

**CENTRE FOR WEST ASIAN STUDIES
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI - 110067.**

Ph.D. Course

Course No.	: WA 622
Course Title	: Interventions in West Asia and North Africa (WANA)
Course Teacher	: Dr. Vrushal T. Ghoble
Credits	04
Instruction Method	: Lectures / Seminars / Tutorials
Evaluation Method	: Sessional Work and Semester Examination
Course Duration	: One Semester
Contact Hours	: 04 Hours Per Week
Semester	: First Semester (Monsoon)

OVERVIEW:

'Intervention' is usually understood by intrusion in a given territory or domestic affairs of any state; mostly by force. A forceful occupation of land has been taking place since ages - since the colonial times. Until, the United Nations denounced interference in affairs of foreign land and respect sovereignty. Numerous cases show violations. The region since then has been facing political and socio-economic crisis, which also factors security challenges for the countries in the region. The changes are effects of the changing dynamics and rivalry within the countries. The West's interference in the region is well known historically - Iran - Iraq War (1980 - 88), Iraq (2003), etc. to name a few. In many cases, the Western interference in the region has proved to be complex, resulting in social, political and economic chaos.

This course will provide a sound basis for understanding of the region West Asia and North Africa (WANA) and its development at the behest of intervention from regional and foreign actors. The course will be crucial for the students to critically analyse and have a nuanced understanding of the geopolitical changes in the region. The course will help students understand the West's 'imperial' or 'strategic' interest in the region.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The course seeks to achieve the following learning outcomes: to develop research skills in the learners to undertake rigorous and cutting-edge research in domain-specific or related ones; encourage analytical and critical thinking among the learners to expand their depth in the field; and to broaden the learners' scope of knowledge and open up new avenues for innovative research.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY & EVALUATION:

The course will be in a format of lecturing, seminars, and discussion. The sessions will be taught in an interactive manner. Student participation is necessary. Each student will be graded through examination and assignments. Class participation will also be considered in evaluating student's performance.

I. Meaning and Concepts

- Westphalian order
- Pre-emptive war
- Preventive war
- Just War theory
- Responsibility to Protect (RTP)
- Intervention and Invasion

II. Interventions

- Tools of Intervention
- Geopolitics and Interventions
- Fragile state structures

III. Regional Interventions

- Syrian intervention in Lebanon (1976)
- Iran in Syria (2011)
- Saudi Arabia's intervention in Bahrain (2011)
- Turkey in Iraq, Syria and Libya
- Qatar crisis
- Yemen crisis
- Hezbollah, Houthi's and Hamas – Israel Conflict (2023 - 24)

IV. External Interventionist Role in West Asia and North Africa (WANA)

- France and Britain's policy towards the region
- Saudi Arabia, US and security application
- Iran during WWII
- US in Iraq (2003)
- External actors in Libya (post 2011)
- External actors and the Yemen crisis (2017)
- External actors and the Syrian crisis (post 2011)
- China's engagement: BRI

SUGGESTED READING LIST

General Reading:

Barr, James (2012), "A Line in the Sand: Britain, France and the struggle that shaped the Middle East", Simon & Schuster: UK.

Davis, Michael C., et. al. (2004), "International Intervention in the Post–Cold War World", Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe.

Gause, F. Gregory (July 2014), 'Beyond Sectarianism: The New Middle East Cold War', *Brookings Doha Center Analysis Paper*, no. 11, See <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/English-PDF-1.pdf>

Gray, Colin S. (2013), "Perspectives on Strategy", Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ghoble, Vrushal T. (2023), "West Asia and the World: Geopolitical Shifts, Multipolarity and Energy Development", Primus Books: Delhi, India.

Haass, Richard (2017), "A World in Disarray: American Foreign Policy and the Crisis of the Old Order", Penguin Press: UK.

Meaning and Concepts:

Boniface, Pascal (2003), "What Justifies Regime Change?", *Washington Quarterly*, 26(3): 61-71.

Croxton, Derek (2013), "Westphalia: The Last Christian Peace", Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Evans, Mark (eds.) (2005), "Just War Theory: A Reappraisal", Palgrave publishers: USA.

Fotion, Nicholas (2017), "War and Ethics: A New Just War Theory", India: Bloomsbury Academic India.

Milton, Patrick, Michael Axworthy and Brendan Simms (2018), "Towards A Westphalia for the Middle East", C Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd.

Interventions:

Kamrava, Mehran (2018), "Multipolarity and Instability in the Middle East", *Orbis*, vol. 62, no. 4. Pp. 598-616.

Kemp, Geoffrey and Robert E. Harkavy (1997), "Strategic Geography and the Changing Middle East", Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in cooperation with Brookings Institution Press.

Santini, Ruth Hanau (2017), "A New Regional Cold War in the Middle East and North Africa: Regional Security Complex Theory Revisited", *The International Spectator*, vol. 52, no. 4. Pp. 93-111.

Schraeder, J. Peter (Eds.) (1992), "Intervention into the 1990s: US Foreign Policy in the Third World", Lynne Rienner Publishers: USA.

Scholvin, Soren (2016), "Geopolitics: An Overview of Concepts and Empirical Examples from International Relations", 91 FIIA Working Paper, *The Finnish Institute of International Affairs*, 2016. See <https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/196701/wp91-Geopolitics.pdf>

Regional Interventions:

Agwani, M.S. (1965), "The Lebanese Crisis, 1958 a Documentary Study", Asia Publishing House: London.

Attie, C. C. (2004), "Struggle in the Levant", Kings Lynn: The Centre for Lebanese Studies, Oxford.

Christopher, Phillips (2016), "The Battle for Syria: International Rivalry in the New Middle East", Yale University Press: US.

Erlich, Reese (2016), "Inside Syria: The Backstory of Their Civil War and What the World Can Expect", Prometheus Books: New York.

Hughes, Geraint Alun (2014) "Syria and the perils of proxy warfare", *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 25:3, 522-538.

Hill, Ginny (2017), "Yemen Endures: Civil War, Saudi Adventurism and the Future of Arabia", Oxford University Press: UK.

Kamrava, Mehran (2013), "Qatar: Small State, Big Politics", Cornell University Press: USA.

Lawson, Fred H. (Summer 1984), "Syria's intervention in the Lebanese civil war, 1976: a domestic conflict explanation", *International Organization*, Volume 38, Issue 3, pp. 451 - 480.

Lackner, Helen (2017), "Yemen in Crisis: Autocracy, Neo-Liberalism and the Disintegration of a State", Saqi Books: UK.

Nichols, A. David (2012), "Eisenhower 1956: The President's Year of Crisis-Suez and the Brink of War", Simon & Schuster: New York.

Project On Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) (October 2017), "The Qatar Crisis October 2017", POMEPS Briefings 31. Available at: https://pomeps.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/POMEPS_GCC_Qatar-Crisis.pdf

Turner, Barry (2006), "Suez 1956: The Inside Story of the First Oil War", Great Britain: Hodder & Stoughton.

External Interventionist Role in West Asia and North Africa (WANA):

Cramer, Jane K. and A. Trevor Thrall (ed.) (2012), "Why Did the United States Invade Iraq?", Routledge: US & Canada.

Ghoble, Vrushal T. (2015), "Making of Syrian Crisis: The Energy Factor", *International Studies*, 52(1-4):38-52.

Holliday, J. (2011). *The struggle for Syria in 2011* (Middle East Security Report No. 2), Institute for the Study of War. Available at, http://www.understandingwar.org/sites/default/files/Struggle_For_Syria.pdf

Haass, Richard N. (1999), "Intervention: The Use of American Military Force in the Post-Cold War World", Brookings Institution Press: Washington, DC.

Heinze, Marie-Christine (2018), "Yemen and the Search for Stability: Power, Politics and Society after the Arab Spring", London: I. B. Tauris.

Leitenberg, Milton and Gabriel Sheffer (Ed.) (1979), "Great Power Intervention in the Middle East", Pergamon Policy Studies, Pergamon Press: USA.

Lobban, Richard A. and Chris H. Dalton (2014), "Libya: History and Revolution", Praeger Security International: US.

Monroe, Elizabeth (1981), "Britain's Moment in the Middle East, 1914-1971", Johns Hopkins University Press: US.

Petersen, Tore (2015), "Anglo-American Policy toward the Persian Gulf, 1978–1985: Power, Influence and Restraint", Sussex Academic Press: US.
