

An Eye For An Eye: The Dynamics of Blood Revenge In Civil War

Description

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Over the past fifty years, about two-thirds of all civil wars have occurred in countries where customary traditions of honor and retaliation regulate social life. Firmly embedded in the fabric of local societies, the customary code of blood revenge—the practice of avenging an insult by retaliating against the initial culprit or his close kinsmen—has survived and, at times, thrived amid the chaos of warfare. Evidence of its enduring presence emerges from the accounts of dozens of irregular conflicts, ranging from the insurgent battlegrounds of [Afghanistan](#) and [Pakistan](#) to the war-torn countries of [Syria](#) and [Iraq](#), from the guerrilla-affected region of [Western Boyacá](#) in Colombia to the territories contested by Maoist rebels in [central India](#), from the [Sudanese civil war](#) to the ethnic conflict in [Kosovo](#), down to the terrorism-hit territories of southern [Philippines](#) and [Corsica](#).

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Date Created

2023/01/26