

# The Role of the Press (Keyhan) in Creating Balance Power in the Islamic Republic of Iran

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## ABSTRACT

In current time, media, especially the press is political events reporter and reflected talks of political forums and legislative institutions. Balance between power and the media factors are index of growth rate or retardation arrangement in today's society. Independent media can be reflecting the views and opinions and also a barrier to invasion of the rights and powers of control in the community. The present paper evaluates the role of media in creating a balance of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Thus Keyhan news paper is known as an official newspaper of the state and legal foundations that inform the right-wing political groupings. The official newspaper of the state is known and has been selected that this review according to the newspaper archives at the State headed by Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was undertaken. The research in this paper is a cause and data collection practices are library. The obtained result in research shows that Keyhan newspaper in 10th government can have the major role in balancing the power of the Islamic Republic of Iran that this has been achieved by two methods. First, the Keyhan newspaper by reflection and decision of mentioned institutions has helped to create a balance of power. In the second method, the reaction of this newspaper led to view or operation of any power branches to create a balance of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**KEYWORDS:** Press; balance power; Constitution; Islamic Republic of Iran; Leadership; Three branches of government; Keyhan

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## INTRODUCTION

Examination of mass communication media like press and news agency can be considered as an important tool for political communication from the 19th to mid-20th centuries. In this period, the media, specifically press are political events reporter, reflected talks of political assembly and legislative institutions. Press as a platform or podium used for expressing political ideas, tool under parties and political organizations to mobilize public opinion or shaping the ideologies impacts, tools for Propaganda in quarrel between governments, Guardian and Observer performance of governments and most importantly a means to inform the government of issues and apply power in societies. Media in addition to the influence on public opinion and skills to them, the government has also put in place many influences, so that today referred to as the fourth pillar of democracy. Besides the masses, political parties and the electoral system, the media is also one of the branches of the political developed systems. Since the start of the newspapers and magazines, the comprehensive media after the first three branches of democracy is mentioned about: the constitution, the parliamentary system(assembly) and political parties as the fourth branches of democracy and cornerstone of reaching freedom that will show the deviant of the ruling powers. One of the functions of the media, especially the press in the political arena is forcing government and officials to be accountable. In this process, media as the collective consciousness of the watchdog over the actions of the political system through a process of information and transparency prevents any government secrecy expose the public to judge. After the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the establishment of the Islamic Republic by approval of the constitution were taken an effective step in controlling the power, determine authority and obligations of the governing branches and maintain the public rights. The media have and had critical role of public opinion and social movements as the fourth branches of democracy and institutionalization of democracy and therefore it is different in development and institutionalization of democracy, tolerance and acceptance and dealing with media or better to say that the quality and quantity of media in each country is index to measure the level of democracy in the countries and assessing the kind of states. According to the content and importance of the media, especially the press and its position as the fourth branches of democracy in society, research question is that whether the press has played a role (Keyhan) to create a balance of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran? With regard to the question raised, it seems that Keyhan Press has an important role in creating balance power in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

### Roles and obligations of Press

Since the beginning of the emergence of periodical press, intelligentsia and writers in Western societies began to study and comment on this new phenomenon. This theories expressed that affected by changes in

European societies and forming the extensive spectrum of the most pessimistic and optimistic views about the press.

Sometimes, intellectual like Rousseau, Voltaire and Montesquieu knows the press as a fun and banality promoter and sometimes people like Edmund Burke announced Press as fourth branches of democracy. However, since the early twentieth century, has not been done independent research about social role of the press and other mass media. The second decade of the twentieth century pioneer of communication studies, including some professors of the University of Chicago raised generally optimistic views about the impact of mass media in social development and human life. Harold Lasswell (American Professor of Political Science) in 1927 was established the first communicative scientific research by writing his dissertation on "political propaganda in the First World War". In 1948, he also raised by writing an article "The Structure and Function of Communication in Society," the first classification about social responsibilities of the new communications tools (Motamedzadeh: 1992: 15). Lasswell is given three roles, the monitor the environment, social cohesion and cultural transmission as three distinct roles but complementary for media.

1. Monitoring the environment (news) this means that apprise people from the state's population and its environment by preparation and distribution of news and information and therefore they provide the possibility of understanding and harmony with the environment.
2. Social integration (the interpretation and guidance) -this means that the mass media created kind of Correlation in society by commentary and analysis of events, advertising and guidance of public opinion and in fact guide and leader the peoples.
3. Transfer the Cultural Heritage (teaching role) -this means that the mass media transfer the cultural heritage, values and norms of a society from past generation to current generation and attempt to maintain cultural unity and culture insider (Motamedzadeh: 1994:9).

### **The concept of balance of power**

Balance of power theory that is a part of conflict and fighting theory have been proposed both in explain the historical period based on the balance of power and also to advise politicians for one policy which form the basis of the balance of power. Balance of power theory has several meanings, and analysts have been unable to agree on a single meaning.

Some have considered the situation or circumstances that there is fairly wide satisfaction of distribution of power. In other words, the major powers are satisfied from the distribution of power. Some believes that the balance of power to the regime and the system notes that the main actors, identity, integrity and independence supply and maintain through the process of balancing. By definition of some other researchers, the balance of power is the law of the host state, which means that they are faced with aggressive powerless and disruptive balance and they established the coalition balancing and prevent from the emergence of fluent and top power (Tayeb and Bozorgi: 1993:67).

### **Several conditions are necessary for the realization of Balance of power that the most important of which are:**

1. Various political actors: a minimum of three and maximum of five major powers must exist to create a stable balance system. Because the existence of "balancer" country is important, this result suggests that the number of cast is better to be single.
2. The lack of a central authority and legitimacy: there should not be a single and dominant power that will dominate on there.
3. The unequal distribution of power: there should not be exist balance of power among actors of international political scene. These differences led government's classification into large, medium and small which is considered as the first balance of power conditions.
4. Continued competition but controlled conflicts among actors in the political governing for gaining values and rare global resources.
5. Understanding among leaders of great power about common interest arising from the persistence mechanism of power distribution that including maintaining stability, security and sustaining peace (Qavam: 1991:61).

### **Objectives and functions of the balance of power**

The purpose of the initial and critical balancing of powers is the maintenance of peace and security based on power. However, can assume a number of major and minor purposes for that:

1. Prevent from development and deployment of a fluent and super power.
2. Maintain the existence of equilibrium components (member states) and balance system.
3. Providing national and international stability and security.
4. Strengthen and sustain the peace that comes from the absence of war.

### **The ways of securing and maintaining balancing power**

Theorists of this with assess the methods used by the Member States of balance of power in seventeenth to the nineteenth-century, extract the following items:

1. Ruling and divide policy
2. Restore the occupied lands by the aggressors
3. Create buffer states
4. Form unions
5. Create the influence areas
6. Intervention
7. Diplomatic bargaining
8. Compete or the arms race
9. War (as a last resort and solution) (Tayeb and Bozzorgi: 1997:68)

### **The role of Keyhan newspaper in creating a balance of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran**

As mentioned in the press along with other centers of power, as the fourth branches of democracy can be involved control and balance of power in society. The author of this study illustrates the role of the newspaper in balancing the power of the Islamic Republic of Iran by providing some examples to in 10th State. Keyhan in response to the summons of the judiciary to the President wrote: yesterday Website of government announced that court has sent a summons to the Dr. Ahmadinejad. This base report " Ali Larijani (the speaker of parliament) is summoned the president Mahmud Ahmadinejad to the court with the complaint in Penal Court Branch 76 of Tehran. Maturity date of the complaint was 26 November 2013. That is nearly 4 months after the end of the honorable president is responsible for 8 year! The news of complaint of the president and summons them to court were placed in headlines of foreign media immediately after announce and in the interior of the questions created that who and what motive did have for these actions? Are the officials of the judiciary and the issuance of a subpoena have been aware for the president to convey respect? If yes, what was the motive and what the need is immediate that is not allowed the fatal delays in issuing and delivering the summons? And have rushed to deliver it in the current situation of the country. However summons to trial for more than 6 months away, the action of the judiciary, in the current situation that the recent dramatic and epic election faced external enemies with the surprise mixed with the angry that this action is beyond an "ill-considered action". And if some intrusions malicious in public and judicial authorities have not respected, certainly, imprudent exist that the judiciary is not competent, but it is not correct that they do this action although he have been some of the untenable position during the last few months but he has plenty of uninterrupted service in many ways that it is not even remotely comparable to any other state. Is this fair that send summons for Dr. Ahmadinejad after all his hard work and service?

However, if the honorable judiciary officials were unaware of these actions -they have sent the summons to court for the second most senior figures, who are these people?

And what motivated did you have from this action? It may be argued that the judiciary is not policy and cannot neglect in their legal duty and mission! In this case, one must ask, first, why sent that summons to court that the turn is the 6 months? Do the honorable judicial authorities think that do not have access to him after the final responsibility for president? It that is correct, they had still two months to the end of Ahmadinejad's presidency doctor! And basically, unless such person can be hidden after president responsibility? Second, does behave the honorable judicial system in other similar cases with the same speed and decisiveness!? Do they feel responsible gentlemen elicited only in dealing with the president? (Shariatmadari: 2013:2).

In another case, Keyhan criticism of Ahmadinejad in the form approved by the assemble about representative's supervision that reflect on the Etemad newspaper as:

Keyhan in a note as " policy for inflation and corruption not rather barren Challenges," wrote: the new letter of President to the head "Supreme Council of dispute settlement and adjustment of power relations" numerous illegal and political dimensions. But what about the government's failure to act of the chairman of the assembly of Representatives instead monitoring is this fact that: first, official authority and regulatory compliance or contravention of assembly or Constitution and religious low is Guardian Council and otherwise, Otherwise, if the government and the head of the adopted veto the approval assembly, it is lead to remove balance of power. In other words, assembly is not the branch under the office of the president but it's the observer of work of the government and head. "High Commission settlement and adjustment of power relations" that was established with the decree of the Supreme Leader in August of 2011, just about the "controversy" or "settle the power relations" and to give advisory opinion in cases where the Leader referred to this board. But the Parliament Act on the Supervision of MPs (members of parliament), essentially no communication to the outside of the duties of the Board or the State Government. Moreover, all states adopted legislation to be binding and enforceable. Thus, neither the President nor the Board noted that was formed under paragraph 7 of Article 110 of the Constitution, originally qualification for entry into approvals assembly which do not have themselves and although some accounts refer to the leader, it is separate.

It is better that president and government rather than opening the government and illegal challenges of advertising with other powers, they should consider measures for streamlining the mechanisms of government about solving the problems of the people, especially to deal with expensiveness and prevent from corruption in strategic centers in the state that leads to a big3 trillion USD Corruption that for example Executive authority in Lale Hotel don't pull strings the financially corrupt leader to senior officials and don't issued the order granting the huge rant by pulling the wool over Ministries' eyes.

In other words, the same act of parliament, a serious attempt to clean the infections of economic and financial holding government servant to be adopted. But the offender Pardoned by applies from the leadership and advice is given and it is defect on national rights and interests (Bi Na: 2012: 2).

The other item was the Keyhan analysis of the order of the Minister of Information that Keyhan pay them like this: during the past thirty years, we have seen many times that Heads of three branches, including the heads of the executive's time has taken actions and have been make decisions that Revolution led, Imam Khomeini and posterior were prevented them because these decisions are inconsistent with the supreme interests of the state from doing so and this is very normal cycles defined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, although sometimes it has been going with commentary and analysis from this but never produce any defect in the fast moving of system and also he is not opposite of the decision of an officer, hindering their appreciation leadership for their outstanding services and in or ignoring the service of the people and this process is known and unequivocal between people and government. According to the Leader in his remarks on Saturday, "We do not judge about the person we put work, the line, the decision as a criterion. Since the work is trying to serve and support us, support the people there. Thankfully, today the work is done. Indeed, government officials both members of the government, especially the president have increased their efforts. I see that they work all the time. They are constantly serving and working. Well, this is very valuable for the country. And then insisted that they do not have an actions and decisions of the government, just like Imam Khomeini and they would add, except insofar as I feel that a expedient will strengthen as it did in this case , how is the Ministry of information. Man feels that he is a great expediency is ignored.

Well, the man enters that prevent from strengthen this expedient. This is not an important issue. As it happens. But opponents, external enemies, international officer Tribune and advertising tone use the same thing to make their advertising space for crowding advertising space". Recent case was simple. Adopt an imprudent decision by the president and prevent the Leader of doing it. Mr. Khameneyiee Supreme Leader said, "So it was not very important" and "as it happens" is obviously, the Honorable President Ahmadinejad, however he is educated, a man of the people, pious, simple living, hard working, courage, and possessed of some unique value features but also its certainly not infallible and without error.

Therefore, if this error was the extent of false decision interests of the state and may be dangerous that the last one was kind of autonomy.

President should be respected reason and judge for mitigation and prevention of its occurrence Robby front doorstep thanks to the grit and the depth of God's grace to maintain and basically, one of the blessings of presence of VF in the Islamic Republic of Iran is guided direct and showing "should" and "should not" for reaching high peaks redemption. And on the other hand, as Supreme Leader have emphasized, the people appreciate the tireless services of president and don't remember his error because have seen the unique features of Ahmadinejad and if have complain about a flow diversion beside president, this complaint is rooted in actual support of the president and is borne out of concern for his government and it is clear that despite these concerns and complaints, to support its own elected president and don't allow the invasion of external enemies and internal sequences.

In the following are another point and its reflection that the past few days, the external enemies have used all the advertisers and their media to portray the larger and more serious problem! While this problem is not very serious as "a big challenge"! The Islamic Republic of Iran considers that! Why ...?! Have recent events, no evidence of interference with the rapid movement of the Iranian nation in itself? The answer is no, so what is all this commotion? Take a look at the link above. US-Israeli puppet dictators in the Muslim countries, one after another are sent to the dustbin of history, stemming from the massive rise of Islamic beliefs of our Muslim nation has cut the arrogant powers and their local agents.

Ben Ali fled into the prefers. Mubarak be brought to justice. Yemeni dictator Ali Abdullah Saleh surrenders against the relentless uproar of people. Netanyahu said that feels the presence of Khomeini in the Middle East and Africa, KSA hears the sound of breaking bones in his resolution, Bahrain, Jordan, Libya and everywhere Revolution arose the final word comes from Iran (Bi Na: 2011: 2).

Another item that is mentioned in the explanation of role of Keyhan in creating balance of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran in State is that the Keyhan reaction to the presidency Electoral fraud that addressed in this newspaper is as follows:

Trips provincial government was one of the most effective programs that President Ahmadinejad has transformational achievements among the many services of president in first term. Today, also Mr. president announced that has embarked on provincial trips for expedite the incomplete project and continue serving to the

people but what can be seen from highlighted during recent visits to the opening of the project and that the project is the macroeconomic cost of treasury for advertising election in favor of the possible candidates for diversion loop and making margin by attacking the hypothetical enemy. And again, as always, without any evidence to substantiate their claims or submit claims from individuals and groups that serve the way he rocks up the least gave the names and characteristics. Ahmadinejad claims that:

"If the Subsidies reform plan was done to the final stage, each person receives a cash subsidy of 250 Tomans, which unfortunately was faced with opposition, and they said it makes lazy people and give the money to the unemployed".

"If the country's population of 75 million to 30 million people work in the economy to make the country work, it is lead to establish an economic revolution".

"They say we'll hit! you do not value the people that you deal...if raise the part of your case, you do not have any place among the nations"!

"Some people think that when the Islamic Republic was established and held, everything is over, but we're just beginning".

And it should be noted that there are other such claims:

1. one-way and justice claim of Mr. Ahmadinejad's remarks, while these days, inflation and rocketing inflation suffering many people, especially the poor and low income segments of the population and if he is honest on democracy that it is, as head of the executive branch have a duty to all of its efforts to combat inflation and organize economic conditions and explain for people what action they have taken in this regard instead of long speeches?!

Is it cost 50 million dollars from treasury for advertising election of Mr. Mashae in Azadi Stadium can be considered an example of justice of Mr. President?

Forcing employees of government to attend this event and stop the tasks for which they are responsible people and yet remain in the place!

Ahmadinejad might claim that the Azadi Stadium ceremony is not for promote the candidacy of Mashae and said because he was not present at the ceremony! In answer, Mr. President! That Your Excellency found the Peripatetic in the stadium yet? Who was sitting in the waiting area of the station? And when the ceremony become opposite of his expectation, he prefer that don't appear in the ceremony! Now that the debate over that How is justified about absenteeism Peripatetic after given all the publicity?

Mr. Malek Zadeh explained that it is better to exit from stadium and attend in the grave of Mrs. Assal Badeeyee and spread the news to justify his absence! And this is just a small sample!

The waste of public funds and questions that Mr. President with all Justice strong claims that it is true in 9th government, today's what is the answer about poor people that live in inflation and shortage?

2. The president repeated that "we wanted the full implementation of Subsidy reform plan that give 250 Tomans per person, but they did not allow" Not respond to the questions that how do you wanted to pay this huge money and from which source? Who prevented? It should be noted that the implementation of the first phase of Subsidy reform plan have an important achievements that Saving energy carriers is one of them. But it was not the purpose of supporting production proceeds to be allocated? What's an acceptable action of Your Excellency's Government in this context? Almost nothing! And was not it necessary remedies contain inflation unless the conditions necessary for this project?

Do you curb inflation? They want to distribute Subsidy reform plan among low-income deciles, but our government distributed among all deciles. On the other hand, government subsidies for the current sources that is 45 Tomans per person and is faced with serious challenges. As far as saying the deficit is 20 trillion USD and on the other hand, in the current situation 250 Tomans per person is far from reality and not just a slogan. The prices of gas and electricity, water and gasoline and etc increased and it means of unbridled inflation that 600 Tomans per person is not enough for this inflation and follow 200 per cent inflation. Does Mr. President was unaware of the facts and expert analysis? If the answer is negative, which is unfortunate?

And if the answer is yes, ask why not deal honestly with the public and show inverted the facts with the approach of presidential?!

3. He has said that: If the population of 30 million people prepared to work actively in the economy will be established an economic revolution, which is acceptable word but the question is, Does the creation job is duty of government? If yes, what has done for this problem? What did you want to do that some have been prevented? For example, Mr. Mashae was negotiated with Spanish company "Ginger Bono" for construction 1000 of transit service building on April 2008 while the country was in dire need of job creation and job-seekers and young professionals were suffering from unemployment. And again, this gentleman that gives billions of dollars in public funds to build a conference hall to a counter-revolutionary cult fugitive living in America as "John Foyoz" and her daughter "Pantea" and announced in front of Keyhan protest that they love their country! But Mr. Foyoz during an interview in America said: "America is my homeland, not in Iran"! And dozens of other examples.

4. Mr. President has said: "Some people think that when the Islamic Republic was established and held, everything is over, but we're just beginning". Again, as always, they do not explain who made such a claim?! But to inform His Excellency the president should be noted that the claim rose by Mr. Mashae that the video and audio tapes are available, he said:

In 1978, we fight to reach Islamic revolution but I am here to say that the Islamism period has expired! it is not means that Does not mean it does not exist or the maturing of Islamism, not Islam, but his career is over." Well! Mr. President, what does your idea?

Mr. Ahmadinejad said during a speech in Haftkel; "I don't allow to talk much "and reply "If raise the part of your case, you do not have any place among the nations!" should ask again:

A: Who claims these things? Like your claim about false list 300 people of economic corruption that never said their names, why do not announce their name and logo? Do you afraid of them? First, must say Iran does not need a coward president. Secondary, the government prevent from them so why did you fear?

B: Mr. President! Again, sorry, 34 years Revolution experience taught us that such claims are usually raised by those concerned to expose some of the issues behind him! Of course, hopefully you're not one of those people, however, disclose the identity of some of those around you for your support and undisputed partly because of the understandable concerns you may have! Blame yourself that you've stuck to them!

C: Frankly, if your claim is true, why did you used for taking as pawn? And said, if your claim does something against yourself, then you will say! If your document is true is no reason to keep the documents secret! Not your personal property. It is belongs to the nation and should be followed. But you refused to publish because of two reasons: First, you have been bluffing, and this claim is like a economic corruption eventful list. Second, you are concerned about the interact disclosure! Is there another reason? You said.

6. The president have spoken about corruption and the turbulent flow of the foreign exchange market that in addition to the above-mentioned questions about why he refuses to provide their name and address, the question also arises that do this Honorable Peripatetic accused of grand corruption and three thousand billion Tomans bank had at least two private meeting in Laleh Hotel Tehran? Why do not you have been disclosed his meeting the above document in court? Who was confusing to currency market? And dozens of other questions and...Mr. President doesn't lose your achievements in the last months of your responsibilities (Shariatmadari: 2013:2).

## Conclusions

In this article, I discussed some of the positions of the events in the Keyhan newspaper. First, a note of Hossein Shariatmadari, editor of the newspaper was brought in response to the judiciary at the summons of the President.

He also criticized the judiciary in the issuance of subpoenas for President Dr. Ahmadinejad who had been summoned to court to sue Mr. Ali Larijani. While the investigation into the complaint will be four months after the end of their responsibility to consider it inappropriate and imprudent action and named this action as political action for the destruction of the President. In the second case was to use leader of his government warrant toward the Ministry of Information Mr. Heidari Moslehi and return order of them to the place of work and the President that he had deposed. Noting that this is an example of the creation of balance of power that this issue was reflected in Keyhan newspaper and this newspaper in page notes stand out against Mr. Ahmadinejad and in this note criticized the Mr. Ahmadinejad about lack of follow the leader, denounced the president for eleven days compared to the absence in the workplace and leadership support the return order to the Secretary information and this act of leadership praised as a key to maintaining the stability of the regime. Before, Leadership stands out against the former deputy leader Mr. Esfandiyar Mashae and in the Kayhan newspaper article criticized the president's action. on the other side of the assemble of Representatives action to the proclamation of the President in all executive agencies about Parliament's correspondence with the executive agencies about repeal certain enactments relating to the government that it is against the constitution, and it was deemed illegal that this problem faced by the reaction of some MPs and Keyhan newspaper provides extent for the abolition of this directive by reflect this news, reflect the agency's response toward that and analyze it. Editorial page of notes on his criticism of the political behavior of its legalism and wanted to chant with illegal actions will not spoil the efforts of his presidency in relation to the apply Parliament about an investigation into voting irregularities President also reflected in this newspaper. Media especially, Keyhan newspaper is very effective in this issue, so what were referred in investigating the role of Keyhan newspaper in creating balance of power in Islamic Republic of Iran in this research can be concluded that Keyhan newspaper in 10th government in carrying out their professional responsibilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran in addition to covering the events of the amplifiers, attenuators, or the event provider in charge of constantly challenging the balance of power in society has been effective in creating power centers and constantly it has been effective in challenging the power centers in creating balance of power in society.

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