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War

Raphael Chukwuemeka Onyejizu
Independent Scholar, Nigeria.

I

War is wavering harbinger to humankind,
Breeding lesions in the pores
Of its victims.
The guiltless are lost in the haggling of its firestorm
Where souls venture the path
To desolate grave lands.

II

War triggers the courageous rebel to battle array
Who touts and throttles sinister machine guns
In jubilant rage of artilleries and
Metal blasts,
Death lays its icy hands of horror.

III

The warplane and rocket-liner
emerge cowardly,
Hovering skywards like Himalayan vultures
Whose wings as shrewd are flashes of foolery
that swoops on the innocent city of *owerri**
Devouring flesh, blood and bones.

IV

War is cauldron opiate of the mind
A beastly eater outdoing a rival pugilist.
Portrait of nightmares
Fright of memories
Dirges from Rwanda
Recalled, from monacles of conflagration.

*Owerri** - The capital of Imo state recently rocked by explosive conflicts between armed forces and a group of unknown gunmen in Nigeria.