“Rebirth of the Middle East”; not for the US Interests but for the People

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During the first decade of the new millennium, President Bush, the junior, initiated the “Greater Middle East Initiative”, in which American administration planned to promote democracy in the region. As the American Middle East policy is proved to be “interest” oriented, at the early stage of the policy initiative and by the rise of Islamists through democratic procedure, the “initiative” was shelved. The “Rebirth of the New Middle East” once again was announced by the US Secretary of State when the Israel launched a military attack over Lebanon and Hezbollah in the ‘33 days war’. As Hezbollah crushed Israeli invasion, this newborn Middle East was already dead in the womb. Hence the two American attempts to further change the Middle East politics in her interests were failed.

However, the recent development and uprising in the Arab world, rooted in the popular democratic demand, including in Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria and Bahrain have changed the political economy of the Middle East. This paper argues that through this uprising the world is witnessing the “rebirth of the Middle East”. This paper argues that while changes in each country is a particular case, some generalities can be drawn:

- Middle Easterners are seeking change not through “revolution” but through “peaceful evolution”
- Israel has been the main looser of the recent developments.
- The United States has been forced to change her Middle Eastern policies. Furthermore, Obama’s rhetoric of “Change” on Middle East is gradually taking place, but not because of his intention, but because he is forced to do so.
- As the recent ME developments are in the path of the 1979 Iranian Revolution, Iran’s regional policies getting stronger and its isolation among the Middle Eastern states is no more the issue.