When this is the technological reality, it is very important that some shift happens in the leadership. If you do not strive for it, the whole world will pay in a very big way and we are already paying. If you look at the climate change that is happening and the projections that are being made, if you look at the way things are developing, smaller countries are going for world-destroying arms. It will not be long before people who are using fire bombs will have nuclear bombs, and you cannot control it by force forever.

Whether these things will happen or not is not the point. Do you have to live in this kind of confusion and threat all the time? Maybe at the last moment some diplomatic nonsense will save it and it will be avoided, but that is not the point. Is this the way you want to live? Whether the disaster is going to happen or not, disastrous people are happening. If a spiritual element enters into the leadership—political, economic or otherwise—on the planet, then the need for war could be taken away to a large extent. It may not resolve the problem but ensure to a large extent that the world is not run on somebody's ideology, belief system or holy book, but rather on the simple sense of what is needed for humanity to exist here. If the world is run out of human intelligence, love and compassion, the need for war could be taken away to a large extent.

It is time we look at the question of whether a spiritual element enters into people, the need for endless conquest is always there. As long as it is there, war is just a question of consequence and opportunity.

The writer is a world-renowned spiritual leader.

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