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ORIENTALISM BETWEEN IRAQ INVASION IN 2003 AND GENCOIDE ON GAZA IN 2023

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Abstract

Background: This research paper explores how Orientalism is used to shape political narratives and discourses in contemporary conflicts, focusing on the invasion of Iraq 2003 and the genocidal war on Gaza 2023. The paper argues that Orientalism is not only a cultural discourse but a political tool that structures projects and plans through an Orientalist lens to serve political and economic goals. The main question is how Orientalism was used in US and Israeli policies and military campaigns after 9/11/2001 and October 7th, 2023.

Objectives: The main objective of this research is to highlight the use of Orientalism in transferring political conflicts into cultural conflicts by setting the basis for the conflicts and built an Orientalist framework that serves their political and economic goals, while marginalizing historical and geopolitical facts and justifying their illegal actions and extreme violence used in shock doctrine and constructive chaos. By comparing the discourse about Iraq and Gaza, the study seeks to reveal a strategic pattern used to demonstrate conflicts and justify actions based on Orientalism to achieve broader political and economic goals.

Methods: The research adopts a qualitative research approach based on discourse analysis of political speeches, political narratives, and policies frameworks, focusing on George W. Bush's administration and Benjamin Netanyahu's government. It also draws upon scholars' ideas to demonstrate Orientalism and the theoretical framework of this paper.

Results: The initial findings suggest that both cases reveal a pattern of Orientalism used to present both conflicts that led to simplifying the context and presenting it as a cultural conflict in addition to normalizing extreme violence and strategies of shock and chaos, which allow them to achieve their political and economic goals.



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Conclusion: The study concludes that Orientalism remains a powerful tool in contemporary era and is used alongside political and economic strategies to achieve broader goals.

Key Words: Orientalism/ shock doctrine/ constructive chaos/ terrorism.

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