

**THE ROLE OF TRIBAL AND ETHNIC VARIANT IN MUTUAL RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN IRAN AND PAKISTAN (CASE STUDY: BALUCHISTAN TRIBE)**

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ABSTRACT: Today any discussion about smuggling and double actions at territories are not separate from tribal and ethnic relationship among residents. It has a great role in programs. Baluchistan had Baluch residents from many years ago and has divided into three countries of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan due to an English policy. Today we have Baluch families residing in one of the mentioned countries and obliged to pass international territories for visiting and making any relationship with other members of their tribe in another part of old Baluchistan. Also we are witness that in spite of today divisions, we have powerful relationships among the tribes. But in case of any evaluation among these three areas, we find deep differences among them. For instance all promotion indexes of Iranian Baluchistan have higher position in comparison with two other sectors. This is because of development and welcoming of residents at Baluchistan of Afghanistan and Pakistan than Iranian Baluchistan. Pakistani Baluchistan has been changed into headquarter of various political groups or religious movements within recent years. Therefore no more military forces of Pakistan were not allowed to enter into various parts of this area. They are autonomous and make very low safety coefficient in other parts while in lack of good knowledge about the area and people, it is possible to face with lots of difficulties.

KEYWORDS: Tribe, Baluchistan, Iran, Pakistan.

INTRODUCTION

Prior to Islamic Revolution and like Pakistan, Iranian Baluchistan was under the governance of Baluch leaders. All tribes were governed with special behavior and orders of governors. But after revolution and collapse of them, it was possible for presence of great religious leaders which are accepted by people. They are no more interested in Lord and Vassal system. But we are still have old thoughts of lord and vassal in which various tribes use even smallest cases for displaying their financial and physical power and priority to other tribes. Today we are witness of bloody attacks among Baluch tribes due to finding more priorities and properties even through smuggling or tribal attacks. Therefore people have no more chance just to escape to Pakistan Baluchistan which is also a source of economic unsafety.

In spite of all developments and even any distance with various negative cultures between old and today Pakistan Baluchistan, still we are witness that most of people at Iranian Baluchistan are immigrating towards territories and make powerful relationships with foreigners through marriage. In fact they show that their relations will find more powers and could be considered as a continuous factor of any tension behaviors and lack of safety and also smuggling of narcotics and goods. Any concepts like mutual

smuggling at territories of Iranian Baluchistan and Pakistan are due to unemployment, lack of enough income, presence of organized networks and/or presence of religious dogmatic groups for finding more life costs. Some others are involved with recognition of suitable and illegal transit as their primary condition of success without any intermediate. Most of Baluch people are cooperating with their tribes and relatives at foreign borders and manage to smuggle of narcotics due to hard ways of coming / going and lack of controls of military forces at day and night. In order to prevent from illegal entrances into country, it is necessary to apply lots of costs and/or control the territories while it is possible to prevent from it by enrichment of some other factors effective on smuggling like tribal relationships and centralized tribal authority.

BASICS AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Generally the social structure of Iran has various political and social gaps which may adjust their effects cross sectional. Followings are the mentioned gaps:

2.1. Tribal gap

Iran includes five tribes of Azari, Kurds, Baluch, Turkmen and Arabs. Also there are some other languages and tribes. Diffusion of these groups on Iranian geographical map is different

throughout Iran with a mosaic form. Due to the presence of different tribal orders and languages, these tribes and groups have unique forms most of them are dependent due to their ultra-territorial cases at different geographical parts of Iran ([Maghsoudi, 2002](#)).

As a result, any presence of these separate elements made us to consider political/social gaps as the most important active gaps in social structure of Iranian society. They are also effective in other social equations like smuggling ([Zarghami and Ansari Zadeh, 2012](#)). Such a study of this political/ social gap among Baluch tribes is important from various viewpoints.

2.2. Any disputes out of any claims for the scope

Most of Baluch people inside the Iranian territories were living up to the middle of 18th century. Any dividing of Baluchistan into Iran and India was in 1879 and under the dominance of Britain and resulted from imperialistic policies of Britain ([Ahmadi, 2007](#)). Leadership structure made most of leaders at Baluch tribes to have more cooperation with other tribes and attack to other groups and/or claim for making central independency governance. There were lots of attacks prior to establishment of centralization in political structure of Iran. But after the mentioned attacks, most of disputes were resulted from centralization (Pahlavi dynasty) from one side and reducing the political-social power on the other ([Zarghami and Ansari Zadeh, 2012](#)). There was a reduction also in any claim for promotion of central governance and also against other tribes and groups.

2.3. Religious gap

The other active gap in social structure of Iran is religious one besides any tribal and racial gaps. According to the current statistics, about %6 of total population of country are Sunni ([Hafez Nia, 2009](#)). Sistan and Baluchistan province (with about %2 of total population of Iran) includes Baluch and Sistan persons. There is a separation between these two groups from viewpoint of religion. Sistani people are Shiite but Baluch are Sunni with a difference with major body content of country ([Gharab, 1985](#)). Due to tribal viewpoints, Baluch people are in common tribal and religious attitudes. According to the official census in 2006 from total population of 2405742 persons ([Zarghami and Ansari Zadeh, 2012](#)) about 99.5 persons are Moslems. This province includes in any provinces with high population of Moslems. Different cities are located in Iranian Baluchistan like Chabahar, Khash, Saravan, Iranshahr and Nikshar are mostly Sunni. These cities are located mostly at

southern parts of Sistan and Baluchistan with lower relations with northern cities from viewpoint of ethnic and religious concepts.

2.4. Any gaps between Center – Surrounding

Some of researches consider some non-harmonized and unequal aerial development and/or any gap between Center and surrounding as a field of crisis for tribal areas in any analysis of tribal involvements ([Maghsoudi, 1999](#)). In fact, this gap is the same dominance of language and culture of one tribe to other groups ([Rokkan, 1975](#)). As a result, those races or owners of any language and culture find themselves in minority against the center ([Ayoubi, 1998](#)). What make this gap so much important is any differences between central and surrounding areas of Iran's map. Critical areas are mainly located at central geographical area of Iran. These areas have more progress with lots of population at Fars. Surrounding areas are mostly close to territories ([Zarghami and Ansari Zadeh, 2012](#)). Although there are two political/social gap along with a religious one with an important part of tribal population in a vertical form besides central areas of Iran, but presence of surrounding areas even with lower number of tribal areas adjusted the mentioned social non-tribal gap throughout Shiite parts of Iran. In addition, the surrounding areas include important cases which may cause any gap between central and surrounding parts and adjusting negative effects of geographical conditions. Lack of water and water resources made some environmental bottle necks for Sistan and Baluchistan province. All these parts are involved with important limitations due to lack of rain and dessert conditions ([Rahimi et al., 2008](#)). There is not a permanent river in this part. On the other hand, various rivers like Hirm and have no more territories for considering as a base for agriculture. It is subject to various interferences and resulted from fundamental plans. Some of the major bottle necks for promotion of Sistan are lack of water and agricultural soils. Also we have Baluch areas as an affiliate of Baluchistan for distribution of facilities, resources and national capitals. It means that upon any increase in areal distance from center, there is a reduction in these facilities and resources ([Ziari, 2000](#)).

From among all surrounding areas, Sistan and Baluchistan province has lower development degree. In other words lack of development indexes among provinces of state is a sign that Sistan and Baluchistan has deep challenges in development indexes with an obvious gap among them.

GEOGRAPHICAL /POLITICAL CHALLENGES AND ANY RELATION BETWEEN IRAN AND PAKISTAN

Upon independency of Pakistan in 1947, Iran was the first country which accepted its independency officially. Iranian King was the first person who has travelled to Pakistan. Both countries were applied in the past as the "Interfered dam" of West into East. Both countries were accepted as the members of Baghdad Contract (SENTO) in 1955 and also Iran helped Pakistan in 1965 in a war between Pakistan and India. Upon the victory of Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan did not participate in any embargo of West against Iran. Also it has an indifferent position in the war between Iraq and Iran. Karachi port was allocated to Iran at war time. But recently there is a reduction in mutual relationships between these two countries because of close relations of Pakistan and U.S.A, more financial supports of Saudi Arabia and Emirates (sometimes Oman) against ideology of Islamic Republic of Iran and finally competitions of both countries in the field of Afghanistan ([Pishgahi Fard and Ghodsi, 2008](#)). At present, followings are the major challenges in political geography of Iran and Pakistan:

3.1. Geopolitical and Geostrategic factors

Geopolitical resources are changed into origins of disputes when the independency and integrity and unity and national safety and fundamental values of country are connected with geographical spaces and policies of other nations. In fact, when foreign policy of nations or their military strategies are under the effects of geographical space, some geopolitical and geostrategic issues are formed. Therefore it is possible to define geopolitical issues extracted from geography and/or the land ([Karim Pour, 1992](#)). Then followings are two major challenges of both countries in this regard:

3.1.1. Military presence of U.S.A at Pakistan

Some of the major challenges of both countries relations are contrast benefits of U.S.A and Iran at Pakistan and also the role of Pakistan as a host for U.S.A army logistic in the field of Afghanistan. Although Pakistani authorities have focused many times that their homeland will not be used against Islamic Republic of Iran, but there are always necessary potentials for this purpose and making any tension in relations (up to formation of deep crisis) ([Pishgahi Fard and Ghodsi, 2008](#))

3.1.2. Territorial application

Although the territory of 891 km of Iran and Pakistan is a great strategic threat for "Safety" of area, but it plays a great role in enrichment of

divergence forces and make it unsafe for any presence of both countries (Especially for Islamic Republic of Iran). Therefore it is named as "Breaking areas". Territory of both countries has been released from Pakistan side and it has no more governance there. Therefore there are lots of facilities for negative functions. Unsuitable function of this territory is originated to its historical base. This territory is considered as an "imposed territory" due to separation of Baluch tribe and its distribution and diffusion. ([Hafez Nia, 2000](#)). Followings are various territorial threats of Iran and Pakistan mainly for smuggling of narcotics:

3.1.2.1. Safety aspects

It includes any border clashes with smugglers occupied with smuggling of narcotics, weapons and spy equipment, enter of spies, formation of small groups, and territorial unsafety with the origin of territorial movements, continuous challenges and weakening of central governance.

3.1.2.2. Political aspects

It includes any reduction in loyalty of territory residents about national identity, non-permitted coming and going and weakening of governance and any damages to land preparation (Geographical and population organizing)

3.1.2.3. Social aspects

It includes social pollution such as addiction to narcotics and promotion of smuggling, breaking of smuggling respects, addiction of governmental authorities due to neighboring to polluted areas (either for the sake of addition and /or other pollutions), creation of a social gap among different classes of society, promotion of tribal and ethnic relations and administrative corruption.

3.1.2.4. Economic aspects

It includes any replacement of narcotics smuggling instead of positive economic activities and no more economic activities, increasing of costs including territories control, importance of economic activities out of great volumes of smuggling, benefiting from attacking groups from obtained profits resulted from smuggling of narcotics as a powerful financial support for their activities, escape of capital from country, unsafe condition for domestic investments and absorption of foreign investments ([Pishgahi Fard and Ghodsi, 2008](#))

3.1.3 Spatial separation

Separation of major political-economic and population poles of both countries from viewpoint of deep separation of land spaces due

to deserts, low-population areas which may cause a reduction in major transactions mostly in economic / cultural sectors of both countries ([Biglari, 2002](#))

3.2. Cultural factors (Geo-culture)

It means a part of neighboring differences resulted from any competition or historical interfere of resources and cultural interests. The mentioned dispute resources are included in the group of geo-culture ones. Tribal old competitions and any efforts for issuance of cultural values and developing of valuable system and support from similar groups in neighboring country are included in this item.

A part of the results out of political-cultural competitions in neighboring countries are promotion of ideological forces for finding opponents and ideological control of area. ([Karim Pour, 1992](#)). This part includes just a part of facing challenges of both countries in cultural spaces.

3.3. Divergence of law and central governance

Divergence of law and central governance is a form of dispersion from rules and legal patterns. In other words, divergence is a form of alienation and acceptance of legal rules among people especially those included in traditional, political and tribal campaigns. Any rejection of legal and judicial rules in society may lead to settlement of disputes out of a legal framework. As a result, there is a contrast and conflict between legal government and traditional power with more crisis ([Sohofi, 2001](#)). Population composition is one of the major characteristics of Sistan and Baluchistan in which all Baluch and Sistan persons are related to a tribe. In both civil and rural societies, a great part of population include various tribes and Baluch groups.

Due to cultural/social conditions, the acceptance rate of orders of leaders is higher in Baluchistan in comparison with governmental rules. This may reduce the power of governance among people ([Ghalibaf, 1996](#)). Most of Baluch people consider governmental schools as the factor of releasing children from religion. They have no more confident in them especially religious courses which they believe are in contrast with their own believes and religious concepts ([Afshar, 1984](#)).

3.4. The role of leaders and clergymen of Sunni group

Religious talents of Baluchistan mean the most powerful people as the reference group in cultural and religious issues. After Islamic Revolution in 1978 and removal of khans by new revolutionary government, there was no change

in traditional managerial pattern with khans or leaders as the peak of power pyramid. Regarding the nature of Islamic Revolution, leaders found the position of ex-managerial position with more compatible attitudes of new revolutionary government. Therefore the leaders found high influence and power for better connections among people ([Hafez Nia and Kavyan Rad, 2005](#)). All political specialists of Islamic Advertisement Organization of Birjand, Government and affiliated section believe that Sunni groups of Birjand find their task pattern at sensitive time of referendum among Sunni group of Baluchistan especially from Abdolhamid, Friday Imam of Zahedan. It is in a way that 9 members of Zahedan Council were present in first selection of Cities and Villages along with 6 members of Baluchistan of Sunni group. The mentioned selected group was supported seriously by great leaders through selection time of Civil and Rural Councils. Regarding the cultural – social conditions that mean religion and tribal condition of this society made better acceptance for leaders among Baluch people along with more acceptance by governmental authorities ([Hafez Nia and Kavyan Rad, 2005](#)).

3.5. Wahhabis

Most of religious Baluch leaders are graduates or studying at Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and India. Therefore they are under the effects of governing thoughts on their scientific spaces wanted or unwantedly. Molavi Abdolhamid, Friday prayer imam of Sunni group of Zahidan stated that: "Since the literate rate and degree of Saudi Arabia for Baluch leaders is higher, therefore most of us are interested to complete our studies there. Any degrees granted by India and Pakistan have no more scientific value". ([Hafez Nia and Kavyan Rad, 2005](#)). Wahhabis people believe that Shiite persons are pagans. Any return of the mentioned leaders with scientific knowledge at Saudi Arabia and also invited Pakistani scientists for teaching of religious sciences at Iranian Baluchistan are the most suitable fields for further activities of Wahhabis. Wahhabis and its promotion at province with financial supports of Saudi Arabia and other foreign countries. This part of Iran has suitable conditions for advertisement and promotion of Wahhabis sect from viewpoint of Wahhabis followers:

- 1- Presence of Sunni groups who are serious against Shiite ones.
- 2- Freedom of functions of Wahhabis at Pakistan and continuation of Iranian Baluch to the abroad which may facilitate activities and advertisements of Wahhabis.

- 3- Residing of Hanafi Baluche at territorial part of country
- 4- Economic, cultural and social poverty and religious differences at center and surrounding areas of Iran, any effects of Wahhabis advertisements that Iran is a Shiite system not an Islamic government Therefore local attackers are intrigued against governmental forces. Wahhabis is a potential factor for making any differences and crisis at governing area of Islamic Republic of Iran ([Hafez Nia and Kavvan Rad, 2005](#)).
- 5- Exit of clergymen from country for completion of higher religious courses at Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and presence of powerful Wahhabis forces in these countries. They are affected by repetition and ideological-political attitudes ([Karim Pour, 2000](#)). Iranian Alforghan Baluchistan is a religious group in which non-satisfied leaders from Shiite government are active. This group is related to Sahabeh group at Pakistan. Sahabeh group are in contacts with Saudi leaders ([Mohaghar, 1993](#)). They are mainly travelling to Saudi Arabi upon the invitation of Ministry of Haj of Saudi Arabia. This association has the greatest share in disorders and chaos of this group at Pakistan. Most of semi-military establishments are anti-Shiite for which the real philosophy for fighting with Islamic Revolution and collapse of Shiite of Pakistan. They do not consider Shiite as Moslems.

3.6. The role of IT and Communications

Most of aerial movements out of Iran are trying to distribute their own tribal and aerial thoughts in the forms of internet sites. As a result most of political groups had no more effects on domestic processes out of country. Today they have various reactions against most of national and local accidents. Also there are some active internet sites in Iranian Baluchistan area within recent years dependent on Islamic Republic of Iran. Iranian Baluchistan Unique territory is one of the major groups in the framework of websites to public. According to the two agreements of this territory it is a real duty for defense of political/democratic non-centralized system in Iran in its federal, autonomous and self-control forms ([Hafez Nia and Kavvan Rad, 2005](#))

3.7. Deobandi School

Deobandi School is based upon most thoughts and fundamental thinking. Some of the most important specifications of Deobandi thoughts are hostility in religion, dogmatism and Sufism and finally fighting with Shiite. Taliban is under

the effects of Deobandi School as the most fundamental level of Islam ([Azizi and Azar Kamand, 2011](#))

3.8. Geopolitical situation of province

Neighborhood of this province with Pakistan and Afghanistan and Free Waters (Oman sea) and tribal dependencies with providing required conditions in which residents could make easily any relation with their counterparts with the same language. The natural conditions and geographical situation of province besides lack of suitable economic infra-structures are the reasons of this form of life style at that province ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#))

3.9. Characteristics of Baluch nomads

There was more or less a shortage in sincere relationship between governors of country and Baluch people from the past up to now. That was the real reason for forming and continuous confidence to central governments. Some of the consequences of such a lack of confidence are hidden works as the major characteristic of provincial nomads. Baluch people had special behaviors within last decades while they had damaged and plundered most parts of central and southern Baluchistan and relevant territories. Of course that was different from robbery and stealing because when they went to "Chapo", they had group movement and read epic poems. They were threatening with highest levels of being slaved and killed. By the way, after "Chapo" they had the memories for long terms. Those with higher brevity and activity found higher social positions.

When the authority of central governance was developed up to first Pahlavi time, most of military organizations obtained the safety of most areas at Baluchistan. Smuggling was the other phenomenon which was in compliance with modes of provincial nomads. The first type of smuggling was weapon according to the specific conditions of the province. Gradually it was changed into smuggling of products and also more profitable trade of narcotics because the profit of shipment multi kilograms of narcotics was better to ship tons of smuggled products. Of course it is necessary to mention that it was not applicable in all areas of the province ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#))

3.10. Civil war of Afghanistan and Immigration of Afghans to Iran

Most of Afghan nationals immigrated to Eastern provinces such as Sistan and Baluchistan within 1978 and after that because of some political changes in Afghanistan and rise of non-fixed conditions and war there. A part of the

mentioned population were occupied in agricultural activities and also animal husbandry and/or constructional jobs and servicing situations like transfer of products. Since most of the immigrants were involved with smuggling of goods and narcotics, their immigration to province made it possible for continuation of the same activities with regard to language and culture commons among immigrants (especially Baluch Afghan immigrants). The residents at Baluchistan and Pakistan established an organization for involved Baluch persons with smuggling for which the real symbol is obvious at Rasouli Cross Roads Market of Zahedan. Since they have easy access to smugglers and have good knowledge about origins of products especially any products imported from Pakistan and/or to it, they have found a new condition as the major occupied persons in smuggling of products ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

3.11. Iran and Iraq war

Imposed war was also effective on development of smuggling activities. There were some shortages in domestic market due to sending of disciplinary forces at primary years of revolution and serious control on territories and also lack of allocation required credits for import of necessary products due to currency limitations and further needs to currency resources and income for purchase of weapons and war equipment. High rate of demands for the products in domestic market and importing them through illegal ways including Sistan and Baluchistan territories show it as economic as possible ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

3.12. Consuming and luxury mode inside of country

Any transportation of luxury and smuggled products into country within 1950s with regard to current conditions and demands made it possible to change the same with intermediate, health and consuming products without any luxury aspects.

Also there are some encouragements for smugglers to promote their activities after war up to now because of any shortages in any products inside the market and various limitations for foreign currency through official resources, prohibition of importing any goods through legal territories and also lots of profits. Meanwhile what is interesting is change of smuggled goods into country from consuming and luxury into non-luxury ones within 1950s. In other words, such a changing of nature was obvious with war period up to now because of current demand as well. It seems that it has the same role in future for supplying a part of

necessary items especially intermediate goods even with lack of effective reactions with this structure ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

3.13. Free Trade Zones and Territorial Market

The proposal of establishment of territorial market for making new jobs and reducing from transfer of illegal goods was approved by the Board of Ministers in the form of a provincial plan (Development of East part) and for facilitating any aerial fields and creation of free zones for making it possible to have foreign investment and occupation fields. In the mentioned frameworks there were Chabahar Trade zone and some territorial markets like Milk Territorial market, Mirjaveh, Negour and Jacky Gour. In spite of positive and negative effects on aerial economy, these markets and Chabahar Free Zone could facilitate any transfer of smuggling products especially importing of smuggling goods from surrounding aerial part of free zone and also territorial markets and supplying of them to sale markets of foreign products. Therefore there are lots of similarities between illegal imported goods to the market of foreign goods especially Rasouli Market of Zahedan and the same at Chabahr Free trade zone or territorial markets after payment of custom charges as well ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

From viewpoint of Sunni groups and clergymen of this province, it is prohibited to buy or sell any products after stoppage at entrance way to country (on smuggling form) by disciplinary forces. They should be returned back to major owners. Therefore people do not buy or sale the mentioned products which may be sold through custom houses or relevant departments ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

Regarding the smuggling of narcotics, most of Sunni groups of province believe in illegal nature of it and consider it out of legal transactions and jobs. Such an issue made most of Sunni persons in charge of smuggling of narcotics to leave their job within recent years because they accept the idea of their clergymen about prohibition of buying/selling of narcotics and any transfer or sale as well (Smuggling of products) ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

CONCLUSION

It is necessary to mention that all Baluch people are respected by leaders and members of tribes at both countries without any problems for residing or living out of their main area. Such an easy relationship besides other necessities for job and income may cause some differences in product prices and/or lack of it among Iranian market and other countries. Also there are some

ways for escaping from Custom House charges and legal discussions due to their dominance and also their tribes and good knowledge about hard transferring roads and /or through Makran beaches for smuggling of goods. Of course such a process has organized due to the presence of MAFIA smuggling groups and also terrorist/religious groups.

Rather than because of great competitions among Baluch tribes from viewpoint of power and financial facilities for finding more priority some of the members are trying to find financial priority through illegal ways such as smuggling. On the other hand and due to more development of Iranian Baluchistan in comparison with two other areas, Pakistani Baluch have great interests in living at Iran or continue their studies. It is in a way that sometimes the statistics of Pakistani people at Baluchistan was really great and even today they are living under the supports of Iranian Baluch tribes. Most of cases are unknown which may cause some disorders like smuggling and unsafe conditions. Therefore it is effective to have any discussions about tribal and ethnic relations at both sides of territories. Regarding any lack of signs for making an end to these relations, we will find more problems which should be inserted in future researches and programming as one of the major factors of smuggling as well.

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