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The Principles of War Ideally, the scribes by Master Sun Tzu speculated to have in existence as of the sixth century have been a major contributor in the strategizing of winning wars that followed from the time that they became key elements in the war philosophy. Essentially, many combatants and generals involved in the field of war use quotes from The Art of War Sun Tzu making it to be a reference point for most matters related to victory in combat. Therefore, Sun Tzu was one of the key beginners in the development of the principles applied in war to which others such as Napoleon Bonaparte and Clausewitz also came up with their own principles. The implication of this is that the principles of war are not universal as every general can choose to develop their own depending how best their strategies work for them. Based on this, this essay will delve in to Sun Tzu statement that an army man tends to be the man in charge during a war and the fate of the people meaning that they fall under the mercy of the general in charge.
In any war, consequences or effects are inevitable and the people tend to suffer more because things can never be normal again depending on the general that is commanding the war. In the case of the leadership of a country, the country may have a good performing economy or one that is unstable depending on the leadership styles and characteristics of the ruler (Roe 5). By applying and understanding this principle, this can be an effective way of exercising power by being familiar with the consequences of their decisions. The implication of this is that a nation may either have a failed democracy, unstable economy and vice versa depending on the type of leader that is in power. A nation’s prosperity may be uncertain as this tends to be the breaking or success moment for such a nation meaning that the type of leadership qualities that an individual may have can have a direct influence subjects.
Peace in such a nation can prevail if the man in charge of a country has a clear plan of his intention to maximize on the nation’s resource by not creating enmity, as they carry out this activity. However, the leader chooses to be selfish and inconsiderate to the subjects in a country then this is likely to experience hostility, which can influence the war. Therefore, a leader can use this principle to their advantage, but also making sure their interests prevail with the least amount of force and no enemies created in the process. Nevertheless, the army men can never be in charge in a country because they also take orders from their superior, the army leader as long as the general has the loyalty of those that he commands.
In this principle, Master Sun intimates that in this principle, a nation can enjoy peace or be in perils that its citizens may not enjoy the fruits of their economy because their main concern would be on how to be safe (Zi 11). Therefore, the sole responsibility of a leader should be to put the interests of the people that they lead before their own because they are the only ones that can steer the nation into develop. Subsequently, leaders should not use this as a way of bestowing upon themselves the ultimate power because the consequences can be catastrophic.
Works Cited
Roe, Kevin. Leadership: Practice and Perspectives. , 2014. Print.
Zi, Sun . The Art of War. Place of publication not identified: Filiquarian Pub, 2006. Print.