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Topic:

Why Men Fight

Outline

i) Introduction

ii) Why Men Fight: An Evolutionary Account of Humans as a Source of Chaos

~~(i) Man as a Rational Actor~~

a Survival of the fittest - Darwinism

b Human evolution - fight against natural limitations

c Authority exertion and power maximization

d Trust deficit - war over peace

e Case study: Nazism in Germany and Fascism in Italy.

(2) Prisoner's dilemma - counter productive competition

a Competing interests

b Socratic tendencies

c Discord within the same group,  
i.e., intra-group antagonism

- Sapiens vs Neanderthals

- Discontent between feminists

- Capitalism vs Communism - Right, left debate

d Case studies:

- Sparta vs Athens - Peloponnesian war

- U.S. China rivalry

- India vs Pakistan

(3) Inherent Existentialism

1) Protestants vs Catholics

2) Enlightenment - Disposition of monarchies

↳ French revolution and role of reformers

c) War to achieve peace : Treaty of Westphalia - sale of indulgences and Martin Luther

#### 4) Real Politik and Relative Gains

a World Wars

b Cold War era - attempts to prevail hegemony

- Cuban missile crisis

- proxy wars : Vietnam and Korean wars

- Nuclear race

c 5<sup>th</sup> gen warfare - propaganda and AI

#### 5) Individuality induced self-conflict

a Freedom induced confinement

b Self sufficiency over reliance

c Self expression vs social conformity

d Desires vs Moral value - ~~John~~ Sigmund Freud  
Ego and Super-Ego

### iii) Conclusion

"The desire for power is rooted in the very nature of man." - Morgenthau (Politics among nations). It can be inferred through the course of history that all those nations who reached the zenith of success and glory had one ~~factor~~ common factor that resulted in their downfall: The cunningness motivated by relative gains. The origin of humanity starts with a fierce competition between millions of sperms to finally mate and fertilize single ovum, and the most competent sperm cell gets able to conceive. A similar tendency is followed through the entire life cycle of man where the not so competent are side-lined by more adaptive and strong individuals. To save the very existence, man intriguingly transcends his inherent capabilities and compete for domination. This phenomenon

depicts that in order to win, man can attain any limit to exert its influence and superiority.

However, as societies progressed, man got aware of the human faculties and widened his scope of warfare, which was initially limited to physique, and added brain as a 'new tool of destruction.

Following this, concepts of treachery, cunningness, and clandestineness emerged.

Man acquired wisdom and treaded the path of knowledge procurement.

This knowledge got advanced in nature during human evolution, bestowing a man with gift of gab and tremendous scientific advancements.

To begin with, man is a rational actor. He perceives and later imprints those perceptions in his life. The inherent psychological construct of man

is built up on self interests. Moreover, man is also responsible for his deeds as once Job, who had to confront severe adversities in life as a repercussion of his wrong doings that seemed satisfactory <sup>to Job, and</sup> not in the category of exciting such a severe censure. This made it very clear that the concept of man proposes and God disposes was relevant, and hence, man became more rational by identifying the fact that his existence is too primitive and ephemeral. It is the supreme creator who holds the entire power and the domain of man is just to exert in the material world for minimum gains. This incapacitation, at some point, challenged the man and he competed fiercely; first, by surviving among the fittest and Darwin elaborates it, and later by exerting more at the natural limitations in search of pride and victory. Indeed it was God's

covert support that enabled man to fly in the sky or bore in the caves; however, man got oblivious of emanence of the divine. He ~~reverted~~ presumed this success ~~as~~ for granted and internalized this very notion, quite vague in nature, of power maximization. While power-maximization, there was a point when balance of power got created; however, man presumed that as a trust deficit and resolved to even further efforts towards turmoil.

Nazism in Germany and Fascism in Italy are examples of some human ego and ignorance and attempts of reigning and then exerting power and influence for relative gains, quite indoctrinated in human nature since inception.