

1.

All oppression creates a state of war, there is no exception.

or

2.

A good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge.

All oppression creates a state of war, there is no exception.

Draupadi praying to Madhav
when her 'Chir-Haran' is going on in an
open Durbar. Whenever we see such
scenes in our television, we have a
feeling of anger. This is a kind of oppression.
The oppression of Pandavas by the Kauravas
led to the war of Mahabharata. Our
scriptures are filled with such stories
that whenever there is an oppression,
there is a state of war.



In this essay, first we will try to define what is oppression and what is war. Then we will try to open different dimension or different aspect related to oppression and its implication in the society. At last, we will discuss some exception. So, let's begin.

'Oppression' can be defined as the state when someone try to overpower us. Someone can be society, policies, individual, our inner self, technology, foreign power etc. The word Overpower means this is hampering our development (both mental, physical) and we are unable to take our decision without any biasness. Our decision making power has crippled. Similarly,

the word 'war' does not simply mean fighting with other in a conventional manner. It has a broader connotation the term 'war' also means the infighting which is going inside our body. The infighting with our societal norms, regressive policies etc. The infighting which is going between our brain and soul gives rise to conflict. Conflict can be used as a substitute to the word war.

Oppression - leading to inner conflict

In today's world, we are driven by external factors like money, power, prestige etc. This makes us slave of these external pleasures and we become a mindless human being. We don't have ~~a~~ time to look inside

ourselves and do course corrections. Initially these material things look very tempting but in due course of time, it starts oppressing our conscience and we are unable to uphold the righteous conduct. This oppression leads to the state of conflict (war) between our brain and our soul.

The brain ~~try~~ tries to give us logic that what we are doing is good but the soul gives us the message that we should also be righteous in our conduct. Being a human we should be moral. So, a constant war is going inside us. Such constant war ~~sometimes~~ often led to a situation

When a person becomes clueless and depression, anxiety engulfed the person from all around. There are certain

glaring examples who have won this war and gave the world new direction like Siddhartha turning to Gautam Buddha and Varahman to Mahavir.

Both of these holy figures conquer the internal war and changed their path from Hedonism to Altruism.

Social oppression leading to war

In our history we have many examples when society oppresses an individual through customs, traditions and rituals. Our history is plagued with certain examples of

Oppression inflicted by the society like 'Sati-Pratha', 'child Marriage', 'Caste system' etc. These oppressions have led to a situation like war with mass agitation and some reformers leading the way. The Sati Pratha Abolition Act was a result of constant effort by Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

Similarly, the Caste system which is a social stratification in which mobility is not allowed. It is based on the principle of purity and impurity as given by Louis Dumont. This caste system has inflicted many oppression on certain castes like the untouchables who have no right

to enter temples, take water from village level and enter the homes of the so called upper caste. The women belonging to these caste also paid

'Breast Tax'. Such oppression led to a war like situation with several protest and creation of societies like All India Untouchability League and Bahiskrit Hitkarni Sabha. These

societies led to temple mass temple entry and fetching water from village tank. SNDP movements ^{is} ~~are~~ other example.

Such movements and mass participation is the testament of 'Oppression creates a state of war'.



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Similarly the oppression of LGBT communities and women has led to mass movement and agitation all over the world.

Religious Oppression leading to war

Religion as defined by Durkheim is the practise of beliefs related to sacred things. But with time religious practises evolved and it is now plagued with certain deformities. Like in Europe the dominance of church in every aspect of human life and the charge of 'Tithe'. These oppression led to revolution in Europe and renaissance came. Similarly, in India also when rituals, sacrifices increased in our tradition and there was a dominance of certain

rituals which can be performed only by Brahmins, this led to reforms and new religions like Buddhism and Jainism emerged. Similarly, Bhakti movement also started in India in which Vedantic philosophy was propounded and Nirguna Bhakti was dominant. These examples also signify that oppression creates a state of war.

Political Oppression leading to war

The oppression which is inflicted by political leaders through their policies lead to war like situations.

There are several examples in the world where people have revolted against their own leaders like in Iran and several Latin American Countries.

Political leaders through their policies and power try to dominate the masses. This often lead to anti sentiment against the political bosses and a mass agitation which lead to war like situation. The oppression by Junta Government in Myanmar and the war by the local inhabitants against them is an example. Similarly, in India when majority party starts using its power indiscriminately, revolution takes place like Sampoorna Kranti during emergency by Jai Prakash Narayan.

Similarly, when foreign power through imperialism, colonialism starts to oppress the local people

resentment (war) starts. There are several instances like tribal revolt (Birsa Munda Revolt, Santhal Revolt etc); Peasant Revolt and our great freedom Struggle against oppressive British policies. These wars ultimately gave us independence, sovereignty.

Currently, in the world there is neo-colonialism by Big tech companies, where through their technology they ~~to~~ oppress the public and even the government. Recent example of blockade of ~~and~~ Canadian news channels by Meta on its platform. The dominant position enjoyed by such companies lead to oppression

and these oppression in future will fuel an agitation. Similarly, Google not allowing other ~~user~~ application developer for pre download on their android phone is another example of oppression. Such oppression are not visible straight away but are present. Such oppression will also fuel a war. The recent CCI action of imposing penalty on Google India is a testament of shimmering discontent.

In majority of the oppression, it is followed by a state of war. But there are also other examples like our life being

controlled by technology which ultimately
oppresses our creativity and make us
the slaves of technology. Such oppression

are not followed by state of war because we are unable to understand that it is an oppression, the moment we understand it, there will be an internal war.

Lastly, oppression no doubt creates a state of war and we should be ~~add~~ able to identify the oppression and the oppressor so that we can avoid such war and lead a happy, content and peaceful life.