

Conflicts

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We come from different backgrounds which means conflict are bound to happen among us. When people are pursuing incompatible goals and when people try to achieve a single thing for only themselves, that is a recipe for conflicts.

People don't trust the government to solve conflicts as they believe they are biased and would only favor a side they prefer instead of finding a mutual solution to the conflict.

Types of conflicts:

- Ethnic conflicts
- Sectarian/Religious conflicts
- Political conflicts
- Resource conflict

Ethnic conflicts: When politicians favor their ethnic group when in power causing other ethnicities to hate the ruling ethnicity.

Sectarian Conflict: Conflicts between adherents of different religions.

Political Argument: occur over the outcome of an election, it is when accusation of rigging are thrown at the elected party.

Resource conflict: conflicts over a natural resource that brings income for a particular nation/community.

Causes of Conflicts:

1. Abuse of political power
2. Manipulation of electoral process (rigging)
3. Political intolerance
4. Violation of right to freedom declared in the constitution.
5. Material deprivation/Poverty

Conflict Resolution:

the head of the institution is responsible for resolving conflicts

Father = Family

Oba/Chief = Community

Government = State

Must be able to build trust of people involved in conflict, that ending conflict is best for them.

Concepts in resolving conflict:

1. Peace Mediation
2. Peace Building
3. Peace Keeping

Peace mediation: a third party offers to mediate to bring to an end the ongoing conflict.

Characteristics of a mediator:

- Trust: Parties must have trust in the mediator, a mediator must be seen as unbiased by the parties
- Mediator must make both parties realize that ending the conflict would bring about a mutual advantage for both parties.

Peace building: post-conflict phenomenon. After the fight, one must take steps that ensures the fight would not break out again

Ways of peace-building:

- Encourage intermarriage
- Introduce intercommunal sports festivals
- Invitation to cultural festivals.

Peace Keeping: Enforcing policies to keep the peace. It is how to make parties maintain the peace and keep to the agreement made.

Agreement: Peace deal / Pact