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The best lack all conviction: while the worst are full of passionate intensity."

## 1- Introduction

Thesis Statement: An apocalyptic situation has come, where the best are doubtful and are uncertain about the things happening around the world. Hence, giving the worst people an opportunity to exploit, plunder and destroy good world.

## 2- Rationality and emotions don't go together

## 3- Historical overview of personalities lacking absolute conviction and emotional mindset

a- "All I know is that I know nothing." Socrates

b- "Cognito ergo sum" Descartes

c- "Copernicus theory" Galileo

d- "Transcendentalism" Hegel

e- "Laissez-fair" Adam Smith

f- "Theory of continental drift"

Alfred Wegener

## 4- Why the best lack conviction in contemporary world

a- Dynamic and changing world

b- Rampant uncertainty in all sphere of life

c- Absence of universally agreed morality standards

## 5- Silence of the best in contemporary world has given the worst free sway

- a- Rise of supra-nationalistic leaders - Trump, Modi, Erdogan
- b- World War-I and II manifestations of worst mindset
- c- Populism gaining global traction
- d- Ethnocentricism becoming entrenched in Europe
- e- Waning of liberal values globally
- f- Multilateralism, mutual-coexistence sentiments going downward globally
- g- Corporatocracy becoming above then the States
- h- Environment being degraded at the expediency of economics
- i- Artificial Intelligence controlling human behaviour & decision
- j- Russia invasion of Ukraine to regain lost prestige

## 6- Conclusion

An apocalyptic situation has come, where the best are doubtful and are uncertain about the things happening around the world hence, giving the worst people an opportunity to exploit, plunder and destroy the good world. As it happened in the year 2003, where United States and its

Western allies on the pretext that Iraq carries **weapons of mass destruction** and could potentially use it against US-allies, led to the Invasion of Iraq in May, 2003. US not only violated the United Nation clauses of **states sovereignty**, but years later its claim of <sup>Iraq's possession of</sup> WMD was proven wrong. After 20 years, Iraqi state and society is <sup>still</sup> in ruin, while the US leaders who channalized <sup>negative & emotions</sup> people's and made the devastated war in middle East, move proudly and freely. Also, there is a widely accepted idea that various personalities who made deep impact on the world lacked absolute conviction and emotional mindset. Personalities like Socrates, Descarte, Galileo, Adam Smith etc who changed the world trajectory lacked emotional destructive mindset. But in the contemporary world, the best are uncertain, due to continuous changing global dynamics <sup>and</sup> <sup>worldly</sup> looming uncertainty. Similarly, there is silence on <sup>negative</sup> issues has given the worst a free sway to <sup>negative</sup> intensify people's emotion. For instance, <sup>events of</sup> arrival of supra-nationalist leaders, World War-I & II, ethnocentrism entrenching in Europe, tailspinning liberal values, multilateralism going downward, and Russia invasion of Ukraine to regain its lost glory are all manifestation of worst people's destructive potential. So, it can be said that the world is at a crossroad

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point, where it has now become important for the best to be clear and certain so that the world could be saved from worst people mindset.

In Philosophy, there is a generally accepted notion that rationality and emotions don't go together. As both views are divergent to one another ontological positioning. Similarly, in philosophical ideas, emotions often times lead to **dogmatism** i.e. blindly believing in an idea, which is rationally wrong. So, during the enlightened period of 16 and 17 century philosophers ~~like~~ <sup>and</sup> Descartes & Spinoza laid the foundation of rationalism, which in turn provided the philosophers with a mechanism, where they could reject emotional ideas with logical ideas. Moreover, it later gave birth to another philosophical positioning known as **Empiricism** which divided the domain of philosophy into two schools of thought. Thus, it can be deduced that in philosophy, emotional ideas are discouraged and rationality is in juxtaposition to emotionality.

History shows that major personalities of the world lack absolute conviction in their decisions. Like when Socrates said, "All I know is that I know nothing." This quote of his indicates that in this world there is no certain true

idea. As ideas change with the change in circumstances. So, the only thing which can be <sup>said</sup> <sup>and</sup> truly, certainly is that one knows nothing. This affirmation of not knowing anything, free one mind from emotional tendencies and give oneself a clear depiction of reality. For example, the idea of beauty, morality, ethics and god varies from society to society <sup>as</sup> and there is no universal standard to judge one belief. So, when one forgo absolute conviction and emotional tendencies by declaring <sup>on</sup> "I know nothing". This makes one more closer to reality and truth as one is now free of all biases.

To achieve, conviction of ones existence Descarte said, "I think, therefore I am". This famous proverb of his laid the foundation of modern rationalism. As the aforementioned quote of his indicates his philosophy that the basis of ones existence can only be judged whether one think or not over ones life decision. Moreover, Descarte viewed that he doubt everything, but not the doubting process which makes his consciousness alive and steady. This logical process of reasoning defies emotional tendencies and give reason the supreme craft to establish reality. Therefore, it

can be said that Descartes philosophy relies around rationalism where conviction came only when one starts thinking.

Before 15 century, it was believed that Earth was the center of universe as <sup>it was</sup> stated in the scripture of Bible. But, in late 15 century Galileo gave his **Copernicus theory**, where he argued that ~~Earth~~<sup>Sun</sup> is the center of universe not Earth.

This revolutionary idea of Galileo challenged the foundation of christian belief. Thus, led to accusation of heresy, on which Galileo was forced to take back his theory of Copernicus. But, after 4 centuries it was scientifically proven that Galileo hypothesis was right while the church was wrong.

Moreover, it shows that the idea which he presented was against the emotional sentiment of masses at that time. Hence, it can be inferred that scientific inquiry and passionate dogmatic values don't go hand in hand.

The idea of **'Transcendentalism'** presented by Hegel was an effort by him to bridge the philosophical dichotomy between rationalism and empiricism. As both school of thought negated one another standing point on sources of knowledge, and were convinced that the other was at fault. Hegel

critiqued the shortcomings of both schools of thought and amalgamated the right points of both rationalism and empiricism. His amalgamation of rationalism and empiricism is known as Transcendentalism, which relies both on priori and apriori sources of knowledge and discourages emotional passionate sentiments. Thus, the ideas of Hegel gave genesis to what is called today **Synthesis, Thesis** and **Antithesis** which relies on logic and discourages emotional sentiments.

It was widely believed that state should control and regulate the market as per people mindset. This idea was challenged by Adam Smith, when he published his book '**Wealth of Nations**' in late 17 century, where he contended that market should operate freely and no mechanism of control should be set in place and no people emotions and sentiment should cap commodity price. This idea of his is known as '**Laissez-fair**', which later became the foundation of modern and classical economics. Though, he himself contended that it is not an absolute idea as certain forces in market are always at play which will distort its function. Therefore, it can be deduced that Adam

Smith's idea based on rational and emotionless mindset changed the dynamics of economics.

Similarly another historical idea of earth geology was presented by Alfred Wegener, who in his theory of 'continental drift' contended that earth passes various tectonic plates beneath its surface. These tectonic plates are always moving and are causing continents to move away from each other. However, his theory was challenged as he did not explain how they interact and work. But it laid the foundation of modern geology. As people many times related earthquake with God's anger <sup>afterward</sup> which science explained is due to tectonic plate movement. This rationalistic and logical approach has led to explanation of many unexplained/perplexing phenomena of nature. Therefore, it can be concluded that Alfred Wegener's theory is based on a rational idea, where emotion holds no merit.

There is an ~~accy~~ nation gaining contraction in the world that the best and good people are becoming silent <sup>wordedly</sup> on issues. This is because the distinction between right and wrong is getting murkier day by day. Moreover, the world is going through a dynamic and changing flux in which morality, ethics and values are becoming



redundant. For instance, at the expediency of economic growth, natural resources are being plundered and destroyed. Similarly, the ethics of the warfare has changed as talks of Artificial intelligence and cyber war are going around. So, it can be said that flux of global change has exacerbated the silence of best and good people on worldly issues.

Another <sup>reason</sup> ~~idea~~ which has exacerbated the loss of best people conviction is the uncertainty looming around the world. As the phenomena of globalization has made the globe a small village by interconnecting each different value, thought and emotion <sup>However,</sup> ~~there~~ <sup>this</sup> connectivity has indirectly led to a loss of identity, self-esteem and values. Moreover, it has made certain things uncertain. For example, the **COVID-19 pandemic** was an uncertain health emergency which halted the whole world economy and exacerbated socio-economic disparities. Moreover, it exposed our shortcoming and myopic lens with which <sup>one</sup> ~~we~~ see and understand life. Thus, it can be said that all of the aforementioned uncertainty made the conviction of best questionable.

The last reason of loss of best people conviction is the

absence of universal moral standards. This has propelled a situation where right and wrong distinction is defined under specific situational context. For example, Russia invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has given ~~an~~ impetus to authoritarian states to forcefully conquer any sovereign state, which does not abide by its standard. Similarly, various states are actively doing trade with Russia as they uphold their economic growth above morality. Moreover, world silence over Israel's illegal settlement over West Bank and Gaza shows that no universal standard of human rights exist. So, it can be inferred from aforementioned discussion that no universally implemented human rights exist in the world.

The emergence of supranationalistic leaders at global level shows that the worst mindset is at <sup>full</sup> play. As they now make <sup>contemporary</sup> key present and future decisions of the world. This has made the world more precarious and prone to conflict. For example, the rise of Trump in 2016 and his decisive policy of 'Made America Great Again' divided the American society on ethnic and racial faultline. Moreover, his ill-equipped planning of killing General Qasim Sallamani Iranian

As the world is led by global powers, their obligations fall in line with national interests. That is why international law is just a philosophy.

in 2020 brought USA and Iran close to war. Similarly, Erdogan emergence in Turkey and his rule of 23 year and still is destroying the fabric of 'Secular Kemalism'. Furthermore, his populist rhetoric of 'us-them' has divided and exacerbated the <sup>Turkiye</sup> ethnic and religious faultlines in ~~Turkiye~~. Therefore, it can be viewed that the best and good politicians and leaders silence has given <sup>an open</sup> sway to <sup>the</sup> worst <sup>leaders</sup> to change world order.

It can be said without any doubt that world war I & II were one of the worst man made tragedies. As these wars amalgamated into loss of millions of lives, billions of \$ loss and led to devaluation and destitution <sup>moreover,</sup> globally. This war happened due to worst people and their leaders mindset. As they in their oblivious belief of racial superiority and false nationhood brought German nationalism in direct row with rest of the European nations. Similarly, worst leaders like Hitler of Nazi Germany, Mussolini of Italy amplified people false hopes and interest that they are liberating people from injustice <sup>and</sup> inequality. In doing that, these leader plagued the world with mass cleansing philosophy, global destitution and devaluation.

So, it can be concurred that events like World War I and II are manifestation of worst people's and their leader's mindset.

Populism is gaining contraction all across the world. This phenomena manifest that the best are in retreat from the global <sup>political</sup> downhill. For instance, emergence of Modi in India, who in pursuit of 'Hindu Rashtra', is destroying the Nehruvian ideology of secularism and social welfare. Moreover, his exclusionary politics toward Muslims and other minority groups clearly manifest the wider thought process that these groups are trouble makers and have no place in 'Rashtra' envisioned by Modi and his like. Thus, it can be said that the world largest democracy is descending toward <sup>the</sup> abyss of Popular authoritarian state values.

Europe is under a massive upheaval social, political and economic upheaval, <sup>which</sup> has exacerbated and entrenched ethnocentrism in Europe. This shows the decline of liberal and pluralistic values in Europe. Moreover, many European nations stringent and unwelcoming discriminatory policies toward migrants shows that the roots of hate are now entrenched deep in state and

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society. For example, the rising **Islamophobia** and hate speech against Muslims is evident in many European states. Similarly, European states closing their borders towards Muslim refugees has recently led to a tragic incident, where 450 plus migrants lost their life in Mediterranean sea. <sup>In addition</sup> ~~just~~ because to that, they were not provided with any help from European officials. Therefore, it can be deduced from the aforementioned discussion that Ethnocentrism is rampant in European states and society.

The best leaders envisioned and propagated the idea of liberal, humane values, where all human beings irrespective of race, ~~and~~ colour and religion have a right to life, property and travel. This idea was compounded ~~by~~ mainly by the west but now it is in tailspin. As many western leaders have themselves forgone the shared liberal ideal values. For instance, Trump confrontational approach in dealing crucial global issues like climate change, war in Middle East, ~~stirring~~ unilateral support to illegal Israel's occupation of Palestinian land tarnished the global liberal image of USA. Hence, it can be said that liberal order is declining globally, which will indirectly and directly give more sway to worst leaders

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The best people strived for creating a multilateral system, where human agency, spirit of mutual co-existence and pluralistic values were central. However, best people global retreat has given the worst people's and their leaders an open field, where they could change the peace trajectory by increasing mutual hostility and insecurity. For instance, Europe and USA forgoing multilateral approach like when President Bush in 2001 unilaterally ordered invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan in 2001. This <sup>historic</sup> pretext is being <sup>now</sup> <sup>it's</sup> used by Russia to justify invasion of Ukraine in 2022. So, it can be inferred that multilateralism is in decline and is becoming a utopic idea.

The notion of corporatocracy refer to the belief that multi-national corporations are now above states. Moreover, their vast financial resources can even <sup>economic</sup> change trajectory of nations. <sup>In addition to that,</sup> ~~Also, the rising~~ <sup>growing</sup> threat of such massive corporations falling under worst people's hand might exacerbate and dwindle state's sovereignty. For instance, various studies shows that **Bretton Wood** institutions are used by USA to

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Fulfills its geopolitical interest. As USA is the top contributor to Bretton Wood institutions, thus, it holds most of the organizational votes. Thus, rendering USA with the capacity to strike severe economic blow to states, which does not toe the line. Therefore, it can be deduced that globally corporatocracy has become far more entrenched and can make states compromise on their sovereignty.

The best people and their leader's silence on environmental issues has emboldened worst people to carry out environment catastrophe. The worst people and <sup>their</sup> leader's ideas of economic growth has wreaked havoc on planet earth. As per studies, global earth temperature has risen by  $1.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This has resulted into catastrophic flood, change in temperature, recurring heat waves in the global south nations. Moreover, at the expense of economic growth several nations are openly defying Paris Climate Agreement of 2014. Thus, it can be deduced from the above discussion that worst people impact of growth has destroyed earth environment as a whole.

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The world is experiencing massive changes in terms of socio-economic values. Moreover, the transformation in technology has enabled an environment of hope and prosperity. But, in all of this holiday lies immense problems and challenges. As <sup>tech leaders</sup> ~~people~~ and Artificial intelligence developers in pursuit of Future are making AI, an uncontrollable machine, which could ~~soon~~ its own can make changes in human made world. ~~order~~ Furthermore, their intimacy algorithms can even control human behaviour. For instance, **Snapchat bots**, **chat GPT** and **Siri** etc are being employed by corporations to gather user preference. Thus, it can be deduced that AI could potentially control the world which is only the domain of human beings.

Lastly, the world is in a continuous state of heightened insecurity due to Russia invasion of Ukraine in 2022. This conflict has shown that the worst forces on both sides are full of vile passion, which are willing to go to any length. Conversely, it can be said that the silence of the



best and best leaders to resolve the issue has given an impetus to Russia to invade a sovereign nation. Hence, ~~referring~~ <sup>Thus, ~~making~~</sup> the reverberating memory of Soviet Union invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. <sup>Similarly,</sup> ~~As~~ many experts like **Chaim Shinar** believe that Putin is aiming to regain USSR lost influence and prestige and invasion of Ukraine is one of the effort plan. Therefore, it can be deduced that best leaders silence has given rogue states like Russia an impetus to invade sovereign nations.

Hence, it can be conclusively said that the silence of good people and leaders has given the worst people and leaders an open field to do as they please. Similarly, it has been discussed in detail various personalities and their role in shaping a better and informed world. Moreover, the silence of best people and leaders have been explored in the aforementioned discussion. But, the most inquisitive aspect which need to be research is why the worst people and their leaders have vibrant negative passionate intensity. Is it because ~~the~~ <sup>by</sup> nature of humans are quarreling? as argued by Hobbes or is it because

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humans do not themselves know the impulses which drive such passion. So, to conclude it can be said that an apocalyptic situation has come where the best are doubtful and are uncertain about the things happening around the world. Hence, giving the worst people an opportunity to exploit, plunder and destroy good world.