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World Civilization II

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What was the stated reason for the genocide in each instance?

With Khmer Rouge, he committed genocide of Cambodian society as he tried to impose a classless agrarian society. In Myanmar, genocide took the place because of the belief of ethnic cleansing. Similarly to Turkey, the Turkish committed genocide as they wanted to secure the Turkish empire as well as wanted to preserve Islam and killed off Armenians as they were mainly Christians. In Germany, the Nazis wanted to keep Germany as a superpower and wanted to run a country full of pure Germans as they were superior to other ethnicities in their eyes. In Rwanda, many wanted to secure political power in Rwanda for the Hutu, and in the Balkans, Slobodan Milosevic wanted to redraw the political map of the region permanently.

Do you see a pattern in these reasons?

A similar pattern within all these genocides is Power, pride, and prejudices. There is not one genocide that does not include one of these elements.

Are elements of civil war, or nationalism, or racism, or religion involved in genocides? Do you see examples of interest? Be specific as to the nation/group and the aspect involved.

Yes, in every single Genocide, one or the other aspect has been involved. For instance, with Nazi Germany, Hitler was a nationalist of Germany. He was racist towards the Jews based on not

where they were initially from but also the religion they carried. Hitler saw the Jews as weak and wanted to eliminate them as an addition to his vision for Germany.

How do hierarchies and politics impact genocides? How?

Hierarchies and politics impact genocide when power is involved or, rather, when abuse of power is present. For instance, usually, those on top of the hierarchy are the ones who control politics. When they have a place to eliminate a certain group of people, they abuse their power and spread propaganda to many to get their assistance to do their terrible agenda of genocide. They do this mainly by feeding prejudice and hatred, making the opposite side seem dangerous, or rather feeding lies to the people. A person at the bottom of a hierarchy may also start a genocide, but due to lack of power, it is most often founded by people with power, people at the top of the hierarchy.

What do you think can be done to stop genocides from happening in the present/future?

It sounds easy to stop genocide however, it is challenging. For instance, while not a formal genocide, there is the issue with Russia and Ukraine. Russia has been heavily sanctioned, yet they continue to abuse and kill the people of Ukraine in their territory. They are trying to win over even if the Ukrainian is not a soldier, just a citizen. If countries intervened through war to stop an ongoing genocide, it would lead to a bigger war and possibly a world war, one involving more nukes than ever before as it is the 21st century. Ultimately, I believe the best solution is to seek peace with enemies and closer relations with allies and to monitor agendas. While it does not sound impactful, I think it is hugely impactful for Ukraine. If the West had closer relations with Russia, the West perhaps could have persuaded Russia not to go on Ukraine's territory. If

this does not work, a country or countries may place sanctions, but as with Russia, they do not care, and most people who are entirely into such an agenda would not care either. The way to prevent genocide is to be careful about who is in control and who has been influenced. In dictatorial countries, where genocide can be even more brutal, neighboring countries should put places for asylum seekers with solid background checks.