



Research article:

Study of Historical wars during the thirty years in Europe (1618-1648)



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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT



Keywords:

Germany
France
Spain
Protestantism
Peace
Europe

This paper investigates the emergence of Protestantism in the 16th century, leading to a profound rift with Catholicism and culminating in the Thirty Years' War triggered by the Defenestration of Prague in 1618. Examining the complexities of this conflict, the paper explores why nations such as France, Sweden, and Denmark supported the Protestants, contrasting with Spain and the Holy Roman Empire's alignment with Catholics. The narrative extends to the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, a transformative agreement reshaping Europe's political and religious landscape. Analyzing the social events surrounding the war, the paper highlights its role in separating religious institutions from politics. Adopting an analytical and descriptive approach, the research draws insights from historians, presenting a comprehensive understanding of the war's impact on the relationship between religion and politics.

Article History:

Received: 15-09-2023

Accepted: 20-01-2024

Published: 03-02-2024

Cite this article:

Nazari, M. J., Amini, M. A., & Samimi, S. (2024). Study of Historical wars during the thirty years in Europe (1618-1648). *Sprin Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*, 3(2), 16-20. <https://doi.org/10.55559/sjahss.v3i2.201>

1. Introduction

Wars that were held during the thirty years were a major opposition in Europe which happened from 1618 to 1648, and at different times, all European countries were directly or indirectly involved in the war. This war, which was a series of related conflicts, was considered in Europe in terms of the destruction that was the main cause of people's lives and property, until the beginning of the Napoleonic Wars. Several times each was named after the leader of a chain of coalitions against the Hapsburg dynasty. It is traditionally promoted. These periods include the Bohemians (1618-23), the Danes (1625-29); the Swedes (1630-35), and the French (1635-48). In this structure, 13 different but similar wars took place, which included more than 50 bilateral wars.

The wars that happened during the Thirty Years were the most opposition that mostly held in the territory of the Empire of Roman, and also that was the oldest power of Europe that attended the consolidating of their role and attempt to inaugurate the new borders. The reason for this conflict and opposition were several times among the religious protestant and by the mutual match of the government of Hapsburg and also Spain and of Austria with powers of the new area and zone that the countries of France, Sweden, Denmark and also Holland, that was the famous war of France and Hapsburg in Europe.

The result of the Thirty Years War was the drought and all kinds of diseases, the result of this war in the county of Germany increased the population. So, the survey of the third round in the south of Germany has this income of conclusion. So, the last day of the war was insecure between the populations over more than three eras. They finally ended This conflict with the agreement of Westphalia, that were treated at the end of the last days of the years' war the union of Europe between the country of Austria and the German union and also the conflict between the Ottoman Empire, France king captured and used from this opportunity to extend and develop his empire and its possessions around the political possession of the Rhine. The expiration of this work, which was so effective in the Napoleonic conflict identified his old, enemy of France and the country of Germany and the result of this conflict overcame the big two wars of the world.

2. Research Methods

The research method is originally about the analytic and descriptive systems, so basically, research is collected from the original and first sources of Historical and geographical books, articles, and also some online reports of World War 1 and 2, we used the library system for analyze and result of this conflict and opposition for History lesson and classes of online by media and voice for best outcome and result.

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<https://doi.org/10.55559/sjahss.v3i2.201>

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3. Research questions

This research aims to unravel the multifaceted aspects of the Thirty Years' War and its aftermath. Key inquiries include understanding the intricate religious, political, and economic factors that propelled Europe into this prolonged conflict, as well as delving into the military strategies employed by both Catholic and Protestant forces and the pivotal role played by military leaders. Exploring the transformative Peace of Westphalia, the study seeks to dissect its provisions, investigate how it reshaped the political and religious landscape, and examine its enduring impact on state sovereignty and religious tolerance. Additionally, the research endeavors to analyze the war's social and economic consequences, assessing demographic shifts, migration patterns, and changes in economic structures. Furthermore, it delves into the motivations behind international involvement, particularly by France and Spain, and investigates their influence on diplomatic relations and power dynamics within Europe. Lastly, the study examines the evolution of religious practices and coexistence in the post-war period and explores the enduring legacy of the Thirty Years' War in historical narratives and collective memory.

4. War and its Background

At the beginning of the 16th century, France attempted hard to break the blockade created by the Habsburg dynasty. This issue was weakened in 1556 with the dismissal of Charles V from the monarchy of the Spanish and the situation of the Emperor in Rome with the division of the kingdom. Philip Second was his son who inherited Spain, Netherlands, and the country of Italy and also extended to the Spanish colonies, Ferdinand second which was his eldest brother captured and established the empire of Roman and seized the states of Habsburg and the new lands in Austria and the area of Eastern Europe, Spanish Habsburgs threatened France have fear about the Roman Empire for reunification under the colonies and supporting of the Habsburg Empire. The Spanish agreement of the 1609 treaty for twelve years of peace was a non-permanent arrangement and was determined to reassert control over the Netherlands, especially on the northern borders of the country. The control of the sea by the British and Dutch fleets forced Spain to take another route through the channel of Italy and West Germany to send ships carrying food, weapons, and soldiers to the Netherlands (Wilson, 2008).

5. Germany situation

Habsburg of Austria wanted to register its enormous wealth and its review in the country of Duchy and the area of Austria and also in the Bohemia Kingdom by inaugurating and eliminating Protestantism for the foundation of a good capital for the administration of their government. Although at this period the members of this dynasty, as Holy Roman Emperors, were saddened by their lack of real power over the feudal and tattered regions of Germany, where hundreds of individual states still held de facto political power. However, in 1555 the Habsburg peace was about religious war and conflict between Lutherans and the Catholics of Germany but the conflict of religion played a role in Germany for the ending of conflict, the Catholics and Lutherans displayed the control of German principalities and nobility. Although Habsburg didn't recognize this system for the adherents of the colonial religion, numerous small German territories accepted this religion as their official church.

In 1618 the war started while Ferdinand II was in the government of Frederick and also in Bohemia and when the fourth election of the Palatinate, was chosen in that area.

Although the revolt of Bohemian quickly escaped and declined, the war developed into the palace of government that gained importance and strategic plan in the Republic of Dutch and also in Spain, and also the wars that continued for Eighty Years. Foreign power-hungry rulers such as Christian IV from Gustave's country and also Denmark Adolphus II from the country of Sweden combined the neighboring zone to his empire, it had been a civil war of serious regime that was destructive in Europe. At the start of the 17th century, Frederick V, Palatinate's Elector, gave the formation to the Union of Protestants in German states and called the Union of Protestants. To defend and counter this, Maximilian I, Herzog from Bavaria, and also the Bavaria ruler in southern Germany, formed a union of German Catholic states. The separation of Germany into two armies became very dangerous due to the interference of foreign governments. The Netherlands, England, France, and Spain supported the Protestant Union and the Holy Roman Empire supported the Catholic Union. Thus, by 1609, Germany was divided into two warring armies in anticipation of a religious war (Outram, 2001).

In addition, the issue of the constitution in Germany also added to the deterioration of this factionalism. The desire of the emperors of Habsburg to preserve and maintain their power in the empire of Roman met with the German princes, who tried to free Germany, which meant maintaining their rights in the constitution and using the special privilege of independent leadership. The Habsburg German emperors were greedy for the ability and help of Catholic Spain to pursue and advance their goals and policies, while the German princes resorted to helping and supporting the enemies of Spain and France, who were surrounded by the Habsburg family. Finally, the events of 1617 and 1618 in Bohemia ignited the fire of the Great War (Thion, 2008).

6. Purpose and background

The purpose of this research was to find the great transformation and changes that started after this war, and one of the most important events was the beginning of the First World War, the differences of opinion between the Protestant and Catholic religions had increased to such an extent that these people always wished to be face to face with each other and at this time it started with the power struggle of Germany, and in 1914, with the start of the First World War, which had many factors influencing the start of this war, the religious people of the Christian religion happily entered this war with the grudges and complexes they had from the thirty-year wars. Therefore, the beginning of the First World War was one of the causes of the Thirty Years' Religious Wars that started in 1618. In the background of the research, it should be said that many historians have investigated the Thirty Years' War from the political, social, and cultural points of view, and their research is more based on analysis and description. For example, Spiel Fogell in the book "History of the West" considered the reasons for the beginning of the thirty-year wars to be mostly intellectual problems between Catholics and Protestants. Or Marvin Perry, in the book of world history, believed that the thirty years of religious wars were mostly due to the lack of sufficient economy of the Germans and French and their reliance on one type of profession, namely agriculture, and at the end of Henry Lucas's book of world history, the most important factor of the thirty years of wars was the political factors and problems of European countries. They know such as Germany, France, and Denmark.

7. Result and research methods

One of the bitter historical events is wars. If these wars take place in the name of religion, in addition to financial and

human losses, they will also result in many spiritual losses. Anti-religion, separation of religion from politics, liberalism, etc. are the products of these religious conflicts. The history of Christianity is full of wars fought in the name of God and his religion. One of these wars is known as the "Thirty Years War". The emergence of the Protestant religion at the beginning of the 16th century created a deep divide between the followers of Christianity, and Catholics and Protestants clashed many times during the following centuries. And they fought. One of the famous wars between Protestants and Catholics took place in the second decade of the 17th century and lasted for about thirty years. On May 23, 1618, the Czech Protestants, who were worried about the restriction of their freedoms by Ferdinand II, the Holy Roman Emperor, killed two of his emissaries, thus beginning the thirty-year religious wars in Europe. These wars, which happened mainly in Germany, had many ups and downs. During the war, the countries of France, Sweden, and Denmark entered the war in support of the Protestants and the government of Spain and the Roman Empire in favor of the Catholics.

The thirty-year religious wars of Europe finally ended with the conclusion of the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, but Spain and France conflicted with the signing of the Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659. In addition to the destruction and division of Germany and the weakening of the Holy Roman Empire, the Thirty Years' War led to the rise of France. In these wars, although the long-standing conflict between the Catholic and Protestant religions played an important role, factors such as the territorial and political differences of the governments of this continent were also very effective in starting and continuing the war. One of the important results of these wars was the relative end of the religious conflicts between Protestants and Catholics and the beginning of the growth of nationalist, nationalist, and racism trends in Europe. Along with these effects, the idea of separating religion from politics also arose. In other words, one of the important social events that provided the basis for the separation of religious institutions from politics were these wars and the Treaty of Westphalia. In this agreement, it was decided that the economic power of the church would be weakened and, in other words, the economic centers that were under the control of the church would be removed from the influence of the church.

In this war, only 5,000 of its 30,000 citizens survived. The Thirty Years' War destroyed all areas occupied by foreign soldiers. Widespread famine and disease depopulated the German states and, to a lesser extent, the Low Countries and Italy drove the warring powers into bankruptcy. This war ended with the Treaty of Westphalia (Peace of Westphalia) which was concluded in Münster. During the war, Germany's population declined by an average of 30%. In one of the German states called Brandenburg, the casualties have been estimated at up to half of the population, and in some areas, the population has decreased to two-thirds. The population of the Czech lands has decreased by a third. The Swedish army alone destroyed 2,000 castles, 18,000 villages, and 1,500 cities in Germany, i.e. a third of Germany's cities. Most of the damage was done to monasteries, churches, and other religious institutions. Germany lost a lot of population and territory and was divided into semi-independent states.

8. Bohemian stage 1617-1625

Bohemian 1617 during classes gained the new ruler which name was Archduke Ferdinand who already ruled in Habsburg, although they soon regretted their idea and choice. Some of these aristocrats were religious colonists, while the Catholics referred to Ferdinand and intended to establish Catholicism in

Bohemia and consolidate the power of the monarchy. In May 1618, the Protestant nobles of the Bohemian religion rose against Ferdinand and threw the second commanders of Habsburg and the clerks out of the window of the royal palace in the city of Prague, showing their resistance. Action. The Catholics claimed that the miraculous survival of these people from the height of the palace was obtained through the intercession of Mary Ezra, but in front of the Protestants, while opposing this claim, they considered it a random event. At this time, the Bohemian revolution took control over Bohemia, which Ferdinand deposed, and replaced him with Frederick V, Emperor-elect and Princes of the Protestant and head of the Protestant Union (Bonney, 2002).

During these days, Ferdinand, who was elected as the Holy Roman Emperor, did not accept his resignation. The emperor's warriors, supported by the powerful army with the support of Maximilian, the Amir of Bavaria and the ruler of the League of Catholics defeated the power of Frederick and also the Bohemian prince and commanders at the Battle of Mountain White near Prague on November 8, 1620. In the meantime, the soldiers took advantage of Frederick's unfortunate position to attack and took possession of it at the end of 1622. Using these conditions the control of Spain and the western zone of the area to achieve its goal of using the route from Italy and Germany to the Netherlands, and Duke Maximilian, Emir of Bavaria, conquered the rest of Bohemia. Emperor Ferdinand, who had returned to the Kingdom of Bohemia, declared that the Bohemian territories were one of the hereditary possessions of the Habsburgs. Therefore, he confiscated the noble lands and recognized Catholicism as the only official religion of Bohemia. About thirty thousand Protestant families left for Saxony and Hungary. The Spanish resumed their attacks on Holland (Costa, 2005).

9. Danish stage 1625-1629

This phase began when Christian IV, the king of Denmark, who was a Protestant, took the side of the Protestant cause and sent his forces to the north. At first, it was thought that he wanted to annex northern Germany to his territories so that he could control the southern Baltic. At this time, the army of the Empire of Roman was in the hands of a prominent commander named Wallenstein Albert von, a noble and well-known man of Bohemian who had benefited from the victory and conquest of Ferdinand and was also the biggest and richest Bohemia and lard of landowner. Imperial Army which was named Wallenstein northern of Germany was able to severely crush the Danes to capture parts of northern Germany, basically at the port of Baltic in Hamburg, Bremen with Lubick, defeat the Christian IV in the northern part of Germany put an end to Denmark's Thirty Years' War and even ended the supremacy of Denmark in the Baltic.

Later from the victory of the army of imperial, Ferdinand II saw himself at the height of his dignified power, took advantage of this times, and issued a law in March 1629 to restore the Catholic religion. In this law, he prohibited colonization and returned all the property and assets of the Catholic Church that the Protestant princes had taken from the Catholic Church. Their construction forced the emperor to depose Wallenstein (Cramer, 2007).

10. Swedish stage 1630-1635

This phase started with the coming of the Swedish empire of Swedish which name was Gustav Adolf in 1630. Meanwhile, Germany was the place of war between the two unions. France, which was enraged by the establishment of Habsburg power, provided financial and military assistance to King Gustav and

the commander of the Swedish forces and sent his well-equipped and well-organized Gustavian army to northern Germany. Gustav was not interested in meeting the Habsburg family in northern parts of Germany because he wanted to capture the Baltic Sea same as the Lake Swedish, Gustav Adolf was firmly committed to the Lutheran religion and felt a duty to support and help his co-religionists in Germany.

The paper details a pivotal episode in the Thirty Years' War where the formidable Swedish forces, under the command of Gustav, clashed with the Holy Roman Empire in northern and central Germany. Gustav's successes, including the Battle of Lutzen, prompted the desperate Emperor to turn to Wallenstein for leadership. Despite a Swedish victory at Lutzen, the triumph was marred by the loss of their king on the battlefield, leading to a diminished Swedish Corps in Germany. In 1634, Wallenstein met his demise at the hands of his own commanders, but this event didn't hinder the Emperor's forces, which went on to achieve a significant victory against the Swedes at the Battle of Noerdlinger. This triumph in 1634 forced the Swedes out of southern Germany, securing an imperial victory that played a crucial role in preserving Catholicism. Despite attempts at peace negotiations, the conflict persisted as the Swedes and France, led by Cardinal Richelieu, continued to resist. The essay hints at the enduring complexity of the religious war in Europe, setting the stage for the final phase of this protracted and tumultuous conflict. (Murdoch, 2014).

11. French stage 1635-1648

With the beginning of the fourth stage of the conflict, religious issues were no longer important, because political thought had brought its dynamic and developmental power to the conflict field. Catholic France now supported and aided the Protestant Swedes against the Catholic German and Spanish Hapsburgs. This time the conflict began and continued with the Swedes in Germany's north part, the Netherlands, and French in the across the banks of the Rhine in the western zone of Germany. The conflict of Delcroix during 1643 did bring decisive results and achievements. Because France was able to defeat Spain and put an end to the military shock of this country. France then moved to defeat the expansionist Bavarian armies in southern Germany. During these days, all sides were ready for peace until finally in the year 1648 which conclusion of the Westphalia agreement, the conflict in Germany finished and the war between Spain and France came over during the year 1658 and the result of the agreement of the Pyrenees. At the end of this conflict, the Spain authority declined and France became a more powerful country in Europe (Mc. Murdie, 2014).

12. Peace of Westphalia

At the agreement of Westphalia in 1648, the conflict finished. Based on the provisions of this peace, all German territories, including colonial governments, were free and independent in following their desired religion. In terms of region, France was able to gain parts of West Germany. In this way, the border area between France and Germany and the military bases in Germany fell into the hands of France. Sweden and the German governments of Bavaria and also in the area of Brandenburg took the land under their ownership in Germany, the Austrian Hapsburgs had nothing to lose, and only his political authority decreased a little. Over three hundred small and large provinces made the Empire of Rome become virtually independent states and were recognized as each of them pursued their foreign policy. This ended the nature of the Empire Roman as a political unit and deepened the divide between the German states for the next two hundred years. The Peace of Westphalia marked the separation of the worlds of religion and politics as

both sides completely abandoned the Pope and these motives political became the way and motivating power in public affairs and also the gradual religious sect which became the famous choice (Friebs, 2021).

13. Provisions of peace

With the conclusion of the Westphalia agreement during the year 1648, the war officially ended. According to the terms of this peace, all German territories, including colonial religious areas, were free and independent to follow their chosen religion. Territorially, France was able to acquire parts of West Germany and some regions of Alsace, Wolverine, and Metz. In this way, the sovereignty over the border region between France and Germany and the high foundation next cavalry act in Germany filled into France's possession.

Sweden and the states of Germany, Bavaria, and Brandenburg that captured some territory in Germany, and also in Habsburg Austria lost nothing, although its political power weakened, over three hundred years the small and large countries that formed the empire of Roman were practically recommended same to the independent area and every one of them was independent and free in foreign policy. This ended the nature of the Empire of Roman like a political possession and deepened the divide between the German states for the next two hundred years. The Peace of Westphalia showed that from then on religion and politics were separate. Because the parties had completely abandoned the Pope, and after that political and economic motivations were the information force in political and social affairs, and gradually religion approached personal and individual choice (Levy, 1983).

14. Military aspects of war

This war was notable mainly for the emergence and victory of the current tactical system of Gustavo's Adolphus. The characteristic of this system was the final transition from the heavy and deep formations of the 16th century to the more modern and shallow tactical formations that emphasized the power of fire and were characteristic of warfare in the era of Marlborough and Frederick the Great. Gustavo's emphasized mixed-force combat, firepower, and maneuvering in a rational system made possible by discipline and training. His armies were clearly "modern" in many ways. The heirs to his legacy were Thorne on the continent of Europe (and through him the armies of Louis XIV) and Cromwell and Montrose (38) in the British Archipelago (and through Marlborough's army) (Wilson, 2008).

15. The cost of war

The human and economic damage of this war can never be determined with certainty. The most reliable estimates of the human cost were between 180,000 and 325,000 killed in the battle, and the overall reduction in population in the empire by less than a third—that is, less than ten million. Since the main scenes of the war included parts of Central and Eastern Europe outside the Empire, as well as the border areas of Spain and France, the above count undoubtedly does not include the large number of civilian casualties. Was destroyed and paralyzed its social and economic life. Indeed, although some parts were badly damaged by the war, the region's decline began in 1550 and continued until it was revived by industrialization and unification in the 19th century. The war certainly hastened the decline of the empire, but the fragmentation of the empire and the intensification of economic particularism were the chilling consequences of the peace treaties, which had far more serious consequences in the end (Murdoch, 2014).

16. Effects of war

The reference to the "General Crisis" of the early 17th century, encompassing sustained warfare in diverse regions such as the Far East, the British Isles, Russia, and the Holy Roman Empire, illuminates the profound and far-reaching impacts of conflicts during this period. Wars, notably the Thirty Years' War, wrought havoc on rural and common people, perpetuating disease and famine. While acknowledging the severity of the conflicts, historians caution against exaggerated claims made by nationalist parties in the 19th century, who sought to emphasize the dangers of a fragmented Germany. Earlier assertions, such as casualties reaching twelve million out of an eighteen million population, have been scrutinized and dismissed, with post-war tax records failing to substantiate material and moral damage claims.

The scale of damage caused by these wars extends beyond the battlefield, encompassing significant medical disasters in affected areas and countries. Despite relatively small numbers of commanders and soldiers, engagements involving cavalries, like the Battle of Alta Vista in 1632 with 70,000 to 80,000 men, led to considerable destruction. Over the eight years between 1618 and 1626, an average of eighty thousand to a hundred thousand men were deployed by two zones in Germany, followed by twenty-five thousand men in 1632, and a peak of one hundred and sixty thousand in 1648. The toll on human life was substantial, exemplified by the tragic case of Bugden, a small Swedish village where, out of 222 men registered between 1621 and 1639, 215 were killed or missing, and five others became disabled upon their return home.

Historian Peter Wilson, drawing on battle and siege statistics, estimates the number of dead and casualties or wounded in known conflicts to be around 450,000 people. However, research suggests that diseases cause two to three times that number of deaths or serious injuries. The overall military casualties during this tumultuous period are estimated to range between 1.3 and 1.8 million. The intervention of Sweden in 1630 is highlighted as a turning point, signaling an unprecedented disaster and a substantial death toll, impacting both military and civilian populations across various regions, as noted by Ibn Jang (Gutmann, 1988).

17. Conclusion

Wars over thirty years were very long and more conquests in the history of the Europe continent, which started from 1618 - 1648. In wars, mainly in Central and also in the east part of Europe, it is extremely joined between 4- 8 million cavalry, fitters, and servicemen (civilians) died due to war, disease, and famine. The population of some regions in Germany experienced a reduction of over fifty percent which is related to the conflicts including the war in Eighty Years, the conflict of Manteaux's Succession, the Spanish and France War, and the conflict restoration of Portuguese during the nineteenth century,

generally, historians have viewed the war as a long, continuous struggle. In the year 1555 the Habsburg Peace tried to solve their problem by dividing the province into two administrative named Lutheran and states of catholic, so during the fifty years later extent the Protestantism near this area, the residents were mostly military and commanders, in the modern time doctrine agreed that disputes up to religious and economically base of empire that was very important for war and conflict, they discussed which scope and developing of result from computation for European dominance between Habsburg and Spain and also at the house of Bourbon that be held in France. The outcome is dated to the year 1618, when Ferdinand's second emperor was deposed and acted as emperor of the country of Bohemia and changed by the Fredrick Fourth of Kazakhstan. Although the power of the imperial suppressed the revolt of Bohemia, his involvement developed with the battle of the palace to find a famous and standard way to capture the Republic of Dutch and Spain. Then they were interested in dominating over the eighty years' war during the kingdom of Fifth Cristian in Denmark.

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