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## Syrian President and Islamic State.

→ Syrian President, Bashar al-Assad, has proved resilient in dealing with his country's civil war and ferocious militant organization Islamic State (IS). In early years of civil war, it seemed as if Assad will step back but strong support from Iran's political and military leadership (IRGC) kept him fighting back against international pressure. Strikingly enough, Assad was also collaborating with Islamic State in regions held by IS where revenue generated by oil fields was shared by both the stakeholders.

→ Syrian President had also made a political move by releasing thousands of held militants to create a chaos in early years of civil war. Those released militants were ultimately doing what Assad wanted. The power struggle between Sunni militants and local groups created such a mess that regional and international powers perceived it to be a perfect proxy ground.

→ Iran, Russia and Hezbollah from Lebanon were backing Assad Regime. While, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states were investing in ISIS to create a counterbalance to Iran's support.

of Assad's government. US organized Kurdish factions along Syria-Turkey border who were marginalized in both countries and proved to be a viable option for US to invest.

→ Finally, Assad Regime presented two choices before the International community to either see a establishment of Sunni Jihadi State in Syria which would pose severe threats to International peace or a secular and relatively democratic government of Bashar al-Assad in Syria. Islamic State was defeated eventually in 2017 but its sleeper cells are still operating.

→ The blatant use of chemical weapons against its own citizenry brought a series of harsh reactions throughout the world against Assad's government. But, to the surprise of many political and Foreign policy analysts Bashar al-Assad had emerged with even more authoritative personality and policy after civil war ended in Syria.

→ Now, the process of reconciliation and reconstruction is under way in Syria but it would require another decade to emerge from the several years of devastation brought about by war. At this point in time, people are not willing to come back home who have settled in Europe and North America as immigrants but we can not predict the future of those who have settled in neighbouring countries.