

#### Doha Workshop



**Peaceful Conflict Transformation and Democratic Transition** 

Doha, 29-30 May 2010

# From Conflict to Peace: The Way is the Goal\*

**Abbas Aroua** 



Cordoba Foundation, Geneva Centre for Peace Studies

\* Johan Galtung. The Way is the Goal. Gandhi Today. Gujarat Vidyapith (1992)

## From Conflict to Peace: The Way is the Goal

#### **Overview**

- 1— Conflict
- **2** Conflict Transformation
- 3— Democracy
- 4— Deficit of democracy / conflict
- 5— Democratic Transition
- 6— Various types of transitions
- 7— Recommendations for the Arab world



#### Western and Islamic Basic Assumptions of Conflict

Western	Middle Eastern
— Positive	— Negative and dangerous
— Normal	— Should be avoided
— Can bring growth and creativity	— Brings destruction and disorder

Abu-Nimer. Conflict Resplution in an Islamic Context (1996)

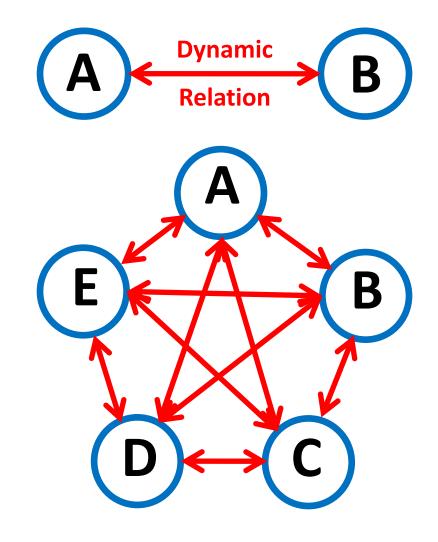
## **Conflict: Terminology**

- Conflict: From L. conflictus, pp. of confligere "to strike together," from con- "together" + fligere "to strike"
- The Arabic equivalent of <mark>conflict</mark> is not **niza' (نزاع)** or **tanaazu'** (نزاع) but:
- Tadharub from from "ta" (together) + "dharub" (to strike) ت ب فارب = تضارب

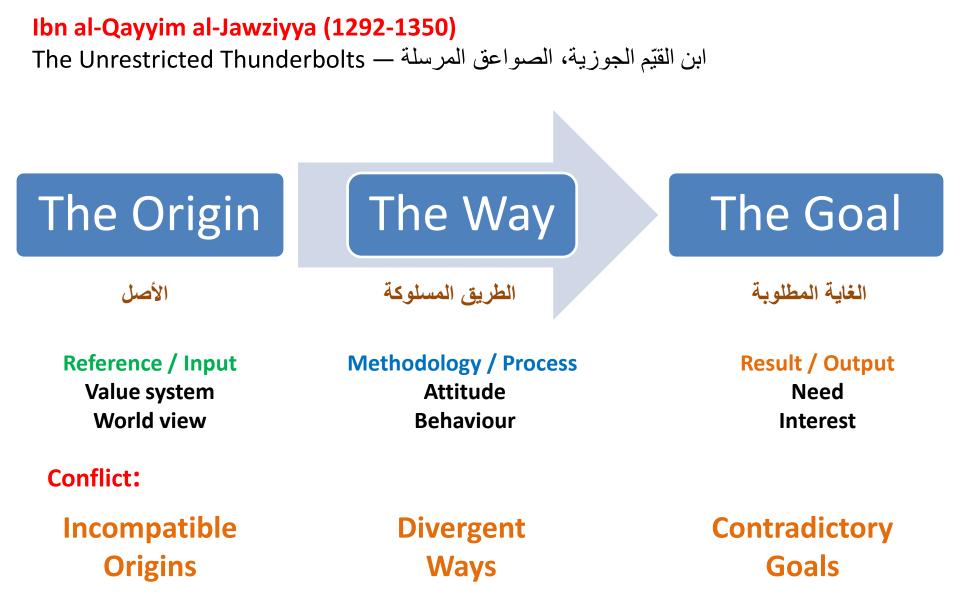
## **Conflict: Definition in conflictology**

Daynamic relation between two or more parties (indivuduals, groups, states, civilizations) with (apparently) contradictory goals (positions, interests, needs, values).

علاقة ديناميكية بين طرفين أو أكثر، أشخاصا كانوا أم جماعات أم دولا أم حضارات لهم أهداف متضاربة أو متناقضة، أو يتوهمون ذلك، وقد تكون هذه الأهداف على مستوى المواقف أو المصالح أو الحاجيات أو القيم.

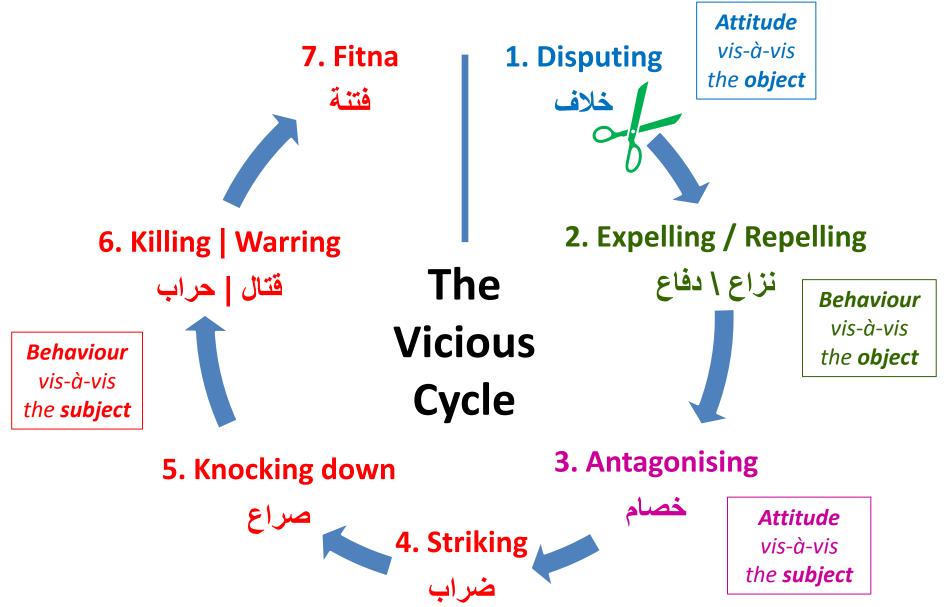


## **Conflict: Islamic perspective**



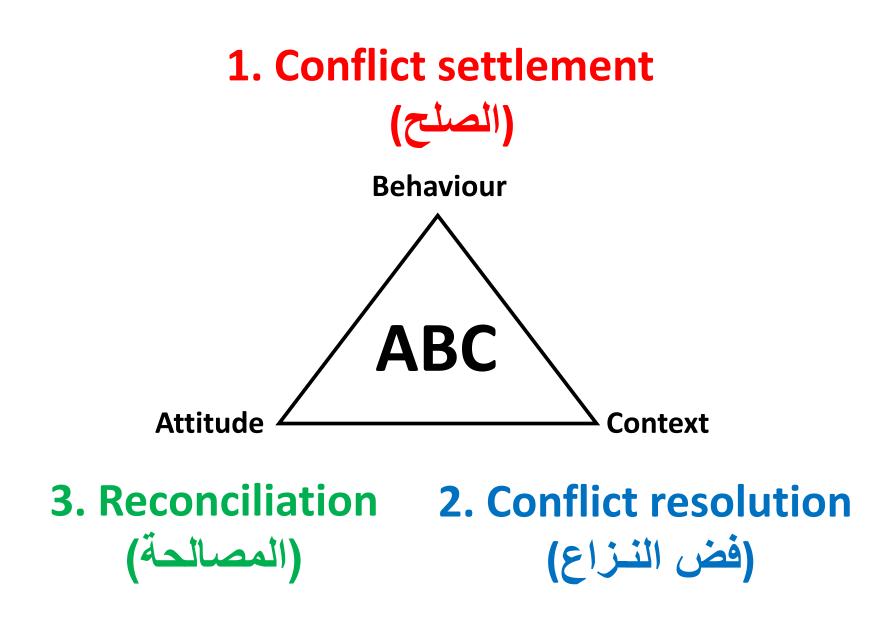
Aroua A. Revisiting Islamic Theory of Peace and Conflict Transformation (2010)

### **Conflict: Islamic perspective**

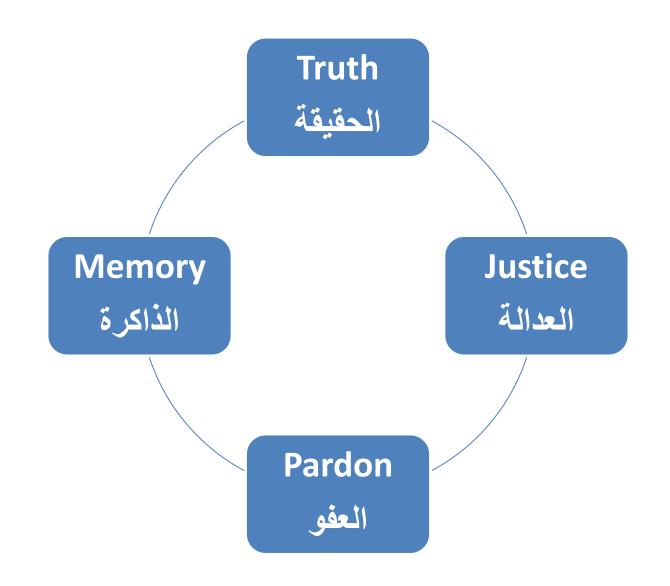


Aroua A. Revisiting Islamic Theory of Peace and Conflict Transformation (2010)

### **Conflict Transformation**



## **Pillars of post-conflict peace**



#### Democracy

Dogma



- Contestation over power in free and fair elections;
  Accountability of the ruler
  - to the ruled;
  - Checks and balances in the
    - exercise of government;
- Neutrality of the armed

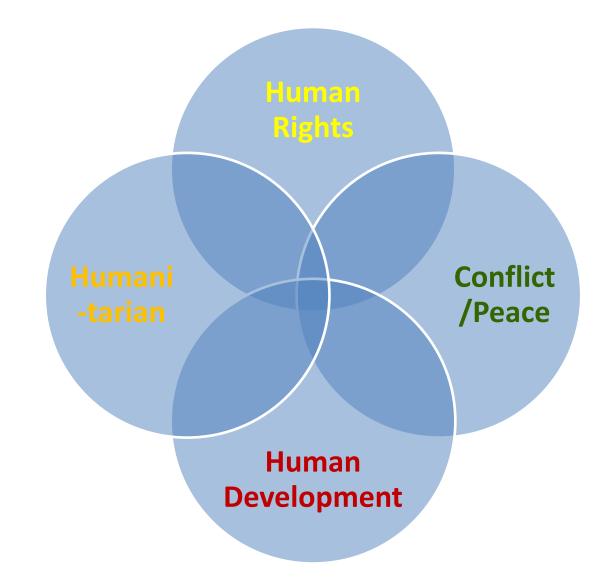
forces;

 Protection of civil and political liberty and rights of every citizen.

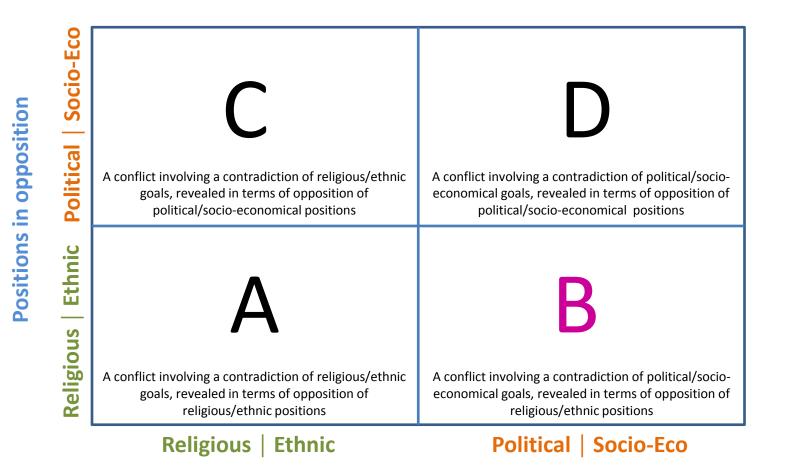


Terry Lynn Karl

#### State Security → Human Security: A paradigm shift



## **Deficit of democracy** → **Conflict**



#### **Goals in contradiction**

Aroua A. Conflicts in/involving the Arab World: Does religion matter? (2009)

#### **Domocratic Transition**

**Non-Democratic Regime:** Party type Military type **Personalist type** 

> Brooker P. Non-Democratic Regimes: Theory, Government and Politics (2000)



democratic regime

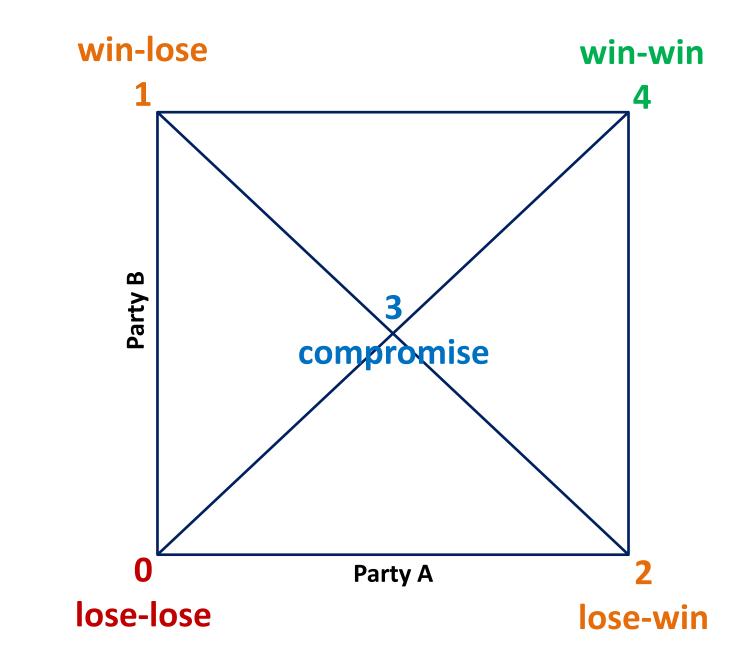
Strategies of Transition	Relative Strength of Elite and Mass				
	<b>Elite Ascendant</b> (Top-Down)	Mass Ascendant (Bottom-Up)			
Force	Imposition	Revolution			
Compromise	Pact	Reform			

Karl TL. Dilemmas of Democratization in Latin America (1990)

Way	Actor					
	State	Opposition	External			
<b>High Violence</b>	Military	Armed	Military			
	Coup	Resistance	Intervention			
Non Violence	Hand	Civil	Soft			
	Over	Resistance	Persuasion			

Way	Actor					
	State	Opposition	External			
High Violence	Military	Armed	Military			
	Coup	Resistance	Intervention			
Low Violence						
Non Violence	Hand	Civil	Soft			
	Over	Resistance	Persuasion			

Way	Actor						
	State	State/ Opposition	Opposition	Opposition/ External	External	State/ Opposition/ External	
High Violence	Military Coup	<b>Bi- Coalition</b>	Armed Resistance	<b>Bi- Coalition</b>	Military Intervention	Tri- Coalition	
Non Violence	Hand Over	Negociation	Civil Resistance	Colour Revolution	Soft Persuasion	Mediation	



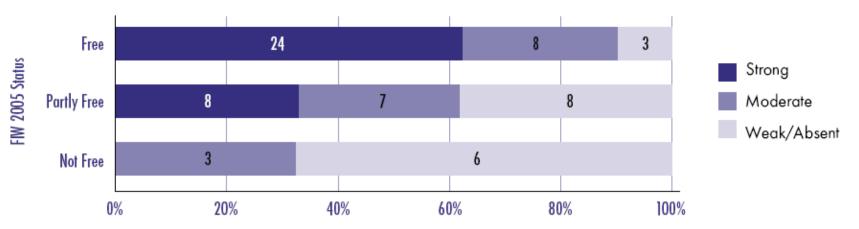
#### **Examples of Best and Worst Scenarios**

Way	Actor							
	<b>S</b> State	<b>SO</b> State/ Opposition	<b>O</b> Opposition	<b>OE</b> Opposition/ External	<b>E</b> External	<b>SOE</b> State/ Opposition/ External		
<b>HV</b> High Violence	Military Coup	Bi- Armed Coalition	Armed Resistance	Bi- Armed Coalition Iraq (2003-2010)	Military Intervention	Tri- Armed Coalition		
<b>NV</b> Non Violence	Hand Over	Negociation <b>Spain</b> (1975-1977)	Civil Resistance	Colour Revolution	Soft Persuasion	Mediation		



#### **Civic Forces are Major Drivers of Transitions to Freedom**

#### The Presence of Strong Civic Coalitions Improves Chances for Freedom



#### Karatnycky A. and Ackerman P. How Freedom is won (2005)

#### **Recommendations for the Arab World**



#### **Recommendations for the Arab World**

Way	Actor					
	<b>S</b> State	<b>SO</b> State/ Opposition	<b>O</b> Opposition	<b>OE</b> Opposition/ External	<b>E</b> External	<b>SOE</b> State/ Opposition/ External
<b>HV</b> High Violence	Military Coup	Bi- Armed Coalition	Armed Resistance	Bi- Armed Coalition	Military Intervention	Tri- Armed Coalition
<b>NV</b> Non Violence	Hand Over	Negociation	Civil Resistance	Colour Revolution	Soft Persuasion	Mediation
	Internal				Exte	rnal

# Thank you for your attention