

# A review on the political, social and cultural consequences of the wars between Iran and Russia

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**ABSTRACT:** Iran has always been considered by colonists due to its strategic position. The aim of Tsarist Russia according to Peter the Great's willing was to reach the warm waters and to achieve this goal they needed to cross Iran. By the invasion of Russia to Caucasus territories of Iran, a long and devastating war began between Iran and Russia which lasted ten years. Russo-Iranian wars and treaties of Golestan and Turkmanchay are accounted as miserable and dark and blurred pages of Iran's history. These wars that occurred in the time of Fath Ali Shah Qajar the incompetent king of Iran had nothing consequently but unhappiness and destruction for Iran. Loss of fertile and populous territories like South Caucasus, Georgia and Armenia, however, was irreparable in terms of economic and territorial, but was tolerable compared to other provisions of Convention of Turkmanchay such as territorial restriction of Iran and dispossession of Iran in the Caspian Sea and establishment of consular jurisdiction about Russian nationals which brought a severe damage to Iran's political and economic independence. A study of more than two decades of experience in first and second Russo-Iranian wars which cost very heavily for Iran could provide useful lessons for the development history and historical-political insight of the country. Since these wars and treaties after them had a very important impact on Iranians and the future of Iran, the aim of this paper is to review the social and political consequences of war between Iran and Russia. The research method is descriptive-analytical. The results indicated that awareness of Iranian nation about their own ability to deal with the aliens and unfolding the power of people and the Constitutional Revolution, entry of Shiite clerics into the arena of politics and changing lifestyles of Iranians are of the most important political, social and cultural consequences of Russo-Iranian wars.

**Keywords:** Russo-Iranian wars, Convention of Gulistan, Convention of Turkmanchay, Qajar.

## INTRODUCTION

Nineteenth century AD (1799-1879 RIC) was the century of evolution of sovereignty and development of imperialism. Iran, although, has not been the colony of any countries, has always been considered by colonists due to its strategic position. Another thing that made the situation dangerous for Iran was the greedy eyes of Tsarist Russia to Iran to reach the warm waters. In early 18<sup>th</sup> century, Peter the Great formulated a doctrine to develop the northern and southern boundaries of his own territory. Although he failed to implement such a plan, his aspirations were always inspiring the next Tsars.

The testament attributed to Peter the Great indicates that "the countries of Caucasus and the province of Georgia are vital artery of Iran and once the tip of sting of Russian domination touches it the poor blood erupts from the vessel of Iranian government, immediately... you need to capture the countries of Caucasus and Georgia and make Iranian as your servant and obedient handyman without delay." (Nasr, 1984: 187).

But at the time of the powerful Safavid and Afsharieh achieving this goal was not possible for the Russians. Furthermore, the Qajar reign as rose sought to provide a prestige by the same dignity and rank of the safavids for themselves and to accomplish this matter they must begin their conquests in the lands of disbelief and bring back the lands which once were part of the Safavid territories to the country and provide the Jaafari Shiite dominance in those countries. That's why one of the main goals of Agha Mohammad Khan Qajar's expedition to Caucasus in the year 1209 AH was to achieve this purpose.

By the invasion of Russia to Caucasus territories of Iran a long and devastating war began between Iran and Russia which lasted ten years. (Baraati Fariz Hendi, 2008).

These wars that occurred in the time of Fath Ali Shah Qajar the incompetent king of Iran had nothing consequently but unhappiness and destruction for Iran. Despite the efforts and courage of Abbas Mirza, Iranian commander, and his soldiers the tired and worn Iranian army with minimal facilities and equipment was finally succumbed against the advanced Russian artillery and weapons and was receptive to a heavy defeat. Another reason of failure in these wars was lack of a full support from the Court for Abbas Mirza and his army so that, aside from the huge cost of the war, the Iranian court sometimes even hesitated providing the basic needs such as food and clothing for soldiers.

To prevent the advance of the Russians within the borders of Iran, the two sides, brokered by Britain which was afraid of the advance of Russians to southwards and the fall of Iran, signed the Peace Treaty of Gulistan by which, Derbent, Baku, Shirvan, Karabakh and a part of Talysh were separated from Iran and Incorporated to Russia and the Iranian government dropped any claim against Georgia and Dagestan and Abkhazia and Mingrelia. (E'temaadi, 1995)

The conversion of Gulistan did not resolve disputes between the two sides, but the ambiguity existed in the borders between two countries, which was the policy of Russia to gain a pretext for next forays, was underlie to disputes and conflicts again. (Baraati Fariz Hendi, 2008).

The provocations and conspiracies of Russia as well as the intrigues of Abbas Mirza's internal enemies to eliminate him made the fire of another war ignited which was far more detrimental and devastating than the first and had more adverse and horrible consequences and effects for Iran.

In this course, although at times the bravery and sacrifices of Abbas Mirza and Iranian soldiers brought victory for Iranian Corps and Iran succeeded to regain most of the territories of Caucasus, in the first phase of war, but the long war ended against Iran. Iran, on one hand, facing with a shortage of funds for the war and, on the other hand, disappointed from the support from European countries such as France and England, admitted the painful Treaty of Turkmanchay to end the war. Under this treaty, the states of Nakhichevan, Yerevan, some other parts of Talysh, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Shureh Kal were ceded to Russia as well and it was decreed to pay 5 million Tomans for war losses to the Russians by Iran. Aras River was set as the boundary between the two countries and the right for crossing the Caspian Sea was exclusively for Russia.

However, none of the paragraphs in this treaty were as painful and shameful as Russia's enjoyment of the right of capitulation. Accordingly, whenever the Russian nationals committed a crime in Iran, the Russian consul would punish them in accordance with the laws of their country and the government of Iran was not entitled to have any interference in such a case. The matter was one of the worst consequences of Turkmanchay treaty because the European countries were willing to use the same privileges as the Russians. Therefore, a major part of Iran's independence was lost. (Houshang Mahdavi, 2005). Moreover, Russia guaranteed the reign of Abbas Mirza's family through this treaty and although this paragraph seemingly was included to support Abbas Mirza and giving a privilege to him, but actually, Russians opened their hand to interfere in Iran's court through this paragraph and considered a legal right to political interference in Iran. Iran, typically, became a protege of Russia by the Turkmanchay treaty. (Bina, 1969). Thus, the aim of this paper is to investigate the social and political consequences of the war between Iran and Russia and the question in this research is that what consequences and effects the series of wars between Iran and Russia have had?

### ***The political situation of Iran during the Qajar***

The history of Iran's diplomacy and foreign policy on its actual meaning begins since the advent of this dynasty. Although, before transferring the power to the Qajar, the exchange of ambassadors, representatives, and diplomatic delegations took place between the Iranian court and the other world governments particularly European governments, but it was since the early reign of Qajar that the Iran's strategic importance was recognized for the European government and also this country entered into the realm of international politics, actively.

In addition, with the advent of Qajar dynasty, a new era began in the history of our country and Iran walked through the vicissitudinous period of its history. Performance of the rulers of this dynasty in the aspect of foreign policy affected the fate of this country more than any other period. Adopting the reckless and misguided foreign

policies led to ratification of disadvantageous treaties, granting of various concessions to foreigners, barren measures and separation of some parts of auriferous areas from the body of this country which was a part of the disastrous results of the ruling of this dynasty in Iran. During the nearly 150 years of reign, when the Qajar dynasty were set aside from the arena of power and rule they left only half of the Iran which they had taken from the Zand dynasty forcibly.

### ***Wars of Iran and Russia***

Iran's relation with Russia, especially in the reign of Fath Ali Shah Qajar was hostile and had a state of perpetual conflict. The main goal of Russia was to access to the open sea; the other reason of this conflict was encroaching of Russia on the territories of Caucasus the residents of which were demanding autonomy and also on the central and southern Caucasus that were considered as a part of Iran's territory and their inhabitants were pro-Iranian. On the other hand, the people of eastern Caucasus, including Ganja, Shirvan, Talysh, and Baku were pro-Iranian besides being Muslim; and this made the Russians discontent. Georgia was one the main causes of conflict between Iran and Russia, too. Georgia is a green and flourishing fertile region located in the range of mountains of Caucasus and on the eastern shores of Black Sea. From the earliest days of the history of Iran, the Georgian people have been called Iranian in the historical documents. Georgia was captured by Iran at the time of Agha Mohammad Khan. After joining of Georgia to Russia, Fath Ali Shah did so many efforts to get it back.

With the invasion of Russia to the Caucasus territories of Iran the first phase of Russo-Iranian war started in the year 1218 AH. although the first period of these wars was accompanied by the courage of soldiers and the valor of a command such as Abbas Mirza, but for some reasons, Iranian forces failed to manage to counter the attack of the invading enemy and this battle led to a bad ending: Treaty of Gulistan.

With the signing of the Treaty of Gulistan, large parts of the Caucasus cities of our country were ceded to Russia, but soon afterwards using the negligence and undermining of the king of Qajar, Russia began the second period of war with Iran in order to capture a larger area of the territories of this country.

Although the second period of the war was associated with a relative victory of the Iranian side and due to popular jihad by Islamic scholars, a countless number of Iranian men were fighting in the fronts, but this time, due to irregularities prevailing among the leaders mainly caused by "the rival of princes with Abbas Mirza", tiredness and organizational weakness prevailed in Iranian troops and in addition to ceding some other parts of the territory of Caucasus to Russia a large amount of gold and coins were given to that invading enemy.

### ***Results of Convention of Turkmanchay***

Iran, that was an independent state before 1828 and had align and reciprocal political relations with other states, now, by signing this treaty with Russians, became a semi-autonomous government and had to accept the interference of European governors in its internal affairs and therefore, fell in terms of political prestige and figure. After this period, Iran was considered as an independent country anymore and was deprived of the privileges of independence. In addition, it became as a field for economic competition of European countries.

The terms and conditions of Turkmanchay treaty were effective in whole historical currents of Iran in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Within the country, after the peace treaty, feelings of people were motivated against the Russian government of the humiliation and insult that that was taken to the nation and people of Iran so as, in Tehran, the uncontrolled behavior and movements of Gribaydeve, Ambassador of the Russian government, and killing him was almost disrupting peace between the two states. In the provinces, heads of clans and tribes, who were always seeking for a chance to escape from the influence of the central government, took advantage of weakness and inability of the central government and made up revolutions especially in eastern Iran. The commercial treaty of Turkmanchay, on the one hand, damaged Iran's trade and customs revenues and, on the other hand, established a consular judgment regime in Iran.

### ***The effects and consequences of the Russo-Iranian wars***

#### ***a. Murder of Grybaydeve***

The Turkmanchay imposed convention, hurt the morale of the Muslim people of Iran, once again. Simultaneously, Gribaydeve, niece of Tsar of Russia, arrived in Tehran as ambassador to oversee the implementation of the provisions of the convention. One of the provisions of the Turkmanchay treaty was the return of the people of the lands isolated from Iran to those regions. Whereas, a number of Muslim Georgian women who were married in Iran refused to leave their family and return to Georgia. Gribaydeve ordered to take them forcibly to the Russian Embassy and transfer to Georgia. In contrast, Mirza Masih Mujtahid, of the distinguished Clergymen of Tehran, motivated the honor of people through sermons and called them upon to defend the honors of Muslims. So, the people of Tehran went to the Russian Embassy by protest demonstrations. In contrast, the embassy guards shot

people and killed three of them. With this event, people's blood came to a boil, more than ever. They captured the Russian Embassy and killed Gribaydeve and some of his companions. (Shamim, 1995)

#### ***b. The revolutions of Eastern Iran***

Paying compensations and the large amounts of money spent on war contrary to the desire of Fath Ali Shah had led the treasury bankrupted. Tribal leaders that were always seeking for an appropriate opportunity to resist the Central forces took advantage of the financial crisis and the failure of the military and the plight of the government and rebelled against the central government in Eastern Iran.

#### ***c. Trade and customs revenues***

Commercial treaty of Turkmanchay being signed could hurt a lot to Iran's trade and reduced Iranian customs revenues tremendously. In fact, the Turkmanchay trade treaty was the foundation of all relations of Iranian state with the alien states for over a century. Through this century, the Iranian state lost its judicial independence and the foreigner states treated with us as a weak and defeated state.

#### ***d. The issue of Herat and Afghanistan***

In 1249 AH, Abbas Mirza had a mission to retake Herat from Afghanistan. It was unfinished by Abbas Mirza's death on the way of Mashhad. Mohammad Shah Qajar also failed in an attempt to conquer Herat. At the time of Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar, Herat was taken by Dost Mohammad Khan, the ruler of Kabul and Kandahar. Forces of Nasir al-Din Shah, under the command of Hossam al-Saltanah encircled Herat and took the city in the year 1273 AH (1857 AD and 1236 RIC). By invasion of Great Britain to south of Iran and criticality of the relations between Iran and Great Britain, through the treaty of Paris that was signed between Iran's representative and Ambassador of Great Britain in 1273 AH (1857 AD and 1236 RIC) it was agreed that the forces of Great Britain exit from the ports and islands of south and instead, Iran Summoned its troops from Herat and recognized Afghanistan's independence. After the war of Herat, some parts of East Herirud onwards (including Herat) was attached to Afghanistan.

#### ***e. Consular Privileges***

Although business and customs conditions of business treaty of Turkmanchay was disadvantageous, but the judicial privileges of the mentioned treaty were much higher; because the Russian government threatened even the independence of Iran by imposing these provisions.

Establishment of regime of consular judgment in Iran II states to interfere in the legislation and implementation of the rules in Iran. Within a century, Iran was paralyzed in commercial activities. Iran lost its customs autonomy and its judicial independence was ended openly so as, at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was nearly that Iran lose even its nominal independence.

#### ***The socio-political consequences of the Russo-Iranian wars***

Russo-Iranian wars and treaties of Golestan and Turkmanchy are considered as dark and blurred and miserable pages of Iran's history. The loss of large and fertile lands such as southern Caucasus and Georgia and Armenia although was irreparable in terms of land and economy but was tolerable compared to the other provisions of the treaty including Iran's territorial limits and foreclosures in the Caspian Sea and establishing the consular jurisdiction about the Russian citizens that inflicted a severe damage to the political and economic independence of Iran. Russians imposed their political influence on Iran by contracting the treaty of Turkmanchay and it can be said with certainty that one of the reasons of failure of Iran in the Caucasus wars and surrendering of Iranian court against the colonial greed of Russia was the colonial policy of Britain that would always sacrifice the interests of the Iranian people for its own greed.

The Iranian public safety had been disappeared due to the constraints of the Treaty of Gulistan and Turkmanchay and other similar treaties contracted with any outside by the king and his courtiers and because of optimism to foreigners, many of the benefits of the country were given to them. Separation of Herat and Afghanistan and then granting countless concessions such as the concession of Reuter and establishment of telegraph lines, the concession of Imperial Bank, the concession of shipping within the Karun River to UK and possess Merv, Khiva, Bukhara, and other districts of Turkestan as well as the island Ashuradeh in the Caspian Sea by Russia and taking advantage from concessions such as exclusive exploitation of fishing centers on the coast of the Caspian Sea in Iran and fishing operation in the port of Anzali and its surroundings, the concession of establishing of the telegraph cable to Tabriz, the concession of establishing borrowing bank of Russia, bringing the Iranian armed forces under the authority of the Russians by forming the Kazakh Briguard, the concession of constructing the Gravel road between

Bandar Anzali and Qazvin by Russia and many other minor and major concessions that overwhelmed the economic and political power of Iran, totally, were some the ominous consequences of Russia's war with Iran and imposing the two treaties of Gulistan and Turkmanchay.

#### ***f.Revealing the power of the people***

One of the measures of Gribaydeve that stimulated many objections was to insist on the Extradition of the Caucasian and Georgian refugees and deserters to Russia. Among these refugees, there were a large number of women who became Muslim in Iran and married the Iranian men and had been confined in the Russian Embassy by the urging of Gribaydeve. His disregard to the appeals for freedom of Muslim women led the people's patience ended and eventually, by the ruling of Haji MiRza Masih Mujtahid a flood of crowd stormed to Russian Embassy. Embassy guards killed one of the protesters and it was a declaration of war to the Muslim people of Iran that were followed by public rush to the embassy and killing Gribaydeve and the embassy guards. Uprising of Tehran' people against Gribaydeve, the representative and epitome of the Russian arrogance, was a response to the greed of Russia and humiliation taking of some Iranian politicians in this incident and also revealed that the people of Iran had not lost their anti-enemy morale despite bearing the two periods of heavy war along with defeat and if not for the imprudence of the King and the commitment of some government officials, the fate of the war between Iran and Russia would not lead to concluding the two disgraceful treaty of Gulistan and Turkmanchay.

#### ***g.Constitutional Movement***

In intellectual and political environment of Qajar, a number of uprisings and movements are witnessed. These movements and uprisings, including the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century, were always against the tyranny and oppression of the ruling class that were accompanied by the awakening of the masses of poor people and their resistance or direct participation in these uprisings and promised the rapid decadence and disintegration of the ruling regime. (Varahram, 2006: 420).

Constitutional Movement of Iran occurred in the first decade of the 20th century, almost simultaneously with many historical movements in other countries. Although each of these movements and historical events were not directly involved in the constitutional events, but their effect on constitutional events could not be ignored.

Iran's defeats against both the Russians and the British and the political competition between those two governments were as introduction to awakening of people and the constitutionalism revolution.

#### ***h.Entrance of Shiite clerics in the arena of policy***

Specific location of Iran threatened it from different perspectives to be occupied by one of the two superpowers, Britain and Russia. However, Iran is one of the few Muslim and Third World countries that never has been the colony of any superpower despite bearing the pressure of imposed contracts of colonizers on its shoulders time and again. The main cause of this, is the nature of the Shiite and its political doctrines that prevent the tyranny taking. The religious scholars not only were the promoters of these doctrines but also were of the operators and honor takers to them. They have been a "symbol of awareness and resistance" to external and internal threats.

Wars of Iran and Russia can be seen as an important milestone in the process of entering of Shiite clerics in the political arena. The most important feature of this stage is that scholars' entering in politics was outside the framework of the state and Shia mujtahids had been for first time faced with a hostile power out of religion. Accompaniment of a number of Shia scholars with Safavid kings at war with the Ottoman Empire took place in the political equation within the Muslim world, somehow, but their fatwas in the war with Russia and the stand and physical presence of some of them in the arena of the battle were arose from a sense of religious honor and defend the honor of Islam and Muslims. Reviewing some of the theoretical and practical presence of Shia Clergymen in the war with Russia that, in some cases, was by the request from the King and officials, the true revolutionary and fighting face of Shiite clergy can be met.

#### ***i.Changing dealing with aliens***

The most little result of Turkmanchay Convention was creating a sense of inferiority among the Iranians. (Ra'ee Golvajh, 2001: 34). In this deal, especially with giving the concession of capitulation to Russia, the Iranian individual was humiliated but he could not do anything. This humiliation demonstrated itself at least in the kind of confrontation of Iranians with the aliens after the contract. Abrahamian has written about the encounter of Iranians with aliens before the deal: "In the first half of the century, Europeans like Ouzly, Maurier, and Shale were presented freely in prayer, mosques, Ta'zieh and even those mourning. In addition, Christian minorities established their schools, publishing houses and churches freely without encountering much opposition by government or Muslim people. Even religious leaders thanked to a religious missionary due to opening a door to religious debate between Islam and

Christianity. Western travelers were not almost encountered with hostility by the people. Konoli writes after residence in the holy city of Mashhad: 'H did not see any negative behavior. Every day, all over the city was below my feet and I was never in the slightest offensive'. Shale witnessed 'disbelief, monotheism and religious freedom' across the country. Monsieur Tankwine, a French diplomat, reports that 'I have never heard anything in attack to our religion, even in the lowest classes'. But this atmosphere changed gradually as a result of wars with foreigners and especially after the humiliating treaty of Turkmanchay". (Abrahamian, 2000).

#### ***j.Awareness of the Iranian nation of its power in dealing with foreigners***

The crowning achievement of Russo-Iranian wars can be considered as the Iranian nation's awareness of their ability in dealing with foreigners without relying on the government and only with the support of religious authorities that afterwards, has always given a specific face to the presence of Iranian people in the field of combatting alien and has been a factor of his strengthening and success.

The specific behavior of Russian Gribaydeve, who had come to Iran to implement the Turkmanchay treaty and as the super ambassador and minister plenipotentiary of the Russian tsarist government, intensified the change in the behavior of the Iranians towards the outsiders. (Abrahamian, 2000).

#### ***k.Changing the identity of the Caucasus population***

Domination of Russia on the Caucasus had pretty awful consequences. Immediately after the occupation of these lands, they attempted to destroy the native culture and national languages. With the signing of the treaties of Gulistan and Turkmanchay, a lot of pressure was implemented on the Muslim people of the region from the Russians and a large number of Muslims were forced to emigrate to Iran. People were prohibited from teaching and speaking in their native language. Mosques were destroyed and to invent a false identity, Christianity was being promoted. The combination of nationalities in the Caucasus was cluttered to prevent ethnic and national unity.

#### ***l.Changing the lifestyles of Iranians***

Russo-Iranian wars made a break in a phase of the Iranian history. Iran was entered a new phase of its history in which the people's view about the life had changed. In fact, Iran, with the new position where it was, saw itself in need of a new identity in which it has not feelings of inferiority from the alien state. A new style of living was required to this new identity to be able to meet this new need and what is ahead. Although the starting point for changes in Iranians' lifestyle began from uniforms and military equipment, but was not limited to that place and entered into the other social arenas of Iranians, gradually and swept through the Iranians' living space.

## **CONCLUSION**

Iran's long history is full of successes and failures, sweets and bitterness, and the ups and downs that outcome of all of them up to now has been the continuation of a dynamic and coherent identity. One of the interesting points in the study of the history of Iran is that despite the disappearance of many of the past important events of the historical memory of the people of this country under the rubble of time, some of these events had such a strong role in shaping the historical destiny of Iran that have remained as the high reliefs on the forehead of the eventful history of this land.

One of these featured events is the Russo-Iranian wars in the first three decades of 19<sup>th</sup> century that led to the separation of Iranian territories in Caucasus and the annexation of them to Russia, by the acceptance of the Treaty of Gulistan (29 Shawwal 1228 AH/ 1813 AD), following the defeat in Aslanduz, and the Treaty of Turkmanchay (5 Sha'ban 1243 AH/ February 21, 1828 AD), following the defeat in Ganja and of course, not only during the event but also, until today, after nearly two centuries, it has been still left such a fresh mark on the body of Iran. Not to heal of this wound despite passing a long time of the happening of the mentioned events has many reasons that has always been one of the favorite subjects of the Iranian history for researchers and probably will be in the future.

Obviously, in the study of the origins and consequences of the defeats of Iranians in the Caucasus wars, consideration of historical progress of contractions and expansions of Iranian territory in the two centuries leading up to these unfortunate events has an undeniable necessity.

To lessen the land borders of Iran to its current boundaries and Iran's defeats in the war with Russia in the Caucasus became an arena for motivating the emotions of the populace and bringing the elites to the field that although is discussable itself but on the other hand, clearly shows the importance of Caucasus and of course the bitterness of defeats of Iran against the tsarist Russia during the mentioned time. What is discussed here, is a brief explanation of how to reproduce and extend some of threats and problems caused by the defeats of Iran against Russia in

Caucasus wars up to now, which can be itself a witness for the collective subconsciously consciousness of a nation who were aware of the significance and criticality of these defeats and their consequences on the country by acumen.

By the end of the first phase of Russo-Iranian wars and the imposition of the Treaty of Gulistan, Iranians were forced to ignore their territorial claims over a large part of their territories in the Caucasus and Russians, in addition to sow dissension between the Iranians and the Christian Georgian citizens and a part of their Armenian citizens, in fact, took a large part of the Muslims of the north and south Caucasus, that, over the centuries, had felt the oneness and connection with their Iranian brothers, under their own domination.

One of the phenomena that distinguished the second round of Russo-Iranian wars than any previous battle of Iranians in a large extent was the call of Top Shiite religious figures of the people for Jihad against the Russian occupiers and the presence of some of these figures in the battle front that of course by motivating the religious sentiments of the people led to dramatic victories initially.

This reaction of Islamic scholars and their presence on the battlefield was actually a reaction against the dominance on the mainly Shia people of Aran (Khanat Badkubeh, Shaki, Shervan, Darband, Guba and Karabakh) by the Christian Russian dominators. A phenomenon that was unprecedented in the historical memory of the Iranians.

Based on the Gulistan Treaty, the King of Iran had granted the Muslim lands to the non-Muslim dominators and silence was not permitted against the Muslim Caucasus people's cries of justice.

Therefore, in a short time, the will and motivation to regain the occupied territories fulfilled in a common effort and resolve between the common people and the elites and the second phase of Russo-Iranian wars was began by the Iranians that was, unfortunately, followed by a sad and bitter ending. However, it should be noted that, the progressive power of Russia, even if Iranians did not begin the war, sooner or later would open its way towards the Aras. But in the meantime, continuing of the bitterness of these defeats added over its tragic aspects by itself.

After the consolidation of the rule of tsarist Russia in the Caucasus, Russians who knew by acumen that they could not do anything by the presence of Persian language and the persistence of deep roots of Iranian culture in the Caucasus, attempted, seriously, to cut the roots and destruction of the manifestations of Persian culture and civilization in the Muslim and Christian lands of Caucasus and of course these prowling found border aspects in Aran. Naturally, Russianization of the Muslim areas, where had a stronger bonds with their home land, was harder and more important. Hence, the Tsarist system brought the historical distortions to its aggressive service. Of course, it is interesting that the strategic situation of Caucasus and in particular the region of Aran had such importance that Lenin, who was brought to power with the slogan of liberty for nations, manifested the first deviation from his proclaimed ideals in the occupation of Baku.

The process of the event during the Soviet Union's time clearly revealed that the Soviet Union's policy in Caucasus had no substantial difference with the policy of the Tsarist Empire and the same distortions and the same approaches continued. The distortions that can be observed significantly in changing the name of Aran to Azerbaijan in 1918 AD and generalization of the deal between Iran and the Tsarist Russia on the division of integrated Azerbaijan into 2 parts of north and south according to the Treaties of Gulistan and Turkmanchay. The distortions that, like salt, refreshes the wound of the Iranians in Caucasus and notes that the loss of Iranian territories in the Caucasus, not the last scene of a tragedy but has been a start for the series of new threats against Iran and the integrity of this country.

Based on the findings, the results and consequences of Russo-Iranian wars can be described as follows: The political consequences of the Russo-Iranian wars are the Constitutional Movement and reveal of the weakness and degeneration of the Qajar and Shiite clerics entering into the arena of politics.

Among the social consequences of Russo-Iranian wars, the revealing the power of people, change in the behavior with foreigners, awareness of the Iranian nation of their ability to confront with foreigners and the feeling of frustration that lasted a hundred years later in the Iranians can be considered.

The cultural consequence of the Russo-Iranian wars is the change in the lifestyle of the people of Iran.

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