



## End of a Beginning: A Study of Arab Spring

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**Abstract:** The Arab Spring was a series of anti-government demonstrations, rebellions and armed upheavals that spread across the Middle East in early 2011. It is observed differently by scholars and have diverging views about its nature and occurrences. Some called it Arab Autumn while as others as winter. A group of scholars across the globe consider it an internal outrage busted due to oppression faced by general public particular ban on freedom of speech and expression. However another group of scholars called it conspiracy and general public and some political parties. Especially, religious organisations are used as scape goats to achieve one's goal. An attempt is made to analysis the material available in the form of books, research articles and websites and newspapers to reach exact conclusion what happened that people came on the streets and demands their rights in varying intensity.

## INTRODUCTION

Arab world was and is ruled by monarchs from last six to seven decades and they snatched right to freedom of expression from their masses. When situation worsened people tried hard to materialize their demands but its failure brought people to the streets and violent protests and confrontation occurred between govt. forces and general public in an organised manner. The Arab revolts have a history which goes beyond the unexpected uprisings. This political upheaval engulfed the Arab world and has been called as Arab spring. But many scholars viewed it opposite and declared it Arab Autumn while as others called it Arab winter because of the unrest prevailing in the Middle east that engulfed millions of people. An attempt has been made to unveil the causes that ceased the main cause of Arab spring which forced many scholars to call it end of a beginning. Though, it is very tough task to uphold the opinion about emergence of Arab spring and the role played by hidden forces

(conspirators). So, analytical methodology pragmatically will help to conclude in reality what actually happened and how it happened.

After the outburst of political catastrophe kindled in Tunisia by self-burning of fruit grower whose maintenance was snatched by police. This issue swamped the streets of Tunisia and smashed out Bin Ali's regime who was so, terrified of crisis, he feathered to Saudi Arabia for safety<sup>[1]</sup>. It is observed as a new beginning in the Arab world but in reality it was in many cases end of the Arab credibility in general but a voice of democracy against the tyrant rulers in particular. The political chaos in the Arab world establishes a convoluted outcome of a diversity of inland forces in quest of change. The semantics of the term "spring" one way or other refers to a newly-emerging state of affairs. Rationally the term Arab spring implies a multifaceted change in societies that bear analogous but also divergent topographies. The term Arab Spring refers to a wave of politico-economic vicissitudes on a multifaceted schema. It appears, these

vagaries came on front as a means of the internal initiation of social and political forces struggling for redistribution of power. The terms of rendezvous in this complex chemistry are distinct, inter-supporter by the degree of consistency of the Arab world<sup>[2]</sup> and the level of packages of a rude dense negotiating and perceptive relationships interplanetary.

The vicissitudes and political changes in the Middle East, since, 2011 have re-kindled discussion about historical transformation in a region that for decades experienced controlling suppleness and the lack of democratic development. The events in the Middle East and North Africa region and the scope and significance of the dynamic processes have prompted lively scholarly debate which inspires a rethinking of changes and gives rise to discussions about conformist theoretical and methodological paradigms. In other words, understanding the recent changes in the Middle East requires new explanations and insights but also seen the continuity in developments. The Arab revolts have a history which goes beyond the unexpected uprisings. Adding to the ambition of theorizing and analyses the uprisings in Egypt, Bahrain, Tunisia and Syria focusing on the 'intricate undercurrents of the actual uprisings and their immediate consequences'<sup>[3]</sup>.

The occurrence of Arab Spring can be divided into two phases one that people of the Middle East revolted against dictators of the region who besmirched their rights over decades which resulted in death of thousands and imprisonment of lakhs. They were forced to live a tedium life with all economic disparities and inequalities. The other phase of this study will discuss the role of conspiracies or economic colonialism that devastated the life of the people. The role of world powers is eminent to pull down their enemies and wish have full-fledged control on the vast resources of MENA particularly oil reservoirs.

All across the globe scholars, analysts, consider that the Arab Spring uprising initiated by the absence or lack of democratic means for regime change and the pertinent social pressures which were increasing in some countries of the Middle East and North Africa against the regime officials<sup>[4]</sup>. Transversely the broader region MENA from Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen Syria and Libya was engulfed by the wave of violent protests. The wave of protests strengthened all across MENA were driven by similar demographic realities, failures of state policies and demands for greater representation of general public. However, they failed to effect regime change. The Arab Spring was a historic moment in the politics of the modern Middle East and North Africa but its long-term impact remains erratic and decade or even centuries remember the effects of the violent deaths and killings by extremists. The current situation in the Arab world is challenging on all fronts of human existence. Arab

uprising has demolished all the structures having sway in Arab affairs and who wish to bring Arabs on the political front as deliverers in order to act as decision makers. Among these Arab states Syria and Libya, since, December 2010 has been turned upside down<sup>[5]</sup>.

The Arab Spring has added a complete new discourse to the winds of transformation sweeping in the Arab world. The rebellion looks like largely a grass root problem, home-grown nature in the region. Many viewed it inherently unresponsive to popular needs and also as reactive and mostly on the receiving end in regard to innovative developments in the wider world. They viewed it as, early Arab Solidarity was devastated when Ottoman power was shattered and same thing in repeated in contemporary era. Ottomans conquered the Arab world in the sixteenth century and for nearly four 100 years<sup>[6]</sup> the Ottomans ruled over a domain that stretched from their capital in Constantinople to the Middle Eastern and North African capitals of Cairo in Egypt, Damascus in Syria, Baghdad in Iraq, Beirut in Lebanon, Tunis in Tunisia and hundreds of other regions of the Arab world<sup>[7]</sup>. At no time during their long vassalage under the Ottomans could the Arabs hope for self-rule but when the world exploded into World War I in 1914, the Middle East and North Africa represented important fronts in the conflict. Arabs fought bravely under the conspiracy design of TR Lawrence and his fake hopes of independents. Muslim solidarity was shambled and the MENA was divided among the Allied Powers after WW-I. Most of the Middle East and North Africa, the European powers intended to remain firmly in control. "The British Cabinet raised the Arabs to fight for us by definite promises of self-government afterwards," Lawrence wrote after the war. "In our 2 years' partnership under fire [the Arabs] grew accustomed to believing me and to think my Government, like myself, sincere. In this hope they performed some fine things, but, of course, instead of being proud of what we did together, I was continually and bitterly ashamed<sup>[8]</sup>." By World War II (1939-1945), these states were still under the control of powerful European nations that refused to let most of the Arab world pursue self-rule. Libya, was invaded by Italian Fascists under Benito Mussolini in the 1920s. throughout the 1920s and 30s, the French remained in control of Syria. The British granted the Egyptians nominal control of their own country, but British troops remained and the British government made it clear it would intervene in Egyptian affairs if British trade through the Suez Canal was threatened<sup>[7]</sup>. In 1950's MENA was still knocked down by the dominance of world powers by imposing Military dictators and monarchs having no taste of public opinions.

Same manoeuvres were repeated in Arab spring behind which were the interests of European powers more particularly America-Saudi-Israeli interests. Arab spring paved way to demoralise and dethrone rivals in order to

impose self-interests supremacies on the throne on MENA. They arose from the foiling and aspirations of ordinary and mostly young and also in part uneducated people far away from the corridors of big businesses, media companies and government offices were used as tools. Operating against the toughest of odds, organizations like ISIS and Pashmerga forces were equipped with sophisticated weapons. They spread with an astonishing swiftness with no such circumstances seen before for any movement of this kind. Procuring one surprising conquest after the other they devastated structure and killed and torched human beings with no crime. Inside the comprehensive perspective of Middle East most academics and analysts failed to predict and understand emergence of such a heinous force (<http://opencanada.org/features/the-arab-spring-opportunities-and-implications>) the intense vacillations in the Arab world for a number of varied explanations. First, local societies failed to understand the motives behind Arab spring, within a comparative, economic and political perspective. Second, leaving out crucial social and political factors of varying importance states failed to understand the nature of uprisings took place. Third, the tendency to identify differences among Arab societies and the various roles of political Islam and Islamists.

Apparently it give impression, that Arab uprisings were mostly of a grassroots, home-grown nature in a region viewed as inherently unresponsive to popular needs. They are also reactive and mostly on the receiving end in regard to innovative developments in the wider world<sup>[9]</sup>. They arose from the frustrations and aspirations of ordinary and mostly young Arabs and also in part uneducated people far away from the corridors of big businesses, media companies and government offices<sup>[9]</sup>.

The social media (Twitter, Facebook and YouTube) contributed to the outbreak and expansion of the youth rebellions substantially. Just like the Green Revolution in Iran several years earlier Arab youths capitalized on the immense capabilities provided by the internet and digital media to circumvent the tight control imposed by the authoritarian regimes on communication or self-organization. The internet and digital media endowed the disaffected Arab youth to establish large gatherings and movements for wide spectrum of protests<sup>[10]</sup>. Tointer connect with the external world and by extension, acquaint themselves with the freedom and prosperity of the West. Interrogative prevailing political structures, standards and values through the brand of outside world resulted in a cumulative antipathy among the youth and an escalating autonomous co-ordination<sup>[11]</sup>.

Operating against the harshest of odds, they spread with a phenomenal rapidity in a way never seen before for a movement of this kind, reaping one unexpected victory after the other. It is fair to say the sequence of events we associate with the Arab Spring has come as more of a

surprise and also gained more widely spread attention than basically any other societal developments around the world of recent years<sup>[12]</sup>. Scholars observed three diverse changes which occurred are political, social and economic in nature in the region. They are all considered essential for the consolidation of democracy. Although, the speed of their progression is different, economic liberalisation would lead to political candidness. It is organized that political structure vary largely in the region and there are huge disproportions between different Arab countries. People in these countries face harsh hands of their rulers and political dichotomy is prevailing between people and rulers which resulted into collection of wealth by the rulers on military and intelligence might. With regard to social transition, it is influenced by such factors as transformation in attitudes, values and aspirations of the people, resulting from education, increased contact with the outside world and dissatisfaction with the existing political system. As for the developments on the political transition level, they are currently shaped by three main drivers of change. The first one is youth and their demands for better opportunities. The second one is the role of Arab women, whose position in society and family as well as economic role in the system bear an enormous transformative capacity. At large extent information and communication technologies, enabled change with wider access to the independent sources of information and world at large. Despite those threefold transitions, the Arab world still faces some major challenges such as human rights, public sentiments and their role in framing the policies of their countries. Therefore, democracy should not be conceived only as a goal but also as a method to solve problems and respond to growing expectations. However, the involvement of the American led world powers had distorted the main concern of the people in country development. Instead of political change on peaceful lines regime change through sophisticated weapons was introduced which resulted not only loss of heavy infrastructural damage but huge human loss as near about happen in world wars.

Different and opposing methods to the Arab uprisings are obvious and lead to achieve economic gains. Economics have delivered a operational description and motivational alliance of the social unrest<sup>[13]</sup>. Economic gains have changed the whole structure of Arab spring and new players with self-interests provided sophisticated weaponry to organised groups. The term structure refers here to the established development order, means, production patterns and methods of finance in a number of societies where disparities and multilevel inequalities have left evident signs economic gains<sup>[14]</sup>. This led to pressures to the base, the people who seriously questioned processes, outcomes and absolute gains of a system that failed to provide opportunities to a wider spectrum of the

societal strata. In effect long-term inequality may eventually take the form of a zero-sum game between leaderships and collectivises.

A good number of academicians consider the uprising a result of an economic failure of a more or less obsolete statist model of progress that was outside its capability<sup>[14]</sup>. Adel Malik and Bassem Awadallah suggest that the result of economic failures, statism, intervention and redistribution incites the intellectual fundamentals of an influential approach focussed by economic vexations and social dictates. Society as a system and state structure, its effective approach is defined by the economic input delivered. In effect the multi-level back-and-forth of negative economic input gave vent to a social output (uprisings) through which groups expressed their desire for a swotted re-distributional procedure but incited political involvement in the procedure. That was the result of a de-legitimization procedure that directed combined social revolt. This revolt fulfilled the aspirations and hopes of people to come with vibrant politic-economic systems<sup>[15]</sup>.

This crucial and decisive aspect brought political Islam and the Islamists into the picture and multiplied the side-effects of any attempt to reform the economic model of development peacefully and orderly. But it has reached to highest form of stagnation where from it is impossible to reform it. The Arab uprisings hardly can be understood without taking into consideration the economic crisis. Large number of scholars believe that Arab uprising have roots in economic crisis which at least resulted of the policies adopted by MENA regimes. Hauling to the desire of theorizing the uprisings, an analyses of events presented over Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Bahrain and Syria concentrating on the 'thorny undercurrents of the actual uprisings and their instantaneous concerns<sup>[3]</sup>. The American architects of post-War power centred in and around the powerful Council on Foreign Relations, the Rockefeller Foundation and, above all, the Rockefeller faction in US politics and economics<sup>[10]</sup>.

Islamists are the main stake holders today after they proved their metal in Egypt and Libya but the wave of their ascension to power was turn down and failed to achieve their objectives in Tunisia by Al-Nahda, Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and National Transition movement in Libya. And they now threaten many regimes in other Arab countries. While the Arab Spring was not Islamic at its beginning in 2011 except in Egypt, few observers had predicted such a significant phenomenon. And most were also astonished that Islamist forces observed to play only a marginal role if any in the protests. From Tunis to Bahrain from Sana'a to Homs, demonstrators disparaged local regimes for their exploitation and incompetence. They demanded privileges, opportunities and jobs and represented all walks of life and political encouragement. In almost all other countries in the region there have been

at slight protests against local regimes. This approach of swearing to the depth of the phenomenon scholars declared it Arab Awakening<sup>[16]</sup>.

The widespread character of the civil uprisings, several authoritarians in Arab states were forcibly deposed from power, leaving behind an unclear political situation, instability and uncertainty. Morten Valbjørn has underlined: 'what we are witnessing is a re-politicized new Middle East in a "transition to somewhere"<sup>[17]</sup> Valbjørn's point of view under consideration need to understand as recognition of the fact that the Middle East is changing as opposed to a situation where no transition takes place beyond what used to be dominated by limited disguise democratization reforms and authoritarian upgrading<sup>[17]</sup>.

From a comprehensive perspective, the political scientist Jack Goldstone submits that the Arab Spring followed the same design as any other revolution, foundation with socioeconomic press and leading hostility, followed by popular anger, common assessments and benefit of encouraging international relations<sup>[18]</sup>. According to Asef Bayat, "others consider the Arab Spring as true revolutions that were hijacked, manipulated by the counter revolutionaries supported by regional and international powers. What occurred in Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya was no less than a "political revolution" in Gilbert Achcar's assessment, because "the emergence of the people freed from the shackles of serfdom, the assertion of collective will in public squares and success in overthrowing tyrannical oppressors are the distinctive works of a political revolution"<sup>[19]</sup>.

In Libya and Egypt, state and rebel elites tried to resolve their own impasses and broaden their alliances, so as to establish social and political order which serve their interests. However, the closure of parasol alliances after the overthrow of regimes and changing alliances threatened the democratic way of engaging in solving matters of very high intensity particularly political instability. Consequently, variant paths of Arab uprising, daunted many countries to fulfil the promises of transitions and are currently facing the problems of social division of sectarian nature and the schism of civil society which resulted in some where return as authoritarian regime while as somewhere as a serious security deficit, with disastrous output in MENA<sup>[20]</sup>.

Another wave of events that occurred due to Arab Spring in some states are those that have descended into civil war (Libya, Yemen and Syria). Libyan case is very volatile any time it will burst and very less chances of stability is observed. Involvement of CIA in Libyan matter resulted costly for America and paid high priced involvement in which the fact that Libya today has all the rudiments of an successful state springs from the heirlooms of Gaddafi's rule. Murder of Gaddafi was an international conspiracy in order to have hold on the

resources on the Libya by manufacturing the art of malfunctioning state, with weak governmental institutions and little or no civil society. France and Britain pushed for further action against Gaddafi. French President Nicholas Sarkozy led from the front in the campaign to intervene more forcefully in Libya (Haaretz, 18 March, 2011).

The Arab academician Jihad al-Khazen expressed his view about liberty as “Freedom is a plant alien to our part of the Arab world. Whenever implanted, it dies. Some of us colonized others and the plant of freedom died over and over again. Each time it died a dreamer who inhabited his own world would try to revive it only to perish along with it all those who made the effort rode against powerful windmills with wooden swords”<sup>[21]</sup>.

Al-Bablawi thinks that a balance must be created among the various meanings of liberty: balance between individual rights, state authority and civil society; balance between the executive branch and the legislative and judicial branches and balance between economic considerations and private interests on one part; state government and public interests on the second and moral principles and ideals on the third<sup>[22]</sup>. The variation is observed prominently in these branches in the Arab world. Monarchical families enjoy loft life style while as the Bedouin life is facing harsh slaps of the deserts which political frustration in every nook and corner of the MENA. In this context, the Egyptian sociologist and liberal Sa’d Edin Ibrahim distinguishes between two types of authoritarianism, *istibdad*, in the twentieth century: firstly, total despotism, secondly; ‘*al-istibdad al-shumuli*’, the despotism of an ideological political party. The second type is ‘authoritarian rule’, *ni am al- ukm al-sul awi-* such despotism of tribes. Large number of examples are eminent about it in Arab world, Syria (Assad the father and son), Libya (Gaddafi) and Sudan (Bashr and Turabi). Others are Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait politically weak but economically sound Arab Principalities.

Arab Uprising is filtered by Romeos on every step of its march towards liberation from despots to achieve democratization. It is moving now towards its purpose without any true, trustworthy guiding principles just a torch in the hands of blind. Local and international events served as a catalyst from the beginning for the new liberal discourse on political reform and democratization in Arab states. This cross-border geographic, religious and political discourse, tend to consider marginal importance of the events and even to eulogize it. It meaningfully subsidised importance of democracy and civil values among intellectual circles. The discourse abetted a comprehensive Arab public to adopt the urgent need for political reform but failed to achieve their goal by international interference. All these found palpable, powerful expression in the outbreak of popular protests across the Arab Middle East at the commencement of 2011, known as the Arab Spring<sup>[23]</sup>.

The tendency of mass protests revelled through the MENA in early 2011, raised the hope for an Arab Spring that would bring greater freedom and democracy to the Arab World. People through the region came on the streets to materialise their hope of launching bright future by addressing politico-economic grievances<sup>[24]</sup>. From 2011 to early 2014, the so-called ‘Arab Spring’ encompassing the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region came to the forefront of international political affairs. In the words of Sergei Lavrov, Russian Foreign Minister, it was “frequently referred to as the most remarkable episode in the international life of the new 21st century.” The authoritarian regimes of the Arab world have been flimsy systems. Revolutionaries in Syria started their movement as peaceful protestors but with use of excessive force by Syrian government and infiltration by different religious groups and supply of funds to these groups have changed the discourse of revolution or uprising in Syria. However, the situation worsened when foreign militants infiltrated and robbed the agenda of the revolutionaries. International agencies funded and provided weapons to Foreign militants to implement their own agenda in Syria same as it happened in Libya<sup>[25]</sup>. This is especially, true more recently in their relationship with burgeoning youthful populations. Arab historian Said K. Aburish argues that these various regimes all lack modern political legitimacy-from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states to Egypt from military cliques to monarchies<sup>[26]</sup>. This lack of modern political legitimacy-coupled with decades of political repression, world economic crises and unresolved grievances such as the unmitigated oppression of the Palestinian people-creates potential for massive political awakening. This dynamic was particularly pronounced because of the region’s marked demographic ‘youth bulge.’ Historically, youth cohorts are receptive to new ideas, eager to challenge the status quo and active in times of political crisis. Indeed, it was the age 25 and under demographic that spearheaded the MENA mass protests<sup>[27]</sup>.

According to Volker Perthe, the Arab Spring has its roots deep into volatile demographic developments in the Arab world<sup>[28]</sup>. It originated between 1970 and 2010, due to population explosion of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) nearly tripled (from 128-359 million inhabitants) with almost 30% of them aged between 20 and 35 with high rate of joblessness<sup>[28]</sup>; United Nations Development Programme, 2009).

This widespread Arab upheaval takes place in the context of a period when the restructuring of the world order from uni-polarity towards multi-polarity<sup>[29]</sup> unites with motivated economic breakdown. In Arab world political disturbance worsened from 1950 and busted in Arabs of 2011. People hold different opinions about western intervention, legacy of European imperialism and the role of the United States in the region since 1945. US

involvement in the region spawn consequences against the will of the people, even resulted in rebirth of despotism and extremism. In a vague form the US and external actors sympathy to the Arab Spring involvement resulted in dilemma and perished the whole middle class within hopes of reform and extrapolated torcher<sup>[30]</sup>.

Professor Chalmers Johnson, sorts modern imperialists into two groups: “those who advocate unrestrained, unilateral American domination of the world and those who call for imperialism devoted to ‘humanitarian’ objectives.. The complex issue at the heart of liberal imperialism is ‘humanitarian intervention’ ‘the responsibility to protect’” as a cause for military intervention. Within and outside support to Arab spring, no one can deny that economy has its role in it and igniting the uprisings did so for economic motivations. The protesters in Cairo streets screaming ‘Bread’ as one of their foremost slogans. Bulk of the academic literature on the Arab Spring produced with economic factors as major cause of uprising. The emphases on the increase of the role of economic factors and actors and the reaction of civil society through increased social discontent and requests for economic growth, jobs and regime change.

The idea that romantic Arab youth activists alone initiated the attempt to topple their autocratic regimes is a myth. In truth, the so-called ‘Arab Spring’ which swept through the Middle East and North Africa region was a wave of destabilizations sponsored by Washington and launched through ‘civilian-based power’ techniques. The architects of the post-war US-dominated global order explicitly chose not to call it an ‘empire.’ Instead, the United States would project its imperial power under the guise of colonial ‘liberation,’ support for ‘democracy’ and ‘free markets.’ It was one of the most effective and diabolical propaganda coups of modern times. Bush’s remarks were calculated to fan the flame of further regime destabilizations across Eurasia where the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and its related NGO’s were now coordinating accusations of ‘human rights’ violations across the region<sup>[10]</sup>. The Bush-Cheney Presidency had, from the outset, been based on a clear consensus among various factions of the US power establishment. That consensus was that US foreign policy should aim to secure what the Pentagon termed ‘Full Spectrum Dominance.’ The strategists of Full Spectrum Dominance envisioned control of pretty much the entire universe including outer and inner-space, from the galaxy to the mind. The control of energy, particularly global oil and gas resources, Dick Cheney was ideally suited to weave the US military and energy policies together into a coherent strategy of dominance<sup>[10]</sup>.

It was American imperialism of the most modern form. With the onset of multi-polarity with many of Washington’s vassals looking to resurgent power centres such as Moscow and Beijing the US moved pre-emptively

for ‘regime change’ against the independence of ‘enemy’ states and erstwhile clients. Additionally, the ‘Arab Spring’ offensive was given impetus by the imperative to hasten the regional process of what Bernard Lewis, perhaps the most influential British Arabist, termed “Lebanonization” as a self-fulfilling prophecy<sup>[27]</sup>. This refers to the far-reaching balkanization, social collapse and eruption of sectarian conflicts. The principal symbol to explicit the successive unfolding of transnational uprisings have influence too to the Arab Spring and the nature of the development in revolution. The novel design of the Arab Spring appears to be more transnational, hatched, influenced and controlled by world powers than indigenous. By advantage of these transnational revolutionary uprisings people try to bring fervour to the conflict through weaponisation. As Henry Kissinger rightly said, “Those who do not hear the drums of wars are deaf” ([fridayspecial.com.pk/2017](http://fridayspecial.com.pk/2017)) Western powers fully geared to take every benefit of the hatched Arab Spring. The Conspiracy is not limited to US only but many European countries along with Arab counterparts are fully involved in this conflict. They managed it by raising the valour of Arabs to fuel their sentiments against their rulers. The Arab Spring hassles to put on the use of analytical method to work out the procedures internal players applied for regime change. For this very purpose they applied two processes, explaining and understanding, traditionally used in international relations<sup>[31]</sup>. Explaining centres on “identifying what caused a particular event or state of affairs” through a course that comprises “generating and testing hypotheses”<sup>[31]</sup>. The tactics have caused foremost mechanical arguments among scholars on an inter-disciplinary beginnings. Scholars attempted to crop up with controlled proof of the strictures that influence globalization. According to Rosenau<sup>[32]</sup> “to comprehend the political universe” and depicts International Relations scholars as puzzle solvers while as in case of the Arab Spring the puzzle is multi-purpose, since, inland vicissitudes in several Arab states yield a gigantic influence on international and regional security balances.

According to Jamshidi<sup>[33]</sup>, “During the last several decades, a never-ending cycle of autocracy, oppression, corruption and economic stagnation gripped most MENA countries. Across the region, states were dominated by decades-long dictatorships that quashed freedoms of speech and expression, restricted opportunities to assemble and gather, committed egregious human rights abuses and left domestic populations with little hope of social, professional or economic mobility”<sup>[33]</sup>.

According to Hamid Dabashi that “The counter revolutionary forces now fully geared to oppose and reshape these uprisings”<sup>[34]</sup>. Now, the war is not limited to US and NATO forces involvement in Libya nevertheless Monarchs of the region are fully involved in these crisis

and joined in equal ranks by supporting financially and providing military assistance and Arms to the insurgent groups on the basis of likes and dislikes basis<sup>[34]</sup>.

Mapping out the history of independence as sovereignty, countries in MENA is a region that lack real sovereign independence. Being rich in oil reserves, the unity of Arabs has been grubby by western powers but the Arab league never succeeded in providing the any relief. The Arab world has been the target of continual interference and intervention ever, since, face-wash independent. Arab world continued engraved in artificial states dependent on others for their security after the disintegration of Ottoman Empire. Continuously political subjugated as resource states, bombed and occupied by the US, its allies and foes, locked down with US military headquarters and western sponsored autocracies. But Arab league found in 1945 till date have not provided them any sort of relief to sum up their interests to have any know-how at international forum, so as to overcome the colonial pressure. The fundamental aim was robbed by Western powers who considered it a direct threat to their strategic order (the West). The fundamental aim was robbed by Western powers who considered it a direct threat to their strategic order (the West). From the overthrowing of dictatorship in Tunisia and Egypt the Western powers and their Arab Allies fell asleep to counter the revolution and to achieve their framed goals lying in the region. They sedulously worked for counter-drive, to buy off, crush or hijack the Arab revolutions. While knowing weakness and breach in Arab league, Western powers bombed Libya and Syria and got militarily involved in occupying the country. Arab league was formed to overcome the regional conflicts and to safeguard the interests of Arab countries. But it is clearly observed that Arab league failed at all its fronts during Arab spring as a paralysed organization which resulted in killing of millions of people. The Arab League showed complete indifference towards the popular rising broke out, since, 2011. The outbreak of internal wars and conflicts in Syria, Yemen and Libya, supported by Gulf monarchies backed by Western powers leaving the Arab world without an influential and active regional organization to represent them. While reviving of the Gulf Cooperation Council in an attempt to make it an alternative for the non-functioning Arab League organization, this too concentrated to work for its tainted goals and focused to subside Iranian influence in the region. From the beginning of the Arab uprising, Arab league was highly confused and in shock, how to deal with the situation because of the fear of losing power. In such a crucial situation where Arab league can play a dominant role, chose to remain silent as a mere spectator. Instead of playing a productive and significant character in scientifically confirming its affiliated states to honour,

respect and safeguard civil liberties in toto, the conflict intensified among the league members during Arab spring along with numerous supplementary problems. The OIC and Arab League came out as a second-rate actor during and after the “Arab Spring”; Western countries attacked Libya, Syria and Yemen without the consent or the need for the OIC and Arab League approval; Arabs, mainly Qatar and Saudi Arabia, distressed on the Coup d’état that took place in Egypt for personal benefits and their relation with Husn Mubarak. But these countries on US initiatives got involved in Syrian and the Yemeni crises. But failed to bargain any settlements to remove these two countries out of civil war situation.

After the many failures of the OIC and Arab League, the Gulf countries revived the Gulf Cooperation Council which was established in 1981. The organization intensified its activities by using weak and foreign sponsored joint belligerent militaries; Peninsula Shield Force to curb uprising in Bahrain. A strong but cold war design criticism aired the Arab world. It is openly aired that the belligerent force was actually sponsored on the dictum of United States to count down the Iranian influence in the region and to alienate Iranian republic. Actually it is observed that scarcely in any meeting voice was raised about the Arab uprising. The full-fledged military intervention was appreciated and financed by many Arab Monarchies. Such approach is always appreciated by western powers which is an irrefutable fact that both the US and Europe have frequently enthusiastically supported and cherished Arab authoritarian regimes in reoccurrence for western-friendly strategies. The worst features of OIC, Arab league and GCC members is their criminal negligence on the issue of Palestine, blind eye on Arab uprising and enflaming hatred against Islam-rooted political movements.

The Arab Spring has exposed the differences among the GCC states, Arab League and OIC members and widened the gulf of their differences and complete divergence of their policies. These policies undermine their power and unity which further ruptured their relations and uncovered conflicts amongst them. These discordant and conflict strategies have had adverse consequences on the whole region, exclusively on the Arab nations in changeover. These seismic impulses in the Arab world twisted new geopolitical suggestions, regional uncertainty and great insecurity, in turn posturing a colossal security challenge for the Muslim world.

Moreover, in such circumstances Euro-Western invasion of countries like Syria, Iraq and Libya was due to their anti-west policies they pursue at international level. It was not done to provide a security shield for the nature of their regimes<sup>[35]</sup>. The Western new directions towards the Muslim world as underscored in President Barak Obama’s address at Cairo University a couple of

years ago, raised the eyebrows of many secularists and nationalists in the Arab region. President Obama described the type of new relations he proposed for the United States and Arab World:

“I’ve come here to Cairo to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world, one based on mutual interest and mutual respect and one based upon the truth that America and Islam are not exclusive and need not be in competition. Instead, they overlap and share common principles principles of justice and progress; tolerance and the dignity of all human beings”<sup>[36]</sup>.

Keeping in view the change at global level where exclusive regional partnership is raising head and others are not tolerated at any cost. These global developments have been enlarged and strengthened by new designs of regional subtlety among governments of Arab Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). These three states are acting as play cards for Western players particularly US and acting as fuel to burn down any one for the cause of US relationship. These states provided funds to every Arab uprising and created a dissent among OIC, GCC and league members. Their approach and methodology to dominate over the region is now at stake due their internal differences. They have thumped their economic and diplomatic influence inside the GCC and Arab League both ideologically inclined to and political motivated by them to raise an uprising which suits their interests to sustain a regional order.

### CONCLUSION

Deliberating on the issue on the issue of Arab Spring, It is clear that Arab spring was more a crisis creation by external forces in order to give setback to major voices like Muslim Brotherhood by creating an opponent in the form of extremist ideology like ISIS and other armed groups. So Arab spring is and was not an event that happened without any upheaval orchestrated by forces. In Tunisia and Egypt Islamist with liberal and democratic outlook were given a complete setback among them some salafi groups worked as turncoats while as in Libya and Syria Islamists acquired contour of violence. They received weapons from regional monarchs and some international big guns like USA and France in Libya. In Syria regional antipathy between Pro-Saudi monarchs and Iran also worsened the situation and brought death to the regions. Involvement of Israel and Russia further devastated the region and killed millions of people. The cargo and shipment of lethal weapons deployed by world powers for monetary benefits gave set back to modern day civility. The essence of UNSC is at cards and its role for safeguarding the public interests has failed and it served as partisan in the region. The whole devastation resulted in two main thoughts one the world powers through their

armed machinery massacred humanity for trifling interest. The other aspect is to safe guard and protect interests of their own regional alliance. But in both forms humanity is in loss and civilizational character has lost its essence.

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