
Irma: The Wind of Profiting in the Mind of a Few Cruel Ones

14/09/2017



Some cruel people working in places with power generators charged 1 CUC (Cuban Convertible Peso) for recharging mobiles and flashlights. Others, luckily the majority did it for free.

Amid the turmoil of efforts to recover the country on the wake of Irma, negative behaviors of a few people who seek profit out of the poor situation are censurable and inadmissible.

Natural disasters always bring up the best of people, their sensibility, humanism, and solidarity. An entire nation stands up to attenuate best as they can, if there's any, the havoc, attending those families in need and damaged, to recover strategic economic and social objectives...

The decision-making staff gets activated and by every means necessary they attempt to restore order, communications, and a save return to normalcy.

Of course, amid so much pain, when the minds and energy, almost completely are set to rescue and safeguard, there are a few «smart guy» who, in a way or other, take advantage of the prevailing situation in order to make profit.

The ways have been dissimilar, from a new version of hitchhiking for 20 Cuban pesos or one Convertible Peso (cuc) in the middle of a «desert» city, without full recovery of the transportation system; the smart ones charging one CUC for recharging mobile phones, tablets, laptops, even electric bikes, at places like the Cupet gas stations, polyclinics and other institutions backed up with power plant generators, even in the moments of greater anxiety, tension, the need to be informed or establishing communication with our relatives, and close friends...

Unbelievable, amid so much turbulence, the lash of winds, and the penetrations of the sea in many places along the coast line and even in-land communities, we find a few shameless people who have tried to put a price (ten pesos) to the possibility of sharing water.

Water, key fluid which in emergency situations like this becomes more than indispensable, not only to quench the thirst amid recovery works, but also, to give solution to many other needs. Imagine an old man or any elder, unable of walking a couple of blocks, where sea waves didn't cause havocs, to get some water...

I witnessed some of these situations, nobody told me a thing. For example, inconceivable that at the Cupet next to the checkpoint following the traffic light of Micro X, Alamar, the line of those in need waiting for the «rechargers» was endless.

Even more inconceivable, the fact that this practice became extensive to polyclinics and other health assistance centers, like 13 de Marzo, in Alamar, and another one in the municipality of 10 de octubre, just to mention two examples, even police officers had to intervene to end this phenomenon.

If criticizable, worthy of reprimands are the negative behaviors of those irresponsible ones who on Sunday, even with the crushing of huge waves went to fishing around gas station El Tángana, and the commercial center Galerías Paseo, products floating in the vicinity risking their lives, these sort of practices exercised by those insensitive ones who seek profit out of the tiniest chance, without caring the scenario of a natural disaster, solidarity and existent reconstruction in most of the nation, to take money in their pockets and banish the humanism of their behavior.

Luckily, these are few, amid an uncontainable rush of concern and energy, combined effort of the Cuban people, government, entities; of a restless work having in mind the goal of returning to normalcy... But these actions should not be overlooked; they must be denounced or criticized, with the finger of solidarity and the good behavior as principle.

Of the other side of the scale, it's fair to highlight two positive examples, as one in a house of Vedado that opened its doors to a colleague needing to recharge her mobile, and the guard at the Phone Center located on 19 Street that solicitous agreed to help a workmate.

Cuba rises; in fact, I don't have the smallest doubt that we will do it. A recuperative revolution has started, from Baracoa to Matanzas. Therefore, a flimsy blast of wind, amid similar tsunami of desires and good intentions, won't find a crack to increase.
