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## THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF YEMEN'S GEOGRAPHY IN IRANIAN STRATEGY

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### ABSTRACT

The study aims to know the geographical location of Yemen and its importance to Iran , through which Iran reflects its vision to find a foothold in the region , as the repercussions of Iranian domination on Yemen with its control over it become Gulf oil tankers in general and Saudi Arabia in particular within the circle of danger , as the presence of Iran has done everything it can to establish a presence in the Red Sea region , and if Ansar Allah takes power in Yemen, it could be a large-scale Iranian stronghold in the future

### INTRODUCTION

The geopolitical importance of Yemen comes in the Iranian strategic perception of pressure on the Gulf states, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in particular, given that Yemen represents a strategic depth for the Kingdom and a vital area for it, as regional powers that must be weakened to ensure the spread of Iran's political and military influence, in addition to attracting the focus of regional powers in the Yemeni conflict in order to It is able to strengthen its position in Iraq and Syria, their most prominent ally in the region

### *The Problem*

Is the Yemeni geographical location of strategic import Hypothesis:

The geographical location of Yemen is of strategic importance for Iran, as it considers Yemen a vital area for it through its desire for regional expansion in order to strengthen its influence in an area teeming with important waterways as a regional vanguard, and from its firm conviction of its military superiority

over the countries of the Arab ocean ance for Iran?

**A-** The geopolitical importance of Yemen's geography in the Iranian strategy  
There is no doubt that Yemen represents a strategic depth for Iran, as Iran considers Yemen a vital field, and its behavior is based on geostrategic visions. It controls the strategic waterways, as it controls the Strait of Hormuz and wants to control the Bab al-Mandab strait (1).

The tendency to encircle the Arabian Peninsula has become a constant principle of Iran's security and strategic doctrine And perhaps the Yemeni revolution constituted a valuable opportunity within the series of Iran's opportunities to expand into the Arab depth, which it considers its vital field, and because its strategic importance is not comparable to the value of Lebanon, Iraq and Syria, Yemen has nevertheless become an area of Iranian influence that can support Iran's negotiating and strategic ability. Its ability to maneuver and confront potential future threats is enhanced, and Yemen's importance in Iranian calculations increases, given its geostrategic location. This location has sharpened Iran's desire for regional expansion with the aim of strengthening its influence in a region teeming with important waterways as a regional vanguard, and its firm conviction of its military superiority over the countries of the Arab ocean. Iran is working to recall the legacy of the Persian Empire and what is in it to expand its expansionist efforts, and to impose itself as a rising power (2).

As Iran sees itself as an active force in the Arabian Gulf because of its economic and military possessions, and it is engaged in various conflicts in the Gulf region, and Yemen is considered a part of it and considered as an Iranian card to threaten Gulf and Saudi interests (3).

See the map (1)

**Map (1)** Iranian geopolitics in Yemen



**Source:** from the work of the researcher based on: Atlas of the world

comprehensive photographer, Dar Al-Mars for science, Baghdad 2016, P.55.

**B:** - The stages of Iranian geopolitical influence in Yemen: Iran was never interested in reading the details of the Middle East region as much as they seem at the present time. Both in terms of the radical internal transformations these countries have witnessed, or in terms of the balances of strategic forces in the Middle East that seem to be on the verge of a new restructuring phase, the final features of which have not yet been determined, but in any case, it will affect Iran's interests and ambitions in the region. These developments in its entirety is a state of Iranian awareness of the requirements of the new reality, whether inside Iran, It reflects the developments that the region is witnessing in general, and the developments witnessed by the allies of the Iranian regime in the region in particular (4).

The Iranian expansion in Yemen was not the result of the moment, but rather the result of an accumulation of previous practices to penetrate Yemen, like other Arab countries, as found in Syria, Iraq and Lebanon, motivated by the principle of spreading the Iranian revolution, which was not the same as a cover for the Iranian strategy based on hegemony and the extension of influence in its Arab environment (5).

The Iranian strategy in Yemen was and still is somewhat different from it in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, as it is characterized by ambiguity and privacy, and this is due to two things, the first is the weakness of the popular "sectarian" base, and the society's rejection of it so that the Ansar Allah movement does not appear. Many of her sectarian beliefs for fear of popular rejection, in addition to the position of the official authorities rejecting Iranian interference in Yemen, and for a long time depends on the method of infiltration and soft penetration, and avoiding any practice that may push the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to take measures or strategies that would eliminate its achievements, which is what happened when the movement's elements took control of the Yemeni governorates after the coup against President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi on September 21, 2014, And the implementation of military maneuvers on the borders with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which led to a Saudi intervention and the launch of the Arab coalition (6)

Based on the foregoing, the study is presented here, and based on the geopolitical importance of Yemen, Iran sought to build and strengthen its influence in order to find a geopolitical anchor that would make it an effective force in the Yemeni state of great geographical importance. 1-Influence-building phase: This phase witnessed Iran's use of its soft powers, which would support Iran's ambitions to become the leading country in the region, while alleviating political, economic and strategic isolation, and Iran has sufficient resources in order to build its soft power inside Iran. And outside Iran, Iran has proven this tool to achieve its foreign policy goals and interests and its quest to build influence in the surrounding environment through the principle of exporting the revolution and supporting the preservation of allies, whether on the political, economic or military level, , and creating strong support and organizations within its areas of influence and influence. Iran has succeeded in employing its soft power in order to build a good reputation for it

in the surrounding region and to win the hearts and minds of peoples by adopting positions rejecting the Israeli occupation and supporting movements and organizations resisting the occupation, thus achieving the possibility and ability to Moving and building influence and influence in this region (7).

At the local level, this stage witnessed benefiting from the division and the weakness of the Yemeni central authority, and then exploiting the divisions between the different political elites, as well as supporting the factions close to Iran or agreeing with it in orientations, by seeking to establish partnerships with actors without states (informal actors). Especially from the groups that reject the existing situation, whether at the local level, as a result of the perception of these groups that they are important economically, politically, or at the regional level. As a result of the dissatisfaction of these groups with the existing regional balances, for their perception that these balances are strongly tilted in favor of those they consider their opponents, represented by the regional allies of the United States of America (8).

Several of them have been attracting Yemeni students to study in universities and seminaries in Iran, Damascus and Beirut since the eighties and nineties. However, it can be said that the Iranian movement in Yemen was very active in the nineties due to the openness that accompanied the establishment of Yemeni unity in May 1990, And allowing political pluralism and the formation of parties, but at the regional level, decision-makers in Iran relied on the Palestinian cause to win the sympathy of Muslims around the world, and they called for the necessity of supporting the weak everywhere, standing up to the arrogant and resisting injustice and aggression. These slogans achieved great success and gained Iran a popular base. Among the peoples of the region at first, they considered it an example that the Arab countries should celebrate. Therefore, the Palestinian cause was invested with the Ansar Allah movement in Yemen, who focused in their speeches on the Palestinian cause because of its resonance in the hearts of Yemenis (9).

On the international level, Iran was the main beneficiary of the attacks of September 11, 2001, as Washington removed the most prominent regional opponent of Iran when the United States of America invaded Iraq and destroyed its military mechanism that had long constituted the obstacle that would prevent the expansion of its regional influence in the West. This is due to Iran's growing regional influence in the region (10).

2-The stage of consolidating influence: i.e. the stage between the revolution and the coup, a stage in which many Iranian military and intelligence tools were exposed. During this stage, Iran revealed its military support for the Ansar Allah movement in northern Yemen. During this period, the Iranians took advantage of the Yemeni parties' preoccupation with the form of the state and its constitution, and worked Tehran is on two tracks: the first is related to the convergence of views between the two sides of the deep state, the former Yemeni president on the one hand, and the movement's elements on the other, in order to stand against what the other Yemeni parties seek, especially with regard to implementing the outcomes of the comprehensive national dialogue, taking advantage of President Saleh's ambition In returning to power and his

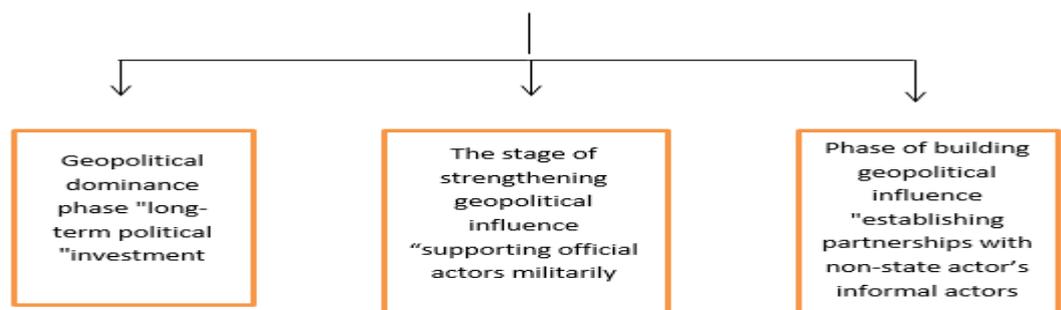
fear of the transitional justice law (11) .

Iran has strengthened its military influence in Yemen by sending military experts, in addition to sending military shipments to enhance the capabilities of the movement's elements. During this stage, Iran's need to rely on other powers to confront the international pressures imposed on it appeared, which prompted it to rely on the elements of the movement. The strategic results obtained from it, just as the Iranian influence in Yemen does not intersect with other international powers there, such as the Russian influence in Syria for example, in addition to the movement's elements enjoying greater stability compared to Iran's allies in Iraq and Hezbollah in Lebanon (12).

3-The stage of geopolitical hegemony: It is the stage in which Iranian influence emerged, which extends from (2014-2015), that is, the stage of the coup against legitimacy and the control of Sana'a and most of the Yemeni governorates, in cooperation with former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the Iranians boasted of their control of the fourth Arab capital, They organized an air bridge between Sanaa and Tehran, and signed many agreements in many fields with the delegation of Ansar Allah movement, which visited Tehran. The Iranian ambassador visited the city of Aden as the first ambassador, expressing his country's desire to enhance cooperation and the desire for an effective presence on the Bab al-Mandab Strait. Here the Gulf countries, especially the Kingdom, felt Saudi Arabia, with which Yemen shares a common border, the extent of the danger and the challenge facing its national security (13).

During this stage, Iran relied, with its patient, tireless policy, and long-term self, on long-term political investment in supporting its partners or those loyal to it from actors without states, by selecting and attracting groups or factions that have better capabilities, or greater chances of success in the future, and strengthen their relations, encouragement and support. Politically, financially and militarily, and strengthening their capacity through long-term base-building, which often eventually leads to enabling these groups to assume power, or to reach vital and influential political positions in their countries. It is worth mentioning that Iran is investing in its support for the Houthi movement in Yemen. It has been going on for more than three decades (14). See chart (1).

**Chart (1)** Stages of Iranian influence in Yemen



The scheme of the researcher's work

### ***C: -Factors That Helped Expand Iran's Geopolitical Influence In Yemen:***

The Iranian intervention in Yemen did not come out of nowhere, but rather in the presence of a number of factors and variables that helped it expand its influence in Yemen. It is worth mentioning here, that there are internal and external factors that contributed to strengthening Iranian influence in Yemen. Which:

#### ***Internal Factors: They Include***

##### ***1-Political Settlement (The Gulf Initiative):***

Iran has exploited the path of a peaceful settlement in Yemen to achieve a political breakthrough in it. As the political track contributed to the expansion of the influence of its allies in Yemen, the Ansar Allah movement and the political figures that were attracted to the Iranian project took advantage of the signing of the main forces participating in the revolution on the Gulf initiative to vilify those forces and incite youth in the squares against them. The settlement process preserved the survival of the regime of the former president, which he and his supporters sought to obstruct the process of change and extended his hand and his supporters to Iran and their local representative (Ansar Allah movement), and formed a coordinated front to thwart the political settlement included in the Gulf initiative. (15)

##### ***The Growing Phenomenon of Internal Division:***

With the establishment of unity between its two parts in May 1990, Yemen had some sources of strength, but it did not take much time to restore its unity until it fell into the trap of regional polarization, as a result of its position on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, and its refusal to join the coalition The international organization that adopted the war to expel the Iraqi army from Kuwait in 1991, its relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries were strained, and these countries adopted a number of sanctions against Yemen, as Yemenis were deprived of the exception they enjoyed in staying in Saudi territory without a sponsor. locally, which led to the return of nearly two million Yemeni workers to Saudi Arabia, and Yemen was also deprived of the aid provided by the Gulf states and Western donors, this stance had and still has catastrophic consequences for Yemen in the economic, social and political aspects (16). Iran was not able to clearly extend its influence to Yemen until after the year 2000 AD. Since this date, political and economic developments have proceeded to weaken the state. The style of rule of the former president pushed Yemen to suffer from the spread of corruption and chaos, which led to the deepening of political and social divisions and the crystallization of A number of projects that are based on sectarian, regional or grassroots foundations, such as the Southern Movement factions in a number of eastern and southern governorates, and Al-Qaeda in a number of governorates with a tribal social structure, and the Ansar Allah movement in Saada governorate in the north (17). The conditions that Yemen experienced provided an opportunity for Iranian interference, which is represented by Iran's attempt to take advantage of division, chaos, instability,

and the weakness of the central authority, to penetrate states, and then exploit the divisions between the various political elites by supporting factions close to them ideologically or agreeing with them in trends. , by seeking to establish partnerships, especially groups that reject the existing conditions, whether through seeking to establish partnerships - at the local level, as a result of the perception that it is their economic, political and social task, or that their share of influence and power does not meet their political ambitions, or at the regional level as a result of the dissatisfaction of these The groups distanced themselves from the existing regional balances, for their perception that these balances are strongly tilted in favor of those whom they consider their opponents , represented by the regional allies of the United States of America (18)

### ***External Factors (Regional and International). Include***

#### ***1-The Decline of The Saudi Political Role:***

It was not only the internal factors that helped the expansion of Iranian influence in Yemen, there were regional factors as well, the most prominent of which was the decline of the Saudi role in Yemen. And its success since 1970 is an exclusive area of Saudi influence. The Saudi presence played an important role in protecting northern Yemen in the seventies of the last century from the dangers of communist advance, as the alliance that existed at that time between Riyadh and the tribal and religious leaders contributed to preventing the fall of northern Yemen under the rule of the communists. Despite the great risks that existed at that time (19), the Saudi role witnessed a decline in the recent period. It was not the size of the challenges facing Yemen and the Saudi security and the region alike, so the Kingdom could have been a preferred alternative for some Yemenis who were forced to go to Iran, especially sheikhs and tribesmen, and even some politicians and media, and the level of cooperation between the Kingdom and the Yemeni forces that reject Iranian interference It does not equate to the dangers of this intervention. Rather, it can be said that the Saudi role has often turned into a burden on those close to Saudi Arabia or those affiliated with it. Supporters of the Iranian project justify the Iranian intervention in Yemen with the presence of the Saudi intervention, while the Iranian intervention is active and active and works to create an opportunity, we find that the Saudi role is not the case, and that is why Saudi Arabia uses a large part of the tasks of implementing a proposed strategy to deal with Iranian interference in Yemen and the region (20).

#### ***Foreign Military Intervention in Iraq and Syria:***

the changes in the region served the Iranian trends, and contributed to the increase of Iran's influence in the region. The US occupation of Iraq led to the growth of Iranian influence, and the same thing happened after the Syrian revolution, especially after the Russian military intervention, which changed the balance of power in the interest of the political regime in Syria, Iran and its expansion in the region In addition, Iran's regional influence was strengthened after it signed an agreement with the major powers on its nuclear program.

nuclear deal with Iran in 2015, To provide a political cover for its project in the region. The American leniency during the Obama era regarding Iranian interference in Iraq and Syria, as well as the focus on the goal of eliminating al-Qaeda in Yemen as a supreme strategy, at the expense of the growing Iranian influence on the Yemeni arena, contributed to the opportunity for Iran to intensify its interventionist activities. in Yemen (21). It should also be noted that the Iranian trend towards Yemen has motives, and reasons. As for motives. The geographical distance of Yemen's location is very important to Iran. It can be said that the importance of the geographical location of Yemen in relation to Iran is attributed to three factors (22):-

1- Attempting to dominate the Bab al-Mandab Strait: Although Iran is located in the Bab al-Mandab region due to its participation in international efforts to confront the phenomenon of piracy in the Red Sea, in accordance with Security Council resolutions, it allowed the presence of military ships of foreign countries in the waters of the Horn of Africa to confront piracy, the control of The Ansar Allah movement inside Yemen. And their obtaining of Iranian logistical support supports Iran's influence in the region, thus exploiting it as a pressure card on the West.

2- Concentration in the Saudi geographical neighborhood: Yemen is considered a soft area for the Gulf states, which is easily penetrated, with the exception of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which cannot be easily penetrated. Especially with the Ansar Allah movement controlling most of the border areas with the Kingdom, and in light of the presence of a large number of Yemenis from the Shiite minority in the Saudi neighborhood

3- Consolidating its political influence as part of the anti-Western axis that it seeks to establish in the third world countries, in addition to breaking the barrier of international isolation imposed on it, and presenting itself as a competing global power (23)

4- Penetration into the Horn of Africa: from Iranian motives towards Yemen are Yemen's neighbor to the Horn of Africa, which is what pushes it to have a wide influence in Africa in general and the Horn of Africa in particular. Eritrea has also found (Israel) an area of influence and a station for dealing with Yemen as well, meaning it can establish an intelligence center while it is located in Eritrea, and train its loyal elements militarily and intelligence, considering Beirut as the appropriate place for media and political training, and Iran seeks to disrupt the place in the region, especially Somalia, to create a sect affiliated, and it is taking advantage of the chaos in Somalia to attend by various means, i.e. Yemen's neighborhood to the Horn of Africa, In addition to the Gulf, it makes Yemen a strategic imperative for Iran (24).

As for the goals, it can be said that Iran, as a country with a long historical depth (the Empire of Persia), is still recalling its past and trying, as much as possible, to extend its influence to obtain the leadership of the Islamic world. To the countries of the Islamic and Arab world, rather exporting the revolution was one of the goals of Iranian foreign policy, and among these countries is Yemen. Iran also moves in its orientations towards Yemen from several starting points and goals it seeks to achieve in order to achieve its major goals at the regional level. Like other expansionist countries, it remembers its colonial and leadership past. It seeks by all means to achieve its goals and

increase its influence and prominence as a regional power. In Yemen, Iran is present and uses its multiple hidden and apparent messages. It is trying to win over and sympathize with some segments of the Yemeni people, as it stands by its side in the wars it is waging to achieve its sovereignty and independence (25). Iran's goals can be identified through Yemen as follows:

**1- Reducing the influence of Yemen's regional neighbors:** Reducing the influence of regional neighbors is one of Iran's most important goals from its intervention in Yemen. Based on its conviction that the growth of Iranian influence on the Yemeni arena necessarily means an opponent of the influence of the Arab Gulf states, especially the influence of Saudi Arabia. Therefore, Iran aims to empower its allies, the Ansar Allah movement, in power, with the aim of weakening Yemen's link with its national and geographical context and obstructing any future steps or complementary projects. Between Yemen and its regional neighbourhood, it may entail strengthening the influence of the Gulf state in Yemen and in the region in general.

In the event that Iran is unable to achieve this goal, the most viable alternative for its interests, according to its perception, is working to push Yemen towards more turmoil, fragmentation and chaos (26). As the main goal that Iran seeks to achieve lies in realizing the dream of regional leadership, by working to find arms in the joints of the region and its centers of power, through which it can extend its influence in the region, and Iran has been able to achieve great breakthroughs to support its influence and consolidating its pillars in many countries of the region, benefiting from the successes it achieved politically, and the gains that were lost in its hands due to the mistakes of international and regional parties, perhaps the most important of which are the mistakes of the United States in its occupation and withdrawal from Iraq, and the resulting political vacuum, which Iran hastened to fill (27). Iran seeks to influence the state of regional balance through its desire to obtain nuclear weapons, and although Iran is not accepted by the Arabs, there is a rejection of its regional roles and orientations, which have increased the complexities of the region strategically. The region is preoccupied with the political transformations brought about by the Arab Spring revolutions, which reduced the pressure on Iran, which has a view towards the state of regional security (28).

### ***Exporting Its Ideological Revolutionary Model:***

Under the slogan of the global "Islamic" countries, Iran adopted the principle of exporting the revolution as a practical reality as the front, since the first moments of the revolution's victory in Iran. Islam was the supreme ideological base for Iran for the post-revolution era, whose role was not limited to Not only the formation of Iran, but also the formation of its external relations, regionally and internationally, and radicalism was the main feature of (Iranian Islam), which mostly had its impact on Iranian foreign relations and drew the shape of these relations. The Islamic view was the starting point in drawing and defining the ideology that contributes to influencing the vision of decision-makers in Iran, and the driving force in drawing up the state's strategy at home and abroad. Therefore, Iran, in its quest to achieve its national goals and interests, its strategy and tactics require it to mix various

tools and means ideologically and pragmatically without this being at the expense of retracting its constants and principles, especially since this follows from a realistic awareness of the internal and external environment and the ability to use smart power by mixing various Means to achieve Iran's national interest first (29).

Iran, as the Leader of the Revolution says, will try to export the revolution to all Islamic countries, not only in Yemen. Mecca during Hajj 1407 With this, Iranian support began to achieve the ideological goal in Yemen through the Ansar Allah movement since the formation of the Believing Youth Forum, and the reason for establishing the forum according to the movement is to confront the Salafist expansion in the movement's areas in Saada. Rather, it is a political project in the first place. Iran takes Islam as a cover to overthrow the ruling regimes in the countries of the region in order to create regimes loyal to it, and to gain legitimacy from the people. Perhaps the most prominent example of that is the coup of the Ansar Allah movement against the Yemeni authority. The movement's project began with legitimate demands and religious freedoms. , and ended with a military coup and control of political power (30). Just as the Iranians found a valuable opportunity to achieve their strategic interests in Yemen, the movement's elements also found it an opportunity to realize their historical ideological dream of ruling, and rearrange their papers by searching for allies, which revealed their relentless pursuit of an alliance with former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the remains of his family. As it is not a secret to many researchers that the reason for this great and feverish activity among the elements of the movement is the redeployment and expansion by force and politics It is the strong entry of the Iranian external factor at this particular stage, a role whose presence is not hidden from many observers, through the state of openness and the great support that this movement enjoys on more than one level (31).

### ***Reaching the Red Sea Coast:***

The geostrategic importance of Yemen's location was previously mentioned, as Yemen's distinguished location in southwest Asia and its border link with Saudi Arabia and its supervision of the Bab al-Mandab Strait, in addition to its proximity to the Gulf countries and its supervision of the sea lanes in the Red Sea, which gave it global strategic importance. In addition, it is located in the south of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the regional rival of Iran. These reasons reflect Iran's vision to find a foothold in the region. Some reports have indicated that Iran has established a base in Eritrea to supply its allies with weapons via cruises to areas near the port of Midi. A security report issued by the "Stratfor" Center revealed Iran's role in smuggling operations from the Eritrean port of Assab to Saada province through Midi port. (32) . Hence the repercussions of Iranian hegemony over Yemen, as with its control over it, Gulf oil tankers in general and Saudi Arabia in particular are in danger. A Saudi oil tanker was targeted in the Red Sea by the movement's elements, and an Emirati ship was bombed by the movement's elements when it left From the port of Midi in Mocha, which posed a real threat to maritime navigation in the Red Sea by the movement's elements, That is why the elements of the movement always try not to get the port of Midi in the province of Hajjah near

the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from under their control, as it provides them with the support provided by Iran, due to its proximity to the province of Saada. Iran has started working on the geopolitical goal since 2004, and with it the movement has transformed from a religious and cultural group into a military group that exercises force and implements its goals. With it, the Iranian support for the movement has turned into intelligence and military support, and the presence of a dominant Iran in Yemen guarantees its influence not only on Yemen. But on the Gulf and the Arab world in general (33).

Based on the foregoing, it is self-evident to reach the existence of strategic interests that combine the Ansar Allah movement and Iran, as these interests converge in some aspects, becoming common goals on the one hand and intersect and be complementary on the other hand. (34). We conclude from the foregoing that reaching the Red Sea coast near Saada is an Iranian strategic goal that cannot be undone. Therefore, Iran sought to expand the theater of operations in Yemen in order for its military arm in Yemen to reach the Red Sea coast near Saada. Iran has done everything it can for years to have a presence in the Red Sea region. In the event that the Ansar Allah movement gains control in Yemen, this may constitute a large-scale Iranian stronghold in the future and will have a vital movement between Europe and the Far East. The momentum as a fighting force and as a political movement alike, as the movement benefited from the security vacuum created by the turmoil in the country in 2011 in the context of the Arab Spring, in addition to the fact that they took advantage of the political stalemate that followed, and this appeared when they took control of the capital, Sana'a, and seized the main institutions in it (35).

#### ***Taking Yemen as A Geographical Base to Strengthen Iran's Ability to Confront the United States of America:***

Iran represented a challenge to the American model of unilateralism and the American presence in the region. This dispute has historical, geographical and ideological roots. The degree of hostility between the United States of America and Iran immediately after the revolution. The disagreement in its essence is fundamental and fundamental, affecting the Iranian orientations in the region, which lies in the public hostility to the American presence in the region, as well as the continuous Iranian threat to the region through its orientation towards the armament programs and nuclear orientations of Iran (36). Accordingly, Iran aims, behind its role in Yemen, to functionally integrate the Ansar Allah movement into its alliance or regional axis, which includes Hezbollah in Lebanon and Syria, and its other allies in the region, while hinting at the possibility of using this alliance to inflict greater harm on the interests of the United States of America. and its allies in the region, in the event of the escalation of US pressure on Iran, or in the event of the situation sliding towards military confrontations between the two parties as a result of any developments that may occur in the Iranian nuclear file in light of the changing policies of the various US administrations. In this context, the Iranian project in the region aims to establish a kind of From the balance of terror in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula And that is through Iran's intensification of its interventionist activities aimed at establishing and

strengthening alliances or ties of an ideological nature with sectarian groups of a military nature, which have the willingness, ability, and ability to act against American interests in the region (37), and thus Iran sought to find a geographical base in Yemen to enhance its ability facing the United States of America in the region.

## CONCLUSIONS

1-The existence of strategic interests that combine the Ansar Allah movement and Iran, as these interests converge in some aspects, becoming common goals on one side, and intersecting and being complementary on the other.

2-The ongoing war in Yemen is nothing but a form of competition and conflict between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iran, which is based on the historical, religious and cultural heritage.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1-That the Ansar Allah movement realize that they are a tool in the hands of Iran, and that using force will not give them power, but rather the fate will be blood and murder, and Iran has expansionist goals in which it exploits the Houthi movement to achieve those goals.

2-The importance of stopping the expansion of the Ansar Allah movement in Yemen, which would stop the Iranian project

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