

Essay Writing:

The Supreme Art of War is
to Subdue the Enemy
without Fighting

Outline:

A. Introduction:

- 1) Philosophical beginning
- 2) Manifesting the art of war
in the contemporary world and
its winning strategies
- 3) Thesis statement

B. Defining the Term; Enemy and Changing Dynamics of the Battlefield

C. Why the Supreme Art of War is to Win without Fighting:

- 1) To avoid bloodshed;
 - a) The haunted memories of the World War 1 are still alive
- 2) To avoid the danger of nuclear confrontation;
 - a) Projection of the 21st world war to be fought with sticks and stones

D. Subduing the Enemy without Fighting: The Dynamics of the Battlefield

- 1) Winning cyberwarfare without traditional fighting;
 - a) The US Strategic Security Organization for Peace reported the Russian involvement and cyber attack conduction in the US.
- 2) Winning the war of narratives without killing;
 - a) The social media warfare and Hamas-Israel war
 - b) Western media propaganda
- 3) Winning economic dominance over the enemy without

using force

a) The US-China trade war and tussle for shaping the world order

b) World order by Henry Kissinger

4) ~~Safeguarding~~ Installing pro-state regime in the political setup of the enemy without fighting

a) Israel influence in changing the regime of Syria

E. Destroying the Enemy causing Backwardness in the wheel of the National Progress:

1) Destroying the biggest enemy in the progress of the nation
; Poverty, without killing

2) Nipping corruption - the mother of all evils - in the bud

3) Reducing the culture of illiteracy - the menace of ignorance

F. War is Essential : To Subdue the Enemy with Fighting

- 1) To curb terrorism
 - a) Pakistan striking against Afghanistan's protected terrorist outfits
 - b) Operation Zarb-e-Azb
- 2) To protect the sovereignty of a state
 - a) Operation Bungan-un-Marsoos

G. Prioritizing Peace over Fighting - The ^{supreme} ~~ultimate~~ Norm of the War

H. Conclusion

Essay:

The lightning in the sky caused by the missiles being exchanged between Israel and Iran during the Six-day war did not brighten the night; but it coloured its darkness with the colour of blood. Contrastingly, the fight fought on the chess board during the international chess championship manifested the intellectual supremacy of the mind in the game of minds. The latter achieved global appreciation, with the former being condemned globally. The world considers the art of winning the war without fighting supreme as the haunted memory of the World War I warns against any such adventure in the future; moreover, the threat of nuclear confrontation wiping the whole world also demands peaceful and diplomatic resolution of conflicts. The contemporary shifting dynamics of the battlefield also demands the winning of war without fighting. The cyberwarfare is making ground for influencing and shaping

the minds of the people, destroying the institutional infrastructure and thefting the important information of the enemy; gaining dominance over the enemy without fighting. Furthermore, political regime installation in the state of enemy, winning the war of propaganda against the enemy and gaining economic supremacy over the enemy are all the manifestation of how war is being fought and won without fighting in the contemporary world. Nevertheless, the elements hindering the progress of the nation, like poverty, corruption and illiteracy, must be treated like enemy. However, sometimes, it becomes an obligation for the state to use force against the enemy, when the sovereignty of the state is in question. In short, the supreme art of war is to win it without utilizing force; however, it must be dealt with force when the sovereignty is in danger.

To begin with, in this essay the term enemy is not restricted

to foreign elements only, even the internal ills impeding the progress of the nation are treated like enemy and have to be fought without fighting traditionally. Furthermore, the battlefield is no more ^{being} fought with swords and with the involvement of the infantry, rather, it is shifted towards the virtual space; Cyberwarfare, social media war of narratives and propaganda, gaining dominance over the enemy in the economic and politico-strategic sphere. Hence, terminology associated with the enemy and ^{the} concept related to the battlefield have changed.

Now, what makes the war supreme when it ~~is~~ subdues the enemy without fighting will be discussed along with its manifestation in the contemporary battlefields.

The foremost principle demanding to win wars without fighting traditionally is to avoid the bloodshed. The perception behind any fight is the blood shed. World does not

want to see more massacre and genocide under the guise of war. The memories of the World War I incurring and taking lives of millions of people have not vanished from the minds of the people. The world is cautiously watching every move of the statesman to curb any warmongering initiatives. Hence to avoid the blood shed, peace is preferred.

Secondly, the danger of the nuclear confrontation also makes the handling of conflicts without fighting the supreme art of war. The world will no more immune to the adversities if a nuclear war originates between any two countries. The impacts would be far off behind the region where such war took off, ending the whole world. According to Einstein, "I do not know what would make the third world war to occur, but I know that the fourth world war would be fought with stones and sticks. This concern makes the handling

of the conflicts without being confrontational as the supreme art of war.

Now, the contemporary manifestation of the world winning the war without fighting traditionally will be discussed.

The first battleground in which subduing the enemy is taking place without traditional fighting is the cyberspace. In cyberwarfare, the traditional force; military engagement, is not utilized, rather the fight is fought on computers. Any damage to the enemy, either in the form of stealing crucial information of the enemy, leaking data or causing infrastructural loss would give advantage to the ~~one~~ initiator. For instance, the US Strategic Security Organization for peace had reported the Russian involvement in attacking the American companies and conducting cyber-thefts and attacks, causing a great economic loss to the US. Here, Russia is winning cyberwarfare by

damaging its enemy state without fighting traditionally.

Another battleground is the social media where fighting is taking place without use of force. The war of propaganda, destroying the minds of the enemy state is the norm of today's world. The truth is hidden under the layers of disinformation and misinformation. For instance, during the Hamas-Israel war, the Western media, especially the CNN, has projected Israeli propaganda of Hamas killing and beheading the babies on October, 7th. However, this narrative has built anti-Hamas element in the world, demanding elimination of Hamas and giving Israel the right of self-defence. Hence, the fight is winning the public-opinion through social and traditional media, without fighting traditionally.

The third battlefield which projects the winning in the war is in economic ranking of the states. Whoever is dominant

economically, would ultimately have say in the global order, because the world is no more geo-politically ruled, it is now geo-economically driven. For instance, the US and China are not fighting militarily, their tussle in ^{gaining} economic supremacy has been projected through their trade war. According to Henry Kissinger, in his book, World Order, the world order is going to be china-centric; hence the US needs to protect its supremacy. Thus, this tussle between the old ending world order and the emerging world order is being fought without traditional fighting.

Another tactic that is employed ~~by the~~ to subdue the enemy in the war without fighting is ~~the~~ installing its pro-state regime in the political set-up of the enemy-state. This is not a new thing in the global security dynamics. The US has been doing this since 1970s. In order to control the Iranian-led regime

in Syria, Israel supported the uprising against Bashar-ul-Assad, both militarily and economically. Israel ultimately succeeded in installing its pro-state led leadership in Syria ~~by~~ under the hidden terminology - Regime Change. Hence, war has been won by subduing the enemy without fighting.

The coming paragraphs will discuss the internal enemies that are being fought without traditional fighting.

The first enemy that should be death like enemy is poverty. Poverty being the biggest enemy in the progress of any nation needs strategic policy making to curb its influence. For instance, Pakistan has recently reported by the World Bank of having 45 percent of its population living under the poverty line. Pakistan cannot thrive to the path of success without uplifting these people. Therefore, Pakistan

like any other poverty-stricken nations, need to cut ~~the~~ wings of poverty by prioritizing it as a threat to the national security. Thus, poverty's elimination provides a battleground to subdue it without fighting traditionally.

Secondly, corruption being the mother of all evils, must be destroyed like enemy without fighting traditionally. ^{The} Corrupt state cannot align with the developed states until the culture of corruption ends. For instance, in *Governing the Ungovernable*, Ishrat Hussain says that nothing has caused more harm to Pakistan than the corrupt system of governance has done. Therefore, like enemy, corruption must be dealt with strategic measures, like shifting to e-governance. Hence, to nipping the corruption in the bud, it must be treated like an enemy.

Thirdly, illiteracy should be subdued without fighting traditionally. A illiterate nation cannot become socio-economic empowered nation, as its human resource is unproductive.

in its labor-value. As Iqbal has said, You are young like a heap of dust, when you will grow up, you will a jewel of diamond. So, Pakistan with human development score of 0.44 highlights that its individual efficiency of the labor is only 44 percent as compared to the developed nations of labour value of 1. Thus, illiteracy elimination must be handed like energy, so that human resource development can be improved in Pakistan, without fighting traditionally.

However, sometimes war is essential to be fought with force when the sovereignty of the state is in danger and militant activities ~~see~~ raise their heads.

The ills of terrorism must be subdued with fighting. Terrorism utilize force to inculcate fear in the masses, destroying the unit and peace in the state. Hence no peaceful co-existence with these outfits is appreciated. Therefore, to eradicate it, Pakistan has been

Conducting strikes in Afghanistan, as Afghanistan is not fulfilling its Doha Agreement of not letting any terrorist outfit utilizing its soil against any state. The recent strikes against Afghanistan are another series of strikes. The same is the case of dealing with Balochistan Liberation Army and TTP (Tehreek Taliban Pakistan). Hence, terrorism cannot be given soft hand.

Furthermore, to protect the sovereignty of the state, force becomes the obligatory weapon to subdue the enemy. Sovereignty of the state is supreme over all national interest. Without its sovereignty, a state is a colony; not a state. Hence, whenever it is questioned, force has to be used to uphold its supremacy. For instance, when Indian-led operation Sindoor was imposed on Pakistan on 6-7th May, 2025, Pakistan has to conduct retaliatory strikes against India in the name of Operation Banyan-un-Mansoor. Hence, no matter how

peace is preferred over conflict, sometimes circumstances are crucial to deal with force.

In addition addition to this, peace is always prefer over confrontational conflicts. Diplomacy, either in its first, second and third tier, is always employed to peaceful settlement of the issue. For instance, the current prevalent genocidal situation in Gaza has its solution only in negotiation and agreement. Therefore, the supreme norm of the war is to subdue the enemy without fighting, but also whenever requires, it must be handled peacefully, even in violent confrontations.

To conclude, the supreme art of war is to win it without fighting, however it must be dealt with force when the sovereignty of the state is in question. Terrorism and state-imposed war require subduing enemy with force. On the

other hand, cyberwarfare, war of narratives and socio-economic dominance require subduing the enemy without fighting. So that the lightening in the sky at night must not be of missiles hitting the people, rather the glory of intellectual fights is appreciated and discussed in the world.