

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL STUDIES

Factors Accounted for Middle East as a Strategically Importance to the Western World

Yakub Dauda

Ph.D. Student, Kwara State University, Nigeria

Muftau Salami

Ph.D. Student. Kwara State University, Nigeria

Musa Tajudeen

Ph.D. Student, Kwara State University, Nigeria

Mumini Isiaka Olosan

Ph.D. Student, Kwara State University, Nigeria

Buba Khadijat

Lecturer, Adamawa State Polytechnic, Nigeria

Abstract:

The relationship between the west and the Middle East is traceable back to the time immemorial. In fact, the name Middle East was christened by the west. This relationship was not born out for loving sake but for the self-interest and greediness of the western world. The western world is benefitting immensely from the Middle East. In this paper, five factors are advanced as to why the Middle East is strategically important to the west such as world energy suppliers, geography and terrain, faith and ideology, trade routes and center of Israel. The western world is working rigorously to exploit the middle east at all cost to the extent of even planted conflict to the region, installing corrupt leaders etc. to the region for their economic and political interest. Today, the largest oil using in the west is from the Middle East. The research method adopted for this research work is historical and analytical method.

Keywords: Importance, middle east, strategically, western world

1. Introduction

The western world is working rigorously to maintain its strategic interest in the Middle East. Prior to the discovered of oil, the focus of western world in the Middle East was the Suez Canal-control (Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through Isthmus of Suez Canal Company it is construction began in Sept. 25, 1859 and officially opened on Nov. 17, 1869. It offers watercraft a shorted journey between the North Atlantic and North India Oceans via the Mediterranean and Red Seas by avoiding the South Atlantic and Southern India Ocean, in turn reducing the journey) of which provides strategic importance (Kenawy, 2016, 282.). Later The western world especially the United State gains access to the oil production from the region since its inception and have continue to maintain this economic and strategic domination of much of the rest of the world by controlling the supply of oil and gas. It is an obvious fact that the conflict in the Middle East is planted by the western world for their self-interest and greediness and to allow the west continue dictating for and dominating the Middle East. The west as part of their strategic plan over the Middle East is backing both Israel and Arab elites who depend heavily on the western world support and that the west's overriding economic interest is in conflict, not peace. To boost their interest, the west is never relenting in their installation of corrupt rulers in some part of the Middle East

1.1. Middle East at Glance

Historically, Middle East is dated back to ancient times, with geopolitical importance of the region being recognized for millennia. The term Middle East was coined out in the middle of nineteen century by the British of Foreign Service (Khalil, 2014, 299) .It became more widely known when America Naval Strategist, Alfred Mahan firstly used the name "Middle East" to designate the area situated between the Arabia and India in his article to the Persia Gulf and International Relations published in September, 1902 in the National Review, a British Journal (Ozalp, 2011, 8.) It was originally used to distinguish the area of the Near East, the Balkans and the Ottoman Empire and the west of India (www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/theme/geography).

The first official use of the term "Middle East" was in 1957 by the United States Government. According to the Secretary of the State, John Foster Dulles, Middle East is an area situating between and including Libya on the west and Pakistan on the east, Syria and Iran on the north and Arabia Peninsular to the south, Sudan and Ethiopia. The term has come in to wide usage has replacement of the term Near East beginning in the early twenty century. It should be noted however, that the term Middle East and Near East are synonyms but Middle East is the more widely use term (except in Archaeology where Near East is still more common). This is inferred from the submission of the State Department in 1958 when he explained that the term "Middle East" and "Near East" are interchangeable (Teachmideast.org/articles/what-is-the-middle-east).

Middle East has been variously defined by different writers. Middle East is transcontinental region centered on western Asia and Egypt. According to Mifflin, Middle East is an area around East Mediterranean, especially Israel and the Arab countries from the North Africa and the eastwards (Mifflin, 2016). It is an area comprising the countries southwest Asia and north east Africa ([www. The.free.dictionay.com/middle east](http://www.The.free.dictionay.com/middle-east)). It is an extensive area of southwest Asia and northern Africa, stretching from Mediterranean to Pakistan and including the Arabia Peninsular (<http://en.oxforddictionary.com/definition/middle-east>). It is an area from Libya East to Afghanistan, usually including Egypt, Sudan, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the other countries of Arabia peninsular (www.dictionay.com/browse/middle-east).

Geographically and culturally, Middle East is located primarily in Western Asia, but also in parts of Northern Africa and south Eastern Europe. The western boarder of the Middle East is defined by the Mediterranean Sea, where Israel, Lebanon and Syria rest opposite from Greece and Italy in Europe. Egypt in Africa also borders the Mediterranean and is sometimes considered as part of the Middle East, while Turkey and Cyprus literally connect Europe to Asia and Oscillate between being called European and Middle East (www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/me.htm).

The most common languages of this region are four; Arabic, Turkey, Hebrew and Persian and they constitute the largest ethnic group in the region by population while the indigenous minorities included Jews, Assyrians, Copts, Berbers, Baloch, Aramean etc. (Kumaraswamy, 2003, 244-247). Middle East is the origin point of many religions and belief systems which help to define modern civilization. This explains while the region is often referred to as "Cradle of Civilization" and brief look at the region's history clearly explained why this is true (Verdon&Siftar, 2006, 5).Conclusively, the following countries have been generally regarded a part of Middle East; Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Israel, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestinian, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirate, Uzbekistan, Yemen and West Bank (Middle East Map).

1.1.1. West at Glance

Etymologically, the term 'West' is Germanic word passed in to some Romance Language and it is often spoken in reference to the Western world, which includes the European Union, the Americas, Israel, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. During the cold war the word "West" was used to refers to the NATO Camp as oppose to the Warsaw Pact and non-aligned Nation (<http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/middle-east>). Furthermore, the term west is also known as Occident (from Latin Occidents "sunset, west"). The concept of West has its root in Greco-Roman civilization in Europe, and the advent of Christianity. The Roman Empire is where the ideal of the "West" began to emerge. Due to Rome's central location at the heart of the empire, "west" and "east" where the terms used to denote provinces "West" and "East" of the capital itself (<http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/western-world>).

There are various definitions of the term West. Culturally, Western world is defined as including all cultures that are directly derived from and influenced by European cultures. Politically, Western world are generally considered to share certain fundamental political ideologies, including those of liberal democracy, the rule of law, human rights, equality etc. Economically, the term Western world is sometimes used interchangeably with the term developed countries or first world such as Japan, Taiwan and South Korea (En.metapadie.org/wiki/western-world).

Interestingly, the western world is a loose geopolitical or geo-cultural concept relating to the western Eurasia. In geopolitical terms, it usually implies a reasonably stable and prosperous capitalist liberal democracy. In cultural and artistic terms, being Western implies adherence in Europe and nations settled by European emigrants. In neither of these cases does the descriptor have anything to do with geographical location. For instance, Australian is regarded a Western nation in both respects. China, at the same longitude, is Western in neither geopolitical nor cultural terms. Japan, in turn, is within the Western sphere in geopolitical terms but its social structure and cultural outlook are non-western. Russia on the contrary, is a Western country in cultural terms, but has yet to become a liberal democracy. In yet another sense the Western world can be defined as the nations that have traditionally been either Protestant or Catholic, with a wider definition that includes all Christians. Some use the term as the synonyms with white people or Christians (<http://karllamwriting.wordpress.com/the-role-of-the-west-in-the-middle-east>).

In other words, Western world is a term used very broadly to refer to a heritage of social norms, ethical values, traditional customs, belief systems, political systems, and specific artifact and technologies that have some origin or association with Europe. The term also applies beyond Europe to countries and cultures whose histories are strongly connected to Europe by immigration, colonization, or influence(<https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-list-of-western-countries-in-the-world>).

Finally, according to Sessa, the following countries are regarded as western countries; Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sanmarino, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and Vatican city (West Map).

2. Strategic Importance of Middle East

Middle East is an economically diverse region that includes countries with a common heritage, at various stages of economic development, and vastly different endowment and natural resources. Middle East is strategically important to the west for a number of reasons. World's energy suppliers, trade routes, geography and terrain, faith and ideology, and center of Israel are all contribute to the strategic importance of Middle East to the western world.

2.1. World's Energy Suppliers

Middle East is an important region in the oil production (Xing & Yuan, 2010, 82). It accounts for about three-fourths of the world's proven reserve of crude oil and the GDP of region's oil exporters account for about two-third of the region's GDP. Of the 24 countries and territories, 13 are oil exporting countries. There are Algeria, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Emirate and Yemen.

Historically, dependence on oil wealth in many countries and a legacy of central planning in other countries has played crucial roles in shaping the region's development strategies. Oil has always been the western world's first priority in the Middle East. The region oil fields, stretching in a great arc from Iran and Iraq around the Persian Gulf, comprise collectively the largest known petroleum deposits, approximately about two-thirds of oil reserve of the free world. Access to this oil and use of it at reasonable prices is very vital to the United State (Xing & Yuan, 2010, 82-83; Abed&Davoodi, 2003).

Oil production is a major economic factor in the well-being of Western Europe. Despite the development of nuclear power, Western Europe's needs for oil cannot be rule out. There is today no foreseeable alternative for oil as source of power; nuclear energy may supplement but will not replace it. Middle East oil, provided the Mediterranean route remains open, is the cheapest oil source available to Western Europe; over any long-term period, it is well-nigh indispensable to the industry and economy of Western Europe and it is therefore a major factor in the cold war. Furthermore, the oil fields mean much financially to several to Western World. The revenues received by Great Britain from her holdings in Iraq, Kuwait and elsewhere help materially to sustain sterling bloc.

Turkmenistan, a country in the Middle Eastern is the third largest natural gas reserve in the world (foster, 2009). A country nobody talks about until 1991, it was part of the Soviet Union and its gas flowed only north through Soviet pipelines. Now the Russians plan a new pipeline north. The Chinese are building a new pipeline east. The United State is pushing for multiple oil and gas export routes. High level Russia, Chinese and America delegation visit Turkmenistan frequently to discuss energy. The United State even has his special envoy for Eurasian energy diplomacy. Oil and gas has motivated United State involvement in the Middle East for decades (foster, 2009).

The western oil companies and political strategist are showing greater interest in the region as it embarks on a project to build a new pipe line through Georgia and Turkey in to the Mediterranean, pumping a million barrels a day in the hope of further reducing the impact of OPEC in the oil market and meeting projected increases in oil demand. Although the region produces a quarter of the world' oil supplies, it holds between two-thirds and three-quarters of oil known oil reserves. For that reason, the United State and the West have continued to define the region as being strategically important(<http://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-persian-gulf-understanding-the-American-oil-strategy>).

Since the 1930s the Middle East has championed the world's most important source of energy and the key to the stability of global economy. When it comes to reserves, the Persian Gulf is on top of the list. It homes about 65% of global oil proven reserves and close to 45% of its natural gas. The Middle East also controls a significant portion of the hydrocarbons that are yet to be discovered. According to United State Geological Survey more than 50% of the undiscovered reserves of oil and 30% of gas are concentrated in the region primarily in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, United Arab Emirate and Libya. Indeed, most of the world's countries are heavily dependent on Persian Gulf oil. In 2006, the Middle East supplied about 22% of United State imports, 36% of OECD Europe's 40% of China's, 60% of India's, and 80% of Japan's and South Korea's. Even oil in Canada is dependent on Middle East. 45% of Canada's oil important originates in the region (www.emmitsburg.net.archive-list/article/thoughtful/amir/religion-in-middle-east.htm).

In 2009 the largest share of oil production was in the Middle East (24 million barrels daily or 31% of global production). According to Transparency International based on BP data regionally the largest shared proved oil reserves is in the Middle East (754 billion barrels, constituting 51% of global reserves including oil sands and 57% excluding them). According to BP of the world oil reserves where in Saudi Arabia 18%, Iran 9%, Iraq 8%, Kuwait 7% and United Arab Emirate 7% (<http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/middle-east>).

Today, the wealth in Middle East soil comes not from crops, but from petroleum. This region contains about two-thirds of the world's known petroleum reserves. When the United State and Europe increased their consumption of oil drastically during World War II, the oil reserves in the Middle East became critically and strategically important to the west

and have remained so ever since. The western states continued to clash among themselves over the Middle East more than over any other area of the third world over the oil(<https://www.merip.org/author/fred-halliday>).

2.2. Trade Routes

A trade route is a logical network identified as pathways and stoppages used for the commercial transport of cargo. The term can also be used to refer to trade over bodies of water. Allowing goods to reach distant markets, a single trade route contains arteries, which may further be connected to smaller networks of commercial and non-commercial transportation routes. The innovative transportation of modern times includes pipeline, transport, and automobile etc. (Issawi, 1982, 52-54)

The Middle East is at the junction of trade routes connecting Europe and China, India and Africa, and all the countries of the Mediterranean basin. Many of these routes have been documented from as early as 5,000 years ago, and the presence of so many different people and products over the year had had a profound effect on the region's culture, politics, and economy. The region introduced many staples in to the kitchen of the world, including olives, figs, lemons, coffee, chickpeas, lentils, pomegranates, and asparagus. The cedar trees covering the hills of Lebanon were forested in ancient times for their fragrant and structurally reliable wood (<http://foreignaffairs.com/articles/united/kingdom/1957-07-01/strategy-middle-east>).

Furthermore, Middle East is strategically important communication hub. It is a land bridge between the three continents, and Nile Valley and the Muslim lands of North Africa are gateways to the great underdeveloped continent of Africa. Global air routes from Europe to the Far East cross the Middle East, and oil pipelines seam the deserts. The Middle East, there is a key area in trade routes, communications and transportation (Issawi, 1982, 44).

Furthermore, the Middle Eastern countries using Turkey as a significant transit country to the western world. Turkey already has role of natural energy bridge between the Middle East and Europe. The Middle East is a major energy producer and if Turkey becomes a major energy transit corridor in to the Europe Union, the Union could increase diversification of its energy suppliers and transit country to a rather significance extent, that there are projects that will enable Turkey to be energy transmitter to westerns. Turkey is a major important to the western world because Turkey is safety and easiest to export route(Mensur-boydas.blogcu.com/strategic-importance-of-turkey/7861648).

Turkey is a country that rapid developing, urbanizing, carrying on economic and cultural integration with the world and has a continuously growing 70% million markets. Besides the developing technology and entrepreneurship opening to the world, not only makes Turkey a market at the sometime and economical power that is producing. Turkey provides routes or oil and gas import to the European Union. It is estimated that in ten years tines, approximately 10% to 15 % of the gas needed in Europe come through Turkey (Mensur-boydas.blogcu.com/strategic-importance-of-turkey/7861648).

Historically, Middle East has being strategically important to the Europe on trade routes from the time in immemorial. According to the A. Rahim (1981), one of the causes of crusade was commercial and economic factor which actuated many, particularly the Italian Merchant of Venice, Genoa, Pisa and others, to join the crusade. Since the Muslim had supremacy in the Mediterranean Sea, these cities of Italy were deprived of the direct and profitable trade with the countries of the eastern Mediterranean (217). Therefore, according to them crusade would open them the eastern territories for their prosperous commerce. This explains how strategically importance of Middle East is to the west especially in term of trade route (www.emmitsburg.net.archive-list/article/thoughtful/amir/religion-in-middle-east.htm)

2.3. Geography and Terrain

The Middle East is a large and diverse geographical area located in southwest Asia and northeast Africa. It extends over 2,000 miles from the black sea in to the north to the Arabian Sea and in the west to the mountains of Iran (www.emmitsburg.net.archive-list/article/thoughtful/amir/religion-in-middle-east.htm). Geographical location of Middle East also plays a vital role in this regard.

Turkish Dardanelles control the debouchments of Soviet submarines or surface ships into the Mediterranean. The chains of rugged mountains backed up by hundreds of miles of desert, extending from Caucasus to the Himalayas, provided major obstacle to any land invasion of the area from the Soviet Union. And available bases like those at Dhahran in Saudi Arabia, at Adana in Turkey, at Habbaniya in Iraq, and in Cyprus, as closer to the aircraft carriers of the United State. Sixth fleet, are closer to the Soviet Union's south-central area, the site of many of its important industrial and military facilities than any others. Conversely Soviet control of bases in Egypt and Syria would neutralize the present western geographic bas advantage in the area (<http://foreignaffairs.com/articles/united/kingdom/1957-07-01/strategy-middle-east>).

It is very important to note that one term sometimes applied to part of this region is "Fertile Crescent" which was coined out by James Henry in 1914 to refer to the arc of fertile agricultural zones that formed the basis for early civilization, in what are now Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel. The rich, fertile soil of the Middle East led early civilizations to settle, domesticate plants and animals, and thrive. The Fertile crescent between the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers known as Mesopotamia (now modern Iraq and extending north in to Syria and Turkey) was the home of the world's first urban culture, the Sumerians, 6,000 years ago. The Sumerians' Egyptian rivals took advantage of the annual flooding of the Nile for their regular harvest, later exporting a large portion of their produce to the Roman Empire. Sometime later, the Hittites settled in the golden, rolling hills of Anatolia (modern Turkey) and the Phoenician of the eastern Mediterranean(<http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/middle-east>).

2.4. Faith and Ideology

The political and psychological significance of the Middle East is a major part of its strategic importance to the west. It is a symbolic and emotional area; here and centered the shrines of the three world's religions, Islam, Christianity and Judaism. The Pan-Arab, Pan-Islam Movement is centered on the Middle East and its influence extends westward to Morocco, deep in to Africa, eastward to India. Here, too, Zionism has made a lodestar of International Jewry, and since its creation this Jewish state has influenced the foreign policy of many nations in the world (Surby, 2011, 56-79).

The history of Middle East dates back to ancient times, with the geopolitical importance of region being recognized for millennia. It is the origin point for many of the religions and belief systems which help define modern civilization today. The region was home to the ancient kingdom of Israel and thus fostered the Jewish religion. Jesus is believed to have been born in Nazareth, which is located in what is now the northern region of Israel, and indeed early Christianity traces its origins back to the Middle East. The region is also the birthplace of Islam, as the prophet Muhammad was born in Mecca. Several other belief systems also trace their origins to the Middle East, such as Pantheon of Ancient Egyptian gods, the deities of Ancient Sumer, and the Zoroastrianism and Manichaeism of ancient and Classical Persia⁵¹. However, Islam is the most widely followed religion in the Middle East. About 20% of the world's Muslim live in the Middle East (www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/theme/geography).

The role that religion plays in politics is embedded in the structure of the Middle East. The importance role of religion in politics arises partly from the history of the region. Historically, both religion and tradition went hand in hand from the government system. Many governments use religion to justify their authoritative political systems within the Middle Eastern⁵³.

2.5. Centre of Israel

Israelis used by the west during cold war to capture Soviet Union. It was used as a base for military operation in south west Asia (Middle East). America has stayed to billion dollars' worth of military gear in Israel. Israel is believed to be associated state of the European Union. Although, Israel is not geographically located in Europe, it is a member in many European aspects. Late Republican senator, Jesse Helms used to call Israel "American's aircraft carrier in the middle east. Israel is only a Jewish nation in the Middle East that has many cities across the empire and American and they are economically relevance and supportive to their various nations.

Another cornerstone of United State policy in the region has been Washington's support for Israel. The United State was among the first nations to recognized Israel in 1948, even as the United Nations voted to partition Palestine in to Jewish and Arab States (Shlaim 1996, 219-40.). The establishment of Israel in that year had added a harder Zionist edge to American policy makers need to pay heed to their Jewish voters (Abed & Davoodi, 2003)

Israel alliances with the United State of America, its partnership with leading countries of Europe, and the fact that it is a western democracy, mean that its fate is never going to be a matter of indifference. Over these past years, with consideration skill, the Israelis have also built up relationship with China and with Russia. These are not the same as their long standing western alliance's but they have significance where the Israelis to be pulled into a regional conflict, there is no realistic way that the world could or would want to shrug it off. For the moment, Israel has successfully stayed aloof from the storm around it ([Http://www.globalissues.org/issue/103/middle-east](http://www.globalissues.org/issue/103/middle-east)). This goes to explain while the Middle East in which Israel is inclusive is strategically important to the west.

3. Conclusion

The Middle East is a term derived from Western world perspective. Originally, the term Near East referred to areas under Ottoman control, from Balkans to the border of Iran. The term "iddle East was invented in the early 20th century to include the area around the Persian Gulf, and the Near East was used to refer to the Ottoman Balkans. After World War II, Middle East became dominant term for the whole region (Zickel, 1989). As the World War II ended, the US became the great outside power in the Middle East, with main concerns on Persian Gulf oil, support and protection of the new nation of Israel etc. The goals proved difficult to manage, especially with the emergency of the rise of Arab nationalism, two major Arab-Israeli wars and an Arab oil embargo.

4. References

- i. Amir, Kazmi. The Role that Religion Plays in Politics of the Middle East. www.emmitsburg.net. www.emmitsburg.net/archieve-list/article/thoughtful/amir/religion-in-middle-east.htm. April 20, 2017.
- ii. Anup, Shah. (2011). Middle East. [Http://www.globalissues.org/issue/103/middle-east](http://www.globalissues.org/issue/103/middle-east). April 20, 2017.
- iii. Avi, Shlaim. The Middle East: The Origins of Arab-Israeli Wars in Ngair Woods, ed., Explaining International Relations since 1945 (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), 219-40.
- iv. Charles, I. (1982). An Economic History of the Middle East and the North Africa. New York, Columbia University Press.
- v. Demirdjian, Z.S (2009). Marketing in the Cradle of Civilization. The "Riverine" Triangle Vs. The Fertile. Crescent Proceedings of ASBBS, 16 (1).
- vi. Dictionary Thesaurus of the day blog. Dictionary.Com. www.dictionary.com/browse/middle-east. April 10, 2017.
- vii. Dictionary, Encyclopedia and Thesaurus-The Dictionary. Wwww. [Thefreedictionary.com/middle+east](http://thefreedictionary.com/middle+east). April 4, 2017.

- viii. Ezzat, K. (2016). The Economic Impacts of the New Suez Canal. Strategic Sectors & Territory. Panorama IEMED. Mediterranean Yearbook, 282-288.
- ix. Fred, Halliday. The Great Powers and the Middle East. <https://www.merip.org/author/fred-halliday>. April 20, 2017.
- x. Geography: An Ancient and Modern Crossroads. www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/mideast/theme/geography. April 5, 2017.
- xi. George T. A. & Hamid R. D. (2003). Challenges of Growth and Globalization in the Middle East and North Africa. International Monetary Fund.
- xii. Hanson, W. Baldwin. Strategy of the Middle East. <http://foreignaffairs.com/articles/united/kingdom/1957-07-01/strategy-middle-east>. April 16, 2017.
- xiii. Houghton, M. (2016). Dictionary of the English Language 5th ed. America: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.
- xiv. Islam, the Middle East, and the West. <http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/middle-east>. April 5, 2017.
- xv. John, F. (2009). Why is Afghanistan Strategically So Important to the West? Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.
- xvi. Karol, R. S. (2011). Great Power and the Middle East after World War II (1945-1955). Institute of Orient and Africa Studies Asia and Africa Studies 10 (1), 56-79.
- xvii. Kumaraswamy, PR. (2003). Problems of Studying Minorities in the Middle East. Alternatives Turkish. Journal of International Relations 2 (2), 244-264.
- xviii. Lisa V. & Myriam S. (2006) Hospitality, Friendship, Success Developing Business Relationships. Middleeast Getting Started: Guide, 5-8
- xix. Osamah, F. K. (2014). The Crossroads of the World: US and British Foreign Policy Doctrines and Construct of Middle East, 1902-2007. Diplomatic History, 38 (2), 299-344.
- xx. Osman, N O. (2011). Where is the Middle East? The Definition and Classification Problem of the Middle East as a Regional Subsystem. International Relations. Turkey Journal of Politics 2 (2)
- xxi. Rahim, A. (1981). Islāmic History. Lagos, Nigeria: Islāmic Publications Bureau.
- xxii. Raymond, E. Z. (Ed.). (1989). Soviet Union 1945-1985 [Excerpted from The Soviet Union-- A Country Study. Washington, D. C.: Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress.
- xxiii. Sessa, Trubetskoy. What is the list of Western countries in the world?. <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-list-of-western-countries-in-the-world>. April 20, 2017.
- xxiv. Shibley, Telhami. The Persian Gulf: Understanding the American Curriculum Vitae.docx Oil Strategy. <http://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-persian-gulf-understanding-the-american-oil-strategy>. April 10, 2017.
- xxv. Strategic Importance of Turkey. Mensur-boydas.blogcu.com/strategic-importance-of-turkey/7861648. April 12, 2017.
- xxvi. The Role of the West in the Middle East Conflict. <http://karllamwriting.wordpress.com/the-role-of-the-west-in-the-middle-east>. April 7, 2017.
- xxvii. What is the Middle East? Teachmideast.org/articles/what-is-the-middle-east. April 5, 2017.
- xxviii. World atlas. www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/me.htm. April 12, 2017.
- xxix. Xing, LI & Yuan, MA. (2010). A Comparative Analysis of U.S Russia Middle East Energy Strategy. Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (in Asia) 4 (2). 81-102.