

Neighbor- Crowded Iran and the Multineighboring Foreign Policy

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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

Iran has many various and different neighbors. The variation of the neighborhood consists of the diversities of geographical characters, strategic status, political dependence, security concerns, geoeconomic characters, and historical, civilizations and cultural specifications. Fifteen neighbors of Iran have very dissimilarities with together and Iran. Foreign policy as a core concept of International Relations is the country's orientation towards other countries. Also, Foreign policy consists of self-interest strategies chosen by the state to safeguard the national interests and to achieve goals in the international community. It seems that the Foreign policy has a very crucial role and status in the process of the development of nations. The main purpose of foreign policy is to conduct foreign relations to protect national interests and promote them to the best possible advantage. The presupposition of this paper is to conduct the multilateral foreign policy and put aside the one dimensional foreign policy in the present Iran's foreign policy. The main purpose of this essay is a description of the present foreign policy of Iran and prescribing to change the entity and conducts of Iran's post-revolutionary foreign policy. For this purpose, the author has constructed the three categories: Central [Middle], Corridor [Passage], and Linkage [Connection] country. Writer of present paper tries to show the important matter: Iran as a multiregional and trans- regional country cannot follow of one logic and behavior in the foreign policy; especially because of the post-revolutionary foreign policy is tagged by the one dimensional character.

2. Review of Literature

In the course of the review of literature, the present article deal with a great difficulty because the main topic of the essay is extremely rare and the concept of multineighboring foreign policy is innovative, and the structures that it used to reasoning and justifying the multineighboring foreign policy have not existed before and are made by the author. None of the highly contested writings on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran (such as Dehghani, Sariolghalam, Seifzadeh, Azghandi, Ramezani, Naghibzadeh, Mohammadi, HajiYousefi, Dehshiri, Mottaghi / Postinchi, Tajik, Izadi, Safavi, Larijani, Sedghi, Haghghat,

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Mousavinia, Sotudeh, Yaghubi, Javadi Arjmand, Asadi, Ehteshami, etc.) have little interest in what the author has made as a multilateral & multineighboring foreign policy, and, of course, the author's innovative foreign policy categories (Like the Abyss & Oasis, Ties & Corners, and Linkage & Branding) in any of the existing texts could not be present. The only texts close to this article are two books by Karimipour (2001 & 2015) in which the origins of the conflict between Iran and its neighbors, with the simultaneous use of both geo-pacific theories and Peter Haggett's theory of distress and conflict. But the main issue in the present paper is not to resolve the conflict between Iran and its neighbors but to look beyond the tensions and intimidation of the neighbors into suggestive motives for changing the nature and behavior of Iranian foreign policy.

3. Method

The paper is based on a subjective notion and also supports the concrete experiences of present-day Iran. Iran is a country with a large geographical area, located both in the Middle East and in a Southwest Asian and neighboring Central Asian and Caucasian region; it is also the neighbor of Arabian countries of Persian Gulf. It is linked to Indian subcontinent by corridor of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Neither rationality nor geographical reasoning, therefore, justifies the continuity of homogenous foreign policy in relation to its neighbors. The writer of present paper tries to show the important matter: Iran as a multiregional and trans- regional country cannot follow of one logic and behavior in the foreign policy; especially because of the post-revolutionary foreign policy is tagged by the one dimensional character. In this essay one constructed theoretical package is used for advising and proofing the elimination of one-way foreign policy and implementing a multifunctional foreign policy. This research is normative. This paper is moving on the boundary line between the scientific paper and the policy report.

4. Findings and Discussion

The fundamental purpose of this article is to show why policymaking for a homogenous foreign policy in today Iran (referred to as revolutionary foreign policy of Iran or foreign policy of revolutionary Iran) is no longer feasible, nor arguable; and it now had to change the nature and behavior of Iran's post-revolutionary foreign policy. It demonstrates that the diversity of international policy domains and developments in the international community justified the need to become more prominent in the revolutionary foreign policy of Iran. Iran, after China, is the most neighbor- crowded countries in the world, with fifteen countries: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Turkey, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Armenia, and Kazakhstan. The subject of a multi-neighboring foreign policy is the fundamental motif of present writing. The final conclusion of this paper is the starting point of the multi-orientations post-revolutionary foreign policy by sketching the multineighboring foreign policy.

5. Conclusion

The author of the present paper found the necessity of returning to a rational foreign policy because of the abundance of Iran's heterogeneous and incongruous neighbors. Also, the use of the two categories of "expectation of foreign policy" and "successful foreign policy", justified the necessity of changing the nature and shape of the current Iranian foreign policy. Iran's foreign policy is a branding and a logo-centric foreign policy that can be considered as an especial brand because it becomes meaningless without four symbols and logos: Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, and Syria. In fact, the four above-mentioned signs have become the undisputed truth and eternal word of Iranian foreign policy, as far as focusing on one word and suppressing the rests for that word makes everyone think that foreign policy of Iran should be about the four Arab-Israeli marks. Now, it seems that the right way for Iranian foreign policy is that Iran's quadrilateral should have four different foreign policies (India-Far East [Economics-oriented], Central Asia-Russia [Competitive-oriented]), Caucasian-Europeanist [Supportive-oriented], Arab-Israeli [Peace- Low Tension oriented]. Indeed, the Centrifugal Ideological Metropolitan Foreign Policy should be overridden and excluded from homogeneity and monopoly.

Keywords: Iran, Neighbors, Foreign Policy, Multineighboring.

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