

# WAR

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# MEANING OF WAR

**War** is a state of armed conflict between states, governments, societies and informal paramilitary groups, such as mercenaries, insurgents and militias. It is generally characterized by extreme violence, aggression, destruction, and mortality, using regular or irregular military forces. **Warfare** refers to the common activities and characteristics of types of war, or of wars in general. Total war is warfare that is not restricted to purely legitimate military targets, and can result in massive civilian or other non-combatant suffering and casualties.

# CAUSES OF WAR

## 1. Economic Gain

Often wars are caused by one country's wish to take control of another country's wealth. Whatever the other reasons for a war may be, there is almost always an economic motive underlying most conflicts, even if the stated aim of the war is presented to the public as something more noble.

## 2. Territorial Gain

A country might decide that it needs more land, either for living space, agricultural use, or other purposes. Territory can also be used as “buffer zones” between two hostile enemies.



## ***ADOLF HITLER***

**“I NEVER BELIVED IN THE DANGER OF A THIRD WORLD WAR”  
: INDIRA GANDHI**

**3. Religion :** Religious conflicts often have very deep roots. They can lie dormant for decades, only to re-emerge in a flash at a later date. Religious wars can often be tied to other reasons for conflict, such as nationalism or revenge for a perceived historical slight in the past.

**4. Nationalism :** Nationalism in this context essentially means attempting to prove that your country is superior to another by violent subjugation.

**5. Revenge :** Seeking to punish, redress a grievance, or simply strike back for a perceived slight can often be a factor in the waging of war. Revenge also relates to nationalism, as the people of a country which has been wronged are motivated to fight back by pride and spirit.



“To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace”

George Washington

- 6. Civil War :** These generally take place when there is sharp internal disagreement within a country. The disagreement can be about who rules, how the country should be run or the people's rights. These internal rifts often turn into chasms that result in violent conflict between two or more opposing groups.
- 7. Revolutionary War :** These occur when a large section of the population of a country revolts against the individual or group that rules the country because they are dissatisfied with their leadership.
- 8. Defensive War :** In the modern world, where military aggression is more widely questioned, countries will often argue that they are fighting in a purely defensive capacity against an aggressor, or potential aggressor, and that their war is therefore a “just” war.

## KAARGIL WAR BETWEEN INDIA AND PAK



**“If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children”**

**-Mahatma Gandhi**

# EFFECTS OF WAR

**Defining armed conflict :** Armed conflict is not clearly defined internationally. According to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, common article 2 states that "all cases of declared war or of any armed conflict that may arise between two or more high contracting parties, even if the state of war is not recognized, the convention shall also apply to all cases of partial or total occupation of the territory of a high contracting party even if the said occupation meets with no armed resistance"

**On the economy :** The economy may suffer devastating impacts during and after a time of war. According to Shank, "negative unintended consequences occur either concurrently with the war or develop as residual effects afterwards thereby impeding the economy over the longer term".

# NUCLEAR BOMB EFFECTS IN MAJOR CITIES OF JAPAN



“ I know not with what weapons world war 3, will be fought, but world war fourth will be fought with sticks and stones “

- Albert Einstein

- ◉ **Destruction of infrastructure** : *Les Grandes Misères de la guerre* depict the destruction unleashed on civilians during the Thirty Years' War, Destruction of infrastructure can create a catastrophic collapse in the social interrelated structure, infrastructure services, education and health care system. Destruction of schools and educational infrastructure have led to a decline in education among many countries affected by war.
- ◉ **Labour force** : The labour force of the economy also changes with the effects of war. The labour force is affected in a multitude of ways most often due to the drastic loss of life, change in population, the labour force size shrinking due to the movement of refugees and displacement and the destruction of infrastructure which in turn allows for a deterioration of productivity.

## Reference

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