

Impact Factor: 3.4546 (UIF) DRJI Value: 5.9 (B+)

# Analysis of geopolitical conflict between Iran and Saudi Arabia on the Changes in Bahrain

MOHAMMED REZA TAHERI M.A. student of Political Geography Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch, Iran MOHSEN ZAMANI Ph.D student of Political Geography Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran, Iran

#### Abstract:

Bahrain is the smallest country stationed in the Persian Gulf, Bahrain is composed of 32 islands in the territory of Sasanian Iran, and from 1522 to 1602 fell into the hands of the Portuguese. In 1602, after the expulsion of the Portuguese from the Persian Gulf, Bahrain fell into the hands of the Safavid Persia was joined again, Iranian sovereignty over Bahrain continued until 1971 until the United Nations brokered gained independence. Bahrain powers of the region and beyond is a geopolitical equity. As always respond to developments in Bahrain and conflicting policies from these countries has been followed. This article examines recent developments, social structure, religious and geo-strategic location Bahrain then addressed Iran's geographic policies, And Saudi Arabia as two powers in relation to recent developments in the Persian Gulf, Bahrain is studied. Given the nature of research, research methodology is descriptive-analytic. The results indicated that geopolitical conflicts in the relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia with Bahrain, before the start of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and the recent uprisings culminated in Bahrain, That most of these conflicts are: 1. Iranian territorial claims on Bahrain (before the revolution), 2. Islamic Revolution in Iran and stimulate a sense of revolutionary Shiites in Bahrain and Saudi

Arabia, 3. the Shiite influence in the region and Iran's support for increasing the role of the Shiites, 4. The presence of the US Navy Fifth Fleet in Bahrain, 5. Persian Gulf Cooperation Council against Iran's influence and role in the region, 6. Saudi military intervention in Bahrain, 7. The arms race between Iran and Saudi Arabia, 8. underpins multiple scenarios to isolate Iran.

**Key words:** Bahrain, geostrategic position, religious conflicts, strategic ally, geopolitical conflicts, Iran, Saudi Arabia

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The first challenge national security, elasticity tension between different nations are facing internal and external pressures. As the forces of inter-national, trans-national and supra-national identity and become more influential, governments also increasingly in a dilemma to choose between universalism and pursue their own interests, the protection of society and the individual, and the need for international cooperation and pressures local limited, are((Mandel,2008:147). Bahrain is part of Iran's past during the history of World War II and after the claim has been made by Iran. Bahrain's Sunni minority and the Shiite government in their hands Although the majority of Bahrain's population constitute, in the political, economic and corporate culture are not and this is one of the problems with the government. Bahrain is an island in the Persian Gulf to its special position has geostrategic, The United States Navy Fifth Fleet arrived in the Persian Gulf as an intervening player is based in Bahrain and Bahrain considers its strategic ally. Bahrain from countries that have long witnessed the movements or movements, religious, social and political. The movement in recent years, there are a number of (Armed Forces Geographical Organization, 2007:220). Following the developments in the Arab world in North Africa and the Middle East, the people of Bahrain Bahrain gathered to protest against

the government. The pervasive repression and detention of opposition protests in the cities of Bahrain government payments. Then Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates troops entered Bahrain protesters had to cope with clashes and protests Vkmakan rising, and continuing. Iran, like any other country, can not what is around them going, not ignore. Trying to keep pace with global changes and to shape these changes based on the needs and national interests. Should be an important motivation in the world and to achieve economic convergence Iran's geopolitical situation, the presence at the heart of developments is essential (Moitahedzadeh, 2007: 365). Iran and Saudi Arabia as a regional power in the Persian Gulf with Bahrain specific strategies to advance their goals are considered. In this article, the geopolitical conflict between Iran and Saudi Arabia in connection with the recent uprising of the people of Bahrain, will be examined.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Given the nature of research, analytical methods, and data collection, documentation and library for the study of books, articles and Internet news sites and take advantage of the geopolitical map of the Persian Gulf to identify the characteristics and interests regional and trans-regional geopolitical power according to the research.

## 3. BAHRAIN

Bahrain with an area of 678 square kilometers (Koshki&Nazempoor, 2010: 161) narrow geopolitical Persian Gulf region is the least developed countries, small island off the coast of the southern Persian Gulf and is located near the coast of Saudi Arabia (Map 1). The number of people living in Bahrain less than 1 percent of the total population of the region. Bahrain's population, according to 2005 statistics, over

688,345 people are estimated. The age composition, of the total population, 27.8% under 14 years, 64-15 years and 4.3 percent between 7/68 percent over 65 years old. Bahrain's population growth rate of 5.1 percent between 2000 and 2005, In 2005 the average life expectancy of 2.74 years and 1.89 years on average literacy rate of over 15% have been reported (Armed Forces Geographical Organization,2007: 39). Only 63 percent of the total indigenous population of Bahrain and Bahrain are born. The rest of Asian ethnicity (19%), other Arab nations (10 percent) and Iran (8%) form. Bahrain is the only Arab states of the Persian Gulf Arab majority Shia population (ibid., 51-53).



Map 1. position of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf (www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/bahrain.htm:2012/1/22).

## **3.1 Geostrategic Position**

From ancient times until today, seeking access to the sea an important factor for the development of the country. The most complete form of marine positions, the position is an island (Ezzati, 2007: 80-81). Universal's Islands are all, without exception, have a military role, And the country's geo-strategic role affects their geopolitical goals. Over time indicated, if the people living in an island, and did not understand the evolving geopolitical situation in international politics do not respond effectively, quickly lose the advantage of independence and freedom of action (Ezzati a, 2009: 84). Bahrain has a geostrategic location as an island located in the Persian Gulf has the power to trans-regional and regional organizations and had considered, So that after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the threat to US interests in the Middle East, Bahrain was once the American attention, To support the country as a base for US warplanes to use that to push back the Iraqi forces from Kuwait were left for the region (www.aftabir.com: 2012/01/16).

NATO special attention to Bahrain to advance their goals in the region and has made the following contributions:

1. Establishment of NATO's public relations office in Bahrain Bahrain in June 2007.

2. The Conference << relations between Bahrain and NATO Istanbul Cooperation Initiative >> in April 2008 in Manama and signing a cooperation agreement in the field of exchange of information between NATO and Bahrain Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, president of the conference coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain emphasized that the deal includes about one hundred cooperation between the two sides, And not be confined to security cooperation, including diplomatic cooperation. exchange of experiences in a state of disaster and deal with environmental problems such as global warming (Mahmoudi& Tabatabai, 2010: 65). One of the most important British naval base in the port of Manama, Bahrain CNG refueling station that an important strategic role during the Cold War, Persian Gulf War and the recent war against terrorism in Afghanistan (Cohen, 2008: 688).

## **3.2 Religious Conflicts**

Bahrain at the beginning of the tenth century due to its prominent position in the trade was considered rulers of Hormuz. During the late ninth and early tenth century emerging Bannu tribal force Jabbour, who reigned from migrant tribes of Najd, using the power struggle in the Hormuz could seize power in Bahrain, And this reaction were the majority Shiites in the region, were hidden competition

between the presidents and heads of Bannu horoscope with Shiite leanings were forced in. Bahrain to the second half of the tenth century under the leadership of heads of divination and as one of the centers affiliated to Ormus the role of payment (Vosoughi & Kalirad, 2009: 165-164). Bahrain's demographic composition of the country's non-Muslim percentage in other countries of the region is higher, so that the whole population is 81 percent Muslim and non-Muslim 8/18 percent. Shia Muslim majority living in Bahrain. Shiites make up 61 percent of the population respectively. A significant number of Shiites in Bahrain who have been living in Bahrain for hundreds of years. originally from southern Iran to continue its relationship with Iran have maintained. The situation that existed even before Islam. Bahrain's Sunni population, 20 percent of the population are included. Although the majority of Shiites in Bahrain have, in the political, economic and corporate culture are not one of the most important challenges of governing a state Bahrain (Armed Forces Geographical Organization, 2007: 59). Today, the majority of Shiites in Bahrain have social status and religious chaos. To harness this confusion Bahrain relies on its Saudi neighbor (Ezzati b, 2009: 164-165). Saudis in Bahrain fear the rise of Shiite religious tensions in the Persian Gulf (Www.sedayeshia.com:2010/2/17). According region. to Brzezinski almost all countries with a Muslim majority population are faced with religious problems (Brzezinski, 1386: 76). Religious conflict between Sunnis and Shiites in Bahrain is one of the causes of the recent protests by the people against the government's Shiite community and Sunni al-Khalifa of protest against the ruling regime in pursuit of their rights.

## 3.3 Strategic Ally

Nearly a thousand years, the geography of the Middle East a major factor in determining military and economic presence in the region and access to resources it has (Camp and Harkavy, 2004: 353). Bahrain toddlers, lack of political maturity and a

dependence on regional and trans-regional powers provided for these countries. Therefore, short-wave crisis causing tension and instability is its internal Akhbari & Namei, 2009: 195). In the Middle East, America is one of the two strategic allies Egypt, Because of their close proximity to Israel, and having the Suez Canal and other countries Bahrain which is also due to America's Fifth Fleet in the waters of this country. America heads over the fact that Bahrain is one of the points that have strategic allies. Bahrain Relations and the America of 1932, and with the development of the country's oil industry began in 1948. US warships in the Persian Gulf was the command center of the country. The Navy's Fifth Fleet in Bahrain is the United States of America. The fleet of conflicts in the region has had a clear role. 2001 was the culmination of relations between Manama and Washington. This year, President George W. Bush's America announced Bahrain as one of its strategic partners (www.aftabir.com: 2012/01/16). Bahrain is one of the oldest Arab countries began to cooperate with the US military. Bahrain and the United States joint military agreements signed in 1971 on an area of 40 square kilometers of land was in the hands of the Americans. In July 1973 the recent agreement between the US and Bahrain was on the agenda again, And on June 30, 1977 to change the agreement. According to the new agreement, the US Navy extensive facilities in the port of Bahrain Salman would have. The 1993 Regional Command, based in Bahrain and the US Navy Fifth Fleet Bahrain hosts the US in July 1995 ((Fars News Agency 2010/3/13). One of the most important US strategy in the region, the constant presence of its military forces in the Persian Gulf. Direct US military presence in the Persian Gulf means Pshtybayy all aspects of their policies and their allies in the Persian Gulf against changes that may occur is distant from their will (Ezzati c, 2009: 14).

#### 3.4 Changes in Bahrain

Brzezinski believes that the social conditions that can cause pain is weakness Islamic countries, Anti-American sentiment leads vague religious enmity and internal unrest or conflicts in the region will rise to these feelings (Brzezinski, 2008:78). Antigovernment protests in several countries in the Middle East Bahrain was gripped in early 2011, and resulted in violent clashes between protesters and government forces and the police .mtrzan, inspired by recent events in Egypt and Tunisia, their protests on February 14 began. A long time latent tensions among the ruling class of people, mostly Shiites, are there any age. Shiite protesters that they would have top positions in the army and government. Government troops retreated Al Khalifa on February 18 and for the next few days thousands of protesters at Pearl Roundabout (Pearl) attended. Protestors on February 22 reached its peak, and more than hundred protesters gathered in the square. The massive prodemocracy protests continued for three weeks, but soon the joy and happiness protesters came to an end. On March 14, at the request of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arabic Emirates sent two thousand troops to Bahrain to help break up the protests. The presence of neighboring Sunni forces in a country with a Shiite majority, was more inflamed sectarian strife. The rulers of Bahrain's government declared martial law and repressive tactics against the opposition, including the use of force to remove the protesters from Pearl Square, Search warrants, mass arrests and torture on its agenda. Declares state of emergency, the widening gap discriminatory policies of the state and society and the royal family can be the main factors to be considered Bahrainis current developments and political protests. This gap is rooted historical and political that affect the internal and external factors security (www.infoplease.com: 2012/1/22).

# 4. CONFLICTS OF GEOPOLITICAL POWER IN THE PERSIAN GULF IN BAHRAIN

Conflicting interests and objectives, as opposed to cases in which state and government and non-aligned attitude to them. So either try to delete or other interests and resources are overwhelmed and controlled by it (Hafeznia, 2006: 313). Distinctive features of geographical infrastructure and segregation diverging behavior among states creates (Hafeznia and kaviani Rad, 2004: 73). Conflict causes of conflict and political units away from each other and be subject provides crisis (Taheri Mousavi, 2008: 106). The source of conflicting interests and goals the process of competition, conflict between sides claimants are actors and states and countries. Competitive process based on reciprocity of bilateral or multilateral coalitions of states are formed and developed in line or competitor, and ultimately may lead to military conflict (Hafeznia, 2007: 130). Persian Gulf region as an international waterway and important geo-strategic and geopolitical position in the Middle East and the world is. Persian Gulf has long challenged control of power and regional and trans-regional powers have been ongoing competition (Ezzati, 2010: 27). In recent years, concerns and regional rivalries Saudi Arabia bilateral relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran's cooler than in the past. And diplomatic relations of the two countries have been weak. Saudi Arabia to counter Iran's influence in the region has done much, And tries to resolve problems and crises in the region improve their position towards Iran, And within the framework of regional and trans-regional alliances and coalitions against Iran Iran's regional influence and power decrease (Naderi Nasab, 2010: 334). Iran and Saudi foreign policy is based on the general goals of the scope and mode of action of the two countries in the region, And outside of it to determine and explain (Aghaei &Ahmadian2010:2). Severe conflicts between Iran and Saudi Arabia should be applied

partly due to the policies of the big powers, especially the United States in the region. The ideological and political influence of Iran in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait after the Islamic Revolution indicate this fact (Hafeznia and Romina, 2005: 71).

## 4.1 Relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia before the Islamic Revolution and Iranian territorial claims to Bahrain

The role of Iran and Saudi Arabia in the late sixties and the seventies of the twentieth century, as the two bridgehead influence of the West in the region to protect Persian Gulf oil waterway, to maintain political stability in the region and the pro-West countries, preventing the infiltration communism, clean the area from left-wing movements, required that its relations to each other external are always cautious (Solevmani, 2009: 76). When British forces withdrew in 1971 from the Persian Gulf area, the United States began to work seriously to Iran and Saudi Arabia as its own local allies. And the fall of the Shah of US policy Dystynh disrupted (Drysdale and Blake, 1995: 48). Bahrain, more than any other location in the Persian Gulf, the problem of Iran's involvement in the region shows that Iran has territorial claims on Bahrain to the seventh century AD. When one of the kings of the Sassanid Iranian troops dispatched to the island until the fall of the Iranian regime and the Muslim Arab armies in the same century, was in control of the island. After World War II, Iran has repeatedly raised its claim to the islands, And it announced the fourteenth province, and cite numerous historical period that Bahrain was controlled by Iran. Iran attention to the island, a claim is essentially a territorial and nationalist, geopolitical and geostrategic and security was an issue (Fuller, 2010: 87-88). Finally, in the late sixties, Iran Tunb and Abu Musa islands in exchange for concessions in Bahrain was willing to compromise with Iran and Britain agreed it was

decided that the United Nations for Bahrain's political selfdetermination referendum among the people of Bahrain. After the referendum that Bahrain's political independence was recognized in 1971 (Hafeznia, 2002: 345). Iranian lawmakers could vote, the UN Working Group formally accepted and Bahrain was separated from Iran (endowments Bahrami, 2010: 31). Since then Bahrain to Saudi Arabia with the support of the Sunni minority dominant sphere of influence earnings.

# 4.2 The Islamic Revolution in Iran and the conflict (encourage a sense of revolution in Bahrain)

1979 revolution in Iran a strong ideological component to compete with Saudi Arabia said the country and both countries were competing for leadership of the Islamic world (Buzan and Weaver, 2009: 105). Iran's Islamic government, since the emergence of the United States to deal seriously with the United States and he always called the greatest enemy of Iran (Young, 1384: 401). The revolution severe blow to US interests in the Middle East (cohen, 2008: 666). Islamic Revolution of Iran was also influential in the Persian Gulf on small countries. This revolution is primarily the realization of many social protests in return. Bahrain Shiites in 1360 in a failed coup to overthrow the governing beat (Valipour razmi, 2004: 226).

## 4.3 Conflict on the basis of Shiite influence in the region (supporting the increasing role of the Shiites)

Arab states of the Persian Gulf saw a revolution in Iran and the Shiites in the Middle East in order to improve form, And from the perspective of a Shi'ite crescent stretching from Lebanon to Pakistan, which could be guided by the Islamic Republic of Iran (Ezzati, 1389: 28). From their perspective, Iran is trying to create a bloc in the region, to increase their power and it is against the interests of Sunni states, As well as regional interests of the US and Israel to be used (Ahmadi and Jamali, 2009: 7). Saudi Arabia's minority Shi'ite majority in the eastern

part of the country live (Resalat newspaper, 2011/02/11) 5.1 million people are Shiite Muslims of the population of the Eastern Province since the Islamic revolution in Iran, the more their dissatisfaction with the ruling regime (Cohen, 2008: 682). Saudi Shiite attempts to introduce important internal threats (Ezzati, 2011: 23). Geopolitical schism in Saudi Arabia could form the basis for the political division at the time of the internal pressure. So far, Saudi Arabia, military and political power needed to strengthen the unity of the kingdom by oil wealth, repression, military support of the United States, And an alliance with the religious fundamentalism in the country has maintained its leadership (Cohen, 2008: 682). In relation to the Changes in Bahrain, Saudi claims that Iran supports the Shiites in Bahrain to overthrow the government.

## 4.4 On the basis of US military conflicts in the region (Fifth Fleet based in Bahrain)

Iran is the only self-reliant military power in the Persian Gulf (Ezzati, 1384: 133). US military presence in the Persian Gulf region is the most serious change in the strategic environment, so that the balance has changed to the detriment of Iran (KHADEMI, 1384: 203). In the current situation the role of the United States in the Persian Gulf serious presence and role playing Monopoly. US seeks Iran to prevent the pivotal role of regional integration in the Persian Gulf region and dominate the political will of the countries of the region. US strategists believe that the United States has broad interests in preventing the emergence of any regional power. US cross-regional as one factor always seeking the realization of Iran's nuclear dangerous and compromising the interests of the countries in the region and the world. Strong opposition to the nuclear issue in Iran and threats, in line with public opinion and unilateral expansionist policies of the problems, convergence, and creating conflict in the region (Ezzati, b2009: 15-16). Put to Iran by limiting the scope of Iran's influence in the region and Iran's

role as an influential regional power, the US military presence is an important goal. As many times after the Cold War, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran as a major threat to its national interests declared (chubin, 1995; 109). The United States has its presence in the Persian Gulf littoral states which leads to Iran's regional competition. To decrease and increase the influence of competitors (Akhbari and namei, 2009: 194). America's dependence on Saudi oil immediately with military and economic alliance between the two countries was important. From the US perspective, this commitment is borne out of strategic necessity (Cohen. 2008: 706). Saudi Arabia seeks to achieve hegemonic order exogenous through the alliance with the United States the same issue that led to the conflict is Iran and Saudi Arabia (Rezai, 2005: 158). We can say that Iran opposes the US presence in the Gulf region and the establishment of the Fifth Fleet in Bahrain, which is an obstacle to the role of Iran in the region. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, calling for the US presence in the Persian Gulf to reduce the influence of Iran and regional stability in her hand.

## 4.5 Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and conflict

Persian Gulf Cooperation Council in 1981 agreed to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and the United States supported arose (Mojtahidzadeh, 2000: 133-134). Most of the council of regional strategies in the form of conflicts with Iran makes sense (Majid et al., 2008: 69). Also in action is an organization that only serves the objectives of Saudi Arabia in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula (Pishghifard, 2007: 493). The Council of Bahrain, with a population Shiite majority would be unacceptable for Iran in a way that the council limit the influence of Iran. On the other hand the Iranian political and religious opposition Shiites in Bahrain who wish to attend are treaty with Saudi Arabia's leadership that is supportive of the ruling Sunni minority.

**4.6 Saudi military intervention in Bahrain-based conflict** Saudi Arabia to Bahrain Saudi territory with the construction of roads in times of chaos, very easy entry of military forces to Bahrain, Bahrain to Saudi Arabia is dependent manner. Saudi Arabia has no interest of irregularities, are supporting the Shia majority in the country, particularly because the possibility of expansion and transmitted to the Shiite areas in the Eastern Province in Saudi Arabia there (Fuller, 2010 : 134-135). So that in the wake of popular protests in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates forces, military force to suppress protesters had its way.

## 4.7 Arms race between Iran and Saudi

Saudi Arabia is the main strategy of increasing military power, buying new arms and providing the most modern weapons from multiple sources. The first component of the country's constantly ranks among the countries importing weapons is (Sadeghian and Ahmadin, 2010: 152). Iran conducted military exercises in the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz, especially after whispers of sanctions on Iran by Western countries and Saudi support for the project, the role of its military presence in that area. And the arms race on the tensions and conflicts between the two countries in the region adds.

## 4.8 Underpins multiple scenarios to isolate Iran

Reuters News reported that federal police anti-narcotics force America (DVD IAEA) is managed in an operation dubbed "Red Alliance" plan to stop assassinations and explosions in the Saudi Embassy in America. According to the federal indictment, Mansour Arbabsiar deal with an undercover agent in the anti-drug force America was willing to pay half a million dollars to assassinate the Saudi ambassador there (Fars news 2011/02/14).

Washington Attorney General Eric Holder America claimed measures to hold Iran to assassinate the Saudi

ambassador to the plan will be adopted. He also claimed that the Iranian government will be responsible for planning to assassinate the Saudi ambassador in America know ww.tabnak.ir: 2011/10/19)). Only Israel and America that are interested in this issue Drsdnd to raise tensions against Iran (www.mashreghnews.ir: 2011/10/20). English newspaper The Guardian writes: The story of an Iranian attempt to assassinate the Saudi ambassador in America is four actors. Saudi Arabia. America, Israel and Iran, and the four actors in this story see the hidden battle to protect our interests in the Middle East. The aim of America and its allies against Iran can be considered fictitious scenario, the loss to make waves in the Arabic countries and North Africa. America as the most important ally Saudi Arabia needs to find a way to rebuild their position in the Middle East a central role in the country's interests. Because according to the changes in the Middle East, America needs to be rebuilt. US accusations of Iranian attempts to assassinate the Saudi ambassador in the United States refuse such allegations in order to create tension and creating an atmosphere of political and diplomatic war against the media and advertising to get points and blackmailing their knows. It is located next scenario is that the Bahraini government said five people were going to the Saudi Embassy in Manama, Bahrain's Interior Ministry and the highway connecting Bahrain to Saudi assault. Bahrain, a judicial official claimed these people were trained and received money from Iran. The five terrorists were planning to withdraw its forces through Syria and Qatar to send Iran to terrorist attacks to receive military training. Saudi Arabia, with the support of the scenarios that could face danger from Iran in the international arena show. To reduce the role and influence of Iran in the region of the Middle East crisis, particularly on the issue of Bahrain.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

The new field developments in the Arab world due to geopolitical changes in the shape and form of power is emerging. On the one hand, Saudi Arabia, Israel and the US who want to maintain a complete mastery over the traditional balance of political and security in the region. And on the other side are Iran and Turkey who are not necessarily wanting to disturb the status quo but with increasing power base. And its role in the light of regional developments and called for greater role of regional approach in terms of their own national interests. Shiite and Sunni Bahrainis protest at two rival nations, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Saudi Arabia in the region has attracted. Saudi Arabia considers Bahrain as a complement to their strategic and military intervention is to disperse protests. On the other hand Iran during the rule of the island nation has. And religious similarities with the majority of Bahraini people and can not be watching these developments and its role in the region pay. Bahrain changes, led to geopolitical conflict between Iran and Saudi Arabia, as the two powers has been in the Persian Gulf, Each side tries to drive other actors, with diverse strategies and often is hostile. ranian revolutionary sense emanating from the Islamic Republic of Iran to strengthen and support the role of the Shiites in the region, opposition to any involvement of cross-regional intervention in Bahrain, Holding military exercises in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz on its role in the region, And the Shiites in Bahrain to a more favorable position, And involve Shiites in the government of Bahrain insists. On the other hand, with the support of ruling minority Sunni Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, building a coalition with the United States in the region and Bahrain, factions and counter the influence of Gulf Cooperation Council Iranian Persian revolution. Purchased sophisticated weapons arms race with Iran's military, military intervention to deal with the protests of

Shiites in Bahrain and even Saudi Shiites, And finally the realization of the foundation dangerous scenarios assassinate the Saudi ambassador in the US and the attack on the Saudi Embassy in Bahrain, followed by further isolating and demonizing Iran.

## REFERENCES

- 1. Aghaei, Seyed Davod and Ahmadian, H., (2010), relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia; the fundamental challenges and opportunities ahead, Journal of Politics, Journal of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, Volume 40, No. 3, pp.1-19.
- 2. Akhbari, Mohammad and Name, MH, (2009), geography border with emphasis on the borders of Iran, The Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- 3. Armed Forces Geographical Organization, (2007), the geopolitics of the Persian Gulf region with an emphasis on Shiites, publications Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- Bahrami, A, (2010), economic and political geography of Iran, Islamic Research Institute, led Zamzam Publications, Qom.
- 5. Barzegar, K, (2011), changes Bahrain and the regional balance of power, <u>http://www.khabaronline.ir/detal/153312</u>.
- 6. Bozan, B and Weaver, o, (2009), and power areas: the structure of international security, R. Ghahramanpour translation, published by Institute for Strategic Studies, Tehran.
- Brzezinski, Zbigniew, (2007), the domination leader, Amir Hossein Norouzi translation, Reed Publishing, Tehran.

- 8. Camp, Jeffrey and Harkavy, Robert, (2004), the strategic geography of the Middle East, translating Mehdi Hosseini Matin, Volume II, published by Institute for Strategic Studies, Tehran.
- 9. Chubin, shah, (1995), Iran's National security, in Geffery kemp and Janice Gross stein (ed) Power Keg in the Middle East, Lanham; Rowman and Littlefield publisher Inc.
- 10. Cohen, Saul Bernard, (2008), the global geopolitical system, the Cultural Institute of Contemporary Abrar International Studies, Tehran.
- 11. Draysdel, Lr and Blake, Gerald H., (1995), the political geography of the Middle East and North Africa, the translation of the Mir Heydar, Fourth Edition, published by the Foreign Ministry, Tehran.
- 12. Ezzati, E, (2005), geostrategy, fourth edition, the samt publisher, Tehran.
- 13. Ezzati, E, (2007), geopolitics, the samtpublisher, Tehran.
- 14. Ezzati, E, a (2009), the geopolitics of the twenty-first century, the publisher, Tehran.
- 15. Ezzati, ezatollah, b (2009), Iran's Shia Geopolitics and border security, the first volume publication of Far Alborz, Tehran.
- Ezzati, ezatollah, c (2009), the strategic geography of Iran, Volume I, The Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- Ezzati, E, (2010), the strategic geography of Iran, Volume II, The Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- Ezzati, self-Allah, (2011), the strategic geography of Iran, Volume II, The Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.

- 19. Fuller, Graham, (2010), Mecca of world geopolitics, translation Abbas mokhberpoor, Fourth Edition, a publication of the Center, Tehran.
- 20. Hafeznia, M., (2002), the political geography of Iran, the samt publisher, Tehran.
- 21. Hafeznia, M., (2006), the principles and concepts of geopolitics, Amir Kabir Publications, Tehran.
- 22. Hafeznia, M., (1386), power and national interests, entekhab publishing, Tehran.
- 23. Hafeznia, M and kaviani Rad, M, (2009), new horizons in geopolitics, second edition, the samt publisher, Tehran.
- 24. Hafeznia, MR and Romina, E., (2005), the development of relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia and their impact on Persian Gulf Geopolitics, Geographical Research Quarterly, Issue 77, pp. 82-66.
- 25. Khademit, G., (2005), the universality of National Security of the Islamic Republic of Iran barter cooperation model, a model for building security, Proceedings of the First National Conference on Strategic Studies in the Islamic Republic of Iran, The Center for Strategic Studies, Tehran.
- 26. Kooshki, and Nazim pooe Mohammad Sadegh M., (2010), examining the challenges and obstacles within democracy in the Middle East with emphasis on Bahrain, Journal of Political Studies and International Islamic Azad University Branch, pp. 153-175.
- 27. Majidi, Reza and Ezzati, and Saidabad, MR et al., (2008), West Asia, the international system and regional integration, published by the Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, Tehran.
- 28. Mandel, Robert, (1387), changing the face of national security, translation Research Center for Strategic Studies, Third Edition, published by Institute for Strategic Studies, Tehran.

- 29. Mojtahidzadeh, P, (2000), the Persian Gulf countries and borders, publishing Atai, Tehran.
- 30. Mojtahidzadeh, P, (2007), geopolitics and political geography, second edition, the publisher, Tehran.
- 31. Nadei nasab, P., (2010), relations between Iran and Saudi challenges in the region, Journal of Politics, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Volume 40, No. 1, pp. 315-336.
- 32. Pourahmadi, Hossein and Jamali, J., (2009), Shia crescent design goals, obstacles and consequences, of the Shiite Journal, Issue 26, pp.56-70.
- 33. Rezaei, M., (2005), Iran, regional, Second Edition, published by Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- 34. Sadeghi, Hossein and AHMADIAN, H., (1389), Saudi Arabia; the hegemony of oil to regional leadership, International Journal of Foreign Relations, Issue III, pp. 170-137.
- 35. Soleimani, K., (2009), to study the reflection of relations between Iran - Iranian Embassy in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in the press in terms of documents (1978-1968M), Journal of the History of Iran (Human Sciences), No. 5/60, pp.99-75.
- 36. Tabatabaei, Seyed Ali Mahmoud, A., (2010), Effects of contracts between NATO and the southern Persian Gulf littoral states on the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Journal of strategy, No. 55, pp. 77-59.
- 37. Taheri Mousavi, M. (2008), geography and national strategies (with emphasis on political strategy), The Armed Forces Geographical Organization, Tehran.
- 38. Valipour Razmi, H., (2004), national security discourse in the Islamic Republic of Iran, The Center for Strategic Studies, Tehran.
- 39. Vosoughi, Mohammad Baqher and Kalirad, A., (2009), the issue of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf regional power

struggles in the tenth century AH / sixteenth, Journal of the History of Islam and Iran University of Al-Zahra, Issue 4, Pages 139-169.

- 40. Young, John, (2005), Cold War, Cold Peace (US-Russian relations from 1998 to 1941), translating Dr. E. Ezzati and M Bayat, published Ghomes, Tehran.
- 41. http://www.aftabir.com: 2012/01/16
- 42. http://www.asriran.com/fa/news/189475/: 1390/8/23
- 43. http://www.entekhab.ir/fa/news/42028: 1390/7/30
- 44. http://www.infoplease.com: 2012/1/22
- 45. <u>http://www.mashreghnews.ir/fa/news/72068</u>: 1390/7/20
- 46. http://www.sedayeshia.com:1389/12/17
- 47. http://www.tabnak.ir/fa/news/196411: 1390/7/19