



THE SECRET SOCIETIES: DELVING DEEP INTO THE HIDDEN REALMS OF SECRET SOCIETIES

Muniba Jahangir
Jinnah University for Women
Karachi – Pakistan
Muniba@juw.edu.pk

Maria Ilyas
Jinnah University for Women
Karachi – Pakistan
Maria.ilyas@juw.edu.pk

Kainat Saif
Jinnah University for Women
Karachi – Pakistan
Kainat.saif@juw.edu.pk

Abstract

Secret societies have always existed in human society, their forms and operation may vary but the core of all these secret societies is “to claim and to hold the secret knowledge that no one else does.” It is believed that these societies play an important role in forming a government, in general no government challenges them. However these powers are hypothetical and pure imagination of people influenced by the secret societies. If the perception of people about the secret societies will change they may not be as powerful as they are now in present times.

This article will explain the existence of such societies, their formation, their operations and how they gain so much popularity. It will further depict some famous secret societies i.e. Freemasons, Ku Klux Klan, Skull and Bones and Illuminati. Their beliefs and the believers, common things, approach in politics, funding and power.

Keywords: Secret Society, Secrets, Conspiracy, Brotherhood and Political influence.

Introduction

It is an organization made by group of people those who claim that they are the keepers of some worthy secret, which they had to protect till their last breath. In which the members are bounded with secret initiation oaths, they are highly committed to the concept of brotherhood, moral values, soul purity and trust.



An organization, as a fraternal society, the members of which take secret initiation oaths, share secret passwords and rites, and are bound to assist each other.¹

They always know who belongs to them.

It is the utmost priority of the society members to keep their identities a secret because until and unless their identities are hidden their secrets are safe, but at the same time it is necessary for the members to recognize their co-members so they have an idea that who belongs to them and who don't so for that they have some secret handshake style which only the members are aware about, and which help them to recognize each other in public.

It is the secret that garner attention not the society.

The main motive behind creating a secret society is to maintain and protect the secret; basically these secrets are the main essence or core of these societies other than that their existence will lose the importance they hold. So to keep their secret protected and covered the members of the society take oaths that they will never reveal the secret at any cost, and if they do so they will lose their life, families or close ones.

This paper aims to conduct an in-depth study of secret societies, aiming to develop awareness about their existence and operation. It seeks to surpass the constraints of prior research efforts, striving to uncover the political influence exerted by these groups in the modern world. Additionally, it aims to address and dispel conspiracy theories associated with secret societies, promoting a more informed understanding of their significance in contemporary society. It seeks to broaden the understanding and consciousness surrounding the existence and operations of these secretive organizations, transcending the confines of previous research limitations.

Common things in all Secret Societies

Except for claiming that they hold a secret there are many things that are common in all secret societies:

They belong to elite class.

They all consider themselves as the 'true keepers' of the secret.

They all claim that they have a lineage from ancient history.

They give death threats or threats of worst consequences to the members if they will ever disclose the secret.

They all have secret actions and handshake as a method of recognizing each other.

Mostly they involve some inspiring personalities in their society who called himself as a messiah or his reincarnation.

They are blamed to have other agenda (political or social) to fulfill which they are accomplishing through the secret society.

They all do ritual ceremonies.

They are mostly male dominated or only male organizations.

What they do to make people believe in them

¹<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/secret-society>



It is a human nature that whenever he find something hidden or covered a sense of curiosity develops and that person than will try his level best to uncover the hidden secret and to find the answer, that's exactly what secret societies do they create an aura of mysteries which gains the most attention and plays a major role in acquiring individual towards them.

They create an 'us' v/s 'them' distinction which makes them special from others, also they claim that knowledge is power but 'secret knowledge is powerful' and we have the secret knowledge which makes us superior than the rest, these are the strategies of secret societies to put impacts on peoples mind and to play with their minds.

They don't just rule the mind they are active practically as well, there are many secret organizations active in colleges and universities in different part of the world they choose these places because a person at this age are very enthusiastic, rebellious and are very much ready for new adventures so it become easy to manipulate them. Some secret societies which are active in north American colleges are '13 club' 'Alpha club' 'Bishop James Madison society' 'The Cord' 'Flat hat club', 'seven society' in university of Virginia, 'cadaver society' in Washington and lee university. They keep eye on the students throughout their academic years and mostly in their final years they invite those students who they find capable of joining their society. There are many online games made by these societies which also play a role in grabbing youngster attentions

Some Famous Secret Societies

Secret societies exist in the world from past many thousands of years, many societies were formed and then just vanished without leaving any traces behind but some societies have created their impact since their creation. Some of the famous secret societies are as follows.

The Freemasons

The freemasons are one of the most successful yet most misunderstood secret society till date. The establishment of society is not clear some says it can be traced back from the building of temple of Solomon, some claims its existence from the ancient Egypt of Pharaoh's, some claim that before 18th century there was no sign of freemasons. It is believed that even masons are not sure about the exact origination of the society. The freemasons never hide about their society infect they do advertise about it, the only thing the society concern about is the secrecy and loyalty the initiation rites majority focuses on making sure that the new confidante is loyal or if not than he has to face extreme punishment. The three main grade of the order are apprentice, fellow craft and master mason a candidate can only enter the Masonic lodge after their approval, they guide the candidate, take oath from him, give him the mason badge and tell him about the recognition signs right hand held palm down beneath the chin with the elbow straight out. There are 30 mare grades above these 3 but a candidate is never allowed to approach them, they are the esoteric masonry no one control them.

Freemason is not a single organization it is divided into many or many uses their name in some Masonic lodges only men's are allowed to be the part and some allows women to the age preferably for a candidate is 21-25 every lodge is ruled by different mason with different rules.

The reason behind the origin of freemasonry is to practice of moral and social virtue. The



word free in freemasons means a “free man, a man frees from every bonds and can travel freely and mason is free of a guild”. If we observe the invitation rites of a new candidate it is a candidate enters the lodge from the door on the west and move towards the master at Eastern end that basically pointed to a Masonic myth that wisdom (light) comes from east and whoever wants to gain wisdom must travel from West to east. Freemason claim that they can make believe from good.

By 18th century the order was divided into ancient mason and the modern mason the ancients were more toward rituals and tradition and the moderns were concern about enlighten after many clasher in 1813 both came in good terms and accept each other. From this time after the emergency of modern masonry which was more into politics. The Freemasons were accused of being involved in every single event of the world since 18th century i.e. war, revolution, independence deceleration, terrorist attack etc.

Illuminati

This organization was established in 1st main 1776 by Adam Weishaupt, Adam was a son of lawyer who died when Adam was very young and Adams responsibility was given to his godfather Barren Johan, barren had a library of forbidden and esoteric books which Adam has access to, he studied there and learnt a lot of things from which the main is "the voice of reasoning isn't the one telling you to show Mercy it is the one telling you not to leave any witnesses". A Jusuit named secret society operate by Catholic Church and were real threat and danger for the kingdom and citizens in 1773 Jusuits were abolished and Adam take it as an opportunity for himself to establish illuminati it is said that the whole plan of illuminati is taken from the Jusuits. Adam along with the four famous personalities of other clubs in Ingolstadt, Bavaria, they desire to make a new society "the order of perfectibility or the order of Illuminati (in German anything which include mystery is known as Illuminatus) which means enlightenment. The order believes all human need is status and by giving them a secret is the easy way to manipulate them and make them feel special.

It is believed that illuminati hide themselves in buildings shaped like an owl; this owl is considered as the owl of Minerva which is the ancient goddess of wisdom. A symbol that represent illuminati is a dot in a circle (an eye) which means an all seeing eye of an unknown mysterious superior entity which this society worship, the purpose of establishing this order is to create a world revolution and to make a new world order in which there will be complete equality liberty and freedom from every religious or political and moral aspect they want to make a world with no religion as they believe religion restrict a person so they believe in atheism and want a world free from every political governance. Illuminati was established in the era of enlightenment which was known for its reasoning questioning and researching culture many famous philosophers were born in that era. It was the time when people were being suppressed by extreme laws of Catholics which considered human as a prisoner and earth as a place of punishment and here the order built with a Utopia of making the world a heaven for the creatures.

Illuminati, a name that a person must have listened in his life no matter in knows about any secret society or not this is the power of illuminati that they have maintained since 18 century. The



thing which make this society different unique and always in talks is 'conspiracy'. "The great strength of our order lies in its concealment let it never appear in its own name but always covered by another name, and another occupation." Adam Weishaupt

After establishing illuminati they started looking for an existing society of that time to become their face and the best of all they consider was freemasonry in 1777 Weishaupt joined the Masonic lodge of freemason along with every member of the Illuminati now freemason become their way to achieve their goals. Majority members of illuminati are freemasons or belong to Germany, France, Denmark, Russia, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland and Naples Italy.

Because of this conspiracy always question that is Adam is the real leader of illuminati or he is just a face of even bigger entity or movement. Bavarian illuminati of Adam is not the order it was just a part of a circle. In 1500 in Afghanistan a brotherhood appeared which was led by Bayazid Khan he ended the tynary of secular ruler i.e. Mughal emperor and establish and egalitarian communist society in which equality and happiness of a man and woman was considered the most important aspect these goals are very much similar as The Illuminati, in 1492 Adam brothers came to Spain from Italy and their they rejected catholic churches rule, in 1525 Brothers were banned but still they survived and in 1600 were traced in France now known as illumines. These appearances were the reasons to say illuminati part of a bigger movement. Even in 1830, the death of Adam causes no harm to the society the order was functioning in the same way. The reason behind the smooth functioning of the society till date is their invisibility like other societies you can't ban them anyway as how can you restrict anything that is invisible, they always fulfill their agenda behind the face of assassins, knight Templers, freemason etc., it is believed that illuminati are behind every big small even like world wars, revolutions happened in the world since 1800. The members of illuminati are called by the mimes of ancient mystery cults, Adam was called Spartacus, and once a man enters the brethren of Minerva he is considered as a true illuminati. No religion and patriotism is allowed in the order. Murders, assassination, rebellion are not considered as crime if done for the sake of order. The ranking of illuminati is the Scottish knight, epopts, prefects, national director, national prefect, grand master (Adam Weishaupt).

- The Illuminati is nothing but a fantasy which have given birth to many conspiracies
- Bombing on Hiroshima was done by illuminati because it is a Christian city.
- French revolution was happened because of illuminati.
- The Novus ordo seclorum written on American Currency means new world order.
- USA independence happened because of illuminati.
- The map of Washington DC Street shaped like an owl.
- The symbols of pyramid shows by any media program are made by illuminati.

The Ku Klux Klan

This organization was established in 1865 by the veterans of the confederate army in Tennessee town of Pulaski. Ku Klux was a Greek word means a circle. The main purpose of founding a social group by white at that time was to oppose the law which was made by the South



Federal troops related to the black slaves, the dress code of Ku Klux Klan is one of the most significant symbol of among all the other secret societies, a white hood and a robe which clearly represent their belonging to the whites they use to scare black people and their children's of that area later on the Klan gain enormous popularity, they collaborated with the relative order known as the white camellias which make them big in quantity as well, from now they not just only terrifying the blacks but killing them. Their activities has now become more like terrorism so to stop them for future spreading a bill was passed in the Congress for banning them. But it was proven not so fruitful because they had already achieved what they wanted; they had their member at the state house that will suit their purpose.

In 1915 a film name birth of a nation was screened which showcase a black man as a violent creature not only the blacks but this time it targets more than that i.e Catholics, Jews and the immigrants, and this time the emerge of Klan was huge they were million members in KKK. The poison of white supremacy was spreading rapidly. They took control over South also they have become a part of their politics.

The Klan was responsible of many violent activities that is bombing in churches, murders kidnapping etc., also the non-violent activities that they had created put a strong impact on the minds of white that many white citizens stop sending their kids to the school where black children study too white people started to protest against the black, immigrants and Jews.

In 1940s and 50s Klan loses its popularity and decline in its member ship, Klan face resurgence in civil rights era. The blacks now emerged and demanded to end the law created by Jim crow which legalize racial discrimination and South to stop black from emerging the Klan had executed around 200 bombings during 1955 to 1965 this become the reason of Ku Klux Klan downfall. By the end of 1960 is the FBI was successful in infiltrating the Klan and the Klan's leaders were prosecuted. It seems like the end of ku Klux Klan but history says that Klan always manage to rebuild itself. The KKK still exist but now the activities are highly private many members have now joined the right-wing new Nazi group which have the same agenda.

The Skull and Bones

It was founded in 1832 and is one of the oldest secret society of Yale university in new heavens every year the 15 senior graduated member offer 15 junior graduated candidate to join the membership this process is known as 'tapping' this selection is done on the basis of three ordeals, a candidate must have studied from a boarding School mostly preferable are Groton and the two puritans Calvinist black Phillips academy because of their anglophile nature of education, secondly the ability of the candidate in hunting and other outdoor activities, thirdly a candidate must have join any military service after his graduation US Navy is most preferable. If a candidate accept the invitation then he has to join the initiation ritual known as 'tap night' where after acceptance the senior bones men will tap on the shoulder of the new bones man, once a student of Yale university somehow got successful in recording the initiation ritual which includes drinking fake blood from skull, kissing the skull and many other embarrassing skull related rituals.

Skull and bones are known for the secrecy their rituals and secret are highly guarded but one thing that is not secret about them is their existence their headquarter 'the tomb' is located at



64 high Street in New Haven Connecticut where the non-members are strictly prohibited to enter the building, the building is decorated with the art of skills and there is a rumor that the stolen skull of a famous Apache leader Geronimo is also in the tomb, silverware of Hitler's private collection was also alleged to be in the tomb, portraits of many famous personalities of America are also on the walls of tomb. Women were not allowed to become the member of skull and bones but recently after almost 170 years the organization seems to lose popularity and was considered as regressive and sexist, to counter this accusation women's, LGBTQ+ members started to join the society.

Once a bones man always a bones man the bond which started from the Yale's never ends even they have their own island called 'dear island' for their bones man for vacation and to meet with their ex bones man. This secret society was supposed to be one of the strongest and claimed that it is the place where world's most powerful mans are groomed for their future and somehow it is true three American leaders, world most richest man, supreme court justice, many senators and CEOs were part of it. It is believed that the agenda of the skull and bone is to make America the most powerful in the world by following the idea of constructive chaos by setting allies and foes against one another and by constantly sending out mixed policy message while keeping their true intention secret, as this organization is redoubt of those angle Saxons values of USA and the new world order. It is even believed that George Bush both senior and junior always consulted their fellow bones man during gulf war and other political matters.

The bones man believe war in every generation is a necessary event which help to polish and cleanse the nation, there is a possibility of America being involved in what since 20th century is because of the involvement of skull and bones. There are many other secret societies at Yale University among which skull and bone is the strongest only scroll and key can claim equal potential as a skull and bones.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF SECRET SOCIETIES

Are they legal?

A secret society is legal unless it is prohibited by the law of the respective country. It is legal to operate such organizations but practices within the society which contradicts the laws of human rights describe by the international human rights charter of United Nations, and are considered offensive by public morality are not accepted.

In which state secret society are most active?

The state which host the most secret societies is united states of America, around 68 secret societies are active in USA most famous among those are Bohemia Grove, Ku Klux Klan, skull and bone, sons of Malta and secret society of Yale.

Other states like Japan, China, Philippine, Germany, Ireland, South Africa are also the home to these societies.

In which states they are banned?

The states which ban the establishment of secret societies in their constitutional rights are Italy,



(Citizens have the right to form associations freely, without authorization, for ends that are not forbidden to individuals by criminal law. Secret associations and those associations that, even indirectly, pursue political ends by means of organizations having a military character, are prohibited.). Other states such as Poland and European Union have also ban the secret societies.²

Their political influence

It is strongly believed that secret societies plays an important role in influencing the world political structure as some of the united states famous leaders (i.e Bush Jr. & Sr.) believed to be the member of skull and bone, some scholars argue that G.W Bush consult his fellow bones men in the decision making during the gulf war, moreover it is claimed by the secret societies that they have provided the world with the most influential, powerful and intellectual businessman, CEOs and leaders. It is also believed that the wars in 20th century, French revolution, bombing on Hiroshima was conduction and are the result of the involvement of these secret societies in the world politics.

How much power they hold?

They have great power and availability of world resources which make them capable enough to control other states economies, they benefit the states national interest in terms of economic, defense and socially. Through their intricate networks and connections, these societies often wield considerable sway over various sectors, including finance, industry, and politics. This influence extends beyond mere economic control, encompassing defense strategies and social dynamics as well. By strategically leveraging their resources and networks, secret societies can shape policies and decisions that align with their own interests, thereby benefiting the national interests of states in terms of economic prosperity, defense capabilities, and societal stability. Moreover, their clandestine nature allows them to operate discreetly, often evading public scrutiny and accountability, further amplifying their impact on global affairs. However, it's essential to critically analyze and evaluate the role of these societies, acknowledging both their potential contributions and the potential risks they pose to democratic governance and societal well-being.

Who fund these secret societies?

The secret societies are considered most influential, rich and resourceful as they have close links with the elite class which are the primary source of their funding and [1] after gaining political power they also move state fund for their purposes, funding are also obtain from illegal activities like drug trafficking and fire arms smuggling.

Why government doesn't challenge these societies?

² Italian Senate. (n.d.). Constitution of the Italian Republic (6th ed.). Retrieved from December 28,

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There are two aspects of secret societies not being challenged by the government, first it is necessary that the secret society must be in physical existence as most of the societies are considered to be fantasy and it is difficult to challenge an entity that is invisible. The second aspect is these secret societies are itself the part of politics and government, and control the most important functions of a state like defense and finance so as per this aspect the question of secret society being challenge does not arise because no one would like to point fingers to one self.

Literature Review:

SECRET SOCIETIES NICK HARDING, 2016 Publisher: Pocket Essentials, @OldcastleBooks.

The book written by Nick Harding on Secret Societies based on the information related to the societies made by individual in order to protect a secret they hold which they find very precious or essential that they cannot afford to release it to the world. This book provides all the basic information related to such societies their beliefs, practices and their initiation rites also it gives information about different societies like The knight Templers, Illuminati, Freemasons, Skull and Bones etc which are considered as the most famous and strong societies exist in past and today's time. It further discussed the role of such societies in politics and how many famous personalities are known to be a part of any secret society. The author has also discussed that how these societies work in a similar pattern to influence human psychology.

Limitations:

This research is a necessity as it is a subject to be discussed but as the topic itself says "secret" makes the study much hard to find. The concept of these societies which is being built in our minds is incomplete or manipulative. Every person must've heard about such societies in their lives and all they knew about them is that they worship evil or they are the reason or they are the invisible hand behind all the tragedies happening in the world. So here this article will explain what these societies really are and why are they known as the invisible hands behind the miseries? How they influence the states and shape their political agendas.

As per interview, the chances of taking a hold of any member of these societies are slim to none as all the information is certified and no access is allowed to the general public. This puts a certain limitation on the research as no direct information from the members of organization was accessible. Moreover, since the organization is working in secret and it seems as more of a controversy rather than a reality, not a lot of research work exists in this topic and the first hand data collection resources are limited.

Conclusion:

Secret societies are playing an important role in the world since the beginning of human civilization, they become the reason behind many historical event also they are considered as the brain which are controlling leaders mind. They are called by many names such as skull and bones, ISIs disciples, illuminati and freemasons, they are different by name but the motive behind each is



similar they all follow the same pattern of the practices and initiation.

How much power they hold and how much influential they are is still a debate it is believed that the power these secret societies have is only because we give them that importance and consideration. All the power these organization hold is majorly imaginary. Although there are conspiracies and doubts of secret society being the reason of many wars, meetings, conflicts and revolution in past but there is very less evidence to prove it. The reason behind the influence of the secret societies is us, if a man will give no importance to the secret the hold and started to believe that they have no power than these societies will ultimately fail like many societies in past have come and gone without leaving any traces of them, the same will happen with the other if a common man wants to, it is human psyche that he believes to all the weird things and take interest in it more efficiently like the beliefs about Atlantis, Bermuda triangle, the on the face of Mars, alien existence and many more these things excite us that's why we believe that there is a secret society behind everything, or everything we do think and see, control by such organization. If they say that Washington DC map shapes like an owl than the most suitable answer for this is 'so what' may be the designer like that shape or wanted to be more creative with his work. If the secrets reveal that Jesus married a woman who gave birth to a child so what difference this secret make to the world? Nothing! It just enhances our knowledge that's it. If these societies are really running the world and they really do have much capability to do it then there would be no violence or chaos in the world, as all the they want is to make the world with no government, injustice and religion so why are they still not successful in fulfilling their goals even after hundreds years. What give the secret societies this presumed power is not the society itself but the outside world perception about them.



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