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- 1.1 : FUNDAMENTALS OF STRATEGY
- 1.2 : FUNDAMENTALS OF TACTICS
- 1.3 : PRINCIPLES OF WAR
- 1.4 : FRONTIERS AND BOUNDARIES

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FUNDAMENTALS OF STRATEGY

Meaning of strategy - The meaning of strategy is war planning, war techniques, the act of deceiving the enemy, surprise attacks, guerrilla techniques of war and their implementation and to encircle the enemy. Strategy is related to the art of war which is determined by commander and military leaders. War strategy is the first stage of war which is base for further action. Initial activity of war before the actual war, it should be done cleverly and perfectly because a little mistake can turn into blunder and give negative results so war strategy is the initial activity of war.

War is the essential task for a state /nation. That's why it is more essential to focus on the study and analysis of strategy of war. In modern warfare whole scenario of war has changed and it has converted into unlimited, flexible and total warfare, so for that war planning should be planned earlier. Even soldier should have an idea and knowledge of plan as in changing circumstances in war field they can adjust and can maintain their aim and can achieve their aim.

Definitions of strategy - In-fact war strategy mean to analysis the battle field and geographical area before the out-brake of actual war and making of war plan accordingly to get more beneficial results and do more destruction of enemy. Different- different scholars and military thinker has given their view regarding the war strategy:-

- 1- According to Clausewitz,"Strategy is the theory of the use of battles for the object of war."
- 2- According to Liddle Hart," Strategy is the art of distributing military means to fulfill the ends of policy."
- 3- According to Seversky," Military strategy is general plan to overcome the obstacles of geography."
- 4- According to Gen. Moltke," Strategy is the practical adaptation of the means places at a general's disposal to the attainment of the object is view."
- 5- Accordign to Gen. Won dor Goltz," Strategy concerns itself with those large scale measures which servesto being the force into play at the decisive front under the most favourable conditions possible."
- 6- According to Hamley," theater of war is the province of strategy"
- 7- Accordign of Gen. Beaufre," Strategy is the art of applying force so that it makes most effective contribution towards achieving the ends set by politicians policy."

Aim of Strategy - Aim of strategy is that war planning in which less destruction of own forces and more loss of enemy's forces with easy war techniques. It means the use of war principle of economy of force. In perfect war strategy there is less need to fight war with enemy and try to achieve the target without destroying the enemy. War strategy is a tool/ instrument by which both national interest and national security can be achieved. There are some steps to attain the aim of strategy. These are following:-

- 1- try to encircle the enemy by putting him in unfavourable circumstances.
- 2- try to make positive and favourable own position at enemy side.
- 3- try to make a war plan in which your own armed forces can use their weaponry and geographical location as a defensive situation.
- 4- try to create an environment against enemy to reduce his morale and wish to fight.
- 5- try to attack on enemy by using the principle of centralization of force with surprise invasion.

Types of Strategy - Consideration of war strategy is an attribute of good military leader and his intelligence. Even his quick decision making according to the circumstances in battle field is the symbol of his intelligence and his skills of war. Directly and indirectly disturbing and destroying the enemy's power is the war strategy. It has further divided into two types:-

- 1- Strategy of the Direct Approach
- 2- Strategy of the Indirect Approach

1- Strategy of the Direct Approach - This strategy is divided into two parts:- a) strategy of annihilation and b) strategy of exhaustion

a) Strategy of annihilation- It is a military strategy in which an attacking army seeks to destroy the military capacity of the opposing army in a single planned pivotal battle. This is achieved through the use of tactical surprise, application of overwhelming force at a key point, or other tactics performed immediately before or during the battle. It does not mean to destroy the enemy economically, politically or psychologically. It is just to destroy the whole military power of enemy in the battle field and even destroy his will to fight again. This strategy was appreciated by Clausewitz, Machiavelli and Napoleon.

2- Strategy of exhaustion- It is a military strategy in which annihilation of enemy is not the main aim but continuously trying to disturb and irritate the enemy by different-different activities and to compel the enemy to surrender or to leave the wish of fight. Activities can be inspired by guerrilla warfare and psychological warfare. Through this strategy, our own forces have to do efforts to weaken the enemy economically and politically so the enemy lost the total capacity to fight the war. According to Liddle Hart, for applying this type of strategy, forces have to fight a war for long period. And as much war is long as much it is expensive. For achieving the aim by this strategy, a nation has to suffer a economic burden too.

2- Strategy of Indirect Approach- in this strategy, dislocation is the main aim. Direct attack almost never work, one must first upset the enemy's equilibrium , fix weakness and attack on the strength of the enemy ,here is the eight rules of strategy:- 1) adjust your ends to your means,2) keep your object always in your mind, 3)choose the line of least expectation, 4)exploit the line of least resistance, 5)take the line of operation which offers the most alternatives, 6)ensure both plans and disposition are flexible,7)do not throw your weight into an opponent while he is on guard, 8)do not renew an attack along the same lines if an attack has failed.

This indirect approach of strategy is always considered a good strategy as it can assure the more destruction of enemy and more benefits for own forces and even it create the chances of victory. It is divided into two parts:- 1. Physical Dislocation 2. Psychological Dislocation

Strategic Movement- For any successful military operation, there must be knowledge of accurate time, geographical location, means of communication and transportation and the position of enemy and his military capacity. Through the strategic movements armed forces can activate their war plans and can compel to fight or surrender the enemy according to their own time, place and plan. By this war can be won with minimum military and economic resources. Few things are important for the strategic movement e.g. military base, line of communication, interior line of communication and exterior line of communication.

Conclusion- In this way, we can say that strategy is an important factor for winning the war without the loss of man and material. It is an art of war and based on intelligence of military leader. If we glance back at history we can see many examples of military leaders who had their own strategies and war plans through which they got major historical victories such as Alexander the great, Napoleon, Hitler, Maharaja Ranjit Singh, Shiva ji Maratha etc.

Fundamentals Of Tactics

Meaning of Tactics:-

War tactics are those art of war in which pre-war planning and real use of war strategy are included. Tactics of war are used and implemented by commanders according to their intelligence and art of quick decision making. It is a kind of act in which soldiers and existing physical and materialistic resources are used to destroy the enemy and ensuring own armed forces in the defensive position. The art of war is further divided into two parts:- one is war strategy and second is war tactics. War strategy is that pre-planning which is designed before the outbreak of war. And according to this planning whole military action is taken in the war field. But the tactics of war are related to the actual offensive action in war field. In the war tactics, total military power and military action and military resources and logistics assistances are included and used. In-fact war tactics are related to the functionality of warfare. In that we can say that war tactics are those scientific methods through which different- different armed forces and weapons are fully used in a right manner. Even it can be said that it is a collective action of military forces by using total power and resources.

Importance of Tactics:-

War tactics keep on changing time to time and even these changes occur very rapidly. But it is always beneficial to study the history of war tactics. Very few war analysts have accepted the use of the study of history of war tactics for the theoretical importance in the present time. According to these thinkers, there is no use of war tactics of ancient and historical times. But here it is wrong to deny the importance of war tactics.

- a- To obtain the knowledge about warfare, there is two main sources/ means – one is study and analysis and second is experience. But a soldier has a less war experience as he could not get a chance to fight more battles and wars during his tenure. That's why, to analysis the tactics military history is important.
- b- War tactics are important as rapid and continuous changes occur in the outer look of principles of warfare but few principles never change basically.
- c- After studying and analysing the history of warfare and tactics, we get the knowledge about the timely occurring changes in tactics of war and causes of changes and the circumstances in which the tactics were used. Thus, it is very helpful to use right war tactics in adverse conditions in the war field.

Many times soldiers has lack of knowledge about war tactics as they did not get any education and learning about the history of warfare and tactics and which resulted in negative way in war field by not taking right decision on right time. Even many times they cannot use full military power and resources just because of their own lack of knowledge.

Definition of Tactics:-

Different- different war philosophers and analysts have given their views about war tactics. These are following:-

According to Gen. Clausewitz, "Tactics is the theory of the use of military force in the battle."

According to Hamley, "The field of battle is the province of tactics."

According to Captain Liddle Hart, "Tactics is the domain of weapons."

According to Andre Beaufre, "tactics is the method by which strategy is implemented."

According to Gen. Won-Der-Goz, "Tactics relates to what is done in the engagement itself."

According to Henderson, "Tactics are the methods by which a commander endeavours to over reach when the battle is joined."

According to Combined Training book, "Tactics are the methods by which he scabs to defeat his enemy in battle."

Evolution of Tactics-

It is not true that historical war tactics are not important in-fact at that times war tactics were on their initial stage and in the ancient and medieval times war tactics were seen as obnoxious act. At the age of modern warfare, war tactics has taken an important place for both military and non-military reasons. In a simple way we can say that the civilizations kept on changing, the form of warfare were also changed accordingly and war became important and integral part of national policy and nations focused more to attain military power and this culture gave more importance to tactics of war and even helped to expand the sphere of tactics on international level. Evolution of war tactics can be divided into two parts-1).War tactics of 19th century and 2).War tactics of 20th century.

- 1) Tactics during 19th century- The second half of the 18th century saw the inventions and discoveries like a typhoon, which was witnessed the arrival of steam driven machinery, the single horsepower of which was estimated to do work of 15 men. Thus, the industrial revolution was born and the man emerged from his caterpillar stage, from his life on the surface of the soil, to rise like a machanised dragon, into hitherto undreamt of industrial empyrean... a way of life so suddenly thrust on him that it could not fail to have cataclysmic impacts on peace and war. It transcended all previous revolution, including those of the great religious teachers, whose influence, however far-reaching, was limited in radius and before the 19th century had its course. The legions of the industrial revolution lorded the tributes from all non-industrialised people. In-fact the meaning of industrial revolution is the transformation of domestic system of production to the industrial system of manufacturing, where the method of production corresponds to machinery and mass production of items as compared to domestic system of production. The industrial revolution besides bringing mass production in industries also brought in improvements in agriculture, defence form the animals and insects, improved quality of seeds, implements etc. as a result of increase in agriculture production, the economic condition of the man improved. The struggle for earning more wealth increased many folds. It also increased the urge and jealousy for war domination. This resulted in the invention and discoveries of weapons and equipment as a

result of industrial. The large quantities of weapon and equipment were required to replace the old and obsolete weapons. The industrial revolution though started in Britain spread in other parts of world with in a short span of time. 19th century's tactics were influenced by the development of science and technology. It was the era of initializing of technical development. In this century industrial revolution was changed and revolutionized the war tactics. Invention of means of transportation and communication were given the new shape to war tactics. That's why this century was called the foundation era for the tactics of war. Social conditions and industrial development had brought big changes in war tactics in this era. During this century Napoleon's empire, industrial revolution, development of communication and transportation means had revolutionized the production of weapons and made wars more destructive with new war tactics. As the result of industrial revolution, availability of weapons and other war related artillery was much easier and less expensive. Napoleon's principle of "Nation in Arms theory" was famous in this era. 19th century's war tactics are following:-

1. **End of cavalry-** In 19th century cavalry had lost its main position in warfare as the new weapons like guns, pistols, cannons were invented and cavalry was not able to match new technological destructive weapons. Now cavalry was used for scouting and spying only.
2. **Importance of defensive tactics-** Due to the invention of new weapons, new defensive tactics were introduced and got importance. Now the enemy was easily located and targeted from a long distance as the accuracy of weapons was superior and excellent. But this was only possible if you had a large force and superior artillery. That's why defensive tactics was important to keep own situation and forces in defensive position.
3. **End of partiality in infantry:-** With the invention of new weapons, partiality in infantry was finished. Later on light infantry was only used to fight the small battles but with the industrial revolution and invention of new weapons light infantry was converted into total infantry and it was used in main battle as major armed force. It reduced the differences between the heavy infantry and the light infantry.
4. **Decisive battles:-** With the invention of new weapons, now wars were fought with principle of economy of force and soldiers used to fight in small groups with different –different positions. Infantry was used only to fight decisive battle in defensive position.

2) Tactics during 20th century- Tactics during 20th century was more developed and more destructive as the science and technology developed more and directly influenced the war strategy and tactics and methods of warfare. War tactics of this era are divided in four parts:-

- a- Tactics during World War I
- b- Tactics between first and second World War
- c- Tactics during World War II
- d- Tactics after World War II

Tactics during World war 1-

The poisonous gases were used in the world war 1 but it was not for long period because these gases were spreaded with the direction of air and the person could harm himself too.

In this war, cannons were used to break the enemy's defensive position and even in offensive action, cannons were used to help the infantry.

With the invention of new weapons, like the land wars, wars had started in the sea also and many countries had started having their own navy and sea blockade and piracy were also started. Submarines and warships were used in naval warfare.

There was the use of means of transportation during war. It provided the more mobility and made easy availability of weapons and other logistics and eatables in the war field. War tactics were influenced by the means of communication and transportation. During first world war, during the battle of some in 1916 first time tanks were used. But tanks were successfully used in the battle of Cambrai in 1917-1918. Afterward tanks were used as an important part of the wars. During first world war, first time air force was used. It brought a big change in the war tactics. And air force started giving cooperation and support to army and navy. It boosted the power of army and navy and made easy availability of the goods at one difficult place from other place. It brought and implemented the principle of cooperation and coordination. Use of new weapons and light weapons and the use of tanks and cannons changed the war strategy and war plans. Now defensive actions were used in the battle field. Now surprise attacks were the part of defensive policy and The Blitz wars were started.

Tactics between first and second World War- After first world war, maximum war tactics were invented by Germany because Germany wanted to take revenge of first world war. And maximum reforms and evolution regarding war tactics were brought by Germany.

- 1- Wars were mechanised and after world war first there was a race of weapons in between nations. Importance of mobility in war was increased and that's why army was instructed to move ahead with tanks and major improvement was done in cannons and submarines and fighter jets and other air force equipment.
- 2- After First World War, armed forces started wearing uniform with shields. And armed forces started using the principle of concentration and surprise attack to destroy the enemy's power.
- 3- World's super powers had different views about the war tactics for example France had believe in defensive actions and he focused upon the production on the magnet lights, Britain started using army for defensive action and used navy and air-force for offensive actions and Germany used offensive policy as war tactics.
- 4- During the First World War and Second World War, war tactics were used in the domestic war of Spain. Anti- tank missiles were used and to destroy the enemy's power and morale aerial bombardment was used. And mobility as a principle of warfare in armed forces was used.

Tactics during World War II- The Second world war was fought for long period that why large men- power and money was used. Even destruction of man and material was happened on large scale. That time tactics are following:-

- 1- The introduction of Minnie rifle and colt pistol revolver and the steam gun changed the tactics of the armies. The enemy could now be engage at longer ranges(than the previous close quarter battle ranges) with much more accuracy and could engage the enemy even under adverse weather conditions. The role of infantry especially in the trench warfare became paramount and important and infantry regained its glory in the modern warfare besides the cavalry and later armour. The infantry tactics underwent major tactical changes in the warfare. The artillery made major progress in the tactical concepts. With improvements in the guns, breech loading system developments. Cannon rifling, improvement in gun shell, incendiary shells and the gun traversing facility, the artillery improved its range accuracy and destructive power. Later the use of wireless telephone between the forward observes and the gun to bring down accurate fire on the enemy also the types of fire changed the tactical settings of the army. Supporting fire while attacking pre-bombardment of enemy strong holds and naval fire on enemy hips as well as the ground changed the tactics of the army and navy completely. Use of rockets, multibarrel rocket changed the tactics in warfare.
- 2- Mass production of arms and ammunition and the other equipment made the availability of these weapons systems easier. The number of combatants increased and so does the number of casualties also increased due to deadly operations of deadly weapons.mobility of forces and their flexibility increased. The war became more swift and frequent. With this the element of surprise also developed. Improved naval ships with steam power and later with oil fuel, improved the shapes size iron cladding with new cannons and other weapons effected the tactics of the navy too. Radius of navy increased many folds. In the beginning of 20th century and onwards added the 3rd dimension to the military i.e. air-force which completely changed the concept, strategy and tactics on land, sea and air warfare.
- 3- The Blitzkrieg Wars were started during Second World war. By this technique of war, armed forces attacked on enemy with surprise and with full force and suddenly.
- 4- With the success of BlitzKrieg war technique, the importance of policy of divide and march and concentration of forces with the defensive approach was felt.
- 5- The coordination and cooperation between air force and army was felt. Ther was different task of air force to help army i.e. to keep an eye on war tactics, to do aerial attack against enemy's aerial attack, to keep communication routes, to destroy enemy's tanks by bombardments and to destroy the cannons by aerial attack.

Tactics after World War II- Afterward the Second World War, there was a lot change in war tactics.

- 1- Army again got importance in warfare as without the help of army, full victory could not achieved.

- 2- Modern warfare could not win without the mobility and flexibility of armed forces in the battle field.
- 3- Guerrilla warfare was more developed and used as a war strategy by both developed and developing countries.
- 4- Nuclear warfare was used not only for diplomatic technique but for offensive action as it was used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- 5- In Korea, American forces used new techniques like use of helicopters to carry wounded soldiers from battle field to safe place, to carry ration goods and weapons to tough place. This kind of development gave new directions to war tactics.

3. PRINCIPLES OF WAR

Introduction

One has to keep a few principles in mind while making a plan for any action in day-to-day life. The principles differ with the type of action. Those who do not abide by these principles stand less chances of success. Those who apply them become entitled to achieve a greater success than those who do not. Same way, there a number of principles to be kept in mind while making plans for war. These are called principles of war. Every commander keeps these principles at the back of his mind and applies them whenever he has to find a solution to a military problem or to carry out a military operation.

The great military commanders of all the countries have, ever since warfare has come into being, always abide by principles of war while planning and fighting their campaigns. There is no doubt that all of them had their own views on the subject and no firm principles of war had been laid down. There was no such uniformity that the same principles would be considered by all the campaigns. It is therefore, very difficult to say as to which principles were enunciated at what time

Existing Principles of War

Aircraft was used for military purpose in World War I and the war became three dimensional. Land, air and naval force worked in co-operation with each other and the need was felt for evolving measures to ensure closer co-operation. A lot of consideration was given in between the two world wars in this respect and steps were taken to make it possible for them to function in close co-operation with each other. They demonstrated their good standard of co-operation in World War II. They developed mutual contacts and co-operation to such an extent that all the three services were considered essential for every type of campaign. Their military operations became inter-dependent. Necessity arose for making them into one machine for efficient fighting. One big lesson learnt as a result of World War I was that there should be complete co-operation between the three services and also there should be uniformity in principles of war and decided upon common principles. Following ten principles were selected :

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Selection and Maintenance of Aim | 6. Concentration of Force |
| 2. National Morale | 7. Economy of Effort |
| 3. Offensive Action | 8. Flexibility |
| 4. Security | 9. Co-operation |
| 5. Surprise | 10. Administration |

All the countries of British Commonwealth adopted these principles. Other countries have got their own principles and all of them ultimately amount to the same thing. America, Russia and China have got their own principles.

These principles are not rigid rules. These are only for guidance on which military operations based. A commander has to consider a number of factors to be able to apply these principles. Factors will differ for each type of situation and they will have a direct bearing in particular situations on the importance of individual principles and their interrelationship. Sometimes it is possible that a certain principles may have to be violated to a small extent for the sake of applying other principles for a particular situation. It is essential that all the ten principles will be applicable for each and every situation. It is, therefore, essential that commanders understand these principles which are to be applied.

The order in which these ten principles have been enumerated above, is not the order of their importance or precedence. One principle might be more important in one situation and the other ones in another. But "selection and maintenance of aim" has been recognised as the main principal and has, therefore, been written as Number one. The other nine principles can be enumerated or considered in any sequence.

1. Selection and Maintenance of Aim

It is necessary to understand as to what is meant by aim. Aim is another word for object. The difference between object and objective should be clearly understood. Aim is what is to be achieved and objective is what is to be captured in order to achieve the aim. As an example, if a road to be opened, the aim would be "to open up road A to B". The places which are necessarily required to be captured to open that road is therefore, his aim. His objectives will be those places which he has to physically capture to be able to carry out his task. It is possible that to achieve one's aim there may be a number of objectives to be captured and fighting may have to be done separately for each objective.

One always formulates his aim in one's day-to-day life even if the task to be performed is a very minor one and a plan is made to achieve that aim. If it is considered essential to have an aim ever for minor operations, it is still more important to have one for military operations. The aim once selected should never be lost sight of. That aim should be kept in view for any action that it taken. This is principles will, therefore, be considered under two headings, that is selection of aim and its maintenance.

Selection of Aim

If the aim is not selected correctly, the plan made to achieve the incorrect aim is bound to be fault and the results will be unfavourable. The ultimate aim of war is to break enemy's will to fight. The aim of any campaign and battle should

be to facilitate the achievement of the ultimate aim. The selection of aim is, therefore, of great importance. There are two types of aims, political and military.

Political Aim

It has always been explained that wars are fought to achieve political aims. If the political aim is not correctly selected, the military aim will be based on the faulty political aim and result in adopting the wrong cause of action. When World War II broke out, Churchill, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, declared the aim of the war as "we are fighting save the whole world from the pestilence of Nazi tyranny and in defence of all that is scared to man." Churchill gave "unconditional surrender of Germany" as his ultimate aim to his military commanders. It was because of the aim having been defined clearly that the military commanders selected their aims correctly and the political aim was achieved.

Military Aim

The military aim is within the framework of political aim. Any military aim which does not help in the achievement of political aim is faulty. As much consideration is required for the selection of military aim as far as political aim. Military aim can be considered under two headings: ultimate and limited.

1. Ultimate Aim : Ultimate aim is the aim which is to be finally achieved. The aim of the war is to impose one's national policy upon the other. The ultimate military aim is to break enemy's determination to fight. A number of campaigns are fought to achieve this ultimate aim and they also do have their own ultimate aims. In other words, any planning at a higher level has an ultimate aim; for example the ultimate aim of North Africa campaign World War II was to drive the Germany out of North Africa and every battle fought there had its own aim and was for achievement of the ultimate aim.

2. Limited Aim : Every battle, fought to achieve the ultimate aim, has its own limited aim. It is a big responsibility on the military commander that the aim selected by him is defined clearly and precisely and is within the capability of the resources at his disposal. It should play a great part in achieving the ultimate aim.

It is more than clear that it is imperative that the aim is correctly selected. All the leaders and commander should give due consideration to this very important aspect, as operations will be carried out smoothly only if both the ultimate and limited aims are clear and appropriate. Napoleon always used to say "War should have an aim". He used to select a clear aim before starting a campaign. But he did not select any aim when he embarked on the Russian campaign. No one knew as to what was in his mind and what he planned to do. Sometimes, he talked about India and sometimes about coming back via Constantinople. The result was a failure of the campaign.

Maintenance of Aim

Once an aim has been selected, all efforts should be made and resources to achieve the selected aim. The aim, whether ultimate or limited, should always be borne in mind and no deviation should be made from it. It is possible that the enemy may indulge in such an activity as may distract the attention of the commander to a different direction and he may divert his resources from the selected aim to some other task. Commander should remain alert regarding this aspect and should prevent themselves from having their attention drawn to a diversionary action.

Hitler had selected the aim of capturing Stalingrad when he invaded Russia in 1942 in World War II. Later he selected the aim of capturing caucasian oilfields also and split his resources in two portions. The result was that he could achieve neither of the two aims. He had originally selected his aim correctly but did not maintain it. One faces defeat instead of achieving success if the original aim is not adhered to.

If the battle is not going as per one's expectations, there is no harm in changing the plan for achieving the selected aim but the aim should not be changed. Actually the capability of changing the plan during the battle has been recognized as a good commander's act. The aim is always so selected as to fulfil the aim of the higher commander. Sometimes the task given by the higher commander becomes the aim of the lower commander. It is therefore, neither appropriate nor possible for the lower commander to change his aim unless the higher commander makes a change either in the task given or in his aim. Modern wars have become very complicated. The sizes of the armies are huge and a lot of administration is arranged for maintaining them. Troops are organized keeping the selected aim in view. Change in the aim nullifies all the administrative arrangements made and organization carried out. The higher commanders are therefore reluctant to change the tasks given by them on their selected aim. They will be inviting trouble if they get into the habit of changing their ultimate aim. Hitler had the taste of changing his aim for the Russian campaign of 1941; he asked the general to halt his offensive and gave him a new aim. A thorough consideration should be given to the question of changing the aim when circumstances change and even then the change should be resorted to only if this step cannot be helped. It is for all these reasons that selection and maintenance of aim has been accepted as the most important principle of war. If this principle is not respected and abided by neither can the plan be sound nor will the operation be satisfactory.

2. Maintenance of Morale :

A war can be won only if whole of the public and the armed forces possess morale of a very higher order. A nation may be having plenty of physical strength,

but it cannot achieve much if the morale is low.

National Morale

National morale creates great determination and is a war winning factor, National morale should, therefore, be very high. The morale of the people can be judged from the following :

1. People should have full faith in the reason for which war is waged.
2. There should be unity amongst the people of the nation.
3. The people should have determination, offensive spirit and be brave. If they do not have these qualities, abundance of manpower, arms and such other resources will be of no use. Public support is must for victory.
4. People should be prepared to accept any sacrifice for the nation.
5. Individuals should be prepared to give up their personal ideas for the sake of the nation.

Building up and maintenance of public morale is the responsibility of political leaders. Instilling in them the spirit to work day and night, ensuring that there is no shortages of any sort and creating full confidence in them regarding the aim of the war go a long way in establishing national morale. In World War II whole of the British nation was with Churchill who achieved this by maintaining amongst his people morale of high order.

Military Morale

The fighting capacity of those in the armed forces goes down if their morale is low. If their offensive spirit has declined, high national morale and huge quantities of military stores are of no avail if the morale is high, a soldier is not afraid of any danger and he has full determination to force discomforts and odds. The morale of a soldier is affected from two points; from the battle-field front and the home front.

(a) Battle-field Front

It is the responsibility of every commander to keep the morale of his subordinate high. The fighting spirit of a soldier is increased by the following points:

1. Confidence in Leaders : They should have confidence in their commanders at all levels and sure that they will lead in the correct manner at the appropriate time. The commanders should be able and well trained. They should be prepared even to lay down their lives for their subordinates.

2. Confidence in Weapons : Soldiers should have full confidence in their weapons. So they should be well conversant with their characteristics and also be able to handle them properly and accurately. This can be achieved with good training.

3. Team Spirit : There should be good team spirit within the unit.

They should have mutual trust and the spirit of mutual sacrifice. The administration of the unit should be of a high order so that no difficulty is experienced on any account and the unit of functions as a happy team.

4. Physical Fitness : High morale and the physical fitness are absolutely interrelated. If the physical condition of a soldier is not healthy, he can never fit mentally to fight a battle. Every possible effort should, therefore, be made to ensure his good health which will, in turn ensure high morale.

(b) Home Front

If a soldier remains worried about his home affairs, his morale in the battle-field will be adversely affected, irrespective of the efforts made for building up his moral in the front line. It is impressive that the national government protects the family and property of the soldier. The soldier will pay back for the same in the battle-field. The Indian Government has given the consideration to this aspect at a high priority and has ensured that the soldier does not have any home worries and thus gives his best in the battle.

When Napoleon took over the command of the French Army in 1796, he found that their food and clothing were not satisfactory and their discipline was poor resulting in their morale being low. Napoleon very well knew that high morale of the soldiers was great requirement for winning wars. He created interest in his army for the love of their country and for enhancing the prestige of their nation. He raised the morale of his troops to a high order and eventually won wars. "Montgomery" also found the morale of the 8th Army fairly low when he took its command in North Africa in 1842. He made the rising of its morale his first concern.

Once high morale has been build up, it is imperative that it should be maintained at that level and even further improved. Morale has come about to be great secret of success in wars. Field Marshall Sim has said, "An army without morale is nothing but a collection of unhappy fighting men; similarly a nation without morale is just a collection of discontented sects and parties without no unity and with no real aim. Morale is the most important thing in organization".

3. Offensive Action

Offensive action is essential for winning a war. Every commander should, therefore, undertake offensive operations in warfare. It may not be possible to take offensive action in the beginning; but initiative should be taken at the first possible opportunity and offensive attitude should be adopted; otherwise success is unlikely.

Offensive spirits is a pre-requisite for offensive action. There should be determination to destroy the enemy. Even if there is slight chance of harming the enemy it should not be let go out hands. This can be done only if the morale of

the commanders and the troops is high and adequate resources for offensive action are available. Even if a defensive battle is being fought, offensive activities should still continue. Such activities will ensure that the enemy is given on respite and that he does not take any action to his advantages. Napoleon never used to fight a defensive battle. He used to say, "One should always be the first to attack". Clausewitz was of opinion that war could not be won without taking offensive action. To win one has to fight an offensive war.

The commander who takes offensive action has the advantage of taking the initiative and can, therefore, select the time and place of his choice. Even though he may be inferior to his enemy in numbers, he can attain superiority at the point of attack. The attacker has, therefore, the upper hand. If defensive action is forced on a commander, he should be the first possible opportunity, undertake offensive action. When Hitler invaded Russia in 1941, the Russians adopted strong offensive activities while being on the defensive. They stalled the German onslaught by such offensive action.

4. Security

If the commanders ensure to achieve security in every respect, they will have full freedom in their operations. Adequate arrangements for the security of everything that is of importance to the nation and armed forces should be made. Security does not prohibit any action involving risks. Taking of daring action is necessary for achieving success in battle. Chances should not, therefore, be permitted to go for the sake of security.

Security can be considered under two headings; civilian and military. Both these types of securities are inter-dependent. One cannot be divorced from the other.

(a) Civilian Security : Measures for civilian security are taken by the civilian government. Civilian security is mainly concerned with safeguarding information regarding plans and with preventing the enemy attacking national economy and morale. Every government devises its own means and methods to ensure such security.

(b) Military Security : Measures for military security are taken by the armed forces. The aim is to deny the enemy the change of obtaining information, indulging in sabotage and creating subversion amongst the troops. Military security involves security of the following:

1. Security of Information : It is important that the enemy does not come to know of our plan, movements, location and such other information. This is achieved by neutralizing enemy's intelligence. The document should be appropriately classified and no unauthorised person should have access to them. Careless talk should be avoided. All the military personnel should know that in

the case of being taken a prisoner, they cannot give any information to the enemy other than their number, rank and name.

2. Security of Personnel : Military personnel should be prevented from subversion and other such efforts. It should be ensured that they are not dissatisfied with their administration and their leader and his plans and activities. Enemy indulges in subversive activities through propaganda. Every possible effort should be therefore, be made to nullify enemy's propaganda. The best way, to make the enemy's propaganda ineffective is to keep the men happy and satisfied so that their morale remains high. The front, rear and flanks of our forces should be adequately protected so that the enemy can never surprise them.

3. Security of Material : Military stores, installations and bases should be so well protected that the enemy agents are appropriated from carrying our pilferage from or damage to them. Unauthorised personnel should not be permitted entry.

4. Security of Military Operations : This security aims at denying the enemy information regarding our intention, organization of forces, movement, methods and timing during military operations. The plan of operations should be made known to the minimum possible number of personnel; only those persons should know who have direct concerned with them. The office work should be in the hands of officers and reliable persons only. Due caution should be taken while speaking over the wireless.

Armed forces can hope to win wars only if they can carry out their operations fearlessly and effectively. This can be achieved by making proper and adequate arrangements for security. It does not mean that commanders should adopt defensive postures for the sake of security and should not take bold action by being unduly cautious. It is true that armed forces can have freedom of action if the security aspect has been ensured and can do damage to the enemy as well as his fighting opportunity.

Due consideration is given to security at the time of making a plan so that the plan can be effectively implemented. All likely threats and problems should be thought of when planning so as to be able to have freedom of action. If this principle is not kept in mind while making a plan, problem will arise during the execution of the plan and the enemy is likely to seize initiative. All the brave and daring commanders have always been given due importance to security while planning a campaign. Napoleon has said "I endeavour to conjure up all possible dangers, to forces all difficulties-Military Science consists of careful weighing up of all possible eventualities and there eliminating who mathematically, change".

5. Surprise

Surprise is most effective and powerful weapon in a war. It is a great affect

on the soldier's morale. If surprise is achieved the morale of the troops goes up and that of the enemy's troops goes down. If possible effort should, therefore, be made to surprise the enemy and save yourself from being surprised.

Success, even great, can be achieved by using all the resources possible through the achievement of surprise. When other factors are not favourable, achievement of surprise ensures success. Surprise can be achieved in a number of spheres political, strategic, tactical and administrative. The enemy, when surprised gets nervous and has to fight under circumstances unfavourable to him. The essentials of surprise are secrecy, concealment, flint, daring and speed.

Napoleon normally believed strategic surprise. He used to concentrate his forces in the battle-field in an unexpected manner as a tactical move but he never carried out any tactics of surprise. Frederick the Great used to say : There is no insult involved if battle is fought with full determination and still lost. But there can be no excuse for our stupidity and inefficiency if the enemy manages to surprise us and then wins. Fuller has said, "Surprise is the soul of every operation, the secret to victory and the key to success. An ounce of surprise is worth a ton of undisguised preparation".

Surprise can be achieved by different methods which are explained below :

1. Strategic Surprise : It is easier to achieve strategic surprise in the beginning of the modern war. Countries, about which it is difficult to obtain information, can mobilize their armed forces without letting it be known and with speed. Such countries can achieve more surprise than other countries.

2. Surprise Attack : Surprise can be achieved by attacking the enemy without declaring war. The Japanese bombarded Pearl Harbour of United States without declaring war and achieved surprise.

3. Tactical Surprise : Once war breaks out a number of methods can be used to achieve surprise.

(a) Mobility of Forces : This involves moving troops, from their known locations to the desired place without the enemy's knowledge and thus surprising the enemy and creating a condition unfavourable to him. Montgomery used this method with excellence in the Battle of El Alamein. He moved a big portion of his forces from the south to the north during the night and completely surprised Rommel.

(b) Use of Dummies : Dummies are built up at places other than where the real things actually are, creating an impression that the real things are where mock ups are displayed. The real things are kept hidden at their proper locations. Through the use of dummies Montgomery convinced Rommel in October 1942 that he was going to attack in the south. He kept a secret of all preparations he was making for an attack in the north and took these actions in the south; he

replaced tanks and artillery, which were in the south, with dummies and moved them to the north where they were kept properly concealed. Rommel was made to believe that tanks and artillery were concentrated in the south and was convinced that the attack was going to be in the south. Montgomery also started laying a dummy pipeline in the wrong direction.

(c) Use of Difficult Route : Surprise can be achieved by using a route which the enemy considers very difficult and unlikely to be used. When Hitler invaded Russia in 1941, the Russians built a road over the ice in lake Lodoga and thus established a link with Leningard. This step surprised the Germans.

(d) Use of New Weapons : Whenever a new weapon has been used, the enemy has been surprised. The enemy is not prepared to face such a weapon and there is a general confusion and helplessness. In World War I the Germans used gas and the Britishers used tanks. In World War II atom bomb was used and it broke all previous records of achievement of surprise through the use of new weapon. It is a secret to win the war.

(e) Use of New Tactics : If new tactics different from conventional tactics is used, the morale of the enemy is adversely affected and success is ensured. The German used new tactics called Blitzkrieg in the beginning of World War II. Blitzkrieg means lightening war with speed and superiority are used for achieving surprise. The Germans used Blitzkrieg first in Poland in 1939 and then in France in 1940 and complete surprise was achieved.

(f) Giving Wrong Information : Surprise can be achieved by keeping real information and plan a secret and conveying wrong information to the enemy and convincing the enemy regarding the genuineness of wrong information and plan made known to him. The battle to be fought can be marked wrongly on the map in such a manner that the enemy, if that may comes in his hands, will be made to believe that the information carry out the plan is as marked on the map. Such map is arranged to be sent to the enemy's camp. Misleading operation orders are written and got into enemy hands. Wrong information and orders are passed over the wireless. The enemy is convinced regarding the artificial plans.

There is no doubt that by achieving surprise, the enemy is made to lose balance. It has psychological effect upon him and he is demoralized. If such an importance attached to surprising the enemy, it is imperative to prevent ourselves being surprised. Every commander should think ahead and visualise what unexpected action can be enemy take. One should always be take appropriate steps against such action.

6. Concentration of Forces

The key to success is that a larger number of forces than the enemy should be concentrated at the decisive place and time. Concentration does not mean

collecting forces together at one place in a haphazard manner. The force should be deployed in such a way that it should be possible to put in a decisive attack at the required place and time and it should also be possible to counter the enemy's attack. The conclusion is that it should be possible to concentrate forces at the required place in a short time. The force should normally be kept dispersed in view of the nuclear threat. But the capability to concentrate them at the time of needs should be there.

Own concentration should be effectively only if the enemy is prevented from concentrating his force at the decisive place. This can be achieved by interrupting the lines of communication of the enemy and denying him information regarding the selected decisive place for the attack. Threats should be posed to enemy location by dispersing our own forces.

Napoleon has been an advocate of the principle of concentration. Whenever he had to fight a battle, he used to put an end to all subsidiary actions to be able to concentrate maximum possible troops for that decisive battle. He used to say, "The army must be assembled and the greatest forces possible concentrated on the battle-field". Once he told his brother, Joseph "Your army is to be dispersed. It should always march in such a way that is able to unite in a single day on the battle-field". He also used to say, "The act of generalship consists in actually inferior in number to the enemy, being superior to him on the battle-field". So numerically inferior army can defeat a numerically superior army if it is deployed correctly and can be concentrated at the proper time.

7. Economy of Efforts

Resources in men and material in war will always be limited and would normally be inadequate for all the tasks required to be undertaken. It is, therefore, essential that as much economy as possible should be exercised in the use of available resources. Only those resources which are considered essential for the success of an action should be committed. Economy of effort, therefore, means balanced deployment of troops and judicious use of efforts, so that a superior force can be concentrated at the decisive place and time.

Compliance with the principle of economy of efforts depends on the importance of the principles of security and concentration for a particular task. It is not possible that a commander would be strong at every location, nor should a commander try to achieve this. A commander should make out his plan well in advance to economize his effort and should not waste his resources over tasks which do not contribute towards achieving his aim.

Anyone who interprets "economy of force" as committing a small force in the battle and keeping a large portion in the rear has misunderstood the application of this principle. If, because of keeping back larger portion of the

force, the aim is not achieved or the achievement takes longer than acceptable, it is false economy. The resources required for achieving the aim must be concentrated and used. Liddle Hart has, thus, defined this principle, "The employment of one's own force, both weapons and men, in accordance with economic laws, so is to yield the highest possible dividend of success in proportion to the expenditure of strength".

A commander can retain a reserve force by applying the principle of economy of force. He can never foresee all the actions the enemy is likely to take when he prepares his plan. He should, therefore, always have reserve force in his hands to be able to counter enemy's unexpected moves. If he keeps the principle of economy of force in mind, he is bound to have a reserve force under force under his command to be handy in case of need.

It is mainly due to the principle of economy of force that a commander will be able to achieve concentration at the decisive place and time. He' will also not be able to achieve flexibility without the reserve force. If a commander commits whole of his force in the first instance will not have any surplus troops with him. In that case he will not be able to give support to his weak spots on to achieve concentration for attack or to counter the enemy's unexpected activities or to achieve flexibility in his own actions.

Montgomery never used more than the required force for task. He invariably kept the maximum possible force as reserve in his hands so as to be able to use it at a place where he wanted to upper hand. He believed in economy of force initially and concentrating at the decisive place and time. This was a secret of his success in the Battle of El Alemein.

8. Flexibility

Commanders know that problems immediately confronting them and make their plans accordingly. Warfare does not normally proceed as per plans. Conditions and circumstances change quickly in war, especially in modern war, and unexpected problems arise. Plans initially made require modifications to suit the changes. Such modifications have to be made within a short time so that the change is not lost. This can be achieved only if a high standard of flexibility; not only speed in changing plans and giving revised orders but also speed in executing these-orders. Following are the essentials for achieving flexibility :

- 1. Farsightedness :** Commander at all levels should be farsighted enough to fore see the likely changes in conditions and circumstances and should be fully prepared to meet any new situation. They should keep their staff in picture regarding their views and plans for controlling such situations. They will thus be able to ensure quick implementation of any change in the original plan.

- 2. Flexibility of Mind :** Flexibility of mind of commanders and others,

is a prerequisite of achieving flexibility. If there is going to be rigidity after making a plan, flexibility will be out of question. All concerned should therefore, possess flexible minds so that plans can be modified in accordance with the changing situation.

3. Quick Decision : Changing situations in modern war can be brought under control only if a quick decision is taken to find a solution to the same. There should be no hesitation in changing the plan and the revised plan should be implemented with equally good speed. Otherwise, flexibility will be hard to achieve.

4. Physical Mobility : Even if all the three above mentioned essential are very effective that will not achieve anything if mobility which is the means to bring about flexibility exists. The forces should be capable of moving from one place to another with speed so that they can be concentrated within a short time at the decisive places and time and thus tackle the changed situation. It demands good timing also. Fool proof resources for passing the revised orders are also essential. Means of communication should be adequate and effective. There should be adequate reserve force which should be mobile.

9. Co-operation

War can be won successfully only if there is full co-operation between the civilians and armed forces, within all the three services of the armed forces and between all the departments of the services. On the civil side, the public and the government are equally responsible for ensuring such co-operation. They should all get together with a view for achieving the aim.

When a commander makes out his plan and executes it, he remains preoccupied with his own problems and actions. If he bases his plans on the individual problems, the plan will lack cohesiveness; he will not be able to take advantage of any other available resources. Therefore, there is a need to work like a team. All the available resources should be made use of, keeping in view the problems of everyone, then all will be in position to help each other for the execution of the plan. It is only through complete cooperation that every aspect of the national resources can demonstrate its full strength.

It is essential that in modern war all the three services of the armed forces work in close co-operation with each other. The principle of co-operation has, therefore, become very important. If they are jealous of each other or hold opposite views, the military activities will be adversely affected. The views of all the three services should be thoroughly considered before taking the final decision and making the plan. All the three services should again march in step for implementing the plan. Wavel has written, "The miracle of the destruction of the Italian Army in North Africa would not have been possible had the navy, the air

force and the army not worked together as one term". The principle of co-operation has become still more important with the present trend of combined operations.

The following methods merit consideration for achieving co-operation :

1. Central Authority : There should be a central authority in the national government to co-ordinate all the activities of war. In World War I, seven different plans of strategy were prepared and put up by different departments in England. It was thus proved that there must be central authority for preparation of such policies. Preparation of that there plans was then entrusted to the war cabinet which included such ministers as could devote whole of their time to ponder over problems of war and find solutions to them. In India there is Defense Committee of Cabinet which is the central authority for the problems of war.

2. Civil-Military Relations : Good civil-military relations ensure efficient co-operation. The civilian authorities should consult military commanders for activities. It is essential that military vies are honoured when making a plan so that all the actions are carried out correctly. When Hitler decided to invade Russia in the summer of 1942, he had consulted the economic experts only. There was no co-operation between economic and military departments in his headquarters. He did not consult any of his senior military officers. Whatever drawbacks existed in the German plans from military point of view, they were due to lack of co-operation between civil and military authorities and proved to be fatal for Germany.

3. Combined Headquarters : Whenever all the three services of the armed forces have to take part in an operation, creation of such a headquarter, which has a control over all three of them, is essential for co-operation between and smooth functioning. Such a headquarter is essential also when armed forces of more than one country are to participate in an operation. American and British troops were to form part of the force for the landings in Normandy in World War II. One combined headquarter was formed for unified command of all the troops to ensure that there was complete co-operation between the force of the two nations and also within the services of these forces. General Eisenhower was appointed the Supreme Commander and all the forces of both the countries were placed under him. The campaign was consequently conducted smoothly and successfully.

4. Liaison Between Three Services : Even though all the three services are not under the control of the same commander, proper co-operation can be achieved through close liaison. Commander should have mutual liaison. The officers of their headquarters and others should also liaise at their levels. When Montgomery took command of the 8th Army, he realised that there was and a need for closer co-operation between the army and air force. He arranged to have

the air headquarters moved close to his own to be able to have close liaison and ensure full utility of air resources.

5. Co-ordination : Co-ordination of activities of all those under him is the responsibility of the commander. Clear orders should be issued regarding all the decisions taken so that there is no doubt in anyone's mind. Co-ordination ensures that every one knows as to what action is to be taken by whom and at what time and closer co-operation is the result.

6. Team Spirit : Team spirit is the key to co-operation. Team spirit is created by training and living together and having close liaison. Once recognition takes place and team spirit is developed amongst the staff and troops of that force, that organization should not be broken up unless it is inescapable.

10. Administration

Administration means supply of rations and other stores to the troops in the battle, care and maintenance of military stores and arrangements for movement of troops and stores. The aim of administration is to make such full proof arrangements for forces that the commander can make and implement his plans without any administrative worries and restrictions and can achieve such flexibility as to be able to effectively implement new plans with sound administrative backing.

There is no point in making an ambitious plans if the administrative resources can not fulfill the requirement of such a plan. It is essential that the forces get the stores needed by them in time. Neither can be soldiers fight with empty stomachs nor can the vehicles moves without fuels; nor can guns be fired without ammunition. Any commander who does not keep administrative factors in mind while making the plan, should not look forward to success in battle. Any force which embarks on an action beyond its administrative sources is bound to land in a delicate situation.

As has been stated earlier, resources are never adequate in war. This is more applicable to administrative resources. There is always a conflict between what is desired to be achieved and what can be achieved, in view of the available administrative resources. If administrative managements and resources are not adequate and they cannot support the operational plan, a change in these become necessary and sometimes such plans have to be completely abandoned.

Appropriate administration is possible only if all the available resources are utilized to the maximum. This is achieved by thinking ahead and positioning stores on the routes. The shape of the war is likely to take should be foreseen and store should be kept ready to meet the changing situations. Additional stores should not be sent to every place as it would result in wasting resources.

The commanders should keep their administrative staff in picture at every

stage of planning. He must have a clear understanding of the administrative factors which are likely to effect his operations and put restrictions on his activities. No doubt, one should not become a slave of administrative and be afraid of calculated risk, but to forget completely about administrative restrictions is also unacceptable.

(a) Principles of Administration

There are basic rules which, like principles of war, have been accepted as principles of administration. Faultless administration can be ensured by applying them. These are described as below :

1. Farsightedness : Administrative arrangements take a long time. The preparation has, therefore, to start early. A good administrative staff officer foresees administrative problems can have good estimate of what turn the operations are likely to take and works out administrative requirement in advance. He should invariably be in the know of his commander's intentions. He should have close liaison with general staff so that he remains in up-to-date picture of the progress of operations and their likely course. Only then he will be able to supply the administrative requirements in time. Farsightedness it is equally important at the time of planning and later during the operations.

2. Economy : Whatever resources are available their efficient use should be made by affecting economy. They should neither be used freely nor with stinginess. If administrative stores are supplied more than required at one place, the others may go without the needed stores. The administrative plan should, therefore, be balanced.

3. Flexibility : It has been explained under the principles of war that a commander should have the capability of switching over his force from one place to another at short notice. Such a flexibility can be achieved only if there is flexibility in administrative plans also and full administrative support can be given to any change in tactical plans. Sometimes supply by air may have to be resorted in order to achieve administrative flexibility.

4. Simplicity : Administrative plans should not be complicated. Administration of forces or theater is a difficult operation and it demands simplicity in plan to able to be carried out without any problem and obstructions. There should be no complexity within the administrative plan or in its implementation.

5. Co-operation : Co-operation between staff and troops ensures sound administration. There should also be close liaison and full co-operation between administrative organizations of all the three services. There will then be co-ordination in the use of available administrative resources.

Renowned commanders have said the following regarding administration :

1. Socrates, "The general must know how to get his men, their rations and every other kind of stores".
2. Napoleon "The army marches on its stomach".
3. Wavel "The more I saw of war, the more I realised how it all depend on administration and transportation".

Hitler had made no special arrangements for the administration of his campaign for 1941-45's offensive winter. This resulted in his troops being without clothes for winter warfare and other stores to ward off cold. There was a loss of men and material due to faulty administration. To make up for the shortcomings the German air-crafts were diverted for sending supplies and stores thus denying the air support required by forces. This lack of administrative arrangements adversely affected Hitler's campaign.

Montgomery was fully aware of this fact that administration does have no comparison. He always ensured that administrative arrangements were so good that once he started a campaign he could see it through without any administrative bottlenecks. He used to achieve flexibility and reorganization because of good administration. It was only because of efficient administration that he covered a distance of 700 miles from Alamein to Agiella in 21 days.

Conclusion

The act of warfare is based on the principles of war enumerated above. The application of these principles and relative importance for a particular situation depend on different factors. These principles are only for guidance. They have been tried out in wars. Those who respected them and complied with them achieved success and those who ignored them paid high price and faced defeat. At the same time the commanders should not become slaves to these principles. At times some principles have to be ignored to accommodate others which carry more importance for the task in hand. It is not enough keep them in mind while studying military history. What principles were applied or ignored in the battle fought with what results should be analysed. It should be seen after the study of a campaign as to which commanders gained by abiding by the principles of war and those who were the losers by not respecting them. Lessons should be learnt from every campaign and battle so that the same mistakes are not repeated.

Books Suggested For Further Study

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| 1. | Quincy Wright | : | Study of War |
| 2. | Cyril Falls | : | Hundred Years of War |
| 3. | J.F.C. Fuller | : | The Conduct of War |
| 4. | K.S. Sidhu | : | War and Its Principles |

FRONTIERS AND BOUNDARIES

In the context of security, boundaries and frontiers are more important for a nation in present time. Due to scientific and technological development, boundaries are most sensitive aspect of national security. The study of frontiers and boundaries is acknowledged to be an important branch of political geography. So it is desirable to make clear the geographical connotations of the two terms. As in the case with other similar concepts, borders, boundaries and frontiers are often interpreted as nothing more than equivalent designations of limit between states that, though they may convey certain symbolically charged messages, are essentially legal and jurisdictional liver markers of the extent of the state's territory.

The term frontier is more generic and refers to a region while Boundary is linked to a more precise, linear, and perfectly defined concept. From the past times to the present times, maximum and major conflict in between the nations had arisen because of frontiers and boundaries. India Pakistan wars, Indo-china war and Iran-Iraq wars are the major examples of the conflicts of frontiers and boundaries.

MEANING AND DEFINITION

The area and the land in between the two nations around the boundary line is called frontier. It neutralizes the forces to enter in others areas. Mountain, deserts, rivers, oceans, forests are the geographical elements of the frontiers. According to A.E. Moodie, "Frontiers are zones or belts of territory while boundaries are the lines drawn in these zones.

According to Professor Pounds, "Frontiers ... a border zone, unclaimed, unsettled and unused, into which people from each side may at time intrude, but over which neither side claims or exercises an exclusive control."

Boundary is that line which separates one nation from the other. Boundaries are determined and demarcated between the nations and states as per certain agreements. But sometimes, mountains, rivers, oceans, deserts etc. are determined as natural boundaries. But boundaries are determined only in that conditions when both nations governments accept it. And the basic difference in between boundary and frontier is that boundary is only a line which has only length but not having any geographical limits and basis. But in the context of frontier, then frontier has both length and breadth and it is the part of land. Major differences between frontier and boundaries are following :

- 1) Frontiers are a real, boundaries are linear in character.
- 2) Frontiers are natural where as boundaries are artificial.
- 3) Frontiers can't be changed but boundaries can be changed.
- 4) Frontiers are an important element which unite the two nations but

boundaries always divide the two nations.

- 5) Frontiers cannot be determined and demarcated but boundaries can be determined and demarcated.

TYPES OF BOUNDARIES

Boundary is linked to a more precise, linear and perfectly defined concept. It is a line which divides the two nations and it is determined by the nations as per certain agreements. Boundaries are of eight types and these are following :

- 1) Physical or Natural Boundaries
- 2) Conventional Boundaries
- 3) Ethnic Boundaries
- 4) Historical Boundaries
- 5) Political Boundaries
- 6) Geometrical Boundaries
- 7) Contractual Boundaries
- 8) Mixed Boundaries

1) Physical or Natural Boundaries

Natural boundaries are things like mountains ranges, rivers, deserts, oceans etc. In old times, natural boundaries were very important but in present times, because of technological developments and modern communications, natural boundaries has lost that importance. Himalaya mountains are located in North of India and protecting India from China's invasion but in 1962 (Indo-China War), first time China attacked India from this side. Australia's boundary is an ocean and Switzerland's boundary is defined by mountains. So these are natural and physical boundaries.

Where boundaries are set up in mountainous country, strategic factors are also important. If such a line is imposed by a more powerful state on another, the former will seek to obtain a location which will secure military advantage irrespective of traditional rights and distribution of peoples. River boundaries are even less satisfactory than those among mountains. The broad rivers, especially where they are fringed with marshes, have been both protective barriers and separating zones. According to pounds, "Generally, though not always, mountain ranges separate cultural groups, by virtues of the relative difficulty in crossing them. For the some reason, they have always been thought of as good strategic or military boundaries.

2) Conventional Boundaries

These conventional boundaries are determined by the neighbour countries politicians/leaders in diplomatic conferences, similarly ignoring physical elements of both countries. In these diplomatic conferences, boundaries are accepted according to ocean, river's flow.

3) Ethnic Boundaries

Generally in particular geographical area, people are used to living together from many generations and due to the fact, they have common culture and traditions, common heritage, common language and moral values, common life style, then they have common bond in between them. Sometimes these people demand a separate state or area for themselves. The requirements for

maintaining the ethnic boundary include people believing themselves to be part of the ethnic group, interacting and mutually cooperating with one another to achieve the common purpose of preserving their ethnic heritage and minimizing the contact with society. If two nations are having dispute regarding particular boundary and frontier, then boundary is determined on the basis of religion. Partition of India and Pakistan is based on this religion. Sometimes boundaries are determined by the voting of people. But in context of ethnic boundary, it is very tough to collect to data on basis of religion, language etc. Many times, both nations cannot be agree on some levels of negotiation, issues and chances of disputes can be increased.

4) Historical Boundaries

Historical boundaries are determined on the basis of old divisions of boundaries. Sometimes it happens over the choice of some racial or ethnic groups. These groups are used to live in specific boundaries because of their special identities.

5) Political Boundaries

A political boundary would be a real or imagined line in the sand that defined the boundary of a nations or state. This boundary line is demarcated by defeating the other nation or by annexing the area of other nation in own area. In 1950's China invaded other states/nations with the purpose of expansion of the area/land of the country.

6) Geometrical Boundaries

These boundaries are called astronomical or mathematical. These boundaries are totally different from natural boundaries. "The use of geometrical lives in defining boundaries is quite common to denote the negotiators unfamiliarity with the region being divided, or the fact that the area is considered of small value." In this way, further it is divided into two parts.

- 1) Longitudinal boundaries
- 2) Latitudinal boundaries

7) Contractual Boundaries

The boundaries which are demarcated on the basis of agreements and contracts in between the two countries, are known as contractual boundaries. These agreements are implemented by mutual consent (peacefully, coercively through imposing power and war). Agreement based boundaries are called political boundaries also. McMohan line between India and China, Durand line between India and Pakistan are the examples of these contractual or agreement based boundaries.

8) Mixed Boundaries

When a nation's boundary is demarcated/determined on the basis of natural base, cultural base, geometrical base etc. are known as mixed boundaries. India and Pakistan and India-Bangladesh boundary are the example of mixed boundary.

IMPORTANCE OF BOUNDARIES

If we glance back at the history, maximum wars and battles were fought between the states because of boundaries. So boundaries have played a dominant

role in the context of security. A nation's security is only determined by its land area and ocean area's security and if any country is trying to interfere in another country's territory without any permission then automatically a tensed atmosphere appeared on the boundaries and friendly relations would be disappeared between the both countries. In the greed of expansion of territory, many wars were fought in the world and left great bloodsheds and destructions. World War Ist and World War IInd are the great example of it.

Only boundary and frontier of a nation determine the actual security of a nation. As General wavell said that the geography of land determines the course of a battle. Due to the fact that boundaries are located on the land and land is an essential element of national security and national interest. In the context of importance of boundary and frontier, the famous military thinker Frederick, The Great said, "Take advantage of Terrain and then attack him briskly and you should be able to hope for the most brilliant success." In international relations, boundaries are very important, these determines the relationship between the nations whether they are peaceful or coercive. Except military point of view, boundaries can effect directly or indirectly every aspect of a nation. Only boundaries can determine the economic, cultural, geographical, political, militarily circumstances of a nation. Infact, only boundaries are playing dynamic role in the tale of development and destruction of a nation.