

Review of the Research supervisor, candidate of historical sciences, PhD doctor Zh. Zhengis for Mubarak Atiq Sultan Alafrit al-Kuwaiti's thesis on "Geopolitical transformation of Iran in the regional and bilateral negotiations over the Caspian sea"

It is clear to everyone that the determination of the legal status of the Caspian Sea is a great victory for the diplomacy of independent Kazakhstan. It was a proud political move of the young Kazakh state to come to an agreement with the giant countries of the world and not give its score.

In this regard, the importance of the research proposed by the dissertation is a comprehensive study of the problem, taking into account all the factors in determining the status of the Caspian Sea.

Before the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Caspian Sea was nothing more than a closed sea, theoretically and practically divided between two countries, the former Soviet Union and Iran, who considered themselves to be the rightful heirs of the region. Soviet borders make up more than 85% of this coastline, while the remaining 15% lies on Iran's borders, and the situation remained unchanged until the dissolution of the Soviet Union, so the four emerging countries shared 85%, redefining the geopolitical map of the region. However, this change in the map of the region did not destabilize Iran's Soviet-era borders, and the countries that broke away from the umbrella of the Soviet Union were represented in the Axis Triad (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan).

Before focusing on the geopolitical significance of the Caspian Sea, the dissertation explains the connection between geopolitics and political geography. According to the doctoral student, geopolitics is nothing but a part of political geography, and geopolitics is a science that arose as a result of geographers' interest in the relationship between political geography and state power. Indeed, according to the definition of "Rudolph Keglin", who was influenced by Rutzl's ideas, geopolitics is "International political forces and the geographical environment".

To explain the geopolitical significance of the Caspian Sea, the doctoral student uses theoretical geopolitical approaches that consider the importance of geographical spaces and water bodies and their role in the creation of state power in international relations. At the same time, the dissertation recognizes that historical events and battles, wars are connected with geographical factors, and presents a unique relationship between political forces in the world from the point of view of geographical factors.

In general, the implementation of dissertation research fully meets the requirements of the Control Committee in the field of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In terms of scientific level and quality, it fully meets the requirements of the "Rules for Awarding Scientific Degrees".

In the course of getting acquainted with the research, I conclude that Mubarak Atiq Sultan Alafrit Al-Kuwaiti's dissertation on the topic "Geopolitical transformation of Iran in the regional and bilateral negotiations over the Caspian

sea" submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty "6D020900 - Oriental Studies" is suitable for defense.

Candidate of historical sciences, PhD doctor **Zh. Zhengis**

