Honor, Symbols, and War
Barry O'Neill
http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=14453
The University of Michigan Press

Contents

Preface xi

Part I. Symbols

Chapter 1. Symbolism: Introduction 3

An Approach to Defining Symbolism 3

Chapter 2. Message Symbols in Practice 9

The Database 10
Some Rough Definitions 10
Scenarios and Metaphors 11
Getting One's Action Recognized as Symbolic 18
The Symbolic Use of Language 19
Ceremonies and Awards 22
Grammars for Symbols 22
Conclusion 23

Chapter 3. Message Symbols in Theory 25

Definition of a Communicative Act 26
The Interaction of Metaphors, Prototypes, and Metonymies in Message Symbols 28
The Symbol/Convention Continuum 36
Symbols versus Conventions: Why Say It Symbolically? 41

Chapter 4. Focal Symbols 45

Focal Symbols Compared with Message Symbols 46
Focal Symbols Compared with Focal Points 47
How Focal Symbols Get Noticed 50
How Focal Symbols Evoke or Construct Their Meaning 51
Symbolic Leadership 54

Honor, Symbols, and War
Barry O'Neill
http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=14453
The University of Michigan Press

Ceremonies 58
Focal Symbolism in Prenegotiation 61

Chapter 5. International Tension and Trust 63

Symbolic Events and International Tension 64
Tension as an Explanation in International Relations Theory 65
Tension in Chicken-Based Crisis Models 68
Tension in Stag Hunt–Based Crisis Models 72
Precrisis Symbolism: The Value of Arms Agreements 78
The Tension Metaphor 79
The Role of Public Events 80

Part II. Honor, Face, and Prestige

Chapter 6. What Is National Honor? 85

The Elements of Honor 86
The Basic Game of Honor 92
Is Honor Personal or Social? 97
Is National Honor a Sham? 97

Chapter 7. Challenges to Honor 101

The Form of Challenges to Honor 101
Do States Really Challenge Each Other's Honor? 102
The Nature of Challenges to Honor 107
Semiforceful Challenges 112
How Challenges Lose Force—*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* 120
How to Stop a Challenge from Starting a Fight—*The Feast of Bricriu* 124

Chapter 8. Commitments Based on Honor 127

The Difference between Commitments, Promises, and Threats 128
Promising on One's Honor 129
Committing Oneself to Defend an Interest 131
Real versus Virtual Honor 133
Commitments to Those outside the Honor Group 135

Honor, Symbols, and War
Barry O'Neill
http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=14453
The University of Michigan Press

Honor-Based Commitments
and Offensive Advantage 136

Chapter 9. Insults as Assaults on Face 139

Insults That Led to War 141
The Definition of an Insult 146
How to Recognize an Insult 150
Definition of Face 152
A Model of a Hierarchy of Face 154

Chapter 10. Commitments Based on Face 165

The War of Face 166
Simple Signaling Contests 169
Is the War of Face an Efficient Way
to Settle a Conflict? 171
Variants of the War of Face 172
Dangers in the Diplomacy of Insults 174

Chapter 11. Apologies 177

The Relationship of Apologies to Face
and Honor 177
A Budget of International Apologies 178
How International Apologies Differ
from Interpersonal Ones 181
A Prototypical Scenario of Apologizing 182
A Partial Order for Partial Apologies 185
Symbols and Metaphors in Apologies 188
Models of Apologizing Based on Face
and Honor 191
Why Do International Apologies Differ
from Interpersonal Ones? 191

Chapter 12. Prestige, Normative Regimes,
and Moral Authority 193

The Relationship of Prestige to Symbolism 194
Normative Prestige and Moral Authority 196
Social Norms and Normative Regimes 197
Normative Regimes for a Repeated
Prisoner's Dilemma 198
Normative Regimes as Game Equilibria 200
Diagramming a Normative Regime 202
Moral Authority 208

Honor, Symbols, and War
Barry O'Neill
http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=14453
The University of Michigan Press

Part III. Synthesis

Chapter 13. Nuclear Thought-Styles and Nuclear Symbolism 215

Organizational Thought-Styles and Symbolism 216
The INF Debate 225
Rationales for the INF Missiles 227
The Interaction of Nuclear Thought-Styles and Nuclear Symbolism 239

Chapter 14. Conclusion 241

Symbols 241
Honor, Commitments, and Challenges 244
Face, Insults, and Apologies 246
Prestige and Moral Authority 248
Symbolism, Honor, and Arms Building 248

Appendixes

Appendix A. Game Theory and Intangibles in International Relations 253

The Redefinition of Utility 253
The Shift from Objective to Subjective Probability 257
Assumptions about Players' Knowledge 258
Game Theory, Rational Choice Theory, and Constructivism 259
Coordination through Learning and Communication 261

Appendix B. Some Basic Game Concepts 263

Nash Equilibria of a Chicken Game 263
Nash Equilibria of a Stag Hunt 266
Chicken with Incomplete Information 267
Rationales for the Nash Equilibrium 270
Interactive Belief Systems 274

Appendix C. Methods of Calculation and Proofs 287

References 303

Index 323