

①

Khadija Saad

## SUCCESSFUL NATIONS WIN WITHOUT FIGHTING

### Outline

#### 1. Introduction

Thesis statement: Successful nations win without fighting by utilizing diplomacy, economic statecraft, strategy and cultural influence. They employ these tools in order to achieve their objectives in a peaceful and sustainable manner. Thus, soft power can discourage military adventurism and accelerate national development.

#### 2. Successful nations win without fighting.

#### 3. How great nations win without fighting

- a- By utilizing tools of economic statecraft.
- b- Securing win-win outcome through successful diplomacy
- c- Cultural outreach to win hearts and minds
- d- Influencing public opinion through media warfare
- e- By using tools of lawfare
- f- By exploiting technology for elevating standard of living
- g- Spending on human resource development rather than, military advancement
- h- Devising a strategy to avoid cost of wars
- i- Wise leadership decisions saves future.

#### 4. Fruits of winning without wars.

- a- Prevalence of political stability among countries
- b- Maintenance of peace and security in a country at the cost of adversary.
- c- Reduced costs of wars
- d- Assurance of economic development of a nation
- d- Reduced costs of wars



5. Instances of nations glorified without fighting.

a- Bloodless conquest of Makkah by Muhammad (SAW) in 622 A.D.

b- Germany's economic miracles after the ruins of WWII

c- Confucianism: the philosophy behind Chinese economic outreach.

6 - Conclusion

### Essay

A bullet always invites a bullet and does not solve a problem but triggers new problems. If we look back in history, we have WWI and WWII as prime examples of war destruction. According to the report of the official UK government, both wars claimed almost 120 million casualties altogether. War has caused destruction and brought nothing but economic, social and political chaos to the countries waging war. It is because, traditionally, wars were considered the only way to get economic and political hegemony in international relations. Since then, nations are continuously struggling for betterment. Given that, nowadays countries have adopted alternative measures to influence their enemies. By utilizing economic state craft, one can achieve economic supremacy. Similarly, through diplomatic skills, good leadership, and proper strategy, war destruction can be avoided. Moreover, by using tools of soft power (cultural outreach), lawfare and media warfare, one can influence the world opinion. By employing these tools, nations could not only



5. Instances of nations glorified without fighting.

a- Bloodless conquest of Makkah by Muhammad (SAW) in 622 A.D.

b- Germany's economic miracles after the ruins of WWII

c- Confucianism: the philosophy behind Chinese economic outreach.

6 - Conclusion

### Essay

A bullet always invites a bullet and does not solve a problem but triggers new problems. If we look back in history, we have WWI and WWII as prime examples of war destruction. According to the report of the official UK government, both wars claimed almost 120 million casualties altogether. War has caused destruction and brought nothing but economic, social and political chaos to the countries waging war. It is because, traditionally, wars were considered the only way to get economic and political hegemony in international relations. Hence then, nations are continuously struggling for betterment. Given that, nowadays countries have adopted alternative measures to influence their enemies. By utilizing economic state craft, one can achieve economic supremacy. Similarly, through diplomatic skills, good leadership, and proper strategy, war destruction can be avoided. Moreover, by using tools of soft power (cultural outreach), lawfare and media warfare, one can influence the world opinion. By employing these tools, nations could not only



①

Khadija Saad

## SUCCESSFUL NATIONS WIN WITHOUT FIGHTING

### Outline

#### 1. Introduction

Thesis statement: Successful nations win without fighting by utilizing diplomacy, economic statecraft, strategy and cultural influence. They employ these tools in order to achieve their objectives in a peaceful and sustainable manner. Thus, soft power can discourage military adventurism and accelerate national development.

2- Successful nations win without fighting.

3 How great nations win without fighting

a- By utilizing tools of economic statecraft.

b- Securing win win outcome through successful diplomacy

c- Cultural outreach to win hearts and minds

d- Influencing public opinion through media warfare

e- By using tools of lawfare

f- By exploiting technology for elevating standard of living

g- Spending on human resource development rather than, military advancement

h- Devising a strategy to avoid cost of wars

i- Wise leadership decisions saves future.

4- Fruits of winning without war.

a- Prevalence of political stability among countries

b- Maintenance of peace and security in a country at the cost of adversary.

c- Reduced costs of wars

d- Assurance of economic development of a nation

d- Reduced costs of wars



5. Instances of nations glorified without fighting.

a- Bloodless conquest of Makkah by Muhammad (SAW) in 622 A.D

b- Germany's economic miracles after the ruins of WWII

c- Confucianism: the philosophy behind Chinese economic outreach.

6 - Conclusion

### Essay

A bullet always invites a bullet and does not solve a problem but triggers new problems. If we look back in history, we have WWI and WWII as prime examples of war destruction. According to the report of the official UK government, both wars claimed almost 120 million casualties altogether. War has caused destruction and brought nothing but economic, social and political chaos to the countries waging war. It is because, traditionally, wars were considered the only way to get economic and political hegemony in international relations. Given then, nations are continuously struggling for betterment. Given that, nowadays countries have adopted alternative measures to influence their enemies. By utilizing economic state craft, one can achieve economic supremacy. Similarly, through diplomatic skills, good leadership, and proper strategy, war destruction can be avoided. Moreover, by using tools of soft power (cultural outreach), lawfare and media warfare, one can influence the world opinion. By employing these tools, nations could not only



avoid direct confrontation, but can also prevent themselves getting into the whirl of political instability, economic downturn, compromised security and bloodshed. Historically, there are many instances where nations <sup>have</sup> glorified themselves by adopting non violent tactics with respect to their enemies. In short Successful nations win without fighting by utilizing diplomacy, economic statecraft, strategy and cultural influence. They employ these tools in order to achieve their objective in peaceful and sustainable manner. Thus, soft power tools can discourage military adventurism and accelerate national development.

Successful nations win without fighting refers to the writings of Chinese strategist, Sun Tzu. By "win without war," he meant to achieve success or victory without resorting to physical violence or military actions - It emphasizes the use of alternative means, such as diplomacy, economic power, influence and cultural influence etc. in achieving goals in international relations. The horrors of incessant wars up till 19<sup>th</sup> century started a struggle for a world that is least involved in physical violence. Therefore, it became extremely important for the nation to understand and master the arts of winning without fighting - Hence, those who sustained struggle and hard work became great nations.

There are many means successful nations can utilize to win without fighting, however, the most important is economic statecraft. Economic statecraft



refers to a nation's ability to control resources, access to technology, and the ability to attract investments and trade. It also refers to the influence of the global economy. China's Belt and Road Initiative is a perfect example of an economic power influencing the global market. Similarly, it is also used for pressurizing the behaviour of a targeted country, for one's own political gains. For instance, the US led sanctions against Russia after her attack on Ukraine; and against North Korea after her nuclear programme, limiting their economic ability. Thus, by utilizing economic power, nations can influence their adversary without resorting to physical violence.

While economic statecraft influences the economy, diplomacy overpowers the mind; another tool employed by nations for harmless win. Diplomacy is the art of negotiations used to resolve conflicts and establish negotiation between states. A successful diplomacy is the one that not only dilute the tensions between states, but also, ends up in a win win outcome. The triangular diplomacy between the USA, China and USSR in 1969, for instance, was a successful diplomatic move of Henry Kissinger, a security advisor under US president, Nixon, for diluting tensions between cold war super powers in general and for preserving the United States' economic and nuclear advantage in particular (Henry Kissinger, Diplomacy, 1994). Hence, diplomacy prevents nations indulgence in unnecessary violence.



and for preserving the United States' economic and nuclear advantage in particular. Hence, diplomacy prevents nations' indulgence in unnecessary violence.

Another tool of winning wars without fighting is cultural outreach that, unlike diplomacy, does not need officials to win hearts and mind. Cultural outreach represents the spread of ideas, values, and way of life of a particular nation to other countries. Good aspects of culture i.e. food, art, music, history and literature etc. do influence the thinking of people around the world, consequently attracts tourism and economic boom. Being the country of 40 UNESCO world heritage sites, spicy foods and vibrant culture; India, with 1.52 foreign visitors anticipated in 2021, is one of the top tourist destination place in the world. It has added 8.8 billion US dollars in its foreign exchange earning (Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI), India: A trending cultural tourism destination?, 2022). Therefore, influencing minds and hearts through cultural exchange is the easiest tool to employ for winning without fighting.

However, influencing the public opinion needs overt and covert manipulations by using media as a tool. Perceptions and attitudes can be shaped via films, documentaries, books, internet, or world media forums (CNN etc.). By utilizing media, propagation of a narrative, whether false or true, becomes easy, as quoted by Jim Morrison, "**whoever controls the media controls the mind.**" One of the best example of media controlling world's public



opinion is degrading the image of Muslim culture by projecting a man having beard, wearing shalwar kameez and a turban, as a terrorist. This created a fear among the masses and they started distancing from Muslim culture. Thus, by utilizing media warfare, western society recorded a win over muslim culture in clash of civilization.

Along with media warfare, legal warfare techniques also make a nation win without fighting. Legal warfare or lawfare is the use of legal tools such as; international law, domestic law, international legislation, legal pronouncements and law enforcements. It exploits all aspects of law i.e international law, national law, and law of wars to secure seizing '**legal principal security**,' and "**deligitimize an adversary**." In People Republic of China efforts to assert control over south China sea, lawfare has involved the torturous interpretation of international law to oppose Phillipines' position and seek to diligitimize the arbitary process (Kania, the PLA latest strategic thinking on three warfares, 2016). PRC also uses lawfare to block US Marine Corps and military activities in Japan and US pacific island (Carsheneck, Faux Pacifists' imperial Japan while empowering China, 2017). Therefore, lawfare is an effective way to win without fighting.

Inspite of focusing and blocking the moves of ones adversary, successful nation wins by exploiting technology for the development of its citizens.



Technology can play an important role in elevating the standard of ~~the~~ ones living. The proper use of advance technology ~~for~~ not only impact an individual life but also brings economic and political recognition across the globe. The recent example of successful landing of Indian **Chandrayaan 3** on moon is applauded by the entire world. Similarly, the advancements in Japanese technology seen after nuclear destruction has not only elevated the living standard of its citizens, but also, ranked Japan as one of the top economies of the world. Hence, technology for human development is equally necessary for influencing ones adversary without physical harm.

Similarly, military adventurism can be avoided if nations spend more on human resource development, rather than on arms. The reason is that arms maximization will create security dilemma in other states, and eventually arms race. However, HRD could help in increasing the knowledge, the skills, and the capacities of all the people in a society. With the help of educated, skillful and progressive citizens, a nation could accumulate human capital, invite effective investment, and prepares people for global economic competition and process of democracy; just like the people of the USA, UK, Germany and India. Thus, great nations always focus on the development of its human resource in order to ~~win~~ initiate a harmless win over others.



No doubt, spending on human resource development could avoid the occurrence of a war, but it does not totally remove the possibility of war; a strategy must be in place. It is done by devising a plan to overcome one's enemy before actually going into war. A strategy can be proposed in different manners; changing the position and time of mobility of an army, making trenches for protection, and propaganda setting etc. In Islamic history, for example, trenches were made on the opinion of Hazrat Salman Farsi in Battle of Ahzab; fought between Muslims and <sup>an army of</sup> different tribes of Quraish. With the help of those trenches, the huge army of infidels were distracted and thus, the cost of war for Muslims were reduced. In simple terms, successful nations win by devising mere a good strategy.

A combo of good strategy and wise leadership decisions also work as a conflict resolution mechanism. A good leader is like a captain of a sailing ship. He has clarity about his mission, and courage to pursue his mission by assessing every situation in right manner. As illustrated by Henry Kissinger, "statesman stand or fall on the perception of their trends," he referred to the post WWI German foreign minister; Stresemann approach towards the deplorable conditions of German politics and economy. His long range policy of fulfilment inexorably moved his country to the center of International stage, thus, getting their prestigious and dignified position in



1926 (Henry Kissinger, Diplomacy, 1994). As expressed, good leadership make a country win without going into physical combats.

By utilizing the aforementioned tools and strategies, countries cannot only reduce the inevitability of a war, but can also save themselves falling into a dungeon of political instability. The reason is that by resolving a conflict without any physical violence saves a country from multitude of destruction; ranging from infrastructure and economy. Due to which the structure of government~~ed~~ institutions remain intact, and the working of political institutions goes on uninterrupted. As evident from the practices of European countries, who were always at war before entering into a political network of European Union (EU). After that, they resort for peaceful resolution of each every problem and are enjoying perpetual political stability across the Europe. Therefore, to preserve political stability in a country, one must refrain from getting into malign acts.

Another advantage of winning without war is perseverance of peace and security in the country at the cost of an enemy. The infliction of war falls on each warring state. Therefore, with the help of other influencing means, such as soft power, lawfare, or media warfare etc. one can exploit others weakness while avoiding unrest at home. India's media warfare against Pakistan based on fake news outlets operating



in social and mainstream media, which lobbied international and civil society against Pakistan; is a perfect example of overpowering an enemy while receiving no harm to its own security. Such propaganda not only distorted the image of Pakistan, but also started a sectarian violence in a country (CSCR, Indian disinformation operation against Pakistan and its implications, dec 2021). Hence great nations win its security and peace without fighting a war.

The prevalence of long-term peace due to absence of on-field war ultimately ensures economic development of a nation. On field war not only claim the lives of people but also destroy their stocks and earnings. However, by employing methods other than direct confrontation, such as human resource development, economic alliances, technology exploitation, education and skill development; nation's workforce and standard of living start enhancing. India, for instance, has made checkmate all its South Asian counterparts by directing its policies towards economic development rather than mere military preparedness; and has emerged as top (5) five economies of the world in 2023 (IMF, world Economies Ranking in 2023, 2023). Thus, arts of war help in development of a nation's economy.

Last but not the least, utilizing alternative war means reduce the cost of war as well. History



Witnessed about 40 million casualties in WWI, and more than 75-80 million casualties in WWII, as per the UK official report. However, with changing nature of wars and introduction of nuclear weapons states <sup>have</sup> shown reluctance towards direct confrontation in order to avoid war costs. In 1963, when cold war rivals were at daggers drawn against each other during Cuban missile Crisis; It was hot line diplomacy that saved the world from another nuclear disaster from happening. In this sense, using alternative means of war during a conflict saves lives and property of millions.

The aforementioned advantages are justified by one of the best examples of all times; the bloodless conquest of Makkah in 622 A.D, under a great leader of Muslims; Muhammad (PBUH). It is the only battle in recorded human history in which no fighting, force surrender and force conversion, and bloodshed took place. Moreover, Muhammad (PBUH) did not punish his enemies, but granted general amnesty for all of them. (Ayaz Ahmad Islahi, the bloodless conquest of Makkah, April 2022). In this sense, the conquest of Makkah was totally different from other victories in which the victor committed atrocities on the vanquished. Indeed this was a rare gesture in the world of that period and even today, in modern age. However, it shows a difference between an ordinary warrior and a wise leader having sound perception of trends.



Emerging from the ruins of WWII, Germany's economic development is another success story of a great nation winning without fighting. Prompt and wise economic decisions, along with Marshall plan saved Germany from total devastation. German economist Walter Eucken concept of "social market economy," promoted free market capitalism and allowed the government involvement in creating social policies. Walter, German Federal minister for economic affairs; Ludwig Erhard, successfully promoted German social market economy by adopting new currency and large tax cuts. Almost overnight, West Germany came to life - shops immediately became stocked with goods as people realized that new currency had value (Gregory Gethard, The German Economic miracle post WWII, 2023). And, now Germany is enjoying top four (4) position in terms of Economy with GDP \$4.0 trillion (IMF, World economy ranking, 2023). Therefore, if it were not for Eucken and Erhard, the German economic miracle might never have happened.

One of the modern example of a nation that is winning without war is China. Its global economic outreach is not new to anyone. Strictly adhered to the Confucianism philosophy, the leaders of China are winning the world with ethical morality rather than by coercion; through examples rather than law. Further the government model is based on peace, people well being and meritocracy, Due to the reason, China has become an economic giant in 21st



century with GDP 14.14T and with its OBOR initiative it is further expanding its influence over Asian, African and European Countries. Hence, China's economic development proved that people centered, benovelant and peace seeking government can win without fighting.

In nutshell, successful nations win without fighting by utilizing alternative tools of war, such as diplomacy, economic statecraft, cultural influence, media power, legal constraints, strategic approach, and leadership qualities; to achieve their objective in peaceful and sustainable manner. Employment of such tools have saved the world from the mishaps happened in past, and have rewarded some countries with long term political and economic stability. The examples of Muslims empathy towards infidels after the conquest of Makkah, the alteration of German military policy into economic development after WW2, and the outreach of Chinese economy via Confucianism highlighted the importance of using alternative tools instead of war, in making a nation great. As wrote by Sun Zue in Arts of war, "The supreme arts of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." So, it is hightime for nations to get rid of aggressive tactics bringing chaos in the world, and start working on polishing their arts of war. This will not only help in influencing ones adversary but will



also inculcate enthusiasm to uplift ones  
social, economic and political status in  
the world.