Study of deepening causes of religious and political challenges between Iran and Saudi Arabia

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Abstract: The aim of authors this paper study the role of structural factors in the adoption of normative and operational approaches of foreign policy, the challenges created between Iran and Saudi Arabia during the period of Ahmadinejad’s presidency. The question that is proposed in this context is that the challenges and tension in relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia from 2005 to 2013 was influenced by religious factors or political factors? The answer to this question is with Historical – analytical method following the proof that universalism in Ahmadinejad’s foreign policy came from the principles of the religious value of political discourse and was in contrast to the serious religious or regional foreign policy of Saudi Arabia and was evidence of the political challenges Iran and Saudi Arabia this period. The findings of this paper is to point out that The country’s foreign policy has used religious tools to challenge aims of rival in the region, Religion has been in the service of political realism. The theoretical framework and approach paper analyzes carried out using the theory of Constructivism Alexander Wendt that emphasizes the social and cultural value has a direct effect on the domestic foreign policy.

Key words: Foreign policy; Constructivism; Saudi Arabia; Iran; Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

1. Introduction

This paper focuses on the study interactions between Iran and Saudi foreign policy between the years 2005 to 2013. Contrast emerged after two periods of tension between Iran and Saudi Arabia at the time of President Hashemi Rafsanjani and Mohammad Khatami abruptly in 2005 with the election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in Iran and start creating tension between the two rival regions tensions between Iran and Saudi Arabia during Ahmadinejad’s time to peak That area of the middle east was conflict and hostility between terrorism and democracy and direct participation of trans-regional powers such as the US and NATO.

The tension between Iran and Saudi Arabia are analyzed from three aspects: Decision-making process in foreign policy, Role of national interests in foreign policy Comparison between the two countries, Psychological characteristics of Iranian foreign policy and Saudi Arabia. Study of the decisions of foreign policy is needed to understanding the dominant discourses. Policy of confrontation, cooperation and competition between foreign policy related the ideal discourse and its success rate is related to personality traits and mental foreign policy arena. The important point to talk about foreign policy challenges Iran and Saudi Arabia between 2005 to 2013 years goes back to the introduction of religious values in foreign policy decision-making process between the two countries Dominant discourses with their own governments, in this situation.

In the eight years Saudi Arabia supported the excommunication of Salafi movements and threatened indirectly Iran’s interests in the region. Against Iran, Ahmadinejad’s aggressive foreign policy tried the definition of Islam as a global model in complete contradiction with the idea of tribal and Islamic of Saudi Arabia. Find the cause of the problem needs analysis of the theory of Constructivism. Because the theoretical framework of Constructivism Two approaches to realism and idealism are considered simultaneously and thereby study the impact of environmental factors on the value of the foreign-policy decisions. According to the authors of these theories in this paper can provide important questions about why the creation of the challenges in relation to Iran and Saudi Arabia. The first question that is proposed is that what has been the relationship between culture, identity and foreign policy in the period between Iran and Saudi Arabia? 2. The extent to which the two countries are in the process of decision making in foreign policy Religious factors involved? 3. Can know involved in the decisions of rational political challenges created between the two countries? 4. The economic benefit of the dominant discourse of the political system of the country, to what extent was based on national interests and what the basis of fractional interests? 5. Based on the Theory of Constructivism, Why is identical to the concept of dominant players in the foreign policy of the
country's mentality. Political opposition to a friendship, or at least the competition rules. The relationship between the two countries in this period? To find answers to questions and the relationship between method and article went on to study history and theory will be briefly discussed.

2. The background of the research and the theoretical framework

Most research has been done on foreign policy; the focus is on the theory of realism. According to this theory, the international system is different from the political structure of the country and anarchic. So despite all the rules and principles of international law and morality, countries are trying to follow their national interests, Foreign policy will assign with efforts to increase strength, gain greater emphasis on balance and not instantaneously change the international order, using the techniques of diplomacy to achieve the objectives, tools and approaches.

Article of relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia Challenge and advance, Published in the Journal of Politics (3) With a realistic view, Studied more challenges between Iran and Saudi Arabia in terms of the impact of the international and Social and cultural factors to be considered the least important of the two countries. Criticisms of realism into the analysis of this paper are to analyze is true of the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia. In fact, the authors accept the default the method is not realistic enough efficiency to investigate the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia during Ahmadinejad. Emphasize realism with a version of the authority of the international system, Relying on its power or the self-confidence and the role of local decision-makers about the importance of international structures led to the neo-realism with the objections to the ontology and epistemology of traditional realism. This approach after world war II did not adequately analyze foreign policy. The Waltz was a founder of neorealist, or structural realism, in international relations theory. According to "Kenneth Waltz" new realism theorist "Government is not a black box foreign policy and decision makers in the field, unlike traditional realism of autonomy in decisions regarding international structures are important." (Waltz, 1979: 34)

Positive approach to new realism, the role of decision-makers and society in obtaining "optimal policy" caused Political sociology is so important in foreign policy. Because the theory affirms that Policy decisions are the outcome of their social system. Article published in the Journal of New realism and the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Policy issue 1, spring 2012 these results confirmed that Iran's foreign policy among 2005 to 2013 represents a new realism in which decision-makers have a major role. In this field Article challenges in relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia Published in the Journal of Law and Political Science, Tehran University No. 1, spring 2010 by analyzing the relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the space between convergence and divergence tries to analyze individual and social factors, according to a new theory of realism in this regard. Both Articles With its new realistic view has distanced itself from the notion of mental and cultural factors. The minds of policy makers from two countries more focused on the structure and function of the material or objective. The authors to study the background of challenges between Iran and Saudi Arabia during Ahmadinejad have reached the conclusion that Constructivism theory acceptance of cultural factors, sociological and power over foreign policy, Efficiency is necessary to analyze the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia during Ahmadinejad.

3. Structural theory of journalism and its performance in foreign policy

Although Alexander Wendt Theorist Constructivism focused his book "Social Theory international Politics" is the international politics to foreign policy, Topics positivism and post-positivism, but because of its application in the theory, great importance in the analysis of foreign policy.

Constructivism theory perspective on politics "Relates to the interaction between internal and external variables in a domain identity and inter subjective structures. Because of this process the "normal" is the definition of "identities" also identity is represented of "interests ". the performance of this theory to the analysis of Iran's foreign policy proved during the Ahmadinejad. The discourse of for stability with the norms and values of their reading, defining the identity of his subjects and enemies from the perspective of religious priorities and sympathizers of this the discourse of was followed by interests, that followed the discourse of Stability. Constructivism emphasizes the realism the position of the material and objective factors in political decision-making."Norms on with characteristics and peculiarities of value or mental injury." According to Constructivism Approach "With understanding how norms influence on identities, Can be understood how the definition of national interest that are the foreign policy of the country. "Another point is that the theoretical discussion Constructivism "Subjective norms and attitudes of a society and decision-makers in politics Might not be predicted, But in each period, certain values and norms are made in Competition within the culture."

Social competition taking power from "interpretations of certain norms and values and his critics have used different that are currently in the public discourse." Accordingly, we can say that the formation of the discourse of Stability result of competition discourse was in the seventies. Competition between reformers and construction workers occurred they did not have the power meaning to the political decision-making.
optimization of Iran’s domestic and foreign policies in the eighties. Therefore the discourse of resistance has with religious meaning to concepts such as justice, revolution, politics, people, etc., control of his social and political affairs. Actually the discourse of resistance Justice and politics Mahmoud Ahmadinejad "Invent a particular party political interest, which had been active for power." Constructivism theory asserts that by changing identities, changes foreign policy decisions and this construction of new power defines the national interest and policy specifies how to pursue it. "Unlike realist views and new realism of the structure and identity of the actors in the international system, static assume the debt, the identity of the actors made Constructivism And it is formed by national interests and actions of actors." From this point of view that is "Actors, acting as a social their identity is a product of social structures and inter subjectivity." The main results are the Made regarding the identity of Constructivism, Accepting the difference between a country’s government. ". This means that "Political units, in its foreign policy, can be seen on the faces of different actors, And various government Identity discourses on Show a Specific definition of a political system." Perception that the Constructivism Foreign policy differences with the president with previous Government It is necessary to identify new and revolutionary Ahmadinejad Change in foreign policy in the eighties. With the change of government in 2005 changed its foreign policy. Now the question is Challenges arise between Iran and Saudi Arabia, between the years 2005 to 2013 was constructed in discourse or the contrast between the two countries related the decisions of politicians. Since the construction of the new identity constructivism leads to a different in the current decision-making than before and identity in an absolute form are not subject to its former identity is important for understanding the personality dimensions of decision-makers in the domestic and foreign policies.

The following authors are paid to the decision-making process, Comparison of national interests in foreign policy And psychological characteristics of decision-makers Foreign policy Iran and Saudi Arabia Between the years 2005 to 2013. Reviewing Role of religious and political challenges in development between the two countries.

1) Victory of Islamic Revolution and changes in attitudes and new foreign policy of Iran and the rule of Islam revolution in 1979 The objective and subjective sphere of society and culture led to Politicians Found in foreign policy as domestic policy religious flavor. actually "The power of ruling Iran, The resulting interaction thought traditionalists Iranian society and religious knowledge that legitimacy was the interpretation of the divine law. In connection with the people ", Islamic Republic of Iran Claim the kingdom of God on Earth and ideals of the foreign policy pursued that was questioned by the international order. "Helping the oppressed people of the world and Fight against arrogance and the necessity of changing the rules of the international system. Ideas were on the agenda of Iran’s foreign policy.” Intellectual and financial aid to The Islamic Resistance Movement Non-Islamic Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America, The policy positions of politicians, Iran faces the relief structure defined in the international system.

Based on the ideas of the revolution in the international scene, it is of particular importance perhaps the idea of change in the international communist angles before the revolution, was not discussed. "Intellectual System of Ruling Iran Political boundaries were not accepted based on the government with a nation.

The international community is ideal preparation for the advent of Imam Mahdi (AS) should be considered. In this way, Rules of international law thought the devil the religious system should fight for it. "Actually according to Alexander Wendt in theory, Constructivism, Factors in Iranian society had led to the construction of new power, build a new identity The agents do not accept the rules of the international system based on the idea of secular West and East and the lack of power and authority to changes in the international order, Put conservative policy at the same revolutionary approach, The pattern of foreign policy Change program in the time condition. This policy is in complete contrast with regional rival Iran’s the foreign policy, namely Saudi. Because Saudi Arabia has a religious ideology, in its foreign policy, not claimed change the international system based on religious priorities.

4. Iran’s foreign policy related to Saudi Arabia from 1996 to 2005

Before the revolution, Iran and Saudi Arabia are the two pillars of the Nixon Doctrine went to the Middle East and Persian Gulf security was entrusted to them. At this time, the relationship between the two countries were based on mutual respect and non-interference in each other’s national interests although competition for influence in the Middle East and the support of the US and West were two country’s political agenda. But the Islamic revolution Totality of the relationship changed and was replaced by competition and conflict the factors to be considered are as follows:

5. Interpretation of Islam

The first issue of the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the field of foreign policy after the Islamic Revolution, restored to the place of Islam in the political systems of the two countries. Saudi newly independent country in 1932, foundations of the political system to put the norms and values of tribal life and security, and its structure, the country has priority over religious identity. A Saudi political system of Islam the Wahhabi interpretation of it is used to legitimize the government in the country:
"Religion has a great influence among the people of Saudi Arabia. And in the cultural, social and political plays an important role. The country is governed according to Islamic law; Executed Rules as Qisas and Islamic law. "Any religion other than Islam is not accepted and there is no non-Islamic religious place such as churches, synagogues, etc. Media are the propagation of the Islamic law, the publication and distribution of speech and against the religious aspects to do it. “The conditions of the Saudi political identity, Foreign policy official Stay away from the religious preferences and security. Saudi foreign policy by its domestic politics, Security is of high importance, so that if the national interest or political sovereignty is threatened, Factors the identity namely Islam and the Arab race can be dismissed in the interests of security. “Religion and Identity in the country like sunglasses in which the world is seen as the norm, Absolute security needs, has expressed specific behavioral characteristics the country's domestic and foreign policies. In fact, Islam The Wahhabi interpretation Although all aspects of government and political influence in Saudi Arabia, But can not make a specific identity for political actors like Iran, According to the theory of Constructivism "In the process of political decision-making, Built on the relationship between social identity and politics Produces the field of foreign policy decisions’. Identity of political operatives in Saudi Arabia Constructed in accordance with the priorities of tribe, race and Wahhabi Which does not allow, other identities in politics and decision to enter the country. Islam in this country is an Instrument of political power, not creating it. However in Iran, Islam is the manufacturer and the Identity of policy. Article I and II of the Constitution, Type of government: "Islamic law based on the Koran, Sunna, Imamate and reason.” The Identity of Iranian policy after the revolution is based on Shi’a Islam.

Here, occurs the difference in the approaches to foreign policy, Iran and Saudi “In Iran the identity of after religion is based on nationality.” However Identity in Saudi Arabia, Explained by racial and ethnic attitudes. Iran has no political factionalism claim Islamism and nationalism, any deviation from Islamic-Iran identity, the political wing, which leads to rejection. The trend indicates that experience birth and fall discourse executives of Construction, reform and stability The government of Iran after the revolution. In Iran is promotion and defense of Islam and values of the high place where the initial priority of foreign policy, the establishment of consensus between national goals and international community of Islam. Renovation and development In the light of Islam is possible finding and threats against the Islamic Republic by religious orders are possible. This can be seen from the "The Shi'ite political jurisprudence" has its own foreign policy guidelines, In Iran. Islam is the light of national security the following commands are defined national interests of Islam. The main difference between the policy on Iran and Saudi is interpretation of Islam, in the area of foreign policy can be seen Based models are based on values and norms.

6. The issue of nationality

Saudi political system is structured in such a way that the Al Saudi tribe, Power distribution is the main decision-making process. People not involved in the production of power and legitimacy and power is distributed from top to bottom. Really, Issues related to the relationship between "government and nation" has not been raised in this country and societies are no significant role in the control of sovereign power. In fact, the relationship government construction of four elements: “Population, land, government and governance.” In this country, on the basis of nationality is not defined. In this country "religious Identity of mostly Hanafi, Maliki and the Shiite minority Make social gaps. Tribal Unaizah, shomar, Qahtan,Qamid and etc have divided the country into geographical regions of Najd, Sharqiya and asir, Certain classes of the population of the country have been dominant, Which does not allow the formation of cohesion and national identity."

Therefore, in the field of foreign policy decision-making, the Saudi government is not obliged to respond to citizens about their behavior at the regional and international arena. Requirements for Iranian foreign policy the objectives are to optimize decision-making. Social and political history of modern Iran indicate that, After the Constitutional Revolution, Iranian people have responded The type of political management decisions, In the domestic and international arenas, Among the reasons for the birth of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in 1979 Emphasis that the Iranian people about government foreign policy of the Pahlavi Relations with the United States and Europe, Capitulation law, Recognition of Israel as a two-factor Its influence on the political and administrative systems of Iran And the lack of government attention in the fate of the Palestinian of the Pahlavi The Iranian people have criticized the functioning of the foreign policy of the king. Therefore the role of Iran foreign policy decision-making is very important although some researchers claim that politics. The result is that Nation status in Iran's foreign policy toward Saudi Arabia is important In addition to religious factors; National priorities should be followed by managers of foreign policy. The following points should be the position of Islam and nationality, The relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia Due to the changing discourses, From the beginning of the 2005 revolution.


Victory of Islamic Revolution, Order prevailing in the Middle East but also ran into the international system and political and religious movements
activated in most countries from Afghanistan to Algeria. Shiite political ideology, enter the manufacture of charge American Islam to The rulers of Muslim countries and demand changes in the political system of this country. Saudi Arabia as the cradle of Islam, There Mecca, the Prophet's Mosque and Hajj were important Iranian politicians were to considering its potential use as a tool for awareness of Muslims, So the first policy position in relation to Saudi the political system as a "symbol of American Islam" was introduced by Imam Khomeini that must change the political structure. But the political leadership of Saudi Arabia, in the seemingly friendly unexpected and even "King Khalid, King of Saudi Arabia, In a meeting with the president of Algeria and he Conformed the of Iran's new government. Furthermore, in order to congratulate victory of Islamic Revolution of Iran and relationship with Iran, High-level delegation headed by the Secretary-General "regarding Al-Islam" was sent to Iran Despite a long stay in Iran Was not able to meet with high ranking officials of the Islamic Republic." It can be seen that Looking at the differences between the two countries led to the religion of Islam in politics and how to use it in the social and political relationships, to cause and exacerbate the differences between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Iran's support of the Shahrqiyah region unrest in Saudi Arabia and protest the bloody occupation of the holy mosque in Muharram 1400 Led to Saudi Crown Prince Fahd aircraft discovered a plot to overthrow the time and bombing in Riyadh and Jeddah In relation to the positions of Iran their own again against the idea. Therefore, we can conclude that Religion and different interpretations of it Lead to tension and conflict Relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia from 1979 to 1981 and the height of the Iran-Iraq war.


The Iraq of invasion in the Iran on the pretext of the political intervention of Iran in the Iraq and damage to this country in the Algiers Agreement, Caused to be formed the Arabic Fronts against the Iranian revolution to the Support of Iraq.

The accusation of Iran to the rule of Arab countries especially Saudi Arabia that are agents in the United States and the West led to Saudi Arabia Offer the oil prices cheaper $ 4 a barrel in the international market and with the harsh military contracts with the US allowed to the establishment of military bases In the its territory support from Iraq against Iran as the financial and logistical and recognized Israel according to the eight-Point Plan Israel and by the expulsion Head of Iranian pilgrims in 1982, Massacre of Iranian pilgrims in 1987 Counter formally in its foreign policy against Iran; The type of interpretation of the two countries was about Islam and its role in society and politics. The Saudi Arabia accepted the Islamic law only in the personal and social field However, Iran has he interpretation of Islam that regulates in the private and public spheres; in the theoretical analysis of the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the sixties, according to Constructivism theory, It can be said that the new and the Islamic identity, the Iranian politicians in the late fifties and sixties was contrast to the identity of the tribe and former governor of the Saudi regime. The lack of political experience, the belief of Islam of integrity for the change of the international system and transnational ideals led to find revolutionary and aggressive aspect in policy foreign to Saudi Arabia in the decision process in Iran

9. Period of détente and the improving of relations 1991-2005

The relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia has spent a period of détente and creating cooperation in the seventies and early eighties; after the end of Iran and Iraq of War With the actions that were taken during the presidency of Mr. Rafsanjani, especially after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait the relations between the two countries entered into the new phase of cooperation and trust; In this period, the decision making of process in the foreign policy of Iran change from the Islamic and revolutionary state to the advised practices Changes in the international system with collapse of the USSR, The direct presence of the US military in the Persian Gulf and the start of the process of globalization, affected on the changes in Iranian foreign policy developments in the Middle East In the two decades It can be seen The Iran foreign policy has been less used Islamic and revolutionary concepts In his political stance towards the countries of the region, especially Saudi Arabia (( the both sides, despite the previous differences, were tiring to resolve the existing ambiguities and the closely relationships with each other but on the whole, Never did not disappear Suspicion and the distrust of Arabs thoroughly (especially Saudi Arabia) to Iran)); The interesting point is this issue that the "Saudi Arabia and overall the country's governance structure is completely Individual Saudi and the Iran leaders during the seventies influenced the highlight the role of Hashemi Rafsanjani and Mohammad Khatami and created the deterrent factor to the increasing gap between the parties, according to the theory of Constructivism, the changes in the foreign policy on Iran and Saudi Arabia in the seventies and eighties, more being affected by the political agents of role in the foreign policy With the exception that Rafsanjani's role in the reduce tension between Iran and the Saudi was most the expediency approach and they did not affect the attitudes and social norms directly on it; However, in the Khatami's policy of détente, Social support from him and the debate over reform played an important role in the foreign policy of decision-making. At the conclusion of historical debates about the relationship between Iran and the Saudi Arabia after the Islamic revolution, there are three attitudes In the Iran's foreign policy
toward Saudi Arabia. The first approach that it has the ideological and the idealistic aspects about the relations between Iran and the Saudi Arabia that it was the revolutionary discourse and tried to make the physical environment to fully absorb the intellectual and the revolution foundations of Iran. The second attitude or brokers discourse and reform in the seventies and early eighties It was the ruler of Iran the realm decision and due to the sensitivity of the region and the realities of the international system, that insisting that Iran must work on commonalities and further cooperation in the field of non-sensitive areas to create the required trust; because only with the good relationship can be taken the goals and interests of the revolution of Iran; The third attitude or the new of the stability of discourse, followed the idea in the second half of the eighties and the early of the nineties, that with respect to the moral and material capacities of the Islamic Republic and the realities of the international system, It is not necessary to create a structural and functional changes in Iranian foreign policy to meet the goals of the revolution and of Iran.

10. Evaluation of the discussion: Examine the challenges of religious - political in foreign policy Iran and Saudi Arabia 2005-2013

The discourse of stability to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad claimed after victory of the Election 2005. The previous government’s behavior in the domestic and foreign policy led to deviate from their original context; so should perform the revision, the reconstruction of thoughts, ideas and approaches in the domestic and foreign policy of Iran, in the opinion of Ahmadinejad first we must recognize domestic and foreign policy problems and thought around them; In his opinion and his supportive discourse: 1) In the domestic realm, intensify the feeling of injustice and discrimination that had begun in the previous period and related to economic issues must be corrected by the policy of justice and kindness

2. In the foreign policy, it is doubtful the resistance of the previous government on the "political independence"; so should revise in the nuclear case, pursue the objectives of the Islamic revolution in the international system and the choice of friend and enemy countries and the decision process of Iran’s foreign policy; the victory of the discourse of stability was indicative the entry of new identities to Iran’s foreign policy that in the seventies were being planned to acquire the power, hence after the election of 2005 and the victory Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, The Western governments, the US and Iran of regional rivals concluded The new identity of Iranian foreign policy has not satisfied to discuss with the parties on the basis of international rules This problem exacerbated in the case of a nuclear Iran and became a media sensation to the most important foreign policy discourse of Ahmadinejad for this reason, the ninth government adopted the Harsh stance against the West and its allies including allies of the West in the Middle East was the Saudi Arabia that the political relations with Iran has been affected by the ideological component, political structures, The regional competition In the field of oil and the security of the Persian Gulf in the this period.

11. The ideological and cultural factors

As mentioned before, the most important influencing factor on the foreign policy of the Iran and Saudi Arabia is the interpretation of the two countries of the religion of Islam and its place in international relations; the Iran of revolutionary interpretation of Islam and traditional interoperation of Saudi Arabia, were the reason for the serious conflict between the two countries. But this contrast decreased over time in the Hashemi and Khatami of governments and the religious factors were replaced by the political factors in the bilateral relations position. The activation of the Salafist movement, supported by Saudi Arabia in Afghanistan, Pakistan and other countries in the Middle East before and after the events of September eleventh, began an Indirect confrontation between Iran and Saudi Arabia in the eighties, the Saudi Arabia of support from the Iranian dissidents in the East of the country and protesters to the Iraq of government after the fall of Saddam, prepared the ground for the emergence of the ninth government’s aggressive policy in the relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Mr. Ahmadinejad with emphasis on concepts and principles of his the religious in the Iran’s foreign policy led to Saudi Arabia fears after 2005 in its relations with the Iran because the focus on Iran on the advertising the Ideology of expectancy and the new world order, interpreted to the a serious confrontation with their Salafists political; according to the analysis of Constructivism that emphasizes political identities are the resulting interactions, attitudes and cultural values it can be said that during the presidency of Mr. Ahmadinejad in the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the religious values have affected on the mental space of rulers of foreign policy and the two countries were far away from each other. The Ideology of expectancy in the Iranian foreign policy and the religious interpretation of Mr. Ahmadinejad from the principles of justice and kindness in the WorldWide led be away Saudi Arabia from Iran; Also the Saudi Arabia with the support of Salafist movements led to the more tension between the two countries; Although has not discussed the media and or Political contradictions and oppositions with religious issues in the this period but the religious factors of the governing mentality of the two country’s politicians choose to stay away from each other

12. The structural factors

An example of structural factors caused the quarrel between Iran and Saudi Arabia can be noted
in the causative political structures of Competition and hostility in the relations between the two countries. In the constructivism theory is emphasizing the importance of institutional structures and procedures that affect their relationships. According to Went, the structures change the extensive scope of human freedom and creativity in outlining a foreign policy institution optimum that this practice acts according a complex web of relationships. In the Analysis of governing structures in the minds of the rulers of Iran and Saudi Arabia foreign policy in terms of Constructivism, that the harassment and restrictions for Iranian pilgrims to the holy prophet of God has been created the political understandings in the relationship between the two countries. Among other architectural issues in relations between the two countries is the related Issues to religious differences, the issues of Palestine, of Iraq and Lebanon that has led pessimism of prevailing mentality on the influencing factors in the foreign policy of the two countries to each other, in the phrase has led to the Facing of Mecca in Qom In the course of Mr. Ahmadinejad. The supportive religious institutions of the two governments have done lot of competition in this period relative to each other and tried with the promote the idea of anti-Shia or anti-Wahhabis in the Saudi Arabia and Iran established religious conflict parties and expanded it into a political arena; in the this period increased writing of the numerous reviews in Iran against wahhabism and or the sentences of the heresy of wahhabi scholars against Shia; the religious fatwa has led to the structural oppositions in the political arena, the two countries during this period which created the regional competition.

13. The regional competitions

In the regional field, the two countries have competed together on the two issues in this period: 1) How to security of Persian Gulf 2) The issue of the oil production and exports; In the course of Mr. Ahmadinejad, the NATO and US forces have participated directly in the Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan and this was very worrying and sensitivity for Iran; Although have been excluded two old rivals of Iran by trans regional forces namely Saddam Hussein in Iraq and the Taliban in Afghanistan but the presence of the United States in the Persian Gulf has been considered as the threat form Iran and Saudi Arabia expressed his satisfaction; Indeed, Iraq after Saddam and the Afghanistan after the Taliban were under the influence of Iran and the Persian Gulf was completely under the influence of Saudi Arabia, Therefore, the issue of security of Persian Gulf became to the controversial issue between Iran and Saudi Arabia that has followed the oil of the issue inevitably; In addition to the importance of oil in the country's foreign policy should be noted that the by leaving of Iraq of the cycle of oil exporting countries, Iran seeks to fill the occurred vacuum that the Saudi Arabia increased its production and supply in the global market in competition with Iran; On the other hand, with the security of the Persian Gulf, Economic sanctions against Iran and the Saudi Arabia efforts to the protect of the lack of fall of the global oil market caused that Iran considered to the Saudi Arabia neither as a rival but as an adversary in the second term of presidential of Mr. Ahmadinejad; the Saudi Arabia in the period, attempted to further increase the convergence of political and economic integration between the members of the council in competition with of Iran to the reduce the influence of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council on the problem of Iraq and reduce the impact of the role of the Iran in the region. Saudi Arabia reduced Geopolitical and demographic weakness of this collection Against the Iran with the capacity of ethnocentrism, Arab racism and religious patterns matched between its members and restricted Iranian economic sanctions noose; so, we can say that competition of the Iran and Saudi Arabia and challenges has occurred due to the political ideologies of Mr. Ahmadinejad in foreign policy and conservative realism of Saudi Arabian government to expand its influence in the Middle East, Although both of discourses have affected from the religious attitudes, political structures and security agents in their relationship with each other. But the group and individual of the interests was that confronted their foreign policy with the crisis.

14. Conclusion

By the end of the reform, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad accepted as the President of Iran and has led the fundamental changes in Iran's domestic and international policies. The relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia were not spared of these changes in the course and tended deteriorating; this author of the paper believe according to the Alexander Wendt of Constructivism theory, affect factors on the relationship between the two countries during this period; the factors such as: Religious attitudes, Structures and valuable factors and the political objectives that are confronted bilateral relations with the challenge of and crisis. During this period, the Mr. Ahmadinejad visited to Saudi Arabia five times to improve relations between the two countries on issues of regional cooperation and economic policy objectives; due to religious approach of Mr. Ahmadinejad The negotiations were conducted in the lowest level which was due to mistrust of Saudis and their avarice in relations with Iran; Execution of Iranian citizens in Saudi Arabia, complicity with US for the scenario building against Iran and accusing of Iran to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to Washington led to the more coldness of relations between the two countries during this period.

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