

In 2011 psychologist Steven Pinker, author of the Better Angels of our Nature: Why Violence has Declined, concluded that "we may be living in the most peaceful era in our species' existence."

A year later, Martin Dempsey, former chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, remarked that the world is becoming "more dangerous than it has ever been."

As political scientist Stephen Walt explains "No single approach can capture all the complexity of contemporary world politics."

The ancient Greek historian Thucydides (460-401 BCE), in History of the Peloponnesian War, used this approach.

Morgenthau describes international politics as struggle for power among nations. He says, "International politics, like all politics is a struggle for power, whatever the ultimate aim of international politics."

Realist approach is also called power approach.

Morgenthau defined power "as man's control over the minds and actions of other man."

Morgenthau's theory is called realism because it is concerned with human nature as it actually is and with the historical process as these

Date _____
Page _____

actually take place.

* In the words of Morgenthau, "Theory consists in ascertaining facts and giving them meaning through reason."

- Morgenthau has explained six principles of his realist theory. These are given below.
1. First principle: political theory Based on objective laws of Human nature.
 2. Second principle: National Interest defined in terms of National power.

* The second principle of realist theory is the master key to international politics. According to Morgenthau, "It imposes intellectual discipline upon the observer, infuses rational order into the subject-matter of politics and thus makes the theoretical understanding of politics possible."

3. Third principle - Interest is Always Dynamic.

On the words of Morgenthau, "The kind of interest deter