

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA

‘USI-War Wounded Foundation Joint Essay Competition 2021’

RULES

1. Competition is open to all, irrespective of nationality. This includes all members of the Armed Forces of India, the Territorial Army and the Senior Division of National Cadet Corps, and personnel of the Paramilitary Forces, Police and Civil Administration in India including retired personnel.

2. The essay for **2021** must be on the subject **“The State of War Wounded Personnel in India: An Appraisal.”** The essay should be approached keeping in mind the following:

- Wars and warlike operations, like counter insurgency operations invariably result in casualties to military personnel. Broadly, these are of two types – ‘killed in action’ and ‘wounded in action’. From the latter category, some wounded personnel become permanently disabled. While a few are boarded out of service, there are others who opt to continue in the service. For further promotions, they compete with their colleagues and are not given any concessions on account of their disability.
- War disabled personnel are neither recognized as a distinct category, nor is there a system within the services of maintaining a data bank of such personnel. Consequently, they tended to be generally forgotten. Recently, with the establishment of veterans’ directorates by the services, some headway has been made to reach out to them, but is that enough?
- Soldiers sacrifice their lives & limbs for many reasons, like national pride, regimental and unit spirit, high level of motivation, courage; but above all the understanding that the nation will look after their next of kin (NOK), if they meet their death on the battlefield or get disabled. While those ‘killed in action’ are given due recognition and their NOK are respected and looked after, the war disabled are forgotten. Why?
- Should the present state of affairs be changed? If so, suggest a clear and simple methodology for preparation of a comprehensive case, to include preparation of a data bank containing all relevant information of occurring of casualty, percentage of disability awarded and personal contact details; how the data gets updated continuously; methodology of adding new casualties; and all other information that is relevant. Recommendations should also include a plan for interface between the service headquarters and Non-Government Organizations (NGO’s).

3. Essay may vary in length between 3,000 to 4,000 words (including footnotes). The word-length should be shown in brackets at the end of the essay. **Entries not exhibiting the number of words or those exceeding the length are liable to be rejected.**

4. Essays should be written in the English language and printed on one side of the paper in double space. Hardcopies only should be submitted in TRIPLICATE and one softcopy to be sent by email to: usi.wwfessay@gmail.com .

5. Hardcopy essays will be strictly ANONYMOUS. No detail pertaining to the author is to be mentioned on the hardcopy essay or in the covering letter. One sealed envelope is to accompany the essay with a paper indicating the author’s name,

address, email. Service officers are to indicate their personal number, rank, date of commission, unit, address and e-mail. On the outside of the envelope, only the title of the essay is to be written. These envelopes will be opened during the USI Council meeting, after the judges have given their decision. **Essays violating the anonymity rule will be rejected.** The email forwarding the softcopy is to have only the essay title in the subject line.

6. The essay must be an author's personal and original effort. Sources are to be cited in the laid down format. Jointly written essays are not accepted. **Disciplinary action will be recommended against entries displaying blatant plagiarism of content.**

7. Three judges chosen by the USI will adjudicate. Marks will be given on the basis of the following: -

- a. The extent to which the contribution throws fresh light on the subject.
- b. Whether in the whole or in large part it is in a form suitable for publication.
- c. Understanding of the subject.
- d. Thought, logic, development of theme.
- e. Language / expression.
- f. Essays must have relevant footnote references and a bibliography, as applicable **Essay NOT having footnotes or bibliography will be rejected.**

8. The award of the judges will be final. They may recommend the first prize to the winner (a certificate and cash prize of Rs.15,000/-), as well as a certificate and cash prize of Rs.10,000/- to the runners-up. The names of the winner(s) of the essay competition, along with the winning essay, if recommended for publication by the judges, will be published in the USI Journal.

9. The Institution reserves the right not to make an award, if none of the essays submitted are of a standard which the judges consider adequate. Cases of plagiarism will invite disqualification.

10. Copyright of all essays submitted will be reserved by the United Service Institution of India.

11. All essays should be sent to the Director, United Service Institution of India, Rao Tula Ram Marg, Post Bag No.8, Vasant Vihar PO, New Delhi - 110 057, to be received not later than 31 August 2021. **Essays received after last date will not be accepted.** The envelopes should be marked as follows: -

- **'USI- War Wounded Foundation Joint Essay Competition 2021'**

12. All essays must conform to the CAFHR style sheet, available at <http://usiofindia.org/CAFHR/Guidelines/#Style>

13. For any clarifications/queries please contact the Secretary, USI CMHCS at usi.wfessay@gmail.com