

The stability of the Arabs on the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf and its impact on the cultural and political aspects in the period between the fourth and ninth centuries

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Abstract:

The Gulf Arabs have known maritime activity since as early as the fourth century AD, when trade was active in the Arabian Gulf due to their knowledge of the movement of the monsoon winds.

The location of the Arabian Gulf: The Arabian Gulf is located in a distinguished strategic location whose importance was reflected in the history of the Gulf throughout the Islamic ages. This distinguished geographical location had a great impact on the establishment of ports, which in turn practiced commercial activity with various countries of the world, and played a prominent role in the freedom of global trade and in Civilizational interaction among the countries of the ancient world since an early historical period, and as a consequence, we find that it contributed to the recovery of the economy and the increase in its returns. On the other hand, we find many historians confirming the contacts and relations between the Arabian Gulf and India since ancient times, and there are many clues and evidences that prove the validity of the contact between them.

When talking about the settlement of the Arabs on the eastern bank of the Gulf, it is noticeable that the various Arab tribes that migrated from Yemen and the Arabian Peninsula settled on the coasts of the Arabian Gulf. On the shores of the Arabian Gulf, we find many Arab tribes settled precisely on the eastern bank of the Arabian Gulf. The point worth noting is that the Arabian Gulf Road is considered one of the most important sea routes for many of the supplies it contributes to. In addition, the geographical location of Persia on the eastern coasts of the Gulf, opposite to Bahrain and Oman, allowed it to be a gateway for Arab migrations. It is known that the majority of the Arab tribes were Omani, and a percentage of them came from Bahrain.

I may refer to the most prominent factors that prompted the Arab tribes to migrate to areas characterized by stability on the coasts of the Arabian Gulf and in the interior regions near the coast, specifically the eastern coast, and droughts had a role in this. Therefore, it can be said that the migration of Arab tribes was a forced factor according to the economic and political data, in addition to the collapse of the Ma'rib Dam, which is the backbone of life in Yemen.

We find that the economic factor is not the only driver of these migrations, but also the desire to control the trade of the Arabian Gulf was behind these migrations. On the other hand, it was counterbalanced by the weakness of the central authority in Persia, which is an incentive for many groups that lived on the coast of the Arabian Gulf to migrate mass towards its eastern coasts in order to expand their livelihood.

Likewise, the settlement of the Arabs on the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf was not limited to a specific geographical spot of this coast, but rather extended along its length from the north to almost the Strait of Hormuz, and Arab migrations continued throughout history before Islam, during and after the Islamic conquests.

The migrations were consecutive and started from all parts of the western coast of the Arabian Gulf towards the eastern coast, and this in turn contributed to the multiplicity of tribes that inhabited there, most notably the Samah bin Luay tribe as well as a branch of the Zuhair family. If we go back to the early eras before the advent of Islam, we find that there were migrations that occurred from the Arab tribes, especially the tribes of Bani Najiya, as well as Abd al-Qais. The spread of the population of the Gulf on its banks proceeded in two ways, the first of which is the peaceful migrations of a collective, gradual and continuous character, and secondly, the Islamic conquests that helped the spread and stability of many Arab tribes in different regions of the Islamic state.

It was in the nature of the Arabs who were in marine and commercial environments to gain broad-mindedness and flexibility, and the Arab by nature liked to mix and mingle with the local population. Thus, this intermingling, especially during the periods of power of the rulers of Persia, contributed to turning the Arab with it into a part of the Persian fabric, and with it the Arab identity was lost.

As a consequence, it has become difficult to differentiate between Arab and non-Arab in these regions. We find that some researchers and historians mistakenly believed that the scholars who excelled in Islamic civilization, whether it was in jurisprudence, interpretation or Islamic law, and who transferred these religious sciences to the conquered countries were from the non-Arabs, or it happened unintentionally.

The areas in which the Arabs settled on the eastern coast:

1- Koura Astakher: The Hanzala family of Bani Tamim settled in it and played a prominent political and economic role in this Koura and its city Istikhar in particular and throughout the region in general. Ziyad” in which Ziyad bin Abih was fortified for a period of time. The Azd descendants of Farahid bin Malik bin Fahm Al-Azdi settled in this city, including Abu Darsa and his son, and it was pointed out that the Arab influence appears clearly in this country, and the evidence for this is the name of one of its cities with an Arab name, which is the city of Al-Bayda, and this name is still common to this day.

2- Korat Arjan: It is located on the border with the Arab region of Al-Ahwaz, in which the Arabs settled for a long time, such as the Handala and Bakr bin Wael tribes, as well as the Handala tribe of Bani Tamim.

3- The city of Fasa (Nisa) and Dara Bojrd: The spread and stability of the Arabs was not limited to the eastern coasts of the Arabian Gulf, but rather they spread in the interior regions of Persia, and the evidence for this is the presence of a number of Arabs who settled in the city of Fasa. The political conditions during the era of the Umayyad and Abbasid states played a role in the stability of the city, as it was greatly stable because of the state of enmity that was between the Umayyad and the Alawites on the one hand, and between the Abbasids and the Alawites on the other hand. The Alawites in this city are three hundred men, just as the number of Arabs is in the rest of the cities. In addition to the city of Dara Bojrd, which is the capital of Koura Dara Bojrd, which is one of the cities in which the Arabs settled.

4- The city of Shiraz: The Arab influence is evident in this city, represented in the first place built by the Arabs building during the period of the Islamic conquests. Shiraz in order to live and earn a living, after the political conditions were stabilized, many migrations from the Arabs arrived in Shiraz, especially after the Arabization of the bureaucracy, in order to work in these institutions, and they settled in.

5- The city of Toj: The Arabs have settled in this city since ancient times, dating back to the fourth century AD, when Banu Handala inhabited it by order of Sabor Dhul Aktaf. The city and other cities on the east coast. In addition to being the main material for the liberation armies in the Islamic East, and they Arabized those regions spreading Islam and the Arabic language, and through them the Islamic East entered a new stage of development manifested in the various sciences that the scholars of those regions contributed under the umbrella of Islamic civilization.

6- The city of Sabor: The settlement of the Arabs in this region dates back to a period close to Islam, and the Azariqa took it as their home and settled there far from the central authority represented by the Umayyad state, in the first century AH, till after 73 AH / 692 AD. Where later, a group of Alawites Hashemite Arabs settled in the city of Sabor, and Arab peoples had settled there before.

The commercial role of the Arabs on the eastern coast of the Gulf

It can be said that the Arabs played a major role in commercial activity in the area of the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf and the islands located in it, which served as trading stations at which ships stopped to replenish supplies or to escape from sea storms, and they had a prominent activity in them. Al-Masoudi confirms in his book the existence of a prosperous commercial relationship that linked Arab merchants and the rest of the ports on the Gulf coast.

On the other hand, it should be noted that the fame of the Gulf merchants in their journeys towards East Asia and towards Africa contributed to the push of groups from those regions towards the Gulf, such as the Chinese merchants.

It is known that pearls were among the basic commodities of trade for the people of the Gulf, and pearls to be formed, they require to be in seas that are shallow, which provided a fertile environment for him in the Gulf region, so his trade flourished at the hands of the Arab residents of the Gulf. There is no obstacle, and these sinkholes are shared by all the Arabs inhabiting its coast on its eastern and western banks. Pearl fishing and extracting it from the depths of the sea constituted an important mainstay of economic life. The Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman were among the most important main sources for extracting precious pearls, and it was exported to other countries.

Finally, it can be said that the people of the Gulf played a prominent role in economic life, which made it one of the most prosperous regions, and this helped in the presence of an active commercial movement that brought many merchants to it. And they clearly contributed to the emergence of many trades that still exist today. In addition to the role of the residents of the Gulf in serving the Islamic civilization, including what they have done in the field of construction and reconstruction. Their interactions with others were characterized by moderation and flexibility, and this was confirmed by their doctrine and their dealings with trade and their sea voyages.

The Arabs had a clear activity on the eastern coast of the Arabian Gulf, including what Al-Masoudi mentioned by saying: “And to it the boats of the people of Islam from the Seraphs end, and they meet with those who come from the land of China in their boats.” The port of Seraph is located on the eastern coast of the Gulf, which means a prosperous trade relationship that linked the Arab merchants and the rest of the ports on the Gulf coast, on the other hand, Al-Masudi referred to a merchant who left Samarkand for Oman and the rest of the Arabian Peninsula as evidence of the fame of that region for the trade that the Arabs carry out.

On the other hand, it should be noted that the fame of the Gulf merchants in their trips towards East Asia and towards Africa contributed to pushing groups from those regions towards the Gulf, such as the Chinese merchants. He sided with the Arabs in the Gulf region, which confirmed that the Gulf ports were under the control of the Arabs commercially at least, and that they controlled the trade and navigation lines, and this led to a continuous movement of stability towards its eastern parts.

It can also be said that the Arab Gulf, with its western and eastern shores, has been settled by the Arabs since ancient times, dating back to the fourth century AD. There was also a distinctive military discipline, to the extent that some of them established political influence there, and the stability of the Arabs was not limited to the eastern coasts and the nearby islands, such as the island of Ibn Kawan and Qais, but extended to the interior regions of the eastern side and its important cities.

The research showed that the Arab Gulf, with its western and eastern shores, Arabs have settled there since ancient times dating back to the fourth century AD, as their settlement was on the eastern coast before the campaign of Sabor with shoulders on the eastern Arabian Peninsula, and the continuation of this stability, especially after the Islamic conquests, and the Arabs played a distinctive political and military role to the extent that some of them formed political influence there, and the Arabs' stability was not limited to the eastern coasts and the nearby islands such as the island of Ibn Kawan and Qais, but extended to the interior regions of the eastern side and its important cities.

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