is singing exactly a different tune utterly hostile to GMA. He is a complete fool to expect people take him seriously. JDV makes people believe he knows Gloria's malfeasance in office too well. Unwittingly he admitted that they were committing a lot of illegal transactions together. As a result of his bad mouthing Gloria he unknowing spilled the beans on himself such that his colleagues in Congress are contemplating of charging him for bribery because it came from his own lips that the president once gave him half a million to shoot down an impeachment against her.

Archbishop Cruz says that JDV has a lot of explosive exposes on her like the manipulations that happened in the 2004 elections, wherein the cameras were stolen, the Hello Garci scandal, his first hand knowledge of the ZTE bribe as if he was there with Ben Abalos, Mike Arroyo and the president in China when all along he is just echoing the episode from hearsay. That's how insidious he could be in beguiling others to believe he is a knight fighting immoral practices in the government.

When his impeachment against President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was temporarily flashed to the archives of dead issues on the flimsy excuse that it was a defective document, right away he jumped into hysteria of a one-man grievance committee. The truth is that the impeachment was really defective because it was notarized one day before the complainants affixed their signatures. How true indeed, bullies are the biggest cowards.

Shortly after manifesting his observation on the discrepancy in the document, administration Congressman Bargaza withdrew his objection. Still JDV and his fellow complainants walked out without returning to the Justice Committee prattling unprintable diatribes at their fellow solons who muted their document in the committee. I cannot help wondering if he was ever struck by the thought that what was happening was déjà vu unfolding before his very eyes when he too killed a couple of impeachment documents filed against Gloria in the House when he was speaker?

I would like to stroll with our readers down memory lane when he was the ruthless speaker who shot down impeachment after impeachment filed by the opposition against Pres. Arroyo, without debating on their merits. Now he cries "We were insulted by the allegation that we had endorsed a falsified document." Miron ba siya niyan? Has he forgotten how ecstatically he orchestrated defeat of the impeachments during his incumbency as the tyrant of the House against those who opposed the continuance of his political "vestal virgin" Pres. Arroyo?

Rather than being contentious with the wind because what he and his cohorts are doing is screaming invectives GMA that has no effect at all on her, they should think of a more tactical approach instead of open defiance that is highly impractical given the odds they are faced with – tyranny in numbers is one, let alone logistics. Need I go on Joe?

The best thing to do since the elections are rumored to be postponed to June 30, 2011 instead of the constitutional mandate of 2010, is adopt what the masses did to depose a formidable dictator like Marcos and succeed. Remember that this time GMA et al might just succeed because the Charter change is not only extending the elections to 2011 but it will literally obliterate the term limits by extending the incumbencies of the president, senators, congressmen, governors and mayors except barangay officials. The idea is quite obvious, which is to entice everybody to be involved in the protracted Cha cha scheme. De Venecia and his fellow losers should rally the people for more a positive action - an Edsa IV or V perhaps?

Jefferson once said: "Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God." The message was so powerful he

made it the motto of his coat of arms. I do not however intimate for JDV and his group to follow it literally. It's merely to remind him of the recourse our people resort to when confronted with unbearable official abuses and that is going to the congress of the streets ending at Edsa's shrine. To be a leader you must be a paragon of integrity and dynamic leadership not one that is selfish and opportunistic.

Evidently, the voice that carried the lethal blows to the President and her cronies in Congress was the speech of Archbishop Cruz at Intramurus a few days ago, when he cogently verbalized the venalities of the Arroyo administration, which the public knows by heart but which the so-called opposition leaders, except for the sour grapping De Venecia, are impotent to point out forcefully to motivate the nation to seek for immediate reforms in the government. Not the Charter change sought after by the president but meaningful changes that will lead the nation to the better climate of peace, tranquility, prosperity and anomalies free governance.

As it seems, there is no freezing of the sinister objective that would extend the term of the president by another 8 years aside from the one year she would gain if the elections are postponed the following year to 2011 in which she could succeed herself after winning hands down with her logistical supremacy, power, military and cheating in the polls.

Why is the opposition and this writer so impressed that she will be the next president or prime minister as the case maybe, after 2011? The unerring sign has been hoisted at the Linden Suite where members of the Justice Committee hearing the grounds for impeachment were brazenly given P.5 million each to douse the contentious document that would pull her down before she could wind up as mandated by the 1987 Constitution. Congressman Sulpicio Rolex openly admitted that he was paid that much for that very reason, and so are other guys who were at Linden Suite's reception. This is a flashback of last year when 190 congressmen were given fat envelopes with half a million pesos so the public was told by those who were conscience stricken.

For all practical reasons the impeachment filed by De Venecia et al, is good as dead. Poetic justice to JDV but a scourge for the people who will have to suffer another 9 more years of GMA unless remorse gets the best of her and she steps down after her term limit expires a year hence. Otherwise, we can shout to high heavens till our voices become hoarse still she will glide smoothly through a series of terms while our people reel under dire economic setbacks and military and police abuses.

The entire scenario is self-serving for those with her and of course, especially, for Madam Arroyo!

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