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Is the seed of war the failure of languages?

Over the entire span of the human race countless disasters and tragedies have occurred leading to the loss of life, bringing an end to many eras. But none have been as destructive and disruptive as wars. This self-imposed travesty by humanity on itself, has slingshot itself to the top of causes in death. Wars which stem from cultural, political and religious roots get blown out of proportion leading to one of the greatest obstacles humanity has had to face in its path. This essay aims to argue that wars, although rooted in deep socio-political causes, all begin from one simple reason - the failure of language.

To understand why wars occur and how they tend to reach a certain point after which it cannot be solved without violence, it is first important to



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understand the pivotal role played by languages in containing this beast. Over the course of history it has been evident that often wars sprout from disputes between people of different ideologies. This difference when forced upon one another sparks an un-extinguishable flame of ego and moreover blind-patriotism. As most conflicts, communication reveals itself as the prominent method in which to resolve the issue. It is evident from the joint-conferences of global power-houses such as the G20 or UN-summit that these discussions help to de-escalate the issue and make the terms negotiable for all parties. Ambassadors of countries also often play a vital role in making the stance of a country clear to everyone. This idea of communicating and open-ended talks have been prevalent from the courts of ancient kings to the diplomatic



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strategies appointed by modern governments. Countries such as India itself has been able to strengthen their international bonds not through policies but with the help of language and open, freindly talks. This method to eliminate disputes and conflicts has had paramount importance in attain the step towards attaining world peace. However this tactic also has a significant draw-back, which is the simple fact that both the parties must be willing to such over the table discussions, and often it is the failure to communicate with each other due to many reasons that leads to the developments of war.

The wars that have ocured over the last decades have usvally been the consequence of ideological conflicts due to language barriers, misunderstood ideas or even simple disimation of false information. At times



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limited and often bias information about each-other leads to a very narrow perspective of the views that the other upholds. It is easy to understand how the confined boundaries of language and the pre-determined perspective of the other would lead to a confused outburst of chaos. It must also be acknowledged that these wars and disputes also occurred on the basis of language, religion and caste which adds hints of emotion.

The modern 20<sup>th</sup> century has had to witness a plethora of devastating wars with terrible ramifications. The causes for the wars such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the on-going Israel-Palestine war have are however more complex and multifaceted. But it must be taken into account that they too have origins due to the failure of languages and mutual communication. The civil-war that has been going on in the capital of



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Syria is a cruel example to the world how the inability to communicate with the diverse citizens of a country can have a ill effect on the population which leads to confuse and hostility.

To argue that the failure in language is the reason for wars, it must be first looked into why language fails before the world even though it has single-handedly saved humanity from becoming ~~a~~ just another animal.

One of the main reasons already discussed in this essay is the pre-convinced mindset of the people.

The wars which have altered the course of humanity

such as world-war I and II ha began, not because

the bridge between human race called the language

of humanity was broken but because it was destroyed

by a set of individuals who recieved private gain.

language itself was used to brainwash and instill



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false ideals into the minds of the people. Another reason for its inadequacy is the fact that language is influential and that it can be taken advantage of ~~the~~ to invoke a sense of patriotism which revolves around hatred and intolerance of the other.

Thus it can be summed up from the arguments that have been documented this far that although war is a highly complex and intricately woven thread, comprising of many socio-political aspects that spans from religion and caste to the role played by different genders to the type of clothes one wears, the very root of the cause always remains the inability to communicate ones ideas and messages to the other. Language which plays a role of ultimate importance could be the key to universal peace or an unquenchable conflict that sparks a light again every - so often.



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This essay can be concluded by spotlighting the thesis that wars begin due to one simple reason, the failure of language. Language therefore still remains the most important innovation of mankind. It can be wielded as an instrument of peace ~~to bring peace~~ or as a weapon to ignite the blazing ashes of war, and as with most of humanity's innovations, striking a key balance is important to sustain the peace and prosperity of the world. To achieve world peace we must strengthen our language of love and empathy.