Challenges of National Identity in Qatar

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Abstract
The debate over identity in general and national identity in particular, has become a cornerstone of private and public debates in Qatar recently. Identity is a topic related to culture, economics, politics, language, education, and many other civic, formal, and informal spheres. Most private or public discussions refer to Qatari national identity as a fixed form of reference that replaces spatial and temporal changes. It is represented as a homogeneous structure that reflects the social and cultural cohesion and the unified society on which the stability and continuity of society depend. The importance of the research lies in defining the components of the national identity in Qatar. As well as identifying several factors that are considered threats to this "imagined" form of identity; These include globalization and multiculturalism which involves a degree of openness to world cultures, possibly adaptation to and appropriation of foreign new values and ways of living, as well as increasing numbers of immigrants, mixed marriages, and Western education among other factors.

Keywords: National Identity, Immigrants, Politics, Challenges.

Introduction
Research hypothesis:
The research stems from the hypothesis that the challenges of the Qatari national identity have a clear impact on the social and political stability of the country

Research Objective:
The research aims to define the concept of national identity in a scientific way, as well as to analyze the reality of national identity in Qatar. Identity has social and political dimensions that represent basic determinants of the state.

Research problem:
This research stems from the problematic issue of the Qatari national identity that faces a variety of issues. The problematic of the study can be identified through the following questions:
1- What are national identity and its challenges?
2- What are the mechanisms for strengthening national identity?

Research Structure:

Due to the importance of the research topic, it was divided into two main axes:

The first axes: The conceptual framework to the national identity

As for the second axis: Qatari national identity (elements–challenges)

The third axis: Mechanisms for strengthening the Qatari national identity

The first axis: the conceptual framework of national identity

First:

The concept of identity is determined based on the linguistic, philosophical, sociological and historical significance of this term. The Arabic term identity corresponds to the word identite, and identity In French and English, it is of Latin origin, the thing that is what it is, as it means in the French language a set of specifications that make a person the same as a known or specific person. It is a meaning that emphasizes participation in complete similarity or uniqueness from others in a specific scope or purpose.

The concept of identity entered Arab thought at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, as we do not find it among the terms translated in that period, such as freedom, revolution, nation, nationalism, equality, and the homeland. On the one hand, and all manifestations of class exploitation, enslavement, and internal oppression, on the other hand, identity is defined as “the matter related to it in terms of its distinction from the Gentiles” or it is “the meaning that is called the name of the existent.” It is the name of the entity and its existence as it is through certain characteristics that enable its owner to be suspicious of people like him or differ from them.

With regard to the concept of identity, it is one of the concepts that have many descriptions and definitions, so it is said religious identity, ethnic and sectarian identity, and the most comprehensive of them is the national identity.

From it, identity is the sum of the special spiritual, intellectual and emotional features that characterize a particular society, ways of life, value systems, traditions, beliefs, methods of economic production and rights.

Identity, in terms of being both objective and subjective, is a person’s awareness and sense of his belonging to a society, nation, group, or
class within the framework of general human affiliation. Identity is a collective feeling of a nation or a people that is linked to each other in a fateful and existential way. "Identity" in its current incarnation has a double meaning. Refers at the same time to the categories in its first general sources of self-esteem or dignity of the individual. There is no need to link these things. In ordinary language, at least, one can use "identity" to refer to characteristics or personality traits that cannot normally be expressed in terms of a social class, and in some contexts certain classes can be described as,"identities" even though no one sees them as central to their personal identity. And with, identity in its current incarnation reflects and evokes the idea that categories are generally linked to the foundations of an individual's self-esteem. The origin of identity is linked to the idea of citizenship in the state in terms of nationality as a phenomenon and as a legal principle. It is also linked to the cultural dimensions of the person and society, as well as the political affiliation of the state.

Secondly: National Patriotism:

patriotism from home(Patria), which is derived from the Latin (Patria), and in the beginning it did not denote (the state) in the modern sense, but denotes the diocese and the bishopric that provide an administrative framework, and the bishop in it, the father of the country (Pater Patriae) is the president, and his authority has turned into a temporal authority On a specific territory, this word would be country-home (Pays or Patria ). And (Saati Al-Husari) explains to us in detail the difference between the homeland-patriotism and between (the nation and nationalism) and he says that patriotism is the love of the homeland, and nationalism is the love of the nation (the people) and the feeling of inner connection towards it ( )Al-Hosary adds that the homeland is a piece of land, and the nation is a group of people, and based on that, patriotism is the connection of a person to a piece of land, and nationalism is the connection of a person to a group of people (the nation), and there is an overlap between them based on the fact that patriotism also includes love the citizens who belong to that homeland, just as the love of the nation includes at the same time the love of the land on which that nation lives, and they are linked to the state, as the state connects the nation and the homeland, but this connection, according to Al-Husari's belief, is not in a single pattern in In all countries and in all roles in history, it even takes on a variety of forms and differs between nation and nation, and between role and role.

Third:ID national

The issue of strengthening national identity tops the priorities of national action as a fixed strategy that does not tolerate change or delay, as it is the mother of national issues
that ID national the university she phase Historic And consciousness developed on consciousness belonging sub distress , and he consciousness paired By the presence of and genesis Countries, And from Side other, that This is amazing ID she lace President that Collecting and unites people This is amazing the group and makes who are they people or nations or not that.and represent ID from perspective politician pivot centrally in proces building Authority and state that may be are established on identification social uniform

no face ID national political problem in proces build it and accept her community with it, unless when made up community national political from groups Secondary Same identification social miscellaneous And seek one That groups or all one Of which to presentation her identity sub as project for identity patriotism political General Contains identities hetero And melt it In which, and he what Pay holders That identities to holding on with their identities Than It is forbidden investigation merger the National conditional belonging to identification patriotism political university Respect Existence And freedoms identities sub merged in its framework.And he suffers Iraq today from crisis identification phenomenon And We can say that This is amazing the crisis come back to Establishing Country Iraqi film agree Iraqis on identification patriotism university .

The national identity is not innate, but it must be built and shaped, and its construction should be reconsidered in accordance with the political orientations, the emergence of the need to strengthen belonging to the homeland and the nation .

The Second Axis: the Qatari national identity (elements - challenges)

First: The Qatari national identity

The national identity in Qatar was subjected to several historical frameworks in the era after the discovery of oil, as it moved from the “Arab identity” to the “Gulf identity” to the “Qatari identity”. As for most Gulf states in the pre-oil era, Qatar’s national identity was based primarily on its Arab and Islamic roots, with an emphasis on Arab nationalism. At the heart of Arab nationalism is the concept of Arab unity and the Palestinian cause. The collective Arab identity served as a starting point for Qatar as a newly emerging state on the path to defining its history and national identity during the early stages of state building.

Like most Gulf States, Qatar was not a colony but had been under British protection since 1916. The lack of a local history of independence struggles in the Arabian Peninsula created a desire to relate through a common language, culture, and past. This resulted in the existence of a generation of Arab nationalists, activists, and intellectuals in Qatar, who, as in other Gulf States, wholeheartedly joined Arab nationalism, which still exists alongside the generation of
the sixties. However, the Arabian Peninsula as an economic entity began to attract interest and resentment, as it became the main operator for other Arab nationalities. The common interests of the Gulf countries, among other factors, led to the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council in 1981, on the basis of religious and cultural ties ... and strong kinship relations," as well as factors of geographical proximity that "facilitated contacts and interaction among them, and created homogenous values and characteristics " However, this does not mean complete harmony between these states, especially on issues related to sovereignty and borders. Meanwhile, "Arab nationalism was weakened by a number of factors in the late 1960s and early 1970s, including the growing economic disparity between Arab countries after the 1973 oil boom, as well as the failure of the two experiences of Arab unity and the Arab defeat in the 1967 war with Israel."

The political upheaval in the Middle East during the last quarter of the twentieth century affected the romantic image of Arab nationalism. The Gulf States faced a series of challenges that led to the emergence of the “idea of Gulf identity” as a conscious alternative to delegitimizing the radical Islam of the nascent Iranian Republic. that ID national she feelings the individual belonging to nation or his mom and he feelings Participate in it with group from the people spend look that He was that the individual He carries nationality that Country Mother no? and hey for him from identification amazing in reality; So how much from campaign nationality country what They sold that Country, And how much from belonging for him Emotionally And emotionally may be They were denied from That Nationality in the time that They take care on him And they sacrifice from his term all day?!that Pregnancy Nationality no It is considered conditional to belong no Protect ID national in a form automatic, But Existence ID national he the condition basic to do Country and its survival.lhave Eat many from researchers And the book Qataris this the topic And they looked their concern severe from Circumstances that begging around us in a form fast, and its impact passive on ID national Country But until This is amazing the moment did not note plan methodology clear to deal with this the challenge dangerous.And as We are notified above, confirmation And hard here that he when the talk on This is amazing ID we are no we are talking on necessity protect it based on to springboards racism, but rather from necessity protect it For reasons existential, as We are no suppose that This is amazing ID He should that remain stationary forever eternity no change, But danger Come from Change rapid And supposed » and abroad on context Development natural to the point that it Threatens existence.He should It said that groups like individuals become Nowhere without memories".
Second: The components of the Qatari national identity

that Value Social present Strongly in the society diagonal from during relations Social clear, About road belonging maybe that strengthened trust between Individuals the society In what between them And between them And between entities official in Country, And between them And between arrivals and residents in Country, and this is Feeling with confidence I want clear in mount Solidarity And solidarity between individuals the society in time crisis the siege2017 , I have She was This is amazing the crisis political par excellence where excitement The opinion general in the society and obsessed on interest the majority from citizens, And formed features the crisis political from during its acquisition on Most means media and platforms The opinion general as that orientation general for the hub He was Tends to direction neutral and he acceptable when be issues subtracted Related issues political And start The opinion In which , And no miss it Disclaimer to Importance response rationality for crises And how deal with her in the behavior The economist near , daily , and response far Term in life citizen in a form general ,It could be argued that different races and different histories were erased in favor of a purely ethnic "tribal" identity. The fact is that the state certainly promotes one version of history, but without denying others. Oral histories provide accounts that are comparable and in some cases competing with those found in history textbooks and country narratives. A growing area of study and investigation is the oral history of Qatar. Domestically, there are serious attempts to record oral traditions, including folk tales and historical narratives: there are also attempts to teach oral history as a subject, across disciplines, by Arab and Western teachers in schools and universities. His local word-of-mouth, as local "memory banks", were encouraged and promoted by bringing their historical versions into the mainstream and allowing them to circulate.

ToThroughout Gulf history, the Qatari identity has constituted an exceptional case in form and application. On the religious level, Qatar was the only country that adhered to the Hanbali doctrine and interacted with Muhammad bin Abd al-Wahhab's reformist call with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but on the level of implementation it was more open than Saudi Arabia to the outside in political and economic engagement and even on the social level at home. Although the Qatari institutions in their various sectors were moving slowly compared to their counterparts in the Gulf, they were proceeding according to deliberate plans that depend primarily on benefiting from the experiences of others. But what distinguishes the internal Qatari relationship has always been the great cohesion between the ruling family and the people, even though Qatar is a hereditary state. It does not have any level of representation for the people to participate in the decision at the level of government, but
the belief of the ruling family in creating a complementary relationship between the ruler and the ruled, and the care not to clash with the citizen or create societal class, contributed to the consolidation of the relationship based on respect and loyalty. In addition to that, the leadership’s pivotal role in providing a set of privileges enjoyed by the Qatari citizen in the context of continuous development in society, which increased the level of satisfaction, which in turn was reflected in the promotion and consolidation of loyalty.

At the beginning of his assumption of leadership of the country in 2013, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani expressed this Qatari situation by saying: “It is natural that we place the interest of Qatar and the Qatari people at the top of our priorities. This includes people, society, economy, politics and cultural identity. At the same time, no We forget that there is no identity without belonging to wider circles, as we are part of the Arab Gulf region and part of the Arab and Islamic worlds, and we are also part of humanity and the international community. These broader circles also contributed to shaping the awareness of the Qatari citizen and strengthening his belonging to his land and loyalty to his leadership. This is rooted in the national and Islamic positions of Qatar in all international forums, beginning with its firm position on the Palestinian issue, and not ending with its position on the Arab Spring revolutions and its standing with the people. The Qatari state was also keen not to confuse its circles of belonging, the circle of belonging to the homeland, and the circle of loyalty to the leadership, in contrast to the surrounding experiences. It was also keen to focus on acquired affiliations such as language, religion and sect without harming the affiliations that one is born with, such as family, national or ethnic affiliation.

Third: the challenges of the Qatari national identity

There is something similar to the scrapping of the national identity, in which the population imbalance that has accumulated over the years has helped greatly, and has qualitatively strengthened during the past few years. An essential element in the formation of identity, for example:

1. Urban developments: It cannot be certain that there is an urban plan in Qatar, but rather urban developments that are mainly driven by the strong demand of the commercial sector in general, and the real estate sector in particular, which includes the commercial residential sector, and not the residential demand. But what concerns us is that these developments have led to surveying vast areas and neighborhoods of the country, with the collective memory that these areas carry for citizens in particular.
2. The challenge of expatriate foreign workers: Uncontrolled population growth remained one of the most important challenges facing the country. Four years after the launch of the development strategy, it is clear that there is no tangible progress in restructuring the non-Qatari workforce, particularly with regard to raising the level of skills and increasing wages. There is a long way that Qatar has made in the past two decades in the field of reforming and developing higher education systems, in addition to reforming and developing the national economy, by opening up to global markets or overlapping with them, which was positively reflected in institutional building and development, but productivity was not one of the pillars on which it was based. to the Qatari economy in a way that enables it to maintain its growth rate, and to achieve maximum benefit from the educational outputs of citizens, so the private sector continued to rely almost entirely on cheap semi / unskilled labour.

3. Information security challenge: This has changed the forms of wars between states, especially in light of the progress in technological means and information systems and the development of new forms of wars and security threats, which has made the space of cyber power significant and important in military and civil strategies. As it is the Gulf crisis that began in 2017 between Qatar on the one hand and the countries of Saudi Arabia, the Emirates and Bahrain, with them Egypt on the other hand, is one of the most challenging challenges facing the GCC countries, but rather it constitutes a very important challenge. In view of Qatar hosting the 2022 World Cup, it recently called for the establishment of a unified international platform through Interpol to enhance communication and cooperation in the field of cybersecurity for sporting events. This latest development shows that Qatar is aware of the need for international participation in cybersecurity efforts around the world. The cyber conflict has become one of the aspects of international interactions, similar to cyber attacks and cyber warfare.

4. Loyalties below the state

After decades of living under the umbrella of the political state and longer decades before it of national affiliation geographically, socially and emotionally, the expected result is the dissolution of sub-allegations, including tribal, in its negative content in favor of the broader and more comprehensive affiliation, which is the homeland. Reinforcing loyalties in their negative content at the expense of national affiliation. Sub-loyalties do not build a nation, rather they are time bombs that will play a role in scattering it at times of crisis. This country, small and small in population, has enough challenges and cannot tolerate further fragmentation and weakening.
The third axis: Mechanisms for strengthening the Qatari national identity

Citizenship she Basis Get up the state modern, and vote he The means optimum that managed citizen from that pass on banner, and practiced its effect in life the public, And it guarantees respect his freedoms; And this Vision trendy She was present Strongly in to set Milestones identification citizen diagonal; Which identification get up on multiple dimensions:

1. Consolidation tolerant in spirit trust between citizen and state on Basis respect his freedom And his desire in participation in administration affairs local within context the frame general for development overall home, and adoption option The election with all what mean it that from rumor the culture electoral in the society; whether from where packing political, or education politician, or Acceptance its results whether attached command by winning or loss pain less Maurice Horio in Context:"that citizen no completed his culture political unless on road The election local"

2. growing consciousness citizen important turn; And that from during lift Who roof Claim political social imposed some Of which here Improves the talk on citizen active and positive-and he what manifested on more from level:claim By qualifying The university within conditions candidacy for elections, and not sufficiency Once Ability on reading writing, and claim reinforcement powers the Council baladi; And that from during urgency in the invitation to formation A committee shared gathering body Works the public and ministry Municipal And the board municipal to supervise on Projects structure substratum and follow them and claim-also-that He presents deputies revealed annually for edema Finance to that expire Duration their state, and claim review to divide circles electoral, and claim like that Necessarily Strengthen Role woman in participation political from during Customize rate from Seating the Council municipal for the woman addition to issues other I floated Recently on Surface to translate turn degree maturity Qatari society and its development; from that for example protection consumer And the province on the environment.

3. transcend Brown traditional Thanks to take sentence from procedures legal; it is during to organize rules Hype electoral It turns out the desire in to update the society via Renounce all what diverts Without Procedure elections competitive impartial and he what explains for example to forbid Hype in Places Worship

4. The state has also taken care not to create competitive affiliations that contribute to creating any kind of conflict between members of society. It forbade declaring political affiliations and forming parties out of appreciation because that might lead them, over time, to clash
with those who disagree with them in the same society. Despite the multiplicity of sects and races of the citizens in Qatar, and despite the multiplicity of races, religions and sects of the residents of Qatar, the country has never witnessed any sectarian or sectarian conflict. The country's leadership is keen not to prejudice that diversity, and the citizens, for their part, do not allow these issues to turn into public debate or a cause of social division. The Qatari constitution formed the basis for the Qatari identity. It stipulates that Qatari society "is based on the pillars of justice, benevolence, freedom, equality, and good morals." On the basis of this foundation of values, the constitution set a framework for the form that society should take, whether in terms of the supreme decisions of the state or the individual practices of citizens. In the interest of emphasizing the national gains in the field of community cohesion, strengthening its identity, and keenness to uphold and continue to strengthen it, the following text was mentioned in Article 20 of the constitution: "The state shall work to consolidate the spirit of national unity, solidarity and brotherhood among all citizens." Rather, it has strengthened and entrenched religious values. Arab Islamic identity. In the same context, on the contrary, the official media went hand in hand with the intellectual and religious orientations of the Qatari people, as it was their mirror that reflected their reality and contributed to strengthening their identity.

5. Even the naturalization processes in Qatar, with the exception of the sports naturalization, which was for goals not related to the social aspects of society, were deliberate so that most of the new entrants to society constitute an extension of the families in it, with firm roots in their land. It was not random, as happened in the State of Bahrain, which has naturalized large numbers of people who do not belong to the identity of the community and do not understand its language. Then, it included them in the security and military institutions in a confrontation with the citizens. Nor did Qatar suffer from the Bidun problem, which has reached an advanced stage in Kuwait and has begun to affect the structure and composition of society. Nor was the state divided into regions such as Saudi Arabia and the Emirates, so that each region has its own identity, culture, and heritage, which creates a state of collision between the people of each region and deepens conflict and competition between the ruling families or their representatives in each region.

Conclusion:

Considered thenational identityA political bond, not an ethnic or religious one, as it is the product of the democratic systems produced by the strong state. Where there are constitutions and laws that regulate the life of the human group that lives on its territory,
according to multiple rights and duties: civil, political, economic and social, consistent with the principles of equality, justice, human rights values, respect for cultural and pluralism, and belonging to the state and not to individuals. That's why National Identity not only texts and documents, but holding citizens collectively responsible for giving priority to the general interest of society and the state over private interests through participation, respect for laws, and protection of the state when it is exposed to threats and dangers, in a way that creates positive and effective citizenship and continuous national identity. Qatar today has become dependent on the solidarity of the people with the leadership in making fateful decisions related to the future, in addition to that Qatar Real practical steps in this direction have begun. There is no doubt that preserving the strength gains of the crisis or those that formed identity and belonging crisis A safety valve for the state, leadership and people in the future.

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