

So we need to focus on different techniques such as, negotiation, dialogue that lead to a compromise rather than resorting to measures we still believe autocratic. With such a mindset extremist groups terrorize over minority communities. Unfortunately, such groups have resorted to violence whenever any ethnic or religious riot breaks out. This had been prevalent in this country over the past few decades; it calls for the right perspective devoid of any prejudice.

In terms of military logistics, the use of weapons may become an inevitable option in order to safeguard the safety of people. In the Sri Lankan context as all efforts to bring about peace failed, the military force had to be used to eradicate the LTTE terrorist organization. Obviously, during the war period Sri Lankans felt that it was their right to life that was threatened and our territorial rights were being compromised. In such a situation it is natural for the entire nation to back our security forces, even though warfare is contrary to religious principles.

According to the psychiatrist Jerome D. Frank for most people peace is not a priority. Dr. Frank was deeply committed to applying the principles of rigorous academic research to meaningful human problems, including the treatment of the mentally ill, the understanding and resolution of political and international conflict, and the promotion of a just society. His best known work, *Persuasion and Healing: A Comparative Study of Psychotherapy*, first published in 1961, developed this insight and related effective psychotherapy to other types of healing influence, including faith healing and participation in cohesive social groups such as religious cults. What can be done in the present context is to explore for such an alternative approach to violence.

When questioned about the mob violence and the failure to take action, the political hierarchy who hold power had always been quite evasive, somewhat justifying mob attacks.

Personally, I hold the view the prevailing situation cannot be regarded as a war situation; it clearly is civil disobedience and the security forces must be allowed to handle it accordingly without allowing the perpetrators to escape scot-free.

There are many techniques available that can be used to overpower mobs. One way is to pacify them by appealing to their conscience not only as Jesus said when someone slaps you on one cheek turn to him the other also; but if one is in a rage you need to overpower him. When a mob attacks people and property the armed forces need to protect the civil society.

However, it would be a short term solution. Non-violent protests have been successful in countries like India and South Africa. Nonviolent action or nonviolent struggle could be an option to bring about change by persuasion; it has been used to promote a desired change or may be used as a protective option by preventing a change that can lead to social disharmony. Even though this is not popular today, it has its roots in ancient times. Such persuasive efforts can be adopted to settle disputes between students and university administration.

In the twentieth century this technique was adopted during the Russian Revolution (1905). The Chinese were boycotting Japanese products in 1908 - 1919; the Germans used nonviolent action against Kapp Putsch in 1920, there were nonviolent