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Strategic Relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel under U.S Offshore Balancing

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Abstract

The West Asian region is one of the most important international regions that has faced deep and extensive changes in recent decades. For many decades, Riyadh advocated the formation of an independent Palestinian state and opposed the occupation of the Zionist regime. In other words, Saudi Arabia's commitment to Palestine defined the geopolitics of the West Asian region for several decades. Observing the recent developments in the relations between Saudi Arabia and the Zionist regime shows the move of Riyadh and Tel Aviv towards the normalization of relations. From this point of view, Rapid regional and extra-regional dynamics have transformed relations between governments and created new alignments in West Asia. The article, using post-event analysis, seeks to explain the growing relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel under offshore balancing of USA. In this

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Moghavemi Amirreza. (1401). Evaluation of the effectiveness of the American balance system in the strategic relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel. *Fundamental and Applied Studies of the Islamic World*, 4(4), 21-23.

article, we want to answer the question of how the US policy in West Asia has affected the relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel. In response to this question, the hypothesis is raised that the United States is trying to maintain the security of this region in the framework of the hegemonic stability strategy by reviving its former policy, twin pillars policy in west Asia. As Kenneth Pollack, an expert of the American Enterprise Institute, in an article entitled "America's Exit and the Coming Contest for Military Supremacy" writes, America began to reduce its role and conflict in the region since Obama's time, and this process continued in subsequent administrations. America's withdrawal from the region has created a security vacuum that Iran and its allies are trying to fill. The domination of Iran and the retreat of the United States have frightened the country's allies and led them to form an alliance with Israel in order to change the disturbed regional balance in their favor. At the beginning of his writing, Pollock states that: "it seems fantastical, but observers may soon look back on the late twentieth century as a period of relative stability in the Middle East. Although there was no shortage of conflict and mayhem, the violence rarely led to dramatic change. No states were conquered and eliminated outright. Dictators came and went, but borders and even regimes changed little, After 1973, most of the major countries in the region stopped fighting one another directly, opting for terrorism and insurgency—strategies of the weak—over conventional attacks...". A part of this article showed that the revelation of the relations between Saudi Arabia and the Zionist regime is the result of a gradual historical evolution process. The development of Saudi Arabia's relations with the Zionist regime can be divided into four stages: military confrontation with the Zionist regime and full support for Palestine (1948-1980); Establishing secret relationships (1980-2011); establishing open relationships (2011-2016); Close communication and moving towards the normalization of relations (since 2017). Meanwhile, common political-security problems, the situation in the Middle East after the US withdrawal, the use of geopolitical and technological advantages, as well as the use of the Zionist lobby in Washington by Saudi Arabia and the use of Saudi influence in the Islamic world by Israel, are the most important factors of friendship between Riyadh and Tel Aviv.

This article shows that Saudi Arabia and Israel, who have tied their security to the United States, fear the influence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region more than ever. The findings of the article, based on the last developments in the region, also show that the expansion of relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia can lead to a change in the geopolitics of en-

ergy transfer in West Asia and confront the region with new developments that are in line with the interests of the United States to control the world's energy resources. However, the article has also pointed out that the issue of Palestine and its importance in the public opinion inside Saudi Arabia and the people of the region is an obstacle in the finalization of the relations between Riyadh and Tel Aviv and will be the main variable in the future of the relations between the two.

Key words: Zionist regime, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, West Asia, America.