

Operation “Z”: A Beginning Of Resurgence Of The Soviet Era 2.0

Dr. Ravinder Singh (Ph.D)

^{1*} Assistant Professor of Russian, Department of Foreign Languages, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India

How to cite this article: Ravinder Singh, (2024) Operation “Z”: A Beginning Of Resurgence Of The Soviet Era 2.0. *Library Progress International*, 44(3), 18765-18767

Abstract: This paper aims to provide a comprehensive investigation into the primary causes of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The purpose of Russia designating its military operation as 'Operation Z' is also examined in this article. The paper provides a detailed illustration of the outcomes and repercussions of the war.

Keywords: Special military operation, think tanks, demilitarization, denazification, denuclearization, world order, multipolar world.

The Day “**24th of February, 2022**” witnessed the most disturbing incident of the **21st century**, when Russia launched its special military operation 'Z' upon Ukraine. The incident had entirely shaken the world, as fear gripped the world with the specter of another gruesome World War on the rise.

One of the most intriguing facts about this large-scale military operation, Russia's decision to name it '**Operation Z**,' has also flabbergasted the entire world. Until now, people across the globe have been unable to fully understand the significance of the mysterious letter 'Z' painted on Russian military vehicles, tanks, artillery, aircraft, helicopters, and also on the uniforms of Russian troops.

Western and American think tanks and Media Houses have labeled the symbol as reframed Russian version of “**Swastika**”, the ancient sacred Hindu icon, illegitimately distorted version of which was first used by the Nazis.

As far as Russian Ministry of Defense is concerned, it has not officially deciphered the meaning and purpose of using the symbol “Z” yet. Although, according to the Russian experts and Lawmakers, the sign “Z” could be decoded in numerous ways:

For instance, the Russian word “**За**” (pronounced in English as “**Za**”), means “**For**”. As per military commentators, probably it might point out to the following Russian phrases:

- “**за победу**” [**za pobyedu**] which means “*for victory*”;
- “**за мир**” [**za mir**] – *for peace*”;
- “**запад**” [**zapad**] – *the West or direction to which the Russian troops are heading on*”;
- “**Зеленский**” [**Zelensky**] – *Zelensky (President of Ukraine)*”;
- “**за Россию**” [**za Rossiю**] – *for Russia*”;
- “**задача будет выполнено**” [**zadacha budet vypalнено**]– *the task will be completed*”;
- “**мы здесь есть**” [**my zdes esch**] – *we are here*”;
- “**за наших детей**” [**za nashikh dechey**] – *for our children*”
- “**за своих близких и братьев**” [**za svoikh blizkikh I brachef**] – *for our close ones and brothers*”;
- “**за нашу армию и героев**” [**za nashu armiu I geroef**] – *for our army & military heroes*” and also
- “**знак защиты и заботы**” [**znak zashchity I zaboty**]– *a symbol of safety and care*”.

A few military analysts also suggest that the letter “Z” may refer to the letter “Z” in the English words “**demilitarization**”, “**denazification**” and **denuclearization** of Ukraine.

In our opinion, since the letter Z is the last letter of the Latin Alphabet, so it could also be understood as a symbol of high-lighting a Russia’s aim to put a final end to the Nazi ideology and to the autocratic and repressive pro-American-West regime of Zelensky.

Also in our interpretation symbol Z is the uprooted reversed form of an example of the letter N in the words “**Nazism** or **Nazi**” which could be decoded as “uprooting” or “turfing out” or “overthrowing” Nazism and Nazi ideology from the soil of Ukraine.

Besides the symbol “Z”, some other symbols such as “**V**”, “**O**” “**Z**”, “**A**” and “**X**” could also be seen on Russian military hardware and equipment. If the letter “V” stands for “**сила в правде**” [**sila v pravde**], i.e. “*our strength is in truth*”, the symbol “O” could be interpreted as “**цель-город в кольце**” [**tsel-gorod v koltso**]– “*encircled targeted city*”,

whereas the symbol Z enclosed in square **З** alludes to “**силы из Крыма**” [Sily iz Kryma] – forces from Crimea or “**Западный военный округ**” [Zapadni voenni okrug] – “*Western Military District*”. In addition to that letter “A” denotes “**силы спецназначения**” [Sily spitsnaznacheniya] – “*special Forces*”, and the letter “X” implies “**чеченцы**” [Chechentsy] – “*Chechens*”.

According to another theory, the letter “Z” is not the Latin letter Z or the letter Z in the Russian word “**запад**” [zapad]– “the West” and also the letter Z in above mentioned Russian phrases beginning with the letter Z, but it is one of the letters of the ancient **Slavic Alphabet** which means “*land*” or “*a symbol of the unification of Russian lands given by God himself*”.

Similarly letter V doesn't denote the letter “V” in the Russian phrases “**Восток**” [Vostok] – the East or “**сила в правде**” [sila v pravde], i.e. “*our strength is in truth*” but hints at the Russian word “**Конец**” [Konets] which means “the end”.

This is all about the naming of the Russian special military operation “Z” in Ukraine.

However, what compelled Russia to wage this war against Ukraine at the time when its own economy and the world economy are just on the recovery path after the devastating effects of the pandemic. There are a number of reasons, which drove Russia to take this tough call and launch its special military operations in

Ukraine in these times of uncertainties:

- *emergence of ideology of fascism, anti-Russia sentiments and russophobia in Ukraine and in other nations of the eastern Europe;*
- *8 years of mass killings and genocide of Pro-Russian Ukrainian civilians in Donbas region.¹*
- *mounting interference of the West and the USA in the decision making of Ukraine;*
- *provocative activities of the West and the USA against Russia by luring Ukraine to join the NATO and the EU and then use its soil to fulfil its anti- Russian geopolitical and economic interests;*
- *their assistance to Ukraine is to enhance its capabilities of developing nuclear & biological weapons;*
- *continuous military installation by the NATO in Eastern European countries staging possible danger to security, integrity and sovereignty of Russia.*

To counter and neutralize all such aggressive provocative acts and expected threats from the EU, the USA and Ukraine, finally on the February 24 Russia decided to kick-off its special military operation Z to achieve the following objectives:

- *protecting and liberating Donbas region (consisting of Luhansk & Donetsk Republics) – a region with Russian speaking majority (i.e. Pro-Russian elements) & other pro-Russian ethnic groups;*
- *compelling Ukraine to recognize independence of the republics of Donbas;*
- *and also to recognize Crimea as an integral part of Russia;*
- *demilitarization;*
- *denazification;*
- *denuclearization of Ukraine;*
- *forcing the NATO& it's Allies not to encourage or coax or apply pressure upon Ukraine to become its member;*
- *holding the NATO, the USA and the EU accountable for providing security assurance to Russia that they will no longer interfere anymore in region;*
- *forcing the EU and the USA to pull out all their military installations especially from the eastern European countries.*

Looking at the on-going political and military tensions between Russia and Ukraine where the US and the West are cunningly attempting to deteriorate the situation by ensuring unbreakable supply of arms and ammunition to Ukraine, there is less possibility of withdrawal of Russian troops from Ukraine until the aforesaid tasks of the operation are executed.

Well, it could be a question of debate, why the USA the “**most Powerful Nation**” and the West, the “**most Civilized Society**” in the world are not making any sincere & honest efforts and have been reluctant to halt the war. In-fact they desire to prolong the war.

The key reason behind this stance as, one may anticipate, as this war could be a game changer for the “**American Bloc**” to achieve its geopolitical objectives and retain the status of the “**Global Supreme Power**” determining the “**World order**”. The American Bloc has been worrying that sooner or later it could lose its dominance and give up to the positively emerging global image of Russia likely to replace the USA and its allies to play the prime leadership role in the global arena in the future.

This is quite evident since in the recent years, as the USA's image as a global leader has been gradually declining, as it is known to everyone that usually it either betrays its own friendly-nations Or leaving them alone when they are in need or when they are no longer in use.

¹According to Russian media reports, Ukrainian army has killed over 20000 Pro-Russian Ukrainians, Russian speaking civilians and ethnic people including women, children and the elderly, since 2014, when Russia took “Crimea” back from Ukraine. Crimea was an integral part of Russia till 1954. In 1954, it was gifted to Ukraine by the Head of the State of Soviet Union, Nikita Khrushchev of Ukraine origin to commemorate 300 years of its unification with Russia).

Americans have destroyed a number of civilized countries such as *Vietnam, Iraq, Libya, Yamane, Syria, Somalia, Kenya, Haiti, Afghanistan* etc. to fulfill their own interests on the cost of mass destruction and killings of thousands of innocent civilians across the globe.

On the other hand, Russia's reputation as world's most dominating and powerful military and diplomatic power has significantly grown in the recent years. It has also manifested its worth as a strong reliable global power by mediating and solving several international conflicts. The recent examples are *Syrian war, Kazakhstan unrest, Armenia-Azerbaijan disputes over Nagorno-Karabakh, Belarusian, Kyrgyz and Uzbekistan riots* where it has timely rendered all possible assistance to the regimes of these nations to restore stability and peace back to their countries.

Russia has also strived to secure stability in the war-torn **Iraq, Libya** and **Afghanistan** through various humanitarian and diplomatic aids.

Apart from that most of the countries were once a part of the **USSR** till now have had firm and warm relationship with Russia because they all still enjoy and share mutual respect and deep bonding taking pride in their cultural and historical background living under the glorious Era of the **Soviet Union** except a couple of ex-Soviet republics. One among them is Ukraine. The country where anti-Russian elements and pro-Nazi sentiments have been increasingly harboring terrorism & violence under the influence of the USA and its allies for last many years.

Probably the American Bloc is also seriously mulling over the possibilities that if in the future Russia succeeds to unit all its former Soviet allies and Soviet Bloc like organization comes into existence that would surely dethrone the USA and its allies from their current leading position as the most dominant players of geopolitics. Therefore, the American lobby is using Ukraine as its trump card against Russia to weaken its strong global position as a reliable power and isolate it globally through exhibiting its negative image to end all such possibilities of resurgence of Russia as the Soviet Union like superpower.

Looking at the current situation we may also anticipate and observe that the ongoing war might significantly change the world equation and fate of several nations as world could see a new world order i.e **multipolar** world with several blocs. That will steadily ensure balance of power, stability, equality and above all mutual respect between the nations where the concerns of all nations would be addressed irrespective of their size, wealth and influence.

This war could also encourage those nations that have been the victims of the biased and discriminating policies of the US and the West, to raise their voices and fight against the atrocities and in admissible interferences of the US lobby into their internal matters.

In conclusion, we would affirm that as far as resurgence of another union identical to the Soviet Union is concerned it might be quiet possible after the war. The world may witness emergence of another "**Union of Republics**", consisting of a few ex-Soviet Republics as well as a number of new allies (anti-US nations i.e. devastated and destroyed by the USA) under the leadership of Russia to counter all kinds of hostilities of America and its allies.

In-fact, no one can even neglect the fact that the world may also encounter the beginning of a **new Cold War Era** between the **Russia-China Bloc** and the **American Bloc** after the end of the current Russia-Ukraine war.

References

1. Voloschenko A. - Z and V on Russian Military Equipment: 3 Official Versions of the Meaning of These Symbols and One - the People's. "The First Russian Tsargrad". - 2022. - March 17. URL:https://ug.tsargrad.tv/news/z-i-v-narusskoj-voennoj-tehnike-3-oficialnyh-versii-znachenija-jetih-simvolov-i-odna-narodnaja_513523(Accessed on 19/3/2022)
2. The Ministry of Defense revealed the meaning of the letters Z and V on Russian military equipment. Information. "NTB". - 2022. - March 3. URL: <https://www.ntv.ru/novosti/2687936/>(Accessed on 20/3/2022)
3. What do the Z, O, V, and 645 markings on military equipment REALLY mean? The secret is REVEALED! (2022). "World Education". - 2022. - March 3. URL: <https://tehnowar.ru/343567-Chto-NA-SAMOM-DELE-oznachayut-metki-ZOV-i-645-na-voennoj-tehnike-Sekret-RASKRYT-2022.html>(Accessed on 22/3/2022)
4. Shcherbakova A. The Ministry of Defense explained the meaning of the letters Z and V on Russian military equipment in Ukraine. "Lenta.ru". - 2022. - March 3. URL:<https://lenta.ru/news/2022/03/03/smysl/>(Accessed on 26/3/2022)
5. V and Z on military equipment of the Russian army. "Bel.RU". - 2022. - March 1. URL: <https://bel.ru/news/society/01-03-2022/chto-oznachayut-znaki-v-i-z-na-voennoj-tehnike-rossijskoy-armii/se3>(Accessed on 28/3/2022)
6. What does the letter Z mean on Russian military equipment? . "memepedia". - 2022. - March 3. URL: <https://memepedia.ru/novaya-svastika-chto-znachit-bukva-z-na-rossijskoj-voennoj-tehnike/>(Accessed on 02/04/2022)
7. Selikov M. Strength in Z and V. All explanations and interpretations of the signs on Russian military equipment in Ukraine. "All News". - 2022. - March 5. URL: <https://360tv.ru/news/tekst/sila-v-z-i-v-vse-objasnenija-i-traktovki-znakov-na-rossijskih-voennoj-tehnike-na-ukraine/>(Accessed on 05/04/2022)
8. Kononov A. From V to Z: The Old Russian alphabet was used to designate a military operation in Ukraine. "Life". - 2022. - March 19. URL: <https://life.ru/p/1479998>(Accessed on 10/04/2022)