

## World Civilization II (OA)

Prof. Lyndell O'Hara

Valeesa Johnson

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### Film response Chapter 27

The stated reason for Genocide in the film was any group or leader who considered anyone as not being a human being, who was different from them, not worthy of living, or standing in the way of something they wanted to obtain, such as land or military power, should be slaughtered, even if they were from the same country. In the instance where they were from the same country, they were killed by their own friends and neighbors.

The pattern in each group to exterminate their victims was the same. They would drive people from their homes and lead them to killing camps, rape the girls and women, hunt them like animals when they ran, and kill them using machetes, clubs, and guns. In some instances, babies would be cut from their mother's womb and thrown to the ground, in others, tongues would be cut out. Victims were starved and tortured to death. Churches were bombed and their homes were set on fire. The Nazis also used gas chambers which the film states were not as deadly as the other methods.

There are elements of war in genocides where people were attacked and killed by military forces who planned to kill as many people as possible. Prison guards would take prisoners on what was called a death march. They were called the walking dead. There is also an element of racism as they were killing people that were different from them.

There are examples of indenterest in all the groups that were committing genocide are:

Hitler and the Germans believed that all Jews were seeds of evil and a threat to the well-being of the country. They considered themselves the master race. Jews were considered their enemies and all Jews were to be eliminated.

In Guatemala, the Mayans were believed to be inherently subversive and impeding progress.

In Cambodia in 1975 1 in 5 people was murdered. Millions of people were forced from the city into camps called coops where they would later be murdered.

Genocide would start with the decision of 1 leader or a small group of leaders who would the killing of all those who stood in their way of political power.

Some of the leaders mentioned are Paul Pot who was supported by a small group of other leaders.

Some of the countries where genocide was committed are:

Germany - believed that a vast political empire should be ruled by their "master race."

Rwananda -Secure political power from the Hutu.

Cambodia – All modern civilization should be destroyed.

Turkey – believed that certain people were causing their empire to decay.

Bosnia- believed they needed ethnic cleansing of all Muslims to obtain land.

Hierarchies and politics impacted genocide in what the narrator calls eliminatism, where politics was used as a form to accomplish their goals of eliminating those they see as threats or who were not considered as humans. Goals were set against a targeted group of people by murdering them to obtain power.

I believe that genocide can be stopped in the present time and the future. This could be accomplished by several means:

- World leaders come together and refuse to do trade with any country initiating genocide.
- Politicians intervene and no longer turn blind eyes to the situation.
- All people treat each other as equals and do not feel others who are different are inferior to other races, creeds, or cultures.
- The United Nations create a law where there is a penalty for those committing genocide.

This film was very disturbing to watch. The reality is the genocide is still alive even today. My prayer is that we all come together one day in unity and stop the slaughter of so many innocent men women and children who are killed just because of who they are.