EPILOGUE

Human actions, especially collective and general human affairs are inevitably contingent and stem from some deep underlying human nature, a human core which is shaped by the evolutionary force of life itself – power! Power to survive and power to dominate, which in its wake, brings everything from competition, conflict, war, to revolutions and fundamental changes is an essential force underlying all human development. While theories and hypothesis try to anticipate change or explain human actions and events, unless the understanding is based on the bedrock of true human nature, which is about survival and dominance, they fail to give a true understanding. Neo-realism in theory building, without reference to a true understanding of evolutionary force underlying all life, including human life, will always fall short of giving better explanation and may even fall flat as did the theories on Cold War The same fate awaits all the current theories and future ones, if they lose sight of or ignore fundamental human nature and processes that underline it. Hence Samuel Huntington’s thesis of clash of civilizations, trying to explain post Cold War era, will be consigned to the same fate as the theories of Cold War period. The stark and naked fact is that, there cannot be a single comprehensive or effective theory that can stand for, forget all times, even relative short time, given the essential ground of human nature.

Nations have political systems like democracy or authoritarianism and these systems are based on ideologies. Ideologies such as liberalism, socialism, communism, have a political core but so do religions, philosophies and cultures. And so do science and technology. The cement that binds a group, a community, a society or a nation together is the underlying power that comes from these systems of thought/knowledge. The process of remaining bound in a group or community, which can be national like American, German, Japanese, Thai, etc, or linguistic like English, French, Chinese, etc or ethnic like Tamil, Chechen, Basque, Naga, or religious like Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, or sectarian like Sunni, Shia,
Catholic, Protestant, or scientific like scientist, engineer, doctor, technologist, through the sharing of power bequeathed by that thought/knowledge system and very often a combination of overlapping or sharing thought/knowledge systems is itself a dynamic process, which is constantly changed, modified, improved and enhanced to make more effective, more appealing, more beneficial, and more promising. These knowledge-for-power systems while being dynamic and constantly evolving have a direct link to the past where they began. All the knowledge-for-power systems have their grounding in human evolutionary history and while being distinct, simultaneously partake in the mysterious unity provided by the common human heritage. The undeniable truth however is that these knowledge-for-power systems are constantly competing for attention, currency and domination as a part of the great evolutionary battle for survival and it is in this process that they come into conflict with each other. The roots of conflict thus lie in the deep underlying and mostly hidden power game which is underway in, among and between all groups espousing different knowledge-for-power systems. Conflict is thus not only a product of complex underlying evolutionary process in human society; it is also not easy to explain it simply. An explanation of conflict in human society based on the power perspective provides a far better understanding than the ones, such as Huntington’s, based on untenable premises and unreliable grounds. It is an undeniable fact of evolutionary history and of life that there is no deeper ground than the ground of power, which in turn is an exemplification of the game of survival through dominance. And hence ideological confrontation is never absent in any group confrontation and is inevitable in human society, for, conflicts in the human society, in their ultimate analysis, stem from deeply political ideas, which may have their linkage to social, economic or religious aspects of human existence.

Will to dominate is competitive, divisive and destructive. It is also the means to survival. Thus there is an inherent contradiction in will to dominate, for
survival as well as destruction. The ultimate outcome is dependent on many impinging factors. But the urge to survive through dominance compels to take the risk of self destruction through waging wars. That the most powerful will dominate may not be ethically right and may not even be rational and yet it is intrinsic. This is a hard fact to digest for thinking based on rationality and modernity. But primordiality is more real and powerful than rationality or modernity. God is an idea of dominance. It is essentially the dominance of ‘Will’.

It dictates and dominates. It thus survives for eternity. Existence thus becomes truly nonsensical and absurd. There is a will to power and a will to reason. The will to reason is subsumed in the will to power. When it comes to survival, will to power not only supersedes the will to reason but even destroys the will to reason! The will to power subsuming the will to reason is not accidental but evolutionary. It is not supernatural but natural. It is not extrinsic but intrinsic. The problem of consciousness thus dissipates because power assumes elemental position. Consciousness simultaneously emerges from power and also leads to power. The tools it uses become progressively complex and advanced—anatomical intelligence in the biosic stage, ideological intelligence in the gnosic stage and supralobal intelligence in the psychic stage!