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Emerging Movements challenge state actors

Migdal, in his classic work greatly explained the state-society relationship in the developing world viewed that state actors and a highly developed capacity to counter the emerging movements. In his approach ‘state in society’, Migdal highlight the social fixity of state actors and the degree to which social actors and state elites compete over the limits and boundaries of state power (Steven Heydemann). Such as Gadhafi in Libya ignored the formation a formal and large consolidated state apparatus and pursued an anti-intuitional system of governance. On the other hand, there was a sharp contrast to Egyptian and Tunisian cases as they struggle for a controlled and consolidated state. The Arab Spring recommends the value of revisiting and returning to his framework.

The emergence of International Movements in contemporary globalized world have challenged actors in various ways. The future of the state actors is in a constant flux as the non-state actors are continuously increasing their power and influence. Such as in the case of Moscow Peace talks with Taliban and without the Afghan Government (Higgins and Mashal). The movements with brining up of non-state actors are not only influencing regional and international politics but also violating International law and society. As a result the state actors will relinquish their influence in a mutual relationship. The state actors – such as Ashraf Ghani did after the Moscow Gathering – will eventually criticize the relationship. This will undermine actors’ authority and power.

The Islamic movements such as Hezbollah, Hamas and Al-Qaeda had a limited role prior to the Arab Spring in the region. But after the self-immolation of a street vendor in Tunisia and the start of Arab Spring in late 2010, the movements gained a significant influence over the state actors. These movements seek to achieve their gradually with breaking of many taboos and penetration of state actors.

The role of these emerging movements, one may acknowledge that with the beginning of the Arab Spring, their role has been becoming more evident to a level that these movements have exceeded the role of regimes and governments regionally and internationally. These movements have started to inflict certain agendas and policies on regional and international regimes and will soon eliminate traditional political borders like they have been doing in case of Middle East. While other phenomenon such as globalization took decades to find its way in the region (Dr Fadi Elhussein).

There was a better opportunity for the US to show its responsibility by re-promoting their allies with provision of trainings and information, and supply of weapons for countering terrorism. On the other hand, it could also have cooperation with other major powers including Russia for regional peace. Their competitive cooperation, in fact, further strengthened the movements in general and the non-state actors in particular.

Returning to the referendum in UK on its continuous membership in EU can be viewed as an ‘English Arab Spring” as they felt alienated both economically and politically. Inclusiveness is the only factor that leads to the success of nation with expansion of economic opportunities and political rights. Dr Paul Rivlin views the 2008 economic crisis as possible reason behind tis ‘English Arab Spring’ as they more feared (Dr. Paul Rivlin). Therefore, there was anger to be focused on institutional building. However, there was a vibrant relationship between voting and age patterns. The young greatly favored to remain with the European Union.

There are various reason regarding leaving of the European Union and they are beyond the EU and the UK. First of all, the people in UK never felt to be European as they were losing sovereignty and nationalism. Moreover, the decisions made by the European Union were perceived as ‘interfering’ with the vital interests of UK, particularly the economic interests. In addition, there was budgetary issues as the UK was the net contributor to the European Union. Therefore, the UK nationals were asking for reallocation of those funds to their National Health Service and other British institutions.

Many of academics, on the other hand, view the Brexit movement as a rejection of globalization as the European Union has been failed to protect states’ vital economic interests, as many believe that it is not working for them. The Brexit is just more than protest for career opportunities. In fact, they wanted to replace that economic model which has been there far more than three decades (Elliott). European Union failed to protect itself from the worst excesses of the market and the free movement of capital. The idea of globalization was a more integrated Europe but this this dream is over now as the Brexit, however, is a historic affair in the history of capitalized world.

Brexit is often attributed with nationalism while the same word is used differently around the world such as in the case of Arab Spring. It was, in fact, for a struggle for economic stability in Tunisia. Nationalism has brought the concept of ‘us vs them’. Globalization, on the other hand, beneficial, destructive, compelling and horrifying (Halcrow). The contemporary generation is believes the idea of a continuous economic and political progress. While the cotemporary movements have found fragilities in the global market economy. Yet globalization is continuous due to technological advancement and political engagements by the state actors. However, the contemporary dominant model is unsuitable to economies, society and the environment.

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