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Genghis Khan, Timur, and Other Leaders Negative Influence in Popular Culture

In the world's history, there had been the existence of powerful leaders whose influence was renowned in various countries. For instance, leaders like Genghis Khan, Alexander the Great, Timur and, Joseph Stalin, Adolf Hitler were reputable and revered by the people they led (Upton-Ward p.384). Even though they were powerful in calling the shots in countries they led, they were deemed notorious – they ruled dictatorially. The paper seeks to meticulously utilize the writings of historians to highlight the powerful leadership of various leaders along with the negative influence it had on popular culture.

The historians uncovered the works of such retrogressive leaders through the heinous acts they used to commit while in power. The activities of Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, and Vladimir Lenin led to the death of many people. In the case of Adolf Hitler, there were many injustices in the form of killing that he committed in Germany. The historians accessed information concerning Adolf Hitler through books, publications, and interviews that contain everything (Ahsan & Muhammad p. 89). The use of texts and writing recorded in those early times provided data on the inhumane activities. The use of books, publications, and interviews formed a similarity in the way these dictators used to rule their countries. The historians used books to understand the actions of Adolf Hitler amongst the citizens deeply. Adolf Hitler developed an

aggressive policy that led to the creation of World War II. He invaded Poland which made countries like France and Britain to declare war on Germany. The ability to develop unfavorable economic policies created a poor life structure for most people. The historians gathered such information after an original form of reading books and publications. The assistance of interviews conducted in different parts of the world has confirmed the injustices that Adolf Hitler was involved in performing.

Different historians wrote diverse issues which performed by dictatorial leaders in Europe. Their sentiments were unbiased as they explicitly uncovered the truths concerning the notorious and harsh leadership that most countries in Europe underwent. Genghis Khan and his descendants ensured that they conquered other countries within Eurasia, thereby ruling an expansive empire that measured 12 million square miles. He was a bloodthirsty conqueror who showed no mercy in his annexation of other territories. As a conqueror, he brutally and ruthlessly had the motive of dominating the world through his quest of ruling many territories. He left an indelible mark on the world that was regarded to be of a dictator. Before, being proclaimed the leadership of Mongols, he was known as Temujin.

Powerful vision

Temujin, Genghis Khan, was once enslaved at the age of 20 when his community was raided by their former family collaborators. However, he managed to escape after which he built his army encompassing over 20, 000 men. He had an amazing vision that enhanced his ability to persuade 20, 000 men, to join his army. His vision was for all the Mongol tribes to stop their discordant conflicts and come together under his leadership (Linde p.101). Therefore, most Mongols deserted their divisive rules and joined forces with the one Temujin brought forth. His

tagline stated, “United the whole world in one empire.” Due to his adept knowledge of military operations, his vision of ruling the Mongol tribes was achieved in 1206 that marked his graduation from Temujin to Genghis Khan. His army was well-equipped and trained in engaging in military operations. He utilized a system of meritocracy where he deployed a man who almost killed him in a horse-shooting contest by making him one of his field commanders.

However, Khan’s vision alone was not sufficient in making just decisions. He lacked the intelligence, ability, as well as technical awareness of implementing and getting things done requisitely as he employed forceful coercion on territories to be under his governance. Some historians estimated that the forces of Khan claimed the lives of many people of approximately 40 million which accounts for 11% of the population of the world. Undoubtedly, Genghis Khan was a brutal warrior king who had no remorse or empathy towards the life of people. His hunger for power to conquer other territories was enormous. He ruthlessly wiped out his enemies who objected to his leadership and rule.

Another leader who predominantly contributed to the demonstration of adept knowledge in running his army was Timur. Historians found that he was a leader of the Turko-Mongol military. His ingenious expertise in running the Timurid Empire was astounding. Timur’s religious affiliation was unclear and he used Islam to further his agendas of conquering more lands. The religion offered him the perfect opportunity to unite people and exert power. This is evident in the way he referred himself – “The Sword of Islam.” He was an ambitious leader having the vision of rebuilding the power of Genghis Khan who died in the previous century. Timur was an exceedingly intelligent politician who understood and spoke myriad languages such as Turkish, Persian as well as Mongolian (Eiren p.56). Also, he was able to build his empire

by persuading a vast number of people to join his army. He was a military mastermind who led an army of soldiers from diverse ethnic groups. After fighting under the rule of different Khans and Sultans in his twenties, he became feted with a command of a thousand soldiers to lead the attack of Khorasan. This post was availed to him due to his robust leadership skills. The Timurid Empire contended the size as well as the power of the Mongol tribes that were headed by Genghis Khan a century before. Timur was a brutal leader who conquered Central Asia, parts of India along with most of the Muslim world. His army brutally killed many people estimated to account for 17 million which denoted about 5% of the world's population during that period. He built a strong military which helped him conquer various lands currently known as Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, and India to name a few.

The leaders embraced fascism to give directives to the people they ruled. Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini go down in the annals of history as champions of vesting dictatorial powers in their governance. Adolf Hitler headed Nazi Germany and Benito governed the Kingdom of Italy. They promoted forcible repression of opposition by ensuring that trading commodities were not channeled towards them. Hence they astoundingly led to economic regimentation in the territories they annexed. Besides, they opposed the idea of liberalism and Marxism. Their repressive governance led to increased conflicts among the people due to fascist leadership that had the standpoint of embracing political violence.

Some historians accounted for the leadership of Benito Mussolini who was a fascist. He was the leader of the Kingdom of Italy where he ruled through the succession of three different political parties – the Revolutionary Fascist Party (PFR), the National Fascist Party (NFP) and the Third Fascist Congress (O'Brien p.185). The leader was engrossed in ensuring that Italy

expanded its territories by conquering other states to exert his superiority and power. Mussolini emphasized that Italian fascism was to champion Italian nationalism, national syndicalism as well as revolutionary nationalism. He was highly intelligent in the military hence he persuaded the people of Italy to unite and form a militia that will propagate the conquering of other territories. Thus he supported the annexation of unredeemed territories of Italy which led to multiple deaths of military personnel. His regime annexed Yugoslavia into Italy a ploy that led to forced Italianization of over 327,000 people. The regime imposed mandatory rules that every territory being annexed had no other choice but to consider.

Historians examined the approaches used by the aforesaid leaders in conquering different lands. For example, all the leaders utilized the services of the military they developed over the years to help them annex and declare control over them. The leaders were knowledgeable and skillful in military operations that enhanced their ability to consolidate people to form an army. They were military masterminds with a profound comprehension of tactics and proper decisions to make when conquering other lands. Moreover, the writings of historians chronicled the negative influence the leaders had on society. Adolf Hitler was a leader who became engrossed in the promotion of imperialism to control other countries through the military (Domeier p.91). His system propagated oppression which resulted in disunity among the people of Nazi Germany and other countries in Eurasia. Not only did the world domination of these leaders lead deaths but they also grossly affected the economy which plummeted.

The scholars' information concerning Hitler stems out from the citizens of Germany and other countries. Some civilians have lived for a long time, and they assisted in providing evidence of Adolf Hitler's inhuman killings. The impact of Adolf Hitler felt in most parts of

Europe, with Germany feeling the bitter part of his rule. There was no form of bias in gathering evidence that shows Adolf Hitler was a terrible leader with massive influence (Ahsan & Muhammad p. 89). The killings that took place in Germany amounted to 19.3 million under the regime of Hitler. It got believed the Nazis were liable for committing such an indecent act to humanity. The number of soldiers and civilians who died while fighting for the country was approximately 28.7 million. The mass killing of people took place with Hitler commanding people to get deported to their various countries. The conflict promoted by Hitler led to the death of most people constituting the deadliest form of conflict in the history of the world.

Scholars approached the topic regarding conquerors with a perception that positive things got developed in different countries. Scholars believed that conquering places got done in a positive manner that allowed for better living for people. The act of capturing land was performed differently by leaders in countries within Europe (Leung & Lai p. 179). For instance, Joseph Stalin created the Great Purge in the Russian Empire, which resulted in the death of many people. He also imprisoned over one million people with at least 700,000 executed in his tenure. The information about Stalin was provided by inhabitants to the scholars to prevent any form of bias. Stalin's totalitarian government got widely condemned because it led to high cases of suffering. Thousands of people suffered executions with the creation of the Great Purge leading to a famine that killed people. The Russian people have got all the information concerning the activities that got committed by Joseph. The majority of people suffered from the Marxism-Leninism government that wanted to eradicate the enemies of the working class in society. Joseph Stalin died on 5th March 1953; hence, the historians could not have a direct

interview with him concerning the activities he did. Thus, the scholars had the option of talking to civilians and understood Joseph Stalin's ruling.

Besides, the use of the internet and books were essential in showing all the information that scholars gathered. Bias, when covering the activities performed by leaders like Joseph Stalin and other dictators, got eliminated by the use of the internet (Leung & Lai p. 179). Scholars also involved direct interviews in obtaining all statistics on the leader's injustices. The information that was on both sides of the mode of gathering data got conventionally used. The government of Joseph Stalin took part in mass deportation, ethnic cleansing, and the creation of famine that killed more than a million people. The majority of people suffered when trying to create use of the resources in the Russian Empire. The data obtained in the study of activities done by Stalin and Adolf led to the creation of the poor state of life (Husain, Zohair and Liebertz p. 59). The scholars were in a position to gather all the evidence using civilians and the internet concerning the harsh rule of Stalin. People died, with some being deported to their countries to prevent them from using the resources of Russia.

The similarities and differences that exist in how the historians covered the information regarding these people exist. The analogy that existed was the use of civilians, books, and the internet to understand the rule of each person. The civilians in the countries affected as Germany and Russia got interviewed about the activities that took place under the leaders. The practices and actions Adolf Hitler has got a lot of effect on the people of Germany. The citizens have all the information that pertains to the story of Adolf Hitler (Husain, Zohair and Liebertz p. 59). The same applies to Joseph Stalin, whose activities were provided to historians by the local citizens. Additionally, the internet was also used to determine the actions of such leaders. The process of

using books, the internet, and civilians to understand the activities done by such leaders eliminated bias. The use of books and the internet is more comfortable and can be accessed at any time, making the process fast. All the historians backed it up with interviews of the people to gather all the facts that used to be committed by the leaders.

There were some definite similarities shared by historians in how they covered these aforementioned men. Their sources stemmed from regular civilians who saw the untold miseries they were subjected by the brutal regimes governed by the dictatorial leaders. The civilians gave an account of the atrocious and vicious rules they were imposed such as forced Italianization during the ruling of Mussolini in the Kingdom of Italy (Ishida p.83). Furthermore, the historians gathered information concerning the leaders by contacting their close confidants who had much know-how about them. The leaders sought to better the consolidation and ruling of their communities or countries. Genghis Khan was a visionary focused on the success of his people by ensuring good leadership was passed from one leader to the other after his death. Timuri pressed for his Timurid Empire to be affiliated to one religion – Islam. This was to make sure that they were united together. Mussolini emphasized the need for returning Italy's unredeemed territories like Yugoslavia. He as well touted for Italian nationalism as well as revolutionary nationalism. Adolf Hitler championed the expansion of Germany's territory by annexing other neighboring countries. Joseph Stalin had the ploy of expanding the territories of the Soviet Union to conquer other countries to be part of the group. Vladimir Lenin advocated for the better economic growth of Russia via a market-oriented strategy of new Economic Policy.

On the other hand, some differences exist when covering the history of events done by such leaders. Foremost, some historians went to the governments of the countries that were ruled by

the leaders. The historians obtained first-hand information regarding the inhumane activities that got done by leaders like Hitler and Stalin (Whitewood & Peter p. 229). The historians gathered data concerning the events that Adolf Hitler after traveling to Germany and interviewing some state of officials. Other historians never traveled to countries in which weak rule was used by the leaders to dictate people. The injustices committed by Vladimir Lenin got collected by the use of the internet by other historians. The researchers also used the internet to collect evidence of the crimes that the leaders committed in their various countries. The use of the internet alone could create a bias in determining the activities that got done by dictators. The purpose of the internet and books is not an effective way to only be used in gathering data of weak rule developed by the leaders.

In conclusion, leaders elicited good leadership skills in masterminding military expertise. They were highly intelligent and showcased better decision making by employing their expertise in the training of armies. Also, they had well-outlined plans that were inclined towards the achievement of a given goal – conquering other territories. An example is Genghis Khan who exuded leadership nous that is relevant in the contemporary world. Timur as well as ingenious in military operations and used his knowhow to consolidate people from diverse ethnic groups and fostered their loyalty to the army. Historians highlighted different leaders by examining their positive contributions to society along with the negative impacts of their conquests. People need to embrace the leadership principles characterized by leaders. They include being ambitious, goal-oriented, proper decision-making and working diligently to reach the desired goal. Conversely, the leaders had attributes that were not to be emulated. They were brutal and evil in the way they marshaled their armies to kill other people who denied uniting with them. Adolf

Hitler used his military to kill a total of 19.3 million people. This is a detestable behavior that has no respect for human life. Good leaders need to execute their ideologies and plans without causing turmoil as exhibited by the leaders

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