2 vs. 1,000

Jun Togo
Imagine this. You are a leader of a strong nation that has a massive military power.
One day a serious problem occurred.

It's horrible! A dictator of Country A is oppressing his own people and killing many of them.

As a leader of a strong nation, what can you do?
You thought of 50 options regarding this problem immediately, because you are very smart. But none of the choices seems to be able to solve it peacefully without fail.

Countermeasures to the problem that a dictator of Country A oppresses his own people and kills

1. Seek the solution in the frame of the United Nations
2. Employ a sniper and shoot the dictator dead
3. Gather countries who can control the war and make a multinational force
4. Offer weapons to the leaders of democratization of Country A's agents
5. Support leaders of the democratization of Country A financially
6. Make an agreement with the world opinion, using Nobel Peace prize
7. Instead of real fighting, each family accepts two refugees at least
8. Start an embargo about all export items
9. Ban the oil
10. Prohibit the import from the country which does not agree to an economical embargo

- Freeze a domestic deposit of Country A
- Make up the erasure of the dictator and relieve his occupation
- Offer a peace plan that can be accepted, making the country A start the war
- Send human shields
- Save his life in keeping him
- If a war is needed, then build
- Talk with the dictator directly and persuade him
- Forbid the order of Country A with financial support
- Try to impress Country A in whole or in its formality means
- Provide aid and persuade
- Provide the medical technology that he wants and persuade

- Rescue the personal deposits of the dictator
- Send a spy and let him investigate the secret of the nuclear
- Ask the opinion of the religious group which the dictator believes in
- Leave God
- Leave them all
- Prevent the dictator
- Save the matter to the International Court of Justice
- Nobel Peace prize to the real of the dictator of Country A
- Make up a nuclear weapon development council of Country A
- Nuclear verification of Country A which not military secrecy
- Nuclear exercise with the neighboring country
- Make of nuclear missile to the neighboring friendly nation
- Urge the dictator to the own country and let him make a speech
- Write the dictator to the own country and prevent his deal
- Start the dictator under the pretense of a plane accident
- Let the Special Forces make a fierce attack and catch the dictator alive
- Send for missions, but do not fight
- Start 10,000 of the refugees acceptance to the United nation in our country
- Economically support the country which accepts refugees
- Give unlimited acceptance of refugees
- Accept students from Country A positively and educate them
- Broadcast for Country A and call for the end of the dictator
- Send a biological weapon secretly to the food production of Country A in existence
- Report for democratization by using the Internet
- Make economic control under the pretense of performing finances support to Country A
- Execute the younger brother of the dictator and let him announce it and make him a successor
- Make economic sanctions with the council of the dictator
- Order the dictator to the own country and give a vivid description of the difference of the situation
- Save a microcosm into the picture of the dictator

Maybe you have to start a war.
Now you’ll make a decision as a leader. Please choose one from the following 2 options. ¹

Democracy is the most important of all. Also in this matter, I have to confirm democratically the will of Parliament and/or people by the majority vote and follow it.

I will make an effort to solve this problem but I won’t confirm the will of Parliament and/or people by the majority vote.

¹ Different stories will follow. Please compare them.
Maybe you have to start a war. It is your belief that democracy is the most important, so that you decided to ask the majority of people's will by vote. If you start a war, lives of many people would be lost. About such an important issue, you need to get the agreement from the majority of the people, who are the sovereign, regardless of the conclusion. The number of choices should not exceed 2 to form the majority. If it exceeds 2, it would be difficult to make the majority, as the vote may be split.
Therefore you thought hard to reduce the number of options from 50 to 2.

Finally, you have narrowed it down to the following 2 options.

Leave the murder. No war to be waged

Stop the murder, even if we cannot avoid war.
Then you asked people which the majority of them would choose between the 2 options.

The result of the vote was “Stop the murders, even if we cannot avoid war”.

Who want to leave the murders alone?

Who want to stop the murders by all means?
Fight against the dictator!
Cheers for democracy!

I'm proud of our people who love justice.
Then your country started a war. It is the people who have chosen the war so that they are united and support the fight. All you need to do now is to make every effort to ensure victory.
The reason you could do this was because you thought hard to reduce the number of options to 2.
Maybe you have to start war.

However you don’t want to wage war. You don’t want to leave the dictator’s killing, either. So you thought even harder to solve the matter peacefully without fail.
As a result, you thought of 100 options, which your nation can choose.

However, you are still not sure if you can really solve the problem peacefully.

It's easy to start a war, but it is much harder to solve a problem peacefully.
Seeking more choices and ideas, you listened to the opinions of many people. You worked hard to understand the dictator's mind. As a result you understood the cause of the oppression little by little. The cause included complicated, historic, social and religious background.
At last, the number of options you could choose was increased to even 1,000.

If there are such enormous ideas and choices, surely you can solve the problem peacefully.
Time has passed.

It was a hard challenge to solve the problem. Understandings, patience, efforts and even more ideas were needed. Nevertheless, you have finally solved the cause of the problem without a war. The dictator won’t oppress/kill people any more.
The reason you could accomplish this was because you thought hard to increase the number of options to 1,000.
Afterword

If you empathize with this picture book, we would appreciate it if you could show them to your family and friends.

You can freely make copies of (download/print/distribute) this picture book, so long as you do not obtain any monetary gains. Obtaining profit/money from this book is strictly prohibited except our written agreement.

You can also download other picture books and messages written by Jun Togo from the web below.

www.peace-picturebook.org

©Jun Togo 2013