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Islamic Republic of Iran`s foreign policy in Iraq after ISIS appearance according to Responsibility to Protect Doctrine

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Abstract

Following the numerous crimes committed by the ISIS terrorist group in Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran promptly responded to the official request of the Iraqi government to provide assistance. Eventually, the territory held by ISIS was liberated, and this criminal group was suppressed. The purpose of this research is to examine Iran's support in the Iraq crisis after the emergence of ISIS with the three steps of the responsibility of support guide including prevention, intervention and reconstruction in an analytical and descriptive way. Examining the behavioral patterns of the Islamic Republic's foreign policy in Iraq after the emergence of ISIS reveals that while the prevention phase of the responsibility to protect guideline has not been fully implemented, there is substantial evidence of the application of intervention and reconstruction steps in line with the responsibility to protect guideline. Iran's presence in Iraq, driven by both national security justifications and considerations of human rights and human security, demonstrates a multifaceted ap-

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proach. Iran's engagement with the ISIS terrorist group in Iraq, responsible for various crimes outlined in the responsibility to protect guidelines, serves as an example of the Islamic Republic of Iran's commitment to supporting the oppressed as stated in the Iranian constitution. Furthermore, the promotion of human rights serves as a fundamental tool against human rights abuses. Iran's confrontation with the ISIS terrorist group in Iraq, which has committed various crimes, falls under the responsibility of protection guidelines. This serves as an example of the Islamic Republic of Iran's support for the oppressed, as stated in the Iranian constitution. Additionally, it demonstrates the application of human rights as a tool against human rights violations. Iran's foreign policy after the victory of the Islamic Revolution has always been a mixture of ideological goals and national interests. Iran's Islamic Revolution brought about a fundamental change in Iran's political and cultural structure, which has always influenced foreign policy. The core of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to secure national interests while simultaneously preserving human life and dignity. Human dignity has a special place in Islamic teachings. The same humanitarian view can be observed in all foreign policy behaviors of the Islamic Republic of Iran from its inception until the present day. Supporting the oppressed and liberation movements is complementary to combating arrogance and oppression, establishing a logical and functional connection between fighting against oppression and supporting the oppressed. Therefore, in addition to combating arrogance and colonialism, the Islamic Republic believes it has a duty to support oppressed individuals and liberation movements worldwide that are fighting against arrogant and colonial powers. Article 154 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic states that "the Islamic Republic of Iran ... supports the rightful struggle of the oppressed against the arrogant in any part of the world Humanitarian intervention in countries has a long history. During his tenure, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon tried to develop a coherent framework for humanitarian intervention to support minorities and the oppressed around the world so that the world would no longer witness tragedies like Bosnia and Uganda. The result of these efforts is the adoption of the UN leaders in 2005, which became known as the Responsibility to Protect Directive. This directive states that whenever a country is unable or unwilling to defend its citizens against the four crimes of racial discrimination, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and mass murder, the international community is obliged to hasten to help the oppressed. After attacking Iraq and occupying a third of the country's territory, the ISIS terrorist group committed the four crimes under the responsibility of support guidelines, as evidenced by international organizations and the world's media. support for the homeless population, they sought assistance from the Islamic Republic of Iran. Additionally, our country's military forces entered Iraq in the form of an advisory mission to aid the government. While some Western politicians view the actions of the Islamic Republic as interference in Iraq's internal

affairs, many other politicians believe that Iran became involved solely with the objective of assisting the Iraqi people, driven by the responsibility to provide support without any ulterior motives.

This research aims to analyze and adapt the supportive actions of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the government and people of Iraq in response to the emergence of ISIS. It seeks to address the question of how Iran's foreign policy logic and patterns regarding Iraq, following the rise of ISIS, are based on the principles of support. Specifically, it aims to explore the three-step approach of prevention, intervention, and reconstruction employed by Iran. Previous studies on Iran's regional activities have predominantly focused on political, security, and ideological perspectives. The innovative aspect of this research lies in its examination of Iran's regional presence through the lens of international law and human rights. Iran's presence in Iraq, driven by a humanitarian approach and a commitment to human rights, holds significant national security justifications for the Islamic Republic of Iran. This has garnered attention from researchers and intellectuals. Iran's approach to human security in the Iraq crisis is derived from its constitution, which safeguards the rights of the oppressed against aggressors and emphasizes the duty of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this regard.

Critics of Iran's presence in Iraq often attribute their concerns to the interests of global powers, which can be in conflict with Iran's foreign policy and human security guidelines. Consequently, Iran has consistently faced accusations of human rights violations from international organizations affiliated with these superpowers. These accusations are largely rooted in cultural and social differences between Iran and the Western world.

However, despite varying definitions and perceptions of human rights, the preservation of innocent lives and the well-being of the human race are fundamental aspects upheld by all human rights theories and systems. The foreign policy of the Islamic Republic demonstrates a strong commitment to human rights. It is important to highlight that contrary to the popular saying "Religion is the opium of nations," Iran's international behavior is rooted in the teachings of Islam.

Furthermore, Iran's approach to human security in Iraq serves as an example of prioritizing human-oriented human rights over benefit-oriented human rights. Unlike the latter, which considers the nature of the crime, human rights focus on addressing human rights violations based on the perpetrators' friendship or enmity. It is crucial to understand that the future of human rights relies on a humane and non-discriminatory understanding of human dignity.

Key words: Iran, Iraq. Responsibility to Protect Doctrine, Constructivism, ISIS.