



Globalization and the Strategy of Iran

Azam Yousefi Tanha*

Department of Geography, Saveh Branch, Islamic Azad University, Saveh, Iran

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Correspondence to

*E-mail: ayousefi_geo@yahoo.com

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Abstract

Internationalization of the economy and complex technological programs has directed the industrial communities to an ideal purpose that finally appears in globalization project with some sense and interpretations. The evolution waves deducted from globalization stream have imposed a heavy dominance on world. This progress has faced by many developing or undeveloped countries with serious challenges. The decision making about joining to this stream is one of the biggest challenges. Different nations in the world have special geographical positions, natural resources, particularly energy, accessibility to seas, oceans, vicinity to big powers and therefore have their own role in international system or affecting the fields and international relations in any way. In particular, due to their important view point of big power of world, they will fall in a positive or negative interaction in regional and global arena. In this new contest period, Iran not only is an exempt, but by having so much of above factors, is laid in the heart of middle-east that is a region full of political, military, economic and cultural events, and always has been noteworthy for world power. Now middle-east is the arena for global competitions that the smallest event in this area will have great world reflex and interventions from regional and ultra regional nations. Now this region is a testing place for big powers for leadership of the world, because the economic pulse is beating here. In this research it was tried to investigate this situation using dispassionate positions and an academic view, and in respect to that Iran is not a member of globalization and World Trading Organization (WTO).

1. Introduction

One of the success indices in the field of international relations and world trading affairs and finally obtaining international credit and establishing the position in global level in today's world is transition from traditional to modern world and entry to the new world system. The natural agent's role, geopolitical position and geographic specifications are the basic factors for a country in global setting. Middle-east now is an area for global competition and Iran yet after three decades economic boycott and international separation remains as beating pulse of Middle-east. Despite having too sole position Iran has no credible position in principle and structure of globalization. Gain of its position has been reached to neighbors such as Turkey, Pakistan and new independent countries in middle Asia. The so sensitive north and sought of Iran has laid it in central of geopolitical area of the world. But in foreign policy making, it is still in regional level, and unfortunately there is no basic gain for Iran. While Iran has a pride for political communication in land and sea and having a particular borders

with 14 countries, can have a crucial and vital role in military, trading (in sea and land), industrial and economic diplomacy in region with a global reflex, and can direct the security leadership in Middle-east and central Asia. Unfortunately, it has always below heavy passively dependent diplomacy mixed with treasons, and never had an opportunity for breathing, and absence of proper policy making has caused to loose abundant opportunities leading to an undeveloped situation.

2. Assumptions

Iran will have an important effect on regional security in structural and power aspects if it becomes a member of globalization structure, and can have a main role in historical positions such as incidence of regional crisis. Iran in two part of north and south will appear in a central role and the north coast borders will reach to the peak of economic progress, and in crucial events in region particularly incidence of native and regional involvements, Iran can have a effective role for solving the problem. Membership in globalization and acceptance of the international structure system will have some consequences in



political, social, cultural, geographical and economical aspects and particularly in security aspect in native, regional and global level. Library research, observation and analyzing the objective games, and referring to some organizations and active centers in this field for gathering information and conclusion from discussions, were used as the method of this research.

3. Definition of Globalization

Terms such as globalization, universalizing, comprehensive global, internationality, multinational, and other terms similar to these have a close meaning, indirectly in the later of 18th century and early of 19th century came into political, economical and tradition literature due to extending marine tradition and international trading between the world governments. Each of them, particularly after the World War in 20th century appeared with different shapes and on numerous targets in different fields. In above terms, there are two basic differences between globalization and universalizing, so that the globalization followed arbitrary and is one of the main objects of big companies of the world, but universalizing is a concept that USA followed it based on coercion. In view point of some groups, globalization really is beyond a classic phenomenon such as government or nation meaning respect to big events in field of technology and communications and coming new players to international area- the role of nation-government lost its color more.

In this basic form of universal attendance, government no longer is the main decision maker in events, and in other hand, the power in global policy has moved from enclosure states among borders to states that can enter in global level. In this context, some assume that globalization is an extending the progress of global trading, that now some players from south added to it. Manuel Castel pointing out the information age, referred globalization as emersion some kind of network community that follows capitalism movement includes the optimized condition of economy, society and culture. Against positive view point to globalization, there are many people that affect by post modern attitudes that include some people such as Zigmond Baumann. He wrote in this respect: Globalization is ambiguity, contumacy and absoluteness in the world, meaning absent a centrality, supervision focal, and a leadership body. Mohammad Abed-Aljabbari defines globalization too: Globalization is a system that has different dimensions beyond economy borders. He says that Globalization basically meaning extending an object or problem to some extent that include universe; also in policy limits it is a kind of geopolitical tools used for popularization of a method and extending a culture and transferring it to other countries. Particularly in modern issues, meaning of globalization is extending and transferring the USA's culture to other countries of the world.

Thus he separates the globalization term from universalizing. The meaning of universalizing is going to welcome a universe, familiarity with other cultures and respecting to others' view points, while globalization is an influencing on others culture and is a place for striking ideologies.

4. Iran, National Security and Globalization

One of those who defined national security is Walter Lipman, an American researcher and writer, who says 'a nation has security when if avoid from war, can maintain its basic values and direct its human community to development without and treat, and if doing a war, it can progress that war'. The national security firstly means providing a condition that reserves the country from invasion to political independence and social and cultural values. Certainly also in Iran the national strategy is based on this basis, and sometimes it is considered to give emphasis on uninterfering by foreign countries in a hidden manner. Insisting on some national security aspects that today lost their meaning in global security position, caused to worrying and sometimes caused to create crisis in decision making for concerning to national security, because we are in start point of the way that reach to roar river of globalization. However, Iran yet is not a member of structure and organization of globalization and universalizing and waits for membership. Despite relative acceptance for joining this stream, it can not ignore the responsibilities in respect to this problem, and almost it can say that national security feels a deep worry in this course. In view point of internal security and in binding this important problem to globalization problem, it can consider three items about Iran:

- General interests
- Country expedient
- Social interests in respect to national power structure

Today, communities where the people's intelligence has reached to a desirable level, the governing possibility provided for political elites if they have ability to govern through correct application of agents and elements of internal policy. Many of survival factors for a country and defense to independence and territorial attitudes depend on correct, logical and reasonable use of them by leaders of that country. In a simple word, in the new modern world, it would face retardation of development and declining of governing history and society will concern to three destroyer crises (authority, legitimation and partnership crisis). Based on this short introduction, it can be concluded that the range of extending national interests for a nation depends on factors including political environment and public development, geographical status, geopolitical position, the volition of state and governors and their ability and power. In this conditions that national interests can be researched. For example, when national interest of a country

such as Iran exigency that needless is in importing wheat, this case would happen if the nation and state try together. Another factor that is important in determining the range of any country interests is its power. The power has two means here for both weak and strong states: first the internal mean and second the external mean. In the field of global competitions, the political methods gently transform and pay attention to bargain for gathering more interest. This new reasoning from kind of political competitions caused to countries with above specifications have a high power; however the proportion between power and abilities is relative. We can analyze the expedient of country in respect to governor political structure in two fields: structural and functional.

In structural field we can ask that what is expedient of country and when and based on what principles it should be considered? In functional field, it means that how should act in selecting expedients? Can we think about creating and establishing the national security regardless to international security factors and without attention to numerous threats in global and regional levels that they are based on economical and technological tools? Certainly the national Security Council benefactor on this point that the manner and nature of today's threats have changed completely; and as say some, the security in modern world can not be dividable. It means that the nature of threats have changed but the targets have not, and this has caused by gathering more interest with less costs.

5. National Interests Regarding the National Power Structure

For giving authority and credit to national power structure in any society, it should be understood the security by people and elites of that society. In this field, there are four assumptions for acceptance:

- The amount of authority that elites and decision makers of a country consider for factors and forces that threat the security limits.
- The level and kind of relations that decision makers can have with factors and usually monetary factors.
- The ability level of internal agents and forces for opposition against threats, so that rate and precision in this stage is a main factor for authority to people of a society.
- The level and grade of authority; priority, urgency and centrality values and interest that are concern to threats.

These factors indicate that today the concept of security moved out from a pure mind category, and the really elements and objective components came to its limits, that indicate the real feature of security regarding to factors such as the degree of enmity of a nation to other nation, the trust degree and distrust between two nations, the quantity and quality of security tools and other factors of internal power versus each other.

6. Reasons and Objects for Creation of WTO

The main reasons and objects for creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are:

- Tariffs and their role in the world trading, services trading and the method of its amendment.
- Considering and offering the solutions for untariffs impediments for extending world trading and funding related to trading.
- Supporting through spiritual ownership and the principle of transparent relations.
- Considering the indiscrimination as a central point and amendment in some trading principles and making a justice system for all members.
- Eliminating the financial helps from state to other parts of nation as an unreasonable factor in the justice and free trading way.
- The institutes famous as anti-damping, and considering the position of products in different parts of the world in respect to different weather regions (Drasivel and Blake, 1995).
- Observance of all interests and solutions related to protection of the environment and suppressing the destroyer factors for land ... and some subsidiary principles.

7. Escaping from Economy with Just one Product

As seen in global level, many countries despite having multicultural and racial parts, have reached to a high level of development while they have deficient in natural resources; but a country like Iran has been dependent on oil and its incomes for a century. This is one of the main reasons for undeveloped situation in Iran; thus undoubtedly depending on oil is a cause for variations in economy of Iran. These repugnancies in economy structure of Iran for reaching to development have not had positive results. Usually in recent century those countries that reliant on raw materials rejected from consuming, fall in a kind of pride due to their revenues from raw materials, and this has caused to lag instead development. Dependent on oil and its revenues directed us to a dependency pattern and if we want joining to modern world, we should revise this matter and should direct the structures and organizations to an economy free of oil. But this does not mean that we should take away oil industry and its revenues, but we should use it in new and modern methods for exporting its products, and therefore prepare the condition to eliminate the restricting policies. Now because we are dependent on oil revenues seriously and because unorganized other economical activities, we have a little slice of world export that limits to a few mere products as saffron, pistachio, caviar and so on. If in this situation we ignore the primary goods export, perhaps in future our name will get eliminated from world exporters. In our country, export depends on raw materials such as oil and gas and this estate is

not gracious for a country that a big part of its society is young and including useful people. On the other hand, our country has three main factors for production including land (natural resources), work force and capital, but the good basis for using these factors is lost. For escaping from this estate we should move to modern management science and release neglecting, so that in addition to escaping from absolute dependency to oil, can prepare the condition for blooming the country. For this we can take three ways: a) extroverting; b) market tendency; and c) export tendency; that all of these could be applied by modern knowledge and innovation.

8. Political Consequences

The inflexible political systems work correctly until not faced with new demands and problems. This structure lost its concept completely in transformed world of today and regarding to nations rouse and public thinks pluralism took its place. Pluralism in its pervasive mean is identification and acceptance of the political-cultural diversity in each society regarding to its cultural and political interest. Political pluralism in current nations is in mean of distribution and separation and replacing in timely manner for governor so that governing doesn't limit and belong to one organization, thus many groups can supervise on other performance (Roshandel, 1995). The political pluralism is a kind of multi-directional in playing principles in political field; an important question that in comprehensive arena of the world, did not answer properly in many countries including Iran; and that world development changed the political differences between national and international arenas. Therefore, one way for reaching to development and coordination with modern world is observance of the playing principles and understanding other competitors in political competitions. This method will direct the society to pluralism.

9. Eliminating International Repugnancies

Idealism and sometime simpleness about international principles in recent decades caused damages in foreign policies of our country. One reason for this is integrating between idealism and internal policy by foreign policy making. Integrating the internal ideals (that took a strategic mode) by playing principles in the world (in a period of formulas or political compliments that we are now in it) and a modern diplomacy as replaced by bargaining policy, changed the player principles and direct us to an interaction way to political players of the world, and this is what that we say repugnancies in international relations. Thus the first stage for eliminating these international repugnancies is reaching to an agreement in political system for logical and equilibrium dialing that coordinates with national, regional and global objects. Now plurality in foreign policy making and repugnance concerning with political phenomenon

of today, is an impediment for eliminating these repugnancies. On the other hand, the political structure of country should be set in a manner so that it has the ability of applicable effecting in global level and particularly in region level. Another solution for escaping from international charges is that governor structure should avoid from general and opposite behaviors against international principles, and make its central policy on a distinct axle. Experience has showed that stress making in international relations particularly in this period is not in agree with development objects of country in different fields and certainly damage the independence and national interests in middle term.

10. Bedding for Political Culture of Country in Global Village

Undoubtedly the international relations that now govern the world, regardless of all its shortcomings and regarding its acceptance by global agreement, is the main current international principle. Thus the political culture dimensions should be based on internal wills and national interests. If a movement outside this circle is selected, the political culture of country may be separated and public thinks may be damaged. In these conditions it should go out of pure introspection, and should not have any rash action to any phenomenon in regional and global level that has not many relations to general and macro policies in our country.

11. High Geopolitical Position of Iran for Providing Security in the Region

In the late 19th century due to technology, the geopolitical problems of many undeveloped nations that had many natural resources attracted the attention of big powers of the world. These countries tried with scientific consequences, took the natural-political geography positions and work force of undeveloped countries in a manner that had revenues for them. The basis of this thinking created in Europe that in middle of 20th century, USA took this role alone. Ambitioning of powerful countries and their competition for mastering in other countries attracted many thinkers to geopolitical problem. Fredrick Ratzel in Germany (1844-1904), Rodolf Klein in Switzerland (1864-1922), Alfered Tyermahan, Helford McKinder, Hus Hoofer and other scientists in political geography are among thinkers that offered extra view points in the field of geopolitical roles. Ratzel in 1897 said in Political Geography book: 'Governor is result of organic evolution and its components are similar to a tree that some of its organs are in the soil and for developing these, it is essential to develop land' (Salimi, 2000). Other counsels also offered big opinions in this field including the big global island that McKinder in 1904 offered it. He pointed to geography core of history. Based on his theory,

the core region includes most of Russia, west of China, some of Mongolia and Iran. McKinder in 1919 named this region 'Hartland' and extended it to sea borders. Thus Iran was important in any aspects of geopolitics in 20th century and this region acted as a core of numerous military and political evolutions in this period and was a place for competition between big powers of world particularly marine powers. Iran saved this role until now and in opinion of some geopolitical scientists, the Persian Gulf became to core of Hartland alone. Iran in 21st century is the geopolitics center in many aspects:

- The north of Iran has a long sea border with Caucasia and Central Asian countries and has an excellent position for transferring the oil and gas of this region to west and east of the world.
- Iran has shared borders with Middle East countries such as Afghanistan and Pakistan that are the main centers for affecting regional evolutions with global consequences.
- The south region of Iran that is divided in two sensitive and strategic parts as east and south west.
- South east part of Iran with long marine borders with Oman Sea as a main transit for energy and trading from ancient to now.
- South west part of Iran that Persian Gulf as the main core of political evolutions of the world is there and has 63% of oil and gas resources of world in itself and only by Iranian scope identity and Persian security has a meaning concept. The Persian Gulf from ancient and powerful kings of Iran such as Achaemenian, Parthia and Rome to current time was important. Alfred Mahan says about Persian Gulf and its geopolitical importance: 'Controlling the Persian Gulf by an external state with a significant marine force and navy ships accompanied with powerful military seaports can cause to dominance on all ways that go to Far East, India and Australia (Seifzadeh, 1991). On the other hand, binding north of Iran by mainland caused to south coasts of Iran in Persian Gulf and Oman Sea lay in rim land position and have both land and marine force. In early 20th century, Iran played a prop role between Russia and Britain and most important it was a focal for global competitions that added to its importance after Second World War and creating bipolar system. After decomposition of this bipolar system and picking up the globalization principle, again the role of Iran has increased in geopolitical view point (Ezatollah, 1999).
- The west region of Iran is adjacent to Iraq and Turkey that has its geopolitical sensitivities in political, geographical and particular human geographic aspects.

12. The Political Position of Iran in International Arena

Understanding the political and geographical position of a country in different historical conditions has a very important

role in identifying and establishing the political position of that country in international structure, because today having proper international position is among important agents of power, identity and personality of a country in national, regional and global levels. Iran has three strategic specifications that are important at global level and if we pay attention to these factors, we can advance political position up to excellent degrees of international levels. These are as follows:

- Binding to main land of Asia
- Having long and effective coasts in Persian Gulf and Oman Sea in south and Caspian coast in north.
- Having the strategic Hormoz defined that among 14 strategic points of the world is in third position. This location has a passing position and is one of main economic ways of the world.

Thus positive above factors with plan and sympathetic thinks respect to national structure can action as most effective tools for creating cosmopolite for country especially in foreign policy.

13. Tribe and Race Combination

The most important factor that affects political structure of one country or a nation is human and effective and dynamic forces of it; because the natural phenomenon (whether static or variable) is in one hand and human alone is in other hand. Today we talk about human in a geography limit that is an effective factor with subjective and objective skills. Thus the tribe and race composition of human in geographical limits has a very important and effective role in organizing the political organizations. Today heterogeneous and numerous stresses between tribes and races cause to falling down governors and nations and have reverse results in gathering authority and power.

14. Conclusion

- Additional western political and cultural challenges that govern in Iran, directed this country to incapable management and except to temporal successes, we had not any success in valued and long time positions. In another hand, Middle East had many evolutions. Our country still concerns with individual view point that due to local thinking without any conducting guaranty. While in the accelerated modern world we should pay attention to them and select a proper alternative based on national interests.
- We should accept globalization according to world realities.
- This century that named energy and economy power as two dependent supplements and the role of Iran in global evolutions as a strategic axle was multiplied. In one hand Iran as biggest regional power in Middle East that binds marine strategy to land strategy and in another hand as closest

country to Persian Gulf and Oman Sea coasts has a basic and main role in region as other for security and peace. And it can say that in next century the most interest of big powers of the world will direct to Iran.

- It seems that in Iran the national will should remove pessimism and misapprehensions in national and international levels so that addition to reaching a strategic stability can reach to human order too.
- It can be said that World Trade Organization can support the abilities of Iran for binding its regional objects with global trading considerations.
- Joining to global trading has many advantages that is many more than its undesired and transient consequences.

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