Analysis of the Political and Strategic causes of the Arab defeat by Israel in 1967

Mohammad Haji Molla Ali
Department of Humanities, Faculty of Political Science, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran
Ekbatan35@gmail.com

* Maghsood Ranjbar
Department of Humanities, Faculty of Political Science, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran
*Corresponding Author: maghsoodranjbar@gmail.com

Ali Sher Khani
Department of Humanities, Faculty of Political Science, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran
sbqq80@yahoo.com

Abstract

Six-Day War(5 to 10 June 1967 ) was the third war between the Arabs and Israel .This war that was known as the Arab-Israeli war , the 1967 war and June war has been occurred among Israeli and Arabic countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and Syria . When Egypt demanded the withdrawal of UN forces from the borders of Egypt - Israel's and increased military provocations in this region and blocked the Straits of Tiran open to Israeli ships, Israel knew these actions as a threat to its existence with fast attack intervened to the Egyptian Air Force and began fighting . The Arab defeated in spite of superiority and total multitude of military equipment, because of some mistakes in evaluating the strength of Israel and his position and equations and political equations of two powers of East and west and also conflict and competition of Arab's leaders and relying on Nationalistic slogans. At the end of this war, Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, East Jerusalem occupied by Israeli troops. Six-Day War had many results and effects and its impact on forming new map of political-geographical Middle East isn’t deniable and has been continuing up to now.

Keywords: Political causes, Strategic cause, Arab defeat.
1. Introduction

The Middle East is located between three continents, Europe, Asia, and Africa. This region has various features such as religion, politics, energy, etc., which distinguishes it from other regions. These features have caused many conflicts and collisions that have been occurred in this area and undoubtly, there no region in the world as the Middle East where it is critical and problematic.

The issue of Palestine, gives a special importance in the region and the Holy Land that is the heart of Arab world and inspired and home, monotheistic and its capital is Jerusalem that is the holy site for Muslims, Christians, and Jews the world.

But another factor that puts Palestine in the spotlight and events is the establishment of the State of Israel and the Jewish state in the land after it has been protracted conflict.

Although Zionism was born in the 19th century, since the dispersion of the Jews as a passionate Zionist was a desire for David's restore the land as an integral part of the heritage of Judaism.

The sense of belonging to the Promised Land was always an inspiration for Jews in the history of the Jews and Palestine was the Promised Land that God promised to the Israelites.

In addition, the ideas of the return of the Jews to Palestine and create a Jewish state in this area was for the colonial European countries competing for influence in the Middle East, and exploitation of strategic and economic importance, as well as break up the Ottoman Empire as the most important colonized obstacle Europe's influence in the Middle East.

After the First World War and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, Palestine where was captured from the Ottoman Turks since 16th , according to the vote of the Supreme Council of the Allies and the approval of the League of Nations was under the tutelage of Great Britain.

In this period, tens of thousands of Jewish immigrants were set up legally and illegally into Palestine and towns and their centers. The pressure inflicted on Jews by Hitler and the Nazis accelerated the migration process.

Arabs saw widely Jews and British risk and England support of the rebel and strike over the years 1952 to 1962.

After the Second World War between the Arabs and the Jews, culminating in English are incapable of solving the Palestinian issue inevitably handed over to the United Nations, America's influence and power of the United Nations, approved the Palestine Partition Plan by the General Assembly contrary to Palestinian Arabs.

Thus, it provided the context of the establishment of Israel in 1948, with the withdrawal of the last English soldier from Palestine and subsequently, army Arabic countries flocked to Palestine and thus the first Arab-Israeli war began. From 1948 onwards, the Arab-Israeli conflict over Palestine became the most important factor in the current crisis in the Middle East.

The Zionist movement in the second half of the 19th century, especially from the 1880s onwards appeared on the scene activities and Europe's colonial conflicts. The return of the
Jews to Palestine and build the Jewish state in this region experience first was introduced by England and France.

For them, Jewish immigration to Palestine and create a Jewish state affiliates, was the best means to achieve their goals and achieve their interests. Circles capitalist colonial powers of Europe and the Jews on the one hand and the political Zionists on the other hand to achieve a strategic unity in order to achieve their goals and established the Zionist movement. This movement financially and politically dependent on the Jewish capitalist circles and relied on Europe colonial powers, so by supporting them can fulfill the return plan of the Jews to the Promised Land.

The World Zionist Organization during the Herzl period and at the Weizmanns' leader year (World War I), tried to satisfied the Empire of the Ottoman Sultan to grant the colonization of Palestine with the support of Germany.

Britain after control of the Suez Canal in 1875, considered unity and territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire in the East channel as the best and most appropriate policy to preserve its strategic interests, especially keeping other rival powers (France, Russia, and Germany). Because at this time, Britain knew the establish of a Jewish colony in Palestine beneficial began the full support of the British government of the Zionist movement and their goals at the beginning of the First World War. That issue was a sign of their mutual interests to colonize Palestine. The Zionist movement during the years before the war wasn't able to achieve with the support of Germany to colonize Palestine. After the war and revealing the signs of weakness unification of Germany and the Ottoman Empire turned to the British and Allied forces and Weizmann as the Zionist leader went to England because he was ensure that he could take the fate of Palestine in the event of collapse and disintegration of the Ottoman England and its allies.

With the start of World War I, European power struggles presented more openly face about Arabic Middle East and the United Kingdom as main actors became major power to determine the outcome of previous empires. Divided Arab countries to its current form and become Palestine as a finance home to, a Jewish state and laid the seeds of the first Arab-Israeli crisis were all of Britain policy legacy in the Middle East. Or World War II appeared America as an emerging power on the political scene in the Middle East. America's political and military great power and great financial means, on the one hand and the influence of Zionists in America on the other hand causes the Zionist ruling circles came to America.

British colonial conflict over Palestine didn’t have resistance against America and in 1947, went out of scene officially and with the end of the Mandate, Palestine was a reference to the United Nations. United Nations against the wishes of the Palestinian Arabs adopted Palestine partition plan in the General Assembly, in November of 1947. Thus establishing Israel in May 1948, provided with the withdrawal of the last English soldier from Palestine.

The establishment of Israel's government and the partition of Palestine by the United Nations was an important milestone in the continuing crisis in the next decade. Following the establishment of Israel, Arab armies went to Palestine from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan. And thus the first Arab-Israeli war began, although the first Arab armies could get the parts
of Palestine, by international pressure through the Security Council cease-fire occur between the Arab forces and Israel's.

During the ceasefire, Israel has enough time to seize numerous weapons. After the expiry of the ceasefire war was restored and during it which the army of Arabic countries failed and Israel also occupied the larger of Palestine.

Arab defeat by Israel in the 1948 war, made crisis in political legitimacy of the most of the regimes in the Arab region's that was based on the principles of traditional.

Military and intellectual elite in Arab countries, were searched the origin of the Arab defeat and the loss of Palestine in the internal ravages of Arabic society, and political and financial corruption of the Arab states.

Thus the Arabic nationalist movement in the years after the defeat of 1948, set in motion and the Free Officers coup in 1952 in Egypt, was the beginning of new developments in the Arab world.

Arab-Israeli War II began along with the nationalization of the Suez Canal by Nasser, President of Egypt to attack Israel, Britain and France to Egypt in October 1956. This war has origin in the policies of Gamal Abdel Nasser in the region and also for the Palestinian issue. Israeli leaders concerned after the emerget Abdel Nasser and his chances of becoming a model for other Arab political and military groups And thought that Nasser's defeat in this war end his political life. This war followed the political and military defeat in Britain and France and Israel was forced to accept the evacuation of Sinai, and therefore UN troops were deployed on the borders of Egypt and Israel.

The third war (June 1967), the Arab-Israeli had conflict about the Palestinians and Abdel Nasser have criticized by Syrians, Jordanians, and Palestinians and was accused to be silent against the acts of aggression against Israel.

The emergence of the Palestinian resistance movement, withdrawal of UN peacekeeping forces, and the closure of the Strait of Tiran, as well as armed attacks on Israel to Jordan and Gaza create a critical atmosphere that was followed an Israeli tank attack on Egypt in June 1967.

Although the Arab-Israeli War III, known as the Six Day War, however, the fate of the war in the early hours of June 5, 1967, after a surprise attack and lightning and the total destruction of Israel Air Force aircraft of Egypt, Syria and Jordan was beneficial for Israel.

In this war, the infantry and armored Arabs that had no air cover could prevent of the advancement of Israeli ground units and suffered very heavy casualties during the retreat. As a result, Gaza Strip, Sinai, Jerusalem and the Golan Heights captured by Israel.

In response to the question of why the Arabs are superior population and military equipment to Israel, as well as a history of two previous defeats in the wars of 1948 and 1956, again in the June 1967 war, were heavily defeated in six days that part of their land was occupied the following reasons:

- Priority of the Israeli Air Force: While the number of aircraft Israel were less than the aircraft of the Arabic countries, this country using their blitzkrieg tactics of surprise can get the first day of the battle and by using its air sovereignty could get out Arab ground forces, one after another battle and change the fate of the war from the beginning to itself.
- Lack of staff and joint command: Expositing Arabs against a common enemy, would require forming a unified command and general staff can get together Cairo and Amman in the last hours of the crisis and there was no opportunity for dialogue and joint command. Although Gamal Abdel Nasser announced the Chief of Staff of the Egyptian army to command the army of allies when setting the defensive by the Jordanian, practically not formed such a command, not has a specific and correct plan to take the proper stance in front of the Israeli army and Israel will collapse the armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria itself while if they had the same plan were prevented the Israeli armies' advancement.

-Made a mistake in assessing the strength of Israel when it was announced that began Israel and Arab-Israeli conflict. Israeli leaders are well aware that the survival and independence of their new nation depends on the strength of its army. They saw their country in the crosshairs of the Arabs began great effort in trying to strengthen its military and economic strength. And with full consciousness strengthen the armed forces and by creating intelligence services and its weakness became familiar with military positions and military strength. Experienced and trained soldiers of Israel knew that this war is to secure Israel's existence, so with a strong spirit and very high motivation fought to maintain the country's independence and survival of the Jewish people. While motivation of the Arabs in battle with Israel was the rescue of Palestinian, motivation that its justification may be difficult for a touch closes Egyptian or Syrian.

- Arab's mistake in the Soviet intervention: the Soviet Union in the war between the Arabs and Israel, on the contrary Western circles refused direct intervention and due to its non-intervention and conservative stimulated Arab discontent.

Soviet despite its promises to support the revolutionary and anti-imperialist flows, has been satisfied with economic aid and weapons in this war which is also to strengthen the position and influence in the Middle East and the conflict of the Cold War. Because of Arabs, this country refused to endanger peaceful coexistence with the United States, of course, there was this dichotomy policy about the United States.

-A factor that didn’t consider for this defeat: It was too much emphasis of the Arab on Arab nationalism Revolutionary and anti-Israeli slogans and statements of some leaders such as the words of Ahmad Shaghiri, (Jews must be poured into the sea), was aroused many excitement in Arabic countries.

But relying on nationalistic slogans without solidarity and conflict resolution, and scattered among Arab leaders for their competition fails and led to its weaknesses, such as lack of preparation, lack of solidarity.

They made a mistake in assessing their true power and finally Arab leaders surprised in the nationalist and anti-Israeli slogans storm and Israel began the war and Arabs faced with another setback.

-The global consequences of the June war:

Britain: By ending the World War and the fall of the Ottoman Empire began the tensions
between the victorious powers (especially Britain and France) over the division of spheres of influence.

Paris Peace Conference of 1919 was a place for the various demands of the major powers on the one hand and the other hand, the Arabs and the Zionists.

With the outbreak of the October Revolution in Russia (1917) and England canceled the Sykes-Picot agreement and seeks to persuade France to present a new plan in relation to the Ottoman degraded areas.

On the other hand, the Arabs after the notice of the Sykes-Picot and the Balfour Declaration felt that they were playing into the hands of England and the victorious powers. Because they saw contrary to the promise of independence of all Arab lands and the recognition of the Arab Caliphate various parts of the Arab world is divided between the allies.

The new policy and the interests of British imperialism in the Middle East requires to support the demands of the World Zionist Organization to the Peace Conference Parrish. On the other hand, despite the lack of attention to the demands and aspirations of the Arabs at the conference, England say that it is necessary to keep satisfy France and Arabs.

Providing trusteeship system for isolated regions of the Ottoman Empire, the political incarnation of British imperialism look to satisfy the French, the Arabs and the Zionists and at the same time Britain's strategic interests maintained properly. According to the Mandate, Syria and Lebanon was under French control and Balfour Declaration was known as a basis for future policy in Palestine Mandate. Iraq and the Palestinian territories came under the domination of the British Mandate.

On the other hand, British politicians decided to persuade Sharif Hussein and his sons in the 1921 Cairo Conference. Faisal king of Iraq and the Kingdom of Jordan selected. And at the same time force them to contract with England and sign economic and political alliance. With the approval of the League of Nations Mandate in 1922 was the British imperialist policies entered to the new stage.

England with the support of its allies (France and the United States) prevented to any action in favor of the Arabs and especially Palestinians. King-Crane Commission Report (1919), in which the Palestinian and Syrian Arab demands in relation to Palestine and became allied with Syria and was supported the converting the two into a single Arab country (Syria's major ally) Officially ignored and forgotten. Before the start of cooperation between the Government of the United Kingdom, France and Italy persuaded not cooperate in its formation. So, only two American members of the Commission (King-Crane) completed its mission.

**United States of America:**

With the onset of World War II, the United States as an emerging power on the political scene of Middle Eastern. US political and military great power and abundant financial resources on the one hand and the extraordinary influence of Zionist circles in the US government on the other hand, led the Zionist movement against British policy vision turned to the US.
Also imperialist necessity causes that US considers to the Zionist movement as a good unite in the Middle East. America especially in the 1930s realized the importance of strategic oil interests in Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf with the government and signed important contracts for oil extraction.

On the other hand, especially in the Middle East and the Arab world could become good markets for US goods consumption. These mutual advantages led to after the Zionists to establish a conference at the hotel "billet Moore" in New York in 1942, the US government announced full support for the new policy of the Zionist movement to turn Palestine into a Jewish state.

British imperialism as a result of the war became weak quickly and could not resistant against pressure from the US government for accepting hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants to Palestine and did the last its efforts to reconcile the demands of Arab and Jewish thought.

Anglo-American commission plan in 1946 and then Murison-Geradi project was proposed in this regard. But Zionists and the Arabs were not accepted it. England that didn’t have resistance against the United States in the imperialism conflict over Palestine left the scene in 1947 officially and by announcing the end of guardianship referred, the Palestinian problem to the newly established United Nations.

The United Nations under the influence of the US and allied forces adopted Partition Plan in November 1947 against the wishes of the Palestinian Arabs of Palestine in the General Assembly and thus provided the creation of Israel in May 1948, with the withdrawal of the last British soldier from Palestine. The first Arab-Israeli war in 1948, as a result of the intervention of US imperialism led to the defeat of the Arabs And thus large parts of Palestine occupied by the Zionist. From 1948, the Arab-Israeli conflict over Palestine converted to the most important crisis in Middle East.

Soviet: The policy of this government in the Arab East was based on the three slogans: Arab nationalism, opposition to the influence of the West and do fan of the Arabs against Israel. This method has close ties with the Soviet Union, Egypt, Syria, Yemen and Iraq on trade and expanded relations with Kuwait government.

However, despite the relative flexibility of the Arab states for the failure of 1967, fails in the case of Saudi Arabia and Jordan. In the Persian Gulf, a new position was created for Soviet diplomacy by announcing the British withdrawal from the region. The performance of the post-1968 and new procedures and policies for the occurrences and events didn’t produce by recent UK decision. But follow a policy that affect relations with Persian Gulf littoral states significantly. Overall, the global character of Soviet diplomacy based on accepted scientific facts showed identify opportunities and take advantage of situations. This government in its own interpretation issues considers the problems and obstacles in relations with countries based on priorities in mind and formed its policy based on the possible balancing of relations with Iran and the Arab countries of the Middle East with a view to the beach and other Arab states and other powers and their effect on the Persian Gulf that time.
Conclusion:

The Six Day War was a turning point in the world's political and military history. This war had many consequences that it can be seen even after fifty years in the world. Not only has a great impact on the political and geographical boundaries the Middle East, but also even has a great impact on the military perspective in all armies of the world, so many world system of equations was revised after the 1967 Six-Day War. A war that brought a quick victory for Israel and can win even with Nazi Germany, in 1940, was comparable to some European countries in two months. There have been written many books and numerous articles about the Six Day War, but the war has many hidden angles, too.

In the 1956 war or the Suez Israel Canal war occupied whole of Sinai desert within three days and receipts in Suez Canal. But in the end due to political pressures forced to dump it. Then, Israel was involved in sporadic clashes on the border with Egypt permanently that is including its east neighbor Syria and Hafez-Assad and Jamal Abdul Nasser al signed a joint defense pact to strengthen the security of the two countries in 1966. The Year 1966 was full of struggle year. Israel went out of its borders against Palestinian militants and rushed to Palestinian land. At that year, Jordanian forces were responsible for the preservation of the Palestinian Authority, IDF forces were attacked by Israel military that converted into a Palestinian militants database. Israel threats If the Egyptian forces ties the Strait of Tiran, this action be deemed to starting war for Israel. Early closure of the Straits of Tiran to meant that Israeli ships could no longer travel to Ilat in southern Israel.

Nasser announced that Israeli ships passing through the strait is prohibited in 22 and 23 may. At the same time, Egypt with Jordan signed a mutual defense pact at 30 may and Iraqi army put its units in Jordan's armor that were later reinforced by Egyptian forces. On June 4 Israeli decides to war because of Arabs in the wake of intense military activity and the closure of the Strait of Tiran. And on 5 July, by starting Israeli military operations against the 5 Arabic countries prompted surprises everyone.

As previously mentioned, all these events returned to the war in 1957 at the Suez Canal. Although the Egyptian army was defeated in this war, Nasser gained great political victory. Israelis were very upset and angry because they the occupied Sinai within three days in 1957, under political pressure, were forced to return it. From 1957 to 1967, they were between Israel and Egypt. UN forces borders and the Strait of Tiran was also open. On the other hand, however, in 1957, Israel returned occupied territory after, continued the problems of Israel and its Arab neighbors. None of the Arab countries recognize Israel and had no desire to solve the problems of this country but also openly supported Palestinian fighters. The unwillingness Arab of Israel's neighbors also had problems with Israel even in other dimensions. For example, in 1964, Israel for the supply of drinking water drain out water from the Jordan River. Syria and Jordan a year later with creating the above facilities diverted the river water. Israel was actually had problem in supplying water so that there wasn’t enough water for 11% of the Israelis. In 1965 Israel attacked the river water diversion facilities in Syria and destroyed them and thus brought a wave of sporadic armed clashes. Syria has been arming and training Palestinian fighters. When Israel build up Jewish settlements demolish Palestinian homes in various regions. Palestinians who had not right to
return began reprisals against the Jews. During the two years before the 1967 war killed a number of Israelis. These attacks are usually carried out by Jordan but at the same time that Israel believed these attacks are done by stimulating Syria but Syrian rejected this supporting. The support of Palestinian liberation movements was not only reason of the dispute between Syria and Israel. Israel's a lot of problems with farmers in border with Syria. Israel's had agriculture with Syria in borders and claimed Syrian forces fired across the border at the Israeli farmers and tractors. The Syrians did not accept this issue and claim that if the fire has been launched into Israel, it was in response to Israeli border troops. But perhaps it was one of the biggest issues is irritating to Israel before the war alliance that was Arabia, Egypt and Syria in the Republic that was considered rape against each other.
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