

(Zain Atta -066)

English Essay

Why Men Fight?

Outline:

I. Introduction

II. Beginning of Conflict among Men:

A. First Murder of Human History;

i. Case Study of Habel and Kabeel.

III. Theoretical Approaches to the Men's Nature:

A. Classical Approaches;

i. Hobbes' philosophy on Human Nature,

ii. Machiavelli's advice to the Prince.

iii. Sun Tzu's recommendation for the Army General.

B. Modern Approaches;

i. JJ. Rousseau's Optimism

ii. Neo-realist account on Human Nature

iii. Marxist theory of constant class struggle.

IV. Men fight for Internal and External Reasons:

A. Internal Reasons;

i. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs,

a. Food and shelter

b. Security

c. Love

d. Respect

B. External Reasons;

i. Social Expectations

a. Soldiers are meant to

be masculine.

b. Survival of the fittest

c. Men as a protector, defender and warrior.

ii. Family pressures;

a. Men are supposed to provide, food and security

b. Fight for economic share in fierce competition (capitalism)

V. Conflict : A Permanent Feature for Human Evolution:

A. Inner Conflicts;

i. Conflict between mind, body and soul.

B. Outer Conflicts;

i. Anarchy in the environment.

VI. Conclusion:

Is human nature inherently flawed? This remains the most confusing puzzle among the theorists of all time. Many classical theorists like Thomas Hobbes, Machiavelli tried to paint a very pessimistic picture of man. In his book, "Leviathan", Thomas Hobbes even declared that "Every Man is fighting against every Man". Meanwhile, theorist like Jean Jacques Rousseau argued that it is not the human nature which is selfish, it is the society which forces a man to take decision which ultimately triggers conflict. In any case, men's needs and desires follow a linear trajectory, as they change so do the nature of conflict among them - from fighting to procure basic resources for the survival to aspiring to be a hegemon in a society.