

War, Peace, and Human Security

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Introduction

1. Discuss scenario on taking over command – incipient insurgency – mass alienation.
2. **Alienation** = Indifference. The opposite of love is not hate, its indifference. The opposite of life is not death, its indifference.
3. Launched **Sadbhavna** to win peace – published my book after having waited 12 years to give peace a change – after all, we were attempting something that had not been done before.
4. People often say that after retirement, Generals become advocates of peace. I practiced peace when I was in command of forces in an area affected by insurgency. Realized the futility of war and the need to have a **higher purpose in life**.

Decline of Violence in History

5. In his monumental book, ***The Better Angels of Nature***, Steven Pinker argues that, the most significant development in human history is the **decline of violence**, which is at its lowest level today.
6. Contrary to popular belief, the 20th century was not the most violent century in history. In the ranking of death toll (mid 20th Century equivalent), the results are startling:

#1	An Lushan Revolt 429,000,000	8 th Century
#2	Mongol Conquests 278, 000,000	13 th Century
#3	Mideast Slave Trade 132, 000,000	7-19 th Century
#9	2 nd World War 55,000,000	20 th century
#16	1 st World War 15,000,000	20 th century

* *The Better Angels of Our Nature*, Steven Pinker

My Beliefs

7. Beliefs are assumptions, values, and principles derived from our life experiences. Beliefs are not what you think; they are what you practice. Our world view, attitude and behaviors are shaped by beliefs.
- **Man is innately good.** I agree with Rousseau that man is born good but is corrupted by society. Interestingly, one survey says that only 38 percent Westerners believe that man is good.
 - **Reverence for life** is an ethical principle based on respect for all forms of life—humans, animals, and even plants. Those who believe in this principle, are non-violent, they serve the poor and the suffering, and practise compassion and forgiveness.
 - **Human security.** Lies at the core of national security.

- **Gross National Happiness.** Human development and sustainability can't be based exclusively on GDP. ***"GNP measures everything except that which makes life worthwhile."*** (Robert Kennedy)
- **Forgiveness**(and atonement)is a value that brings durable peace and conciliation in society. Forgiveness helps us to live with diversity. To forgive is not to forget; but to resolve not to take revenge. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa after the collapse of apartheid is a living example. As Mandela walked out a free man from Robben Island, journalists asked him if he hated his perpetrators for what they had done to him. He replied, *"Where was the time to hate?"* In a post-conflict situation, there are four options:
 - **Option1:** Genocide/revenge (Rwanda– Hutus and Tutsis, Kosovo and Bosnia).
 - **Option 2:** Nuremberg.
 - **Option 3: Do nothing** >amnesty.

"Those who remember the past are doomed to repeat it."
 - **Option 4:**TRC in South Africa.

Premise #1: Peace is Everybody's Business

Concept of Governance

8. Governance is not the sole responsibility of government. That is a idea that belongs to the era of nation-states. In a flat, complex, and interconnected world, **governments can't manage everything.** The private and social sectors (media, judiciary, armed forces, NGOs, associations, etc.), and even citizens, must share the burden of governance.

9. In remote and under-developed areas, the armed forces can even “piggy-back” the Administration.

We are Citizens first

10.
 - Most difficult part for the military and corporations to understand. The military mind is Clausewitzian.

“The business of business is business.”(Milton Friedman). Such a market culture is contradictory to citizenship.
 - Think global, act local.
 - We get our self-identity from the community.

It’s 1% that Start a Revolution

11. Transformational leaders do not need 100% support to change society. History is replete with examples where revolutions are started by 1%. Whether you want war or peace or sustainability, you need just 1% to believe in it.
12. Transformational leaders must focus on arousing the 1%. Like what Christ and the 12 Apostles did.
13. Are you prepared to be the 1%?

Premise #2: Rise in Protests & Dissent

Era of Dissent / Protest

14. Because of globalization, un-sustainability of the planet, technology, and empowerment of common persons, we are witnessing a rise in protests and dissent. **TIME Person of 2011 was The Protestor.**

Horizontalism and Occupy Movements

15. Derived from post Argentina 2001, Arab Spring, and Occupy Movements.
16. **Hierarchies constitute 1%**and the 99% are voiceless. Very undemocratic.
17. People have lost faith in traditional leadership (based on the concept of the heroic leader). They now **bypass hierarchy**. Want to connect directly with the leader – not through his representatives.
18. Social media is being used effectively to (a) **mobilize** people, and (b) apply the **“emergency brakes.”**

Political Power Does Not Come Out of the Barrel of a Gun

19. Political problems cannot be solved by military means.

Compelling Ideas

20. There are five compelling ideas to prevent conflict.

1. **Role of armed forces:** no longer to win wars; it's to prevent war. This was not easy for soldiers to understand. Deterrence by:

Nuclear Weapons

Diplomacy

Human Security

Border Development

Development

2. **Human Security.**

3. **Winning hearts and minds** -a shibboleth
4. **Womens' empowerment** and **education** are the key to conflict-prevention.

New Thoughts on Leadership

1. Leadership is the ability to lead yourself first; then others.
2. Transformation begins with you, then 1%, and finally 20%.
3. Winning the *hearts and minds* is a shibboleth; you have to win the heart first.
4. The crisis of leadership: flawed education; rise in human consciousness and diminishing spirituality.
5. Leadership and values have to be learnt like any other art and science. The 10,000 hour rule is applicable for leaders also.