

THE EFFECT OF MIDDLE EAST RECENT CHANGES ON SECURITY STRATEGY OF AMERICA

Taghi Mohammadian¹, Abdolvahab Abbasi Atoni², Hadi Bashadjahromi³, Ahad Ghalandari⁴

¹*Department of European Study, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran*

²*Department of Middle East Study, Allameh Tabatabaei University, Tehran, Iran*

³*Department of Political Sciences, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran*

⁴*Department of Political Sciences, Tehran Central Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran,*

Abstract

The presence of U.S.A in middle east after world war the second and stabilization of its position after the Persian gulf war and new global order of George Bush have faced ups and downs which always challenged the security strategy of America and today the changes in middle east has also created opportunities and obstacles for America. The main question in the present article is based on the effect of the changes and evolutions in Middle East and North Africa on the security strategy of America. In response, we can hypothesize that the revolutionary changes of Middle East has led the America toward one diplomacy and dual direction for crisis management.

Keywords: Middle East, Recent Changes, Security, Strategy of America, Policy

Introduction

One of the long- term strategies of America which have been agreed in all the governments is the dominance strategy. This strategy is composed of three elements of facilities, goals and doctrine (Kardan, 2012, p.21). So, it first determines a goal and then uses the facilities and a doctrine describing how to use the fight to complete its strategy. For example, in strategy of 2006, George Bush suggested the Preemptive war strategy as a way for reaching the fighting goal with mass weapons and the danger for having access to such weapons (Kardan, 2012, p.41) or the goal of dominance on energy resources using the new order of the world is considered as a vital strategy in 1990s for America.

Total, America has used different economic, cultural, army and political devices and doctrines such as penetration obstacle, new order of the world, preemptive war and others to meet the goals such as fight with communism, developing the liberal democratic culture of America, free international economy, new order of the world, fighting with mass weapons, fighting with nuclear energy and its technology in developing countries, globalization, creating a new middle east, fighting with the new powers and looks for hegemony and dominance on the world.

One of the realistic strategies of America in the region is using military power to control the dominance which has been legal by the accompaniment of organizations such as NATO and united regimes whose insecurity will make America face problems. Recent evolutions in middle east are an alarm for America and its presence in the region and entered it into a regional strategy. Since the end of 2010, a collection of evolutions and rallies in the streets dominated the Middle East and North Africa simultaneously. These rallies were in countries such as Tunisia, Libya and Egypt changed the regime and in some countries such as Yemen and Bahrain lead to bloodshed and had terrible results and frightened the countries such as Algeria, Morocco, Jordan, Amman and Saudi Arabia. The reason for the rallies has been the high unemployment ratio, high inflation and reduction of buying power, injustice and financial corruption of economy (Biniaz, 2012).

This condition has put America in a dilemma so that supporting these regimes will be in contrast with democratic values of America, an example of which is supporting the Bahrain regime, opposing Gadhafi's regime and supporting people. But these regimes had been fully supported by America before their fall such as military helps to Mubarak and Ali Abdullah Saleh and even Bin Ali. It can be said that in this chance, America tries to reduce the penetration of Iran in the region by emphasizing on the nuclear program as a strategy for America's penetration in the region.

Theoretical Framework

The present study has used Mearsheimer approach which considers the final goal of all the countries as reaching hegemony and increasing the power of the country to maintain their security and survive. Mearsheimer in his approach refers to regional Hegemony and while a government does not have access to the regional hegemony, it cannot have global one. On the other side, it should also prevent the hegemony of other governments through empowering the rivals of those countries and controlling it in the region and increasing its power. According to Mearsheimer the governments who want to change into the hegemony of the region should have features such as superior martial power in the region and increasing the share of global wealth same as the big powers. Mearsheimer, who is an offensive neorealist, generally defines the final aim of every government in being hegemony and obtaining other goals after this main purpose. So based on his approach, these evolutions has challenged America and she is trying to reduce the power of hegemon governments of the region (Iran) and tries to empower other countries (Turkey) for power balance so that the hegemony of Iran can be controlled (Little, 2011).

According to Mearsheimer, the main aim of the hegemony in the governments can be found in three cases: the Anarchic structure of the international system, offensive abilities of all the governments and not trusting the replacing and goals of the enemies (Moshirzade, 2010, p. 132). So, the reasons for hegemony and feeling worried about America can be completely imagined. So, based on this fact, the hegemony approach of Mearsheimer, these evolutions are chances for other governments to increase their power and America tries to maintain her hegemony in Middle East and North Africa, control and reduce the power, follow the diplomacy strategy and sue international organizations.

The effect of evolutions and Public uprising in Middle East and North Africa (2011) on Security Strategies of America

These changes and Domino of the Middle East has encountered America and her allies with worries and shocks and put most of the aims and strategies of America with obstacles and

problems. It has also created chances and threats for America that needs review in security strategies. These changes have affected most of the areas of economy, culture, politics and martial of America in the region and it can be said that the most important security area of America which has been affected by the evolutions is the political and strategic penetration. So, the changes in Egypt, as one of the allies of America, have threatened the benefits of this country. It can be seen in the divergence of ideas in the speech of the politicians.

Two main flows exist as the main worries of west and America: 1. Continuous and secure flow of oil to the west, 2. Maintaining the Israel and what is called fighting with terrorism (Hasheminasab, 2011, p. 162). After the public demonstration, people went toward the Israel Embassy in Cairo and damage there and even exploited the gas pipes toward Israel and this was an alarm for energy security of America's allies.

Apart from these effects, the regional effects on Egypt can in long-term endanger the benefits of America. For example, Egypt has an important position in Islam can lead to the rise of other countries of the region and removing the powerful and hegemon governments after the uprising of Egyptians. In addition, the changes in Egypt affect the political structure of other countries (Hasheminasab, 2011, p. 162-163).

America in the region has tried to lead the Middle East in three economic, political, cultural and educational area but has encountered the opposition of her allies. America had considered political, economic and cultural reforms in the Middle East but the reforms were faced the opposition of Arab countries and debts of the European Union countries. Arab countries were afraid of the consequences of these reforms for their own governments and considered this plan as intrusion in their internal affairs.

But this democracy has not been accepted by the leaders and would lead to disorder in case of application: a) the leaders of these regimes did not want to let their power away through free election and will not be in future. B) Encouraging the Arab world to face the increased demands of people was a plan without enough calculation. C) There is a gap between the public demands and responses of the regimes. D) Not responding of the government lead to the demonstrations by the people and using the regressive powers to maintain their own authority (Hayjaneh, 2004, p.31). But two differences exist between the ideals and real policies. On one hand, America wants short-term benefits that are maintaining the stability of oil sources and energy security and security of Israel and one the other hand tries to generate the American values and their definitions of freedom and democracy (Sarsar, 2011). Here, America has to support the dictator governments of the region for maintain the energy security and Israel and at the same time she has to perform political reforms in their favors. It can even be seen in the speeches of Obama in 2009 in Cairo where he pointed to disagreement between Arab nations, stopping aggression and extremity, respect to the human right and peace, removing the nuclear weapons and recognizing the plan between Israel and Palestine (Sarsar, 2011). But in fact, all these supports are a veil for the desire of America to support her benefits and empower the martial forces to reduce the fights by the American forces. One example of these helps and supports can be seen in annual financial helps of America Egypt or Yemen forces with the excuse of fighting with terrorism. In addition, since 2007 up to now, America has had about 316 million dollars non martial helps such as peaceful supports, training and education, development and refugee helps to Yemen. These helps to Yemen were for preventing the threats of Al ghaeda in Saudi Arabia (Baldor, 2012). In all these cases, America had faced challenges and obstacles. Apart from these probelsm, America faces one of the main obstacles by these revolutions that are rising of the Islamic

states. If these governments rise, they will cause problems for America. One of these groups is Ekhvan almoslemin whose activities have been banned since the time of Abdalnaser and these revolutions provide good chances for them. So, one of the main strategies of America for preventing the uprising of these group is to create struggles among the Islamic groups. Iyli Shahloob who is a Lebanese authors states that the worries of America is due to the fact that this group is the only group which has public position and historical legacy for reviving the regional and international importance. Based on this the performance of America will be on two bases: preventing the groups to reach the presidency and defeating the Islamic authority for weakening the Ekhvan from inside (www.mashreghnews.ir).

However, there is a center for CIA in the embassy of this country in Cairo that follow the election (<http://fa.alalam.ir>) but according to the actions of America and Saudi Arabia and existence of Selfi groups in Egypt, we have witnessed the victory of Ekhvan almoslemin and Islamic groups in presidential election of Egypt and Mohammad Morsi has won the election despite all the opposed propagations (Hanizade, 2013, p.69).

America has also tried that Mobarak regimes continue without her help and so Omar Mosa and Ahmad Shafigh are in the top list of America. Maintaining the Camp David contract has always been strategically important and the American authorities warned the present government directly and mentioned that they are opposed to any changes in this system (sadjadpoor, 2013, p. 62). America has tried to follow her new strategy in terms of maintaining the benefits she had with previous governments. The Egyptian army had become a powerful obstacle against the Islamic groups. And according to Doctor Ahmad Naghib, the army of Egypt is completely American and even if the Ekhvan almoslemin take the authority, this group cannot get out of the circuit of cooperation and unity with west or Israel. Americans have two main goals in the Middle East. One of them is security of Israel and the other one is the oil security (www.tabnak.ir) any of which can be ignored.

According to the fact that the national security strategy of Obama is different from the strategies of George Bush Junior and has more security value, but all the documents of security strategy of America have emphasized on using the force. For example, it is mentioned in these strategies that sometimes using force is unavoidable for defending America and her allies and three preventing actions of mass and individual action are mentioned (Mahpishanian, 2010, p. 243).

An example of this strategy is the mass action in internal war of Libya. After the political crisis of Libya, the Security Council issued two contracts of 1970 which relied on sanctions and contract 1973 which were the main part of the recent contract of leaving the region.

First the Chairman of Nato (Andaras Fog Ferguson) disagreed due to three conditions of necessity, legal base and regional support but two weak points later participated in martial actions in Libya (Mohammadi, 2012, p. 68-70). America could have indirect intervention through NATO and followed her benefits. Although Libya is not an effective union for her and but this internal war was a proper condition to strengthen the economic and political position of herself in NATO.

Another problem is the problem of ensuring America's energy security and it is the most important concern of the uprising. Rising of any government against America and the West has created the issue of energy crisis. After World War II, the United States took a major role in the energy security of the region. So, it has established military bases alongside all the

channels and straits leading place on the cross and energy. The most important energy export routes Strait of Hormuz, Bab el-Mandab and the Suez Canal.

Any changes and the rise of radical regimes in the vicinity of the Strait of energy export will cause confusion. Because oil tankers passing through the Strait of Hormuz, strategic passage is the most important because more than 40 percent of marine transit of the world's oil passes through the Strait of Hormuz.

And the Strait of Hormuz is a key waterway in the world. (Javari Valdan, 2011: 40-39) shows the strategic importance of the Straits to America.

America's share of oil imports have been 30 percent in 1973 and in 1998 that figure is 50 percent and a Center for Strategic and International Studies and an expert group in 2000 concluded that

"Sole superpower is the United States that must take responsibility for ensuring access to global energy resources " (Keller, 2011, p.28-26).

This would require the creation of military bases in the region's energy security. So the United States runs six naval and air bases in Oman near the Strait of Hormuz. (Jafarivaldan, 2011: 57) and has other naval bases in the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Yemen. Another point is that these revolutions has caused the America to try and start the active diplomacy to reduce the created chances for opposed government (Iran and Russia) and great powers of region and superpowers like Russia. For example at the time of NATO's attack to Libya, Russia condemned the air attacks of NATO against Libya and considered it as an internal war and acclaimed that the contract 1973 of Security Council is for defending the citizens of Libya (Mohammadian, 2012, p. 69) and even vetoed most of the contracts of Security Council against Syria.

Therefore, America wanted to weaken the role of the states in to thwart Libyan crisis through humanitarian activities of NATO. United States also avoided the presence and role of Iran in the region and its relations with the new states, tried to highlighting the issue of nuclear energy, misrepresented Iranian terrorists claim to the country's quest for nuclear weapons and tried to sowing fear and concern in the region and lead the public opinion of the Arab nations towards Iran as a state preventing peace and stability as a threatening government.

Conclusions

With the advent of globalization and the increasing communication the demands for freedom and democracy is unavoidable in this part of the world. The Request toppled the governments in the region and has caused many other governments to encounter with the stress and uncertainty.

But the demands of popular uprisings against regimes and overthrow them affected the goals and strategies of United States in the region, given the profound effect that America has been forced to adopt crisis management.

This transformation is based on three key strategies of United States that is security of roads and transferring the energy and the security of Israel and to preserve its traditional allies and strategic regimes which has different effects depending on condition.

The uprisings and even America's Grand Strategy domination and hegemony over the region have endangered the world. In sum, other cultural influences, political economy, popular uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa, such as the United States approaches can be outlined.

The rise of Islamism and Islamist opposition parties and their participation in the elections, Israel and America's support for liberal and secular parties and governments, to pay greater attention to public opinion in the Arab and Muslim nations and the West, and America's apparent support of the uprisings, growth of anti-Zionist and anti-America, particularly in Egypt and Bahrain, regional and trans-regional powers and opportunities created to prevent America's role in the development of leading powers on Iran's nuclear issue, and emphasize of the Turkish model for regional governments to reduce the influence of Islamic Revolution of Iran in the Middle East and North Africa, changing structures and defender of the secular West and America and America's efforts to preserve these structures through the selection of candidates remaining from the former regimes. Strengthening the axle and Shiite resistance and the overthrow of the Syrian government and support of America's from efforts against Syria are some examples.

The effects of the Obama administration's failure in Iraq and leaving it and indirect intervention in Libya and putting it through NATO and dropping their allies, especially Mubarak despite the commitment of the United States undermined its standing in the Middle East region. With the emergence and growth of Islamist groups and their xenophobia, the United States should recognize the right of indigenous identity and culture and support the participation of people in decisions to regain its position without expecting benefits.

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