

THE EFFECTIVE ROLE OF TRIBE AND GROUP IN SMUGGLING FROM BALUCHISTAN

Abolfazl IsaAbadi Bozchallouei

Department of Political Sciences Payam Noor University, P.O. Box 19395-3697, Tehran, Iran

ABSTRACT: Today the role of any communications among different tribes and talent groups for smuggling has been ignored in most studies. Meanwhile the states are obliged to have a serious attitude for prevention and control of smuggling and also create of tribal and ethnic discussions especially in the field of culture making with regard to further effects of smuggling. Regarding the old history and dividing into three countries along with international territories and in spite of long-term relations among residents, old Baluchistan is preparing to change into a non-permitted way for illegal transfer of goods even with useful potentials like unemployment and low income. It is a suitable field for making any interests at Baluchistan of Iran and Pakistan. Also the mentioned communications make the area ready for finding more interests through smuggling and the origin of great smuggling networks and misuse of religious groups for benefiting from human potential of tribes besides the supports of other countries. Finally it is the adolescents and tribes of Iran and the whole society which may face with lots of losses and damages.

KEYWORDS: Baluchistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tribe, Smuggling.

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Social and Tribal structure of Baluch people

There are ten small and great tribes for Baluch people. Therefore it is possible to organize them into 150 small and great tribes ([Jahanbani, 1959](#)). Baluch tribes had lots of power and facilities from the beginning of Mongols' attacks up to the middle of 19th century ([Spoonner, 1983](#)). Although central governments had tried at different historical periods to control their tribes and leaders, but in contrast Baluch leaders started to promote their influence area more than before ([Salzman, 1971](#)). Presence of semi-feudal format at south part of Baluchistan and leadership at north part of Baluchistan and also political-social and economic relations with other tribes from one side and neighboring with other tribes on the other were some of the most effective factors in this regard. It means that fighting mode at Northern tribes and central part of Iranian Baluchistan was more than Southern ones. Because most of tribes at south part were relying upon agriculture and northern ones relying upon animal husbandry. There were lots of changes in tribal and leadership structure of Baluchistan upon the rise of a modern state. Upon the rise of Pahlavi dynasty, there was a collapse for this structure ([Asarian Nejad, 2003](#)). The victory of Islamic revolution made a weak situation for the mentioned traditional leadership structure. But new

formats of it like Molavi started their activities again ([Pishgahi Fard and Ghodsi, 2008](#)).

1.2. Gap of tradition and Modernism

Such a political-social gap has mostly a cultural nature which has been added to Iranian population from the beginning of 20th century rather than political-social ones. Such a gap is clearly obvious among various tribes of Iran and upon the rise of Pahlavi dynasty. The important thing is the role of communication technology in changing of national and tribal cultures. It may cause any creation of a dominant and prior culture than other national culture and sub-cultures. It may not only weaken national identity but also has removed tribal and racial dogmatisms ([Rahmatollahi, 2004](#)). Some people believe that nationalism and rationality are combined in world culture ([Nader pour, 2005](#)). On the other hand, it is possible to say that any promotion of communication may cause a growth in nationality credits for tribes ([Jalaei Pour, 2001](#)). Civilization development and removal of traditional structure of Baluch changed most of cities into a place for changing of traditional identities into new one ([Borghei, 1972](#); [Beik Mohammadi, 1995](#)). In fact, since Iranian culture has no more required fields for acceptance of western values, most of functions for making any compatibility between Iranian society and new world conditions out of

Western culture were unsuccessful up to now ([Kavyani, 2005](#); [Seyed Imami, 2006](#)).

1.3. Ideological conflicts

There is a potential for cultural, social and political challenges in Pakistan due to religion variant (Wahhabis) and formation of deep ideological contrasts as well. The real symbol of such a contrast is facing of Taliban and followers groups of Iran at Afghanistan ([Pishgahi Fard and Ghodsi, 2008](#)).

TRIBAL THREATS

Any effects of Pakistan Baluchistan culture on Iranian Baluchistan ones along with ultra-territorial intrigues may cause little national mode and reduction of central power as well. For instance if wearing of local Baluch clothes was considered as backwardness of people prior to victory of Islamic Revolution, at present not only it is common but also it has been changed into a social value. At present there are lots of tendencies towards foreign culture due to wide range of foreign advertisements (especially by Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Oman) and also little attention of authorities.

BALUCH AND BALUCHISTAN

Baluchistan includes two words of "Baluch" as the name of a tribe and "Istan" as a sign of a place. It has been named as "Baluchistan" from the time of Nader Shah up to now ([Torabi, 1990](#)). There are various ideas about the origin and tribes of Baluch. But most of specialists believe that primary homeland of this tribe is not their current place. They have immigrated to the present place according to some necessities and conditions ([Torabi, 1990](#)).

Most of researchers considered Baluch tribe as an Iranian one. A proof for this claim is close relationship between Baluch language and ancient language of "Maad" tribes. Their history reaches to Iranian Written history ([Shah Bakhsh, 1998](#)).

3.1. History of Baluch Language

Baluch language is included in classification of Persian language and Northern group and also Western/Iranian languages ([Torabi, 1990](#)). Due to close relationship with Eastern-Iranian languages and extraction some of the language indexes, it is somehow similar to Pahlavi Sassanid and in some other cases into Parthian Pahlavi.

Baluchi language is one of the oldest Iranian languages from viewpoint of composition. Baluchi language has remained in its folkloric form because of the life style of Baluch tribe. There is little number of written works in this

language and/or its dialects. Because of combination with Persian language and Persian speakers, most of Baluch tribe obtained Persian language for their literature ([Torabi, 1990](#)).

3.2. Religion and believes of Baluchistan

Baluchistan people are Moslems and Hanafi. They are the majority of population at Sistan and Baluchistan ([Gharab, 1985](#)).

INTERNAL FACTORS

4.1. Tribal and religious composition of province

Baluch society has a tribal and rural structure. According to the statistic, about %52.7 of population are rural persons in 1978. Although it is related to the whole province, but an inevitable reality is the rate of rural Baluch people which is more than Persians with Shiite religion. Citizens Baluch are included in the group of rural immigrants. Most of population is Sunni or Hanafi.

4.1.1. The role of Central Government

Like Iranian history, Baluchistan history was continuously subject to domestic orders or disorders. Then a powerful state could make a unity throughout the country. All residents were obeying the rules. Upon the appointment of Reza Shah, he applied mutual and double policy. He collapsed Baluch people from one side and also made a harmony among different tribes as well. At the time of Pahlavi I and II, the state tried to arrest most of Baluch leaders along with various functions for improvement of area. Sistan and Baluchistan University and Hawze were structured concurrently ([Barahouei, 1999](#)). Islamic Revolution was an end for the power of Baluch traditional talents and made great shocks to khans and leaders. At the beginning of revolution most of Baluch talents found important executive, administrative and political positions. But after a period time they dismissed and gradually omitted from administrative and executive hierarchy ([Ahmadi, 2000](#)). The important point understands that any feeling of omission and removal is undoubtedly a threat for national unity. Even after 23 May and presenting various discussions about national participations and Iran for all Iranian people, just two perfects of Baluchistan province were present in session ([Hafez Nia and Kavyan Rad, 2005](#)).

4.1.2. Geographical loneliness

As a great part of Sistan and Baluchistan, Baluchistan area includes about %6.5 of total area of country. It is facing with a form of geographical loneliness and deep divergence of Baluch people from political issues due to long

distance, indirect position in wide range of space with central and internal areas and also because of the presence of two great deserts named as Dasht-e-Lout and Dasht-e-Kavir. In spite of deep convergence of Iranian and Pakistani Baluch people specifically at territorial areas, the wideness and strategic importance of Baluchistan is more than Iran and Afghanistan. Therefore Pakistani governments had lots of interests for more strategic cooperation with Iran in this field for more than half of recent century ([Karim Pour, 2000](#)).

4.1.3. Appearance of political-local tendencies at Baluchistan

Iranian Baluch people had no more active participations in political activities. They did not make a political or special military campaign for themselves even for a short term ([Ahmadi, 2000](#)).

EXTERNAL FACTORS

5.1. Interfere aerial forces in tribal issues of Baluchistan

External interfere of Baluchistan is basically originated from any relations among Iran and Arabic countries of Persian Gulf and neighboring ones. For instance the issue of nationality in Iranian Baluchistan which was effective in aerial attacks and further relations of Iran and Iraq and rise of Baas group in 1968. Arabic countries started to present a Sunni-Arabic identity against majority of Shiite –Persians for Baluchistan ([Ahmadi, 2000](#)).

5.2. Pakistani Baluch people

Pakistan is divided into various political-administrative units according to some minor parts under the title of state. Baluchistan state includes %43.6 of total area of Pakistan with a population about 7,357,895 persons equal to %5.7 total population of this country in 1995 ([Hafez Nia, 2000](#)). Pakistan is mainly managed by Panjab people without any welcome to Baluch. Illiteracy, poverty and inability of Pakistan state for considering Baluchistan are the main reasons of backwardness of this state. All these factors caused some separation movements and military attacks in 1973-77 like "Marry" as well ([Worldmar, 1997](#)). "Hob" newspaper has great influence in areas of nationality Baluch people. Most of Baluch and Pakistani leaders requested it for more attention to Baluchi language and literature at Iran. Establishment of Baluch tribes with common territories in three countries of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan may cause more agreement and triple coordination for strategic control of Baluch areas. Such coordination was available

always between Iran and Pakistan ([Karim Pour, 2000](#)). The future of Pakistani Baluchistan is effective on Sistan and Baluchestan province especially in middle parts due to integrity and unity of Iran. In case of any changes which may cause weakening of Federal state at Pakistan and weakness of convergence of Baluch and Islam Abad may cause an increase in centrifugal force of Baluch people at Sistan and Baluchistan province. On the other hand, establishment of Hanafi Fundamentalism System in both countries of Pakistan and Afghanistan is effective on Baluch Iranian scopes with maximum rate of their divergence ([Karim Pour, 2000](#)).

THE HISTORY AND ROLE OF TRIBES IN SMUGGLING OF PRODUCTS FROM BALUCHISTAN

Slave and gold trade has a long-term history at South/Central Baluchistan and beaches of Persian Gulf. It was continued up to the end of 19th century. From the beginning of 20th century and upon the rise of war among England, Afghanistan and Baluch people, illegal trade of weapons and missions was very considerable. Some Baluch tribes and groups played an effective role in trade of weapons and transferring it to attacking Baluch and also Afghan forces involved with English men.

Muscat was the origin of weapon smuggling. Bushehr tradesmen and representatives of Muscat could supply weapons and Baluch and Afghan people purchased the same and transferred to Makran beach by sea (Southern parts of Iranian Baluchistan). The leaders of Baluch tribes received the "Goods" and took the same inside Baluchistan and against received another group of products. Again transfer the same to another group while it may reach to Afghanistan with such a process for smuggling cargo. Gradually by removing any fields of weapons trade due to political conditions and dominance of central government at Pahlavi regime, it was changed into smuggling of any goods with high demands in domestic market including different clothes and fabric, light home appliances and medicines and some other consuming products ([Kalhor and Niavarani, 2008](#)).

Gradually after the first years of 1940, it was possible to have domestic supply and demand of these products. There was an increase in complexity and skills of smuggling. People had more interests in that phenomenon. At the beginning smuggling of products was mostly at southern and central parts of Baluchistan with easier connection with sea and Persian Gulf countries. All products were sipped by

smuggling caravans after passing dessert way towards central cities like Isfahan and Kashan provinces and surrounding Tehran. Then they distributed throughout the country. At that time, Zahidan was at the beginning of its growth and the central part was not suitable for unloading of smuggling goods.

Only the required amount of smuggled products was transferred to that city through Mirjaveh and Taftan. Upon the growth of Zahidan city, it was changed into one of the major centers for supplying and distribution of smuggling products besides all other income centers for required polar growth. It could developed its scope of influence up to the farthest parts of country (years 1971 up to now). Followings are relevant fields of creation any smuggled products at Sistan and Baluchistan province:

IDENTIFYING THE EFFECTIVE ROLE OF TRIBE AND GROUP IN SMUGGLING FROM BALUCHISTAN

As it is obvious, Baluchistan was an integrated area with Baluch people. It has been divided into three countries of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan in order to make required conditions for pressure and crisis making to three countries in favor of England and West profits. Today due to weakness of central government of Pakistan and Afghanistan from one side and lack of consideration of Pakistan government for Baluchistan and lack of abilities in controlling of common territories with Iran as one of the major safety points on the other and also due to old relationship between Baluch people and their relatives at the abroad, it is impossible to have specific control for any coming / going. In fact a part of Baluch people have powerful relationships with Pakistani Baluch people. In some cases they have completed their scientific or religious courses at Pakistan and then returned back to Iran. Sometimes they have married with Pakistani Baluch people. Also they are under negative cultural pressures of Pakistani Baluch people and intend to perform the same traditions at Iranian Baluchistan. But according to the recent researches, a major part of Iranian Baluchistan do not compare their progress and culture with Pakistan and Afghanistan and receive required safety and services from Iranian authorities. They are completely satisfied. But meanwhile they are facing with various problems including lack of occupation of youths, low level of literacy, low income and some other problems which are the same even for other adolescents of country.

Therefore they are interested to make more relations with their relatives at Pakistan and other parts of other countries like Dubai. Also

they are searching to find more profits through transferring of products on smuggling basis and by the use of their dominance on physical lands of Iranian territories and enrichment of their relation with Pakistan for recognition of safe ways for illegal import of goods and /or non-permitted items at Baluchistan of Iran and aerial countries and also due to natural obstacles.

On the other hand, we should not ignore any intends of residing Baluch people at Pakistan and other neighboring countries for finding more profits out of smuggling of goods to Iran. Of course it is a factor of more interests of Iranian Baluchistan youths to have cooperation with their Pakistan Baluch friends. In fact, such an interest in smuggling is a mutual relationship rather than personal relations and just for facilitation of this purpose. We have lots of people at Sistan and Baluchistan province who are married and residents at both territories which is a sign of continuous relation of them in future years. According to obtained information about modern technologies including virtual space and other mass media, Baluch people have good knowledge about both territories and it is a general connection between separated areas at old Baluchistan.

Iranian Baluchistan was the place of presence for attacking groups including Rigi group, Jeishol Adl, Ansar and Including Iranian Baluch youth and due to misuse of major leaders of groups. They are ready to scarify just for finding their goals. Any presence of these groups and their easy movements at both sides of territories at Pakistan shows that Pakistan Baluchistan is a ready place for any functions either economic or safety. It is also the milestone of all relations and contacts between Iranian Baluchistan and Pakistan. Also there are lots of Pakistani Baluch at Iran who made irreparable damages due to bearing a supportive headquarter of their relatives including absorption of Baluch youths out of illegal functions.

Baluchistan has a specific classification due to governance of leaders in a way that any personal attacks may cause bloody fights between two tribes and it is also possible for them to show their priorities from various aspects for finding more properties and leading the tribe members toward smuggling. It is a very serious problem.

Also due to the mentioned attacks, it is common to have escaping of various persons towards territories and through illegal ways. Sometimes various tribes find autonomy and made a part of mountains of province under their own control and prevent from entrance of safety forces. For instance we have "Eidok Bameri" who played a great role in making unsafe situation and smuggling. Although he was finally killed but any

presence of these persons and supportive networks are the signs of tribal and ethnic dogmatism as well.

Today we are witness of the presence of professional groups and smuggling MAFIA networks which are easily smuggling of narcotics. Baluch people at both sides of territory may be absorbed by these networks and cooperate with them. But in most cases we are witness of various functions such as smuggling (especially narcotics and weapons) and also unsafe conditions at Iranian territories not due to a need but because of non-satisfactions of central government and some conflicts among religious, tribal or ethnic minorities and/or by intrigues of religious movements especially Wahhabis. It is one of the major financial resources through smuggling not only for promotion of dogmatic activities of Wahhabis but also promotion of thoughts through financial supports of smuggling and for assisting dogmatic activities of Wahhabis and promotion of their thoughts through financial supports of Sunni groups.

Finally it is necessary to point out that we should be careful about misuse of two factors of "smuggling" and "tribal and ethnic correlations" between Iranian Baluchistan and Pakistan besides various economic profitable networks and also dogmatic religious movements with supports of Western and Arabic states for more effects on Iranian and Pakistan changes.

Regarding the current situation without any signs of serious reduction of any relations between Iranian Baluch and Pakistani Baluch, we should provide clear and transparent information about Iranian Baluchistan for public media and inform them about sensitive situation and real condition of Pakistani Baluchistan and daily changes including misuse of it through Western countries for impressions on central states of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan and even aerial countries for reducing any future dangers against youths and Iranian tribes.

CONCLUSION

Baluchistan people maintain their family relationships with other members due to some inter-relations of tribes and support of tribe members. Meanwhile it has been rare in other parts of our country. Therefore due to the mentioned powerful tribal relationships, there are still some communications among Baluch people in three countries of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan instead of any international territories. Although there are some differences in three mentioned countries' rules and cultures and also any marriage contracts between Iranian nationals and the same in two other countries

and vice versa is a sign of continuous relations in future years. Regarding any communicative ways and mass media like magazines and virtual space, it is possible to give better news about deeper relations among them.

REFERENCES

- Ahmadi H. Modern state and Iranian Nationality: Breaking of current paradigm. Modern state, Rasoul Afzali, Mofid University, Qom press 2007; pp:111.
- Asarian Nejad H. Any relation between Iranian nationality diffusion and Territorial safety. National Defense University, Geopolitical bulletin 2003; 48-49: 23-32.
- Ayoubi M. Cruelty and Tribal gaps in political fights. Political Studies Bulletin 1998; 1: 19-39.
- Barahouei N. A glance to culture and nation of Baluchistan. National Studies Bulletin 1999; 1: 184.
- Beik Mohammadi H. Tourism attractions of Sistan and Baluchistan Province. Research Geographical bulletin 1995; 38: 126-132.
- Borghei M. Political Organization of Benet state. Mazyar press, Hamedan 1972; pp:68-72.
- Gharab KA. Balucistan as a memory of centuries. 2nd edition, Keyhan press Organization 1985; pp:25.
- Hafez Nia MR. Geographical-Political situation of Iran. Tarbiat Modarres University 2000; pp:45-147.
- Hafez Nia MR, Kavyan Rad M. The role of tribal identity in national unity (Case study: Baluch tribe). Isfahan University Magazine 2005; 1: 15-46.
- Jahanbani A. Baluchistan story and its territories. Artesh press, Tehran 1959; pp:62.
- Jalaei Pour HR. Globalization and Tribal movements by focusing on Kurdish movements in Iran. Norouz newspaper 2001; 4: 145-178.
- Kalhor S, Niavarani N. Effects of Badookis functions at Sistan and Baluchistan and safety of territorial areas of Iran and Pakistan. Disciplinary Management Studies Bulletin 2008; 2: 169-181.
- Karim Pour Y. An introduction on Iran and Neighbors. 1st edition, Tarbiat Moallem University Press 2000; pp:85.
- Kavyani M. Geographical basics of Iranian Culture. Bulletin of Strategic Studies 2005; 3: 143-161.
- Nader Pour B. Globalization: Threats. Hadis Emrouz press, Tehran 2005; pp:238.
- Pishgahi Fard Z, Ghodsi A. Analysis of Geopolitical aspects of Pakistan and its role in any relations with other countries.

- Geographical researches bulletin 2008; 63: 81-99.
- Rahmatollahi H. Globalization and its effects on national and Tribal identity. *Andisheh Legal magazine* 2004; 3(8): 91-112.
- Salzman P. Movement and Resource Extraction among Pastoral Nomads: The Case of the Shah Nawazi Baluch. *Anthropology Quarterly* 1971; 44: 185-197.
- Seyed Imami K. Nationality attitude about political identity. *Political sciences bulletin* 2006; 3: 143-161.
- Shah Bakhsh A. Political territories for Baluchistan. *Goftogoo bulletin* 1998; pp:20.
- Spooner BJ. who are the Baluch? A Periminary Investigation into the Dynamics of an Ethnic Identity from Qajar Iran, Political Social and Cultural Change. *Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh* 1983; pp:96.
- Torabi SA. Master of Science Thesis, Public linguistic, Structural definition of current group in Baluchi language. *Tarbiat Modarres University* 1990; pp:106-108.
- Worldmar K. *Encyclopedia of culture and daily life. Asia and Oceania by timoth* 1997; pp:88.