
ISLAM IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

MESHKIN DANIYAL RANJBAR. BETWEEN SANCTIONS AND SOLIDARITY: IRAN'S APPROACH TO ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY UNDER INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Keywords: national solidarity; international sanctions; ethnic diversity; social resilience.

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Citation: Ranjbar M. Between Sanctions and Solidarity: Iran's Approach to Ethnic and Religious Diversity Under International Pressure // Russia and the Moslem World, 2025, No. 2 (328), P. 61–73. DOI: 10.31249/rmw/2025.02.05

Abstract. This article analyzes the dynamics of national solidarity in Iran under international sanctions. The question is how sanctions pressure affects solidarity among different ethnic groups. Using a mixed method that combines a qualitative assessment of the historical context, the study finds that sanctions strengthen national solidarity despite economic hardship. Periods of increased sanctions are accompanied by an increase in solidarity, which confirms the reactive nature of this consolidation. Ethnic and cultural diversity is used as a strategic

resource to increase social resilience. Thus, solidarity plays a key role in strengthening national unity and sustainable development in Iran.

Iran, a country with rich ethnic and cultural diversity, faces unique challenges related to international sanctions and domestic problems. For decades, Iran has felt significant international pressure that has affected all aspects of social and economic life. In this context, solidarity – the ability of society to unite and adapt to changes – takes on special significance [1].

Iran's complex socio-political landscape, characterized by rich ethnic and religious diversity, provides a unique field for studying the dynamics of national solidarity under international sanctions. This article uses a mixed-method approach, combining a qualitative assessment of historical and cultural context with quantitative data analysis, to examine the relationship between international sanctions pressure and levels of national solidarity among different ethnic groups in Iran.

Through this comprehensive methodological framework, the study aims to identify the underlying mechanisms that facilitate or hinder solidarity in difficult economic times. This research is particularly relevant in the light of the ongoing global political and economic changes that have a direct impact on Iran's domestic politics and social structures. Understanding the mechanisms that support solidarity in such circumstances may offer valuable lessons for other multi-ethnic and multi-religious countries facing similar challenges.

In this article, we examine how Iran has used ethnic and cultural diversity as a strategic resource to overcome sanctions pressure and achieve sustainable development.

Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Iran

Iran is home to many ethnic groups, including Persians, Azeris, Kurds, Arabs, Balochs, and others. This diversity extends to the religious sphere, where Shia Islam predominates, but Sunni Muslims, Zoroastrians, Christians, Jews, and other religious minorities coexist. Each group contributes to the