

Security policy of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi in Baluchistan

Zia Khazaei

Department of Political Science, Zahedan branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran
KhazaeiZ@ymail.com

Abstract: The issue of insecurity is one of the main affairs that Baluchistan region is concerned about and come into view in specific form during different period of times. Since the formation of the modern state in Iran by Mohammad Reza Shah, dealing with security issue by a new and modern approach found its special place in government policies. Mohammad Reza Shah tried to have deeper and various look to security issue. Security either from hardware (military) or from software (economic, cultural) aspects have been considered by the government. So, the paper attempts to address security policy toward Baluchistan district in the Period of Mohammad Reza Shah. [Zia Khazaei. **Security policy of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi in Baluchistan**. *N Y Sci J* 2012;5(10):158-163]. (ISSN: 1554-0200). <http://www.sciencepub.net/newyork>. 26

Keywords: Security policy, Baluchistan, Mohammad Reza Shah, insecurity

1. Introduction

Mohammad Reza Shah government's hardware policies with respect to changes in the international system had tried to suppress centrifugal forces. But also, Mohammad Reza Shah's modern government attempted to establish its hegemony and power by administrative and military agencies across the country (Grinter, Dr. Lawrence E. 1983). Disarming the tribes and nomads was conducted along with the institutionalization of security in Baluchistan, although this policy exacerbated insecurity to some extent. Because general disarmament makes the rebels and brigand who were still armed more exasperated and without strong and powerful military establishment in the region, the way of insecurity was paved for those who had lost their weapons. So, the security from software aspect was also addressed by Mohammad Reza Shah in the region of Baluchistan. Constructing the path and roads in the Baluchistan region plays an important role for the central government to access to farther reaches of the region. Most of the ways were narrow path prior to the Mohammad Reza Shah's government which prohibits the domination of central government on Baluchistan region, meanwhile it was associated with lack of economic development. Paying attention to agricultural development through constructing the dams and aqueducts were the other actions done by Mohammad Reza Shah along with economic and food security in Baluchistan.

A) Defining the concept of security and hypothesis:

In this study we aim to address the security policy of Reza Mohammad Reza Shah in Baluchistan. At first, we define the concept of security and their indexes. Of course, the exact definition of security is so difficult that some

experts such as Arnold Wolfers specify national security as an ambiguous symbol which is not possible to have a precise meaning. Alstayer Boukan also writes "security is a term with unstable meaning", however it is tried to provide almost a definition close to fact of security. Some authors explain security as lack of military threat. Other classical definition of security interprets it as country ability to repel foreign threats against political life or national sources. Therefore, in the study, Mohammad Reza Shah's security policy means to include all of these parameters. Hypothesis: "Mohammad Reza Shah's policies in Baluchistan played an important role in the development and security of the region." Mohammad Reza Shah developed and expanded the security either in terms of hardware (military) or the software (economic and cultural) terms in Baluchistan region. By establishing and strengthening military institutions in the region, the way were prepared for centralization as well as general disarmament and settlement the nomads laid the groundwork for permanent security. From, software aspect, Mohammad Reza Shah developed the security in the region by undertaking economic and cultural measurements such as erecting school, Roads, helping to agricultural affairs, construction of aqueducts, anti-slavery actions. Of course, it is noted that Mohammad Reza Shah was not so successful in Baluchistan region and there were defects in his plan that will be mentioned meanwhile.

B) The method used

The method used in this study is the historical method. The available facts was tried to be analyzed by relying on resources and references. Using the available resources in libraries and

national documentation centers assisted us in writing of this research.

C) Social and political structure of the State and Baloch tribes and nomads:

Some of the west social scientists consider the tribes and nomads as primitive societies which not accept state within the framework of conflict between tribe and the state. In despite, Iran social political realities indicate that tribes are not isolate, primitive groups that not accept state. Conversely, they create a large and powerful tribes have been created by governments. Iran history shows that there were mutual relationship between tribes and the governments. For example, local series and national governments have been established tribal groups in Iran after the Islam. Great dynasties of the Ghaznavids, Seljuk, Safavid, Afsharid, Zand and Qajar had been founded by tribe leaders. State rulers were typically tribe leaders or their descendants. On the contrary, we have in Iran history that governments founded tribes through them they could attain their specific goals. We therefore know few tribes that are not affected by governments in last two centuries. Therefore, there were mutual relationship between states and tribes in Iran. Aspects of these relationships can be examined, some of which are as follows: First: The State Government recognized sachems' position. Second: sachem in the areas under their influence was delegates appointed by the government or as local governors. The third: the tribal group financially supports government by gathering taxes and Iran troops were its main provider. Tribal leaders needed to be recognized officially and supported by state to enjoy full authority and privilege on his tribe. Philip Salzman named some of the Kurd tribal leaders (governor) in Baluchistan that were loyal to the Iran's Shah, performed their duty as Shah's agent in turn and they were encouraged and supported by Shah. The main issue in examining the social structure of tribes is "being Khan in top of pyramid social that was not only owner of peasant's land but also their body and soul because khans were responsible for defending against alien invasion and had spiritual power, the troopers and armies were the cause and main groundwork of their coercion. Therefore, in Baluch community, khans were the symbol of military and material power of tribe, they had more spiritual sanctity in Baluchistan because of defending against frequent attacks throughout the history, Baluch Khans had the troopers and Army officers, tax collectors, and also possessed a lot of property as well as panegyrist, slaves and Sheiks. The main difference between Baluch and other tribes of Iran was Baluch social classification

(stratification). Class structure of Baluchi community was rural and their nomads were CASSETT type in this period of time. for example, when we say "son of slave" in the Baluchi, it is formed a CASSETT, and he always is son of slave even if he would escape from his own community, reach to a good position and return to his community as a doctor or engineer, he is still considered as a son of slave in Baluchistan community with social rights of a slave, so new social jobs, which can gain worth and respect for individuals in urban community other than Baluch, cannot create change in his legal and class status ". Therefore, accordingly khans were at the first class of Baluch tribe community who were called commanders and they greatly influenced the region. They possessed so great estates in where and even in the area greater than their own estate, they impose a kind of tribal rule right. Government officials took position in some limited points because of shortage of communication media, the direct communication was less with Baluchistan people in Reza Shah Period apart from that commanders prohibited their followers to communicate with government officials because they afraid of weakening their power. So, they made themselves as only means of communication between the state and tribes as possible. "Generally, there were classification and tribal structures in Baluchistan as follows: 1 -Tribe 2 – Tireh or Rind 3 - Shelvar 4 - Kheil or Halak 5 - households. Each clan had elders that word of Khan was mentioned after his own name. Kashes (elders), Tirehs and Shelve's leaders were after Khan and controlled geographical area of clans, according to mentioned classification, they were at the decision making level. The heads of Halaks were responsible of selecting the location, migration,; settlement, decreasing and increasing the Halak families, settling their disputes, weddings and funerals, transactions and all issues related to outside the Halak. The Shelvars and Tirehs' elders not only preserved the tribes' structure and resolved the conflicts with other tribes but also handled the general issues related to their own sect or other sects of tribe and leadership.

1.1. Political Situation of Baluchistan before Reza Khan

Qajar government during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century failed to establish a centralized system in Iran because of its weakness. Baloch leaders and commanders misused the weakness of government and consolidated his position as governor of Baluchistan in Iran. When Reza Shah gained power, the head of Baran Zaie

tribe had controlled a significant portion of southern Baluchistan. Dost Mohammad Khan, the greatest local governor of Baluchistan was against the centralized policy of the Reza Shah. Other powerful tribes of Baluchistan such as YarAhmad Zehi, GemshadZehi and Ismael zehi had the authority of the Sarhad region in North of Baluchistan. Dost Mohammad Khan governed in the region of Bampour which was possessed by Baran Zaie tribe which its heads had been the local ruler of Baluchistan since Nader Shah Afshar period of time. "When the Qajar appointed governor in Baluchistan moved into Kerman in 1907 A.D, 1286 S, governmental centers in Bampour and Iranshahr was granted to Bahram Khan Barkazaie and Saeed Khan Balidehy, two Baluch commanders. All next efforts were not successful for convincing Bahram Khan to obey until the British took him to obey the central government in Tehran". On the other hand, the government of Reza Shah did not dissatisfied by nominal loyalty of local rulers and paying taxes contrary to the Qajar kings, but also he wanted to expand its political and administrative system in the area in order to create a modern state. For this reason, Reza Shah rejected Dost Muhammad Khan's suggestion namely paying taxes to the government against granting the local state to him. Reza Shah decided to put Baluchistan under government control in 1927. In 1928, Army took action against Dost Muhammad Khan. Of course, Reza Shah requested Dost Mohammad Khan to go to Tehran and surrendered himself that not accepted by him. After the event, he was deposed from a position of Bampour governing and the other Balouch commander was appointed there. It seemed two factor played role in Dost Mohammad Khan's authority who was considered as Baluchistan main local power (Page, Jeremy (2009).

- A) Main public domain in Baluchistan
- B) Authentication of his government in Baluchistan.

In relation to formalizing his government in Baluchistan, based on the inquiry for Kerman government from domestic ministry in 1303 S, it is declared that there is not any record to show his formalization in domestic ministry. As we mentioned, central government primarily asked him to give up himself that he did not surrender himself and instead of it determined conditions that was not accepted. Central government tried to accelerate suppressing Dost Mohammad Khan. The main reason referred to his relationship with Aman Allah Khan, Afghanistan king. Hossen Makki writes about it as: "Aman Allah Khan had been started to

slander against Iran government as well some actions were taken including acceptance of Dost Mohammad Khan envoys and promised him for Afghan's assistance and provoke against Iran government". Second reason can be summarized in Reza Shah's centralist policies who could not tolerate local states and centrifugal force. The third matter referred to public disarming along with which the Baluchistan had to be disarmed. The forth cause was for Britain opposition against Dost Mohammad Khan that apparently involved in provoking Reza Shah to act in Baluchistan conquering operation. Dost Mohammad Khan's attack to Mirjaveh railway and inflict loss to British were the cause of this provocation. Finally, Dost Mohammad Khan did not give up himself against central government pressures so Reza Shah was equipped to attack Baluchistan.

2.1. Mohammad Reza Shah's Development and economic reforms in Baluchistan

1.2.1. Road construction at the time of Mohammad Reza Shah:

As mentioned, the best was done to build roads in Baluchistan area in the era of Mohammad Reza Shah. Reza Shah's main actions limited to constructing the main roads in province, thus there was no chance to create subsidiary ways. During the reign of Mohammad Reza Shah, it is focused on the development of roads into Baluchistan center and constructing secondary roads among the far areas, sections and large villages. In the reports from Department of Road, the civil measures had been conducted in 1350 were presented, among them constructing the secondary ways of Iranshar, Bazman-Iranshar, Zaboli, 1, 2segment of Zaboli, Sarbaz- Nikshahr. Hour-Chabahar, Bahout Kalat-Rask. Mohammad Reza Shah's government asked U.S.A to help him in order to accelerate road construction in Baluchistan, thus for the purpose a common commission was hold between Iran and U.S, the commission played an influential role in constructing the roads of the region. In reports presented on the dates, the role of commission can be realized in the construction of roads in Baluchistan. As an example, in a report from Zahedan commandship taken from Khash district administrator, it had been mentioned "in order to preventing contagious disease and rally the soldiers before Red Lion and Sun, the road was constructed partially but because of lack of U.S and Iran common commission aid, the Irandegan road start as soon as possible. In other reports from Sistan and Baluchistan civil administrator, it is referred to importance of road construction in Baluchistan while remind the main role that commission plays.

The report show that all Irandagan products such as rice, grain, Cotton, tobacco, date and corn cannot be out of place. Thus, farmers suffered from huge damage. Roads construction will increase production. Therefore, farmers and owners of the district asked to construct the road with 50% financial aid from fund Iran and U.S common fund and half of the expenditures provided according to the law. Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi`s government considered a special policy to the construct the road in Baluchistan, additionally convinced U.S government to help Iran effectively for constructing the roads, through dispatching coacher to Baluchistan region and training them or reminding the necessity of constructing the road and its role in development the region attracted public aid. In a report receive from Ministry of Culture in Sistan and Baluchistan, the issue has been seen well. "Department of Culture dispatched a basic training instructor for guidance Irandegan people this year. According to the coach for the construction of roads primarily an automobile road should be constructed between Kasha and Irandegan. There is sum of 50 in village consular`s funds which has been allocated to the purpose. People announced their preparedness based on the basic training instructors`s encouragement. Mohammad Reza shah paid enough attention to the issues in which construction the roads played an infrastructure and effective role in government dominance in the region and assisting to form a centralized state in Baluchistan and conflict with the centrifugal forces. Development of public health and the fight against infectious diseases was a fertile field for the development of agricultural exports. In a report presented by general office of medical center in the province, some aspects of road construction importance is pointed to. "Constructing road is a starting point to solve the challenges; a physician cannot live in a place without road. Increasing the income and undertaking obligation would not be useful at all. Creating an airline between cities and districts of a province is a way to solve the fear frightened the officers for serving in the region. An officer practitioner in Ghasre Ghand claims that he has not seen pear and apple in the region since the last year. The report prepared by the Planning Department in 1977, it is asserted that 4809 kilometers road was constructed in Sistan-Baluchistan province as follows:

- Paved road by the length of 1141 km (23.7 per cent of country`s total roads)
- Gravel road by the length of 1938 km (40.3 per cent of the province total roads)

- A dirt road by the length of 568 km (11.8 per cent of the province total roads)
- Other dirt and jeep roads by the length of 11621 km (24.2 per cent of the province total roads)

It is expressed in the report that 1117 Km of Sistan and Baluchistan 2389 Km main roads are paved and the other is gravel. Constructing the road in the Baluchistan region is inappropriate comparing to Sistan because of it topographic position (Highland Pppp 9). On ther other hand, considering the largeness of the region regarding to number of villages is much compared to Sistan so the distance between rural roads will be longer. Statistical data show that 43 percent of the villages in this area have narrow path, approximately 50% of them are dirt ways (jeep road) and only 7 percent of them are roadways. The villages with roadways are commonly which are placed in the main communication line and essentially have benefited from this point. Meanwhile far areas are mainly lacked of suitable roads. Economy had left it that was appeared in the reports of planning and budget organization. 'Generally, the weakness from outside the province has been associated with negative quantitative and qualitative effects in transportation system in the province. The issue is true about the interior transportation as well. Considering that about 75% of populations are resident in the villages and transiting the surplus agricultural products to cities are conducted with difficulties as a result of shortage in communicative road, thus the direct weakness can be visible in province transporting system. The problem in the scattered villages not only slowed down the economical process but also decelerate the social movement, on the other hand, weakening the communicative ways and its effect on transportation system influenced the imported goods into the province and so the costs is more expensive in the province than the other ones meanwhile they are deprived of some products especially foodstuffs".

2.1.2. Cultural reforms in Baluchistan during Mohammad Reza Shah:

Reza Shah`s actions in Baluchistan paved the way for developing education but also there were some structural problems in the context, the high rate of increasing the number of students in public education faced the education administration with problems in providing needed teachers in the subordinate areas for guidance schools. So the teachers in diploma grade were transmitted from primary schools to secondary schools. Additionally, the issue of decreasing the paid fringe benefit to teachers in the province from April 2534 caused the

application for transmission was received and some of them left the services that increase the problem of shortage in needed human force (Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.1980). The other problem in education of secondary training and high rate of academic dropout in the schools is inappropriate distribution of installations and facilities at the different educational levels in cities and villages, inappropriateness of constructing credit in education administration development plans toward increasing number of students in which by increasing students and according to the standards of educational structures just 16 to 20% of total demands are satisfied. Mohammad Reza Shah planned actions to encourage working teachers and new teachers.

- A) Formulating an administrative law for technical services of teachers to know his/ her years of services in bad climate.
- B) Funding for paying the benefits for being employed in out of center and in bad weather condition to eighty percent of the salary for teachers is working in the province.
- C) Establish organizational houses and stores.
- D) Increasing the salary of Knowledge Hosts who were worked in villages.

One of the main problems of the education system in this period was shortage of teachers who teach natural science. For this problem, the officials agreed that the annually ten people with diploma degree entered into high education without entrance exam and serve for five years in the province, also governmental planning was based on using packaged cold food rather than hot food due to lack of hygiene.

3.1.2. Mohammad Reza Shah's Economic programs:

Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi was conducted totally five civil programs. The first development plan was implemented from 1948 to 1955. During the program, Pahlavi government's actions were not far more than constructing some schools and repairing the roads in Baluchistan. In 1332, officers of four principals were entered into Baluchistan. Truman, U.S president, suggest a program based on the four principles that exploiting the Marshall Plan aid by countries out of Europe was the last of them. The plan has been famed as four principals. Agreement relating to the use of four principles by Iran was signed in Razm Ara presidential era and was continued till Dr. Manutcher Eqal period of time. Accordingly, the funds were spent for school construction, digging and laying pipe into deep wells, establishing health

centers. In the first program that failed in achieving to its main objectives and was failed according to Abul-Hassan Ebtehaj, one of the main authors, confession. The second developmental plan in country took from 1955 to 1962, nationalization of oil industry and U.S aiding provide Pahlavi government with more financial resource and government's action was growing more than the first program. Inviting an Italian company "Ital Counsoulate" and applying it into Baluchistan, State conducted actions in reviving aqueducts, deep wells to provide drinking water and efforts to improve agricultures. During the second programs, most cities of Baluchistan including Iran Shahr, Saravan and Chabahar were supplied with electricity. The third program was continued from the year of 1962 to 1967. It is literally a program unlike the previous plans in Baluchistan and faced with particular difficulties and obstacles that reduce the impact to some extent. The Fourth and Fifth program followed the third strategy and have a little effects in this area.

2. Discussions

Apart from it, analysis of Baluchistan political history in Pahlavi era indicates that Blauches did not seek secessionism but also they want to have interior autonomy or federal system to solve the problems by local agents. In this case, a policy of Dost Mohammad Khan, who tried (somewhat) to prevent central government influence in Baluchistan can be remembered as an example. Even if there were such issues like Liberation Front in Baluchistan, it was in fact a reaction against the negative function and wrong policies and practices such as discrimination, violence of government. At Pahlavi dynasty, no attention was paid to the rights of the Baloch and Baluchistan development, and the obvious reason is that Baluchistan was considered as the poorest and most deprived provinces. This is why that sometimes Baloch are struggling with the government to reach to the rights. And when the conflict was between the central government and the Baloch, government often uses the term of secessionism for them. Thus in final analysis, it can be said that if central governments of Pahlavi dynasty entrust them with some powers and respect the Baloch mass and took steps toward Baluchistan cultural, political and economical development between, in the case no struggles and political conflicts occurred between Baluchistan and central government. As well when Mohammad Reza Shah supported Federal Front in Baluchistan and afraid of they would supported by other countries, he economically invest in Baluchistan to attract people attention to central government and the federal front

would not be supported by mass and succeeded in implementing such policies, its continuation was in favor of government as well as Iranian Baluch community. However, the security policies of Muhammad Reza Shah in Baluchistan have not been very successful.

Acknowledgements:

Author is grateful to Department of Political Science, Zahedan branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan for financial support to carry out this work.

10/20/2012

Corresponding Author:

Zia Khazaei

Department of Political Science, Zahedan branch,
Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

E-mail: KhazaeiZ@ymail.com

References

1. Grinter, Dr. Lawrence E. 1983. Avoiding the Burden: The Carter Doctrine in Perspective Vol. XXXIV, No. 2 (January-February): 73-82.
2. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. 1980. *The Shah's Story*, M. Joseph.
3. Page, Jeremy (2009). "Google Earth Reveals Secret History of US Base in Pakistan" (Newspaper article). *The Times*. London, 1988; 179.