

(د) - التنسيق بين مجلس أو منظمة الدول العربية المطلة على البحر الأحمر وبين مجلس أمن دول التعاون الخليجي فيما يتعلق بشؤون البحر وأمن المنطقة لتداخل مصالحها الاقتصادية والاستراتيجية.

(هـ) - التعاون بين مجلس دول البحر الأحمر العربية ومنظمة الوحدة الافريقية بما يضمن أمن وحرية البحر الأحمر.

٢ - تعمل الدول المطلة على البحر الأحمر جاهدة على حياد القوى الكبرى تجاه منطقة البحر الأحمر وجعلها منطقة منزوعة السلاح .

٣ - تشجيع كافة وسائل التنمية لسواحل البحر والجزر المتناثرة فيه واحيائها فلا تكون قاحلة او خالية من السكان مما يجعلها عرضة للاحتلال والنفوذ الاجنبى ويمكن تحقيق ذلك بالتفاهم والتعاون بين دول البحر الأحمر المتباينة فى قدراتها الاقتصادية والبشرية .

٤ - الادراك الفعلى العميق للدول المطلة على البحر بحجم المسؤولية الملقاه على عاتقهم ، وبذل كافة الجهود التى تكفل أمن وحرية البحر الأحمر واستقلاله وبالتالى عروبيته .

واذ اشار المنتدون فى مؤتمر البحر الأحمر المنعقد فى جامعة كمبودج فى بريطانيا الى انه من المسلم به الوجود الاجنبى الأمريكى والروسي والصهيونى فى البحر ، وانه لا توجد حتى الآن لدى اى دولة عربية خريطة دقيقة لمجموع الجزر المتناثرة عند مدخل البحر الأحمر الجنوبى سواء عند الشواطئ اليمنية أو الاشويبية والمومالية وغيرها ، وان وجدت بعض الخرائط الدقيقة نسبيا عن بعض الجزر لدى بعض الدول العربية كمصر الا انها لاتزال خرائط صماء ، ليؤكد فى حقيقة الامر المسؤولية الكبرى الملقاه على الدول العربية المطلة

على البحر الاحمر لتعمل على وحدة وعروبة البحر والحد من الوجود الاجنبى فيه سواء على المستوى الاقليمى - العدو الصهيونى ، آشويبيا - أو على المستوى الدولى - الولايات المتحدة والاتحاد السوفيتى - ، اذ يمثل ذلك النفوذ الاجنبى المطلق الوحيد على أسرار المنطقة والمواقع الاستراتيجية فى البحر ويستغلها افضل استغلال بما يضمن له السيادة والنفوذ فى منطقة البحر الاحمر ككل .

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KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

General Presidency of Girls Education,

College of Education of Girls in Jeddah.

Geography Department

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE RED SEA

(SOUTHERN ENTRANCE)

A STUDY IN POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

(Summary)

PRESENTED BY : ABLA ABDULJALIL MURSHID

SUPERVISED BY: DR. ABDULZIZ S. AL-GHAMDI

The study of a geographic location is considered to be one of the fundamental subjects raised in geopolitics. As such, location is one of the most vital characteristics that may influence a political unity. It is also a predominant natural factor that formulates a state, still further, it is an outstanding location feature for any political region.

The study of any area is inevitably linked to significance of the geographical location that contributes to development of the political essence as well as international relations.

The Arab world occupies a strategic and sensitive location in terms of position. This is because it falls in the waterways comprising straits and water channels such as Gibraltar, Suez Canal, Bab Al-Mandab and Hormuz. The Red Sea is situated in the Core of this formation and constitutes the only water way for a number of Arab nations besides being the most active economical route linking East with West.

The Red Sea is located at the junction of the old world continents, it is, therefore, considered to be a connecting element between Eastern/Western Seas. Bab Al-Mandab and the Suez Canal are the main control points in the Red Sea.

Geographically speaking, the Red Sea is a surface of water extending between the Asia Continent on the Eastern side and Africa on the Western side linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Indian ocean.



However, turning to its political geography, it comprises all the political units that have a political or economic or military relationship.

Under these circumstances the Red Sea is not only important for being a vital surface of water but because it is a strategic area having an impact on the sensitive areas of the Middle East and Africa.

The geographical location of the Red Sea is a subject worth researching because it has a positive cultural and economic influence on the region. In the meantime, it also has an adverse impact where international interests intermingle with the regional interests. The importance of the Red Sea is apparently the prominent motive behind the international disputes, cold and hot wars in Africa and the Middle East. The study of the Red Sea's geographical location has a scientific significance that may assist to comprehending the importance of geographical locations in international policies.

This study of Red Sea's geographical location aims at the following objectives:-

1. Display of the Red Sea's location importance and its economic influence on the surrounding countries.
2. Demonstration of the Red Sea's importance in connection with international disputes and its consequences on world-wide navigation.

3. Analysis of effects on the surrounding countries resulting from conflicts on the Red Sea and the consequential out-come on global politics particularly the states found in that region.

This research is based on an analytical pattern so as to investigate elements related to the geographic issue. A practical pattern has also been adopted in the interest of analysing international relationships in conjunction with the political region.

The historical pattern has also been applied as a means to comprehend the back ground which assists in analysing the region's contemporary problems.

The research has been subdivided into five (5) sections:-

- The first section comprising the introduction which deals with the importance, objectives and style of research.

The special emphasis is made on significance of the geographic location as well as international traffic routes.

- The second section deals with the natural formation of the Red Sea in terms of geological composition and the morphological set-up besides an indepth study of navigation, climate and hydraulological characteristics of the Red Sea.



- Section three investigates importance of the Red Sea from the economic aspect to particularly marine transport and the tremendous resources consisting of heavy minerals, evaporating salts, petrol, gases and livestock.

- Section four concentrates on the strategic significance of the Red Sea's location and its influence on the political position historic importance and the geographic importance of Bab-Al-Mandab.

This section investigates international influence in the Red Sea area since the 19th century particularly the northern and southern entrances of the sea where we find the horn of Africa and the Red Sea's southern entrance. On the other hand, a study has been made about the regional influence around the Red Sea's area by way of analysing the Israeli strategy towards the Red Sea.

The conclusion of this chapter stresses the constant importance of the Red Sea as to international strategies based on studies of modern operations that the Red Sea had witnessed recently namely mining operations in the sea.

- Chapter five (5) concludes the research comprising the last part which covered this work's results confirming that importance of geographic location is still constant inspite of the radical changes which occurred on the technology

of transport, communication and systems of modern wars.

In research affirms that the strategic value of certain geographic location are still intact by virtue of consistent location relationships despite the changes in international relationships and political circumstances. The significance of the Red Sea's location is actually the fundamental factor which attributed international interest to the Red Sea area economically and militarily. This fact refutes any allegation which underestimates the value of geographic location in contemporary strategy. Subsequently, it confirms that distances may still play a significant role diplomatically and strategically.

This chapter is concluded by recommendations stressing the importance of coordinating efforts of all Arab nations around the Red Sea in the object of ensuring security and freedom for the Sea thereby minimizing foreign influence.