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Campbell-Bennerman Conference 1907 and the disintegration of the Arab region is a reality and stakes

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Abstract:

The Arab region is considered one of the most prominent regions that received great attention from the major colonial powers, especially Britain, France, America, and Russia, due to the geographical, economic, and strategic importance it enjoys. The Campbell-Bennerman Conference of 1907 AD was considered the first nucleus of the colonial projects that fragmented the Arab region, and the fight against its liberation and unionist movements. . Which is considered the basic nucleus for the emergence of various colonial projects in the region, and the change of the political map of the Arab countries in accordance with what was stated in the Treaty of Sèvres and Lausanne within the framework of settling the situation. After World War I which ended the Ottoman Caliphate, colonial projects were overwhelmed, the first of which was the Campbell-Bennerman Conference, which was considered the most dangerous of these projects, To achieve the colonial states' goals in the region, the conference participants devised a plan to ensure their continued presence and control.so The Campbell-Bannerman plan had a significant impact on Arab countries and served as the core for subsequent agreements such as the Sykes-Picot Agreement. the Balfour Declaration, the Versailles Conference, the San Remo Conference. These agreements, arising from the conference, divided the Arab world at the time and opposed any unifying

direction. What was the most important thing in it? What did the conferences result in? What are its repercussions on the Arab region?

Keywords: colonial projects, fragmentation, the Arab world, liberation movement, Campbell Conference, project plan.

- Abstract in French:

La région arabe est considérée comme l'une des régions les plus importantes qui a reçu une grande attention de la part des grandes puissances coloniales, notamment la Grande-Bretagne, la France, l'Amérique et la Russie, en raison de l'importance géographique, économique et stratégique dont elle jouit. L'année 1907 est considérée comme le premier noyau des projets coloniaux qui ont fragmenté la région arabe et de la lutte contre ses mouvements de libération et unionistes. Considéré comme le noyau de base de l'émergence de divers projets coloniaux dans la région, parmi lesquels : l'accord Sykes-Picot, la déclaration Balfour et enfin la conférence de San Remo, qui a tracé la carte politique, et est considérée, après l'effondrement de l'Empire ottoman et le changement de la carte politique des pays arabes conformément à ce qui était énoncé dans le Traité de Sèvres et de Lausanne dans le cadre du règlement de la situation. Après la Première Guerre mondiale, qui a mis fin au califat ottoman, les projets coloniaux ont été Le premier d'entre eux fut la conférence Campbell-Bennerman, considérée comme le plus dangereux de ces projets. Quels ont été les résultats des conférences ? Quelles sont ses répercussions sur la région arabe ?

Mots clés : Conférence Campbell, fragmentation, monde arabe, mouvement de libération, plan de projet, projets coloniaux.

- Abstract in Arabic:

تعتبر المنطقة العربية من أهم الأقاليم الحيوية والمهمة في العالم ، إذ تحتل مكانة بارزة على المستوى الدولي ، وذلك بسبب العديد من العوامل التي زادت من أهميتها ، حيث اهتمت بها العديد من الدول العظمى على غرار بريطانيا ، فرنسا وروسيا وغيرها ، وكونها تمتاز بمكانة جغرافية هامة وقيمة

حضارية كبيرة، وثروات اقتصادية متعددة ، فبالإضافة إلى قيمتها التاريخية منذ القدم كانت الإمبراطوريات القوية تتطلع بأن تحصل على موضع قدم في هذه المنطقة ، وخلال القرن (19م) ومطلع القرن (20م) كانت الأقطار العربية محط أطماع الدول الاستعمارية الكبرى وخاصة الأوروبية منها، فقد كانت معظم الدول العربية تحت السلطة العثمانية حينها، وبعد تسارع الأحداث وتشابك المصالح الاستعمارية تم وضع هذه الدول على خارطة الأطماع الأوروبية خاصة بريطانيا وفرنسا، من خلال سعهما لاقتسام تركة الدولة العثمانية، وذلك بعقد العديد من المؤتمرات وتوقيع المعاهدات والاتفاقيات بهدف تفكيك المنطقة العربية، وذلك عن طريق زرع الكيان الصهيوني في قلب الوطن العربي، والتي مهدت لقيامه، وكان أول مؤتمر عقد لتفكيك المنطقة العربية هو مؤتمر كامبل بنزمان (1907م)، والذي يعد بمثابة النواة الأولى للمشاريع الاستعمارية المفتتة للمنطقة العربية، ومحاربة حركاتها التحريرية والوحدوية. وعليه ترتكز مختلف المشاريع الاستعمارية في المنطقة كاتفاقية سايكس بيكو، وعد بلفور، وأخيراً مؤتمر سان ريمو الذي رسم الخارطة السياسية للبلاد العربية بمقتضى ما جاء في معاهدي سيفر ولوزان، في إطار تسوية الأوضاع ما بعد الحرب العالمية الأولى والتي أنهت الخلافة العثمانية من على الخارطة السياسية، لهذا يعد مؤتمر كامبل بنزمان أخطر هذه المشاريع والمخططات الاستعمارية، وتنصب أهمية الدراسة في هذه الورقة البحثية حول مؤتمر كامبل بنزمان (1907) وتداعياته على المنطقة العربية في وقتنا الراهن.

- **Keywords:** المشاريع الاستعمارية ،تجزئة. جيو-استراتيجي، حركة تحريرية، مخطط مشروع. الوطن العربي، مؤتمر كامبل.

- **Introduction:**

The Arab countries witnessed numerous significant and notable events and developments during the 19th and 20th centuries. These events were characterized by French and British competition for control over the Arab lands. Each of these colonial powers attempted to seize and dominate the region by exploiting its wealth and resources. The interest of these powers in the region can be attributed to its geographical, economic, and strategic significance. They took advantage of the weakening Ottoman Empire and the discovery of oil in the Arab countries. Various political and military events emerged, leading

to changes in the region's political landscape in the early 20th century. The central problem addressed in this research paper is: To what extent did the 1907 Campbell-Bannerman Conference influence the fragmentation and disintegration of the Arab region? And what are its implications for the Arab region today?

This article relies on a historical approach as the most suitable method for narrating historical events and facts. It also employs an analytical approach to delve deeper into the analysis of the events and developments in the region from the late 19th century to the early 20th century to provide a comprehensive study on this research topic.

1-Geographical Importance of the Arab World:

The Arab region is a vital part of the Middle East, covering a vast area from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arabian Gulf. It spans approximately 13 million square kilometers and includes the majority of Western Asia and North Africa. Its strategic location is characterized by the presence of important seas such as the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea, and the Arabian Gulf. These seas are connected to global maritime routes in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The Arab world is surrounded by natural borders, with the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the deserts of the Sahara and the Arabian Desert to the south, and the Arabian Gulf to the east. Its western boundary is the Atlantic Ocean.

The Arab region's astronomical location extends between latitude 2° south and 37° north and between longitude 17° west and 60° east.

The Arab world is divided into five natural regions distinguished by their location, surface, vegetation, climate, and population activity:

1. The Fertile Crescent Region: This region includes Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraq. It is a geographically distinct unit located between the Zagros Mountains to the east and the Mediterranean coast to the west, with the southern margins of the Anatolian Plateau to the north and the Arabian Peninsula's deserts to the south.

2. **The Arabian Peninsula Region:** The Arabian Peninsula occupies a large area, with a significant portion being desert regions like the Syrian Desert, the Empty Quarter, and the Rub' al Khali. Some of these deserts have fertile soil that can support agriculture after rain, making them suitable grazing grounds for livestock.
3. **The Maghreb Region:** This region covers about 4.7 million square kilometers and spans from the Atlantic Ocean to the eastern border of Libya and Egypt. Geographically, it is known as the "Island of Arabia."
4. **The Nile Basin Region:** This region includes Egypt and Sudan and is characterized by the Nile River's course through these two political units. The Nile River's importance has contributed to the regional unity of this area.
5. **The Horn of Africa:** This region includes Somalia and Djibouti, situated on the Arabian side of the African continent. It is strategically located near critical maritime routes in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea.

The Arab world is home to a diverse human population, characterized by various religions and cultures, yet united by a common language. It includes non-Arab communities in the northeastern regions of Iraq, as well as Arab communities outside the Arab world, such as Arabistan under Iranian control.

The Arab world boasts numerous water resources, leading to a variety of agricultural crops, from vegetables to grains, thanks to its diverse climate. It also has control over major international waterways, including the Suez Canal, the Bab-el-Mandeb, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Strait of Gibraltar.

2- Economic Importance of the Arab World:

The Arab world's geological diversity leads to a variety of mineral resources. However, the region's economic significance increased significantly with the discovery of oil. It plays a vital role in international trade, accounting for over 20% of global trade.

Agriculture is the backbone of the Arab world, supporting its economy and providing a livelihood for the region's population. Agriculture varies from cotton farming to mulberry tree cultivation, in addition to grain production, reflecting the region's diverse climate.

The Arab world hosts diverse industries, including shipbuilding, textile manufacturing, and more.

The Arab region's strategic importance, natural resources, and economic significance have made it a focal point of interest and competition among major international political powers.

3- The Strategic Importance of the Arab World:

Geopolitical thinkers and experts classify the Arab region within a strategic framework with political dimensions, known as the Middle East since the early 20th century. They consider it one of the most important regions in the world due to its unparalleled geostrategic significance (Ghanem, 2011, p. 1)

All studies about the Arab region have demonstrated that it is considered the heart of the ancient world. This is due to its containment of the Mediterranean Sea, which is one of the most important navigation routes. Moreover, it occupies a vital strategic position as it connects three continents: Asia, Africa, and Europe, allowing it to serve as a bridge between the West and the East.

The Arab world possesses crucial waterways that connect continents, reducing distances and holding significant importance in both trade and military strategy. Furthermore, it boasts abundant natural resources, mineral wealth, extensive agricultural lands, and vast geographical territory, making it a vital strategic center, especially after the opening of the Suez Canal (Piper, No date, p. 353).

The geostrategic characteristics that the Arab world possesses have played a pivotal role in making it of paramount importance, not only in global transportation but also due to its geographic significance and the resources it contains. Additionally, it controls

international maritime passages through the Suez Canal. (Abdulwahab, No date, p. 807) and the Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits, both of which are strategic passages located within Turkish territory. The Bosphorus connects the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara, while the Dardanelles links the Sea of Marmara to the Aegean Sea, which, in turn, connects to the Mediterranean Sea, making it a key maritime route connecting various European and Asian countries (Ahmed, 2010, p. 431).

Hormuz Strait is considered the most geopolitically significant strait, connecting the Arabian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, and the Persian Gulf, situated between Iran and Oman. Its importance lies in the competition between the United States and the former Soviet Union to control it and establish military bases. Moreover, over 50 oil tankers pass through it daily (Ibrahim, p. 55). It has a distinctive feature that sets it apart from other straits: its narrowness, which allows for the planting of mines, potentially blocking the flow of more than 18 million barrels of oil daily. This grants it immense strategic importance. Furthermore, around 30% of the world's liquefied natural gas supplies pass through it (Mazouzi Abla, 2018, p. 31)

In addition to the importance of these vital waterways that serve as connectors between global regions, colonial powers are likely to contemplate seriously about controlling them. This will be discussed further in this article.

Therefore, the Arab world is rich in natural resources that have given it political and strategic significance in various aspects (economically and militarily). This strengthens its regional influence and enhances its impact on the international community, drawing the attention of Western colonial powers.

4- The General Situation of the Arab World at the Beginning of the 20th Century:

As the 19th century came to an end and the 20th century began, weakness and decline pervaded the Ottoman Empire. These factors contributed to its fall. Most Arab countries were under Ottoman rule due to several political factors such as the weakness of

central authority resulting from the rule of weak sultans, rampant corruption, and the failure of reforms during the 19th century, as well as the abolition of the constitution by Sultan Abdulhamid II and the Union Society coup against him (Rafat, No date, p. 15)

The internal disturbances intensified due to the Ottoman government's Tanzimat policy. Moreover, the loss of Ottoman influence in several areas, including the Balkans and North Africa, led to increasing European colonial pressures on the Ottoman Empire, further weakening it and rendering it politically fragile (Ali, 2001, p. 551). Additionally, there was a strong opposition from Arab nationals to the Ottoman government's policies.

As the internal situation deteriorated for the Ottoman Empire, European colonial powers, especially France and Britain, seized the opportunity to exploit this situation and advance their interests in the Arab world by occupying Algeria (1830), Tunisia (1881), Egypt (1882), and Libya (1911). Various regions experienced separatist movements, such as Greece (1928), Romania and Serbia (1878), Albania, and Bulgaria (1912). The scope of Ottoman influence narrowed down to the Anatolian Peninsula, the Levant, Mesopotamia, and the Hijaz.

The outbreak of World War I expedited the fall of the Ottoman Empire, and Britain attempted to weaken it by encouraging revolts within the empire. This was done by exploiting the discontent and anger of non-Turkish nationalities due to the Tanzimat policy. One of the most famous of these revolts was the Great Arab Revolt, led by Sharif Hussein in 1916, which severed ties between the Ottoman state and the Arab homeland. The Arab revolt continued to achieve its goals and significant victories against the Ottomans, liberating the lands of Greater Syria, and Prince Faisal, the son of Sharif Hussein, established an Arab government in Damascus composed of Syrians, Iraqis, Palestinians, and Lebanese (Taha, No date, p. 168).

5- The Campbell-Bannerman Conference (1907):

At a time when Arabs were pursuing their goal of establishing an independent Arab state, Britain was working to make Arabs mere instruments for its colonization efforts. This was achieved through a plan to partition the Ottoman Empire in collaboration with its ally France and Russia. Britain held negotiations in London with the French government to establish agreements and conferences, which would be a painful blow to the Arab people in general and to Sharif Hussein in particular (Shafiq, No date, p. 60). The first of these conferences was the Campbell-Bannerman Conference, which can be considered the core of the colonial projects that would divide the Arab homeland and subject it to colonial rule. The intentions of European colonial powers were based on dismembering and disintegrating Arab lands, particularly after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and the change in the political map of the Arab world following the Treaty of Sèvres and the Treaty of Lausanne, which ended the Ottoman Caliphate.

The colonial projects dominated the region, with the Campbell-Bannerman Conference (1907) being the core of these projects. What were the key outcomes of this conference, and what were its implications for the Arab region?

6- The Course of the Plan:

Since the sun never sets on the British Empire, it aimed to secure and protect the routes leading to its colonies. In particular, there was intense competition among European colonial powers in 1904-1905 to divide influence zones in the Arab world, especially after the fall of the Ottoman Empire. This led to the development of plans to confront this competition (Ibrahim Khalil, p. 78). As Britain was one of the most powerful colonial countries in the world in 1904 and in 1905, the Conservative Party proposed holding a secret conference in the form of study sessions (Saleh bin Mahmoud, 2010, p. 278).

6-1- Opening of the Conference:

Mr. Bannerman opened the conference with a lengthy speech in which he stated: "... Empires rise and expand, become strong, stabilize to a certain extent, then gradually dissolve and disappear. History is filled with such developments, and it remains the same for every renaissance and nation. There were empires like Rome, Athens, India, and China, and before them, Babylon, Assyria, and the Pharaohs, among others. Do they have reasons or means that can prevent the fall and collapse of European colonialism or delay its fate? Europe has now reached its peak, and it has become an old continent that has exhausted its resources and interests, while the rest of the world is still in the prime of its youth, seeking more knowledge, organization, and prosperity. This is your mission, gentlemen, and its success depends on your prosperity and our dominance" (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, p. 3). Given the magnitude of the studies and working papers presented at the conference, a committee was formed to oversee the matter, named the Colonization Committee (Shafiq, The previous reference, No date, p. 45).

It consisted of leading university professors in various fields such as economics and petroleum.

The participants in the conference, including professors and historians, focused on discussing the causes of the dissolution and collapse of the former empire and what actions could be taken to avoid it. They questioned how present-day empires could survive and what threats might they face. From all of this, they formulated a comprehensive plan and presented it to the British Foreign Ministry (Shafiq, The previous reference, No date, p. 45). The committee concluded its work in 1907 and produced a secret document called the Campbell Document, or the Campbell Report, or the London Conference (1907) Recommendation (Jassem, 2005, p. 62).

The goal of this report was to explore one issue: the future of the Arab homeland after the fall and collapse of the Ottoman state and its danger to Europe .The report stated that

Britain had interests on every continent and that any small or large international problem was of significance to Britain. Its interests extended to vast areas in Africa, India, and the Far East. France also had vital interests, primarily in the African continent and China, and Spain had important interests in Morocco and the Atlantic and Pacific islands. The report also emphasized that the danger lay in the southern and eastern coasts of the Mediterranean Sea, which were a vital artery for colonization and the interests of all the participating countries (Shafiq, The previous reference, No date, p. 46).

The conclusion of the report linked the fate of these colonies to the European countries, both economically and culturally, if they gained independence. The political and military connections would be severed, leading to potential isolation and fragmentation, which would be addressed through a strong, alien, and antagonistic human barrier separating the African part of the region from the Asian part (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, p. 3). This barrier was intended to divide the Arab Middle East from the West, making it a bridge to Europe .

The report then concluded by noting that whoever controlled the Mediterranean basin could control the world, as this sea acted as a link between the East and the West, a cradle of the first human religions and civilizations, and a crossroads of world routes, ancient and modern (Saleh bin Mahmoud, 2010, p. 280). The danger lay in the fact that people on its southern and eastern shores shared a common history, religion, and language, making them united. To break up this unity and division, a strong and hostile human barrier had to be established, separating the African part of this region from the Asian part and allowing for the division of the Arab Middle East from the West. The Mediterranean basin had a strategic significance because of its role as a vital artery linking Europe with the African and Asian continents and because the Suez Canal ran through it, serving as Europe's lifeline. The danger was that anyone who controlled the Mediterranean could control the world.

The report then proceeded to address the issue of where the threat to the colonial entity would emerge and when it would vanish, like its predecessors. The answer to this question was that the danger lay in the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean was the vital link between the East and the West. Along its southern coast, from Rabat to Gaza, and along its eastern coast, from Gaza to Mersin, and on the narrow land bridge connecting Asia with Africa, the Suez Canal ran through it as a lifeline to Europe, and on the shores of the Red Sea and along the coasts of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Gulf up to the Gulf of Basra, which is the road to India and the colonial empires in the East (Shafiq, The previous reference, No date, p. 47).

In this vast and sensitive region, there is a unified people with a shared historical and religious identity. It is a place where there are aspirations for liberation. The conference attendees called for limiting the Arab progress, preventing them from advancing, acquiring knowledge, and sowing border disputes among some Arab nations to dismantle and weaken them in order to avoid their threat. (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, p. 3)

6-2- Conference Recommendations:

To achieve the colonial states' goals in the region, the conference participants devised a plan to ensure their continued presence and control. This plan consisted of:

Firstly, working to maintain the division of the Arab region, delay its progress, and keep its people in a state of disunity and ignorance. This was achieved by categorizing the world's countries into three groups:

- The first category comprises units located within the Western Christian civilization.

The document states that it is Britain's duty towards this area of civilization to ensure that world sovereignty remains within its framework. These countries include

Europe, North America, and Australia, and they should be supported materially and technologically to reach the level of these Western nations.

- The second category represents countries that do not belong to Western Christian civilization, with no cultural conflict or hostility. They do not pose a threat to Western nations. These countries include South America, Japan, South Korea, and others, and they should be contained and supported to a reasonable extent.
- The third category includes countries that do not belong to Western Christian civilization and pose a threat to its dominance. There is a cultural clash with these countries, particularly Islamic and Arab nations. The duty of the Western civilization towards these nations is to deprive them of support and the acquisition of knowledge. They should also create and exacerbate border disputes to keep these nations preoccupied. Additionally, they should establish and support minority groups to disrupt the social fabric of these countries, including advocating for the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine. (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, pp. 2-3)

Secondly, working to separate the African part of the region from the Asian part. This separation is evident in the conference attendees urging Prime Minister Henry Burnman to establish a strong, foreign human barrier on the bridge connecting Asia to Africa, close to the Suez Canal. This would serve as a friendly force for colonialism and an adversary to the region's inhabitants to maintain their dominance and control over the Arab world. (Shafiq, The previous reference, No date, p. 48)

6-3-The Plan between Theory and Application:

The Campbell-Bannerman Report is considered a strategic document with far-reaching dimensions, and it has remained obscure. It has not been completely released despite nearly a century passing since its issuance, raising doubts about the reality of this

conference, whether it actually existed or was fabricated. Dr. Jasim Sultan mentioned in his book "Management of the Philosophy of History" that the report was released for only two weeks but was later withheld due to its extensive implications. Some researchers have discussed this report, including Professor Mohamed Hussein Hekel, who referred to it in his book "Secret Negotiations and Israel" as the final recommendation of the report under the title "Campbell's Testament". (Hanna, 2017)

The existence of the report has been mentioned by various sources, including a lecture by the Arab Lawyers Union during its third conference held in Damascus in 1957, which covered the activities of the conference. Additionally, Dr. Masoud Al-Zaher discussed the report and the Arab reaction to it in an article published in the Syrian Historical Research Journal in 2003. (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, p. 6)

Important research centers that have mentioned the report include the Egyptian Ministry of National Guidance, which included documents on Palestine from 1637 to 1949 under the title "Recommendation of the London Conference, known as the Campbell Conference in 1907" on page 121. It detailed the text of a secret colonial London conference held between 1905 and 1907. (Mohsen, 2017)

Despite the abundance of sources confirming the existence of this report or document, its non-release as mentioned earlier has raised suspicions. Anis Sayegh, in his memoirs, expressed his efforts to access the importance of this document but was unable to find it from any credible source. Various researchers and reliable writers who searched for it referred to each other without reaching a conclusion. (Mohsen, 2017)

Regarding the application, the Campbell document did not emerge in isolation. Western Christian colonialism was preparing a comprehensive review of its history, the world, and its ongoing confrontational relationships with the West and Muslims. It was a critical review of the scientific and cognitive concepts upon which its superiority was built.

"Also, a year of laws that enable it to continue and survive among them:

The law of superiority, which racism has established, allowing the division of humans into masters and slaves, with the white race forming the masters. The current reality we live in today has proven the implementation of the recommendations of the Campbell Conference in the Arab world. Since the fall of the Ottoman Empire, the West tightened its grip on the Arab world, and intentions to seize the Ottoman state's influence and control of the Arab region emerged. The leaked information about the Campbell Document materialized on the ground through agreements, promises, and treaties between colonial countries to divide and fragment the region. The primary pivot of the conference was the Mediterranean Sea, where a foreign, hostile body was implanted in the region, successfully creating the Zionist entity.

After World War I, the recommendations of the conference were endorsed during the Versailles Conference (1919) to establish a basis for Western dominance and control of the world. The international legitimacy was granted by choosing the new means of mandate. This kept the Arab region under Western hegemony, whether in the form of European colonization, mandates, protection, or guardianship (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, pp. 11-12).

The real goal of the Campbell-Bannerman Document was embodied in the establishment and support of a national homeland for the Jews in Palestine, aligning with The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, commonly known as the Balfour Declaration. Through this document, the Jewish dream of controlling and sovereign over the land of Palestine became a reality.

3.5 Its Effects and Consequences on the Arab World:

The Campbell-Bannerman plan had a significant impact on Arab countries and served as the core for subsequent agreements such as the Sykes-Picot Agreement (Hussein, 1999, p.

223), the Balfour Declaration, the Versailles Conference, the San Remo Conference, the Treaty of Sèvres and Lausanne, and the issuance of the Partition Plan (181) on November 29, 1947, and the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, gaining its 59th membership in the United Nations. These agreements, arising from the conference, divided the Arab world at the time and opposed any unifying direction. (Hussein Omar, 2015)

The Sykes-Picot Agreement was concluded in May 1916 between France, England, and Russia, violating the promises Britain had made to Sharif Hussein regarding the independence of the Arab countries and his appointment as their ruler. The agreement stipulated that Russia would acquire Constantinople and control the Bosphorus straits and significant areas in eastern Anatolia bordering Russian-Turkish boundaries. France would gain the majority of the Levant, including large parts of southern Anatolia such as Adana, Mersin, and Alexandretta. Meanwhile, Britain would acquire extensive territories in southern Greater Syria, extending eastward to include Baghdad and Basra, along with the areas situated between the Arabian Gulf and the French region, placing Palestine under international administration to be agreed upon by France, Britain, and Russia (Mohamed Mazhar, 2010, pp. 232-233). In truth, this agreement was a severe blow to the Arabs and Sharif Hussein, obstructing the resurgence of the Arab nation and the establishment of an independent and unified Arab state.

The Arab countries became subject to mandates and under the guardianship of colonial powers through the San Remo Conference in 1920, which officially adopted the mandate system. Syria and Lebanon came under French mandate, while Iraq, Jordan, and Palestine came under British mandate, later being allocated to the Jews for the establishment of a national homeland and the State of Israel. (Abdul Salam, 2010, p. 110)

With the discovery of Arab oil by the West at the beginning of the 20th century, the region from the far east to the far west became known to house the world's largest oil

reserves (Khalid, 2019). The emergence of the United States as a global power intensified the conflict between colonial countries for control of oil resources since 1905, leading to the fragmentation and division of the Arab region (Mohamed Ali, 2018).

The Balfour Declaration, as a manifestation of the Campbell Conference, established a strong human barrier on the land of Palestine, making it Jewish, opposed to the Arabs and a friend and partner of the West and its interests (Campbell Secret Document for the Division of the Arab Homeland, p. 11). Britain quickly adopted the policy of Zionism by opening the doors to Jewish immigration and facilitating their land purchases in Palestine, aided by the mandate policy exercised by Britain in the Arab world, which included Palestine.

Britain worked to further fragment the Arab world by establishing a Jewish committee to manage the country under the leadership of Weizmann in preparing a national homeland for the Jews. Britain successfully separated the African wing from the Asian in Palestine, thus creating the Zionist entity on Palestinian land.

As for the Arab countries, what is known as the Arab Spring revolutions emerged, where the people revolted against the ruling authorities, which Western powers exploited to their advantage. In the case of Jordan, the greatest danger did not come from within, or what is known as the Arab Spring, but when Israel decided to annex the West Bank and neutralize Jordan through the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty. As for Iraq, it witnessed a US invasion supported by the Zionist entity in 2003, due to Iraq's support for Palestinian resistance. The Zionist entity's plan was complementary to the recommendations of the Campbell-Bannerman conference, aiming to divide Iraq into three states (Kurdish state, Sunni Arab state, and a state in the south for the Shiites). The division of Iraq was crucial because it posed a real threat to the interests of the Zionist entity (Abdul Ilah, 2009, pp. 9-10).

What happened in Iraq is directly related to American and Israeli schemes to fragment Arab countries in the service of their mutual interests because the American-Israeli strategy

deals with the Arab world on the basis that it does not represent a single unity in its affiliations, Arab identity, culture, and civilization, and must be constantly working to keep it fragmented.

Colonial policy succeeded in stirring up the situation in the Arab region, making it torn and divided by activating and supporting the Arab Spring revolutions. This was especially evident in Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, which still face security and political challenges to this day. Also, what happened in Egypt and Tunisia, where the US administration disclosed the results of parliamentary elections and the manipulation of results, claiming that the Egyptian regime was no longer convincing and could not confront democratic transitions or meet the demands of its people. It labeled these regimes as dictatorial. The incident of Bouazizi in Tunisia was used to ignite the situation and trigger the Arab Spring revolutions in the region, leading to the fall of rulers and the change of governing systems. New regimes were created, subject to Western control to align with their current plans. What is happening today in Yemen, with the emergence of the Houthi movement, is a result of Western policy exploiting security conditions in the region to maintain control and serve their interests (Mahmoud, n.d, p. 27). This is reflected in the project of Louis Bernard, which aims to dismantle the constitutional

«As for Algeria, the Arab Spring did not succeed according to the plans of the colonial West. This was due to the support and encouragement of the Berbers to separate from Algeria and establish their independent state, erasing any Arab identity or characteristics.

What the Arab region is experiencing today in terms of complex situations and security breakdown is the result of a conspiracy by Western countries. They created the term 'Arab Spring' not out of a genuine desire to fulfill the demands of the people of this region but as a part of their schemes and treacherous agreements that began with the Campbell-

Bannerman Conference. These schemes aim to deepen the divisions in the Arab region and maintain its state of conflict until today.

CONCLUSION

Through our study of the topic of colonial projects, using the Campbell-Bannerman Conference as an example, we have reached several conclusions, the most important of which are:

1. The Arab region has always been of great interest to international powers, especially Britain, France, the United States, and Russia, due to its geographical, economic, and strategic significance.
2. The exploitation of the weakness of the Ottoman state and its eventual collapse, along with Arab naivety in achieving their hopes of an independent Arab state in exchange for supporting the West in the war against Germany, paved the way for colonial projects.
3. The idea of dismantling the Arab Mashriq (Eastern) region through colonial projects has deep historical roots. Western powers have relentlessly pursued this goal through various means and methods in the Arab countries.
4. Palestine is considered the heart of the Arab world, serving as the bridge connecting Arab Asia to Africa and the route connecting the Arabian Peninsula to the Mediterranean. This was a central focus of the Campbell-Bannerman Conference due to its strategic importance in the Arab region.
5. The recommendations of the Campbell-Bannerman Conference and the subsequent treacherous agreements (Sykes-Picot, Balfour Declaration, San Remo Conference) represented the colonial policy of Western countries in dividing the Arab world, suppressing its liberation movements, and preventing unity.

6. The instability, chaos, sectarian conflicts, and wars that followed the Arab uprisings are a result of what was outlined in the Campbell Report, which embodied the Western countries' recommendations in the region.

7. The Western colonial projects, whether European or American, have contributed to achieving and implementing the recommendations of the Campbell-Bannerman Conference. The establishment of the state of Israel in Palestine is a clear example of this, reflecting their goals in the Middle East.

In conclusion, the threats and conflicts among Arab countries today are merely preparations to achieve the primary goal of the colonial powers. They are making great efforts to erode Arab and Islamic culture and recolonize the Arab world, which is the reality we are experiencing in our present time.

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