

## OF CONFLICTS AND WARS

Conflicts abound around this globe,  
 Conquests waged for land and gold,  
 Color, creed, religion, passionate beliefs,  
 Drive humans to quarrels and certain grief.

History reminds us of conquests and wars,  
 Kings and men waged them for land-grabs;  
 Nations at war over political bluster,  
 Examples of these pepper human's past.

Many were wars pious zealots caused,  
 Spewing 'holy wars' across continents;  
 Unholy indeed were these "crusades",  
 Reaping havoc across Europe and Asia.

Mongols' madness, Mughals' ferocity,  
 Roman aggression, Macedonian might,  
 Napoleon's tactics and Hitler's bigotry;  
 Many indeed are history's conquests,  
 Justify or approve, them I never could.

Raining terror on lands afar and awide,  
 Two World Wars one century waged;  
 'Cold' war followed these 'hot' wars,  
 "War on terrorism", "Proxy" wars, "drug" wars,  
 Many indeed are war's new faces.

Jewish state made in Palestine's heart;  
 Divide countries, then support one part;  
 Create nations based on religious persuasion;  
 Such vile mischief did British and French,  
 Many a battle thus they fomented.

Imaginary demons the West found,  
 Around the world and wars they funded;  
 Communism's demise America sought,  
 And rained terror in Asia's Far East.

Images brought to us from war fronts,  
 And etched in world conscience forever,  
 Of burning villages and crippled bodies;  
 The plight of parents shedding silent tears,  
 Numbed the minds of helpless Nations.

War in any guise is gory and wicked,  
 Wars waged for causes concocted,  
 And wars affianced with lies and deception,  
 Rarely in history, we witness such conscription,  
 Bush's war we'll remember is certainly one.

Soldiers with ideals, in their prime,  
 Faces blown off, paralyzed or maimed;  
 With them for good the scars remain,  
 Lives in their best years lay condemned.

Many are families who share the ordeal,  
 To them misfortune permanently dealt;  
 Recover not but suffer the cruelty,  
 Meted out by heartless society.

Worse still are soldiers who return,  
 To find their houses repossessed.  
 Without jobs and derelict, hopes shattered;  
 Silently they fade, as society's shame.

Worldwide terror now we witness,  
 Thanks to Tamil Tigers' suicide bombings;  
 Religious zealots of all flavors and kinds,  
 Now they find destruction relentless,  
 Alas! Bearing the brunt are the innocents.

The shock delivered to National conscience,  
 In dramatic fashion the terrorists consummated,  
 Using weaponized aircrafts, towers were downed;  
 And murdered thousands, from all corners.

Upon a war's end, another rises,  
 Ireland's agony quietly dispelled,  
 But there appear Bosnia, West Bank, Darfur,  
 Lebanon, Kashmir, Georgia, Tibet, Myanmar;  
 Conflicts erupt in nefarious ways!

Will humans eschew war ever in future?  
 Will a world body truly mediate and forestall?  
 Or is this the price we pay for evolution's pinnacle?  
 Can't we all get along, for peace-sake?

