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Are modern wars not holy wars?

Outline:

1. Introduction:

Thesis statement: Modern wars have been fought on the basis of economic, geo-strategic, territorial, and national interests of the countries and to capture the natural resources of one another. Thus, modern wars are not holy wars.

2. Modern wars are holy wars: (Anti-thesis)

2.1 Palestine vs. Israel conflict is based on religious supremacy

2.2 War on terror 9/11 was religious conflict

"Crusades are back" Gurh

2.3 Middle East crisis and unending series of wars are religious

2.4 Armenia vs. Azerbaijan combat is based purely on holy war

2.5 Holy wars have been existing in the Sahel of Africa

2.6 Holy war against USSR in Afghanistan

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2.7 India vs. Pakistan's series of fights are holy wars especially tensions in Kashmir

2.8 Several non-state actors like TTP, ISIS, Boko Haram, Israeli settlers have been pushing holy wars

3. Modern wars not holy wars: (Thesis)

3.1 Palestine vs. Israel war is purely territorial since the failure of UN partition Plan 1947

3.2 War on terror had no relations with holy wars as many muslim nations participated to eliminate the terrorism from the world

3.3 Middle East series of wars are geo-strategic and global powers like US, China and Russia have intervened to achieve their national interests through alliances

3.4 Armenia vs. Azerbaijan conflict is territorial over the region of Nagorno Karabakh rather than holy war

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3.5 Fights in the Sahel of Africa are political and economical

3.6 war against USSR 1979-89 was ideological supported by the US rather than religious

3.7 Pakistan vs. Indian wars have been fought over territorial and natural resources rather than religion

3.8 Terrorism has no religion

Conclusion:

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The Essay

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Maleeha Lodhi ascribed in one of her books that she turned on TV saw territorial conflict in Middle East. Changed the channel saw wars of nations on natural resources. In the next channel as she changed again experienced trade competition. The same is the case with modern world order. Nations have been involved in unending territorial conflicts like Israel, Ukraine, Armenia and Pakistan. Besides, notorious wars are being fought to capture natural resources and compete economically. Also, bloody fights have been existing to achieve political goals like in the Sahel of Africa. Moreover, many nations have been involved in the ideological tensions. The ideological conflict between USA and USSR in 1979 in Afghanistan proved that every war is not based on holy war. Additionally, terrorism

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terrorism

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Around the world like ISIS, TTP and Boko Haram have been using the concept of religion so as to achieve the objectives. Therefore, modern wars have no connection with holy wars.

To begin with, the critics' stance is that Palestine-Israel conflict is a holy battle. Israel has been trying to vanish Masjid Aqsa and build the Solomon temple. Achieving this goal, the Jewish state has been involved in massacre against Palestine around the region. According to Reuters that Israeli governments have been encouraging the settlers to influence the West Bank by force and cruelty. Similarly, Wafa Palestine based news ascribed that Israel had targeted muslim worship places and killed thousands of muslims. Thus, the modern war between Israel-Palestine is holy war.

Moreover, war on terror 9/11 was also a holy war against muslim countries. When the world Trade Center targeted, the stance of Bush administration was clear. According to Wall Street Journal one day before war on global terrorism, Bush in his speech told that "Crusades are back." This historical statement has direct relation with the holy crusaders who carried out holy wars against muslims from 1092-1400 AD. According to Reuters that muslim countries were notoriously vanished due to the war on terror. Additionally, muslims' educational institutions, worship places, economies and homes were bombed by U.S forces. On the other hand, muslim states like Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia also considered their defensive attacks against NATO as holy war against the West. Thus, modern 9/11 was based on holy war.

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Further more, middle East's unending series of wars are holy wars. Saudi Arabia who has been supporting Sunni forces in Syria, Iraq and Yemen against Shia authorities. At the same time, Iran also supports militarily and diplomatically. According to UNICEF thousands of children, women, old men died and profound populations displaced. Additionally, the sectarian conflict which has been considered a holy battle proved the nature of the war to be religious. Thus, middle East's unending series of wars are holy wars.

Besides, in the central Asia war between Armenia and Azerbaijan is purely holy war. This conflict's nature is fully religious. The war has been encouraged by the Christian popes to encounter the influence of Muslims in

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the Nagorno Karabakh region. Consequently, both the sides have been getting spiritual encourage from religion. This holy war between the two nations have caused huge number of causalities and losses. Therefore, the modern conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan is religious.

Also, the Sahel of Africa has been hit by the holy wars. In the Sahel where several nations have been living since the creation of human beings. According to UNHRC Christian minorities have been killed and made hostages by the name of holy wars against pagans. Similarly, the Christian dominated regions have been killing the muslim minorities in response. Therefore, this is now clear from the crisis of Sahel

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that modern wars are holy wars.

Additionally, Afghan Jihaid against USSR is one of the tremendous instances of holy war in 1979 when the USSR attacked the soil of Afghans and captured the Kabul with the help of ally. The call of holy war spread around the world. Consequently, number of muslims reached to Afghanistan from Islamic countries and took part in the holy war against Russians.

According to Reuters that Islamic countries like Saudi Arabia and Pakistan fully assisted the holy Jihaid against Russian troops. Thus, modern wars based on religious conflicts.

Apart from this, India and Pakistan's series of conflicts have

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interconnections with holy wars. When Pakistan got independence, the tensions increased with India. These tensions led to three major wars. The Indian authorities used to see Pakistan as Islamic extremist state. In the wars the motives from both sides were not only to capture territories but also to establish the supremacy of respective religions. Thus, series of Indian and Pakistani conflicts were based on the perspective of holy wars.

In similar way, several non-state actors have been pushing the holy wars. Holy wars are not only being operated by states but also non-state actors. Non-state actors like TTP, ISIS, RSS, Boko Haram and Al-Qaeda have been conducting holy wars against governments, civilians and nations. According to

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Global Terrorism Index Report 2022 that these groups have carried out most bloody attacks in Pakistan, Iran, Africa, Europe and worldwide. The motive of the attacks were religious. Thus, modern conflicts which have been carried out by non-state actors are religious conflicts.

After having a complete view of the critics' stance. The following paragraphs shed light on the thesis statement which is based on the existing realities of the world's conflicts as non-secular.

Firstly, Palestine vs. Israel conflict has no interconnection with holy war. The latest combat is completely territorial. This war was started after the failure of UN Partition Plan 1947 for Palestine. Religious sites still have

profound respects in the region. There has been no official document issued to vanish Al-Aqsa masjid. According to Reuters settlers have been encouraged to capture territory rather than waging holy war. Additionally, huge number of Jews have been standing with oppressed Palestinians for independent Palestine. Therefore, the critics' stance is illogical and has no healty to prove the current conflicts as holy wars.

Secondly, war on terror had no relation with holy war. This conflict was fought to eliminate terrorism worldwide. The operation had no intent to wage war against entire muslims. The term Crusades were used by Bush in the context of encouraging the troops rather than openly declaring war on muslim world. Moreover, number of muslim countries like Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa.

participated in the war. Similarly, many terrorist groups used religion as a tool to attract new combatants and shaped strong narrative against the western forces. Thus, war on terror has no direct link with holy war.

moreover, middle East series of wars are naturally based on geo-strategic interest of global and regional powers rather than holy wars. Middle East is not only a region of natural resources but also has profound importance for giant powers. Global powers have been creating chaos in the region with the help of regional powers to have strong influence. For instance: USA has strong strategic partnership with GCC and Israel. On the other hand, Russia has ties geo-strategically mostly with Shia countries. Consequently, conflicts among regional powers controlled by

giant powers. This has been wrongly considered by the critics as holy wars. Therefore, the stance of critics lacks understanding between conflicts based on geo-strategic importance and holy wars.

Additionally, the modern fight between Armenia and Azerbaijan is territorial rather than holy war. The conflict has been fought over the region of Nagorno Karabakh. Azerbaijan has influenced and captured mostly the region of Nagorno Karabakh. The defeat of Armenian forces in the region was surprise for pro-Armenian people.

This surprise has led propaganda by the pro-Armenian people that the war was based on holy war. Therefore, the latest conflict between the two nations is territorial rather than holy war.

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Also, Fights in the Sahel of Africa are political and economical. The Sahel region is one of the most dangerous war zones. According to UN Report on the region, military coups, terrorist groups and democratic governments have been fighting to gain political and territorial hold over the region. Further, there has been no conflict carried out on the basis of holy war. Therefore, the modern conflicts in the region of Sahel are political rather than holy war.

Besides, war against USSR 1979-89 was an ideological in nature rather than holy war. War against USSR which aimed to vanish the spread of Communist Ideology in South Asia. Global powers along with regional partners used religion as a tool to

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Fight Russians on Afghan soil.

The USSR had never considered the war to be holy conflict. According to US Congress based research service, the United States spent billions of dollars to encounter the spread of Communism in Afghanistan during the era of Cold war 1945-1991. Thus, war against USSR was ideological in nature rather than Jihad or holy war.

Further more, wars between India and Pakistan were based on territorial and natural resources. Both the nations fought on the region of Kashmir, Sir Creek and Sindh. Also, series of minor battles took place on natural resources like water. Further, both the nations have never given the status of holy wars. There has been

no sign of holy war in the tensions between the two countries. Therefore, conflicts between the two nations were territorial and over natural resources rather than religious.

Apart from this, non-state actors like Boko Haram, ISIS, and TTP have been using religion as a tool to achieve objectives. The UN Secretary general once well said, "Terrorists have no religion, no culture, no identity and no country." (Ban Ki-moon) undoubtedly, terrorists who have been using religion as a tool have no relation with the religion. In fact, through the tool of religion several objectives have been achieved like ideological support from masses and recruitments of fighters. Thus, terrorism has not been pushing holy wars.

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In a nutshell, currently all the conflicts in middle East, South Asia, Central Asia, Europe and Africa have no direct relations with holy wars. In fact, battles in such regions have been fought over territories, resources, political gains and economical purposes. However, holy wars are not fought on the basis of capturing territories and natural resources. Consequently, these variations make the current wars profoundly different from the holy wars. The variations between both the conflicts ascribe that religious or holy wars are fought for the supremacy of one's religion rather than territorial or economical gains. Therefore, modern wars are not holy wars.

Well attempted

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