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Iran-Israel conflict has reshaped the Middle East and has far reaching consequences on global power politics.
Comment.

INTRODUCTION :

"When diplomacy ends, war begin" - a powerful assertion by Hitler - find new relevance in the Israel-Iran conflict. The 12 days war between Israel and Iran has reaffirmed the harsh reality that peace is not merely the absence of war, but the presence of strategic justice and sustainable diplomacy. This conflict has far-reaching implications both regionally and globally. Following the war, it has reshaped the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East, altered the regional power balance, and potentially triggered a renewed armed race. More importantly, it has deepened the existing power structures among China, Russia and Iran.

Historical Foundation of Enmity between Israel and Iran :

The roots of

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The relationship between Israel and Iran has undergone a dramatic shift. The US and UK orchestrated the overthrow of Iran's democratically elected prime minister Mohammad Mossadegh after he try to nationalize Iran oil industry. The coup of 1953 brought pro-western leader Shah of Iran. He signed consortium agreement in 1954 among US, UK and Iran, giving them 50% ownership of oil. to UK and US.

Nuclear Cooperation: Atoms for peace

In 1957, The US under Eisenhower provided Iran with nuclear reactors.

Post - 1979 Revolution: The Birth of Hostility

The relationship marked a radical shift in 1979, overthrow the Shah of Iran and rise of Ayatollah Khomeini. Iran severed ties with Israel, labeling it a "zionist regime". He seized US Embassy and held 52 American as hostages for 444 days.

Nuclear Diplomacy and Escalation

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the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Divide (JCPOA) 2015 :

The obama era nuclear deal = JCPOA Limited Iran's uranium enrichment at 3.67% in exchange for Sanctions reliefs.

Trump's Maximum Pressure (2018) :

The US withdrew from Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action 2015 and present the policy of "Maximum pressure".

2025 war : Direct Conflict Erupts :

⇒ Operation Rising Lion (13 June, 2025) : Iran launched pre-emptive strikes on Iran nuclear sites, killing military commander and nuclear scientist.

⇒ Iran retaliation (Operation True Promise-III) :
Iran retaliated with hundred of ballistic missiles.

⇒ US intervention (22 June, 2025)

The US deployed
- GBU-57 "bunker buster" bombs to destroy natanz, Fordow, Isfahan nuclear facilities

⇒ (Ceasefire : 24 June, 25

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The US brokered ceasefire, hours after Iran had fired missiles at its Largest airbase in the Middle East, based in Qatar.

Changing Regional Dynamics in the Middle East.

1- Shifting power imbalance:

Israel's repeated and successful military actions in the gaza, Lebanon, Syria, and now Iran, combined with US strong backing have consolidated its status in the middle east. as a regional military hegemon.

2- Beginning of Middle East Arms Spiral:

A dangerous arms race has begun in the Middle East. The perception of insecurity will lead them to increase their military budget, purchased advanced missiles systems, and investment in drone and warfare. This conflict has highlighted the nuclear weapons acts as deterrence, they are seen to prevent war. As a result The

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May 2025 \$142 billion US-Saudi arms deal exemplified this trend and reflects growing insecurity.

3- Saudi-Arabia's Strategic Hedging:

with both

Iran and Israel advancing nuclear and missiles programs, Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries faces a strategic dilemma. Riyadh may accelerate its nuclear hedging to reinforce nuclear Deterrence Logic.

4. Strengthening of the Abraham Accord:

The Abraham

Accord, initiated in 2020, marked a normalization of relationship b/w Israel and Arab countries: UAE, Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan. The recent conflict may push more countries in towards normalization to avoid direct confrontation and preserve economic interest.

Far- Reaching Consequences on Global Power Politics:

a) Deepened geo-political polarization:

The Israel

and Iran war has significantly deepened

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global geopolitical polarization, intensifying the divide between the Global North and the Global South. The western bloc — comprising the United States, the United Kingdom and other the European Union — has largely aligned itself with Israel, whereas the Eastern bloc, including Russia, China, and many other countries from Global South condemned Israel aggression. The United States acting as a unilateral hegemon, has provided covert support to the Israel, widely perceived as the driving force behind these escalations. Furthermore, the credibility of the United Nations has eroded, as Security Council resolutions remain deadlocked due to repeated western vetoes — especially by the U.S. — blocked calls for ceasefire. Thereby, all these actions have encourage global divide.

2- Strengthen Russia-Iran
Realignment of Global Alliance:

The war has further strengthened the strategic

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alliance among Russia, Iran, and China.

Notably, in January 2025, Russia and China signed a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Treaty**, enhancing their relations in the domains of energy, military, economy, and diplomacy. Their trade targets will reach \$10 billion by 2030. Similarly, China has deepened its ties with Iran by

committing a \$400 billion investment plan, developing Iran's South Pars gas field - a critical source of Iran's energy export - 90% of which flows to China.

Moreover, the China-Iran-Afghanistan rail route has improved regional connectivity, and boosted China's Belt and Road

Initiative (BRI). As a result, they, Russia, China, Iran - members of BRICS - has

been aligning more closely on geopolitical matters. At the BRICS Summit in ^{July} 2025, the

bloc has condemned Israel's attack on Iran. Xi Jinping in the summit highlighted that:

"The world can move forward without US,

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as it did when the British Empire fell. No power is permanent. The world stops for no one".

This statement is anti-western sentiment.

In contrast, the USA - Israel - Gulf are undergoing a process of renewed strategic realignment. Recently, the President Donald Trump visit to the Middle East, where he signed a trillion dollar agreements with Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar. This deal encompasses defense and energy cooperations. The growing closeness of these actors reflects a polarization of global alliances.

3 Energy Market Disruption:

Strait of Hormuz -

a critical choke point through which 20% of global oil and 25% of global LNG (Liquified natural Gas) passes - has a threat to closure. According to Goldman Sachs :

"a blockade of the strait of

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hormuz could push oil prices
above \$100 per barrel "

Recently, oil Brent crude jumped from
\$72 to \$76 / barrel in June 2025.



4. Erosion- of the Rules-based Interna- tional Order:

The recent escalations showed that the international treaties, rules, norms and charters are ignored by powerful nations when convenient applying the notion of "Might is Right". The United Nation and other institutions are under-

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undermining. The United Nations Security Council Resolutions became deadlocked, due to vetoes by permanent member, especially the United States.

Conclusion:

Iran-Israel war is no longer a regional flashpoint of Middle East - it is a global security issue. Notably, it has reshaped global alliances, disrupted energy market and significantly reinforced nuclear deterrence logic. The failure of International Atomic Energy Agency has increased the risk of nuclear ^{arms race} ~~arms race~~ in the Middle East. Meanwhile, the war is expected to intensify proxy conflicts across the Middle East. Iran will likely empower groups such as Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, and Houthis in Yemen. Conclusively, Global diplomatic efforts or engagement is essential to prevent a catastrophic escalation.