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The Regional Futuristic Role of Iraq

Arab Gulf as Example

A Thesis

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To :-

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Abstract

Mentioning the regional role of any country means that there are fixed and continuous interactions for this country with its surroundings (issues and countries), it means that this country enjoys the element of strength and position, it has interest in a regional environment that is known for all the elements of the understudied regional interactions. All of these points are realized according to the visions of the decision makers. The role effectiveness depends on how to invest the internal and external environments to achieve the country national aims.

Arab Gulf, as a region, and as the study field scope, is an area full of the interactions and challenges, its issues related to many other countries and parties, each has certain aims to affect these issues and countries, so the roles of the regions' countries would be affected by the influence of the external, regional and international. In addition the geostrategic and economic importance of that area makes it the great powers struggle area because each party tries to control it.

The Iraqi role in the Arab Gulf needs no much thinking, we just have to show its relations and foreign tensions with Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries to get the result, the country that waged a war after another in the region being present at all its tensions and security arrangement is an effective part in the interactions of that region, Even we can say that there is no other country, than Iraq, that had been a part of all the crises that had faced the Gulf regional regime since the formation of the regime, after the British withdrawal from Swiz, and so far. Hence Iraq has a special position in the region security system.

The Study Importance

The futuristic studies is one of the importance knowledge fields, it supports countries and institutes to deal with future challenges and to affect its directions according to previous data and studies. Practice and planning involves countries not to be restricted to the current abilities and attitudes, rather it should consider the future challenges and crises via the probabilities, and select the best and the most realistic one.

These studies importance also resulted from dealing with the regional role that Iraq would play in the region which is one of the most important areas in World from the geostrategic aspect, where the effects of the political, economic and security factors are interactive in a unique way. More over the Arab Gulf is the only sea outlet for Iraq, so this study tries elements and the factors that affected it.

The Study Problem

The study problem comes from referring to the nature of the regional role that Iraq should play in the area of Arab Gulf especially after changing the regional role concept where it is no longer relating to the traditional categories of leadership and priority rather it became, in the contemporary strategies, connected with the positive regional system interaction and its interest

The Study Hypothesis

This study starts with the hypothesis that (Iraq has the required elements to play a regional role in the Arab Gulf area), this role depends on a set of the effective factors that should be available to play this role according to different directions and scenes.

Then the study put forward the following questions :-

- 1- What are the elements of this role?
- 2- What are the factors that affect this role?
- 3- What are the directions of this role?
- 4-- What are the probable scenes of this role?

These questions would be answered within the thesis chapters.

The Study Methodology

Any study or research must have a certain and defined methodology, it one of the first requirements of the scientific research. Due to the continuous changes of politics

and its wide scope, the study depends on more than one methodology work in a harmonized way.

The historic method is one of them, to study the Iraqi role history in the Arab Gulf, in addition to the analytic descriptive method to define the geographic scope of that role, its importance, its elements and the factors that affect it in addition to the importance of the Arab Gulf in for the Iraqi strategy. There was an urgent need for the potential or probable method to put forward the probable scenes for the Iraqi role in the Arab Gulf.

The Study Structure

In the light of the academic problem and the basic hypothesis, the study is divided into a preface, to define the Arab Gulf area, and four chapters :- the first chapter deals with the conceptual and historic frame, it contains three topics:-definition of the role, Iraq status in the Gulf security system and the status of the Iraqi regional role in the Arab Gulf before 2003 respectively.

The second chapter studies the Iraqi regional role in the Arab Gulf after 2003, it also contains three topics :-the position of the Arab Gulf according to the Iraqi strategy, the elements of the regional role and the directions of that role respectively.

The factors that affect molding this role is studied in the third chapter within three topics :-the internal factors, the regional factors and the international factors respectively.

The third chapter is devoted to putting the probable scenes of that role, it contains three topics :- the choice of investing the Gulf contradictories , the choice of the studied penetration and the choice of interpenetration respectively.

The study is ended with a conclusion and a set of deductions.