

Arab-Persian Rivalries Throughout History-: From Ancient to Modern Times.

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Abstract:

The present study analyzed the conflict between Saudi Arabia and Iran from Ancient to modern times. This exploratory study attempted to explore the causes of that conflict between both of the countries. The paper deals with long period of time and sees the historical causes of the conflict. The qualitative research paradigm is employed and the study focused on the articles related to the subject of the study. Content analysis tool was used to analyses the obtained data.

Keywords; Middle East, Arian race, Arabian Peninsula, Ayyam-i-jahiliya

Arabs Bedouin, Orthodox caliphate, High caliphate, Pahlavi dynasty.

Introduction:

Iran, during the time of Hazrat Muhammad (P.B.U.H), (Khusroo) Chosroest was the great ruler of this dynasty after sixth century. He was discharged by the Christian ruler because he welcomed to his court the irreligious philosophers and later he entered Arabia to support its citizen against the Christian of Abyssinia. Chosroes the second pushed the Sasanian power to the west because at that time weakness in Roman Empire had started. The time of chosrose 2nd, Hazrat Muhammad (P.B.U.H) sent letter to king chosroes (Khusroo) for accepting Islam, but king khusroo not only refused the message of prophet Muhammad but also tore the letter of prophet Muhammad and send message to his brother, who was the governor of yaman to arrest the Holy Prophet. After time his son king yazdagird killed him. Arabs during the time of Muhammad (P.B.U.H) changed the life of

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Arabian people during ten years. Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) was a greatest reformer. Before the advent, of Islam Arabia barbarism and superstitions, degraded, womanhood, slavery, social inequality, debauchery, drunkenness', blood thirstiness rapacity, gambling and other heinous vices were prevalent among the Arabs. Hazrat Muhammad gave attention to these unpleasant problems and vices. There was Political disunity in all over the peninsula; Hazrat Muhammad (P.B.U.H) banded all warring Arabs tribes in to a power full nation. Prophet Muhammad brought the Arabs under a single, well established government in Madina.

The Age of High Caliphate:

Historians have generally referred to the time of the Abbasids and Umayyad as the age of the high caliphate, in the time of Abbasid the Arabian and Iranian people were mixed. Because the capital was transferred from Syria to Iraq and the civilization had launch Al-Mansur returned from a new capital "Baghdad" that the beautiful site central and salubrious. (Kamrave,1964,20)

In 145 A.H/762 A.D the first brick was laid by the caliph with his own hands. That was the center of attraction of the middle ages misleading on the West Bank of the Empire. The Iranians favored by Abbasid like Umayyad patronized architecture and art. During the time of Abbasid, they made many palaces and building in different part of the Empire. In more than five hundred years. In the year 762 A.D AL Monsoor the second Abbasid caliph founded the city of Baghdad the city was noted for a good number of mosques and palaces.

The Abbasid Period:

In the city of Baghdad Mamun built an astronomical observatory. Other mathematicians we can mention are Khayyam, Khan warism and Al-Beruni. Among the famous medical authors were Ibn-Sina, Ali -Ibn abbas, AL-Fazi, and Al- Tabri, the famous philosopher Ibn- Sina, AL-farabi and Al? Kinds lived in Abbasid period. Jabir-Bin-Hayyan was a best chemist in that period Al- Farabi inspired by the politics of Aristotle presented his conception of model city the early Abbasid rulers were famous for learning and born-lovers of education Mamun and Harun considered that the real happiness of people lay in culture and the acquiring of knowledge. Dancing and music were also noble professions on that time. Colleges and Mardasas were established throughout the Empire education was most important for state and was aimed at cementing the bond of unity among the diverse nations of Africa, Europe and Asia. Mutanabbi and Abu.Nawas were the famous poets. In the Abbasids period the counters economic and social

condition was very satisfactory, commerce and industry grew up in rapid strides throughout the country. (Ali,1950,221)

The Pahlavi Dynasty:

The first shah of Iran was an army officer brigadier – general of the Persian Cossack brigade gained considerably military and political power in Persia in 1921. Within few a year Reza khan gained all the power from Ahmad shah who was the last ruler of Qajar dynasty. Reza khan adopted the title of shah in 1925 that made new Pahlavi dynasty. They governed Persia for fifty-three years during which the Persia becomes Iran and modern state in the region. (splevogel ,1999,346) In 1925 Reza khan took the power from Ahmed shah he introduces the reforms to improve and strengthen the government especially central government. Reza khan modernizes the military and civilian bureaucracy also the modern economic system which was noting the part of Qajar dynasty. Reza khan gave the motto to state in three words

- (1) khoda (god)
- (2) shah
- (3) Mehan (nation)

Dictator Reza Shah made his new state with two pillars military and bureaucracy. In the Qajar dynasty the state was noted for modernization and was successful to resist Russian advances in the Cossack. He was not able to solve domestic problems and secure themselves from foreign influence and weak central government in last five years. Reza shah main achievement was to modernize the Persia and make great reform in at from the bottom to top. Reza shah was having control over majlis (parliament). Prime minster and politician were core support for this autocracy regime. The Shah changed the capital from Tabriz to Tehran which is a mountainous area of the Caspian Sea. The Reza shah in mid nineteenth century tried to introduce the political and economic reforms but was stopped by the religious and tribal people but later after modernizing of Persia reducing the Islamic influence in state institution and daily life like stopping women from wearing veil. The Shah changed the country name from Persia to Iran which means the place of Aryannation. Iran slowly developed in European style. Law codes, budget, National system registering births' land transfer' marriages, roads and courts and civil service. These reforms were inexistent in Ahmed shah dynasty (1921) Reza shah social reforms were school education, the numbers of school were mostly Increases at every level similarly to boys and girls. Reza shah also opened university of Tehran in

1935. In this view the basic education was necessary for every one like farmers, workers.

The Reza shah government made eleven minsters and 90000 salaries of civil servants. The revenues were made from oil royalties 'tax delinquents. Goods tax consumer. In Ahmed shah Qajar dynasty income was \$ 583'960 in 1921-22 which increase to \$ 1.288000 in 1930-31 and \$ 4000'000 in 1940-41. (Kamrava, 1964,60).

The economy, politic, society and ideology even legacies were his singles handedly drive to make the state and central government strong. Reza shah was all in all he controlled the political system specially transforming majlis (parliament) from general power. (Abrahamian ,2008,77)

Muhammad Reza Shah:

Muhammad Reza shah completed the dream of Reza shah's Iran was one of the oil exporting countries. Iran became the world second largest oil exporting and fourth largest oil producer. In 1954 Iran gave 50 percent share with the help of the American CIA. After the 1973 Arab – Israeli war, the Iran's oil revenues rose from \$34 million to \$5 billion in 1973-74. In 1960 Iran was the richest countries of the Middle East. The shah had tried to carry a series of reforms because he wanted that Iran should be the most advanced country in the world. (Splevogel,1999,537). The shah, expansion of the state bureaucracy was impressive, he increased the number of ministries from twelve to twenty, the new ministries included ministry of energy, social welfare, higher labor, rural affairs, education, culture, art, tourism, urban construction and housing. The state employed more than 304'000 civil servants as well one million blue –color and white color workers, by the prime minister's made plan and Budget organization as well as the religions foundation employed 5155000. Government made 26,000 primary school, 750 vocational schools and 13 universities. After the white revolution the state also launched a number of educational institutions. Literacy rate rose from 26to 46 percent and the state also progressed. The state also financed a number of the central banks. A number of quasi Government institutions: mining development bank: and the industrial bank: the national Iranian television organization radio and the national film advantage of oil boom introduce with even more display in his new great civilization. He presents that Iran was at the gates of the great civilization; the Iran future would be brighter than its past including the Sassanid, Palhian, and the Achaemenid, empires, the Iranian standard of living was also like that of Europe. It would produce a way of life superior to both communism and capitalism. Iran would be the world's fifth most powerful country-after the Japan, China, USA, and Soviet Union.

The shah most important achievement in 1963 was land reforms. Land reforms was also the part of white Revolution while land reforms convert the country side, the state made five-year plans and Budget organization brought about a minor industrial revolution. They improved Railway, linking Tehran to Tabriz Isfahan and Mashed and high way the main roads between Tehran and the provincial capitals and also improved port facilities. They financed oil refineries, petrochemical plants, hydroelectric dams-named after members of the royal family, steel mills in Isfahan and Ahwaz, and a gas pipeline to the Soviet Union.

Iranian Revolution:

The Ayatollah Ruholla khomenin was out spoken opposition to the shah's region. That is way he had been exiled to Paris. He was an Iranian cleric. Khomeini continued his attacks on radio broadcasts, on television and in print media. Large numbers of Iranians. Peasants' town people and students began to respond to Khomeini's words in 1970s. (Splevogel ,1999,537). The government newspaper published a harsh attack against Khomeini in January 1978, when Khomeini exiled to Paris Iraq's government encouraged the oil workers' strike and other protests in1979. The U.S president carter expressed backing for the shah in early January 1979. The Carter sent a senior U.S general Robert Huysers to Tehran. He wanted Iranian military to take over the government. The new prime minister was Shapour Bakhtiar, who was an opposition Politician. The Carter's efforts failed. During 1978 to 1979 many people got injured and a lot died. The shah left Iran and headed to Egypt announcing that he was on a "vacation" the shah government collapsed in 1979. At this time the leading Khomeini in Tabriz. Shariat-madaris was a new prime minister. Khomeini came back in the Shia holy city of Al-Najaf in Iraq after fourteen years his exile. Ayatollah called public with the help of pro called western television news broadcaster's cassettes and tap. He called public, workers for strike and said to shut down Iran's oil industry. "The public would continue until he recovers parliamentary government under the 1906 constitution". (Abrahamian,2008,162)

He recovered a traditional Islamic law. Many Americans were made hostage in American Embassy in Tehran by Iranian militant. The Khomani and his followers said that U.S was "the great saten" they said that U.S is backing Israel and there was large scale corruption during the age of Muhammad Reza shah. Khomeini demanded that the United States apologize for acts against the people of Iran.

The shah shall return to Iran for trial. In responses U.S government froze Iranian assets and stopped buying Iranian oil. The basic elements of Khomeini government were that

1: Islamic constitution

2: Revival of shiaism.

The Islamic republic based *vela at-e-faqih* a novel concept outlined by *Khomeinihukumat-e-Islamia*. All government must develop from the teachings of Islam as explained by learned members of the clergy since the days of Prophet Muhammad.

The Rise of Saudi Arabia:

The kingdom of Saudi Arabia was just beginning of take shape, in the 1920s and 1930s outsider neglected the Arabian Peninsula because the Arabia's large part was desert and the seat of the caliphate had moved from Madina. In the late 1900s Arabs fought for political consolidation and national unification Geography the Arabia was part of the ottoman government. Arabs were controlled from Istanbul during late 1800s. Istanbul governs interest was limited to checking the developing British presence as occasion of the Arab revolution, the progressively weak influence of the ottoman on the region had been a backward in history. Few parts of middle east especially Najd did not accept westernizing reform movements like that of turkey in nineteenth and twentieth century – Najd was the small area situated among barren hills, as the result Najd did not have any foreign traders and economic development most of the people of Najd were Bedouin and Arab merchants and lama involved in only few towns of Najd. The Saudi story started in mid eighteenth who was Sunni Hobnail He worked against shia's and Sufis. When in Wahhab began writing and preaching in his home town. His own relative drove him out, but in Saud protected him. Ibn Saud was military leader and Ibn Wahhab was religious us leader. They destroyed many of the shrines tombs that were part of a Muslim Hajj.(Splevogel,1999,66) Abdul Aziz did the conquest of Arabia. He was a brave warrior who through, series of military conquest, he expanded Wahhabi belief gradually all of Arabia under his control. Throughout he was aided in his effort by the British who provided him with an account diary salary plus arms and explosive finding him comfortable and willing thorn on the side of the ottoman sultan. Abdul Aziz supported Wahhabi Bedouins (nomads). In 1926 Abdul Aziz declared himself as the king of Hijaz he changed the title

(sultan of Najd) on 27 September 1932 too king of Saudi Arabian. Saud was famous for his kindness, often giving gold, cars or Arabian horses to his visitors. In late 1920 and early 1930 he observed a decline of his resources in that time he could not pay his organizational salaries. The Saudi government signed oil agreement with California oil company in the begging company name was California Arabian oil standard company which replaced was later by the name the Arabian American Armco. In 1935 oil discovery was made in Dhahran and commercial advantage began in 1938. In 1939 the kingdom was receiving an annual sovereignty about \$ 200,000in gold.

King Fahd and the Iran-Saudi Conflict:

Prince Fahd was as King Khalid's Successor. Khalid not an active king he left the administration of Government in the hands of Fahd. In 1970 Saudi Arab had remarkable wealth and the sum was spent to develop, infrastructure, health, agriculture and education. Khalid was generally popular. Khalid died in 1989 due to cardiac disease prince Fahd took over the throne since 1975. Fahad had worked as Khalid Successor; between 1979 and 1977, oil Revenues increased from \$ 2 billion to over \$40 billion. while there was some descending variation in the mid 1950 s. During the Iran Iraq war oil Prices fell, Saudi Arabia continued to have billions of petrodollars available to meet its financial arrangement including infrastructure, education. the armed Forces as Foreign aids and on thousands of royal Family members and its associated Tribes. In 1970 s Government Made money from Aramco and other oil companies. The government was unable to Spend revenues domestically so alternately billions of dollars were invested in the U. S and other Foreign markets. These Surpluses allowed the Government of Saudi Arabia's as well as its rich Citizens, to spend profusely a luxurious life domestically and in foreign, especially in the United States and in Europe. One side effect of the wealth on the Saudi state was told it was lacking working labor. Foreign workers played miner role in the Saudi economy as professionals, or as foreigners on pilgrimage who had remained there in the hijaz. Oil wealth and national expenditures increased. Saudi citizens filled the positions of the state bureaucracy or security Forces and technical positions vacant because they said that both had low status. Education levels were very low especially secondary at level. There were not enough engineers, scientists, doctors. The majority of teachers were foreigners. Only the Saudi men were taking jobs as manual workers. Women could not work but women could only work in where they would not communicate with men The women drivers were also extremely limited,

Foreigners worked in army, as well as in industries of female work for Saudi women in the home 50 percent foreign worker worked in Saudi Arabia in 1970 two million foreigners worked in Saudi Arabia .These workers came from different countries, they were three groups. Europeans and Americans worked as managers and engineers for Armco, thousands of Arabs especially Palestinians, Jordanians, and Egyptian, worked as professionals while South Asian and Yemenis worked as low-status labor in agriculture, domestic service and development. Religious, students, members of tribes and traditionalists who had been expelled from the government donation branch of the fundamentalist Muslim brother hoods some military members who move down from the removal Khan military order, believed the monarchy had become pro-western and too corrupt. In November 1979 the Movement of Muslim revolutionaries of the Arabian Peninsula (MMRAP) took action two MMRAP take control of Mecca and Medina.1000 rebels took control Mecca's Saudi Government took Fatwa from religious Scholars Government declared Commando action and attacked the mosque on 20th November. Government and Police break the attack on Medina. After two week Saudi Government Captured MMRAP rebels almost 500 died in both cities as well as damage to the grand Mosques the event was a huge difficulty to King Khalid, King Khalid derived his authority from his role of protector of Medina and Mecca, these two cities were opened for pilgrimage. Saudishias were encouraged by the Iranian revolution of 1979; they started protests for their regions freedoms. Ayatullahkhomeni did not pay any direct role, but the state radio encouraged Ayatullah movement. The shia factor gave birth to fears in Saudi government that this Shia movement could spread in Saudi Arabia also as with the attack on Grand Mosque Prince Fahad used army and police to crush shia movement. In 1986 king Fahd took the formal title custodian of the two Holy Mosques. It was multibillion programs to modernize the two cities in the late 1980's. The Saudi monarchy remained Committed to the annual Hajj Pilgrimage and the resulted after the MMRAP attack and Iranian rest. Fahd Government built two cities roads; improved security, improved air conditioning, Completed drainage and expanded worship areas accommodate more Pilgrims at one time. After 1980 Iraq's attack Iran, thus beginning a major war in Persian Gulf. Saddam was Iraqi, and Arab leader. He took advantage of the Iranian revolution to raise his standing in the Islamic worlds as well as to size territory from the Iran. Iraq, Iran war increased Saudi security thread all through relations between Saudi Arabia and secular Iraq had never been warm. The Saudi government guaranteed over \$25 billion to Saddam's regime, and encouraged other Gulf States including Bahrain, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait to do the same.

In the 1980s Saudi Arabia was a chief inimical backer of the Afghan Mujahedeen's. Who fight against the soviet Occupation. The Saudi government spends billions of dollars on the training of Afghan Mujahidin and on weapons. Saudi government also provided Humanitarian aid for five million afghan refugees. Who lived in Pakistan. The Saudi Arab created a new organization (AL Qaeda) after withdrawal of soviet forces in 1988-1989, Al Qaeda continued Jihad against other enemies including west and the Saudi Arabia. (Bowen,1968,121)

Conclusion:

This research study has discussed and probed in detail in to the different angle. The topic is about conflict between Arab and Iran from Ancient to modern time. Iran is shia Muslim country. The custodian of strait of harmuz and the world 3rd richest oil producing country and Iranian civilization continuity in political makeup give the Iranian confidence. Iran had not been exposed to consequent fragmentation and a long-term colonial occupation. Saudi Arab is the birth place of Islam, the second largest oil producing country in the world. Iran in the field of technology and education is quite ahead to Saudi Arabia. Saudi is supported by US whereas Iran has suffered from more than three decades. The conflict between Persians and Arabs is not the product of the recent events but rather has deep roots from early period of Islam. Prophet Hazrat Muhammd (PBUH) wrote a letter to Sasonid king Khusro for accepting Islam, who refused the massage. In the Age of Hazrat Omar Farooq (R.A) armed forces defeated the Iranians. In the Age of Abbasids, the Arabian and Iranian people were mixed. The new civilization had launch in bagdad. Some Persians Who established separate dynasties Tahiriats (r800-873) Buyide in (r945) Seljuk (103-1157AD) the Mongol (1210-1265) Safavids in the 15th century. Which were the revivals of Persian culture and Qajar in (1779 to 1921). In 20th century Iran and Saudi were established. Shah in 1925 made new Pahlavi dynasty, which ruled Persia for fifty-three years.

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