

Women Leadership and State-Building in Conflict-Torn States between Reality and Delusion Iraq

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Abstract

Late 20th century and early 21st century, with the increasing number of failed state that conflict-torn, the post-conflict state-building became one of the dominant themes in contemporary international relations, simultaneously the eyes turned to study the role of women leadership in this process, as this role has become major issue on the international policy agenda. Women leadership has studied through internal and external lenses, internally by exploring if the women existence in top decision-making positions brings the stability or spreads the chaos, externally by studying the prone of women-in-charge to war or to peace in IR.

Iraq is one of countries that war-torn, and it is consider a failed state in Global Index. In this paper, we attempted to apply the correlation between women leadership and state-building and what such a relationship means in a context of on-going insecurity, lawlessness and conflict, in a society has social norms and attitudes towards women that shape with all contrasts, and has a discourse on state-building is shot through with paternalism and downplays the ability and necessity for local political action as the source of state-building.

Keywords: Iraq; Leadership; Peace and War; War-torn State; Women in Charge.