

Journal homepage: http://www.journalijar.com Journal DOI: 10.21474/IJAR01 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH

#### RESEARCH ARTICLE

# THE GEO-ECONOMICS POSITION OF THE PERSIAN GULF AND ITS IMPACT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA.

# Alavi, Sayed Mahmood<sup>1</sup>, Pashalou, Ahad<sup>2</sup>,

- 1. MA in Political Science, Tarbiat Modares University.
- 2. MA in Political Geography, Faculty of Geography, University of Tehran.

# Manuscript Info

#### Manuscript History:

Received: 18 March 2016 Final Accepted: 19 April 2016 Published Online: May 2016

.....

#### Key words:

The Persian Gulf, China, Development, Geo-Economy, Energy.

\*Corresponding Author

Alavi, Sayed Mahmood

## Abstract

The rapid economical growth of becoming into a big power in the field of international policy is the result of the cooperative and realistic policy of the Chinese in some recent decades. The description of the strategic position of China in recent years which are mostly resulted from economical growth and as a result, diplomatic and military potential increases, has transformed the foreign policy of this country in different domains. In this respect, one of the regions which have been taken serious in foreign policy in recent years is the Persian Gulf region. For having the most energy reserves, the Persian Gulf, surely will have the highest capabilities in energy security supply and responsibility for increasing strategic need of China and effect on the development speed of the country. In another respect, from the beginning of the 21th century, big powers with a modern procedure and by more notice in economical interests compete with each other in the world strategic regions. Such a procedure formed of three factors; geography, power and economy is called geo-economics procedure in the recent years literatures of international relations .The Chinese, with regard to this procedure and by use of the particular position of the Persian Gulf, raised their presence in the Persian Gulf by designing a precise and careful strategy, and created wide relations with the region countries, and by using the international possibilities of the region, the supply of endless energy and fairly cheap and by using the big and most consumption market of Persian Gulf border countries, they could speed the development current of their country, especially in two past decades.

.....

Copy Right, IJAR, 2016,. All rights reserved.

#### Methodology:-

In terms of nature and research method, the study is based on historical method and descriptive - analytic. This study has been carried based on documentary methods, content analysis of documents related to the Geo-Economics position of the Persian Gulf, library and Internet. Primarily necessary resources identified and collected and then taking notes and extracting of the important and needed information was done. And the final stage information in the field of the evolution of due to the Geo-Economics position of the Persian Gulf and its impact on the development of China has been analyzed.

## Introduction:-

The growth and economical development of every country in addition to dependence on internal resource or government role, also is dependent on the manner of the cooperation of that country with international system and the capacities of each country for growth and development will result from the cooperation of the two domains and internal and international. In the present time, one of the important and reliable procedures of the analysts of the broad studios of internal and international is the geo-economics procedure in the geopolitical regions of the world.

Such a procedure being the product of after cold war, and being important for its economy and factors instead of militarism and geostrategic regions has devoted to itself a great revolution in modern analyses. The geopolitical region of the Persian Gulf for having two third of the strategic resource of the world oil and gas has become a geoeconomics region and a field for competition of trans-regional powers and in this respect, China also with having information on this procedural revolution, posses specific policies in the region. Redefinition of the strategic position of China in recent years which are mostly caused by economical growth and following it, increasing diplomatic and military potential, has revolutionized the foreign policy of this country in different domains. In this regard, one of the regions which in recent years and because of attention on geo-economics procedure in the foreign policy of China has been considered as serious is the Persian Gulf region. This region and the countries located in it, due to having the most energy reserves, surely will possess the highest capabilities in the supply of the energy security of China and responsibility for the increasing strategic needs of the country. The Chinese by understanding this matter in recent years, have done broad efforts to raise relations oil countries of the region, especially that main countries with Hydrocarbon resource, so that, they can increase their shares of the energy reserves of the region, and exploit political, commercial and military cooperation with the Persian Gulf border countries for speeding more in their country development. Therefore, in this research, the goal is responding to this main question that what impact the position and locality of the Persian Gulf has had on the development process in China.

## The Theoretical Principles of Research:-Geo-Economics:-

The destruction of soviet union as one of the military - political poles of cold war and of the geostrategic and geopolitical competitions the two big and world powers, after about four decades of competitions was followed by basic changes in the cognitive domains of political and scientific communities. The complex of these revolutions suggests a new political - economical basis in international field which has had high velocity, influence and extension in the beginning of the current century. One of the modern senses which offer this destruction in the field of geopolitical and international relations, for the analysis of policy and international matters and the competition of powers are profited is geo-economics procedure. Edward Enlutrach in 1990 brought the paradigm "Geo-Economy" with a broad sense into international relations, geopolitics and the other political knowledge related to vast international analyses. This thinker informed about coming modern international system in the decade 90, where economical factors substitute for geostrategic and military aims. In this opinion, the reason for the fights of the 20-th century, in the present century (the 21-th century) is not the subjects of past century, but beside a tension, there is an economical factor (Kamp, 1994: 107). The logic of the economy which caused the daily competitions of the west and the east and the balance of inhibition forces to be forgotten, now plays the first role in the analysis of human relations and surrounding space that is in the analysis of geopolitical position. The appearance of the new word "Geo-Economics" in which the relations between human being as an actor and a space in which he/she is transmuted are studied caused some of the policymakers of those countries to interpret war of this sense, thereby they affirm the role of economy in the analysis of the governments' policies. Of course, the suggested matter does not mean that all the ideological and geopolitical disagreements between nations and governments are resolved easily, because geopolitical disagreements and crises are rather continuous and will not be resolvable simply (Hafeznia, 2006: 128). It is necessary to be said that in this particular background, realistic material data or a belief of every kind about a subject or phenomenon called revision are not cleared of the minds and thoughts of society and politicians easily (Laquest, 1999: 97). It appears that, the logic of economy and trade can manage the world only when by the decrease of the importance of possessing military power, the completion of units have the nature only economical .These are the powers that lead economical policies in the world system, and this is geo-economical process that has become a phenomenon to cover new space, relations in the world system, and a method to explain and analyst the world policies of most western powers (Tabatabaee, 2004: 25).

Of cognitive viewpoint, some experts of political matters believe that this matter does not mean that economy is not anything beside geopolitics or against geopolitics, but geo-economy is a part of the knowledge domain of geopolitics and one of the modern thoughts of geopolitics in modern time, of course, geo-economy cannot be known like the other subsets of geopolitics (geo-strategy, hydro politics and ...) as a separate comment of the main comment. Because every one of these comments, give its own definition of geopolitics. Where economy is the motive of the competition of powers, geopolitics gives an economical reading of the current conditions and takes a geo-economics aspect (Mojtahedzadeh, 2004: 54). Therefore, geo-economy studies the effect of factors or economical bases on the country environment, area and the world in competitive and political decision-makings and the effect of these factors on the forming structure of the geopolitics of the world regions (Ibid: 130). The Persian Gulf always has been noted by the world biggest powers as an international region . Although in different researches, the strategic aspects

and political position of this important region of the world has been noted with the priority of security and military matters, but the fact is that by the destruction of soviet union and the end of cold war, the trade and economical matters in relations between countries and active actors in the Persian Gulf have had special importance too. In such a space, strategy designing and a suitable economical development program for the growing countries need the understanding and knowing of this intention and new geo-economics evolutions (Hashemyan Esfahani and Gorji, 2007: 56).

The necessary criteria for entering into this geo-economics competition are following the intended rules of the neoliberals of free market and opening economical open gates with competition and economical clearness. This will result in investment, high production, technology advancement and then high exports(poorahmadi, 2009: 129). In this regard, an important country such as china which a significant part of its development course is dependent on the energy reserves of the Persian Gulf and the kind of cooperation with the countries bordered with it and even the trans-regional powers present in the Persian Gulf especially USA, tries more than other countries and especially more than the countries in the Persian Gulf region, to be prior about this unsecure view point in the region, and always has been out of every kind of unrest and making trouble in the region and has not said well come to these matters.

## Geo-Economics and the Resources of Oil and Gas Reserves in the Persian Gulf Region:-

Geo-economics procedure can be suitable for explaining the behavior of most countries and the active agents in the Persian Gulf and explaining the position and locality of this region especially in some past decades and fir analyzing the frame of a big part of the behavior of the big country of china. Research method: in this research, descriptive, analytical and historical methods were used. Since a part of findings in the research is based on the description and explanation of realities and evolutions and the studied items (the Persian Gulf and china), the use of descriptive method is ideal. A big part of the research is the collection of qualitative data which the analysis of their contents appear necessary by employing analytical method, and in the end, because both the study of the course of the historical evolutions of the Persian Gulf and having a glimpse at the development course in china are unavoidable for thorough research, so historical method has been used. The energy resource and the political position of the Persian Gulf: the Persian Gulf with 750 billion drums which constitutes nearly 60% of the reserves recognized in the world is considered as the biggest oil reserve of the world. In spite of performed efforts for substitution of other kind of energy, the production and transfer of oil and oil products are low-priced economically, and by passing yearly efforts, oil is the first and most important consumption energy in the world; according to the statistics related to the prediction of the consumption energy of the world in future, gas and oil will have the first grade in the consumption energies of mankind as well. The predictions show that the dependence of the world on oil is increasing and from 85/5 million drums daily a year (2010) will reach 91 million drums a year (2015), and 105/5 million drums a year (2030) (World Energy Outlook (OPEC), 2010: 2). The Persian Gulf by the daily production of 18/2 million oil drums, in general, produce %29/4 of the world oil reserves. It is predicted that the oil production in this region will reach 26 million drums a year (2015) and nearly 30 million drums a year (2020), and 38 million drums a year (2030), in that case, the share of the Persian Gulf will reach more than %33 of the world oil production (www.macron.com).

Nearly half of the 20 trade ports of the world oil exports were located in the Persian Gulf and about % 93 of the exported oil of the region passes by Hormoz strait. A part of the oil exports in the region is transferred by pipe line too. In the present time, about 5 million oil drums daily are transferred by the pipe lines of the east to the west by Saudi Arabia to Yanbu and the natural liquid gas of Abghigh-Yanbu to the red sea. Due to the continuance of the oil-bearing layers of Zagros to the south, there are abundant oil reserves in the bottom of the Persian Gulf which have several advantages, including; resource abundance (about %60 of the whole recognized oil of the world were located in the Persian Gulf border countries) the low expense of production, additional production capacity, transportation easiness, the high capacity of wells in having oil (about 250 thousand tons a year from each well in the Persian Gulf domain can be produced, while such a number in America is only one thousand tons a year), the possibility of the recognition of broad new reserves in this region compared with other regions of the world (Hafeznia and Rabiee, 2013: 62-64). Another natter being important in view of geo-economy is the growing course of natural gas in the world energy basket and the increasing needs of the countries of India and China for natural gas to attain the economical growth. Of two digits and their investment and accessibility to the gas reserves of the Persian Gulf, especially it is the gas square of the south pars ( parse-jonobi) that put the role of the Persian Gulf more than past in the relations of geopolitics and geo-economy. By the discovery of the great reserves of new gas, especially in Iraq and the other countries of the region and the increasing growth of gas consumption in the world

particularly in the south, east south and east countries of Asia, the energy center of the Persian Gulf is increasing in the world and is considered as the relations focus of the world geo-economy.

According to the report of energy information institution, the world gas reserves which are predicted to be the second energy resource especially the energy substituted for oil will reach % 1/6 trillion cubic feet in 2030 by yearly production growth. Of 178/3 trillion cubic meters of the whole gas of the recognized natural gas reserves of the world, 73/2 trillion cubic meters belong to the Persian Gulf, namely about 2516/4 trillion cubic feet, equaling to %41 of the world natural gas reserves. In the current century, natural gas has found strategic importance as a suitable fuel and the first material for petrochemical industries. Petrochemical industries produce a broad spectrum of essential and consumption products (Lawrence, 1991: 3).

Table No 1: Table of Countries with the Resources of Oil and Gas Reserves in the Persian Gulf Region.

Number	Country	Volume of reserves in	Percent of	The ratio of reserves to production	Gas reserves in trillion cubic	Percent
		billion drums	reserves	(reserves age)	meters	
1	Saudi Arabia	265.9	21.3	73.3	7.57	4
2	Iran	157.0	11.2	92.9	29.61	16
3	Iraq	150.0	10.2	More than 100 years	3.17	1.7
4	Kuwait	101.5	8.2	-	1.78	1
5	United Arab	97.8	7.9	-	6.43	3.5
	Emirates					

Source: BP. Statistical Review, 2013)

It appears that energy resource as one of the most important geopolitical variables have spatial or geographical dimensions in the present political system of the world in international cooperation's between countries and transfer from places or spaces without energy or needed to energy and the control of production resource and the paths of energy transfer supervision on strategic straits and also technologies and production instruments, technology and transfer and energy consumptions for the world and region importance and challenging opponents in international field, and therefore energy has become an important matter for regional and international geopolitical competitions; Because energy and its all dimensions need three parameters "geography, power and policy". The Persian Gulf for its particular geographical position and having been in the way of the sea lines of the Indian Ocean, the Oman Sea, the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea and its connection with Iranian shores, Mesopotamia and Sandi Arabia Peninsula has a specific position from the past to the present in international policy field.

## Research Findings:-

# Chinese Policy in the Persian Gulf:-

The fast economical growth of china in two past decades and its quickening movement in the way of becoming a big power in the field of international policy has increased the affecting rate of the country on international matters. Redefinition of the strategic position of china in recent years which was resulted from economical growth, and in conclusion diplomatic and military strength was increased, has revolutionized the foreign policy of this country in different domains. In this respect, one of the regions which has been taken serious and has been paid attention to in recent years in the foreign policy of china is the Persian Gulf region. This region and the countries located in it, for having the most energy reserves without doubt will possess the highest capabilities in the supply of china's energy and responding to the increasing strategic need of this country. The Chinese by understanding this matter in recent years have performed broad efforts to increase their relations with the oil-bearing countries of this region, especially with the main countries with hydrocarbon resource, so that they can increase their shares more of the reserves of this region. The late entrance of china in the very competitive market of the Persian Gulf's oil (Usually Middle East), make the country find the resource and countries being out of the circle of western countries domination, especially America, including Iran that on the one hand for the great reserves of oil and gas and on the other hand for international pressures and limits is a rather reliable resource for the supply of the energy security of china. The people's republic of china as an Asian growing big power to supply its benefits in the Persian Gulf, has applied and performed diverse policies from the decade 50 to the present. From the end of the decade 1970, by employing amendments policy and the open economical gates in china, the relations of this country was developed with all the countries of the world, such as in the Persian Gulf, and Oman in May 25, 1978; United Arab Emirates in November 1, 1987; Qatar in January 9, 1988; Bahrain in April 28, 1999; Saudi Arabia in July 21, 1990 made political relations with china. During the two recent decades, for the economical outcomes of china, the need for the accessibility to the sales market of product, the increase of the need for the resource of oil and gas reserves, the destruction of Soviet Union and its regional effects, the occurrence of the war between Iran and Iraq the occurrence of the war in the Persian Gulf and the increase of the military presence of America in the region, the expansion of crisis in the surrounding of Persian Gulf, such as in Palestine and the occurrences after September 11 in Afghanistan, a new age in the relations between china and the region has formed and afterwards the relations with the other Arabian countries of the Persian Gulf domain happened in the program of the relations of china with the countries of the region and the initiation of the presence of china quietly in the Persian Gulf was provided(Kawac, 2010:12).

The weaponry exchanges are another variable of firming main variables in Chinese policy in the Persian Gulf. Those exchanges increased from the early of 1970s, and made china as one of the important suppliers of the weapons needed for the countries of the regions especially big countries. During the war between Iran and Iraq, china sold more than 5 billion dollars of weapons. In 1985, Sandi Arabia bought ballistic missiles with the capability of nuclear cap transfer and with the reach of 3000 kilometers. In subsequent cycles, Riyadh purchased CSS-4 ballistic missiles which have the reach of 1800 km and 600 km, respectively from china. Form the year 1980 to the present, Iran has always been one of the purchaser countries of Chinese weapons in the Persian Gulf region (Blumenthal, 2005: 56). With regard to the limited sea possibilities of china and the existence of problems in the way of the development of a sovereign sea force in such a way that it can compete with America in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, political thought was formed for the heads of Beijing that the best way for the promotion of Chinese goals in the Persian Gulf region is having friendly relations with the small and big governments of the Persian Gulf, and at least oral support of the policies of those countries against big powers, is one of the political goals of this country. Accordingly, Beijing believes that the time of dividing the world into the domain of powers domination has ended, and every world power such as china can work and participate in every one of its own desired domains (Vaezi, 2009: 23). In general, Chinese authorities know the Persian Gulf as the continuance of the surrounding lands of their country and with particular importance in political and economical security and they also want to employ the policy of relations development. The big matter of china in the Persian Gulf refers to the military cooperation's of this country with the countries of the region. The economical amendments in china need the acquisition of foreign exchange which is possible by selling weapon and military weapons from Beijing's viewpoint. Moreover, the entrance of china into the weapon market of the Persian Gulf was concurrent with decrease of the military budget of this country and becoming the military defensive industries of this country into advanced military industries that were performed a lot. Generally, the relations of china and the Persian Gulf during the past decade were influenced by regional, international (American Pressures), and internal factors (the matter of Xingjian and Chinese Muslims and the Turk families of Ouighor), the need for the oil and gas of the region and the sale of Chinese products. China knows the Persian Gulf as the common point of as well as the opposition of the profits of big powers. (Kawac, 2010: 11). Although, Beijing considers the presence of American in the region long-tasting for increasing need for energy resource (oil and gas) and the continuance of domination over the world, but this country tries to find a top position which is worth its own world position.

## The Political Considerations of China in the Persian Gulf:-

In the past years, especially in the two recent decades and also in the present conditions and maybe in the following years, the policy of the Chinese taken from the large strategy of the politicians of that country in behavior and international cooperation's, is dependent on special considerations which has been designed and now is performing for the maximum utilization of present space. Some of those considerations are:

## **Economical Considerations:-**

# The Development of the Market of Product Exports:-

The government of china believes that the dwellers of the Persian Gulf region for the obtained earnings from oil selling and non-progression in agriculture and industries in most of their points, purchase most of their necessities from abroad, and the population dwelt in this rather wide area can be a suitable market for the consumption of the extensive and abundant products make in china. Their requirements to the different products of buildings iron and steel, transportation, cloth, automobile, bicycle, and motorcycle and so on are plentiful. The laws of these countries about the imports of products and the exit of capital and foreign exchange are at the profit of china too. A main part of Chinese exports to the region consists of military products and technologies and Chinese experts want them to rise, because they know the number of Chinese exports to the region less than the exports of America, Europe, Japan and Russia. The need of the region to specialist and semi-specialist working force has been a suitable background part for the presence of the Chinese, and efforts for their increasing and earning profits by selling engineering knowledge and high expertise, especially in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar in oil, gas and

petrochemical industries and the other industries related are increasing; the increase of Chinese expert forces in other countries of the region after the war between Iran and Iraq and the Persian Gulf war has been extremely much. The attendance at regional reconstruction is called "hidden war" between different powers where china must have an effective role. After the end of the Persian Gulf War, the first country which in spite of power outage has an active presence in many points of Kuwait and possible dangers in its resurrection programs were exported were china and the group of 63 people of that country who came in Kuwait in 1999 turned off the first oil well there. In general, china knows the Persian Gulf region as one of the most important resource for the accessibility to its foreign exchange and tries to increase its economical presence there (Shariatinia, 2009: 61). The Chinese government for marketing, the development of the sales centers of internal production and in the more general frame of the development of economical power in the strategic points of the world, attempts establish trade and economical institutions. Of the desired regions of the Chinese are the Persian Gulf and the countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Without doubt the free region of Govader plays an important role in the trade and economical presence of china in the Persian Gulf region and it is predicted that this port will be a platform for the exports of Chinese products. The interest of the Chinese in partnership in this program results mostly from not having the highest hand in markets such as Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Iran. Excluding marketing, gathering the industrial and technical institutions and firms in Govader, makes easy the possibility of their partnership in the oil and gas plans of the region. With regard to the above words, the Chinese try, by employing the free successful experience of their cities, to equip the Govader port as a Chinese-Pakistani economical center (Soltani, 2002).

# The Continuance of Oil Receipt from the Persian Gulf:-

The supply, guarantee and importance of energy in the present conditions, are one of the strategic priorities of china. Among Asian countries, china posses the highest economical growth rate, and therefore the energy consumption of this country has had a rapid growth and increase too. In the present condition, with regard to the economical and technological development and growth of china, it is one of the buyer and investor countries in oil and gas domain in most of the world points, including the Persian Gulf, China, with regard to economical advancements in recent years has faces the decrease of energy resource, and from 1993, it has occurred in the importer countries of oil. In that year, the oil import of china was 9.2 million tons, that in 2000, it was 60 million tons and it is predicted that by 2020, it will be 250 to 300 million tons (more than the oil imports of Japan). In other words, the dependence of china on imported oil will arrive from %30 in the year 2002 to %69.5 in 2020 and to %85 in 2030. The share of oil in the basket of the energy consumption of china will arrive from %21.9 in 1980 to %25.9 in 2015 (Mosalinezhad, 2013: 191). Some of the predictions suggest that the consumption of Chinese oil will arrive by 2020 to 12 million drums daily and by 2030 to 16 million drums. The rate of imported oil will arrive 7 million drums daily in 2020 and to 1 million drums in 2030. During the two next decades, the consumption of the energy of china will have a growth about 4.5 percent, that is, a growth rate which is twice the average growth rate of the world and quadruple the growth rate developed countries will experience (Shariatinia, 2009). The Chinese by understanding this matter in recent years have done broad efforts to raise their relations with the oil-bearing countries of the regions especially the four main countries of the Persian Gulf, so that they can increase their shares of the reserves of the region quickly. This country for oil importation from Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Yemen as the main supplies is extremely dependent on the Persian Gulf. But the two fundamental risks of "the geopolitical perspectives of energy" and "energy security" affect china. First, historical opposition between the east-south countries of Asia may become a military content for the control of some of energy reserves in the region. Second, since china is going to develop economical and political and even military relations more and more with the energy exports in the Persian Gulf this matter causes the other trans-regional powerful countries present and located in the Persian Gulf to become worried. China's interest in the energy reserves of the Persian Gulf is the sign of a big gap between its energy needs and the capability of the supply of those needs; therefore, in such conditions, china can't be indifferent to the matters of this region. But this country in order to acquire a balance between the geopolitical and economical interests of energy in the Persian Gulf acts by programming cautiously. China knows its own wanted procedure in the Persian Gulf, providing necessary conditions for the presence of its oil companies in investment and the development of the oil squares if the region and the encouragement of reciprocal investment of the oil companies of Middle East countries in refinery region and energy market. On the advance of this strategy in the regions the Chinese have attained big successes until now. They, in addition to binding big contrasts with Saudi Arabia, Iran, Oman and Iraq, have close oil cooperation's.

## The Development of Chinese West-North Regions in Linkage with the Persian Gulf:-

The Chinese government has applied an extensive program to improve the economical condition of its west-north provinces in the neighborhood of central Asia. The accessibility to this goal will be effective in the creation of peace

and fixity in the Muslim-dweller regions as well as in the creation of a calm environment for the route of the transferring pipes of oil and gas, from Siberia and the domain of Khazar (Caspian) Sea to the cast of Asia. Since the Middle East and especially the Persian Gulf region because of the importance it has, always has been paid attention to by trans-regional powers (Gholami, 2012). As a result, one of the ways of the fulfillment of this policy which is paid attention to in Chinese programs is the creation of economical relation between Chinese West-North regions and the Persian Gulf by way of central Asia and Iran. In this regard, the railroad called "second bridge of Eurasia" has an important role.

## **Security Considerations:-**

China considers the Persian Gulf as the common point as well as the opposition of big powers interest. America not for the need for oil, but for the continuance of domination policy on the world will remain in the Persian Gulf for a long time. This superpower of the Persian Gulf War, has made excuses the crisis in the relations between Arabs and Israel and the matter of Afghanistan to increase military presence in the Persian Gulf and its surrounding regions. The documents such as "the policy of American national security" in 1994, "the policy of America in the Middle East" in 1995, "the policy of keeping peace and fixity in the Middle East" in 1997, "the defensive report" in the same year, and "the defensive report of the defensive ministry of America after the occurrences of September 11" all are the indications of America's decision to continue a powerful presence in the Persian Gulf. In this presence, America utilizes not only for economical goals, but also for economical progression. America, for example, only in 1992 after the end of the Persian Gulf War, without stopping have sold more than 20 billion dollars of weapons in the region. Russia also which hasn't had an active presence in the Persian Gulf from the time of the destruction of Union Soviet, has taken active policies forward from 1994, including binging January contract in 1995 with Iran about the nuclear reactor of Bushehr (that by 2011 it attained more than 5 billion dollars of interest of this reactor), as well as repeat of the activity of "the exports and imports company of Russian military and weaponry technologies" in the region. The assistant of the general staff of Russian army at the number of August 27, 1997 of "red star" daily indicated that: "Russia isn't ready to great America, the sales market of weapons" in conclusions china which knows itself as one of the biggest powers and having fundamental benefits in the Persian Gulf, is continuing the policy of the presence in the region and its increasing in the twenty first century, but hits presence is wholly cautions and based on the strategy of not producing tensions. In this regard, the communist party by leaving perfectibility based on socialist and party thought in international relations, appointed the concentration on the supply of national profits and not producing costly positions. The exact analysis of international conditions and the realistic behavior of the Chinese have caused that in the recent world crises, this country to acquire the least expenses and the most interests. In reality, the duty of china between the variations of international conditions is that regardless of intention and purpose is to analyze this new shaping and create a new opportunity inside crises (Kiesinger, 2013: 666).

## China and the Energy Resources of the Persian Gulf:-

The study of the relations history of china with the Persian Gulf region, from the oldest time to the revolution entrance of china (1949) shows that the two parties have had friendly relations with each other from a far remote past, but the comparison between the two parties' viewpoints suggests that the Persian Gulf has looked at china more of cultural, artistic and trade views, while china has taken into account more importance for the strategic and military-security role of the Persian Gulf and has put trade considerations in later cycles (Khoram, 1989: 247). The importance of the Persian Gulf for the government of china can be studied in two decades before the destruction of Soviet Union and after its destruction. Contrary to the policy of big powers which are employed more for the supply of economical profits, the Chinese policy until before the destruction of Soviet Union aimed at the accessibility to political objectives and especially at the creation of a front against the influence of Soviet Union in both Asia and Africa. The study of the past of Chinese policies in the Persian Gulf shows that between different reasons, this country for the occupation of the markets of the country of the region by imperialists on the one hand, and not having economical possibilities on the other hand hasn't been able to make important economical relations with the countries of the region. But the perspective of these relations changed following the destruction of Soviet Union (Pishgahifard and Zare garizi, 2003: 43). The dependence increases the damageability to consumer countries against the variations of energy market and makes them face remarkable economical losses (Mosalinezhad, 2013). In this regard, the countries such as china which have oppositions to the superpower of America in international domain will face double problems in the supply of their energy; Because for the reason of the influence of the United States on some of the producer countries of oil as well as the routes of energy transfer, the security of energy transfer to them face dangers. Although china aims to widen its energy supply reserves, but in this respect, the enormous gas and oil reserves of the Middle East have been paid attention to by china. Energy security in the present conditions has made nearer both the producer and consumer of energy to each other more than before and has provided the

necessity of cooperation between them; Because no one of them can supply energy security by himself and every kind of crisis in the world market of energy which challenges the world economy, will be effective for each other. In other words, the very important dimension in the relations of the actors who face mutual dependence conditions is coming together mutual damageability and common profits. In this regards Richard Cooper, knows mutual dependence as being reciprocal of sensitivity (Cooper, 1968: 159-160).

Hence, the main region of Chinese energy supply in the viewpoint of this country is the Middle East region, especially the Persian Gulf. In 2007, China supplied %61 of its oil from the Middle East (Julian, 2007).

One of the most important points on the surrounding countries of the Persian Gulf is that in 2003 nearly all of the excess reserves of the oil production of the world were possessed by these countries and generally in most years, a big part of this excess capacity was related to this point of the world (Behroozifar, 2004). Oil consumption only from Asian developing governments are predicted to arrive more than twice in the future thirty five years, but for the world consumption, the increase approaching %55 by 2025 is predicted. A big part of this demand will be supplied essentially by the producers of the Persian Gulf, that it is predicted their shares from %30 in year (2003) to grow the %43 of the world production. Of course, it is to be noted that the Persian Gulf, in addition to having the enormous reserves of oil, has other priorities in oil field, including the ability to produce and export oil abundantly as well as the less expense of the produce of every drum compared with the other oil-bearing regions of the world. The production expense of each drum in the Persian Gulf is considered as the lowest expense of production in the world, and is only some of production expense in competitor regions such as northern Africa (Asadi, 2002: 53), that causes the big companies of oil and even western countries in tendency towards the use of the Persian Gulf oil and the sensitivity regarding the region evolution to pay attention to (Nasiri, 2001: 107-108).

According to the predictions, Asian share at the increase of the energy consumption of developing countries will be %69 (Jaffe Amy Myers, 2004: 13-14). At now, most needs of Asian countries for energy are supplied by the main reserves of energy production in the world such as the Persian Gulf. Based on the statistics of the international Agency of energy, the dependence of Asian countries on oil by 2030 will increase %75 for the economical growth of China and India, that most of supply increase will be the assignment of the member countries of OPEC. According to the statistics of the international organization of energy, the developing Asia (excluding Japan and the South Korea) will increase %40 the demand for energy in the world by 2030, while the United States and Canada in the same time will increase only %26 of the world demand. Therefore, the rapid economical growth of China in recent years has caused the consumption of energy in this country to have a rapid increase. The consumption of oil in this country, for example, between the years 1995 to 2008, i.e. in a decade become more than double and received 8.05 millions drums daily, in such a way that in 2008, more than the half of its consuming oil was imported from abroad. Most of the predictions suggest that in future decades, the need of China for oil will increase and as a result its oil imports will go up too. Some predictions suggest that the oil consumption of this country by 2020 will arrive 12 million drums daily and 2030, 16 million drums a day. The rate of imported oil will arrive 7 million drums daily in 2020, and 11 million drums a day in 2030.

In reality, during the future two decades, Chinese energy consumption will have a growth equaling 4.5 percent yearly, that is, a growth rate which is twice the average rate of the world growth and quadruple a growth rate which maybe will be experienced by developing countries (Shariatinia, 2009). Based on the publication of the report of the department of the international perspective of energy in 2007, it is anticipated that the world oil consumption will ascend from 82.5 million drums yearly in 2004 to 17 million drums a year in 2030.

By understanding this matter in recent years, the Chinese have done broad efforts to increase relations with the oilbearing countries of this region, especially the main countries so that they can by which increase their share of the reserves of this region more and more. China for its economical benefits and energy security is continuing the development of relations with all the countries of Middle East region. Such a country is dependent on the Persian Gulf extremely for oil imports from Oman, Yemen, Iran and Saudi Arabia countries as the main suppliers of oil (Ziegler, 2006: 8). Of course, among the countries of the Persian Gulf region, the main reserves belong to Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and Kuwait. This possibility occurred that Saudi Arabia wanted that in view of its political, economical, security and oil needs, for supply of which is dependent on the United States, to attend to China. Therefore, by the beginning of the twenty first century, every day, one matter is manifested. China also wants oil, and by earning billion dollars from its industrial products, is able to pay for its price. By these conditions in energy market reserves positions the security of transportation and the technological related, all the looks are towards

Middle East too. With possessing more than 130 billion drums of the removable reserves of raw oil and gas liquidities and 26 trillion cubic meters of the removable reserves of natural gas, Iran was located in the second order of the world in view of these God-given high-priced reserves (Behroozifar and Nasimi, 2004: 33-35). Like every other power, china must think about the security of the supply of oil into its country seriously. The interest of china in the energy reserves of the Persian Gulf is the indication of a big gap between its energy needs and the capability of the supply of those needs. Accordingly, in such conditions, china can't be indifferent to the matters of this region, but for the accessibility to a balance between geopolitical interests and energy economy in the Persian Gulf, this country acts with programming cautiously (Pishgahifar, 2003: 6-8).

The indication of this matter can be seen in Chinese policy on Iranian nuclear program. China has always tried to be put between the relations of Iran and the west especially America in Iranian nuclear matter and to decrease of the negative effects of the discussion of the two on its relations with each one (Mosalinezhad and Haghshenas, 2011: 193). In general, the increasing needed reasons of China for the energy of the Persian Gulf can be sought in the following:

- The high expense of the extraction from the present oil fields.
- ➤ Being expensive the transfer of oil from the western oil regions of the country.
- > The lack of exploration of new reserves in continental shelf masses and the analysis of the statistics of oil transfer to china.
- ➤ The fulfillment of the policies of this country regarding the different matters of the Persian Gulf and especially big investments in the countries of this region .Consequently, it can be said that china tries to increase the security amount of its energy supply by the increase of its presence in upper sections, so that it can supply its growing imports of energy (Mosalinezh, 2013: 190).

## **Conclusion:-**

The importance of the Persian Gulf for china can be considered in two decades before and after the destruction of Soviet Union. Contrary to the policy of big powers which is employed more for the supply of economical profits, the policy of china until before the destruction of Soviet Union was designed for the accessibility to political goals and especially in the direction of the creation of a front against the influence of Soviet Union on Asia and Africa. The destruction of Soviet Union was followed by fundamental changes in the cognitive domains of scientific and political societies. One of these concepts is geo-economics procedure. From the beginning of the twenty first century, big powers by employing this modern procedure, with regard to economical profits in the strategic regions of the world compete with each other.

In such a space, strategy designing and a suitable economical development program for developing countries need the receipt and recognition of this phenomenon and new geo-economics evolutions. By understanding this matter and by the correct recognition of fundamental evolutions in international system, and since the main region of the energy supply of china is the Middle East especially the Persian Gulf, the Chinese in recent years, have done broad efforts to increase the relations with the oil-bearing countries of the region, especially the main countries, so that they can increase their shares of the reserves of the region more and more. But this country, to access a balance between geopolitical interests and energy economy in the Persian Gulf, acts with programming and cautiously. The strategic region of the Persian Gulf for it is the world energy reserve, and for it has a high capacity regarding the consumption of the importation products of the other countries, as well as for the capacity of the absorption of working force, service and technology, is an absorbing region for the presence and certain investment of the developed countries of the world.

It is by understanding this important reality that the Chinese particularly in the past two decades, by designing as exact and cautions strategy have increased their presence in the Persian Gulf and have defined extensive relations with the countries of the region and in conclusion, by employing the trustworthy, rather low-priced and abundant energy of the Persian Gulf in the direction of the supply of the increasing needed energy of the country's industries and also the accessibility to and possessing a big part of the extensive consumption market of the Persian Gulf border countries facing the increasing growth of the demand of imported products, skilled working force, technology and service receipt, they have sped up the development and progress of their country.

#### References:-

- 1. Asadi, Bizhan, (2002), **Interests and Strategy of Superpowers in the Persian Gulf**, Tehran: Shaheed Beheshty publication.
- 2. Behroozi far, Morteza; Nasimi, Homayoun (2004), **Iran, the Persian Gulf and the world markets of energy**, The Magazine of Political Economical Information, Numbers 210 211.
- 3. Behroozifar, Morteza and Nasimi, Homayoun, (2004), **Iran, the Persian Gulf and Global Energy Markets,** journal of Economic and political Ettalaat, No.209 and 210.
- 4. Blumenthal, Dan. (2005), "Providing Arms: China and Middle East", Middle East, Spring.
- 5. BP. Statistical Review, 2013
- 6. Cooper, Richard, (1968), the Economics of Interdependence: (New York: McGraw-Hill).
- 7. Gholami, Tahmores, (2013), Islamic Republic of Iran and Persian Gulf security: Non Safety or Security Role. International Centre for Peace.
- 8. Hafeznia, Mohammadreza (2006), The Principles and Concepts of Geopolitics, Mashhad: Papli Publication.
- 9. Hafeznia, Mohammadreza and Rabiee, Hosein (2013), **The Regional Studies of the Persian Gulf**, Tehran: SAMT Publication.
- 10. Hashemyan Esfahani, Masod and Ggorji, Ebrahim, (2007), **The use of economic security indicators in explaining the geo-economic developments in the globalization process,** Geopolitics Quarterly, spring 2007, No. 1.
- 11. Jaffe, A. (N.D), United State and the Middle East: Policies and Dilemmas. Retrieved April, 6, 2004.
- 12. Julian, Madson (2007), **Iranian Position in the Strategic Calculations of China**, Tehran: The Center of the Persian Gulf Researches.
- 13. Kamp, Jeffry, (2004), **the Middle East Strategy Geography**, translated by Hoseinee Mateen, Sayyed Mahdi, Tehran: Institute of Strategy Studies.
- 14. Kawac, Nadim.( 2010), "GCC.China to Talk Investment, Oil Supply", Emirate.
- 15. Khoram, Ali, (1989), **China and the Persian Gulf**, Tehran: Political and International Studies Department of Islamic Azad University.
- 16. Kiesinger, A. Henry, (2013), China, translated by Rasi, Housein, Tehran: Farhange Moaser Publication.
- 17. Laquest, Awe, (1999), Factors and Ideas in Geopolitics, translated by Frasaty, Ali, Tehran: Aman Press.
- 18. Lawrence, Potter and Sick, Gary (1991), Security in the Persian Gulf, New York: Pal Grave.
- 19. Mojtahedzadeh, Pirouz, (2004), Political Geography and Geopolitics, Tehran: SAMT.
- 20. Mosalinezhad, Abbas, (2013), Pathology of Economic Development in Iran, Tehran: Ghomes Publicaation.
- 21. Mosalinezhad, Abbas and Haghshenas, Mohammadreza, (2011), **The Position of China in the Energy Economy of the Persian Gulf (by Concentration on the Islamic Republic of Iran)**. The bulletin of political sciences, eighth year, Number 1.
- 22. Mosalinezhad, Abbas, (2013), **The Pathology of Economical Development in Iran**, Tehran: Ghoumes publication.
- 23. Nasri, Ghadir, (2001), **Oil and the National Security of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, Tehran: The research-center of political studies.
- 24. Pishgahifard, Zahra and Zare Garizi, Afasar (2003), **The Geo palimony of the Persian Gulf and the Economical Strategies of China and Japan**, The quarterly of geographical researches, Number 46.
- 25. Poorahmadi, Housein and houseini, sayed Rasoul, (2009), **The Geopolitics of Oil Producing Countries of the Persian Gulf and the Challenges of globalization (Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar and Iraq)**, Quarterly Journal of Geopolitics, spring and summer 2009, NO. 14.
- 26. Shariatinia, Mohsen, (2009), **An Introduction to the Relations between Iran and China**, Tehran: Islamic Azad University.
- 27. Soltani, Alireza, (2002), **Development of Free port of the Gwadar: Chinese Pakistan cooperation and its impact on Iran, Strategic Report of the Center for Strategic Research**, July 2002.
- 28. Vaezi, Mahmood, (2009), **The Role of the Major Powers in the Persian Gulf and Challenges of the Hegemony of America**, Foreign Relations Quarterly, The second year, the sixth issue.
- 29. World Energy Outlook (Opec), 2010.
- 30. Ziegler, Chairs (2006), "The Energy Factor in China Foreign Policy", Journal of Chinese political Science, vol.11, No 1.