

## MIDDLE EAST CRISIS:

Middle east is a region which has always been ruled by authoritarian regime. This has deprived the marginalized groups of political participation and has led to various public uprisings resulting in numerous civil wars in the region. As due to Shia-Sunni conflict, sectarianism has been a major issue which has given birth to Saudi-Iran rivalry. This war for identity and power has made middle east a burning zone. However, regional powers are not only the actors which has exacerbated the instability in the region, the richness of gas and oil in this region has also attracted the interference of

external powers. Various case studies of this region would provide a clear picture of the crisis. One of these studies encapsulate Yemen crisis. Yemen is divided into northern and southern tribes where the later has been the deprived region historically. This led to the current conflict between the northern government and the Houthi rebels. The government is backed by Saudi due to its dependence on Bab al Mandab strait and geo-strategic interests. Whereas Iran's support to Shia sect in Yemen exacerbates sectarian tensions.

Considering Syrian Crisis,

it could be deduced that Iran has a strategic partnership with Syria because it borders the land of Hezbollah powerful Shiite militant group. Iran supports Bashar al-Assad's government while its regional rival Saudi Arabia supports push for Assad's removal.

These divisions between regional powers and the instability within the countries of the region has made middle east a volatile region.