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**WAR AS A RATIONAL CHOICE FOR STATES AND RULERS:  
KHUSHAL KHAN KHATTAK, S POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF  
MORAL AND PURPOSEFUL PERSPECTIVE ON WAR**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Khushal Khan Khattak a poet, philosopher and, a leading intellectual of his times, have elaborated and explained his purposeful ideas on War. Khushal Khan Khattak as was practically a commander of his tribe in various wars against his opponents also significantly elaborates on the various modes and types of wars and on the respective successful strategies and tactics involved in each type of war to get a decisive advantage over the enemies. Khushal Khan Khattak believed that war is basically choice of the decision-makers and leaders as their tactical move to achieve grand strategic interests through empirical and rational decision-making. Khushal Khan Khattak elaborates on the purpose and causation of inflicting war on the opponents too. The moral perspective of war is significant in the thoughts and philosophy of Khushal, the role of morality in political decision making along with keeping a moral posture while going for war as well as dealing with the opponents on the battlefield. According to him, the role of spies and getting valuable and confidential information on the part of states and military leaders is essential for the outcome of the war as the effective spies' system he elaborates on, differentiates a stronger and efficient state and leader from a weaker and irrational decision-maker. At last, the utilization of force against the opponents requires wisdom and strategy for maximum gains. The study is qualitative based on content, discourse and thematic analysis of different data yet it is empirical in nature. The main argument of the study is that the political philosophy of Khushal Khan Khattak regarding war is comprehensive based on the rationality of wars having moral, political and strategic foundations on the part of states. The study is unique and significant in its pertinence to academia, think tanks, military think tanks and statecraft and policy makers.*

**Keywords:** Strategy, Rationality, Morality, Administration, Spoils, Spies

**Introduction:**

War is a common element and experience of mankind associated with every culture and nation historically along with every nation and culture creating its concepts, ethical values, philosophical concepts, and strategic thinking

out of it. From the historical experience and from the concepts of different theorists every civilization has termed it as a necessary and a universal tool for the state. Historically the war has been reflected as a social and a universal tool for the state utilized and intended for certain conditions to achieve certain objectives. Every culture has explained and elaborated on the concept of war and the theories of war on the legal and the legitimate reasons for war, the legal justification and methodology of waging a war, and perceiving war specifically as a necessary option for the state to achieve greater harmony and peace as the desired and ultimate objectives.

Thus, the ultimate ends and objectives for any state for waging a war and inflicting a force upon its opponent has been explained historically as for bringing greater peace and harmony in the region and for removing and destroying the anarchical and chaotic elements in the way of peace. Thus, a universal morality has been created in the name of a just war termed to be legitimate and legal and a necessary and inevitable option with the states. History has recorded a greater innovation in the strategy and tactics of waging warfare and the tactics employed during the battlefield from Sun Tzu to Clausewitz there is a huge literature on the subject but one thing that is still the most integral part of the literature on war is its moral standards and justifications. A great increase in the number of casualties has been reported from time immemorial to the modern waged wars that have been intensified and the number has been multiplied with the increase in innovation and technology along with the innovation in strategic thinking and approach to warfare. (Rahmanovicc, 2012)

#### **Conceptual Framework:**

War is a rational choice for decision-makers and states, unlike an irrational move, and is part of a grand strategy of states. Commitment problem and not reaching at mutually agreeable terms for actors involved in the conflict often leads to war. Khushal Khan Khattak practically commanded forces of his tribe against other tribes and Mughals gives comprehensive detail of War and different perspectives associated with it. War tests the character, patience, unity, and organization of different nations, forces, and states. Rational wars must be the combination of effective and efficient military strategy, well trained, well equipped, and well-paid forces along with necessary accurate information and intelligence on the disposal of the war waging forces to inflict decisive damage upon the enemy forces. Wisdom and experience in wars and battles play a key role too.

#### **Khushal Khan Khattak on War:**

The Afghans are thought to be born fighters and Khushal Khan Khattak who was a proud representative of this race was impossible to be alienated from that trait. The glittering steel of the sword was used constantly by Khushal in all of his battles and wars. As he explains this, "The trusty Khattak sword is buckled around my waist,

But not the custom of servitude, in the village and town." (Feroziuddin, 2007)

Khushal Khan Khattak was a lover of peace and harmony. His life struggle, different battles fought, and the wars inflicted upon him he utilized his sword for the cause of the state to show his loyalty for that, fighting for his family, nation, and tribe or in self-defense to thwart his enemy attacks and plans. He also made it necessary on the part of the leader and chief to be ready to fight for life, property, protection to resolve disputes, redress the grievances of the weak and bring greater peace and harmony in the territory he is in charge to claim respect and devotion. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

On War and peace, he explains in his couplet as,  
"In war and violence there is no profit Khushal;  
The fire burns up alike the grass and stubble." (M.A, 1890)

On one another occasion, he said,

"Why seek war, O harbinger of peace;  
When harmony is at hand

Where lies the necessity of Swords and arrows, when time can be passed in peace."

Khushal Khan Khattak had hundreds of battles in his lifetime ranging from small-scale guerrilla attacks to full-fledged wars and battles. Fighting battles in his entire life, giving instructions, inflicting attacks of different versions on his enemies gave him immense knowledge about wars, their objectives, and tactical awareness.

According to Khushal Khan Khattak, war is a tool of bringing people together to fight a common enemy. A battlefield is a place that can make different tribes together on a common goal and agenda having a united front against a common enemy that endangers their mutual interests. This is the place that can bring the necessary unification and unity required for a particular tribe. This is also the best way to secure freedom and liberty on the individual and collective scale. Khushal Khan Khattak considered war as a principal tool for securing multiple interests. It was not an irrational act or miscalculated adventure, rather a part of the grand strategy on the part of a ruler. Modern intellect on war analyzes war on cost and benefit analysis though a complex and daunting task, argues that states resort to armed conflict and hostility due to the multiple benefits on economic, political, psychological, and other fronts they offer. (Hausken, 2016)

To secure these objectives, Khushal Khan Khattak in his lifetime started utmost struggle and hard work to bring different Pashtun tribes under one banner to make their strong common front against the enemy. His method of bringing people and making them ready for the fight was not on compulsion; rather he believed that it is the inner feelings of a soldier and the fighter that make him ready for the cause. To accomplish the task of

preparing a united army and front against the enemy he traveled for huge distances facing many hurdles and obstacles. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

In his Book Swat Nama, he explains it in the following way,

“Today I stand for the honor of the entire Pashtun race and for that reason I go seeking help from door to door.” (Ahmad, 2006)

One some other place he says,

“Long have I been roaming in Lachi and Chautara, now will my wanderings be in the Afridi land. Like a Hawk that goes from one mountain to the side of the others, my eyes will next turn to the Swat hills.”

"Having held the sword of Afghan honor in hand, repair, O Khushal to (lands like) Sawat, why care for Khattak and their armies."

“I trod underfoot the entire land of Sawat and became acquainted with every spot.”

From the above couplets of different poems, Khushal Khan explains his struggle and commitment for the cause of bringing unity in the Pashtoon tribes and making a common enemy out of them to preserve the Afghan's honor and integrity and tackle the Mughal might effectively. His commitment to the cause can be judged from the fact that he covered a lot of areas by foot and even reached Swat for this cause. That is why he explains his views in Swat's name and other poems about his journey, the people of Swat, their characteristics, and for this, he walked for miles to be acquainted with every part and section of the area of Swat (Feroziuddin, 2007).

#### **Military Administration:**

The Afghan tribes in those times had no regular and organized system of warfare. Fights and battles on a very small scale were fought in those times of a guerilla version but on a larger scale, there was no specific system of fighting used in combat. In very rare cases the entire tribe must be summoned to fight for the safety of the tribe. There was no system of payment and salaries at that time as many fights were for self-defense the common goal of the tribe.

Khushal Khan Khattak did not introduce any new system of warfare as in those times and the resources on his disposal it was a daunting task too. Yet he had spent a lot of time in Mughal service, had fought many battles for their interests, and the cause of the loyal service to the state was fully aware of the Mughal way of fighting. The Mughals extensively used Cavalry as their main defense and offense strategy to fight wars due to which in Khushal, s philosophy of war there is a frequent mention and discussion about this mode of warfare. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

As a Mughal Munsabdar, he had a certain quota of people as an armed horseman, yet he lacked a well-equipped, well-trained army. The man he had in his command been called as per necessity that arose in any place.

Yet he mentions in one of his couplets that he had thirty thousand armed men at his disposal.

"In all, there were thirty thousand Khattaks,  
Who was entirely at my command." (M.A, 1890)

### **Mode of Warfare:**

Khushal Khan Khattak explains three types of warfare strategies. In every strategy, he explains different tactics to be employed to inflict a huge loss over the enemy and the method of using these tactics along with its possible outcomes and repercussions. The mode of warfare he suggests and explains reflects from his huge experience and service on the battlefield as a Mughal Munsabdar and as a resilient revolted Afghan warrior against the Mughals.

#### **1. Pitched Battles:**

These are the type of battles in which fleeing from the battlefield on the part of warriors is forbidden and they must prefer to sacrifice their lives instead of turning their backs on the enemy. The army is arranged as right-wing, left-wing, and as vanguards. The commander of the army must be in the vanguard of the forces so that the spirit and valor of his army are high during the fight. The commander must monitor the situation with keen eyes but he must not be part of the actual fight as it must be done by his army. After when his army is succeeded, he must directly take possession of the camp and baggage of the enemy and attach some soldiers behind the fleeing enemy as to make them completely out of the arena. After collecting the enemy left-outs, he must thank the actual fighting force by making him victorious.

On the other hand, if his army has been made a retreat, he must take his best bowman and archers with placing the foot soldiers in front and start a bold attack on the enemy. In this, the commander must itself take his part and as a result, if he gets wounded, it will be a morale-boosting for his soldiers and he will be succeeded in return. On the other hand, despite all of his efforts if he does not get succeeded, he must fight till his last breath and does not flee from the battlefield. For him dying with honor must be preferable to fleeing and living the life with disrespect.

But, when the situation is different from the above-mentioned scenario and the commander thinks that he has enough resources and capability to win over his enemy again, then in this case the commander can flee from the battlefield as a tactical retreat. Throwing one's life foolishly must not be the aim of the commander as it will please his adversary. The chances of peace must be welcomed in that case when the victory is uncertain. The method of pitched battles was employed in the Greek states too, to test the effectiveness and strength of their armies on a level battlefield front to front war. (Konijnendijk, 2021) Buddhist's interpretation of fighting in pitched battles has excelled in a way to face opponents on the battlefield without resorting to fighting. (Sugiki, 2020) Pitched battle strategies called "Scythian

Strategy” were effectively utilized by the Persian command against Alexander the great invasion of Asia minor. (Kleymeonov\*, 2017)

## **2. Marauding Expeditions:**

This type of warfare is undertaken usually by a single horseman or several horsemen in groups whose number can go up to ten or twenty thousand. The two things that are important in carrying out such kinds of enemy attacks are good arrows and good horses. Having these two at disposal the attacking group can overpower huge armies and create havoc and destruction in enemy camps. In this kind of warfare, the plus point with the attacking group is that they require very limited resources at their disposal in the shape of weapons and wood. They will just require very few weapons along with a bag of food and a water pot. Another plus point that can add to such kinds of attacks is that if the attacking army is repulsed no significant danger in the shape of men, weapons, and loss of resources they can face.

In the opinion of Khushal Khan Khattak marauding expeditions are better than steady fighting because there is a little danger to be faced on the part of the attacking group while the enemy can suffer huge losses. This system of warfare was first used successfully among the people of Cossacks and Turkistan. Khushal Khan Khattak praising such kind of warfare says that though such kind of attacking strategy is not used and employed in wars fought in Hindustan and Turkey but it is quite successfully used in Turkistan and people of that area have attained huge successes with it in the times of Oghuz Khan, Faredun, Afrasiyab, Changez khan, and Amir Taimur.

## **3. Night Attacks:**

These types of attacks are carried out with necessary secrecy. The beating of the drums is avoided along with the movement of the horses to be carried out without making huge noises. The group of men of the attacking party must steal into the tent of the leader of the enemy and take him by surprise and arrest him. And in this case, without making noise or any harm the victory will be won and when the enemy party will know about the incident the attacking party must have fled the scene. Sometimes a proper sudden attack in the night is done on the enemy forces taking them on surprise as they ran here and there in confusion leaving behind their cattle, horses, and other baggage in the hands of the attacking group. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

Khushal Khan Khattak in Dsatar Nama discusses such kind of warfare in detail. According to him, such kind of fight is preferred in Turkistan (Tatars). The wisdom and the philosophy behind such kinds of attacks are larger in number with constructive and rational thinking on the part of the attacking commander.

The methodology of such attacks can be done by selecting huge Aighar horses (Male fertilizing horses with high spirits) from the flock of horses. They are carried to the site of the army camped and when they finally reach there they are left in the enemy camps. After that, they get the smell of mares

and they ran at them. In response, other male horses of the enemy camp also come to challenge them. In the process, disturbance and turbulence are created in the shape of voices hue and cry. Taking advantage of the situation, a group of the attacking forces enter the enemy camp from the other side and start slaughtering enemy soldiers creating swift havoc in the process. This kind of attacking strategy can also be carried out with the help of selecting big bulls and oxen full of spirit and strength. When they are finally made near the enemy camp, their skins are tied firmly with the bull's tails and their backs are wounded with swords so they became extra fierce and ran over the enemy, their baggage, and camps. In the process, the smell of the blood and the fluttering of the dry skins will terrorize the enemy horses. In between the havoc when create by these fierce and high-spirited bulls, a group of well-trained young warriors attack the enemy and completely overpower them with their fighting skills and the terror and surprise created by the bulls.

The night attacks can be carried out with different strategies and tactics depending upon the resources and warriors at the disposal of the attacking party and also on the strength, location, and preparedness of the enemy group. These kinds of attacks can only be carried out with experienced soldiers and sufficient diplomatic efforts and strategy. It is better to avoid such kinds of attacks when the country is now in its form and there are strangers there. To carry out night attacks the attacking soldiers much be properly trained and skilled in such kind of fight, given them courage and taking the necessary information of the enemy living in the area. First of all, the enemy party must be deceived with peace talks, and truce and when they are disarmed, watch less and uninformed a sudden fierce attack must be carried out. False letters, propaganda, and news must also be utilized in such a case to deceive the enemy party as a part of the grand attacking strategy. Every kind of cheating and deception can be carried out before the treaty is made, but once the treaty is made and confirmed one must adhere to it firmly and must keep it even at the cost of one, s own life. (Naseem, 2007)

#### **Mechanism of Payment of troops:**

The quality and quantity of the military personal with other factors depends greatly on the pay and compensation they are paid to get their services for military purposes. It's the crucial part of recruiting and maintaining military personal in an army. The military pay needs to be adequate and enough high to attract and maintain military personals. (James Hosek, 2018)

In the times of Khushal Khan Khattak, there was no regular system in Afghans for the payment of troops. The troops fight for honor, integrity, and self-defense of the tribe and the nation. But when Khushal Khan Khattak was in charge of his troops he used to feed his forces at his own expense proving to be a proud Afghan hospitable leader and man. During

the Balkh expedition, due to the lack of food Khan was so worried that he paid twenty rupees in those times for thirty seers of rice. On one another occasion in his life, he was able to secure seven seers of flour from the Rajput's and when a meager quantity of food was cooked, he shared it with his followers without any distinction.

Sometimes the fighting men were provided with rations, after that they were marched towards Jalbai to help Zarif khan each of the fighting men was given one seer of flour and a sheep. In very rare cases when the men from the other tribes would come to help the forces of Khan as mercenaries, they were given cash payment. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

#### **Distribution of Spoils of War:**

The man fighting in the war on Khushal Khan Khattak's side had shares in the war booty captured from the enemy forces. In Islam booty or the spoils of war are the things and property seized and captured by the Muslim army from the infidel army. (Kusnadi, 2018) it was an established custom from many years in the times of Khushal Khan Khattak that any man or soldier that gets anything from the quarters of the enemy must get it by itself. In this case, those getting nothing from the enemy camps must have to go empty-handed.

When the Nowshera fort was captured by the forces of Khushal, a new system of the distribution of the spoils of war was introduced by Khushal Khan Khattak. He ordered that all the wealth accumulated from the enemy forces and camps must be divided equally among all the forces. This was an annoying thing for those that naturally came to war for plunder of horses and camels laden with food rations and other things. Even it was offensive for the Khushal, s son Abid Khan, who in his youth and rage took away a lot of things without the permission of the Chief and when he was reprimanded by his father, he flew away to Makhad.

The Khushal Khan Khattak's share of booty was never distributed in the house, rather it went back to the tribe in one or the other way, which gave him a huge name and fame because of that. The bravery displayed by Khushal Khan Khattak at the battlefield along with his soldiers and the generosity of the khan by spending all of his wealth and the booty he takes from conquering enemy camps on his tribe made him a popular leader for which soldiers must readily throw their lives in the battle. (Feroziuddin, 2007)

#### **Khushal Khan Khattak on Chess and War:**

Khushal Khan Khattak considers games of chess important for kings and rulers as according to him the game is played with strategy and planning that can help the war strategy planners, commanders, and decision-makers in learning different aspects and strategies of warfare. It will help them learn how to tackle one, s opponent on the battlefield that employs different tactics and play different cards against you.



He was clear of the fact that the game is forbidden in Islam. But according to Khushal, there must be an exception for kings and rulers to practice it without betting over it which is strictly prohibited. It just only is used for sharpening one's mind and learning different skills of planning and decision making. (Naseem, 2007)

The game has certain advantages according to Khushal as the preeminent of that is one is so much lost in the game that he does not know even where he is sitting like doing meditation. And when he wins from his rival in the game, he takes immense pleasure out of it. According to him,

"Be it Draughts, or Chess, or Backgammon, say I,

If all these and such be learned, there is good in it." (M.A, 1890)

Chess helps in memory, concentration, thinking logically, better judgment and decision making, and making its player a creative thinker. (Novak, 2019) Commanders and decision-makers need all of these necessary qualities to conduct operations leading operational troops on the battlefield.

### **Role of Hunting in War:**

Khushal considers hunting for the kings and kings for the hunt. They are made for each other. The hunt can be an essential exercise to learn about a battle or learn about struggle and challenge. The absence of the skill is quite harmful to the Kings as it helps in learning and increasing bravery. The exercise that is carried out while hunting in the form of searching for the hunt, the riders and the runners in the group greatly helps in getting the required experience helpful in the sudden invasion, battle, and sudden march in mountains and plains along with other works of search and struggle. On the other hand, the activities if not carried out during the hunt the King will remain useless and lazy and will have difficulties facing his opponent on the battlefield. Hunting through the gun also requires a lot of complications and skill and the King must learn this art to help him use it effectively in the hunt as well as on the battlefield.

Khushal Khan Khattak opines that the bird falcon has kingly attributes because of its bravery and grandeur. As the King in the humans is special in the same way falcon in the birds have a special position. Whenever the falcon hunts their prey, they do it with the utmost bravery, skill, and force to completely subdue the hunt. In the whole process courage and boldness of a very high caliber is required as the falcon usually attacks a prey more than his weight and size of the body still subdue it with his conviction and belief in its ability. In the same way following the case of the falcon the King and his army must do the same and attack the enemy like a falcon though they are larger in number and resources. Thus, hunting through guns, arrows, the struggle and fatigue carried out during the hunt, the hunting through falcons and the hunt carried out by the falcon have a significant advantage for the King to devise battle strategies, attacking and subduing his enemy on the battlefield. (Naseem, 2007)

### **Role of Spies in War:**

The role of spies in war is a detrimental factor in succeeding and achieving both political and military objectives. From thousands of years of human, existence on earth and its skirmishes and battles with other humans on the state level for territorial, political and strategic objectives and interests have been carried out. Devising strategy for war and operationalizing different tactics on the field the role of espionage and spies has paramount importance. Through the proper intelligence system and structure, many foreign and domestic threats and challenges to states have been neutralized. Because based on the proper and reliable information on the part of the states better plans and counter-strategies are devised to achieve state strategic objectives. (Peter Jackson, 2005)

Espionage and spying exist for a very long time sometimes referred to world's second oldest profession. (Pun, 2017) From time immemorial across the historical accounts of war, intelligence has helped both political and military leaders as well as the policymakers in drafting efficient and sophisticated strategies that have led to the killing or the saving of the millions. (Codevilla, 1992). History is a testimony to the fact that no insurgency can ever survive without a proper and effective intelligence mechanism. That is why sophisticated military organizations depend upon a huge network of espionage and intelligence collecting and analyzing them through a proper well-structured intelligence framework. The objectives are achieved through overt conduct of violence and covert political action in a well-planned manner. (Al-Asmari, ARAB/ISLAMIC CASE OF INTELLIGENCE IN THE CASE OF FATAH PARAMILITARY, 2009). The art of spying, intelligence, and the system of espionage as an art of craft and art of surprise has definite and enduring importance right from the works of Machiavelli in the shape of "The Art of War" and "The Prince" to the modern intelligence operations in the Cold war and beyond. The intelligence network and spying are significant means for the realization of the bigger motives, objectives, and interests of the political and military leaders. (Huband, 2013).

Kautilya a realist and war strategist considers the deployment of spies essential for gaining tactical and strategic interests. Kautilya has worked upon the classification of spies and devises a hierarchy structure for the secret agents or spies of the state in the kingdom. From the chief of the intelligence services right to the householder on duty for the secret service of the state, he has devised a hierarchical chart based on the workload and division of duties. He has also elaborated on the use of double agents the converted agents for the cause of the kingdom. (Vishnu Prabhu K. S, 2015) Sun Tzu a naturalist and a military strategist in his renowned work "The Art of War" gives the classification of spies into five categories,

1. Local Spies

2. Inward Spies
3. Converted Spies
4. Doomed Spies
5. Surviving Spies

The network of these spies at work according to Sun Tzu no one can know about the state's internal matters and war strategies. Creating inward spies for the service of the state he argues that the people of the enemy country or district must be treated kindly to use them as information sources against the enemy. He also emphasizes the use of converted spies against the enemy as they can give the best informative advantage against the enemy. In the enemy lines, there are always people that have aggravations against their state. They must be carefully and patiently approached. They must be utilized against the enemy by cultivating a habit in them against the enemy through patient training. Sun Tzu believes in the mental strength of the spies is more important than their physical strength. They must be the ones that can take shrewd and quick choices as the issues and challenges they face in their profession are too high and their life and goals are at risk. Their decisions are not based upon any given rationale as they have to make on-the-spot decisions based on different circumstances. (Giles, 2009)

Khushal Khan Khattak the man of the battlefield who fought many battles in his lifetime narrates the effectiveness of the spies in the war in his work *Dsatar nama*. Khushal considers espionage and informative strategy in war detrimental to the achievement of the grand strategy whether the war is a regular one in which proper rows are arranged and fought with certain principles and traditional way of warfare, or it is irregular warfare, a night attack, or a guerrilla short-scale ambush upon the enemy. The effectiveness of the spies and espionage system has three main advantages,

1. Knowing about the enemy spies and their plans.
2. Knowing the defense strategy of the enemy.
3. Devising a counter-strategy based on the available information

Based upon these three key factors and proper informative strategy Khushal devices offensive and defensive war tactics and strategies for a commander. Khushal believes that a commander must not spend his night in the enemy territory even he is stronger in force and number than his enemy unless his strength is ten times more than his enemy. As there is a clear chance of a night attack upon his forces when his forces are sleeping and unaware of the calamity from the enemy forces this can lead to huge losses and even defeat on the battlefield. If the enemy is stronger in strength but enters the territory with attacking intentions but is tired of a long journey and night rest must be countered and faced on the battlefield. The ambush must not be taken in haste rather at the proper time when the enemy forces are leaving and retreating than a well-planned night attack must be launched and taken by them a surprise when they are tired and unaware of the danger.

Such opportunities must not be overthrown. The disunity in the enemy ranks must be known through spies placed in the enemy ranks and must be utilized effectively to weaken the enemy lines and secure greater victory over them. Based on espionage any person coming from the enemy territory must not be trusted. (Naseem, 2007)

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) as a military strategist, a technician, and military theorist, devised different war strategies in his lifetime and commanded a lot of battles by himself. He used political and military intelligence to his full capability against the enemies of Islam and Muslims as a great military general and technician. He was a true genius and master of intelligence and his intelligence service in no time came to rival that of Rome and Persia especially in the area of political intelligence. (Gabriel, 2007) The intelligence service and network used by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was extremely sophisticated and well organized by the agents in place, commercial spies, combat patrols, prisoner, s debriefing method, etc. as for the collection of information and intelligence. Muhammad (PBUH) had good knowledge about the traditions of Arabia, the loyalties of the different clans based on different cultural and other factors and used this knowledge to a great effect while negotiating and making alliances with the Bedouin tribes.

#### **Conclusion:**

Different Scholars perceive war from different perspectives, yet all of them agree on the notion that it is not an irrational or a foolish act. It seems adventurous though for the aggressor state yet, has a lot of political, economic, strategic, or other goals associated with it. Khushal Khan Khattak was of the same perspective that wars are waged as a part of a strategy to gain certain ends employing war as a means. But he unlike other scholars presents a complete and comprehensive overview of War. He argues on the causation of war, the purpose behind waging a war, limitations and moral constraints on the battlefield, the benefits of wars and battles for armies, rulers, and states, and military strategy to be employed regarding conditions at the disposal of the military commanders. Along with that, he stresses upon enthusiasm and zeal and zest in the fighting army, the role of spies in getting valuable and important information to be employed in the battle, and regular troops that are highly and adequately paid. Thus, Khushal Khan Khattak gives an overall comprehensive paradigm regarding the term War that is a whole consisting of different dimensions and parts.

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