Quest Journals Journal of Research in Business and Management Volume 4 ~ Issue 7 (2016) pp: 13-18 ISSN(Online) : 2347-3002 www.questjournals.org

#### **Research Paper**



# Arise Of Climate Changes Due to Gulf Refugee Crisis: Massive Influx of Syrian Refugees to Neighboring Gulf Nations in 2010 - 2015

## D.A.E. Malavipathirana

Received 15 September, 2016; September 30 September, 2016 © The author(s) 2016. **Published** with open access at **www.questjournals.org** 

**ABSTRACT:** Syrian refugee crisis and climate changes recognize as front line debating topics in current world scenario, are interdependent. This research mainly attempts to find out the answers for the research question why international system should understand the importance of structuring the integration of Syrian refugees in Gulf host countries? Objective was to recognize the importance of Gulf Regional Corporation to omit climate changes according the green theory; that occurred due to massive influx of Syrian refugees. Hypothesis of this research was that despite the increase of population, managing behaviors and living styles of refugees at Gulf host countries would be more productive to avoid climate changes. When analyzing data author found that, Gulf countries hosting Syrian refugees; make less impact towards the climate change where as European refugee host countries make a huge impact.

Keywords: Climate change/ Integration/ Refugee crisis

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Influx of Syrian refugees to their neighboring countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt; during the period of 2010-2015; made Gulf zone struggles to stabilize their political, socio-economic and cultural boundaries. Considering the historical background; facts for Persian Gulf War spread the seeds of inter regional conflicts between western and eastern blockade. Hegemony of western aligns over the resources rich Gulf zone; managed to place them on hot plate in current scenario. Western countries as a peace mediator; increased the refugee influx of the region rather than decreasing. Iraqi invasion of Iran and Kuwait provide ample of examples to prove the effect of western mediation in middle-east region. "President Bush used a terrorist attack conducted by Saudi citizens trained in Afghanistan as an excuse to invade Iraq, a long-time objective of neoconservatives as part of their plan to reorder the Middle East." [1] Spread of Islamic extremism through the region along with the increase of refugee population; deceived their morality to join hands with other nations to secure environment and act to omit drastic climate changes. Scope of national and regional interest had been changed to eradicating ISIL. Establishing a 30km buffer zone in Syria; Turkish president mentioned that "We will never allow the establishment of a state on our southern border in the north of Syria, we will continue our fight in that respect whatever the cost may be." Moreover; in current world political trend; multi-polar power system became the backbone of international system which influences much the international politics. The requirement of a structured, Syrian refugee integration process can be full filled by the collective support of multilateral corporation under multi-polar power system.

Similarly; the reactions of Gulf Regional Corporation on integration and settlement of Syrian refugees with a comprehensive focus on climate changes that agree the contemporary green political theory; is important yet their regional interest is on security.

#### 1. Influx of Syrian refugees

Over 10 million of Syrians flee their country in order to protect their lives and expecting a safe zone due to an intolerable violation of their human rights, political, religious, economic and cultural persecution by Islamic extremists terror groups."The largest groups are from Syria. They mainly include men, families with children, and minors accompanied by close relatives" Instead of choosing to cross Mediterranean Sea to reach a better life in Europe many of Syrians pledge refugee status in neighboring; Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and Iraq. They choose to live in urban areas of host countries rather than living in humanitarian camps.

#### 1.1. Reasons that refugees choose to live in urban

- Influence of a relative or a friend who accommodate the refugee at their place in town.
- Syrian refugees try choosing to stay with similar religious and ethnic group surrounded as they have been displaced and persecuted by Jihadi extremists in their own land.
- Confidence over security and protection provided by the host country to its' urban areas than it provides to refugee camps.
- Easy access to healthcare and sanitary facilities.
- Employment and access to various jobs in the market.
- Access to trade and corporate sector.
- Expect to give their children, to study at a better institute or school.
- Refugees do not like to identify them as "Refugees", by choosing to living in urban areas they get the opportunity to mingle with other civilians and spend life as a civilian.

Figure 01: Gulf countries hosting massive number of Syrian refugees and their percentages



### 2. Overview of climate change and its impact.

Considering "Climate changes" could claim as one of the outcomes of human behavior which turns back to threat human life in its various formations. Since industrialization; man struggled to improve their ability to sustain in economy whereas he did not consider the environmental sustainability. Realists have identified climate changes and environmental sustainable policies as a sub-sector of politics which has been considered as "Low Politics". With neoliberal ideology environmental sustainability was considered one of the major areas that it needs potential attention. During past few decades; human activities caused to high emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, such as Methane, Neon, Chloro Phloro Carbon. Global warming, thinning the Ozone, layer, droughts, floods and landslides due to heavy rain, strong hurricanes, heat waves, change of seasons, melting glaciers and increase of sea level are few of the outcomes of human behavior. Considering the facts; global temperature rows 02-03°C annually which leads melting glaziers and increase of the sea level in long term phase. Arctic sea ice cover marked its lowest height ever in the history during May 2016. Julienne Stroeve, a senior scientist from US National Snow and Ice center mention their newest statistics on Ice layer as 4.169 m sq km was noted on 12 September 2016 by the satellite.

Moreover; it impacts the ecological system and threats the biodiversity in short term phase. Due to climate changes; countries experiencing the extreme drier weather conditions and extreme wetter conditions during the year. Frequency, intensity and the strength of hurricanes are fetal due to changes of the climate. United States Environment protection agency declares that; in 2005, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused more than 1,800 deaths, recorded more than 200 square miles of coastal land in Louisiana, and destroyed personal property and public infrastructure. However, not only the activities of Gulf countries that host massive number of Syrian refugees, but also activities of developed nation, impacts towards the climate change.

International system concerning that it is a multi-polar power structure; should focus more on mitigation of climate changes that covers an eco-friendly Syrian refugee integration system for Gulf nations. In addition; managing only the increase of Syrian refugee population is an international collective goal, which would not specify alone the target to prevent climate changes and environmental degradation.

Country	Total CO2 emission from the consumption of energy (Million Metric Tons) in 2011	Per capita CO2 emission from the consumption of energy (Metric tons of CO2 per person) in 2011	
UN Security council member states			
China	8715.31	6.52	
USA	5490.63	17.62	
Russia	1788.14	12.55	
UK	496.80	7.92	
France	374.33	5.73	
Other states			
Germany	1788.14	9.19	
India	1725.76	1.45	
Iran	624.86	8.02	
Japan	1180.62	9.26	
Indonesia	426.79	1.73	

Figure 02: CO2 emission as	per the consump	otion of energy - 2011
----------------------------	-----------------	------------------------

### 2.1. Influence of Population in rapidity of climate changes

Increase and the centralization of the population in Gulf region; influence the rapidity of climate changes due to their activities such as deforestation, air and water pollution, carbon emission through green house gasses, heavy industrialization that does not concern on environmental sustainability, Chemical and biological product industries pump used chemicals and other liquidized acids to nearby rivers, tanks, ponds in the landside and to the sea. This process of industrialization affects the ecological system and the biodiversity of the universe. Chemical burns, Use of sulfur, green house gas emission and even the use of non-disposable polythene and plastic. Increase of population also support to increase the amount of garbage which has become a ruling problem in nations, focusing on Galf region; countries struggle to find a place where they can throw the garbage safely, as their population growing through the land. Searching for space by deforesting. Without a proper recycling process of garbage, human tend to use an untouched area that locates miles away from civilized zones. That it even decomposes the land, water and air to endanger biodiversity and mankind specifying human activities and their behaviors affect the sustainability of the environment which leads to dangerous climate changes.

Despite the growth of their citizens; host countries have to accommodate increasing refugee population in their country. As a well known fact; Gulf countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan; are still remaining developing despite they gear up their economy by selling fossil fuel to the world. Gulf regional countries joining other nations provide humanitarian aids and funds the two third of the refugees in Gulf host countries thereof. Supplying only the humanitarian funds would not direct to resolve in either refugee crisis or environmental crisis. A structured Syrian refugee integration process in Gulf countries required to come in action through multilateral cooperation.





Spread of population in urban and pre-urban areas cause inequalities of supplying services and facilities to the whole community. Similarly the affect towards the environmental pollution cause as per the spread of population. When population increases; facilities and services required to be expand, that it affect climate

changes in short and long term phase. "...Environmental discourses against the constraints of political feasibility – particularly those that arise from international pluralism and developing world demands for energy equity." Below figures pursue the improvement of Syrian refugee population arriving Gulf countries who host massive number of refugee in the region.



**Figure 03**: Increase of Syrian refugee population in Turkey in 2012-2015





Figure 05: Increase of Syrian refugee population in Lebanon in 2012-2015



### 3. Influx of Syrian refugees in Gulf region creates new trends of Non-traditional security threats

Concerning the outstanding question which become significant; why international system should understand the importance of building a proper structure of integrating Syrian refugees in host countries in Gulf zone. Syrians flee their country under an intolerable massive human rights violation; aiming their life protection in host country. Suffer from the trauma due to their unpleasant life in their own land experienced by over generations leads refugees to spend more time to be confident and to support their own family through a recognized source of earning. Possibilities of emerging new dimensions of non-traditional security threats mark in higher range due to the morality of refugees. "when poverty is added to ethnic or regional inequalities, the grievances that stock civil violence, are compounded. While it may not reach the level of war, the combination of a surging youth population, poverty, urbanization and unemployment has resulted in increasing gang violence in many cities of the developing countries"

As a dimension of non-traditional security threats; Environmental degradation and illegal migrants; cause disastrous situation towards mankind. Barry Buzan, has named security under main five sectors and environmental security identifies "Struggles humans have with nature" Accelerating the population growth after industrialization impact on sustainability of the environment. "The more recent issues of human impact on the planet that are resulting in phenomena such as global warming, pollution, and the ozone layer." The ideology of the Copenhagen school agreeing Barry Buzan's securitization theory; demand the political process behind the selection of threats. "The theory of securitization argues that there are no objective threats, waiting to be discovered. Instead, various issues can be transformed into security issues if a political community constructs them as such through a successful speech act that transforms the way of dealing with them." In addition; Barry

Buzan described "illegal migration" as a nontraditional security threat that it also cause for environmental degradation, human insecurity, energy insecurity. Many diplomats argue that two third of criminals who are engaged in human smuggling, drug and weapon trafficking, cyber crimes, money laundering, credit card swap and who are entertain from the black market, are from the migrant and refugee communities.

As it proves the hypothesis of the paper; increase of population will not be the only cause for the environmental degradation but their behavior matters.

#### 4. Role of "Green political theory" in Syrian refugee crisis

As a preventive political mechanism to ensure environmental sustainability, green theory play a major role to maintain a better stability of growing economic and ecological interdependence. Similarly, the theory act to manage ecological problems, thinning the Ozone layer, and the erosion of biodiversity. Comparing the traditional threat; environmental problems unintended, trans-boundary and wide spread in long term phase. Mckibbon (2012 – Global warming terrifying new math) noted the danger on overuse of natural resources. As per 'Green political theory in a climate changed world',*Environmental Politics-2015*' by Symons, J. and Karlsson, R "on the consensus that the maximum level of safe warming is 2° Celsius; on the remaining budget of 565 billion tonnes (gigatonnes [Gt]) of CO2 that might be added to the atmosphere while likely avoiding 2°C of warming; and on the 2,795 Gt of CO2 stored in known fossil fuel reserves (the fifth IPCC report estimates 469 Gt and 3,000 Gt respectively). A fourth key number – annual carbon emissions of 31.6 Gt in 2012 – explains the time-limited nature of the challenge. If emissions remain unchanged then we will exhaust this entire budget by around 2030."

"Green" political theory demands for a collective effort towards environmental reform in eco-political base that ensures justice and economic security. United Nation Environment Program follows the Green Political theory through assessing the impacts on environment that harms the livelihood, enhance national governments to identify environmental requirements and rehabilitate ecosystems, mitigate risks and ensure the resources are used sustainably, assisting countries and regional organizations to transform potential natural resources that can lead to conflicts; as opportunity of corporation and peace building and early threat assessments to avoid future environmental threats.

Influence Syrian refugee crisis with main pillars of green political theory for environmental sustainability and to mitigate climate required to bring in operation through Gulf Regional Corporation.



Figure 07: Pillars of Green political theory

Considering the use of natural resources in the Gulf region; equality in utilization of resources in a environmental friendly manner ensure in preventing future conflicts which could base on dividing natural resources. That it mitigate the rapidity of climate changes.

### II. CONCLUSION

Concerning the emergence of climate changes due to Syrian refugee crisis; addressing the increase of population could not stand alone to mitigate climate changes. Behavior and activities of refugees have to be managed in an environmental friendly policy. In addition; international system needs to form a structured resettlement and integration policies for Syrian refugees under multilateral corporation. It is important to understand the gravity of using multi-polar power system to secure environmental sustainability over using their power to enable neo-colonial power balances. UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon mentioned some of the

requirements to developed countries to ensure the environmental sustainability and to mitigate climate changes at Climate change summit in Paris, France on 2015.

- Requirements from developed nations to developing countries
- Solidarity towards poor and most vulnerable
- Ensure most efficient and balanced adaptation
- Provide mitigation support
- Agreements should be credible not to enable political powers.
- Keep promises to mobilize 100 billion dollars by year 2020

Maintain single transparent framework to measure, monitor and report progresses of developing countries. Despite developing Gulf countries have growing population, impact towards climate changes through their activities remain lesser than the impact done by developing countries. However; as per the speech of UN Secretary General it is also important to reform the environmental policies in developed countries not only to reform policies in developing countries.

Similarly; Gulf States need to maintain a cooperation in the region to resettle and integrate Syrian refugees that to ensure the environmental sustainability. During the massive influx of Syrian refugee in 2015, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Bahrain offered zero resettlement positions whereas Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq had to take over the responsibility of a massive number of refugees. That does not mean only these countries have to shoulder the responsibility in mitigating climate changes. Reacting towards climates changes; is a collective act to protect livelihood.

However; countries consider environment sustainability and climate changes in pretext of marketing and evaluating themselves in the economy. Countries competing to ensure environmental sustainability and to mitigate climate changes even though the reason behind differs.

#### REFERENCE

#### Books

- [1]. Zachary Lockman "Contending visions of the middle-east the history and politics of Orientalism" Cambridge University Press, 2009
- Robert, Jackson and George, Sorensen, "Introduction to international Relation theories and Approaches" Oxford University Press, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2006
- [3]. Hassan A EI-Najjar (2001) 'Western interest and the Gulf war', in (ed.) The Gulf War: Overreaction and Excursiveness .: Amazone Press, pp. 74-75.
- [4]. Bandow, D. (2015) The collapse of Iraq and the rise of ISIS: Made in America?', The National Interest, 23 September, p. 13913.
- [5]. Campos F.N. and Gassebner M. (2009) 'International Terrorism, Political Instability and the Escalation Effect', Discussion Paper Series , 4061(IZA DP 4061), pp. 01-05 [Online]. Available at: http://ftp.iza.org/dp4061.pdf (Accessed: 02nd August 2015)

#### Chapters in books

[6]. Sheptycki J. (2003) 'Against Transnational Organized Crimes', in Bear M.E. (ed.)Critical reflections on transnational organized crime money laundering and corruption..University of Toronto Press Incorporated : University of Toronto, pp. 128-130

#### Journal Papers

- [7]. Trombetta, M.J. (2009) 'Environmental security and climate change: analyzing the discourse ', Cambridge review of international affairs , 21:4, 585-602, DOI(ISSN: 0955-7571), pp. 586-588.
- [8]. IOM (2014) Migrant and refugee integration in global cities, the role of cities and businesses, Keizer Karelpline 19, 6211 TC Maastricht, The Netherlands: Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
- [9]. Symons, J. and Karlsson, R. (2015) 'Green political theory in a climate changed world', Environmental Politics , (10.1080), pp. 01-02

#### **Reports/ Working papers**

- [10]. Kicinger A. (2004) International Migration as a Non-traditional security threat and the EU responses to this Phenomenon, 51/55,00-818, Warsaw, Poland: UI.Twarda
- [11]. Simpson John H., (October 1938) 'The refugee problem', International Affairs , Vol. 17 (No. 05), pp. 610-611
- [12]. Ullman Richard H., (1983) Redefining security, Vol: 08, No. 01 edn., http://www.jstor.org/stable/2538489: The MIT Press
- [13]. SOPEMI (1999) Trends in International Migration, : Organization for Economic Coorperation and Development
- [14]. International Organization for Migration (IOM) (2015) IOM Regional response to the Syria crisis 2015, : IOM

#### Electronic data sources

- [15]. Union of Concerned scientists http://www.ucsusa.org/global\_warming/science\_and\_impacts/science/each-countrys-share-ofco2.html#.V9mUjfl97IU
- [16]. United States Environment Protection Agency https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/impacts/
- [17]. Free Polymer Hand Book http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/causes-effects-solutions-of-plastic-pollution.php
- [18]. UNODC (United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime) https://www.unodc.org/toc/en/crimes/organized-crime.html