The Great Britain Purposes of Baluchistan Disintegrating

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Abstract:

The most important factors of Baluchistan disintegrating are lacked of wise and efficient men at Qajar dynasty, lacked enough talent of some people who had positions at this period, attention to Baluch tribes and lords from Britain, importance of Mashkid region to Britain and also central government, Britain sovereignty to Yar- Ahmad Zehi tribe, resistance and popular rebellion against the rule of Britain, provoking the differences and riots that divide Baluchistan to different regions.

Key words: Baluchistan disintegration, Iran, Qajar, Britain.

Introduction

Baluchistan is a vast desert area with scattered mountains which is divided between Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Therefore, the above mentioned countries contain people from Baluch ethnic group as minorities. The important point should be taken in to consideration is how this land and its people Were divided between these countries. This article tries according to the documents and historical developments explain the reasons and the stages of Baluchistan disintegration. Baluch ethnic group people are original native Persian with Suni religion and ancient language which trace back to Pahlavi dynasty are living in South East of Iran.

In 19th century Qajar dynasty was getting weaker and losing its power and dominance over the remote and border area. On the contrary, Britain as a dominant power was fortifying its position in the South West of India Subcontinent in order to protect it from rival invasion.
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Another subject that Mirza Hossein Khan Sepahsalar accepted to be arbitrated by English was Baluchistan (at September 4, 1871AC/1288Ah). According to proposal suggested by Goldsmith, the frontier district of Baluchistan was approved and a part of it separated and attached to the England Empire.

Preventing the foreign forces attack to India was the major aim that Great Britain followed from disintegrating Baluchistan by separating Harat and Sistan –Baluchistan; they planned to establish a group of mercenaries and dependent local governments around India to function as defensive barrier between Iran and India.

The previous experience of relationships between Iran and Great Britain during Fath-Ali shah’s era had shown that, in order to achieve their goals Iranian used various means and were not loyal to their agreements and assurances. Iran’s tendency to France and establishing Finkenstein contract which paved France’s way to cross Iran to threaten India and also Napoleon’s victories on 1795 AC/1270AH increased England’s concerns. Although it was long after Napoleon’s era, the British provident politicians of that time (1812AC) were worried about the increase of Russian’s power in Iran. Because in the case of Russian’s attack to India the Britain’s interests would fall in danger.

Britain knew that Russia could send army to India by two ways:

1. Through Hend–o-Kosh and Afghanistan where Russians could near its borders day today.
2. Through Sistan–Baluchistan from which Russia could threaten India by crossing Mashhad, Torbatheidarie, Ghaenat and Birjand.

By the years 1812 AC/1227AH and 1814 AC/1229AH, in two agreements between Britain and Iran, the English considered Russia, too. First agreement signed by Sir Gore Ouseley Brownet and Iran chancellor, Mirza Mohammad Shafi Khan renown as detailed agreement indeed was a complement of brief agreement which was held by Sir Harford Jones with Iran.

After Iran’s defeat in first and second war against Russian which led to the establishment of Golestan and Torkamanchai agreements. Russian influence in Iran increased, Russia’s support of Harat’s wars could be interpreted as a way in order to approach India through Afghanistan during Fath-Ali shah and Mohammad Ali shah era.

Russia followed to increase its influence in Iran in order to be benefited from Iran accessibility and dominance over Harat, Kabol and Ghandehar as gates of India in order to threaten Britain’s interest.

The other purpose of England by disintegrating Baluchistan was to establish a dependent government at that region and then to invalidate it and Annex Baluchastan to England–Indian soil, if necessary. This is what they did later on and created Britain’s Baluchistan. To achieve this goal, Britain had formerly started expanding its activities in eastern parts of Baluchistan and Kabol. To obtain this aim, Britain had
to make local lord’s of kalat their mercenaries. This policy progress well by Nasir Khan II and Khodadad khan’s coming.

The study of the region and its topography and collecting geographical, historical and material data in relation to Kalat and Baluchistan were the other works which British fulfilled. In order to dominate over the region they sent the professional commissioners as ordinary people to Kalat and Baluchistan in order to perform the deep studies such as Captain Grant renowned as “The explorer of Baluchistan”, Goldsmith¹, Sir Chares Napier, Major Jacob, Mr. Ferrer, Major Henry Green and also Henry Pottinger² which were the first commissioners who studied the region in detail. In addition to them, they were other groups of political professional British commissioners that their identity never being revealed who collected detail reports published as books of their memories of their trips.

One of the other policies of British in Baluchistan and Kalat region was provoking the differences and riots through establishing war between regional lords and supporting them hiddenly. They provoke the local lord of Kalat in order to claim the zone area against Iranian government. Azad Khan was one of those who revolted in 1865 AC/1282 AH, although Etemadolsaltane mentioning his obedience from Naseredinshah and receiving valuable cloths and golden sword from king of Iran³. Another uprising governor was the local lord of Manghal region that both of them were defeated and became the obedient of the King. In 1866AC/1283AH, Taj Mohammad, the governor of Jalvan made a revolt and Molla Mohammad -commander of saravan run away to Ghandehar.

British armed some of the tribes in Baluchistan, the arming of Baluchistan tribes began since Agha khan Mahalati and Mohammad shah Ghajar era but accelerated in this time. In Kharan and Jalvan regions were British decided to form the zone all the tribes were equipped with weapons. By contrast, at the same time British was announcing the disarmament policy in the region and used to detect the ships to prevent them from carring weapons. The Britain was pretending to disarmament policy and opposing it practically.

Britain succeeded in achieving the Baluchistan local lord obedient directly and indirectly through paying even up to 10000rupies, now, the situation was ready for taking the final step meaningly fulfilling the division of Baluchistan.

On the other hand, the head of Baluch tribes and Lords were extremely competing to receive more attention from Britain. Some of them who thought they might be losers tried to approach Britain to receive benefit. Some others opposed and resisted against the local lord of Kalat as a foreign agent and traitor. Meanwhile, some other lords of Baluchistan tried to abuse the situation and occasionally attacked Telegraph

¹ Goldsmith, Eastern Persia, Ibid, XVI
² Pottinger, Henry. Send and Baluchistan itinerary. Trans. Dr. Shapor, Godarzinejad, Dehkhoda publications, Tehran, P. 49, 85, 1348
³ Etemadolsaltane, Mohammad Hassan khan. Nasery regulation history (Tarikh-e-montazame-Nasery), vol. 3, P. 1795
offices and killed people or took them as hostages and didn’t release them until they got a great deal of money.\(^4\)

At this time, Iran’s government send army forces to the area in order to control situation. British government which was concern of Iranian army present in the region supported the Baluch rebellions tribes against central government forces and succeeded to prevent the presence of Iranian forces in the region.

Finally everything prepared for the division of Baluchistan that Iran had to accept judgment of Britain between local lord of Kalat and themselves.

Britain decided to establish a communication network through Telegraph offices. It set up buildings and separate rooms as places for locating Telegraph devices in Kalat and Baluchistan. These places turned to spying and recruiting centers for employing British local agents. The British also used these places for organizing political activities strike and protests and protecting their political asylums.

The advantage of Telegraph wiring were so important to Britain that its foreign ministry suggested to pay several thousand Leers to Shah and his court to admire their significant contribution in this contract’s conclusion.\(^5\)

Goldsmith who played the main role in delineation of the South East border of Iran used to appear with Telegraph technician cloth in public. He was one of Britain political commissioner in the region that used lots of tension and problems in Baluchistan and Kalat. Due to his valuable experience and his proficiencies as an expert in Geography of Eastern of Iran. He was appointed as arbitrator between Iran as a political representative. He was appointed as arbitrator between Iran and Kalat. He was introduced to Tehran as a political representative. He was planning to go to Sistan with Mirza Masum Khan to delineate to border. Because according to Britain’s plan, they had to determine the border of Sistan initially then do the same in Baluchistan. It didn’t happen practically because at that time Amir Yaghub Khan had revolted against his father Amir Shir Ali(Afghanistan governor), therefore Afghanistan had demanded them not to send any delegation.\(^6\)

Therefore, Britain tried to persuade Iran. As Goldsmith writes:

"Finally, Mr. Alison, the resided chancellor of Britain in Tehran could persuade Iran to determine the frontier borders of Baluchistan conditioned on determining the restricts of Iran and Kalat in the case that sistan's restrict delineation of its border is impossible.

Goldsmith was planning to separate vaster area than Kerman and Baluchistan from Iran what he wanted was attachment of Iran's -Baluchistan and Pakistan’s- Baluchistan to Kalat. In addition, he had claimed for parts of Narmashir, Roodbar, Beshagard and Jiroft located in kerman estate and some parts of Bandar Abbas from

\(^{4}\) Javaherkalam, Ali. Baluchistan rebellions, monthly information, No. 110, P. 10, 1336
\(^{5}\) Right, Sir Denis. English in Iran, P. 156
\(^{6}\) Mojtahedzadeh, Piruz. Frontier emirs and Eastern borders of Iran, P. 349
South to West including Minab and also some parts of southern Khorasan as Nehbandan to separate them from Iran. The Iranian delegation and Ebrahim Khan, the ruler of Kerman and Baluchistan at that time objected the England’s and Kalat's representatives and also the commission and its function. By two excuses, Iranian could prevent topography: The first is that Faghir Mohammad, Kalat's commissar has entered Iran without permission and the other is about Ebrahim Khan can’t afford hospitating300 members accompanies of commission.

Meanwhile, some military effort alone by Ebrahim Khan and some of Baluchistan leaders from Sarhad, Sistan and Makran let to failure of Britain’s and Goldsmith’s plan. Regardless of Qajar kings and merely because of nationalistic emotions and also being aware of Britain’s plan in that region, Ebrahim khan began his military activities. He began to move ahead in those part of Baluchistan, some of which disobeyed the central government and could occupy many regions such as Bampur, Sarbaz restricts, Dizak, Gah, Ghasr-e -Ghand and other regions and returned them to Iran's soil till 1287 AH/1870 AC.

**Baluchistan in Sepahsalar's successor era:**

Mirza Hossein Khan's chancellorship didn't last more than 22 months and because of protests against him was dismissed after Nasseredin Shah’s return of Europe trip. Despite of receiving positions such as foreign ministry and ministry of war after his dismissal, Mirza Hossein Khan also became the governor of Ghazvin and Khorasan, later on and eventually at 1289 AH/1881 AC the 57-years- old Mirza Hossein Khan died in Mashhad, yet there are doubts about his services or betrayals.

After Mirza Hossein Khan, Mostophi-al-mamalek became the chancellor for 13 years (1290-1303) during his period; four people became the rulers of Kerman and Baluchistan. Morteza Gholi Khan Sartip, Haji Gholam Reza Shahabol Molk, Naserodin Firuz Mirza and Abolhamid Mirza Naseroldole. Throughout this period, Ebrahim Khan Bami (Sadodoleh) was the ruler of Baluchistan who used the opportunity and occupied without sovereignty area.

On 1298 AH/1881AC Naserodoleh the son of Firuz Mirza Nosratodoleh became the ruler of Baluchistan and Kerman. He traveled to Baluchistan six times and arranged everywhere under his supervision. He became the ruler two years after separation of Baluchistan. At this time there was lots of protests and tensions in this region and that was because of ignoring the problems appeared by border separations, i. e. Baluch people's dissatisfaction of situation, especially

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7 Salar behzadi, Abdol- Reza. Baluchistan in (1307-1317 AH), Dr. Afshar Endowed Foundation, Tehran, P. 134, 1372
8 Sardar khan Baluch, Mohammad. History of Baluch Race and Baluchistan, P. 257
9 Bahmani Ghajar, Mohammad - Ali. Iran and Afghanistan (from unity to political borders), center of print and publication of foreign minister, Tehran, P. 186-187, 1384
Cultural and ethnic ones.
In that time, Britain controlled all the region. They established tens of garrisons in Kowaiteh, Kuta and Kharan. They brought rail way from send River up to Iran borders and made roads away. In (1873AC/1290AH) they occupied "Panjgoor" and established an important consulate in Kerman and dominate the region politically. Their aim was to establish a consulate which is controlling south and east of Iran.

Since (1893AC/1311AH) general Sir Percy Sykes began a vast activity as consul in Kerman and had done extensive surveys in region. He had several trips to Baluchistan's east districts up to Mashhad and could collect great geographical information. He was chosen as the head of the second border commission in (1895AC/1313AH) and tried to determine the ultimate delineation.

Since 1307AH England had some activities. At that year Robert Kennedy Britain's envoy in Tehran brought up to lord of Kalat claim of ownership of the Mashkid located in North East of Jalgh which was belong to Iran. By bringing up this matter he planned to force Iran to give up Kohak, whiles in the first border commission just borders from Govatr Gulf to Jalgh were determined and restricted and Iran government didn't accept Goldsmith's idea about north districts of Jalgh. Kennedy had asserted that Mashkid belongs to lord of Kalat and Rige tribe who was resident there.

Second border commission (compound commission)
The second border commission also was formed in Naseredin Shah's era that was called compound border commission of Iran and Britain. In the previous commission (first commission 1289AH) border of Iran was determined from boundary of Govatr Gulf in coast of Oman towards Jalgh. The final commission of determination of Iran South East borders held in Kohak 24 years after the first commission (1895AC/1313AH). During these 24 years Britain had totally dominated over Eastern Baluchistan in a way that it wasn't called under any more "authority of lord of kalat" but, known as "British Baluchistan "and annexed to the Britain's Indian soil by this way England was conterminous to South East of Iran. Throughout this long period Britain could achieve great advantages in Kalat -Baluchistan region, because of England observation and the ignorance and negligence and unawareness of Kerman and Baluchistan rulers and central government.

Meanwhile Naserdinshah found out that England's aim of bringing up the border's issue is something else. They didn't need these lands. They wanted to arrange their south west borders and Baluchistan borders in order to control their problems in India and stablize in Baluchistan by finalizing the border situations.

Therefore, Shah got that they demanded to formalize these borders even to give up Kohak where always belonged to Iran Britain knew that they can't ignore Iran's24 dominance over Kohak and Esfandak thus was ready to quit that region.

But Mashkid was a different subject that England tried to join it to Kalat and this subject was a reason for numerous correspondences between foreign minister of Iran
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and English embassy that Sir Percy Sykes\textsuperscript{10} mentioned some of them. Shah was about to accept determining the border and restricts from Jalgh to Malek Sia Mountain, but at this time one of the reporters of Kerman wrote a letter to chancellor Amin-o-soltan and notified the importance of Mashkid region to central government. He expressed that "any government who owns Mashkid will possessed the whole Baluchistan with a few power and this has always been belonged to Iran ". He explained that Britain Provoked Noruz khan to claim ownership of the region and. . . 

The head of the second border commission was chosen and come up with final restrict delineation.

On the other hand Naseredin shah previously entitled Zeinolabedin khan as "Asado-doleh"\textsuperscript{11} as a powerful governor appointed there. After that on December1895AC/1313AH, they decided to mark the lands between Kalat and Sistan-Baluchistan and put an end to border problems. Meantime, a contract named as "Dorane" signed between Amin-o-soltan and Britain's minister which made it possible to mark the South West borders. It was agreed that the English commissioner representing the protected Kalat governor and Iran's representative and begin to determine the borders and distinguish the border signs in the form of "Paston tower".

Other subject which caused dispute between Iranian's agent was Yar-Ahmad Zehi tribe's settlement in Iran's Baluchistan authority. Because the tribes of Yar-Ahmad Zehi caused a lot of problems for England and were not accept their allegiance and authority. Britain was disagreeing to this tribe's settlement in British- Baluchistan soil. Zeinol Abedin Khan also didn't like to settle them in his authority, while Ehtesham ol Vezare had agreed to remain them as a part of Iran soil. So, this matter darkened the relationship between the two Iranian's representatives.

Yar-Ahmad Zehi tribe's palm groves subject matter was one of main factors of disagreement between Iran and England that was a trick which England were going to play. Based on suggestive recommendation, this part would be under the control of lord of Kalat, while this tribe itself was living in Iran England wanted to make a tribe migrate to lands that belonged to Iran and possessed Mashkid region which contain a great deal of palm-groves. Of course though Ehteshamol vezare had agreed to abandonment of this part, Zeinol Abedin khan was disagreeing. He even threatened Ehteshamol vezare that if he left these lands he wouldn't give any help to him at the time of returning from Baluchistan\textsuperscript{12}. Finally, the England delegation had to accept Baluchistan governor's request and these palm groves were belonged to Iran.

In a letter to Zeinol Abedin khan (shaval 1313AH/1896AC)

“Abdol-Hossein Mirza states: "secret, to Asadodoleh, I'm informed of your mission and read the booklet of question and answer entirely. Your honesty, rightness and service are evident for me.

\textsuperscript{10} Sykes, Sir Percy. Sykes itinerary, P. 263
\textsuperscript{11} Salar Behzadi, Ibid, No. 35, P. 235
\textsuperscript{12} Sykes, Sir Percy. Sykes itinerary, P. 269
But, all is in vain and the country’s governing system has problem and is different and you and I can’t solve those problems lonely. we are incompatible who have such concerns. Whatever you wrote proves yours loyalty, but has no improvement. Moreover the other side (Britain) is powerful and we have to obey. So, we can do nothing at the moment. Ehteshamol vezare is responsible for it and performs whatever he wants. Our duty was to accompany, send equipments and do our job. Thing that we both know, we have warned all about aspects of this issue, yet Ehteshamol vezare’s orders must be obeyed and we have no more to do”

Having solved the problems, the borders determination accomplished and eventually on March 24th, 1896AC/Shaval 9th 1313AH, the Southern East borders were fixed with a little modifications offered two parties on April 1896, signed by Moshirodoleh, Iran’s foreign minister and England’s ambassador in Tehran. Determining the restricts of Baluchistan from Govatr Gulf to Malek Sia Mountain, accomplished by signing this contract.

Anyhow, South East borders of Iran were checked and confirmed again according to England ambassador’s confession; they could achieve much more lands than what they expected. What happened? This is what must be studied?

The role of Iranian governors and rulers of Kerman and Baluchistan should be surveyed in this event. As mentioned the South East borders were of less importance to governors in Tehran, diplomatic negotiations and English official’s satisfaction was more important for cent government. Therefore, all of the border determinations were totally in favor of Britain.

The role of (Abdol Hossein Mirza) is also remarkable. Although in his letters he has admired Zeinol Abedin khan for his disagreements with Ehteshamol vezare, but it seems he had a close relation with Britain.

Mr. Kazemzadeh, based on a letter from Sykes to Dorand, he has mentioned 2 issues about the Abdol Hossein Mirza agreement with Britain goals and demands. He writes:

1. The reason for cooperation, the friendship between him and her majesty the Queen of England.
2. The commander’s investment in Britain financial institutes.

He has invested such a huge amount of money that he has no way, except siding us.

However the boundaries of the South East were organized in Nasery’s era. The way of determining boundaries, British actions and behaviors indicate that their agents and officials had an accurate knowledge and deliberate ordered agenda in

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13 Salar Behzadi, Ibid, No. 99, P. 295
14 Mojtahedzadeh, Ibid, P. 356
15 Kazemzadeh, Firuz. Britain and Russia in Iran, Handbook (ketabhaye jibi) publications, Tehran, 1354
Baluchistan and also extensive studies had already been conducted in Baluchistan which seems they had planned and decided about how to determine the boundary line.

Iran began the great game in Asia and the world and had to pay the cost of the competition between two superpowers at that time namely Britain and Russia in the war. This heavy price had been paid in the war of Iran and Russia by losing one-third of its soil. These losses are because of the lack of wise and efficient men at the era of ignorance and irrationality and advantages of Ghajar's dynasty while at the same time in Europe there were great efficient men with honest service to their home land while in Iran great men such as Mirza Eisa Ghaeme Farahani, Mirza Abol Ghasem Ghaem Magham and Mirza Taghi Khan Amirkabir in Iran lost their lives in court puerile intrigues and Harem dwellers with accounted conspiracies from the foreigners. Instead of these great men some superficial and cheated people like Haj Mirza Aghasi, Mirza Agha Khan Nouri and some foreign dependent and mercenary people like Mirza Hossein Khan Sepahsalar and Mirza Malkam Khan were replaced.

Lots of people who had positions at this period, lacked enough talent and necessary competencies to be able to stand in front of British politicians and elite delegations to retrieve Iran’s right with argument, logic, and Persian stern.

They were submitted and dismayed by the power and politics of westerners.

While Iran’s government and Iranian delegation were in meeting about the boundaries they lacked enough information about the Baluchistan land. The results were completely surrendered to the British requests; they sold territory of the country to small bribes and worthless promises.

One of the important result of the disintegrating of Baluchistan was appearing resistance and popular rebellion against the rule of British since Khodadad khan was deposes as ruler of East Baluchistan and Kalat the revolve wave of Baluch tribes formed against the British. Because many tribal lands of Iranian Baluch were separated from its original territory and located in three parts in three different countries such as Iran Afghanistan and British Baluchistan. "'Tahlab’” and “‘Mashkíd’” lands were located on both sides of border, which made Baluch tribes angry in mentioned regions and caused riots in the regions. In 1891, Mir Shahdad khan Gajky known as Baluch Shahdad attacked English Majer Muyer’s camp, injured him and killed one of English troops and then took refuge in Iran.

In 1894AC/1311AH, one of the Rand tribes attacked the English L. t Parker and killed him. Since this time on three separated Baluch regions with the same ethnic, culture, rebellion increased. Both the British government and Qajar who did not benefit from this movement souged and tried it to suppress.

Neither the Qajar relevant authorities with full cooperation With British nor the repression of the people did not decrease the grievances. When Naseredin shah died increased dissatisfaction in Baluchistan.

There were some reasons which caused rebellion:

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16 Gul Khan, Nasir. The history of Baluchistan ( Tarikh-e-Baluchistan) Quetta:Kalat. Publisher, P. 205, 1982
1. The fifty years rule of Naseredin shah caused weakness in Iran and Mozzafaredin shah could never be dominating over affairs like his father.
2. Dissatisfaction of Baluch people by land and the separation between them and their relatives.
3. Rid of Hossein khan Naroui the son of Mohammad Ali khan who was looking for independence and used Naseredin shah’s death and revolt.

According to Sykes he had said:
‘‘After this, no king will sit upon the throne position’’

Another English officer named Mr. Gereyuz was killed after assassination of Naseredin shah, by Hossein khan Naroui forces. He was facing two obstacles: the Qajar and the English rule in India which was dominating Iranian’s borders in this time. Since Nasseredin shah’s death Qajar government supervision declined on Baluchistan, they exert more influence by sending more troops to Baluchistan. Hossein khan Naroui encouraged loyal Baluch tribes to attack the Indian Telegraph office in Makran and killed Gereyuz around Rupc River.

Conclusion
Finally, we come to this conclusion that division of Iran’s Baluchistan happened in spite of Baluch dissatisfaction tribes who were settled in the region and this division mainly happened by British who abused the unawareness and corruption of Iranian statement at that period. The main reason for British was to establish its dominance in the cast borders of India in order to be capable to defend subcontinent against invasion of Russia or any other Western powers.

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17 Sykes, Sir Percy. Sykes itinerary (10000 miles in Iran), P. 272
18 Hablolmatin Newspaper (Jamadiolsani 5/1327 AH, No. 42)
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