

Title: 'Cooperation, not Competition,  
Lead the World towards peace  
and prosperity'

1. Introduction

2. How has competition among nations  
always led the world to devastati-  
ng wars?

Case study: World War I and WWII -  
the glaring examples.

3. How does cooperation lead towards  
peace and prosperity?

i. Cooperation among nations to resolve  
the conflicts through diplomacy.

Case study: UN - for peace building/  
keeping and to avoid wars.

ii. Political cooperation leads to peaceful  
conflict resolution via dialogue and  
negotiation.

Case study: European Union (EU)  
as mediator in Iran nuclear deal (2015)

iii. Secures and maintains economic

interests.

Case study: Formation of organizations such as IMF, WB, World Economic Forum.

iv- On social sphere, welfare societies, NGOs, and student unions working to raise awareness.

Case study: COVID-19 campaigns  
v- Preventing digital divide in technological ~~div~~ sector.

Case study: World Wide Web Foundation's efforts to expand internet access for education/peace etc.

vi- Binding the nations for environmental cause.

Case study: Conference of Parties-COPs (26-28).

4. How does competition hinder Peace and Prosperity?

i) Economic giants fighting for hegemony disturbing international peace and prosperity.

Case in point: US-China rivalry

ii- Negative / unhealthy competition between the ruling and opposition leading to chaos.

Case in point: Politics in Pakistan.

iii- Conflicts and fights between neighbouring countries putting regional peace and prosperity at stake.

Case in point: Pakistan India strife.

iv- Competition leading to <sup>full scale</sup> wars creating havoc for common people.

Case in point: Russia Ukraine war.

v- Conflict over resources.

Case in point: Israel - Hamas war.

5. Why can the world not prosper in its true essence without cooperation in 21<sup>st</sup> century / today's world?

i- Terrorism a global threat needs global cooperation to be dealt with.

ii- The increased nuclear proliferation across the world.

iii- Global warming as a humanitarian

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catastrophe cannot be curbed. Single  
handily.

iv- Food insecurity ~~is~~<sup>as</sup> ~~the~~ a current  
challenge.

v- Poverty accross the globe.

6. Conclusion.

Since our early years, we are told stories based on the proverb 'United we stand, Divided we fall.' Now the world needs to follow this. The lessons and morals preached to the children in their adulthood are now the codes for the <sup>new</sup> world countries to be followed by. The Cooperation from individual to International level has become a necessity in the global arena for maintaining peace and prosperity. On the other hand, competition, which the world considers its key to prosperity, merely brings chaos and turbulence. Cooperation, the requisite for prosperity, brings peace and success to the nations at international level by diplomacy. On the ~~national level~~ <sup>national level</sup> political fronts, it involves conflict resolution, secures and maintains economic interest of the nations. It bridges the social

gap, the technological divide <sup>and</sup> fosters collective action on global issues such as climate change. Whereas, competition hinders peace and prosperity by warfare, international and intraregional ~~re~~ disputes and conflicts. In a nutshell, the advancement of global peace and prosperity is best facilitated through the paradigm of cooperation or competition. It fosters collaboration among nations, organizations and individuals to collectively address challenges and pursue shared goals.

The world has progressed through cooperation which <sup>tech</sup> proves to be a binding force among the nations and organizations to combat ~~the challenges of~~ contemporary ~~times~~ challenges. However, competition has merely caused devastation through prolonged wars.

and conflicts. What caused the wars, was the hegemonic mindset of several leaders, who desired to expand and grow by capturing the territories of other nations, violating the laws (the international laws) ~~and~~ following brutal practices.

The fact is that the nations just compete for resources, territories and ideologies with a hollow mindset of achieving prosperity. Ultimately, the empires collapsed, those who considered them the world's best and finest naval and economic powers. They break internally and externally because they aim to ascend and reach the top rung of the ladder, before any other state.

A glaring example is the scenario of world wars (World war I and World war II) <sup>they</sup> caused massive casualties and significant economic, political and social changes, with humanity still facing the war-torn implications.

(Antony Beevor, "The Second World War", 2012). Thus, competitions have always proved to be fatal for which is also supported by historical perspective/evidence.

The coordination, or the joint action ~~has~~ promotes peace and prosperity in the world, ~~as~~ <sup>by</sup> the cooperation among nations.

This can be achieved by diplomacy and negotiations of one nation with the other on any concurrent issue. When the nations cooperate internally and externally to build <sup>ties</sup> ties in economic, social any many other domains, they seek to create a community which puts collaborative action and efforts for that one particular cause. <sup>eventually prosper</sup> When the nations are backed by the international support through diplomatic talks and conflict resolution, they tend to work for one common cause thus bringing a hope.



and prosperity not only in one nation but also in the whole world.

A notable example in this regard is United Nations organization, <sup>(UNO)</sup> which aims to work for peace <sup>building</sup> and <sup>keeping</sup> peace ~~building~~ in the world to avoid wars. (UN Department of Peace Operations, 'Peace keeping operations, since 1948) In this way, through joint efforts of organizations and states, peace and prosperity prevails in the world.

In addition to the international efforts, the political cooperation also brings peace and prosperity by peaceful conflict resolution via dialogue and negotiation. The political collaboration among the decision-makers on any crisis or challenge provides platform for discussions, debates and negotiations for its resolution. In these <sup>such</sup> circumstances, solutions are better sought, keeping all aspects of a point / issue into consi-

deration. In any upheaval, the political consensus brings an indepth analysis of an issue and the solutions prove to be better favourable for the progress of countries, citizens and the global community. European Union (EU) a political alliance, played a role as a mediator in Iran nuclear deal where it started a structured dialogue with Iran, clearly manifests cooperation through dialogue. (Aaron Allen, 'Europe's Role in Reconstituting the Iran Nuclear Deal', 2021). In this way, cooperation through negotiation and dialogue at political levels leads to peaceful and prosperous resolution of conflicts.

Furthermore, cooperation among nations also paves way for the economic security of the nation; which in the <sup>modern</sup> world is considered as a prerequisite for peace and prosperity. Economic stability raises the

as they tend to resolve their social, problems, governance issues and also elevate their national image. In addition to this, economic security, ~~where~~ of one state by ~~diff~~ the collaboration of different organizations and other more developed countries is promoted, the world issues are better addressed and resolved, including the wars, pandemics, <sup>and</sup> environmental issues. For this purpose, the developed and the developing countries joined hands and formed different organizations and alliances to support each other and address <sup>the</sup> global dilemmas. The formation of organizations such as IMF, World Bank (WB) and World Economic Forum are the practically existing examples of economic cooperation among different countries, ~~where~~ which aid the countries by providing funds and loans to support them, ~~mg~~ majorly the developing economies. (World

Bank Group and International Monetary Fund, 2019). Thus economic prosperity can only be achieved when all the global giants, including developed countries, international organizations and alliances join hands to support for a common cause.

Moreover, cooperation in social sphere also brings peace and prosperity. This purpose is fulfilled by different welfare societies, non-governmental organizations and student unions working to raise awareness for a common cause.

This gives a blow to the political leaderships for putting efforts and devising policies for working effectively. It also grabs world wide attention and support: for example during the COVID 19 pandemic, the <sup>social</sup> campaigns played a vital role in spreading awareness ~~by~~ through different networks i.e public marches, social media trends for the preventive

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measures and healthcare centres by NGOs and different welfare departments. (India foundation, Dealing with pandemic: Contribution of NGOs, 2021). This is how, when all the actors unite for a common cause, <sup>are better able to defeat</sup> they ~~spendemics~~ and global challenges.

On the technological front, collaboration by all the stakeholders and members of a community is crucial in preventing the digital divide to ~~bring in~~ <sup>bring for</sup> a boom in their social conditions.

The social media proves to be a great source of ~~e~~ information, collaborative research and ~~putti~~ taking measures to work for a common ~~k~~ event by curriculum synchronization, <sup>using</sup> ~~red~~ search and information technology tools in this regard. It bridges the gaps between societies and also brings to light the burning issues for collective action.

World Wide Web Foundation is one such platform. Its efforts to expand internet access in developing regions, access to educational opportunities ultimately contributes into peace and prosperity. (WWW Foundation, 2009)

In this way, cooperation ~~is~~ at technological platforms help in securing the prosperity by fulfilling educational needs of the society and informing them regarding the contemporary trends.

Collaboration ~~for~~ also blesses the environment one breaths in. Environment acts as a binding force for the nations to have an insight <sup>on</sup> ~~on~~ the growing climatic calamities and its disastrous consequences ~~for~~ on their lifespan and ultimately that ~~of~~ their upcoming generations. The collaborative actions ~~put~~ gives a sense of responsibility ~~for~~ <sup>to</sup> every nation's builders and survivors that lone efforts

never bear fruit<sup>ful</sup>. In these striking realities, nations keep their personal motives and biases away and work for a common subject. Conference of Parties (COP) is one such initiative by United Nations, where majority of the countries, despite arch rivalry (China - India - Pak - US etc) joint hands to work for one common cause that it was to save this planet from the carbon emissions. COP-26:

"Together for our Planet". This is how, cooperation on any issue is necessary for world peace, stability and prosperity.

However, the competition among the nations always breeds chaos and destruction. When the economic giants confront each other, the prime motives of everyone <sup>state</sup> is to be more powerful, prosperous and developed, so they compete for hegemony; to gain ultimate pow-

This directly impacts the underdeveloped nations being as the puppets of the mighty, shaping and framing their decisions on the will of the mighty rulers, eventually ending in destruction instead of prosperity.

It hinders <sup>er the gateway to</sup> international peace and fosters imbalance in the society.

An example to illustrate the above given stance is that of <sup>growing</sup> US-China rivalry in the world; both wanting to attain absolute majority and power, whereas the developing nations are getting poorer and poorer due to constant wars and conspiracies of the ~~the~~ Global North / West. Dawn 'US-China <sup>rivalry</sup> - 2023). Thereof As a result, the power maximization just leads to conflicts, not only for the powerful, but also for the ones who are dependent on these economic giants for progress.

The power maximization not only creates economic challenges.



ges but also political competition. It breeds political competition between the ruling and the opposition, creating chaos and anarchy.

This unhealthy and negative competition stagnates growth, development or vision for public service, ~~thus~~ and ~~inst~~ encourages personal gain over the public service and delivery. For example, in countries like Pakistan, where politics is used as a tool to gain power and benefits ~~own~~ one's self puts <sup>all</sup> the other sectors under burden and default, ultimately fail to maintain stability and progress.

(East Asia Forum - 'Pakistan's political soap opera puts its economy on the ropes' - 2023)

This is how, the political competitions also hinder development when the motive is to compete for power.

In addition to the economic and political spheres, the <sup>regional</sup> rivalry also hinders progress and perpetuates conflicts. The inter-regional

and intra-regional disputes in the world are not hidden from any one; they merely compete for on territorial basis, lack of resources, destabilization or imbalance of power. Such conflicts create tensions and troubles for public, keeping their security, peace and social growth on stake. The India-Pakistan strife in South Asia since their partition in 1947 is no more any alien ~~concept~~ concept for the world. Two neighbouring countries <sup>have been</sup> struggling for a ~~to~~ disputed territory Kashmir for their personal gains. <sup>(Council on Foreign Relations - Global</sup> In this way, the whole conflict region is tangled in a state of <sup>Tracker</sup> crisis due to ~~stop~~ self-created <sup>2024</sup> disputes putting regional peace on stake.

Conflicts, in the same manner, when prolonged or remain unresolved, develop into full scale wars, causing great deal of damage and disaster. These conflicts ~~are~~ are commonly based on

and prejudiced demands aiming to gain domination, which creates havoc for the common people. The history is full of such full-fledged wars where the sole purpose of any state or leader was to gain utmost power ~~for~~ <sup>to</sup> spread their ideologies or power structures basis, resulting in genocides, desperation, terror and destruction. Russia-Ukraine war at present is synonymous to the context. The conflict, having roots in world war II, spread to Crimea and then to Ukraine, resulting in <sup>a full scale</sup> war with mob violence and with no endpoint till now. (The Dawn News - 'The Ukraine Crisis 2023'). ~~likewise~~ In this manner, the regional disputes if remain unresolved ~~grow~~ develop in to full scale wars creating havoc for humanity just to satisfy ~~the~~ instinct of competition.

The conflicts over ~~likewise~~ likewise become part of generations, ~~running~~ <sup>throughout</sup> extending their roots ~~in~~ <sup>throughout</sup> history for centuries and for generations. The competitors, via diplomacies and negative means, want expansionism and this mindset sets targets that brutally effects <sup>not</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>only</sup> their peace and well being, but also of the future generations, the ones bearing the burden of something that they didn't even do. Such conflicts ~~are~~ never bring unity among the ~~of~~ communities, instead cause lifelong disasters. ~~can~~ ~~be~~ antagonism and enmity. The Israel Hamas war is one such example of the present world, ~~where~~ which is the greatest example of generational disputes over resources, territories and ~~over~~ <sup>sparked</sup> eighty <sup>with</sup> the aspect of religion. Such competitions ~~is~~ not only under prosperity of one group of people

but the widespread impacts of this war are encountered by the whole world. (Conflic The Daily Dawn - 'Conflict and Art', 2023). In this way, competition leads to global crisis when the nations are unaware of their strengths and and cooperation.

Cooperation is a central concept in 21<sup>st</sup> century. Without this practice, peace and prosperity are merely ~~mere~~ terms by nomenclature (without cooperation they have no meaning or existence). In order to counter global threats of the ~~world~~ modern day, it is imperative ~~to~~ for nations, organizations, ~~co~~ communities and individuals to cooperate and collaborate in all spheres of life. Terrorism — a global threat needs global cooperation to be dealt with. This is because it emerges through a nexus of closed and terrorist mind

grouping who want to disrupt the peace and stability, so it is necessary to counter it with collaboration also. The terrorist agendas can only be defeated through joint efforts and support by international community, state leadership, military, institutions and individual efforts. An example of European Union (EU) is commendable in this regard as it took counter-terrorism measures for attacks against the local population across its member states, as (France) were the 2019 Paris attacks.

(politico- 'Paris Terror Attacks' - 2023)

It is thus evident that joint efforts in any course of action regarding terrorist activities can help combat the global destruction and save peace.

Similarly, the increased nuclear proliferation <sup>across</sup> the world can be ~~minimized~~ <sup>reduced</sup> by <sup>increasing</sup> cooperation among the countries. The world is

century is all atomic, and the world is using it to create deterrence for power maximization. But

Some countries are maximizing this nuclear strength to terrorize, threaten and destroy other nations for the sake of their historical rivalries, conventional ideologies and putting religious sentiment as an excuse to exercise their power. So to combat this, cooperation and peaceful collaboration is significant to downsize the hazardous impacts of nuclear proliferation. When nations

unite for a common cause, they tend to triumph over it. Pakistan's

Arms control and disarmament <sup>frightens</sup> ~~reads~~

as the opposition (rival) ~~to~~ from breaching its sovereignty, and to create deterrence in its way of progress and relations with other powers. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Arms control and Disarmament - 2024).

In this way, nations struggle for their common cause (peace and development) by adopting strategies of cooperation and mutual consensus.

Among the other common crisis, global warming (climate cause) is one such issue that cannot be curbed single-handedly. This humanitarian catastrophe can be dealt with international cooperation, as they all contribute to pollute the earth, by emitting carbon <sup>emissions</sup> and other gases. The heated ~~clim~~ earth now, ~~be~~ taking revenge from the ones who once polluted it, cannot be fought back <sup>by</sup> with ~~the~~ any single nation. It demands association of all the states and their institutions to make concerted efforts to mitigate the losses and threats posed by this deadly disaster. This is a striking challenge.



for the modern world, as ~~is~~ progress and development would be impossible if ~~this~~ it is ignored or neglected.

The Paris agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, to limit the temperature increase. (United Nations - 'Peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet' - 2015). In such ways, cooperation by all member states is crucial for <sup>maintaining</sup> global peace on the planet.

Food insecurity, ~~the~~ another social issue, is also strengthening its roots in the list of global challenges that are not dealt consciously. The argument is that ~~the~~ ~~of~~ tonnes of food gets wasted each year and ~~keep~~ <sup>so</sup> ultimately the number of humans sleeping with an empty stomach. Careful and cautious measures, demanding every state and organization to play its part is necessary to prevent food insecurity.

and wastage. The high / alarming situation of food insecurity and increasing hunger levels make the countries vulnerable to combat with the looming challenges. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 'zero hunger' must be framed as a prime objective for nations by increasing collaboration ... (Dawn - Facing Hunger - 2022). Thus

If the decline in this situation can be favourable which can only be achieved through adopting UN's SDGs and mitigating the losses.

Global Poverty is also one of the main concerns of this century which cannot be eradicated without collaboration and joint efforts. Most developing countries are lagging day-by-day in the poverty index due to wars, rivalries and distorted relations with other countries. The resource hubs get empty because of this lack of cooperation or

competing mindsets. ~~Thus~~ so poverty becomes a major challenge as the nations lack basic resources, food water, shelter etc. In order to eradicate ~~the~~ further losses, nations or the developed states must cooperate ~~and~~ and do efforts for the distribution of wealth and resources. World Vision Towards Poverty reduction Strategy is an ~~program~~ initiative to eliminate <sup>lessen</sup> poverty taken in 2023 by consolidated efforts of the nations. (The News International al- 'World Vision Towards Poverty reduction strategy' + 2023). Through such efforts and initiatives, world peace ~~and~~ <sup>by</sup> collaboration can be ensured.

In the concluding note, it is cooperation that brings global peace and prosperity, whereas competition merely perpetuates aggression, terror and wars. # Cooperation among

every segment of the world; may it be ~~counter~~ states, institutions or individuals is crucial to address challenges of the modern world and pursue shared goals. Cooperation through dialogues and negotiation for common causes can bring prosperity and development. On the other hand, competition hinders it by hegemonic behaviours of the leaders, the propogates fights and conflicts, and brings a scattered ~~x~~ outlook of the world. Hence, Cooperation and collaboration among different segments <sup>in</sup> of the world can mitigate the current challenges and issues the states are tangled in, and foster <sup>peace and</sup> prosperity in the world.