Authoritarian Personalities and their Geopolitical Approach (Case Study: Claiming Territory)

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Abstract

When analyzing the histories of nations, it becomes clear that times of crisis often give rise to various figures who position themselves as problem solvers. Among these, authoritarian leaders are particularly notable. While certain aspects of their childhoods are frequently cited as significant, the geopolitical contexts and global shifts during their rise to power are equally crucial. These leaders typically emerge in countries experiencing similar external pressures, regional conflicts, or transformations in the international balance of power. By examining these shared geopolitical circumstances alongside personal histories, we gain valuable insight into the emergence and appeal of such figures during turbulent periods.

This study identifies eight widely recognized cases from 1919 to 2011, including Adolf Hitler, Manuel Noriega, Idi Amin, Muammar Gaddafi, Benito Mussolini, Saddam Hussein, Pol Pot, and Tojo Hideki. Using a descriptive, analytical, and comparative approach, it seeks to answer the question: how do authoritarian figures exploit geopolitical environments to consolidate and expand their power? The findings suggest that such leaders often use ongoing crises to legitimize their actions, manipulate public sentiment, and push territorial or ideological agendas. To enhance accuracy and pattern recognition, artificial intelligence (AI) techniques were employed in the analysis phase. These tools helped reveal recurring behavioral and geopolitical patterns that may otherwise remain unnoticed. The study emphasizes the importance of identifying these dynamics early to prevent future international crises.

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1. Introduction

Throughout history, relationships between nations have experienced numerous fluctuations (Hafeznia,2016), influenced by a variety of factors (Rezaei and Others,2023). Statistics suggest that in authoritarian regimes, compared to democratic ones, there is a higher propensity for actions leading to geo-military tensions (Peceny and Butler,2004:569). We must emphasize that our analysis is objective and free of value judgments (Bueter,2022:310). While historical events have led to authoritarianism acquiring a negative connotation (Sudha and Shahnawaz,2020), authoritarianism and democracy are not necessarily opposites, with one ending where the other begins (Chen,2018:501-509). They may be viewed as points on a spectrum, where some democracies contain authoritarian elements, and some authoritarian regimes incorporate democratic features. Authoritarianism is generally defined by the rejection of social pluralism, the use of strong central power to maintain the political status quo, and the erosion of the rule of law, the separation of powers, and democratic voting (Power,2018:311). The authoritarian personality, meanwhile, is characterized by a tendency to exhibit unquestioning obedience and respect for authority (Boucher,2021:92-93). The combination of these two—personality and government—results in a leader-centric authoritarian regime (Abdul-Qadir and Others,2020:1-3). Consequently, a power-driven individual at the helm of an authoritarian government tends to exert their influence over the nation and its institutions in a manner often perceived as power-hungry (Zorlu,2019:29).

Two philosophical perspectives exist on the relationship between an authoritarian government and an authoritarian personality. Additionally, from a phenomenological perspective, the interaction between the reader's agency and the leader's influence becomes crucial. Knowledge is not merely an objective representation of reality, but an openness shaped by the individual's mental perception, particularly influenced by powerful leaders.

The first perspective distinguishes between the two, where the authoritarian personality does not hold absolute power but instead occupies a role within the government or a symbolic position. The second perspective, which is the focus of our research, views the ruler and the government as indistinguishable; the fall of one equates to the fall of the other. In this view, when the entire government system is under the ruler's control, the distinction between authoritarianism and the authoritarian personality

disappears—the ruler's word becomes synonymous with the government's policies. Such systems are often identified by an "ism" attached to the ruler's name or by the central personality of the government, for example, Trumpism in the United States or Germany under Hitler from 1933 to 1945. This type of authoritarian regime represents the most concentrated form of power, where authority reaches its peak (Baumeister,2007).

Our criteria for selecting cases of power exercised by these authoritarian figures are drawn from the book "Principles and Concepts." While there are many indicators of the exercise of power, which often manifest as tensions and conflicts between nations under authoritarian rule, Hafeznia's book distills these into eight general categories: 1. Territorial factors, 2. Geostrategic factors, 3. Political factors, 4. Geo-cultural factors, 5. Agents of virtual space, 6. Environmental factors, 7. Geo-economic factors, and 8. Hydrophilic agents. In this research, we focus specifically on the territorial factor, examining territory and geopolitical borders.

Table (1): Territorial Factors Lead to Tension and Conflict in Relations between Countries

1	Disagreement over the ownership of the islands
2	Border and territorial disputes
3	Having a claim to the territorial territory of the neighbors

(**Source:** Hafeznia,2020:205)

Among these factors and concepts, authoritarianism has consistently maintained a distinct and profound focus on territorial issues, including territory and geopolitical borders. These concerns have often been the primary causes of authoritarian conflicts in recent centuries (E. Strakes, 2016).This research aims to demonstrate how authoritarian personalities typically handle territories under the control of other governments or territories they lay claim to. Therefore, our central research question is: How does an authoritarian figure at the helm of a nation's political power approach territorial factors, including geopolitical borders and territory, in international relations? Our primary hypothesis, supported by evidence, suggests that while some regimes and individuals pursue military actions

leading to international crises, the specific behaviors of authoritarian leaders are often shaped by their unique cognitive models, making generalizations difficult. In other words, these behaviors can only be generalized by carefully aligning specific personality traits and geopolitical factors, and cannot be broadly generalized. However, it is crucial to analyze the processes that dictate how such actions are carried out. As shown in Figure 1, many factors influence international relations, with territorial issues lying at the core of our discussion. Territorial factors, encompassing both territory and geopolitical borders, are central, as two out of three cases of disputes in our study lead to heightened tensions between nations. These territorial factors are significantly influenced by the interplay between personality and the exercise of sovereign power (Figure 1).
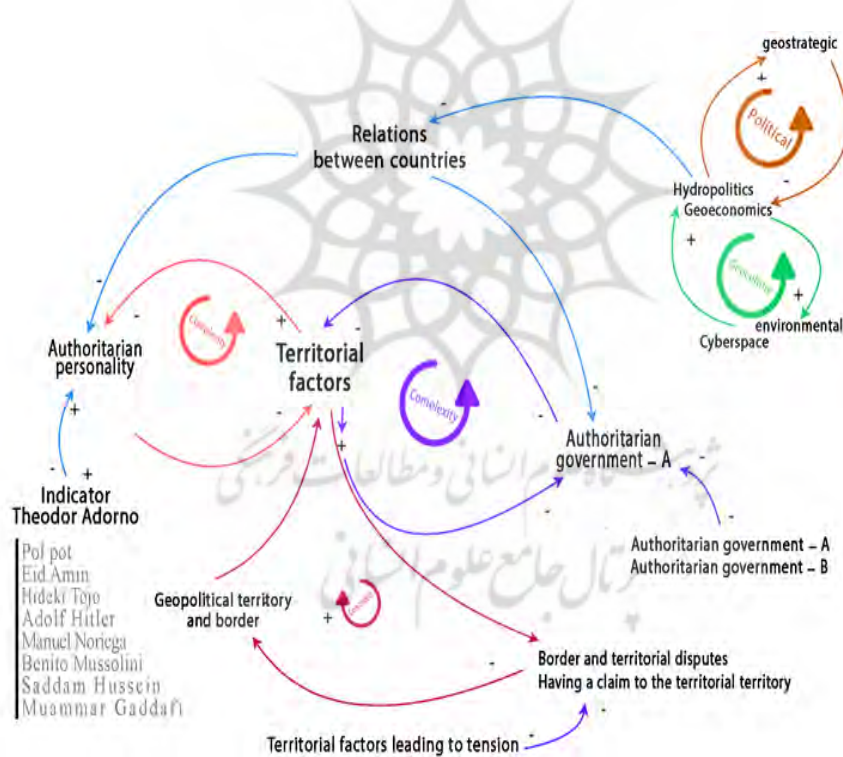

Figure (1): Conceptual Model of the Relatiinship between Different Factors in Relations between Countries
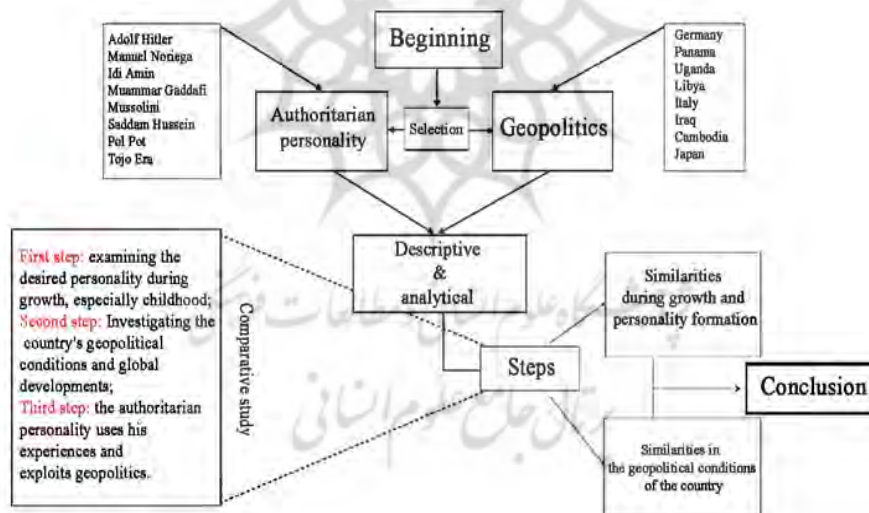
2. Research Method and Study Area

2-1. Research Method

This research employs a descriptive-analytical and comparative approach. The data collection process is primarily based on library research. After gathering and classifying the data, the analysis is conducted mainly through logical reasoning and qualitative methods. The findings are then presented using a graphical model. The research is structured into three steps:

First Step: Examining the development of the target personality, with a particular focus on childhood experiences.

Second Step: Investigating the country's geopolitical conditions and global developments during the individual's rise to power.

Third Step: Analyzing how the authoritarian figure applies their experiences and exploits geopolitical factors to consolidate and expand their power, using artificial intelligence analyses to identify patterns and correlations (See Fig. 2 below).

Figuer (2): Research Method Diagram

2-2. Study Area

The field of study of the current research is the countries and the era of the personalities, including the countries of Nazi Germany during the period of Adolf Hitler (1933-1945), and Panama during the period of Manuel Noriega

(1983-1989). Uganda during the Idi Amin era (1971-1979), Libya during the Muammar Gaddafi era (1979-2011), Italy during the Mussolini era (1919-1945), Iraq during the Saddam Hussein era (1979-2003), Cambodia during the Pol Pot era (1975-1979), and Japan during the Tojo Era (1941-1944). These governments are included in all continents and tried to have a normal distribution in the geography of the world (Figure 3).
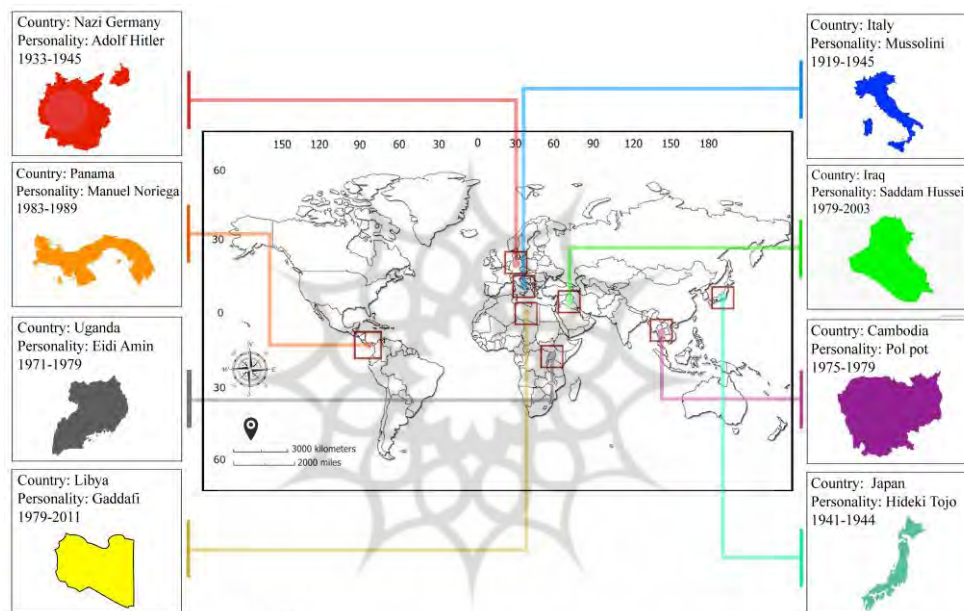

Figure (3): Study Area and Information

Spatial distribution, as shown in Figure 4, in the first period, that is; During the period from 1919 to 1944, we chose the three authoritarian governments of Italy, Germany, and Japan, which are the two countries of Italy and Germany from Europe and the country of Japan from Asia. In the second period, that is; From 1971 to 1979, three authoritarian governments of Uganda, Cambodia, and Iraq were elected, the two countries of Cambodia and Iraq are from Asia and Uganda is from Africa. In the third period, that is; From 1979 to 2011, two authoritarian governments of Libya and Panama were elected, Libya in Africa and Panama in Central America (Figure 4).
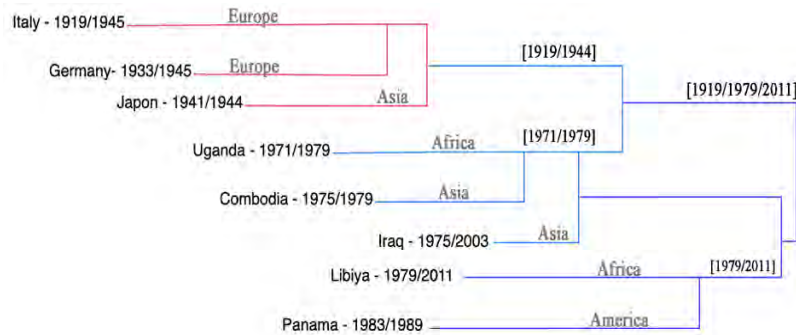
Figure (4): Timeline Information of the Countries Marked on the Map

3. Theoretical Background

The distinctions between authoritarian leaders, totalitarian monarchies, and one-party governments are subtle yet significant, despite all involving centralized and authoritarian control. While all these governments are managed by authoritarian leaders, the nature of leadership and governmental structure varies among them.

3-1. Adorno's Theory Authoritarian Personality

The concept of the authoritarian personality was first introduced by Adorno and his colleagues (2019), stemming from their examination of the psychological underpinnings of authoritarianism and far-right ideologies in response to the rise of fascism under Hitler's Germany. This seminal work remains highly relevant today, offering critical insights into how certain psychological traits predispose individuals to authoritarian tendencies and maintaining its significance in the study of social psychology.

Building upon this foundational research, Gerda Lederer and Richard Christie (2012) edited a comprehensive volume that emerged from discussions within the International Society of Political Psychology. Their book provides an extensive analysis of both the psychological and sociological dimensions of authoritarianism, exploring its multifaceted nature and implications for political behavior. This volume deepens the understanding of how authoritarianism influences and shapes societal and individual behaviors.

A further significant contribution to the field is the critical review conducted by John P. Kirscht and Ronald C. Dillehay (2014), who analyzed around 260 studies related to authoritarianism. Their review differentiates between

the psychological origins of authoritarian tendencies and their sociological effects. Kirscht and Dillehay explore how authoritarianism is associated with behaviors such as ethnic prejudice and is influenced by factors like child-rearing practices. Their comprehensive review not only consolidates existing research but also identifies promising directions for future research on authoritarianism.

The seminal work by Adorno et al. (1950) introduced the "F scale" (where 'F' stands for fascist) to define and rank personality traits associated with authoritarianism. According to their findings, the authoritarian personality can be characterized by nine traits that are believed to cluster together as a result of specific childhood experiences. These traits include conventionalism, authoritarian submission, authoritarian aggression, anti-intellectualism, superstition and stereotypy, power and "toughness," destructiveness and cynicism, projection, and exaggerated concerns about sex (Adorno and Others,1950:228). This framework laid the groundwork for understanding how certain personality profiles are linked to authoritarian ideologies and remains influential in the study of political psychology.

3-2. Geopolitical Factors of Tension between Countries
Since geopolitics is the study of the mutual relationships of geography, power, and politics and accounts for consequences resulting from their interaction, a model that can explain all sources of tension between counties should include all variables related to three parameters of geography, power, and politics (see Fig. 5 below) (Hafeznia and et al.,2013:28-29).

Figure (5): Geopolitica Source of the Conflict in Relations between Countries
(**Source:** Hafeznia and Others,2013:32)

4. The Research Findings

4-1. Benito Mussolini - Italy (1919-1945)

The roots of all far-right protest movements, whether in the 1960s (Bruno-Jofré,2019:5) or 2018, have grown in Europe over many years, owing to one man, Italy's Benito Mussolini (Sondel-Cedarmas,2018:50).

4-1-1. Personality

Born in 1883 (Mussolini,2019:337), Mussolini was formed under the circumstances of a fanatical and violent personality (Iodice,2018). He learned bigotry from his father (Bills,2022). Violence since his school days, when he was expelled from school (Mussardo and Mussardo,2020:187-188) because of excessive violence (Gallo,2019). These issues made him see everything in violence along with extremism and war, and finally, he became a violent and fanatical man as an adult (Bondar,2017:36).

4-1-2. Geopolitics

Italy, situated in Southern Europe with its capital in the historic city of Rome, encompasses the Italian peninsula as well as the islands of Sicily and Sardinia in the Mediterranean Sea. The country's history includes significant periods such as Mussolini's rule (Gallo,2019). Historically, Italy was marked by a feudal society (Kamenka,2017:820), characterized by impoverished villages (Bills,2022) and substantial immigration (Minervini, 2019). Its elongated geography contributed to notable cultural and economic disparities between the northern and southern regions (D'Attoma, 2017: 69-70). The central government's authority over Italy and its colonies was often weak (Gigantino,2019:11). Additionally, Italy's strategic location, including its control over islands like Sicily, was crucial for any governing authority (Grazia,2020:174). Loss of control over Sicily, whether due to rebellion or challenges to government legitimacy, presented a significant threat (Painter, 2018:683). The complex geopolitical landscape of Italy added further difficulty to governance for any administration (Goeschel,2018:10) (Table 2).

Table (2): Summary of Benito Mussolini

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Benito Amilcare Andrea Mussolini	Journalist, Military, Politician, Teacher	Country: Italy
1. Born 29 July 1883 Dovia di Predappio, Kingdom of Italy **2. In office** 31 October 1922 – 25 July 1943 **3. Died** 28 April 1945 (**aged** 61) Giulino di Mezzegra, Kingdom of Italy	**1. Belief in** Fascist Italy **2. Political life** Italian Socialist Party (1901–1914) Fascio d'Azione Rivoluzionaria (1915–1919) Fasci Italiani di Combattimento (1919–1921) National Fascist Party (1921–1943) Republican Fascist Party (1943–1945)	1. **Capital** and largest city Rome 41°54′N 12°29′E 2. **Religion** (2020) 84.4% Christianity 11.6% No religion 1.0% Islam 3.0% Others 3. **Area** Total 301,230 km^2 **In fact, Italy never functions as a whole; Italy is geographically, historically and politically divided.**

(**Source:** Goeschel,2018:1; Roche and Demetriou,2017:333)

4-2. Adolf Hitler - Germany (1933-1945)

Adolf Hitler was not born a leader. Within just 12 years, he transformed from a homeless painter (Evans,2018:8) to a common soldier (Neher,2017) and eventually became the undisputed leader of a powerful political party (Selb and Munzert,2018:1050). On August 2, 1914, at the age of 25, Hitler was still an unknown figure at Odeon Platz (Robertson,2019:7). By June 1940, just 25 years later, he had led Germany to victory over France, with a grand victory parade in Berlin marking the beginning of his formidable rise (Strange,2020:219).

4-2-1. Personality

Hitler was born on April 20, 1889 (Katzman, 2018:7), because of the harsh behavior of his father (Husain and Liebertz,2019), Hitler was always punished hard and this harsh behavior hurt him (Hartanto and Setiawan, 2021:389). On the other hand, his mother behaved with kindness (Hertog, 2020:17), and in fact, Hitler grew up between his mother's feelings and his father's violence, which was later evident in his speeches, behavior, and performance (Uzelac,2021:130). In his youth, Hitler had many failures, including; Being deprived of his favorite field by his father (Husain and Liebertz,2019), failing the art exam and ruining his dreams to become a painter (Berkin,2022:256), and the death of his parents in his childhood (Jones,2020:16), which made him intolerant of failure in adulthood

(Brenner,2018). Hitler became an authoritarian personality dominated by a combination of frustration, violence, and hatred.

4-2-2. Geopolitics

Nazi Germany is a common title to describe the 12 years in German history, from the time the National Socialist German Workers' Party came to power in this country in 1933 until its fall in 1945. This research period is known as Adolf Hitler's rule (Fischer,2018:21). One of the biggest geopolitical problems of Germany was the loss of territories of this country during the First World War (Kadercan,2017:21), which created a feeling of nationalism and xenophobia among the people (De Juan and Others,2021:9). For example, the industrial and economic zone of Rhineland belonging to Germany was one of these important areas that the Germans were not allowed to enter and other areas separated from Germany (Roland,2020), which the Germans always wanted to return these areas and end this geopolitical crisis (Schmalz,2020:2) (Table 3).

Table (3): Summary of Adolf Hitler

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Adolf Hitler	Military, Political, Writer	Country: Germany
1. Born 20 April 1889 Braunau am Inn, Austria-Hungary **2. In office** 30 January 1933 – 30 April 1945 **3. Died** 30 April 1945 (**aged 56**) Berlin, Nazi Germany	**1. Belief in** Nazi Germany **2. Political life** Nazi Party (1921–1945) **3. Other political affiliations** German Workers' Party (1919–1920) **4. Citizenship** Austrian (1889–1925) Stateless (1925–1932) German (1932–1945) **5. Ideology** racist ideology based on the totalitarian and autocratic	**1. Capital** and largest city Berlin 52°31′N 13°23′E **2. Government** Unitary Nazi one-party fascist state under a totalitarian dictatorship **3. Area** 1939 - 633,786 km^2 1940 - 823,505 km^2 **4. Population** • 1939 - 79,375,281 • 1940 - 109,518,183

(**Source:** Payne,2016)

4-3. Hideki Tojo - Japan (1941-1944)

In 1937, Japan invaded China (Chen,2021:514), and the focal point of this aggressive move was General Tojo (Kawamura,2021). Tojo was known for

his unwavering loyalty to the emperor and the ideals of Japan (Hoffmann, 2021). His resolute character earned him the nickname "Razor" (Cunha, 2021:36). Tojo's career progressed from that of an ordinary individual to a professional soldier, eventually rising to the ranks of general and ultimately serving as both the Minister of War and the Prime Minister of Japan (Chappell and Others:2018).

4-3-1. Personality
Tojo was born on December 30, 1884, to a generation of Japanese samurai in a poor family (Kaelberer,2017:29). Influenced by his samurai background, Meiji education (Kaelberer and Fitzgerald,2017:14-15), and the hardships of living in poverty, he was a suitable person to become a soldier because these life conditions made him hardworking, stubborn, serious in his work, thoughtful, and interested in discussion, and, most importantly, from the branch of the importance of authoritarianism means being angry (Burtness and Ober,2017:98). Here it is necessary to mention that in the samurai culture, surrendering, in any case, is considered a disgrace and humiliation (Hoffmann,2021), and these thoughts were in Tojo's behavior and later issued by him in the war under an order called Senjinkun (Dear and Foot,2001:47). Tojo's views in adulthood were fascist, nationalist, and militaristic (Huang,2017:423).

4-3-2. Geopolitics
Japan is an island country in East Asia located in the northwest of the Pacific Ocean (Craig and Others,2020). Japan has a blue border with Russia to the north, the Sea of Japan, China, North Korea, and South Korea to the west (Armstrong and Armstrong,2020). This period is known for the leadership of Tojo Hideki, one of the generals of the Imperial Japanese Army, the Prime Minister of Japan, and the head of the Imperial Law Support Association (Mauch,2018 :36). Being an archipelago of Japan is both good and bad for this country so it can be a good defense of the territory, but on the other hand, it also has the risk of sea blockade for the country (tripsandheels.com). In the 20th century, Japan was caught up in the war with China and was growing territorially, which led to the reaction of the United States and its allies (Gruhl,2017), and as a result, started crippling economic sanctions against Japan. Japanese assets were frozen and an oil embargo and seizure of Japanese tankers in the ports were imposed (Pyle,2018) (Table 4).

Table (4): Summary of Hideki Tojo

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Hideki Tojo	Politician, General	Country: Japan
1. Born December 30, 1884 Kōjimachi Ward, Tokyo **2. In office** October 18, 1941 – July 22, 1944 **3. Died** December 23, 1948 (**aged 63**) Sugamo Prison, Tokyo	**1. Belief in** Empire of Japan **2. Political life** Imperial Rule Assistance Association (1940–1945) **3. Other political affiliations** Independent (before 1940) **4. Alma mater** Imperial Japanese Army Academy Army War College	1. **Capital** and largest city Tokyo 35°41′N 139°46′E **2. Government** under a Shōwa Statist one- party totalitarian military dictatorship (1940–1945) **3. Area** 1938 - 1,984,000 km^2 1942 - 7,400,000 km^2

(**Source:** Hinder,1942:705-707; Pusey,2017:72)

4-4. Idi Amin - Uganda (1971-1979)

Idi Amin transformed from an ordinary individual into a formidable leader who instilled fear in his adversaries. He rose to become the commander-in-chief of the army and eventually assumed the highest position in the country (Khater and Saab, 2022:394).

4-4-1. Personality

Uganda in 1952; Idi Amin's rise to power began with his joining the British colonial army (Leonard Boyle,2017:8). In the British Army, Amin learned how to use violence and control his anger to advance his goals (Lowman, 2020), Therefore Amin learned that controlled violence gives him two advantages: A) increasing his power (Leonard Boyle,2017:7) and B) destroying his enemies (Peterson,2021:629). In other words, the more violence Amin used, the higher his rank was (Leopold,2020:85). Amin learned that anyone who threatens his power should be removed with complete violence (Peterson and Others,2021:21).

4-4-2. Geopolitics

Uganda is a landlocked country in the east of the African continent, whose capital is Kampala. Uganda shares borders with South Sudan to the north, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west, Kenya to the east, Tanzania to the south, and Rwanda to the southwest. This period, which we examine in the research, is known as the reign of Eid Amin

(Leopold,2022:140-162). The first problem of the country of Uganda was being under British colonial rule (Benabdi,2018:34), where the best resources were in the hands of the British (Sollund and Runhovde,2020: 1024); Uganda had faced many economic problems due to years of colonialism, and on the other hand (Duminy,2018:12), due to the divisions and incorrect demarcations during the colonial period (Nassenstein, 2019: 23), Uganda had problems with its southern neighbor Tanzania (Aldrich, 2020). The second problem was that there was a royal tribe in Uganda that challenged the central government (Mazrui,2019), on the other hand, in the years when Obote came to power, there was a power struggle between him and Amin (Leonard Boyle 2017:8) (Table 5).

Table (5): Summary of Idi Amin

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Idi Amin	Military service - Field Marshal	Country: Uganda
1. Born c. 1925 Koboko, Uganda Protectorate **2. In office** 25 January 1971 – 11 April 1979 **3. Died** 16 August 2003 (**aged 77–78**) Jeddah, Mecca, Saudi Arabia	**1. Belief in** Uganda Army **2. Political life** 3rd President of Uganda **3. Other political affiliations** —-	1. **Capital** and largest city Kampala 00°18′49″N 32°34′52″E **2. Government** Unitary presidential republic under an autocratic military dictatorship **3. Area** 241,038 km² **4. History** • Amin seizes power - 25 January 1971 • Expulsion of Asians - August 1972 • Uganda–Tanzania War - 30 October 1978 • Fall of Kampala - 11 April 1979 • Last pro-Amin holdouts ousted from Uganda

(**Source:** Peterson,2021:620-640)

4-5. Pol Pot - Cambodia (1975-1979)

Pol Pot was a leader who sought to obliterate the past and anyone associated with it. He led a regime responsible for the deaths of approximately 1.7 million people, serving as a stark example of a killing machine (Kiernan, 2003:587).

4-5-1. Personality

Pol Pot was born in 1925 (Chandler,2018:34) in a self-claimed poor peasant family (De Vries and Weerdesteijn,2018). Since childhood, he lacked academic talent and even when he received a scholarship from the

government, he was forced to return to Cambodia after some time due to his unfavorable academic situation (De Vries and Weerdesteijn,2018:11). On the one hand, this process of his growth, especially being humiliated and failing in life and education, and on the other hand, the influence of communist ideas on him, which he was introduced to in France, formed his introspective and xenophobic personality, which contained hatred and violence (Chandler,2018), had given place This hatred was aimed at two educated and prosperous groups (De Vries and Weerdesteijn,2018:16), exactly what he lacked.

4-5-2. Geopolitics

Cambodia is an independent country in Southeast Asia located in the Indochina region. Cambodia with an area of 181,035 square kilometers; is the 90th largest country in the world. This research period is known as Pol Pot leadership (Kiernan,2021:345). The first and biggest geopolitical issue of Cambodia was the border issue with Vietnam, which eventually led to war between the two countries (Kiernan,2021:4). The second case was the political inefficiency of the government of the Kingdom of Cambodia in the administration of the country (Short,2004:83), which paved the way for civil war (Table 6).

Table (6): Summary of Pol Pot

Name	**Personality**	**Geopolitics**
Pol Pot	Politician, Cambodian Revolutionary	Country: Cambodia
1. Born 19 May 1925 Prek Sbauv, Kampong Thom Province **2. In office** 22 February 1963 – 6 December 1981 **3. Died** 15 April 1998 (**aged 72**) Anlong Veng, Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia	**1. Belief in** Marxist–Leninist and a Khmer nationalist **2. Political life** Party of Democratic Kampuchea (1981–1993) Communist Party of Kampuchea (1960–1981) **3. Political position** Far-left 1951–1968 (political party) 1968–1975 (insurgency) 1975–1979 (government) 1979–1999 (insurgency)	1. **Capital** and largest city Phnom Penh 11°33′N 104°55′E **2. Ideology** Communism Autarky Khmer nationalism **3. Area** 181,035 km^2

(**Source:** Chandler,2018)

4-6. Saddam Hussein - Iraq (1979-2003)

In 2003, the United States invaded Iraq (Butt,2019:250) in search of Saddam Hussein. Saddam had ruled Iraq with absolute authority for approximately 30 years, during which he was responsible for numerous disasters (Cristol,2018).

4-6-1. Personality

Saddam was born on April 28, 1937, in Tikrit, Iraq (Hammoud, 2020: 2351), to a poor family that was descended from nomadic tribes (Yaroub, 2018:8). By the age of 13, he had lost both his father and brother, so he was ridiculed and harassed by others due to the lack of family support (Post, 1991:279). Saddam gradually realized that by relying on high physical strength and violence (Dalacoura,2017), he can overcome others and ridicule them. He learned the effect of using violence in advancing his goals from his childhood (Fazal,2022) and knew that having an enemy can also lead to progress so in adulthood he always considered others guilty and enemies (Wauters,2017).

4-6-2. Geopolitics

Iraq, located in the Middle East and Southwest Asia, has Baghdad as its capital. It shares borders with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to the south, Jordan and Syria to the west, Turkey to the north, and Iran to the east. Additionally, Iraq has a small coastline along the Persian Gulf in its southern part. The focus of this research is on the period of Saddam Hussein's rule (Mylroie, 2019:41). Iraq's strategic location, with its transportation routes to key regional countries, water networks, and other fixed geopolitical factors, holds significant importance (Eslami and Others,2021).

Historically, Iraq was governed by undemocratic monarchs who, despite the country's challenging geography, maintained good relations with their neighbors. This was largely due to these leaders' compliance with colonial powers and the lack of a strong, effective military compared to other countries in the region. The absence of prominent figures during this period can be attributed to harsh conditions such as intolerable poverty, severe economic problems, and frequent wars in the Middle East. For a prominent personality to emerge, conditions must be challenging yet manageable, allowing individuals to grow, rather than being so severe that no progress can be made. Throughout the 20th century, Iraq's turbulent politics led to widespread protests and riots (Işıksal,2018). This chaotic environment saw the rise of radical groups, including the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP)

(Sluglett,2018:101) and nationalist movements (Efrati,2018), while the need for national reconstruction became increasingly urgent (Alaaldin, 2018:10). Ethnically, Iraq is diverse, with Arabs and Kurds being the most prominent groups in the ongoing power struggle (Shanks,2019:32). The country is also home to Shia and Sunni Muslims, Jews, Christians, and other ethnic and religious minorities (Balanche,2018). During this period, Iraq was under British control through a puppet government, leading to British dominance over its resources (Marr,2018). This situation fostered extreme nationalism, with various demands for independence and territorial claims, including in areas such as Khuzestan in Iran (Tamon,2023:132).

Saddam Hussein was able to establish an authoritarian regime in Iraq through a unique combination of personal characteristics and favorable geopolitical conditions. His harsh childhood experiences shaped a perspective in which violence was seen as a tool for advancement. This, coupled with his ability to use force and intimidation to control others, as well as a sense of paranoia and distrust towards "enemies," led to the creation of a highly stringent control system. On the other hand, Iraq's strategic position attracted the attention of major powers, which Saddam exploited to his advantage. The country's ethnic and religious diversity also provided grounds for implementing divisive policies. Additionally, Iraq's history of colonialism and undemocratic governments had accustomed people to accepting strong leadership. Saddam's personality particularly aligned with Iraq's conditions at the time. The country's political instability matched his decisive approach to controlling power, and his extreme nationalism resonated with the anti-colonial sentiments present in society. This combination of factors provided a suitable foundation for Saddam Hussein to establish and consolidate his authoritarian rule in Iraq. Prior to Saddam's rise, Iraq had not experienced such a situation where a leader's personality and geopolitical circumstances aligned so perfectly (Table 7).

Table (7): Summary of Saddam Hussein

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Saddam Hussein	Military -Marshal, Politician	Country: Iraq
1. Born 28 April 1937 Al-Awja, Saladin Governorate **2. In office** 16 July 1979 – 9 April 2003 **3. Died** 30 December 2006 **(aged 69)** Camp Justice, Kadhimiya,	**1. Belief in** Enlightenment of the Arabs **2. Political life** Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party (1957–1966) Iraq-based Ba'ath Party (1966–2006) National Progressive Front (1974–2003)	1. **Capital** and largest city Baghdad 33°20′N 44°23′E **2. Ethnic groups** 75-80% Arab 15-20% Kurdish 5% other **3. Religion** 90% Islam 59% Shia Islam 31% Sunni Islam

(**Source:** Post,1991)

4-7. Muammar Gaddafi - Libya (1979-2011)

Muammar Gaddafi was a unique figure in the history of Libya, Africa, and the world (Islam and Razu,2017:897). He held distinctive and personal views in various fields, insisting on their implementation across different geographical scales (Fasanotti,2017:95). Despite his revolutionary approach and unconventional style, Gaddafi managed to rule for 42 years (Winer, 2019:1), which was nearly twice as long as Saddam Hussein's rule, four times longer than Hitler's, and five times longer than Idi Amin's. This longevity highlights his reliance on and manipulation of power.

4-7-1.Personality

Gaddafi was born to a poor (İkiz,2019:26), illiterate (Gadour,2018), and Bedouin family (İkiz,2019:26) in 1942 in a village called the Qadhadhfa (Bearman,1986:58). He was influenced by the Bedouin culture since childhood (Senoussi, 2021) and was proud of this as an adult, but in his childhood, due to being a Bedouin, he was harassed, harassed and ridiculed by others, especially his friends, but he was always proud of himself and his profession (Zainal,2020:47), which showed signs of It showed becoming powerful in the future. Gaddafi's growth period coincided with many developments in the world, including the defeat of the Arabs from Israel (Makovsky,2018), which caused Gaddafi's tendency to nationalism and patriotism under the influence of Gamal Abdel Nasser (Nwaezeigwe,2021:13), on the one hand, he hated the colonial interventions

of the world powers, and under the influence of the school of Islam to a new structure The government thought The combination of militarism and nationalism made Gaddafi a revolutionary personality (Alunni,2020).

4-7-2.**Geopolitics**

Libya is a country in North Africa located in the south of the Mediterranean Sea. Libya has a common border with Egypt from the east, Sudan from the southeast, Chad and Niger from the south, Algeria from the west, Tunisia from the northwest, and the Mediterranean Sea from the north. which has a coastline of 1,770 km. This period that we examine in the research is known as Gaddafi's rule (Badi,2021:22). Libya's geopolitical problems were very serious both during the period before Gaddafi and after it, including; The problem of the water crisis in Libya in the form of hydro-politics, which faced the country with water shortage (Brika,2019:352). On the other hand, Libya has constant geopolitical factors, including huge oil and gas resources (Joffé,2020), but in the 20th century, it was under the colonial rule of great powers. The most important geopolitical event of Gaddafi's era was the dispute over the Gulf of Sidra with the United States (globalsecurity.org), which led to a military conflict. In the meantime (McManus,2019:28), he had another dispute with the country of Chad (Hansen,2020), which led to a severe military conflict (Table 8).

Table (8): Summary of Muammar Gaddafi

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Muammar Gaddafi	Military, Revolutionary, Political Theorist	Country: Libya
1. Born c. 1942 **2. In office** 2 March 1979 – 20 October 2011 **3. Died** 30 December 2006 - 20 October 2011 **(aged 68–69)**	**1. Belief in** Arab nationalism and Arab socialism Third International Theory **2. Political life** Arab Socialist Union (1971–1977) Independent (1977–2011) **3. Alma mater** University of Libya	1. **Capital** and largest city Tripoli 32°52′N 13°11′E **2. Ethnic groups** 87% Arabs 10% Berbers 3% Others **3. Government** Unitary Islamic socialist Jamahiriya

(**Source:** Salam and Mohammed,2019)

4-8. Manuel Noriega - Panama (1983-1989)

Following the Vietnam War, the United States launched its most significant attack on Panama (Walker and Walker,2019). The objective of the American forces was to capture Manuel Noriega. Once a child from a poor neighborhood (McGuinness,2017:249), Noriega rose to become the absolute ruler of Panama. His six-year regime was marked by violence, deception, and extremism (Slater and Black,2019).

4-8-1. Personality

He was born in Panama in 1934 (Kwiatkowska,2022:27), and the emergence of Noriega as the first person in the country is considered a great miracle because he grew up in difficult childhood conditions (notablebiographies.com). In Panama in the 1930s, growth, and progress were very difficult for the lower class, but this difficult life made him braver so that when he graduated from high school, he boldly wrote that he wanted to be the president of Panama (nytimes.com). This high courage caused Noriega's rapid growth after he joined the army (Kwiatkowska,2022). This rapid growth gave him a lot of power so that gradually he reacts strongly against the smallest opposition (Nagaji,2018:17).

4-8-2. Geopolitics

Panama is a country in Central America. Its capital is Panama City. Panama with an area of 75,517 square kilometers; is the 116th largest country in the world. This country is bordered by the Caribbean Sea (Atlantic Ocean) from the north, Colombia from the east, the Pacific Ocean from the south, and Costa Rica from the west. This period that we examine in the research is known as the rule of Manuel Noriega (Kwiatkowska,2022:25-26). In the 1950s, Panama was experiencing a wave of anti-American sentiments. These feelings stemmed from Panama's ownership of the Panama Canal, which was in the hands of the United States of America (Donoghue,2017). Another case is Noriega of Creole descent (a mixture of Afro-Asians) who did not have political and economic power and this itself had become a factor in the inter-ethnic divide in Pamana (Euraque,2018), on the one hand in Pamana due to the lack of political organization of parties; The power was in the hands of the military, which was considered a great danger for the country (Kwiatkowska,2022:26). The geography of the elections in Panama had become completely meaningless and Noriega completely manipulated the votes (Karatnycky and Piano,2018) (Table 9).

Table (9): Summary of Manuel Noriega

Name	Personality	Geopolitics
Manuel Noriega	Politician, Military officer - General	Country: Panama
1. Born February 11, 1934 Panama City, Panama **2. In office** August 12, 1983 – December 20, 1989 **3. Died** May 29, 2017 **(aged 83)** Panama City, Panama	**1. Belief in** did not have a particular social or economic ideology used military nationalism **2. Alma mater** Chorrillos Military School School of the Americas **4. Styled as** Maximum Leader of the National Liberation	1. **Capital** and largest city Panama City 8°58′N 79°32′W **2. Ethnic groups** 65.0% Mestizo (Mixed White and Indigenous) 12.3% Indigenous 9.2% Black 6.8% Mulatto (Mixed White and Black) 6.7% White **3. Government** Military leader of Panama **4. Area** 75,417 km^2

(**Source:** Kwiatkowska,2020)

5. Discussion

This research delves into two central components: authoritarian personality and geopolitics. It examines how individuals with authoritarian traits ascend to power and how they use geopolitics to consolidate and maintain their control. The study aims to outline a model of this process to understand and potentially prevent the recurrence of such authoritarian patterns in history.

A. Authoritarian Personality and Geopolitics

Authoritarian personalities are characterized by a specific trajectory toward power, involving a series of steps and strategies. Once in power, these individuals often exploit geopolitical factors to strengthen and maintain their rule. This exploitation has not only distorted the scientific understanding of geopolitics but has also led to significant human suffering over recent decades. By analyzing these processes, the research seeks to provide insights that could help prevent similar issues in the future (Edel and Shullman, 2021).

B.Authoritarianism as a Spectrum

Authoritarianism is not a binary condition but exists on a spectrum (Bruff and Tansel,2020). Both governments and individuals can exhibit varying degrees of authoritarian traits. This variability means that authoritarian

systems are not absolute but rather fluctuate in intensity and impact. For instance, historical figures such as Adolf Hitler, Genghis Khan, Emperor Nero, Benito Mussolini, and contemporary leaders like Giorgia Meloni illustrate the range of authoritarianism in different contexts (www.qr.ae/prOawh).

C.Exporting Political Systems

Authoritarian regimes often seek to export their political systems beyond their borders (Edel and Shullman,2021). This expansionist approach is driven by the regimes' focus on geopolitical interests and the consolidation of power on a larger scale (Mamonova,2019:219). The impact of these regimes on international relations and regional stability can be profound and far-reaching.

5-1. Part I Analysis of Personality Traits and Developmental Processes of Authoritarian Figures

In the first part, the personality traits of these individuals and their life processes are analyzed. Subsequently, I will reveal how these personalities interact with geopolitics and scientific ideas to achieve their goals. It is necessary to first describe the developmental periods of these individuals and the formation of their personalities. Autocratic personalities across different life stages exhibit specific characteristics (Saleh,2012), including "violence," which is a crucial component for every autocrat (Kulakci-Altintas and Ayaz-Alkaya,2019:2). Violence should persist in a person's life from childhood through adulthood. For example, Saddam Hussein used violence against other children (De Vries,2003; Wingate,2003:19), and there is substantial evidence of Mussolini's brutality during his studies (Gallo, 2019). Another significant component is "humiliation" (Klempe,2004:2). In this case, the person must be persecuted by others. For example, Noriega was persecuted as a child because of his smallpox scars (Rumage,1993), and Gaddafi was harassed by other students for being a Bedouin (Kawczynski, 2011). "Poverty" is another factor that all these personalities experienced, and many of them highlighted this issue to portray themselves (Neerdaels, 2022). For instance, Mussolini frequently introduced himself as the son of a blacksmith (Palma,2014:52). All authoritarians have experienced "fanaticism" and "self-belief" (Blackford,2014:91) before assuming authoritarian roles. In terms of self-belief, a significant aspect is the emphasis on overcoming problems and death. Another crucial aspect of the

authoritarian personality is the formation or deliberate creation of a "personality cult" (Sundahl,2022:6).

5-2. Part II: The Steps to Authoritarian Power
A) First Step: Claiming Uniqueness
An authoritarian often starts by presenting themselves as a unique individual (McGeer,2008:81). This uniqueness is framed around personal hardships, difficulties, and miraculous survivals that set them apart from others. For example, Hitler was notably proud of surviving World War I, and Saddam Hussein took pride in the legend of his role in the assassination of Abdul Karim Qasim.

B) Second Step: Identifying a Scapegoat
The next step involves identifying the groups or forces responsible for the current state of affairs, often through conspiracy or corruption (Brown, 2010). In this context, leaders such as Gaddafi, Idi Amin, Saddam Hussein, and Pol Pot accused various entities—such as corrupt Western-backed governments, the Treaty of Versailles, and Jewish communities—of undermining their nations.

C) Third Step: Dividing People into Friends and Enemies
Authoritarians then categorize people into friends and enemies (Maslow,1943: 401). Sympathy becomes crucial in building alliances, as the authoritarian portrays themselves as a champion against shared adversaries. For example, Mussolini emphasized his working-class roots as a blacksmith, Idi Amin engaged with the public through music, Gaddafi maintained Bedouin traditions as a symbol of solidarity with the poor, and Hitler adopted symbols resonant with the middle and lower classes. Iraq has historically been governed by non-democratic monarchs who, despite the country's challenging geopolitical circumstances, managed to maintain stable relations with neighboring states. This raises the question of why authoritarian leaders have not emerged in some countries facing similar geopolitical challenges. To address this, we must consider two essential components necessary for the rise of authoritarian regimes. Firstly, there must be a charismatic leader with specific personal traits conducive to authoritarian rule. Secondly, the right geopolitical conditions and challenges must exist to create an environment favorable to authoritarianism. Both components need to align in time and place for an authoritarian regime to emerge. This convergence must occur in the absence of internal interfering

factors (such as resistance groups) and external ones (such as international pressures). These conditions prevent authoritarianism:

1. Strong and deeply rooted democratic tradition
2. Constitution with robust guarantees for citizens' rights
3. Cultural and ethnic diversity in society
4. Decentralized and federal government structure
5. Active and dynamic civil society
6. Freedom of the press and independent media
7. Regular free and fair elections
8. Independent and effective judicial system
9. Historical awareness of the drawbacks of authoritarian regimes
10. Commitment to democratic values at national and international levels.

For example, this comparison examines the key factors that contributed to the development of authoritarianism in Iraq while India maintained a democratic system. By analyzing various historical, political, and social elements, we can better understand the divergent paths these two post-colonial nations took in their governance structures.

Table (10): Comparison of Iraq and India Factors Influencing the Emergence of Authoritarianism

Factors	Countries	Impact on authoritarianism
Colonial History	Iraq: British rule (1920-1932) India: British rule (1757-1947)	Iraq: Shorter experience with democracy India: More time to develop civil institutions
Post-Independence Political Structure	Iraq: Monarchy (1932-1958), then republic India: Federal democratic republic	Iraq: Concentration of power India: Division of power
Ethnic-Religious Diversity	Iraq: Deep Shia-Sunni-Kurdish divide India: Extensive diversity but with relative coexistence	Iraq: Grounds for tension and central control India: Need for compromise and pluralism
Natural Resources	Iraq: Abundant oil India: Diverse but scattered resources	Iraq: Oil rentier state wealth concentration India: More diversified economy
Geopolitics	Iraq: Sensitive position in the Middle East India: Relatively stable position in South Asia	Iraq: More foreign interventions India: Greater autonomy in action
Democratic Institutions	Iraq: Weak and fragile India: Strong and well-established	Iraq: Weak and fragile India: Strong and well-established

Civil Society	Iraq: Limited and under pressure India: Active and extensive	Iraq: Easier control of society India: Public oversight of power
Post-Independence Leadership	Iraq: Military officers (e.g., Saddam Hussein) India: Civilian leaders (e.g., Nehru)	Iraq: Tendency towards military rule India: Strengthening of civil institutions
Democratic Experience	Iraq: Limited and unstable India: Continuous since independence	Iraq: Lack of institutionalized democracy India: Consolidation of democratic culture

D) Fourth Step
The emergence of authoritarian leadership is a complex interplay between individual traits and geopolitical conditions. While some leaders create personal and collective branding through symbols and distinctive behaviors (Fauve,2015:116), others maintain stability without resorting to authoritarianism. For instance, Iraq's non-democratic kings historically maintained good neighborly relations despite challenging geopolitical conditions. Similarly, India has resisted authoritarian rule despite facing significant geopolitical challenges. This phenomenon can be attributed to the necessity of aligning both a charismatic leader with autocratic tendencies and conducive geopolitical circumstances. Strong democratic institutions, active civil societies, or international pressures can prevent authoritarianism from taking root, even when conditions seem favorable.

E) Fifth Step: Timing the Power Move
An essential element of authoritarianism is the precise timing of their power move. Authoritarians carefully await the right opportunity, often seizing power during a political vacuum (Giroux,2019:17). Mussolini's March on Rome in October 1922 allowed him to become Italy's youngest Prime Minister at that time. Hitler, inspired by Mussolini, attempted a similar power grab in 1923 but was arrested and imprisoned for treason. For authoritarians, the key is recognizing and acting on the moment when the country's conditions are ripe for a shift in power.

5-3. Part III
The third part examines how these individuals approach the geopolitics of their countries, divided into four distinct stages. It is important to note that these stages are interconnected and must be addressed in the specified order; altering their sequence may compromise the integrity of the entire research process. A) First stage: In this stage, the presence of "suitable platforms for

the growth of these people in the country" is desired, in other words, the country has suitable platforms for the growth of these people both geographically and politically (Przeworski and Limongi,1993:64). The three main platforms include a) political turmoil within the country and its neighbors, b) global political turmoil along with international disputes, and c) the high tolerance threshold of other countries. Regarding (a), we should mention that the country is politically in a state of turmoil and geographically in a geopolitical crisis. For example, in the case of Germany, the claim on Germany's lost territory was very strong, and in the case of Panama, the claim on the ownership and control of the Panama Canal had become a national demand of Panama, Libya wanted control over the Gulf of Sidra, Uganda over territory with Tanzania, Iraq claimed over Iran's Khuzestan, Cambodia had border and territorial disputes with Vietnam. These cases include territorial claims, colonial occupation, interference in internal affairs, and the like, which shows that territorial and territorial claims are much more important and influential components. The second case is (b) the political turmoil in the world that has endangered global order and security, for example, during the Gaddafi era, the defeat of the Arabs against Israel had many effects on the Arab world and Libyan nationalism, during the Hitler era, the defeat of Germany in the World War First and later, the wars between Italy and Japan threatened world order and security, Panama was associated with communism's dominance over the world, and on the other hand, Japan was industrializing rapidly and was looking for resources for export and world domination, but with the western powers and He had faced colonialism in his region. The final case (c) means that the level of tolerance of the countries of the world against the authoritarian policies of a country led by an authoritarian personality was very high. were not for example, when Hitler occupied various parts of Germany, including the Czech Republic, other countries were content to condemn, or when Noriega, the ruler of Panama, started smuggling drugs and threatened the order of North America, the surrounding countries merely warned. They had enough, when Saddam Hussein officially attacked his neighboring country i.e., Iran, the international community was silent. In the case of Japan, when he attacked China, the rest of the countries were only satisfied with condemning, which was not particularly effective or deterrent. This threshold of tolerance for various reasons including; The unwillingness of nations to go to war due to previous wars (the example of France, England,

and America between the two world wars), internal problems, and the weakness of the army to enter the war (Poland between the two world wars), the lack of international consensus to start a military conflict (America and Libya in the conflict over the Gulf of Sidra) is one of the most important factors. B) Second stage: "The existence of a political crisis that can be solved by political and economic measures" is one of the most important problems of a country (Lepsius,1986:58). In a country where there is a political and economic crisis, there is a fierce struggle between powerful parties and organizations to prove to the people that they are worthy of government by solving this crisis. Authoritarianism solves these crises in different ways. Each country is different, but its important points can be stated as follows: a. victory in the elections and coming to power (Hitler in Germany), b. coup and military action (Mussolini in Italy, Saddam in Iraq, Gaddafi in Libya), c. overthrowing the ruling system and coming to power (Noriega in Panama, Idi Amin in Uganda), d. election by power (Tojo in Japan). C) Third stage: In the third stage, a special process begins, which we call "creating a crisis" (Deutsch,1974:58). In geopolitics, there are two types of crises: political crisis and geopolitical crisis, each of which has specific differences (Valigholizadeh and Karimi,2016:172). Political crises that involve political factors and can be resolved through diplomacy and are fleeting, but geopolitical crises are not like this, due to geographical issues, if one of the parties fails, the nation will be accused of treason, so the solution to political crises is easier than geopolitical crises.

5-3. Part IV
The final step in this process is to "maintain power" (Celoza,1997:2). Achieving power is often the simpler part of an authoritarian leader's journey; the real challenge lies in preserving it against both internal and external threats. The approach of these personalities to geopolitical principles and concepts plays a fundamental role in this phase. This stage is the most crucial, sensitive, and pivotal in the authoritarian leader's rule. This authoritarian personality combines the two components mentioned above with the geopolitical crisis that follows. In this case, in society, the compulsion to submit to the authoritarian personality and the domination of this personality form a special political culture, which ultimately leads to corruption, deviation of power, and complex conflicts (Shafiee and Navai, 2010,16). The authoritarian leader has considered "violence" as a better

solution for solving internal disputes and now he wants to repeat the same thing in international conflicts, and the increase in violence occurs in the form of weak governance (Sajadi Asad Abadi and Others,2023:925). On the other hand, other governments around the authoritarian government cannot start a war against their enemy due to the illegitimacy and acceptance of their nation to start a war (Clapton,2015). For example, when Hitler was busy taking various lands around Germany, the Allies were content only to condemn (Owji,2016:25-45). This also applies to Japan, and this process was also taken during Saddam's invasion of Iran (Mavazen,2013). In contrast to these actions, other countries take the policy of legitimizing war, in other words, they set a red line for the authoritarian countries, so that by breaking these red lines, they will admit to their people that this is a threat. Action must be taken to counter this progress of the enemy country (Noorali and ahmadi,2020). Become a soldier for example, the United States practically pushed Japan into a full-scale war with the world by imposing a crippling embargo on Japan and demanding an unconditional withdrawal from the territories it had occupied in Asia (Nourbakhsh and Ahmadi,2021). This was also the case with Germany. By uniting with Poland against the invasion of Poland, England and France showed Hitler a red line that they would go to war if Poland was invaded (Dolati and Others,2021). For Panama, the lives of the soldiers guarding the Panama Canal were very important to America, and with the death of the American soldier, the United States openly went to war with Panama (Argyle, 2022).
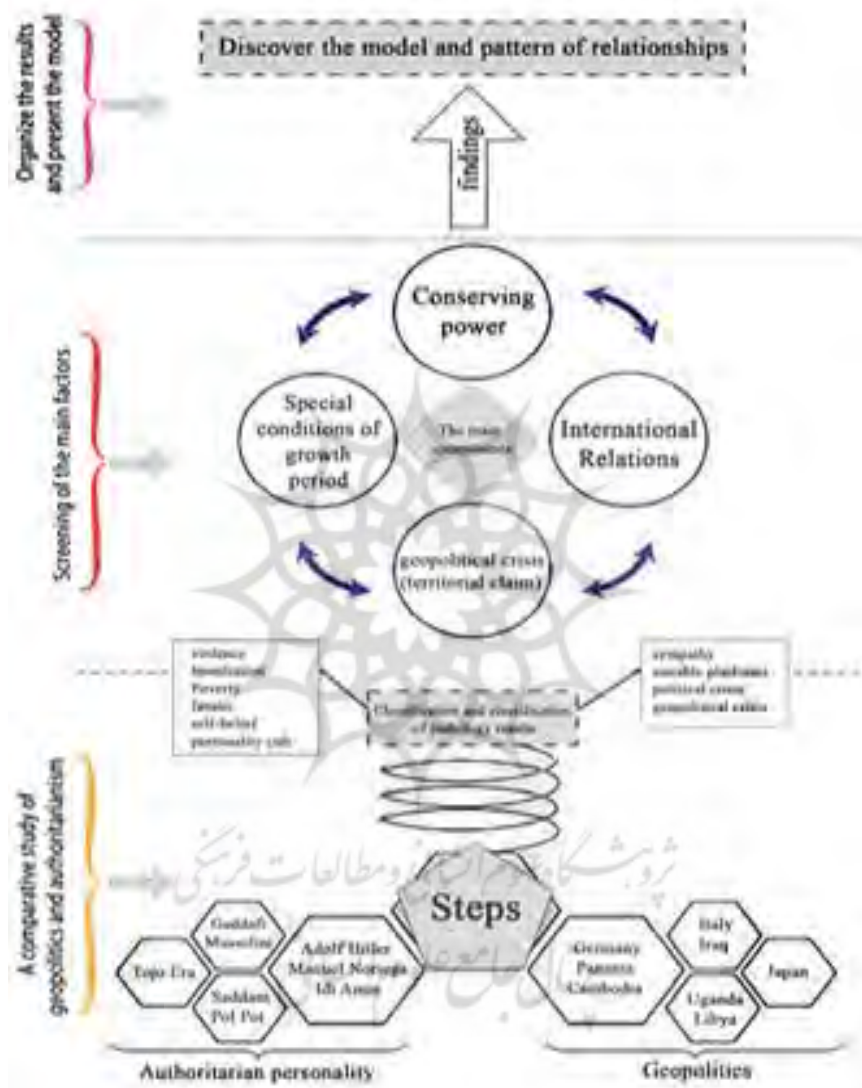
Figure (6): Summery of the Discussion Section

6. Conclusion

In this study, both personality and territory are considered to offer a new perspective on political geography. The first part of the study examines the development of the autocratic personality. It is crucial to note that this paper

focuses on the interplay between personality and territory, rather than examining each in isolation. This study identifies a pattern in the relationship between countries, where territorial relations and territorial claims are pivotal in triggering geopolitical crises and military responses. Childhood experiences, global transformations, and geopolitical factors are directly correlated. Inappropriate childhoods, radical global changes, and ambiguous geopolitics significantly increase the likelihood of authoritarianism rising to power. The study encompasses a geographic scale from a global perspective covering Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas and spans roughly a century (1919-2011). It presents a model involving eight authoritarian regimes: Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler, Panama under Manuel Noriega, Uganda under Idi Amin, Libya under Muammar Gaddafi, Italy under Benito Mussolini, Iraq under Saddam Hussein, Cambodia under Pol Pot, and Japan under Hideki Tojo. Childhood and adolescence are the initial stages in the formation of authoritarian figures and their governments. The personality formed during these stages is significantly influenced by early experiences and the surrounding geopolitical environment. The key characteristics of an autocratic personality developed during childhood and adolescence include:

1. Violence
2. Humiliation
3. Poverty
4. Prejudice
5. Narcissism
6. Personality cult

The second part of the study begins with the entry of an autocratic personality into government. This transition is influenced by their life experiences and past events, which shape their rise to power. This process unfolds in several stages: 1. First Stage: The autocratic personality asserts their uniqueness due to factors such as a difficult childhood and survival from life-threatening situations, which they believe makes them superior to others. 2. Second Stage: The autocrat identifies a group or class as the source of the country's problems and often targets groups with minimal support or conflict potential. 3. Third Stage: The autocrat divides people into "friends" and "enemies," creating an "us vs. them" dichotomy both within and outside the country. 4. Fourth Stage: The autocrat initiates personal and collective branding through symbols, uniforms, and distinctive

behaviors to build large-scale unity. This strategy aims to attract neutral individuals and intimidate enemies. 5. Fifth Stage: The autocratic party acts decisively against the democratic government, capitalizing on a power vacuum to seize control. The final part of the study examines these leaders' approach to their country's geopolitics, divided into four stages: 1. First Stage: Identifying and utilizing platforms within the country that support their rise, both geographically and politically. 2. Second Stage: Addressing and solving political crises to solidify their control. 3. Third Stage: Creating political or geopolitical crises based on their personality, experiences, and power. 4. Fourth Stage: Maintaining power by managing created crises. Successful resolution of crises supports the regime, while failure to address geopolitical conflicts leads to the regime's downfall.

Our findings indicate a correlation between adverse childhood experiences, radical global changes, and ambiguous geopolitics in the emergence of authoritarianism. Furthermore, when autocratic regimes move towards geopolitical crises, other countries tend to militarize in response. The inflexible personality of authoritarian leaders, rooted in their past, often leads to rapid escalation of political and geopolitical conflicts. As long as these conflicts remain political and are limited to political crises, the survival of the authoritarian government is generally assured. However, if political tension increases and shifts to geopolitical tension involving territorial claims, this signals the end of the authoritarian regime. This is because it leads to alliances against the autocratic state and military conflicts, which often result in the collapse of the tyrannical ruler due to a lack of popular support. The complex relationship between childhood experiences, global developments, and uncertain geopolitical conditions in the rise of authoritarian governments is multifaceted. Adverse childhood experiences can shape the future personality and behaviors of leaders. Those raised in unhealthy, high-stress environments may exhibit domineering and inflexible behaviors as adults, potentially predisposing them to autocratic tendencies. Rapid and fundamental global changes can create instability and uncertainty in societies. In such conditions, some individuals may seek strong leaders and simplistic solutions to complex problems, providing fertile ground for authoritarian figures to emerge. An ambiguous and complex geopolitical landscape can intensify international tensions and rivalries. In these circumstances, autocratic governments may attempt to

consolidate power through extreme nationalism and create external enemies. When autocratic regimes move towards geopolitical crises, other countries often respond with militarization. This can lead to arms races and increased regional and global tensions. The inflexible personality of authoritarian leaders, rooted in their past experiences, often causes a rapid escalation of political and geopolitical conflicts. These leaders typically avoid compromise and dialogue, preferring force and threats to achieve their goals. As long as conflicts remain at a political level, autocratic governments can usually endure by suppressing internal opposition and controlling the media. However, when tensions escalate beyond politics to territorial and land disputes, the situation becomes more precarious. If conflicts reach a geopolitical level involving territorial claims, the likelihood of autocratic regime collapse increases. This can lead to the formation of international coalitions against the autocratic regime and even military confrontations. Since these governments typically lack sufficient popular support, they are more likely to fall when faced with external pressures and internal dissatisfaction. Research shows that centralized governments dominated by authoritarian personalities exhibit specific behavioral patterns that often lead to international tensions, especially during geopolitical crises. This article presents a theory called " Authoritarian Geopolitical Personalities". The article puts forth the theory that these patterns include unilateral decision-making, inflexibility in negotiations, and a tendency to display power, which are rooted in the childhood experiences of these individuals. Such behaviors can result in diplomatic misunderstandings, arms races, and even military conflicts. Identifying patterns in government and preventing the emergence of authoritarian personalities that lead to international crises is crucial for predicting and managing global tensions. Understanding these patterns is essential for effectively anticipating and managing international crises.
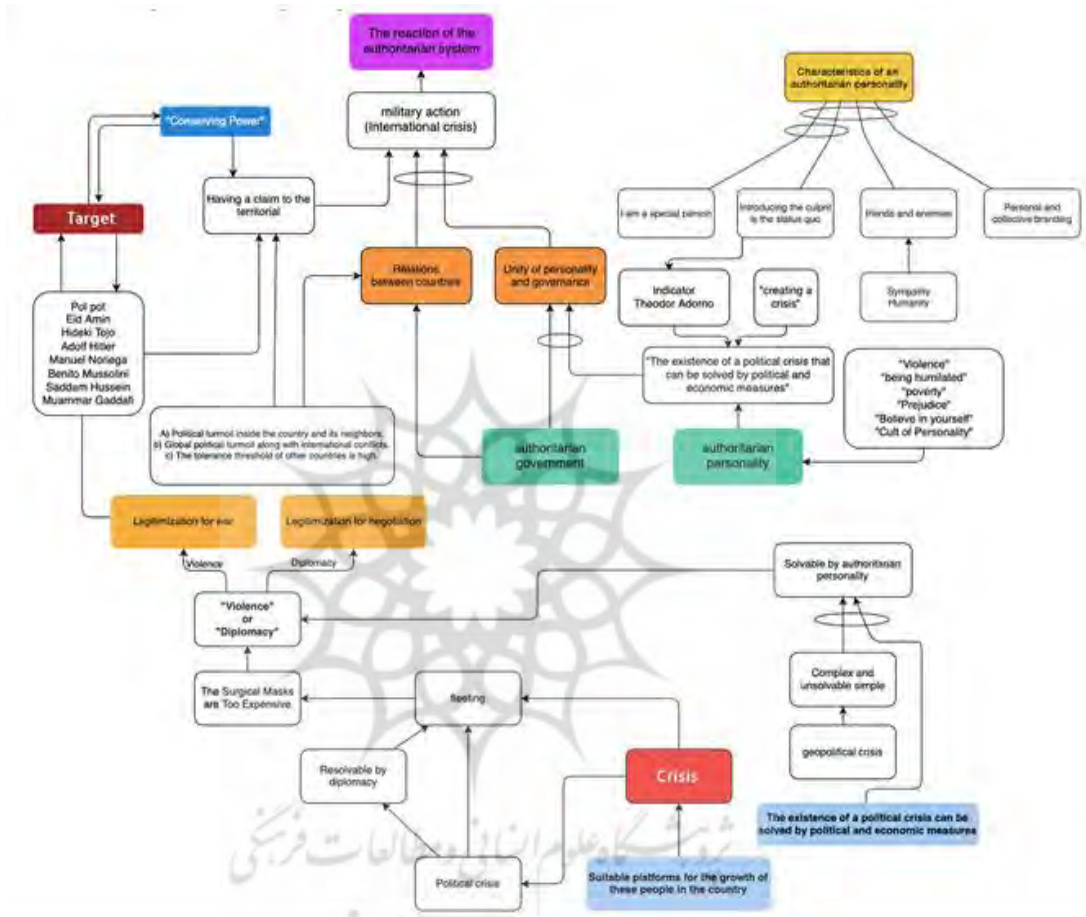
Figure (7): Conceptual Model of the Relationship between Authoritarian Personality and Geopolitics in Authoritarian Government

7. Acknowledgment

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