



Article Type: Research paper

impact of American state terrorism on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran with a critical terrorism approach

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Article Info.

Received: 2024/04/17

Accepted: 2024/11/15

Available Online: 10/12/2024

Abstract

Terrorism is a familiar word in the international arena, and its specific meaning soon leads the mind to armed parties and movements that fight against countries and nations with illegitimate goals and demands. But it should be noted that this incident is actually rooted in the macro policies of some governments that have introduced their interest in colonizing and dominating other countries. On this basis, events called "state terrorism" are introduced, which undoubtedly form the basis of terrorist ranks and movements. In the meantime, state terrorism is one of the important tools in America's foreign policy strategy, and it tends to call itself the center of liberation, democracy and human rights, and by bringing the international system closer to its libertarian goals, it engages in state terrorism. From its point of view, America seeks to promote democracy in the world and has started the war against international ter-

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How to Site:

Beigi, B., mir abedini, S. M., & Rahimi, A. (2024). Investigating the impact of American state terrorism on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran with a critical terrorism approach. *The Fundamental and Applied Studies of the Islamic World*, 6(3), 9-12.



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rorism. The main question of the current research is what effect American state terrorism has had on Iran's foreign policy since 2004.

The foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran has always been based on resistance to the excesses of the hegemonic powers. The attempt in the discourse to dominate the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran can be considered to be influenced by numerous domestic and international factors. During the years 2013 to date, the country's foreign policy has been based on resistance and reaction to hegemonic countries and greater interaction with other countries to reduce pressures and threats and efforts to resolve the country's nuclear issue through negotiation and presenting a peaceful face of our country to the world, in a way, as a feedback to that discourse.

One of the important and influential components in the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution, especially in the last 15 years, has been US state terrorism. While international law states that terrorist groups should not have a safe place to operate anywhere in the world, the US government, with its own self-interested interpretations of international rules and laws, has failed to play its main and fundamental role in combating terrorism. That is why this government has never provided a clear definition of terrorism, because in this case many of its actions would be questioned. Accordingly, state terrorism is considered an important tool in the foreign policy strategy of the United States of America and one of the tools of pressure on many countries, including Iran. This country tends to call itself a pole of freedom, democracy and human rights and engages in state terrorism by aligning the international system with its goals. The United States claims to seek to promote democracy in the world and has fought against international terrorism. While using force and violence, as well as using the tool of the war on terror, it has occupied Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as intervened in countries such as Haiti and Colombia, and spread insecurity, violence and terror throughout the world. It is also considered one of the main sources of promoting terror and violence, contrary to what it claims.

Therefore, the main hypothesis of this article is that US state terrorism has paved the way for the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to react to the excesses of the hegemonic powers and the attempt to insecure the regional bases of the US government. Therefore, the present study seeks to examine how much the US government has used the tool of terror against the Islamic Republic of Iran and, on the other hand, what effect has this illegitimate tool had on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic? And the main question of the article is as follows: What effect has US state terrorism had on the foreign policy of the Is-

Islamic Republic of Iran? The most important innovation of this study, which has not been addressed in other studies, is the impact of US terrorism on the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran based on critical terrorism, which has not been a coherent and purposeful effort, and this study seeks to do this. Terrorism is considered as one of the components of securing the national interests of the United States. This country has used various tools to spread state terrorism. The most important tools of this country include torture, drone attacks, support for terrorist groups, etc. The Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the countries that has not been spared from US state terrorism. US state terrorism against Iran has shown itself in various forms, including the assassination of nuclear scientists, the assassination of martyr Qassem Soleimani, support for terrorist groups, etc. The Islamic Republic of Iran, aware of US actions and its hostility, has positioned its strategies in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, etc. to counter US strategies. Based on theories, US regional systems have always been part of the Middle East system as an interventionist force, but after the US attack on Afghanistan and then the occupation of Iraq, this hegemon has become the central core of the regional order and the Middle East security complex; In a way that America is the determining factor and controlling actor of the regional order and system of the Middle East. Iran is at the center of the US counter-terrorism strategy document. In the US counter-terrorism document, which was compiled in 2018, Iran is mentioned as the global bank for international terrorism. Of course, this is in a situation where in 2011, it was Al-Qaeda that was at the center of the conflict and attention of the strategic document. By examining the recent document, we can conclude that after radical Islamist terrorism, Iran is presented in this document as another threat to America. Significant accusations have been attributed to this Iran, which include: supporting militant and terrorist groups throughout West Asia and cultivating a network of actors that is considered a threat to America and the world. In this regard, it has been claimed that these groups, especially Hezbollah in Lebanon, in cooperation with Iran, use terrorism and other asymmetric tools to expand their influence in Iraq, Lebanon, the Palestinian territories, Syria, Yemen, and destabilize their rivals. Other groups have also been attacked in connection with Iran, in which Hezbollah has been introduced as an ally of Iran, possessing intelligence and military power, large reserves of sophisticated weapons, and an extensive network of agents and supporters abroad, including individuals in the United States. The result of the current research indicated that the United States has sought to weaken and confront the Islamic Republic of Iran by using force and instrumental use of state terrorism, as well as by using methods such as terror, harassment, and cruel behavior. This

study has used descriptive-analytical method, library documents such as books, articles and other documents.

Keywords: Zionist Regime; Socio- Cultural Components; Social Structures; the west and central Asia.