Why is the world going through so much turmoil?

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This century it seems will be the century of extremists and fundamentalists. Whether it is religious fundamentalism, extreme right-wingers or hardcore white supremacists – they are all rising and are driven by hatred, extreme control and excessive unreasonable behavior.

Thus we are seeing the rise of Donald Trump in U.S. (a demagogue in an otherwise great country); Kim Jong-Un in North Korea; President Rodrigo Duterte in Philippines (another demagogue); rise of extreme right in Europe and rise of Muslim fundamentalist like ISIS, Al-Qaida, etc. in middle east. They all point to the direction of creating tremendous chaos, violence and fear among the population-something akin to what took place in the world in 1930s just before World War II. This is also fuelled by easy availability of weapons and other warlike paraphernalia helped and aided by the industrial-military complex of major industrial nations.

Why has the world moved to such a perilous thought process? And what has happened to the sane and sober voices. There are worldly and other worldly reasons for it!

Among the worldly reasons, I believe, such behavior is an outcome of tremendous insecurity among human beings <u>fuelled by ever-increasing greed</u>. Stress of daily life, increased expectations together with the need for instant gratification <u>adds to the fear and insecurity</u>.

It is also an outcome of people needing instant feedback which makes them react to events rather than thinking. This reaction leads to irrational behavior where the eventualities are not thought of and evaluated.

Also, it seems that most people with increased joblessness and poverty have nothing to do. This means they have all the time in the world and with easy access to internet and social media, easily fall prey to people who control them for their ulterior motives. Similarly, some rich people who are bored and have lots of time on their hands also indulge and finance these activities.

Whether it is ISIS or right wing extremists, it is only a handful of controllers who exercise great power through internet and mass media.

The other worldly reason could be that Earth is passing through space which produces such upheavals in humans. Just like great discoveries and inventions have come periodically to humans similarly we get these destructive tendencies as <u>earth passes through knowledge space</u> which is filled with memories having the ability to produce both positive and negative tendencies in humans.

Nevertheless, one worldly way out of this predicament is to make work available for most of the population of the world. 'An empty mind is a devils' workshop' is an old saying - pointing towards the importance of work for everybody especially the young. Recently a very interesting though intriguing data from 70-80 countries show that <u>anxiety levels</u> increase when there is less work. Thus, anxiety levels are inversely proportional to the number of hours people work per year.

The greed of corporate world which wants to automate the whole process of manufacturing is making most of the workers redundant. This reduction in workforce increases their profits. This greed is further fuelled by ascendancy of industrial-military complex whose sole aim is to fuel wars all over the world so that their costly armaments are continuously sold.

What is needed is to increase the employment of population in high-tech agriculture, service industry and in sustainable and holistic processes where man-machine interface becomes the norm. This can happen if the corporate world reduces its greed and spreads the wealth among its workers. In addition, an enlightened legislation, which allows people to negotiate the wages, rather than some prestructured government- controlled minimum wages can further aid this process.

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