

The Avoidance of War

Gaudium et Spes

Understanding the Dialog

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We are living in global world where different cultures, religions, and nations are locally put together. Gandhi said: When we meet with other religions we don't have to convert from one to another instead we become more familiar with our own. Dialogue is the way of integration with others, where a good awareness of different cultures, religions, nationalities is recommended. That is why the Second Vatican council encourages the Catholics to use it. Dialogue in general encourages: empathy, openmindedness, maintaining relations, ect. It means to cooperate in opposition to pressure or to subjugate the others. The duty of soldier is to support this way of man.

1. Slide: The Avoidance of War (*Gaudium et Spes*). How can we prevent wars, what we can do as individuals, soldiers, religious people, people of different nations, cultures, ect...? One important way to it is a dialogue which is a way to a common good and to righteousness (Vat. II.) as a supposition for peace.
2. Slide: Righteousness: is an theological concept in many religions: as in Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism. It is an attribute that implies that a person's actions are justified and also has been "judged" as leading to a life, which includes all/many people. **In this context the right war – to protect this order!**

- HOLLY BIBLE (Abraham's faith and works): Genesis 15:6 »*Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.*« We can say his works were works of faith: Roms 4:1-5 »*Well then, what can we say about our ancestor Abraham? 2 If he became acceptable to God because of what he did, then he would have something to brag about. But he would never be able to brag about it to God. 3 The Scriptures say, "God accepted Abraham because Abraham had faith in him.4 Money paid to workers isn't a gift. It is something they earn by working. 5 But you cannot make God accept you because of something you do. God accepts sinners only because they have faith in him.*«

- BHAGAVAD GITA (Arjuna's battle for righteousness): Arjuda was told by God Krishna to fight, because to fight is his duty, he should not see for dead relatives, because to be dead is our destiny we can't avoid it any case.

- MIDDLE AGES (righteousness as a common virtue for protection: an individual (person), a common life (community) and a territory (land)): The knight had duty to protect especially the weak: women, children.

3. Slide: To prevent **Total war** - is a war in which they are used all means to achieve the ultimate goal. There are no rules. Vat. Council-

– Is there still fight for Righteousness?

World War I/II:

4. Slide (slide Nature of war :

(I.) War between countries for acquiring colonies or territory or resources.

(II.) War of ideologies, such as Fascism and Communism.

- 20. CENTURY: modern devices = mass-killing (Gergen) *The saturated self, Dilemmas of identity in contemporary life*. New York: Basic Books. 1991;

5. **Slide Huda jama** - H. Arendt and Z. Baumann pointed out the murders in last wars couldn't be possible without these modern technical equipment! H. Arendt: *Origins of the totalitarianism*, Z Bauman. *Modernity and holocaust*.

Let us see results (Atomic bomb, holocaust...), which are still present now (Slovenia)

6. **Slide:** What about the future? We all have the difficulty to jump over our shadow!

7. Slide: Second Vatican **Council** offers a solution. That is Dialog as basis of the Church and society: empathy **GS1**. Dialogue is an **anthropological** factor of man- a basic principle of man:

8. Slide:

1- It starts with the **conception** – man and woman together in perfect dialogue create a new life, which is a fruit of dialogue.

2- And after the birth, there are Caring mother's arms protecting and encouraging new life.

3- That's how basis are made for Cooperative life.

9. In general: Human life is based on dialogue:

1- From Genes (biological body), how our bodies work,

2- How we Meet (with partners, family, friends,...) and how we make relations.

3- And how we Work together in the world. (Common good: human rights, government, religion, social life,...)

10. And there is a connection (human life) and answer what is the meaning of working together? **VAT. II:** It is not enough to have peace, but we need the righteousness – The Arms are obliged to protect the righteousness.

The same missions:

- Protecting Life (Human rights)

- Encouraging Life (Dialogue)

Army and Church together - as a metaphor:

MOTHER'S ARMS

11. In dialogue everybody is encouraged to go the way to common good **VIRTUES:** prudence, righteousness, temperance (measure), courage and the theological Faith Hope, Love especially to poor, hungry, disabled..