

**Patriotic Pretention In Horror Struck Wars**  
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**Abstract**

In times of war, patriotism often fuels nationalistic sentiments and unites individuals under a common cause. However, there are instances where the concept of patriotism can be distorted and used as a pretense to justify unjustifiable acts. This article explores the issue of patriotic pretention in the context of horror-struck wars, shedding light on the dangers and consequences of blindly following a misguided sense of nationalistic pride.

War is a devastating event that brings forth unimaginable horrors, both physical and psychological. The brutality of war leaves scars on individuals, communities, and nations, tarnishing any notion of romanticized heroism. In the midst of such horrors, it becomes crucial to critically analyze the role patriotism plays in the actions and decisions made during these tumultuous times. Patriotism is often characterized by a love for one's country, accompanied by a willingness to defend and protect it. However, this love and loyalty can sometimes be taken to extreme levels, where it blinds individuals to the moral implications of their actions. In the context of horror-struck wars, patriotic pretention arises when individuals use their love for their nation as a justifiable excuse to commit atrocities or overlook the atrocities being committed by their own side.

**Keywords : Pretention, Justifiable, Atrocities, Distorting**

Patriotism is the feelings of love and sense of attachment to one's country. This attachment can be a combination of many different feelings, relating to one's own homeland, including cultural, political or historical aspects. Some people of political power show off their patriotic spirit and create violence and horror through deadly wars and communal riots. They spread the poison in the minds of common people and tempt them to be involved themselves in such bloodshed and murder to show their belongingness and false patriotism. Wars are not the solution of peace or to show patriotic spirit towards a nation. Administrators must be humbled for their nation and

should love their own motherland. To be humble is a good practice, but wars are not the only way to defend patriotism. War is harmful for both the countries. It is not a solution, but a way towards destruction, unhealthy situation and dehumanization. Deadly effect of war causes numerous harms to human beings. Very often countries indulge themselves in conflict and violence. The conflict results the suffering of poor downtrodden people. Basic needs of human beings are not fulfilled. Scarcity of food, water and even necessary goods remain in crises. The congenial relationship is marred. The finer sentiments weather away. A mother loses her loving child. Old persons lose their anchorages. Normal human rights are lost. Men lose not only life but also ethics to live a peaceful life. They suffer due to the pride of administrators. This pride destroys life and property of general people, those who are least concerned with the politics of war. The impact of war in the country creates extensive emotional and psychological stress. The economy fails to progress due to the devastating impact during and after the war. War destruction creates catastrophic collapse in the socially interrelated structure. Basically, education and health-care system collapse. If such war continues, namely, the atomic war, it can destroy the universe, making it lack of lives: may it be humans or animals.

Behind every war, there is the selfish motive of imperialism and neocolonialism. Proper culture can check such anarchy. Good suggestion, extended love and fellow feeling can stop war from destruction. At this juncture of international hazards, the role of the writers pose a predominant position to correct and to instruct not only the society but also the administration, who get engaged in such destructive and deadly wars.

We can take the recent example of the 2019 Pulwama Attack occurred in 14th feb., where numerous army officers died, many family became destroyed. During the war many army officers lost their lives for their motherland. Many innocent families lost their dear family members due to the war devastation.

We can take the burning example of Russo-Ukrainian War. It is an ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine. It began in February 2014. The ongoing war in Ukraine forces over 2.3 million refugees to flee from their country. Piles of corpses are found everywhere. Shops and market shutters are down due to the curfew. Scarcity food, drinking water and electricity are the major issues there. People live like stray dogs, eat stale food and drink impure water to survive. The dehumanizing effect is clearly marked. Such issues are the major themes in recent writings.

Very often it is seen that administrators are the major cause of violence and war. Recently, Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of Russia and Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyy of Ukraine fight each other due to personal ego and display of power and prowess. Putin is a Russian politician and former intelligence officer. He is serving as the current president of Russia. Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyy is a Ukrainian politician and former comedian and actor, who has served as the sixth and current president of Ukraine since 2019.

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“During his third term as president, Russia annexed Crimea and sponsored a war in eastern Ukraine with several military incursions made, resulting in international sanctions and a financial crisis in Russia. He also ordered a military intervention in Syria to support Russian ally Bashar al-Assad in the Syrian civil war, eventually securing a deal that granted permanent naval bases in the Eastern Mediterranean. During his fourth term as president, he launched a large invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, provoking international condemnation and significantly expanded sanctions. In September 2022, he announced a partial mobilisation and forcibly annexed four Ukrainian oblasts into Russia. In March 2023, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Putin for war crimes[18] in connection to his alleged criminal responsibility for illegal child abductions during the war.[19]

Under Putin's leadership, Russia has undergone democratic backsliding and a shift to authoritarianism. His rule has been characterised by endemic corruption and widespread human rights violations, including the imprisonment and repression of political opponents, the intimidation and suppression of independent media in Russia, and a lack of free and fair elections”.

We can show our patriotic feeling towards our country in a non-violent way. Our leader, father of the nation, Mahatama Gandhi took the path of truth and nonviolence as his weapons to

terminate British rule from our motherland. Gandhi's non-violent policy upheld fraternity without having murder, bloodshed or horror. Under his leadership India could achieve freedom. War or violence is not the ultimate solution or it does not certify the leaders as true patriots. They can be patriots, who nonviolently handle the situation and can bring peace, progress and prosperity to a nation.

Patriotism is often characterized by a love for one's country, accompanied by a willingness to defend and protect it. However, this love and loyalty can sometimes be taken to extreme levels, where it blinds individuals to the moral implications of their actions. In the context of horror-struck wars, patriotic pretention arises when individuals use their love for their nation as a justifiable excuse to commit atrocities or overlook the atrocities being committed by their own side.

### **The Consequences**

The consequences of patriotic pretention in horror-struck wars are far-reaching and destructive. By embracing this pretense, individuals and nations risk perpetuating a cycle of violence and cruelty, casting aside any notions of justice and morality. Furthermore, the justification of actions under the guise of patriotism can hinder efforts toward reconciliation and forgiveness, prolonging the conflicts and deepening the wounds inflicted on societies.

### **Learning From History**

Throughout history, there have been numerous examples of patriotic pretention in horror-struck wars. From the dehumanization of the "enemy" to the atrocities committed in the name of nationalistic pride, these instances serve as reminders of the dangers inherent in allowing patriotism to cloud moral judgment. Learning from these examples is essential to prevent the recurrence of such misguided behavior in the future.

### **Balancing Patriotism And Morality**

Recognizing the potential pitfalls of patriotic pretention, it is essential to strive for a balanced approach. Patriotism can coexist with morality and empathy, but it requires introspection, critical thinking, and the ability to question one's own beliefs. True patriotism involves holding oneself and one's nation accountable for their actions, and actively working towards a more just and humane world. Patriotic pretention in horror-struck wars is a worrisome phenomenon that has appeared throughout history. Blinding oneself to the moral implications of one's actions under the pretense of patriotism can lead to horrific consequences for all parties involved. By fostering

a more balanced understanding of patriotism, society can strive towards peace, justice, and reconciliation, even in the face of the horrors of war.

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