



Diploma Thesis Evaluation Form

Author: NAYAN ANAND

Title: Jihadisation of Insurgencies: A Corollary of Civil Wars

Programme/year: MAIN, 2021

Author of Evaluation (supervisor): EMIL ASLAN

Criteria	Definition	Maximum	Points
Major Criteria			
	Research question, definition of objectives	10	8
	Theoretical/conceptual framework	30	28
	Methodology, analysis, argument	40	38
<i>Total</i>		80	74
Minor Criteria			
	Sources	10	10
	Style	5	5
	Formal requirements	5	5
<i>Total</i>		20	20
TOTAL		100	94



Evaluation

Major criteria:

The supervised thesis seeks to explain the factors behind the 'ideological jihadization' of previously nationalist or predominantly non-religiously motivated insurgencies. The author uses two case studies – of Syrian Civil War and the Afghan War - to identify relevant factors which she initially classifies drawing on extant literature. In other words, the author conducts a critical reading of the broad range of scholarly works dealing with the factors conducive to the jihadist 'hijacking' of non-religious ideologies and then applies them to the case studies of her choice. The author thus arrives at the factors that are relevant for the general jihadization in general and for the jihadization of the insurgencies of her choice in particular; factors that generally overlap. I consider this approach relevant; importantly, the author succeeds in sorting together a large body of research which she converts into coherent themes (factors); this is an ambitious endeavour in itself. The author's application of the factors to two cases might not be without shortcomings – the sample of two case studies is too little to give us an understanding of the validity of the factors conducive to the jihadization of insurgencies. Rather, these two case studies indicate that some factors proved to be more relevant than others given the selected conflicts (structural) conditions. Still, the thesis succeeds in addressing its initial objectives – and does it in a solid, empirically sound, and conceptually knowledgeable way.

Minor criteria:

The thesis is logically structured; it's well-written (at times some sentences could be simpler), analytical, and the argument is easy to follow most of the time. Good knowledge of the empirical nuances of the studied cases; good referencing.

Overall evaluation:

A solid piece of research. Some rather minor (given the scope of the work) shortcomings are balanced off by the strengths – good knowledge of literature, classification of related themes (factors) leading to jihadization of insurgencies, etc.



**FACULTY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**
Charles University

Suggested grade: A

Signature: