

Q.105:

Cause of wars at different levels of analysis and application on Middle-East war :

• Introduction :

War is the extreme conflict arising within state (civil wars) or between one or more states (interstate wars) and characterized by use of violence. However, in contemporary age, wars are such complex, multifaceted conflicts that include hybrid warfare, where conventional military operations blend with irregular tactics, cyber warfare and information campaigns. To understand the causes of war, a multi-level framework of analysis can be approached which examines factors at the individual, state and society, and global levels. This framework can be applied to understand the ongoing wars in the Middle East. Each level interconnects with the

Others, highlighting that wars are not caused by a single factor but rather by a combination of individual actions, state decisions and international global politics.

1. Individual Level Causes of

War:

At individual level, war is attributed to human nature and actions of leaders.

Kenneth Waltz, a prominent political scientist, argue that individual impulses, emotions and decision making processes play a crucial role in the initiation of conflicts. Leader's ambition and personality can significantly influence the for countries path to war.

• Aggressive character

of Leaders:

Some Leaders are aggressive and use their leadership to drive their cause. As per some realists and liberals, wars occur because of the personal characteristics of major leaders.

• Misperceptions and biases:

Robert Jervis, in his book 'Perception and Misperception in International Politics' proved that, once a leader believed something that perception would influence him how he takes every other relevant information.

• In the context of Middle East:

Individual leaders like Bashar al-Assad in Syria and Benjamin Netanyahu are the good example for this level of analysis. Bashar al-Assad made decisions that escalated conflicts based on personal or ideological motivations. Similarly, Netanyahu's government rejected negotiations for a two-state solution and opted military actions against Hamas and Hizbullah, in hopes of asserting control over disputed territories.

The assassination of Hamas leaders by Israel shows how individuals can trigger wider conflicts. Such actions not only eliminate key figures but also provoke retaliatory responses resulting in

escalation of violence in region.

2. State and Society level of causes of wars:

The state level focusses on how internal factors within a state contribute to war. This include political systems, economic conditions and social structures.

• Internal structure of Society and

Type of Government:

According to Liberals, wars would be less likely to initiate by democracies, where citizens are given basic human rights and enjoy freedom of speech and free press, than would countries ruled by dictators and kings. This suggests that war occurs because of internal structure of state or society. The Arab Spring Uprisings are the best examples to understand it.

• In Context of

Middle East:

In Middle East, Arab Spring uprising exemplified this dynamic where

internal instability of these states has allowed external factors to intervene, further complicating the situation. Recent conflicts within Syria, where HTS took over the Damascus by overthrowing Bashar's government. This events indicate weakening of state due to internal conflicts and external support to these conflicts.

Another example is Israel-Hamas war. The Israel policies towards Palestine including military operations in Gaza and expansion in West Bank, have fueled resentment and violence. Israel's approach to use force to maintain its control over Palestinian territories, undermines any potential for peace in region.

3- Global Level Causes of Wars:

International dynamics and regional power struggles play a crucial role in shaping conflicts. According to Waltz, the lack of central authority allows

conflicts to arise as states pursue their interests without regarding others, within an anarchic global system.

• In the Context of Middle East:

The middle East is characterised by a complex web of alliances and enmities. Iran's support for proxy groups like Hamas and Hezbollah is a part of its broader strategy to counterbalance Israeli influence in the region. Additionally, the US pressure on Qatar to limit Hamas operational capabilities show how international relations can impact local conflicts.

• Conclusion:

Each level of analysis contributes to understand how wars occur on regional and global level, and highlight that wars are not caused by a single factor but rather by a combination of different factors.