



PAKISTAN'S GEOPOLITICS EXPLAINS COMPETITION WITH IRAN IN THE YEMENI CRISIS PLEDGE

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ABSTRACT

The geopolitical study of Pakistan in the field of rivalry with the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Yemeni Crisis is the main subject of the present study. Using a descriptive-analytical method, this research seeks to answer the question of how far the geopolitical challenges and conflicts between Pakistan and Iran affect the crisis in Yemen. The hypothesis also suggests that geopolitical challenges and Pakistan's incompatible rivalries have increased Saudi co-operation with the country in the Yemeni crisis. However, Pakistan maintains friendly and cordial relations with Iran as one of the most important components for security in the region, but its performance with regard to regional issues and rivalry with Iran in the Yemeni crisis has challenged the interests and national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Since the start of the Saudi invasion of Yemen, the issue of Pakistan's entry into the war has also been raised, but Pakistan has never been able to effectively enter this war due to the presence of Iran on one side of this front and Israel as one of the allies of India on the other side of the front.

Keywords: Iran, Pakistan, Yemen Crisis, Bab Al-Mandeb, Territorialism

INTRODUCTION

After the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and in the aftermath of the changes in the structure of international power and the changing political and economic situation on the international scene, the sphere of influence of international powers has also changed, and consequently the new regions of the international powers. The sphere of the influence of international powers has also changed, with the result that the new powers of the world were formed in the world. One of the most important new areas is the Southwest Asia. Southwest Asia is, in fact, the intermediate region of the three continents of Asia, Europe and Africa, consisting of five geopolitical areas: Central Asia, the Subcontinent, the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf and the Middle East (Rezaei, 2005: 1). The Pakistani country included in this geopolitical region has been of great importance on the international scene due to the South East and East Asiatic linkage with the Middle East and Europe, the neighboring powers of the world and the region, the Central Asian region and the Caucasus. As in most geopolitical views, it has been referred to Pakistan (Mohammadi, 1: 2006). However, Pakistan faces many domestic and regional challenges. Challenges that have affected most countries in the region, including Iran. One of the challenges that Pakistan has set for Iran is Pakistan's military

involvement with Saudi Arabia in the Yemeni crisis. Since independence, Pakistan has always been at the risk of India from the eastern front, and three times the full-fledged war with this regional superpower has been a permanent threat to the implications of this axis. For this reason, the Pakistani governments are naturally and inevitably centered Support, reliance, or at least sympathy to the west. Meanwhile, since the 1960s, Iran has been faced with the objective and tactical threat of Iraq on the Western Front. The geographical differences of external threats and the non-conflict of geopolitics between the two countries, Tehran and Islamabad, have led to a kind of sympathetic, co-ordinated, secret coincidence; in fact, both governments consider their secure boundaries to be in accord with each other. (Karimipur, 162: 2001). With regard to the above, Pakistan's involvement in the Yemeni crisis and the coalition with Saudi Arabia as a regional competitor of Iran provide insecurity for the Iranian maritime borders and, as a result, the sympathy and cooperation between the two countries of Pakistan and Iran, due to the differences in the direction of the external threat It would be destroyed.

THEORETICAL CONCEPTS OF RESEARCH

Geopolitics or geopolitical policy The impact of the environment and forms or environmental phenomena, such as geographic location, landform, scarce resources, communication facilities (terrestrial, maritime, spatial, aerial), etc., in political decision-making, especially at wider regional levels E and global study and review. In this approach, it seems that the main geopolitical attention to the competition between political powers and the transformational forms of the geopolitical hierarchy appears to be the rivalry between political powers and the transformational forms of the hierarchy of power in the world; the hierarchy that achieves regional political play either the world is between the powers. In this way, geopolitics uses geo-geographical situations, strategic sea and land sensitivities, economic and energy resources and water scarce resources to advance foreign policy, or to take advantage of regional and global political excellence. (Mojtahedzadeh, 2010: 139-138). A profound account of various geopolitical definitions shows that this field of science has different concepts such as knowledge of gaining power, knowledge of competition and the influence of geographic factors on the politics and relations of countries, the knowledge of military confrontations, and so on. Hafezia believes that geopolitics is a hybrid concept in which the three main elements, geography, power and politics are inherent in nature, combines the three parameters of geography, the power and the politics of organized human form with each other. These patterns of behavior are manifested in the form of a form of power fluctuation, competition, convergence, divergence, influence, crisis, domination, cooperation, war, peace, stability, and so on (Hafeznia, 128: 2006).

RESEARCH FINDINGS

- *Pakistani position in geopolitical theories:*
- District-based or Hartland: This theory was proposed by Alfred Mackinder. In this theory, Pakistan has been in the interior of the Crescent region and around the Axis region, and has thus played an important role in its land strategy as part of the Cold Region.



- Mahan Marine Power: Pakistan has a special place in maritime maneuvering due to the maritime and coastal status of the Oman Sea and the Indian Ocean and has a special place in Mahan's theory (Mohammadi, 310: 2006). Mahan believed that the main condition for the unification of a universal power was to control the sea (Ezati, 55: 2003).
- Rural Land or Rimland: This theory was introduced by Spikman (1943-1893). He calls Rimland the boundaries of the boundary land that surrounds the waters. This theory makes it easy to navigate the sea (Ezati, 16-18: 2003). Pakistan is also based on this theory in the Rimland region and has the ability to combine power and sea. Spykman insisted that US policy should be taken into account. For this reason, the Pakistani state has a strategic position in US policy of containment (deterrence) (Mohammadi, 310: 2006)
- Independent geopolitical area: SS Cooke in this theory is an independent geopolitical identity for the South Asian region, posing the Middle East and Southeast Asia as a fragile belt. In this theory, the country of Pakistan, along with India, forms an independent geopolitical region (i.e., 310).
- Geopolitical Analysis of Pakistan:

Pakistan is located in Southwest Asia in the range of 23 to 36 degrees' latitude and 61 to 75 degrees' east longitude. The area is 493/802 square. According to the 2010 statistics, Pakistan has a population of around 180 million, the sixth largest country in the world, and has a high population growth rate. It is located in Southern Asia and partly in the Middle East and the Iranian Plateau. Pakistan has a 1,000-kilometer-wide border with the Arabian Sea in the south, and is bordered by the West with Iran, from the north by Afghanistan, from the east by India, and from the north-east with the People's Republic of China. (Map: 1) (Safavid, 1999: 40) The geopolitical components of Pakistan are on the one hand geographic and political, and on the other hand can be considered as internal and external components (Mohammadi, 309: 2006). Southwest Asia consists of five geopolitical areas: Central Asia, the Sub-continent, the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf, and the Middle East. Pakistan plays only the sub-continent and Afghanistan sub-system. It tries to play a role in the geopolitics of pipelines and energy through Afghanistan in the Central Asian region. Pakistan also tries to exploit the potential of cultural-economic-political potential through Saudi Arabia and the UAE (Rezaei, 163: 2005). In any case, what is important in Pakistani geopolitics is its role in its security considerations. Which is the country's foreign policy (Mohammadi, 309: 2006). As Pakistan regulates its foreign policy at three different levels, bilateral, regional and global with states (Amrirad, 2005: 1). Another important issue, the post-9/11 developments in the region and Pakistan's support for the war on terrorism, have had an impact on the country's national interests in Kashmir, Afghanistan, on the nuclear program and on the domestic level. As a result, Pakistan's domestic, regional, and international situation has been undergoing transformation since the 9/11 events (Farzin Nia, 2004).

Source: shiv kumar, 2007





Map 1: Pakistan's geographic location

- *Iran-Pakistan Geopolitical Competition:*

Geopolitics, as knowledge of competition and the expansion of the sphere of influence of states and political groups, seeks to seize power and capture tools and leverage and geographic opportunities that give them power and the ability to overcome rivals. They compete to seize opportunities and opportunities in space and geographic space and try to further expand their influence in geographic spaces and to expose them to the realm of their will, and, on the other hand, exclude competitors from the spaces involved. From this geopolitical perspective, the study of competitive models, competitive opportunities and tools, competitive motivations, space and space functions in shaping the processes of competition and its impact on the rise and fall of power. (Hafeznia, 17: 2006). Therefore, the areas of Pakistani competition with the Islamic Republic of Iran, in addition to the border issues, the Gwadar and Chabahar port, Afghanistan, Central Asia, with the more important issues that provide for regional and transnational power interference in this competition, including ideological issues, the core program Iran and Pakistan, and the role of the Pakistani army in Yemen, so these three areas of competition will be explored with emphasis on regional status and role.

- *Ideological issues:*

Although both Iran and Pakistan are both known as Muslim countries and collaborate with the Organization of the Islamic Conference, ideological issues are one of the main factors that compel the two countries to compete, and this area is about cooperation between the two countries Has had a negative impact. Continued pressure on Pakistani extremist organizations against the Shiites and possibly Iranian supportive measures have affected the relations between the two countries and may intensify the reactions between them (Farzin Nia, 25: 2004). Another important factor is Wahhabism, Saudi Arabia, spread across the region, and especially in Pakistan. The Saudis have become more active in spreading this thinking in the world (Amiri, 78: 2011).



- ***Nuclear Issues:***

Since the Islamic Republic of Iran is seeking peaceful use of its nuclear activities, Pakistan's nuclear activities and its rivalry with India can have a different impact on Iran's nuclear activities. One of the negative consequences of this rivalry for the Islamic Republic of Iran is the growing susceptibility of the international system to the fate of Iran's nuclear activities, which has pushed Iran into different titles. This rivalry has contributed to a shift in the distribution of power in the Middle East region. The statement will trigger Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Iraq, which are in Iran's security network, to move toward nuclear weapons (Amrirad, 117: 1995).

- ***The crisis in Yemen:***

At the time of the formation of the Arab coalition against Yemen, Pakistan was proposed to take over the coalition's leadership, but since the acceptance of this position by the Pakistani authorities was a direct confrontation with the Iranian-backed forces in Yemen and the blurring of relations with Iran, Pakistani authorities refused to enter the dispute directly. But in a direction from Pakistan, to maintain ties with Saudi Arabia, it has taken an indirect role in the Yemeni crisis, a controversial role. Pakistan's National Assembly reported that 1671 of its army personnel are based in Saudi Arabia, and after Saudi Arabia, there is the largest number of Pakistani armed forces in Qatar. Pakistan's secretary of defense, Khorram Dahirikhan, announced that 912 personnel were deployed at the request of the Saudi Ministry of Defense and 759 soldiers at the request of the Saudi Interior Ministry. Of the 912 troops, 742 belong to the Army, 8 belong to the Navy and 62 other Pakistan Air Force. Pakistani forces serving the Saudi Ministry of Interior include 653 military personnel, 56 naval forces and 50 airmen. (BBC WORLD NEWES: 2017/12/20).

- The main reasons for Pakistan's inability to compete with Iran in the Yemeni crisis Despite the religious and ethnic color of the war after the crisis in Yemen, the Yemeni war was neither religious war nor ethnic conflict, but the Yemeni conflict over the territory of the conflict, especially the strategic strait of Bab al-Mandeb in southern Yemen Is. This area, located on the Gulf of Aden, is a strait that exports more than 3 million barrels of Arabian oil per day to Asia, Africa and other countries. The area after the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf is also the second strategic region in the Middle East, which passes through 21,000 vessels carrying oil and merchandise annually. The Bab Almandean Strait connects the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean, which provides for the access of ships to the Suez Canal. Israel has built an air base to ensure the safety of its ships in the Red Sea near the Strait of Bab Al-Mandab to control the flow of oil tankers in the Red Sea, the Arabian coast, Yemen, Sudan and Somalia. (Individual Preview, 99: 2008) Indeed, the economic interests of Israel, Saudi Arabia and the United States would certainly be jeopardized if the Houthis dominate the Strait of Bab al-Mandib. Therefore, the movement of Iranian-backed Houthis to Aden, overlooking Bab Al-Mandab Strait, was the red line of Saudi Arabia, Israel and the United States, which led to the Yemeni crisis. Since Israel is India's allies, Pakistan is not prepared to endanger its forces to maintain the airspace of Israel and its interests. Pakistan, on the other hand, feels insecure on its eastern borders with India, so it is not willing to engage in direct ties to the coalition against Yemen as well as its relations with its western neighbor, Iran.



CONCLUSION:

Given the geographical location of Yemen, which faces Asia and Africa and the major highways, with the arrival of the Houthi Yemen, this country is considered a major threat to the future of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab world. Since Yemeni Shiites are geographically isolated in relation to other Shiites, Pakistan does not want to end this isolation with the arrival of the Houthis of Yemen, and the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean are partly under Shi'a control. And affect the population of 27 to 35 million Pakistani Shiites. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia fears that the Strait of Bab al-Hamdab will be in the hands of a government backed by Iran, since then two major Strait of Hormuz and Bab al-Mandab will be under Iran's control. With regard to Yemen's position over India and Pakistan, Saudi Arabia intends to cut off part of its territory directly to the Indian Ocean so that it can bring its oil to Central Asia from Pakistan more remotely and the importance of the Strait Hormuz and Bab al-Hambab, and on the other hand, through the port of Gwadar, increase its cultural, economic and political influence on Pakistan. All of this has led Pakistan's indirect support to the Arab-led Arab-led invasion and indirect opposition to Iran. Since the Yemeni crisis is a controversy over the territory, especially the strategic strait of Bab al-Mandeb in southern Yemen, and the Israeli air base is located as an ally of India near the Strait, the Pakistani parliament is directly involved with the Yemeni crisis, which has led to It is against the interests of Israel. On the other hand, given Iran's support for Ansar al-Yahm, the direct entry of the Pakistani military into the Yemeni crisis means direct confrontation with Iran and the unblocking of its western borders with Iran, which is the safest border of Pakistan. Given the insecurity of the borders Eastern Pakistan, located adjacent to India, undermines Pakistani western borders with Iran, threatens Pakistani national security with the East and West, so Pakistan does not have the power to compete with Iran in the Yemeni crisis.

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