History of mankind is full of records of various wars. This is because human nature does not change completely with changing times. Historical records testify that war has always been the arbiter when other methods of reaching agreements fail. However, man has been making strenuous efforts for centuries to explore and develop peaceful methods for resolving conflicts.

Nonetheless, to counter war with non-violent action requires an extraordinary skill. Gandhi developed a technique of non-violent resistance and exhorted all the nations to adopt it in any conflict. Being a staunch follower of non-violent action, he not only regarded non-violent struggle as an effective strategy to achieve freedom in India and justice for the Indians in South Africa but also in the war-prone world of Europe which was engulfed in its colossal war effort at that time.

He raised his weapon of non-violence (Truth and Love), when modern (Nuclear) phase of war was revolutionising the art of warfare. He considered his Satyagrahie method as quite effective in the modern war. It seems when others were absorbed in inventing atom-bomb, Gandhi showed the power of atom in one's own soul, which has recently led to the move for speedy arms control.
It has awakened the conscience of the inventors of the bomb and has put them against their very own weapon. World is striving for survival and co-existence which is evident from various moves towards disarmament. Nevertheless not much effort has been made to make non-violent action effective and a substitute for violence for the settlement of disputes, though enormous effort has gone into increasing the efficiency of violent conflict and war. Some have referred to even SDI, Star War Programme as a non-violent strategy to avoid (MAD) 'Mutual Assured Destruction' which is wrong. Gandhi would have never approved of it; for, piling up of the armaments leads to mistrust and then to war. That is why he laid emphasis on unilateral disarmament, because non-violent change in the international system depends on national attitudes, goals and policies. Several pacifists in the West, too, have been developing methods and techniques for eliminating armed conflict as a method of resolving international disputes or resisting aggression by non-violent means.

The main thrust of this research work is to study and examine such strategies, their efficacy in the modern times and the extent to which these non-violent strategies can be used to combat violent methods. Besides, theoretical considerations, emphasis has been laid on its practical
aspects, as its application is a controversial issue. Till now the subject has not been given serious attention. An in-depth and objective analysis of the problem is called for, which the present study makes an attempt to do.

By way of methodology, this study is based on Gandhi's experiments with his technique of non-violence in resolving conflicts in society and the experiences of those dedicated volunteers who extended its scope with a view to end war and violence in the world. Consequently, the study involves full understanding of Gandhi's view of non-violence, his application of it in preventing war in the present state. For this purpose the collected works of Mahatma Gandhi containing his letters, speeches, notes, interviews and the volumes of Young India and Harijan which not only record his own views on the different problems but also of his friends and followers, who tried his experiments in their own fields, supply immense material for the subject. For the experiences of those who made further development in this technique, a researcher has to depend upon the journals, and newspaper reports. Besides these records, reminiscences, biographies etc. of the leaders of peace movements throw ample light on the subject. In fact, this study involves analysis of certain moves made by those who aim at carrying humanity to a particular direction and raising human civilisation on a more secure foundations.
Naturally, a researcher is confronted with the problem of an objective analysis of facts but also the difficult task of understanding the motives and aspirations of a new set of leadership. Indulgence in speculation and possibilities becomes inevitable in the handling of this kind of subject.

The first two chapters deal with the nature of modern war, the difference between the modern war and war in earlier times and various strategies and methods to check or control war through international organisation, regional groupings to promote peace and cooperation, deterrence and disarmament. The next chapter entitled the concept of non-violence traces the philosophic foundations of the new technique. Chapter four studies the non-violent strategies and methods for the resolution of conflicts and chapter five examines the role of public opinion in Gandhian strategies for their success. The last chapter studies Gandhi's Tri-Plan and non-violent techniques in resisting armed attack.

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