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## **LACK OF RULE OF LAW AS A PROBLEM OF THE MODERN EAST COUNTRIES**

**Key words:** Rule of law, human rights, Middle East, Iran, Saudi Arabia.

States have different approaches to human freedom, dignity, the content and scope of the fundamental rights. However, the requirement of their guarantee and protection is the same and common to all constitutional states. The exercise of human rights must be guaranteed by certain institutional control of the state over the observance of these rights.

A report by the UN Secretary-General expressed the approach that the rule of law provides for an organization of government in which all people, institutions, and organizations, including the state itself, are subject to laws that apply equally to all and are applied by an independent tribunal, and comply with international human rights standards [4, p. 4].

A study published by the Albert Shanker Institute and Freedom House has criticized a number of aspects of the administration of justice in Saudi Arabia and concluded that the country's “practices diverge from the concept

of the rule of law”. The study goes on to assert that *qadis* (judges) reach decisions without following due process. It also claimed that members of the Saudi royal family are not forced to appear before Saudi courts [2]. After G20 summit chaired by Saudi Arabia, authorities resumed punitive trials of anyone who expressed views critical of the government or opinions contrary to those of the government about socio-economic or political developments in the country. The Specialized Criminal Court sentenced people to heavy prison terms for their human rights work and expression of dissenting views [3].

Example of violation of political human rights in Iran is the oppression of mass street protests. Detaining and persecution for joining peaceful protests are the indicators of violation of right to peaceful assembly; some of protesters have been sentenced to death.

The confirmation of the violation of generally accepted standards by the Iranian government is the Report of the Spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the imposition of sanctions by the European Union and other democratic states. Sanctions were imposed for the suppression of the Iranian protestors [1].

Institutes and NGOs make research on violation of human rights in Middle East countries. Taking these cases, international community must work to ensure the rule of law and fundamental human rights in all countries, regardless of their religious orientation or political government.

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