

Are Modern Wars not Holy Wars?

Out Line

1). Introduction.

- 1.1). Definition of holy Wars.
- 1.2). purpose of Wars.

2). Nature of Modern Wars.

- 2.1). Modern Wars are not holy wars.
- 2.2). Modern Wars are due to national interests gains and avoid losses.

3). Modern Wars case studies.

- 3.1). Israel- Palestine War.
- 3.2). Russia- Ukraine War.
- 3.3). Pakistan's civil War.

4). Impacts of Modern Wars.

- 4.1). Violation of Human Rights.
- 4.2). Global Inflation.
- 4.3). Diminishes International Relations.

5). Conclusion.

(2)

Holy Wars are those that are fought only for Allah according to the teachings of Islam not for personal gain or choice. These wars are fought for the protection of Islam and to stop oppression against oppressed. These wars are not fought for personal benefits. Holy Wars have religious and spiritual purposes and these have proper teachings.

According to Elie Wiesel

"A holy war is a contradiction in terms. War dehumanizes, war diminishes, war debases all those who wage it."

Modern wars are fought only for personal gain. These wars have no religious or spiritual purposes; these are fought only to protect its own national interest. Modern wars are dehumanizing, destructive and devastating. These wars have negative influence on people. Soldiers and others are facing severe damage, physical, emotional and psychological pains. Wars had great impacts on its participants.

According to Wilfred Owen war is futile. In his poem "Futility"

(8)

he describes the senselessness of War. According to him War is destructive. It has no purpose. It is senseless and useless. It caused sufferings and lost lives of young people. It has no fruitful purpose. In his another poem **"Anthem for Doomed Youth,"** he describes the hardships, sorrows and sufferings of War. Wilfred Owen says that in War youth lost their lives for no purpose. Even after their death no one praise them enough. In **"Strange Meeting,"** poet met with his friend in hell. He is shocked to see many of the soldiers age in hell. So according to him War has not fruitful purposes. It is futile and useless.

"War is neither glamorous nor attractive. It is monstrous. Its very nature is one of tragedy and suffering." - Dalai Lama.

Modern Wars are fought to avoid losses or gain national interests.

e.g. Pakistan took part in

2003 USA attack on Afghanistan only for personal gains. Pakistan wants

(4)

to avoid from facing American direct aggression and it wants to achieve many more interests. Many countries are fighting proxy wars only for their own benefits.

e.g.:-

Iran - Saudi Arabia Conflict: Iran has been supporting Shia community like in Syria Iran supported Bashar-ul-Azad's government while Saudi Arabia supported Sunni community like Syrian Public is supported by Saudi Arabia.

There are many modern war cases. Israel - Palestine conflict. It is a geological, political and religious type of conflict. It is not a holy war. In this war people are facing suffering, physical, emotional and mental pains. More than 60,000 Palestinians have been killed since 7 Oct 2023. Many of them are children and women. Large number of Palestinians are captured by Israel and Palestine also held many hostages.

According to Dalai Lama:-

"All forms of violence, especially war, are totally unacceptable as means to settle disputes between

(5)
and among nations, groups
and persons."

Russia - Ukraine conflict is also a major type of conflict between the two. It is a geological type of conflict. It is also not a holy war. It has been fighting since 2022 only for gaining dominance in nearby regions. It has global influences. EU countries imposed sanction on Russia's import in their countries. EU countries began to import oil and gas from Middle East. Consequently, oil and gas prices increased in the market. Especially, Pakistan faced hike in oil prices due to Russia-Ukraine conflict. It causes global inflation.

In present times, Pakistan encounters terrorism especially, in Balochistan and KPK. Insurgent groups like Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) is fighting against government and killing innocent civilians. It is not a holy war, but it is fighting for gaining dominance and power.

According to Imam Feisal
Abdul Rauf:

"The truth is that killing
innocent people is always

(6)

Wrong:

Modern Wars have very horrible and devastating effects. These cause sufferings, hardships and troubles for participants. Participants are not only carrying tangible weight, but they are also holding intangible weight like emotional and psychological sufferings. Thousands of people are killed, many are injured and facing horrible effects in the war.

e.g.:

In Israel-Iran conflict more than 60,000 have been killed since 7 Oct, 2023; many are injured and large numbers of people are captive. Similarly Russia-Ukraine War also has destructive effects. It causes killing of thousands and thousands of people. It has global effects. It reduces oil and gas export. Consequently, the whole Europe and Asia face hike in industrial prices. Similarly War in Vietnam is also a political conflict. It divides Vietnam into two parts north and south Vietnam. Many people were killed in the War. Iran and Saudi Arabia fought proxy

(7)
War during this conflict.

According to Pope John Paul

"Humanity should question itself, once more, about the absurd and always unfair phenomena of War."

The major impact of wars is the distortion of relations among countries and nations. Wars disrupts international relations.

Modern wars are not holy wars. These are fighting only for the purpose of personal gains or avoid losses. In modern wars advanced technology is using which causes devastating effects like killing people, thousands of people are being injured and they are facing emotional, physical and psychological sufferings. Major modern wars are Israel-Palestine conflict, Russia - Ukraine war etc. All these wars have major devastating effects.

Anna Howard Shaw says:

"Preparedness for War is an incentive to War, and the only hope of permanent peace is"

(8)
the systematic and scientific
disarmament of all the nations
of the world."