

Nassif Hitti Intervention

A new Sykes Picot for the region

If the Ottoman Empire was the sick man of Europe in the 19th century, the Arab World today has become at the beginning of the twenty first century the sick man of the world

-the "Arab Spring" has been kidnapped by the clash of geopolitics and sociology it is particularly but not solely illustrated in the Syrian case, the conflict of all conflicts

-the revival of sub national identities with transnational solidarities is becoming a key determinant of the evolution of the multiple crises situation

-These identities are carried by NSA s who are playing basic roles in the evolution of the conflicts and crises creating direct linkages Among the different crisis situations in the levant and the Arab world From Baghdad to Beirut but also in the larger framework from Sanaa to Syrtes

-The crisis of the regimes which in many instances are stronger than the states has revealed the deep crisis of the state :the failure of national construction over the years accentuated by the retreat of secular ideologies in many instances and their discrediting, and the strong revival of different forms of Islamism, the pursuance of assimilationist policies via certain ethnic minorities and the neglect of the socioeconomic problems with the different disequilibrium it created and the tragic social impact of such neglect

-the fight over Syria mainly the regional one has greatly contributing to restructuring the conflict situation away from the real issues at the beginning of the uprising

- a strategic fight is going on, on the regional chessboard at the crisis it is the fight over Syria it feeds into and is fed by sectarian fight along the Sunni Shia axis a sort of kurbala paradigm has even installed mainly after 2003 and the fall of Iraq and the repercussions of such fall, The Kurdish. Question has been back strongly on the Frontburner from Iraq into Syria so is the question of minorities and majorities and the issue of pier sharing along these lines. what used to be discussed behind. Close doors is no more a taboo issue

In the years from Sykes pivot to the emergence of the Arab state order into the sixties at least there was a yearning for uniting the umma (Arab nation) considering the created states as abnormal temporary political creatures that must merge into the promised state of the larger umma to be created. Today Daech is pursuing the anti Sykes Picot logic but working under a different ideological banner a larger one the Islamic umma yearning for its caliphate state to be (the beginning of it is pursued by Daech) and using of course very violent exclusive and suppressive methods and discourse

-Syria. today is at the heart of a clash fought by different means extending over all of the Sykes Picot created map though the. Latter has changed Also via Rectification done. By. The.

Western architects. .

Four Scenarios are to be considered. A century after Sykes Picot whereas many consider that what was a blasphemy in the minds of many Arabs has become a blessing today if the state system in the Levant is maintained as it is

First scenario is the Sudanisation or the de Jure partition of a state or states which is to be excluded as a very remote scenario because the least to say it cannot be limited to one country in the Levant had the necessary factors for its realization are remote or inexistent

Second the Somalization scenario or the proliferation of more failing and failed states disintegrated but which repercussions are contained not without difficulties into their own borders

Third the Lebanonisation or the Consociational democracy system (the Sykes picot within the existing frontiers in terms of drawing influence lines) always changing in terms of power interplay among external patrons and the communal forces

Fourth the way out model or the construction of the civil nation state based on citizenship on an all inclusive approach