

Abstracts

A Study on the Religious and Political Thoughts of An – Nabhani

Liu Zhongmin & Liu Xuejie

Abstract: An – Nabhani, the founder of Hizb ut – Tahrir, is a well – known modern Islamist thinker. His ideas provide a complete ideological system for Hizb ut – Tahrir and become the core pillar of the party from the Middle East to the world. The content of Pan – Islamism, Islamism and Islamic extremism in An – Nabhani ’ s thought is the root of the multiple nature of Hizb ut – Tahrir. An – Nabhani ’ s thoughts are mainly embodied in three aspects. The first is Pan – Islamism, in which he emphasizes the importance of “Umma” identity, and advocates Arab unity, but opposes Arab nationalism. The second is Islamism, whose specific content is that he doesn ’ t recognize the existing countries in the Islamic world, and takes the reconstruction of the “Caliph State” as the party ’ s core goal, and refines the ideology of “Islamic State” . Finally, there is Islamic extremism, in which he emphasized the irreconcilable contradiction between Islamic civilization and non – Islamic civilizations; he has upheld the concept of “jihad” for long time and established the theory of Islamic extremism ’ s “jihad” movement, and he emphasized the “jihad” of thought. An – Nabhani is a rare Islamist thinker in the modern Islamic world who values the spread of ideas. He skillfully combined the concept and term of Islam with modern political language, which helped Hizb ut – Tahrir to attract a wide range of audiences effectively, and played an important role in promoting the party to develop into a global Islamic organization.

Key words: Hizb ut – Tahrir; An – Nabhani; Pan – Islamism; Islamism; Islamic extremism

The Generation Logic, Political Practice and Realistic Dilemma of the Center – Left Parties in Turkey: Based on the Republican People ’ s Party

Li Yanzhi & Lv Hong

Abstract: The centre – left parties are the important participants in the Turkish party politics, and the Republican People ’ s Party is a typical one. Socio – economic changes and population – structure transformation provided the economic and social basis for centre – left parties; the domestic political changes promoted the germination of centre – left ideology; the 1961 constitution provided the important institutional guarantee for centre – left parties; the fierce struggle between left and

right wings offered a catalyst for the formation of centre – left parties; and changes at home and abroad have pushed secular elite parties to turn into centre – left ones. In the process of modernization, Turkish center – left parties experienced the evolution from vigorous development to domination of state power, to division and restructure, and to competition for state power, and the ideological change made them transform from nationalist parties to social democratic parties, then to catch – all party. Identity politics brought changes in term of ethnic, sectarian, and women’s stances, which shook the social foundation of center – left parties. The inherent lack of intra – party democracy, factional struggle and corruption of the center – left parties blocked these parties to maximize their effectiveness. The mutual rejection of populism and representative democracy weakened the inner tension of the center – left parties, which brought uncertainty to the political development in Turkey.

Key words: party politics; Turkey; Center – Left Party; CHP; Ecevit

Analysis of Elite Groups and Monarchy Politics in the Social Transformation of Saudi Arabia

Han Xiaoting & Wang Tiezheng

Abstract: Saudi Arabia’s family ruling and Islamic monarchy is a unique political form, which is typical in the Middle East and Gulf countries. Since the end of World War II, with the rise of the oil industry, some new elites have been derived from Saudi Arabia’s original social structure and traditional elite classes and they play different roles in the political, economic and social development of the country. This article uses a model of concentric circles to comprehensively analyze the formation and development of different Saudi elite groups and the changes in their various interactive relationships. Based on the family ruling tradition formed in history and the “legitimacy” of Divine Rights of the King given by the solid political – religious alliance, the Saudi royal family, the core of all elite groups, always dominates its interactions with other groups, which are generally in a subordinate position because of their various innate limitations. At the same time, the core elite group, with the help of the resources it controls and through continuous and gradual reforms, appropriately transfers national rights and interests to other elite groups, in order to conform to the development of the times, cater to the demands of the people, and maintain the long – term stability of the monarch’s power.

Key words: social transformation; Saudi Arabia; elite groups; monarchy politics; concentric circles

Role of Social Media in Development of Ethiopian Ethnic Politics and Its Impact

Li Yujie

Abstract: As a typical multi – ethnic country, Ethiopia has complex and constantly changing ethnic relations. The social media represented by Facebook and Twitter have gradually emerged under the background of the strict media regulation, the decline of traditional media, and the polarized media landscape. The new technology profoundly impacts the ethnic politics of Ethiopia, because it has provided a platform for the formation of an “imaginary community” of the nation and strengthened the national identity of all ethnic groups, offering chances for Ethiopian young people to participate in political affairs, while the dominant social media are also being used to spread fake information and hate speech and instigate ethnic conflicts. Especially in major events related to ethnic politics such as the Tigray conflict, social media incite ethnic extremism and undermine the foundation of the federal system on which it depends, increasing ethnic tensions and national – state contradictions. On the whole, the negative impact far exceeds the positive role that social media play in Ethiopian ethnic politics, and this is not only related to Ethiopia’s ethnic, political and economic conditions, but also to the traits of social media and unique characteristics of social media users in Ethiopia. The double – edged sword of social media shapes new social media landscapes in Ethiopian ethnic politics and provides new experience in governance. Although Ethiopian government has taken various measures including laws, self – discipline, self – construction of platforms and so on to stop the negative impacts of social media, it still faces multiple dilemmas. In the long run, reconstructing Ethiopia’s national identity as well as rebuilding a better relationship between the government and the media should be considered.

Key words: social media; Ethiopia; ethnic politics; ethnic conflict; media governance

Contradiction and Compatibility between Autonomous Diplomacy and Alliance Obligations: Japan’s Middle East Diplomacy from the Perspective of Alliance

Cheng Yun

Abstract: How to make use of advantages of the alliance while maintaining the autonomy of diplomacy is a common problem often faced by the weak party in an asymmetric alliance. From the development of Japan’s Middle East diplomacy after the WW II, we can find three typical cases that Japan seeks the compatibility between autonomous diplomacy and alliance obligations in different situations. The first is the threat situation, in which the weak party is in fear of entrapment. In this

context, Japan has tried to limit its commitment to the alliance to a certain extent and to pursue freedom of diplomatic action beyond the limit. Through issue segmentation and making the US less sensitive to Japan's diplomacy, Japan finally succeeds in achieving its goal. The second is that in the context of common interests, the weak party adopts a free – riding strategy. Such free – riding strategy does not substantially help Japan expand its influence in the Middle East. Instead, Japan's autonomous diplomacy faces the fate of being swallowed up by the alliance obligations. The third situation is also in the context of common interests, but the weak party takes the initiative to redefine the alliance. By adjusting the “war on terror” alliance to the “public goods provider” alliance, Japan has realized the coordination of autonomous diplomacy and alliance obligations in a short time, but due to the intensification of the contradiction between the United States and Iran, whether this approach can be sustained still depends on the diplomatic skills of later politicians.

Key words: Japan's Middle East diplomacy; asymmetric alliance; autonomous diplomacy; alliance obligations; alliance strategy

Japan's Policies towards Africa from the Perspective of “Development – Security Nexus”

Wang Yichen & Lv Yaodong

Abstract: After the end of the Cold War, there exists a tendency of increasingly deepening interdependence between development and security. Since the establishment of the “Tokyo International Conference on African Development” in 1993, Japan starts its comprehensive cooperation with Africa and has been actively participating in African affairs by helping to solve the challenges related to development and security so as to safeguard its interests in Africa. Japan's policies of ODA, economic and trade investment, and security cooperation have generally maintained a relative balance and an increasing integration of development and security. Especially, Japan has determined the key direction of security cooperation with Africa under the framework of the “Indo – Pacific Strategy” by participating in the UN PKO, deepening maritime security cooperation and providing counter – terrorism assistance. The essence of Japan's policies to Africa is based on its strategic, political, economic and security interests in the continent, as well as the enhancement of its international influence. Japan places its own development and security first and foremost, aims at making real profits in Africa. At present, Japan has achieved the integration and coordination of development and security policies,

and established the three major pillars of cooperation with Africa: “Society, Economy, and Security”. The government of Fumio Kishida will inherit the political legacy of Shinzo Abe’s “Free and Open Indo – Pacific” and maintain the coherence of Japan’s policies towards Africa out of the need to safeguard its own interests in Africa.

Key words: Japan’s policies to Africa; “development – security nexus”; aid; investment; non – traditional security; “Free and Open Indo – Pacific”

A Primary Exploration on Turkey’s Diplomacy of Geopolitical Aggressiveness

Dong Manyuan

Abstract: Turkey is a geo – strategic pivot in Eurasia and has long played a strategic role across the neighboring regions. Since Erdoğan took control of the AKP, he has launched the “Strategic Vision 2023” and “Strategic Vision 2053”, with the goal of making Turkey a global power. To this end, Turkey has adopted a focused, all – round aggressive geopolitical strategy. It has achieved many results in its aggressive geopolitical diplomacy through a comprehensive approach in the political, economic, military and cultural fields. First, Turkey has achieved a strong presence in the Black Sea and Transcaucasia, establishing its initiative in gas development, gas transmission routes and military conflict mediation in the region. Second, Turkey has relied on the “bridgehead” role of North and East Africa to extend its influence throughout Africa. Third, Turkey has continued its longstanding influence in Afghanistan by intervening with Qatar and Pakistan. Fourth, Turkey has boosted its position as a leader in the Turkic world. Fifth, Turkey is striving to play a leading role in the Islamic world. Sixth, Turkey is seeking a “special status” in NATO and expanding its maverick diplomatic space. At the same time, Turkey is facing resistance from the United States, Europe and Arab countries, and Russia and Iran are also wary of Turkey’s geopolitical advancement. Turkey needs to pay attention to and respond to these new developments.

Key words: Turkish diplomacy; geopolitical aggressiveness; Neo – Ottomanism; “Strategic Vision 2023”; “Strategic Vision 2053”

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