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**The Fall of the American Civilization:
Possible Causes and Predictions**

**Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Master's Degree in Literature and Civilization**

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Dedication

This dissertation is dedicated:

To our parents for their unconditional love, endless support and prayers.

To our grandparents, God bless their souls.

To our beloved brothers, sisters, and best friends.

To our supervisor Dr. YUCEF Kouider for his amazing kindness.

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Abstract

Following the cycle of civilization, all rising civilizations ultimately reach a peak, during which they begin to decline in accordance with the law of history. This study aims to explore the various causes and predictions of the fall of American civilization in the foreseeable future and its shifting position from the global arena. In fact, identifying the causes and looking at the predictions on the fall of the American civilization is of significant importance in discussing the issue of the deterioration and the decline of the American power in addition to the rise of several emerging powers on the international scene. The main question that is investigated in this research is the vital causes and predictions of the gradual fall of the American civilization that might be replaced by other powers, or, a multipolar new world order. In order to verify the validity of the dissertation's hypotheses, a historical descriptive-analytical method was adopted. The analysis concentrated on the history of the American rise and the predictions on the future of the American civilization. The study revealed that there might be two visions, the first vision predicts the fall of the American civilization in terms of political, economic and social factors; the second one expects the existence of the American civilization among other global powers in a multipolar world order.

Key words: American Civilization, Multipolar World, Causes of the Fall, Predictions, Fall.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

US	The United States
WWI	The First World War
FDR	Franklin Delano Roosevelt
NATO	The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
UN	The United Nations
UNICEF	The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WWII	The Second World War
CIA	The Central Intelligence Agency
GDP	Gross domestic product
Covid	Corona virus disease
ISIS	The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
CCP	The Chinese Communist Party
IMF	International Monetary Fund
PPP	Purchasing power parity
GNI	Annual Gross Income
CBO	The Congressional Budget Office
NBC	The National Broadcasting Company
CNN	Cable News Network
FBI	The Federal Bureau of Investigation
G8	The Group of Eight
G22	Group of 22
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
EU	European Union
5G	5th Generation
DC	District of Columbia
CAIR	The Council on American Islamic Relations
ISPU	The Institute for Social Policy and Understanding
NBC	National broadcasting company
CBS	Columbia broadcasting system

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General Introduction

1. Background of the Study

The American civilization roughly coincides with the Twentieth century, reaching its peak in mid-century. Far from the isolationism that characterized US global politics, the immediate aftermath of World War II established a clear desire among American political and economic leaders to protect this newfound power and to secure the United States as the world's leader. Therefore, World War II transformed the United States from a midlevel global power to the leader of the world alongside the Soviet Union; by the end of the Cold War and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the United States has turned into a superpower that controls the world's resources as well as it seeks to dispose of the problems, threats it encounters in a manner that is consistent with its global trends, and in a way that serves its goals and interests in hegemony and influence.

With this rapid rise in power and influence, the United States had to defy new responsibilities and challenges, signalling the beginning of the "American era." Thus The United States has performed its role as the world's most significant political, economic and cultural power. It became a key player in the global power balance. Its hegemony has covered the world to be the only superpower leading other nations whereas the world's requirements prompted the United States to focus on its own internal, political, economic, and social issues farther from international affairs.

2. Statement of the Problem

The United States could not withstand the challenges and threats resulting from its status as the world's only superpower. The future of the United States is highly disputed since the world is witnessing the decline of American civilization; many observers have interpreted the 2008 global financial crisis and other aspects such as the political and social as the beginning of American decline. Moreover, the National Intelligence Council has projected that in 2025 "the U.S. will remain the preeminent power, but the American dominance will be much diminished". In addition,

Zakaria posits that the United States is not in absolute decline, but the American century may end simply because of the rise of others and according to the assessment of the level of competition posed by those others.

3. Research Questions

The present study attempts to answer the following questions:

1- Why is the American civilization considered in decline?

A- Is this related to the way it handles its foreign policy?

B- Can the economic crisis lead to this decline?

C- Do the social problems and discriminations contribute to the US decline?

2- Do the other global powers undermine American dominance?

3- Will the US maintain its status as a global superpower?

4. Hypotheses

The present study assumes forward the following hypotheses:

1- The American civilization might be in decline due to political, economic, and social factors.

2- The rise of other global powers can compete with the US hegemony.

3- The US might keep its status as a superpower.

5. Aims of the Study

The study aims to investigate the foreseen future of the United States in the international order and the forecast of its irreversible decline in the next few decades and the immense impact of other rising powers on the status of the United States in the global arena.

6. Research Methodology

The method used to conduct this research is historical descriptive-analytical. The study seeks to describe the historical events that paved the way to the emergence of the American

civilization then analyses the predicted possibilities that may contribute to the fall of the American civilization. Moreover, it relies on qualitative research based on the collection and analysing data through reading books, articles, websites, and reports.

7. Significance of the Study

The study attempts to consider the factors that might lead to the fall of the American Civilization as well it helps us to predict the status of the world after the emergence of other significant powers and the fall of the unipolar system.

8. Structure of the Study

The research is divided into two chapters. The first chapter entitled The Rise of the American Civilization; provides clear definitions of civilization and describes the events that contributed to the rise of American civilization and tackles the political, economic, and cultural aspects of American Civilization World War. The second chapter entitled Predictions on The Fall of The American Civilization; addresses the main possible causes that may lead to the fall of the American civilization which are: political causes including foreign policy, economic and social causes then it discusses the possibility of a multipolar world.

CHAPTER ONE

The Rise of the American Civilization

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Introduction

The American civilization has contributed to a massive change in the world and its hegemony has covered many eras across the globe since the end of World War II. The United States ended its policy of isolationism or avoiding entanglement in the business of other nations. As a result, the country became more involved in international affairs. In the mid and late 1990s, the United States became a world superpower and its strength and status reached another peak as the Cold War ended, it accounted for about 30 percent of global economic output. Also, the world's most dominant military forces and world politics, the preponderance of the United States is based today not only on its military and economic superiority but also on its cultural presence and its cultural influence extend across the world.

The following chapter sheds light on the history of the rise of the American civilization and how it evolved from isolationism to become a superpower as well it explains the American policy toward the World Wars and how America won the Cold War to become the sole leading power in the world. Moreover, it highlights the main political, economic, and cultural aspects that led to the rise of the American civilization.

1. Definition of Civilization

The definition of Civilization differs from one author to another. Below there are some different definitions.

Civilization is defined as the social order promoting cultural creation, as it is composed of four elements: economic provision, political organization, moral tradition, and the pursuit of knowledge and the arts, it starts where instability and insecurity end, and when fear is overcome, curiosity, reasonableness is free, and as well man passes by a natural instinct towards the understanding and embellishment of life (Durant, 1942).

In addition, al-Tahtawi, al-Bustni, suriyya and shidyaq. (1990) pointed out that civilization is “the acquiring of methods that are required for improving the conditions of sedentary people” (p.53). So, this involves refining morals, customs, and pursuing perfection in education, as well as encouraging people to attain virtue, political perfection, and economic advancement. On the other hand, Ibn Khaldun used these words to represent civilization ‘*umran, hadara, and tammaddun*’. Among these words he extensively employs ‘*umran, and hadara*’ which places a strong emphasis on the material aspects of civilisation. In this spirit, he also uses the word *tamaaddun*, which refers to the concrete method of constructing cities as centres of social activity and for security and protection (Abu aksa, 2016).

According to Schweitzer (1987) in *The Philosophy of Civilization*, he defined civilization as “the concept embracing both material and ethical concepts” (p.28). In other words, this definition would include progress regarding social, economic, agriculture, and cultural organization as well as spiritual perfection.

Furthermore, Bennabi described civilization as being the sum total of the moral as well as material conditions which permit a given society to provide each one of its members with all the social guarantees needed for his progress (Benlahcene, 2011).

In a simple definition, Adam Ferguson (1767) categorized the term civilization as “the progressive hierarchy of growth and development from primitivism to good manners” (p.2). Therefore, this definition illustrates that while individuals progressed from infancy to manhood, the human race progressed from rudeness to civilization, and not only does the human grow from infancy to manhood, but so do the species itself from savagery to civilization.

Concisely, all those definitions illustrate Civilization as an advanced level of intellectual, cultural, and material growth in a human society characterized by progress in the arts and sciences, that extensive record-keeping, including writing, as well as the appearance of complex political and social institutions (Arun, 2011).

2. American Civilization

There are vital factors that contributed to the rise of the American civilization in the twentieth century, first through its economy and the privileged status of the Dollar. The other key factor that led to the rise of America as a powerful civilization is Immigration which brought a lot of different minds and cultures to the United State that spurred innovation and advancement. Also, it leads the world in high technology, finance, and thanks to the two world wars that brought the United States the opportunity to engage internationally with other developed nations.

According to Hirschman (2005), the twentieth century is sometimes referred to:

As the American Century, which is generally interpreted to mean the rise of the United States to world leadership, first through its economic ascendancy in the first half of the century and then through its political and military hegemony in the post-World War II era (p.595).

2.1 The American Isolationism:

From the beginning, America as a nation has developed the term used to describe American foreign policy concerning European affairs. This is known as 'isolationism' and the opposition to American involvement in foreign wars. American Isolationism is different from that of China and Japan in the nineteenth century. China and Japan practiced total political, social, and economic isolationism from the rest of the world whereas American Isolationism dealt with political self-sufficiency. It is an attempt to avoid involvement in any European conflicts and they welcomed the social and especially the economic advantages that came through foreign trade (Jonas, 1966). In the same vein Adler (1957) in a discussion of isolationism states:

We can begin by saying that American isolationism has never meant total social, cultural, and economic self-sufficiency. Such a concept has

had few rational advocates and the very idea is nullified by the history of the United States (p.30).

Previously, at the end of the nineteenth century Alfred Thayer Mahan, through his historical studies on sea power, preached against isolationism. Mahan advocated a powerful navy to protect America's growing trade and paved the way to a new foreign that shattered the myth of America's isolation. Mahan believed that any nation that wants to get world power must establish overseas bases in order to maintain control of the seas (Dulles, 1954).

Moreover, twentieth-century isolationists believed that by avoiding any political ties with other nations Americans could best serve their own national security. Adler (1957) makes a similar view:

They (referring to isolationists) opposed our entry into both world wars on the ground that our privileged continental position allowed us to risk the defeat of potential allies. Isolationists have persistently opposed prior commitments of American military aid to any league or association of nations designed to keep the peace by using force against recalcitrant nations. In other words, the isolationists have been willing to gamble on the destruction of friendly nations preferring to fight only when confronted by immediate danger (p.32).

2.2 U.S.A and the WWI:

In August 1914, Americans were astonished to learn that almost all Europe was at war. Two great coalitions, the Allies (Great Britain, France, and Russia) and the Central Powers (Germany, Austria, and Hungary) had been competing for power (Reeves, 2000).

All Americans wanted to keep the United State out of the war. In fact, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the nation's neutrality almost immediately and soon appealed for impartiality in thought as well as in action. Because the majority of Americans were of British heritage, public

sympathies were large with the Allies, and the cultural, political, economic, and historical ties between the United States and Great Britain remained strong (Reeves, 2000).

The outbreak of the World War I in Europe posed a challenge to the American economy, which had been suffering from a twenty-month downturn since 1913. Until 1916, Europeans hastened to sell their American securities, and convert the proceeds into gold and export the precious metal back to their own countries; the stock market in the United States has dropped by 23%, and the stock exchange has contributed to the banking crisis. Europe has unexpectedly found itself in the midst of a long war of attrition. As a result, a desire for American goods arose. Therefore, gold that had previously been transported to Europe was returned to the United States in order to pay for American exports. Industry and employment boomed, and by June 1915, the economy had fully recovered (Abrahamson, 1983).

Between January and April 1917, events progressed that brought the US out of neutrality and into World War I. On 9 January 1917, the German government issued orders to begin unrestricted submarine warfare. On 1 February, the German government ordered its submarines to conduct unrestricted attacks on ships off the British coast and in the English Channel. On 4 February, Wilson ordered diplomatic relations with Germany severed (Millis, 1970).

On 26 February, the British government gave Wilson a copy of a telegram from the German Secretary of Foreign Affairs Arthur Zimmermann to the Mexican government. In the telegram, Zimmermann proposed an alliance with Mexico offering the territories of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona if the Mexican government would invade the US. The Zimmermann telegram created the greatest backlash against Germany since the sinking of the Lusitania (Millis, 1970).

Between 12 March and 21 March, eight American ships were sunk during Germany's unrestricted submarine campaign. These actions were the last overt pressure on Wilson to secure Congressional approval to declare war on Germany. On 21 March, Wilson instructed his administration to construct legislation for Congress to be presented on 2 April. On 2 April, Wilson

addressed Congress; between 2 April and 6 April, the House and Senate voted to approve Wilson's war declaration (Notter, 1965).

On December 7, 1917, the U.S. declared war on Austria-Hungary. U.S. troops began arriving on the Western Front in large numbers in 1918. After the war, Wilson helped to negotiate a peace that included a plan for the League of Nations although the Senate rejected U.S membership in the League (Reeves, 2000).

2.3 America and the WWII:

Following World War, I, the United States hoped to avoid further involvement with European politics that had drawn into war. A strong isolationist sentiment developed, questioning the logic of entering The Great War, as it was known at the time. However, the rise of military government in Germany, Italy, and Japan and their invasions of neighboring countries became a major concern for United States leaders including President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (Reynolds, 2001).

In Europe, Adolf Hitler led the rise of the Nazi Party, which claimed that Germany was treated unfairly in the peace treaty that ended WWI. He also sought to unite all German-speaking peoples, a policy that put him at conflict with several neighbors like Austria, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. Meanwhile, Great Britain and France tried to negotiate an end to German expansion, but the Soviet Union on Germany's eastern front signed a non-aggression treaty with Hitler that opened the door to Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939. Hence, France and England came to the aid of the Poles and declared war on Germany. Hitler's armies quickly overran Poland and then France, leaving Britain alone against German armies and air force. President Roosevelt wanted to come to the aid of British allies, but public sentiment was not yet ready to send American soldiers to fight in another European war (Reynolds, 2001).

2.3.1 Japan Forces and the American Intervention:

Around 25 November, there was widespread belief in the Roosevelt administration and Britain that Japan would attack soon in Southeast Asia. From November to 6 December, Japanese American negotiations slowly failed. On 6 December, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, FDR, attempted to reach a final agreement with the Japanese Emperor Hirohito by appealing to him. However, Japan had already decided to sever relations with America and sent Nomura a message from the Japanese government. The United States was accused of colluding with Britain to block Japan's expansion, and officially severed diplomatic relations as a result of this letter. Nomura was instructed to deliver the message at 1 pm on December 7, but due to a delay, the note was not delivered until after Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor (Divine, 1976)

On 8 December 1941, Roosevelt addressed Congress and declared that the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor had initiated a state of war between Japan and the United States. He described American attempts to create peace between the two nations as well as Japan's refusal to engage in negotiations after the attack had already started. He remarked that the Japanese had made extensive preparations for the attack and that it had been planned in advance. Franklin Delano Roosevelt also announced that he had ordered all measures taken to ensure American defense. Then in his speech (1950) he said:

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion the American people in their righteous might---will win through absolute victory...With confidence in our armed forces---with inbounding determination of our people---we will gain the inevitable triumph (Rosenman, 1950).

Roosevelt concluded by asking Congress to declare war with Japan. When Roosevelt finished his address, Congress immediately voted to declare war, and by 4:10 pm on 8 December, Roosevelt had signed the declaration. The 8 December declaration did not include Germany and

Italy. Those declarations were passed on 11 December 1941 after the remaining members of the Axis Powers declared war on the United States (The U.S. At War, Routine Declaration, 1941).

Germany and Italy became partners with Japan that had designs on domination of Eastern Asia. Japan lacked natural resources like oil and rubber and created plans to attack neighboring countries that could supply them. They invaded Korea and Manchuria and then China. They also looked southward to the European colonies of Dutch East Asia and British Malaysia. They knew that the United States and Great Britain would fight to stop them (Reynolds, 2001).

In order to weaken U.S. naval forces in the Pacific, Japan bombed the naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941. America declared war on Japan, and on December 11, Germany and Italy lived up to their agreement with Japan and declared war on the United States. Iowan Henry A. Wallace had been elected vice president in 1940 and served there throughout most of the war (World War II | AP US History, 2019).

2.3.2 American Offensive in European and Pacific Fronts

Instead of putting all its efforts to fight Japan, the United States made Europe its priority. Roosevelt met with Winston Churchill, the British prime minister, and they agreed that Hitler was a greater danger than Japan. German planes were bombing London regularly, and many expected a Nazi invasion. The United States began mobilizing armies, converting its factories to produce war supplies, and encouraging farmers to boost production. British and American generals developed a plan to invade Europe through Italy before attempting an attack across the English Channel against heavily reinforced defenses. Meanwhile, German armies had invaded the Soviet Union and were imposing frightening losses on both military and civilian populations. The Soviets, with the aid of a brutal Russian winter, stopped the Nazi advance and forced a German retreat. Finally, in June 1944, a combined American-British invasion force landed on the French coast of Normandy, established a

beachhead, and from there began an offensive that led to a German surrender in May 1945 (World War II: America's Motivation and Impact, n.d).

Meanwhile, the U.S. Navy took the offensive in the Pacific against Japan. The route to Japan led through several Pacific Islands that the Japanese defended with determination. Two Allied naval victories broke the strength of the Japanese fleet and allowed the Allied forces to get close enough to establish airbases from which bombers could strike Japanese cities. The estimates of the loss of life that would be required to force the main Japanese islands to surrender reached a million. During the war, in a very secret project, U.S. scientists had developed a bomb that was hundreds of times more powerful than anything before. In August 1945, President Harry Truman ordered atomic bombs to be dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, bringing the world into the nuclear age. Japan surrendered within a matter of days, and WWII was over (O'Callaghan, 2004).

Some estimates of the loss of life due to fighting, disease, and other war-related factors run as high as 60 million, or about 3 percent of the world's population at the time. The Soviet Union suffered the greatest cost, with some 20 million civilian and military casualties. The United States, protected by two oceans from the battlefields, sustained around 420,000 war-related deaths. Iowa soldiers killed or wounded are recorded as around 2,800 (Farhatullah, 2015).

At the end of the war, many of the countries that had been economically powerful were devastated by the war. This meant that the U.S. was really the only major economic power whose land and infrastructure were untouched by the war. Therefore, the U.S. had a huge advantage over the rest of the world since it did not have to rebuild after the war. The war solved some problems but created many others. Germany had been the dominant power on the European continent, while Japan had held that role in Asia. Their defeat in World War II left open positions of leadership. The Soviet Union moved in quickly to replace Germany as the most powerful country in Europe and

also aimed at making Japan's place as the dominant power in Asia. World War II was also the most expensive war in history (Farhatullah, 2015).

2.4 The US Superpower and the Cold War:

The United States was the strongest country on earth in 1945. Its factories produced half the world's manufactured goods. It had the world's greatest air and navy forces. It was the only country armed with atomic bombs (Reeves, 2000). Then; the second powerful nation was the Soviet Union. After driving out Hitler's armies, Soviet soldiers helped the communists to rule the governments in the country after country. In 1946 Britain's wartime leader, Winston Churchill, spoke across Europe to separate these communist-ruled nations in the East (O'Callaghan, 2004).

The Americans and the Russians fought Hitler's Germany together as allies. Nevertheless, the friendship between them just finished when the war out. The Russian president, Stalin, knew that many Americans hated the Soviet Union way of life. The new American president, Truman, suspected that Stalin's actions in Eastern Europe were the first steps in a plan to convert the world to communism. The United States and the Soviet Union became deeply suspicious of one another. People began to talk about the "Cold War" (O' Callaghan, 2004).

Truman decided to use American Power and money to contain Soviet Influence. In 1947 he sent money and supplies to help Greece in beating communist forces in a civil war. From this time Truman started the policy of containment also called The Truman Doctrine (O Callaghan, 2004).

2.5 Marshall Plan

On April 3, 1948, President Truman signed the Economic Recovery Act of 1948. It became known as the Marshall Plan, named for Secretary of State George Marshall, who in 1947 proposed that the United States provide economic assistance to restore the economic infrastructure of post-war Europe (Marshall Plan, n.d.).

To assist in the reconstruction of Europe after World War II, Marshall described the problem in his speech, stating that Europe needed a lot more aid to deal with the economic, social, and political deterioration. He then suggested a solution: that the European nations themselves set up a program for the reconstruction of Europe, with United States assistance (Marshall Plan, n.d.).

3. Aspects of the American Civilization

The United States of America is considered the world's superpower that plays a crucial role in the global political, economic, and cultural arenas.

3.1 The Political Aspects of the American Civilization

3.1.2 Foreign Policy

The United States foreign policy has been evolved since the independence of America, first distinguished by isolationism after that turned to effective involvements in foreign concerns. It is established by several factors and institutions in the country.

3.1.2.1 The History of US Foreign Policy

Throughout most of the nineteenth century, the United States of America maintained a unique policy characterized by isolationism and non-intervention in foreign affairs. As a result, the United States was developing a strong economic base. The real engagement with the world started in WW II when the United States showed interest in other states' affairs and became a prominent figure in United Nations after the break of The League of Nations to help rebuilding European nations as well as NATO. After the Cold War and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the power shifted toward the United States to be the sole remaining power and thus the United States had to manage its relations with other countries in the world and cope with the new world order. Since then the United States became the global leader for security, economic, political, and social affairs. It had 526,000 troops across different nations and established a military alliance with 50 countries (The History of the American Foreign Policy, n.d.).

The United States has diplomatic relations with numerous countries in the world in order to maintain national security, shield its products and companies across the globe and get access to the international marketplace:

The dawn of the 21st century finds the United States deeply involved in the outside world, more than ever in its history, and, in terms of the reach of its global engagement, more so than any other country. It has diplomatic relations with about 180 sovereign states; its military forces are deployed, in large measure or small, throughout the world; its role in the global economy is unmatched and is made manifest, in some degree, in virtually every other country; and belongs to a host international institutions (Hunter, 2000, p.33).

The United Nations (UN) and other international organizations have a crucial impact on United States foreign policy to maintain international security and prevent terrorism, crimes, and nuclear spread, also to solve health and environmental issues (The World Health Organization). Moreover, to serve humanitarian welfare (UNICEF, World Food Program, High Commissioner for Refugees and Food and Agriculture Organization) as well as transportation safety (International Civil Aviation Organization and International Maritime Organization) (Welch,2000).

Before WWII the United States interest did not shift toward the Middle East. However, by the end of the war, the area became an important spot for the United States to get access to the oil of the region. The American and European necessity for fueling planes, trucks, and ships led the United States to establish diplomatic as well as economic, and military relationships in the Middle East, the American companies in the region had a crucial role in maintaining the United States foreign policy in the Middle East (Modings, 2003). In addition to that Richards (2015) mentioned that:

The United States has had three principal interests in the Middle East: to maintain a regional balance of power; to make certain that the flow of oil is not interrupted; and to defeat the Islamist terror groups in the region that threaten the security of the region, of friends and allies in the region, and for the United States (p.33).

3.1.2.2 The Making of US Foreign Policy

There are several participants in the making of the US foreign policy (the President, the Congress, National Security Council, and Mediaect).However; the President and the Congress are the most influential ones.

The President of the United States is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces which means he takes a major role in foreign policy than domestic policy. The President makes treaties, diplomatic appointments and responds to foreign affairs with the assistance of the Secretary of States, Secretary of Defenses, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and National Security Council that should be first approved by the two-third majorities of the Senates (U.S. Department of State, n.d.).

The power of the President as the commander-in-chief of the country's military allows him to manage troops into conflicts and decide military operations. The President can also hold personal pledges in form of executive conventions with other Presidents without the Senate agreement; moreover, he can send and receive ambassadors (Carter, 2020).

According to Grimmett (1999), the president has the power to:

- Respond to foreign events.
- Propose foreign policy program.
- Negotiate international agreements.

- Establish foreign policy either through unilateral statements or joint statements with other governments.
- Make independent action without discussing it with the congress.
- Implement policies.

On the other hand, Congress plays an important role in the making of the United States foreign policy. It has the power to declare war, regulate overseas commerce, and passing budgets for foreign affairs as well as defense. Also, it provides and maintains the navy (Masters, 2017).

Moreover, Carter (2020) pointed out that Congress has the power to:

- Declare war.
- Raise, support, and regulate the nation’s military.
- Make rules regarding piracy and its punishment.
- Regulate international commerce.
- Regulate immigration.
- Make any other laws “necessary and proper” for carrying out the above powers (p.05).

3.2 The Economic Aspects of the American Civilization

3.2.1 An Economic Superpower

The United States economy has flourished since the end of the Second World War, whereas series of developments have been conducted to reach superiority, which enables the United States industry to surpass the other global industries. The United States became the land of innovation of new products, methods, and services, its economy based on manufacturing and its companies were and still the most productive compared to others, which resulted in strong demand of the United States products (Brender & Pisani, 2018). Furthermore, Walton and Rockoff demonstrated that, “In

1950, the United States was the most powerful nation in the world, and Americans enjoyed standards of living higher by far than those of any other people” (2000, p.7).

The United States has a powerful military and spends a huge amount of money on defense research than the rest of the world put together, it accounts for 50 percent of global defense spending. The United States’ strong economic and technological wealth resulted in a military superpower that controls land, sea, air, and space (Zakaria, 2008).

Ayhan, Cisilla, Franziska and Mark (2017) stated clearly that the United States has the largest economy in the world, it plays a significant role in the global economy since it produces 22 percent of the world’s output, moreover, it produces and consumes commodities more than any other country, for instance, 13percent of the global oil, 24 percent of the global biofuel is produced by the United States. On the other hand, the United States is considered as the second global consumer of copper, coffee, lead, and aluminium:

With an estimated nominal GDP of more than \$18 trillion in 2016, the United States is the world’s single largest economy and has the world’s third-largest population. It accounts for more than 25 percent of global GDP (at 2015 market exchange rates), 11 percent of global trade, 12 percent of bank foreign claims, and 35 percent of global stock market capitalization (p.2).

The US dominance over the World Bank made the latter response to the US policies and objectives, the president of the World Bank is chosen by the US where 17 percent of the votes are Americans compared to Japan 6 percent and Germany 4.7 percent as well as it can make veto whereas the other countries cannot. The US uses the World Bank to influence developing countries where the funds are offered upon the US desire and Satisfaction. Moreover, the US Congress has the power to approve the three-yearly pledges to IDA within the World Bank (Wade, 2002).

Globalization was the access for the United States to enter its companies in different countries with massive success and its financial markets are highly integrated into the global markets as a result that the US is the world's economic leader:

Over the last twenty years, globalization has been gaining breadth and depth. More countries are making goods, communications technology has been leveling the playing field, and capital has been free to move across the world. And America has benefited massively from these trends (Zakaria, 2008, p.183).

3.2.2 The power of the American Dollar

The story of the dollar as a global currency started during the Great Depression when the gold standards were abandoned and there was a need for a global currency. After WW II the United States and its elite made the Bretton Woods Agreement to use the dollar instead of global standards which means that the US backed its currency with gold and the developed countries tied their money to the US dollar (Best & Kelly 2020).

Following the era after WWI, the US had a very strong economic base as a result of that the US dollar became the world's major reserve currency, 40% of the world's debts are issued in dollars, governments use the dollar in their foreign exchange affairs, moreover foreign banks needed the dollar to conduct their business (Amadeo & Boyle, 2020).

The dollar has functioned as the world's dominant reserve currency since World War II. Today, central banks hold about 60% of their foreign exchange reserves in dollars. About half of international trade is invoiced in dollars, and about half of all international loans and global debt securities are denominated in dollars. In foreign exchange markets, where

currencies are traded, dollars are involved in nearly 90% of all transactions (Congressional Research Service, 2020, para2).

The strong demand for the dollar can be beneficial for the United States where goods that are produced outside the US are cheaper by contrast the US goods are more expensive abroad. The US profits from dollar as a reserved currency in two ways, the first one by holdings of the dollar bills it attains interest-free loan that makes foreign hold dollar bills. The second one, the US treasury benefits from the demand of foreign to hold dollar assets, as a result, that the interest rate on US treasury bills becomes lower and the price of the assets becomes higher (Williamson, 2012).

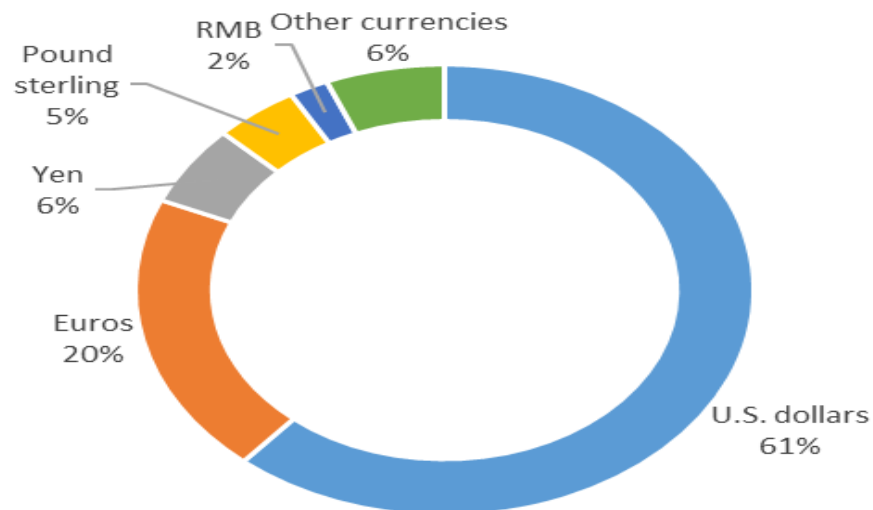


Figure 1.1: International Monetary Fund. Notes: 149 reporting countries (Congressional Research Service, 2020).

The above figure illustrates the dominance of the US dollar over 61 percent of foreign exchange reserves as it is considered the world's major reserved currency.

3.3 Cultural Aspects

3.3.1 The Transmission of American culture

America was considered a cultural backwater before World War I. At that time the ‘American Dream’ was the most USA’s prominent cultural export to the world, an open-ended inspiration into which millions poured their own dreams and hopes for a better life. It was around the time of the First World War that things started to alter, that America first began to export some of its home grown culture overseas through films and music. Charlie Chaplin, Westerns, ragtime, and Jazz became recognizable to millions outside the nation. It was not until after Second World War, however, that the flood gates truly burst. The rise of the consumer economy and American Lifestyle within the 1950s had a huge impact on the world when American popular culture went global (Access to international English, 2008).

W.T. Stead, the English writer, published a brief tract entitled *The Americanisation of the World* in which he welcomed the growing power of the United States, not only in the military and economic aspects, but also in the fields of thought, values, and culture. Through its relentless involvement in other countries, also the energy and vitality of the United States will restore the strength of the British Empire and ensure the continued triumph of the Anglo-Saxon race (Stead, 1901).

On The eve of America’s entry into the Second World War, Henry Luce, the publisher of *Life* has coined the phrase of The American Century as part of a determined attack on American isolationism (Luce, 1999).

Like Stead, Luce has stressed, “the importance of American culture and values, American jazz, Hollywood movies, American slang, American machines, and patented products were already the only things that every community in the world, from Zanzibar to Hamburg, recognized in common” (Luce, 1999, p.307).

3.3.2 Significance and Influence of Hollywood Movie

The American films are not only shown in the United States, but also by a worldwide audience. Furthermore, its film studios control dominates the vast majority of market share in the global film industry. It seems that using films is the most effective way for America to gain recognition (The Promotion of American Culture through Hollywood Movies to the World, 2012).

In terms of cultural influence, this ambiguity about both the continuing significance of America and the way it is being challenged by new processes of production and transmission can be seen in the case of Hollywood. In the 2010s, American exports continued to dominate the international film industry with 67 percent of worldwide box office receipts in 2009. Between 1990,2000, Hollywood's share of the world market had effectively doubled between to around 60 percent and remained at that level for much of the next decade (Motion Picture Association of America, 2010).

The profit from selling films abroad increased by 20 percent between 1985 and 1990 while during the same period the share of the American domestic market for foreign films dropped from 7 percent to 1 percent. Among the top 20 highest-grossing films of 2008, fourteen were US films and the remaining six were co-produced, financed primarily with US dollars (Focus, 2009).

The movie is one of the mediums through which American culture and ideology are spreading to the rest of the globe. The result of this dominance of American culture is the rise of cultural imperialism, which fosters the global consumerism trend. After viewing movies, the global audience becomes a consumerist overnight after watching movies, for example, the culture of eating low carp food in American movies caused the popularity of McDonald's, KFC, pizza, and so forth. Hollywood movie is the American medium, it has influenced the movie industries in several countries as well (The Promotion of American Culture through Hollywood Movies to the World, 2012).

Similarly, American culture has often been shaped by globalizing influences. Therefore, Hollywood has regularly used actors, writers, musicians, and directors from across the world

throughout its history. A recent example might be its borrowings of Asian film aesthetics, movie stars, concepts, and scripts (Goss & Yue, 2005).

In addition, it is simpler to gain access to people's thinking subtly. It is preferable for America to utilize film as a tool. Furthermore, because America has the potential to control other cultural communities, America might be able to extend capitalism to any country on the planet. American culture has the potential to transform the entire globe into a single cultural community, and it has the potential to urge this one community to be dominated by capitalism led by the U.S.A (The Promotion of American Culture through Hollywood Movies to the World, 2012).

3.3.3 Mass Migration

Since World War II, especially since the "Immigration Act" of 1965, America and Asia have replaced Europe as the main supplier of migrants. Moreover, the 2000 census, reported that over three-quarters of American immigrants were of Hispanic or Asian origin. By 2008, approximately 46.8 million people of Hispanic background lived in the United States, 17.8 million (38 percent) of whom were foreign-born (Immigration and Americanisation, 2012).

According to Hodson that “the mass migrations of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries has created a globally sourced, multi-cultural and multiracial population for the United States” (Hodson, 2001, p.81).

The same process can be clearly seen in the recent surge in immigration. In 2001, one in ten American residents was born abroad, as the country re-emerged as a nation of immigrants. The growing diversity of the sources of immigration, especially from the developing world has also had a profound impact on the future of American culture and society.

Furthermore, The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that by 2050; the non-Hispanic white population will only comprise 50.1 percent of the total population, compared with 69.4 percent in 2000. The Hispanic population is expected to grow from 35.6 million to 102.6 million, an increase

of 188 percent, which means that their proportion of the country's population will increase from 12.6 percent to 24.4 percent, would nearly double, with potentially far-reaching consequences for national cultural identity (Assessing Americanisation, 2012).

Moreover, the majority of Americans celebrate their roots and culture as a "country of immigrants," and many Americans support continued immigration as a crucial ingredient for economic prosperity and as an integral component of a cosmopolitan culture. Thus, nearly 60 million inhabitants or more than one-fifth of the total population of the United States are immigrants or the descendants of immigrants. Also, for the majority of this community, immigration policy is not an abstract ideology but a way of family reunification and recognition that they are part of the "American dream" (Hirschman, 2006).

3.3.4 A culture of many voices

The United States has no explicit language policy, but we do have a linguistic culture that supports the use of English to the exclusion of almost all other languages so that an explicit policy to make English the official language is not necessary, and probably never will be (Schiffman, 2005).

For various reasons, certain powerful groups have attempted to present the United States as a single nation undervalued. This is exemplified by the significance of Noah Webster's dictionary and his call for a common American language in the 1790s. As Bakhtin (1990) noted that, many voices are running through language and literature, as in culture itself, and these voices must be acknowledged in an ideally 'heteroglossia' (many-voiced) formulations of society:

At any given moment of its historical existence, language is heteroglot from top to bottom: it represents the co-existence of socio-ideological contradictions between the present and the past . . . these languages of

heteroglossia intersect each other in a variety of ways, forming new socially typifying languages (p.291).

3.3.5 The influence of Music

American popular music dominated the world in the 20th century, at one level, by the end of the century, the popular music industry was characterized by a relentless process of mergers on a global scale, resulting in a market dominated by a small number of giant corporations that occupied 76 percent of the top five national markets (the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, and Japan), which themselves made up 70 percent of world record sales (Leyshon, Matless & Revill, 1998).

American popular music all over Europe clearly provided alternatives to existing forms of provision, which was a great part of its appeal. For Eric Hobsbawm, jazz was democratic and classless, the sound of modernity and urban culture, and thus offered a challenge to accepted tradition (Hobsbawm, 1998).

In addition, Oliver (1990) has noted:

how in the aftermath of the Second World War in Britain, jazz had become a symbol of the irrepressible creative spirit of Blacks in the face of racial and economic oppression . . . A symbol of revolt against their parents, against war, against commercialism. This had paradoxical political implications, as what was, after all, an American cultural form was taken up by the Left as the Cold War got underway (pp.80-1).

Moreover, Paul Gilroy (1992) has shown:

How aspects of American culture provided powerful sources of solidarity and pleasure as well as a means to organize themselves' for black

minority groups in Britain. African America, in particular, was a source of cultural and political raw material for UK blacks in the post-war period (p.171).

The narrative of black political protest was not only an inspiration here, but it also developed cultural expression through various forms of music, Soul, jazz, and rap were among the musical forms that brought the concept of black communities in the inner city, particularly young people, being able to identify themselves politically and artistically as an oppressed nation, linked by language and history in the context of the Diaspora (Gilroy, 1992).

In a very different vein, while country music is often considered to have a strong sense of American patriotism, one aspect of its appeal in Britain was to working-class and regional groups who did not come easily with conventional concepts of mainstream British culture, and who used the music to express a sense of identity. In these different situations, is expressed by using, and at the same time enjoying, mainstream music (winter, 2003).

3.3.6 Internet impact

The development of the Internet is clearly intertwined with the process of Americanization. In terms of infrastructure, servers, users, and content it had been dominated by the United States from the start. While it was based on the so-called genuine American values of open access to information, liberalization, and privatization, this access was provided, directed, and controlled by multinational media and telecommunications companies. From this perspective, communication was more akin to a one-way street rather than to a two-way conversation (Wagnleitner, 2005).

America was effectively at the centre of the map of the Internet with other nations at the borders. Domain names in nations other than the United States always have a two-letter suffix and although an American suffix exists, it is rarely used (Case study 2: The internet, 2012).

Kroes (2003) argues:

The internet may be only the latest medium for the global transmission of a culture crucially cast in an American mold. Rather than being a vehicle for multiplication of people's affiliations, it may narrow their options, subjecting them to an Americanization by stealth (p.236).

American domination of the Internet was also reflected in the way in which English was its primary language and in the way in which growing commercialization might negatively impact the free flow of information.

Conclusion

Aftermath the Second World War, the United States emerged as one of the two major superpowers, abandoning its traditional isolationism in favor of greater international participation. The United States established itself as a worldwide power in economic, political, military, cultural, and technological affairs. Moreover, it became the leader of international security and welfare, and it had a crucial role in the global economy and the American dollar became the most reserved currency due to its economic and financial supremacy. As well, the United States' developments in the world arena continued as competitor to the Soviet Union during the Cold War, and by the end of the Cold War, it became the sole leading superpower in the world. In addition, its position as the world's dominant superpower has led to global American cultural influence, it has cultural influence in the media because it has a huge market and immigration contributed and enriched greatly the united states economy and culture; also the rise of the consumer economy and an American lifestyle gave American popular culture a global impact.

CHAPTER TWO

Predictions on the Fall of the American Civilization

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Introduction

Since the Cold War, the United States embraced the international arena as the world's only superpower, nevertheless, the emergence of other global powers such as China and India diminished the US dominance. In recent decades, thinkers, economists and political experts started analysing the possibility of the fall of the American civilization, some turned it to foreign policy issues, others to economic decline and social crises in the United States as well as historical reasons whereas civilizations emerge, flourish and fall following the cycle of civilization.

The chapter in hand discusses the main political, economic, social, and historical factors that may lead to the fall of the American civilization. The political factors include the US foreign policy issues with China, Iran, and Islamic groups; the economic factors consist of China's economic growth as well as US-China economic and technological rivalry, moreover, it tackles the decline of the US dollar as the world most reserved currency, and military spending, finally, the social factors include Islamophobia and race in the United States. Furthermore, the chapter presents opinions and views of different authors concerning the shift from unipolar to multipolar world order.

1. Causes of the Fall

Few years ago, the American civilization rose in unprecedented way throughout history; therefore, opinions differed concerning the fate of American civilization wherein many thinkers asserted the demise of the American civilization due to several reasons:

It is a common theme that the United States, which only few years ago was hailed to stride the world as a colossus with unparalleled power and unmatched appeal ... is in decline ominously facing prospect of its final (Chomsky, 2016, p.58).

1.1. Foreign Policy

The changes that have been occurred in the international system shifted the global power and made the US no longer a super-power in aspects of foreign policy and making an influence in the international system. New security challenges have been facing the US since 9/11 and US intervention in the Middle East increased the level of international terrorism. The US military actions in Iraq War adversely affected the US credibility and good image abroad whereas anti-American movements have appeared in many regions. The US foreign policy has been criticized for its inability to use its influence in a more sophisticated manner to solve international problems (Sraders, 2014). The current US foreign policy encounters many issues and challenges starting from US-China intense relations to US-Iranian confrontations in the Middle East and ending with the threat of terrorism.

1.1.1. US-China Tensions

According to Huang (2017), China's economic growth threatens the US international status as an economic superpower, China is the largest trading nation that has influence in other countries and benefits the world due to its economic achievements in the last few decades while the US economy has deteriorated. Americans consider China's manipulation of its currency as the main reason for US trade deficit and job losses. He stated: "America's global dominance has been diminished meanwhile; the American public believes that China's rise has contributed to their stagnating salaries and lost jobs" (p.30).

The past few years have seen trade tension between the US and China where Chinese unfair trading practices drove the US president Donald Trump to wage the trade war with China in March 2018, the Chinese president Beijing responded by increasing tariffs on US products. Trump's Administration attitude toward Beijing caused by China's inequitable trade practices led to the theft of intellectual property as well as prevents US companies from entering Chinese markets.

Furthermore, the Chinese investments in US companies have fallen by 94, 6 percent in 2018 (\$3 billion) meanwhile in 2016 it was \$55, 3 billion (Arezina, 2020). In addition, Hass and Denmark (2020) stated that the US-China Trade War caused slow economic growth for the US. Moreover, it cost the US around 300, 00 jobs and an estimated 0, 3 of real GDP while companies lost 1, 7 trillion in the price of their stocks as a result of US tariffs on Chinese imports.

China's unstoppable economic and military expansion threatens not only the US status as a superpower but also the economic advantages that come from that, as well as threatens the US system of partnership and alliance in the Asia-Pacific region "China's growing power has awakened American fear over its status as the only international superpower" (Rudolf, p.09). According to Trump's Administration, China is described as revisionist power aiming for hegemony in the Indo-Pacific region and in the large term for global supremacy. China is the only country in the world that has the potentials to threaten the US since China is the "long-term competitor" for the US (Lippert & Perthes, 2020).

Kapustina, Lipkova, Silin and Drevalov (2020) illustrated that US-China Trade War has four main reasons:

- 1- To decry the bacterial trade deficit as well as increase the number of jobs.
- 2- To minimize high-tech of China's success in robot production, batteries, and network equipment.
- 3- To stop China's military power from growing and prevent Chinese military superiority.
- 4- To decrease the federal budget deficit, the US imposes tariffs on Chinese products to achieve balance for its budgets.

On the other hand, Covid 19 pandemic has recently mounted further the tension between US and China which may open the doors for a new Cold War. In this, the US launched a propaganda war since the spread of Covid 19 pandemic. In fact, the US directed trenchant criticism to China for

the way it coped with the pandemic. The mobilization of propaganda resources can drive the two countries to new war similar to what was seen during the Cold War (Yong, 2020).

1.1.2. US-Iran Tensions

Richards (2015) stated that Iran is considered as a threat to US interests and influence in the Middle East, Iran seeks dominance and attempts to implement its policies, ideologies, and power to confront and challenge US strategies in the region. Furthermore, Iran's assistance for terrorism disrupted Middle East stability, hindered the investigation of US concerns, and weakened its regional allies:

It is important to understand Iran's history of continued support for global terrorism, as these groups are used as proxies to further Tehran's objectives and endanger U.S. interests by weakening U.S. influence in the region and launching attacks against American regional allies. In the Middle East, Iran heavily relies on terrorist organizations as an asymmetric capability to help achieve its objectives in the region without disclosing overt Iranian involvement (p.20).

Furthermore, Hussain (2015) illustrated that US-Iran intense relations have three major reasons:

The US-Iran relations are marred by a host of issues bilaterally, regionally, and globally; however, three key issue areas that severely undermine their relations are Iran's nuclear program, Iran's alleged support to 'terrorist entities', and opposition to Middle East security architecture (p.7).

He added that Iran is accused of sponsoring terrorism in the Middle East by supporting the two regional proxies, Hamas and Hezbollah (the US declared both of them as terrorist organizations).

The US-Iran relations have been hostile for decades; both countries have security issues while Iran threatens the security of Israel and Saudi Arabia, the two important US allies in the Middle East. The US on the other hand tries to prevent Iran's nuclear enrichment program, when the Stuxnet computer Virus attacked Iran's nuclear program, many experts believed that the Virus was developed by the US and Israel (Short Overview of US-Iran Relations, n.d.).

The Iranian attack on Saudi Arabia's crucial energy infrastructure in September 2019 demonstrated that Iran and its proxies in the area have the potentials to harm US allies; likewise, the US has murdered the Iranian commander Qasem Soleimani. Since then, the US-Iran tension evolved into a conflict. Iran can expand confrontation into areas where the response of the United States could be limited a well threatens the security of the United States (Katzman, McInnis & Thomas, 2020).

1.1.3. The War on Terrorism

After the attack of September 11, 2001, the US intended to wage a war on terrorism; the attacks demonstrated that terrorist groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda threaten the national security of the US. Donald Trump has made an aggressive approach towards ISIS; nevertheless, the War on Terror has failed due to two major sources: the first one is the overestimation of the terrorist threat that drove the US too expensive counterterrorism campaigns. The second source is that the US embraced an aggressive military strategy in the Middle East which caused more damage and problems than solutions whereas it cost the US roughly 5\$ trillion. The number of terror groups increased since the begging of the War on Terrorism which made the US vulnerable to future attacks "it would be easy for al-Qaeda or another terrorist group to send suicide bombers to cause chaos in a half-dozen American shopping malls on any given day" (Thrall & Goepner, 2017, p.7). The War on Terror has failed to defeat al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups as well to contain their attacks (Thrall & Goepner, 2017).

In the same context, Fisher (2007) went to say that the US has failed to provide effective mechanisms to defeat terrorism whereas, deterring al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups would be a complex attempt because terrorists desire to risk their lives for the sake of achieving the organization's goals, for instance, the suicide bombers. Terrorist groups are difficult to locate, deterring them by using military forces resulted in instability in the Middle East, which drove the US to conflicts with American fairness and human rights.

1.2. Economic Decline:

1.2.1. U.S.-China Rivalry

Beijing has long held the ambition to rival the United States as the world's most dominant and influential nation. China has shifted its emphasis over the last 15 years, since its economic and technological prowess, diplomatic influence, and military capabilities have expanded, toward surpassing the United States (U.S.-China Global Competition, 2020).

Moreover, following the 2008 global financial crisis and General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Xi Jinping's ascension to power in 2012, Chinese leaders have become highly militant in their pursuit of this goal Chinese leaders regard the United States as China's main adversary and the nation most capable of preventing the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) from achieving its goals. Over the nearly three decades of the post-Cold War period, Beijing has made systematic attempts to diminish the United States' global influence and appeal (U.S.-China Global Competition, 2020).

Despite significant economic growth and acceptance of a role for competition and markets, China's Communist Party (CCP) retains full control over the nation's economy. China is not the first country to have an economic model based on state control and coordination of economic and trade agendas between the government and business. Also, elements of all of these systems were and continue to be present in places such as Japan's keiretsu and South Korea's chaebols. Nonetheless,

China's economic model differs from that of Japan and Korea. Furthermore, due to its sheer size, how China grows will have an impact on the rest of the globe in ways that even Japan's economy at its peak did not (Meltzer & Shenai, 2019).

1.2.2. China Economic Growth

Analysts frequently identify China's quick development as a major economic power during a three-decade period as one of the greatest economic success stories in modern times. China's real gross domestic product (GDP) increased from 1979 (when economic reforms began) to 2014. Also, GDP (gross domestic product) increased at a roughly 10% yearly pace. According to the World Bank, 679 million Chinese people were uplifted of severe poverty between 1981 and 2010 as China has risen to prominence as a significant global economic force, it is presently the biggest in the world; manufacturer, goods exporter, and importer (on a purchasing power parity basis), as well as a holder of foreign exchange reserves (World Bank, 2015).

Because of China's rapid economic growth, many analysts are speculating on if and when China could surpass the United States as the world's greatest economic power. The size of China's economy has long been a subject of extensive debate among economists. According to International Monetary Fund, China's nominal Gross domestic product in 2018 was \$13.4 trillion, or 65.3 percent of the size of the US economy. China's nominal Gross domestic product per capita in 2018 was \$9,608, or 15.3 percent of the US per capita level (Measuring the Size of China's Economy, 2019).

International Monetary Fund data indicate that China overtook the United States as the world's largest economy in 2014 on purchasing power parity (PPP) basis. China's share of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on a purchasing power parity basis rose from 2.3percent in 1980 to an estimated 18.3percent in 2017, while the U.S. share of global Gross Domestic Product on a purchasing power parity basis fell from 24.3percent to an estimated 15.3 percent. China would not be the world's largest economy for the first time in history. China's economic ascendancy as the

world's largest economy has been impressive, especially considering that in 1980, China's Gross domestic product on a purchasing power parity basis was only one-tenth that of the United States (International Monetary Fund, 2017). Therefore, it has emerged as a significant player in the world market for goods and services, over time, this economic strength has resulted in a more assured political style, especially under President Xi Jinping.

Over the last 30 years, China has gradually opened its economy to the rest of the globe. It followed in the footsteps of many other emerging markets, most notably the Asian developed economies of South Korea and Japan, which emerged from poverty in the 1960s and 1970s to have some of the world's best living standards. Furthermore, China was competitive due to its vast labor force, which allowed it to create manufactured products at far lower costs than its Western competitors. The labour force was primarily uneducated at first, and China eventually transformed itself into the world's workshop as it linked its industrial base into global supply chains, resulting in a major growth in trade with China (Klement, 2021).

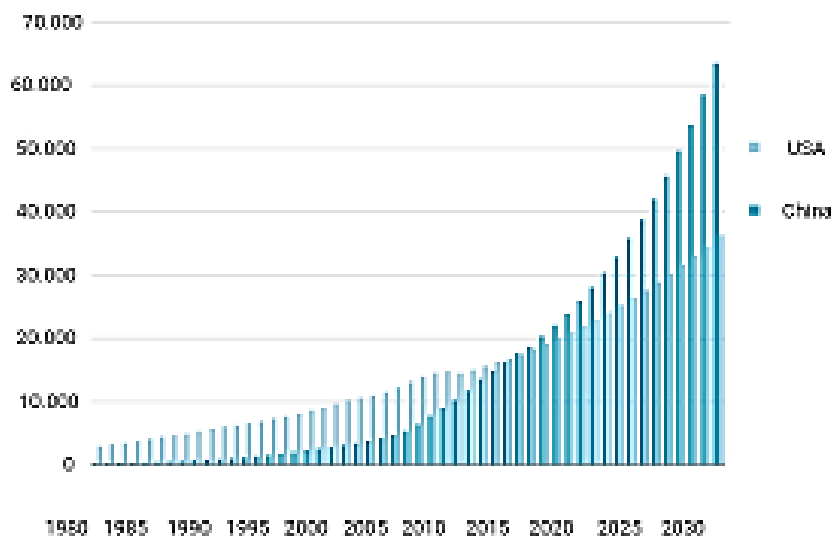


Figure 1.2: Total GDP in PPP terms in China and the USA: 1980-2030

(Euro monitor International from national statistics/Eurostat/OECD/UN/IMF Note: Data from 2014 are forecast).

The above figure shows the total gross domestic product (GDP) in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms in China and the United States and how China overtook the United States to become the world's largest economy in purchasing power parity terms in 2014.

1.2.3. Health Care Costs in the United States

National healthcare expenditure will rise by 5.4 percent a year, surpassing \$6 trillion by 2028, and these prices have grown from 17.7 percent of overall United States economic output in 2018 to almost 20 percent over the next decade. One cause for this increase is the aging United States population and growing Medicare enrolment. National health spending is expected to rise at a 5.5 percent annual rate from 2021 to 2023, compared to a 5.2 percent growth in 2020, and the uninsured is no longer required to pay the Obamacare Tax in 2019 (National Health Expenditure Projections, 2021). According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), 13 million people could lose coverage by 2027, when healthy people abandon the insurance system, insurance companies' costs will rise, and they will transmit those costs to the insured, further raising health care costs (Congressional Budget Office, 2021).

1.2.4. China's Ascent to Economic Superpower

According to the World Bank, China has surpassed the United States as the world's largest manufacturer. In 2006 and 2016, estimates of the gross value added of manufacturing in China, the United States, and Japan was expressed in US dollars, and data on gross value added indicate the real worth of manufacturing in the country (i.e., they subtract the value of intermediate inputs and raw materials used in production). In 2016, the value of China's manufacturing was 49.2 percent more than that of the United States. In 2016, China's gross value added manufacturing accounted for 28.7 percent of its gross domestic product, compared to 11.6 percent United States (The World Bank, 2019).

Moreover, Manufacturing contributes 30.0 percent of the Chinese economy, whereas it accounts for 13.2 percent in the United States. However, manufacturing has grown in significance in the United States since 2010, while it has declined in China, where it peaked at 32.9 percent in 2007. The US manufacturing sector is profiting from the restoring trend, which is being driven by low energy prices and the subdued growth of labour costs, whereas the Chinese manufacturing sector is suffering from increasing prices and skill shortages (Structurally sound, 2014).

Annual Gross Income in China and the USA: 1990–2030

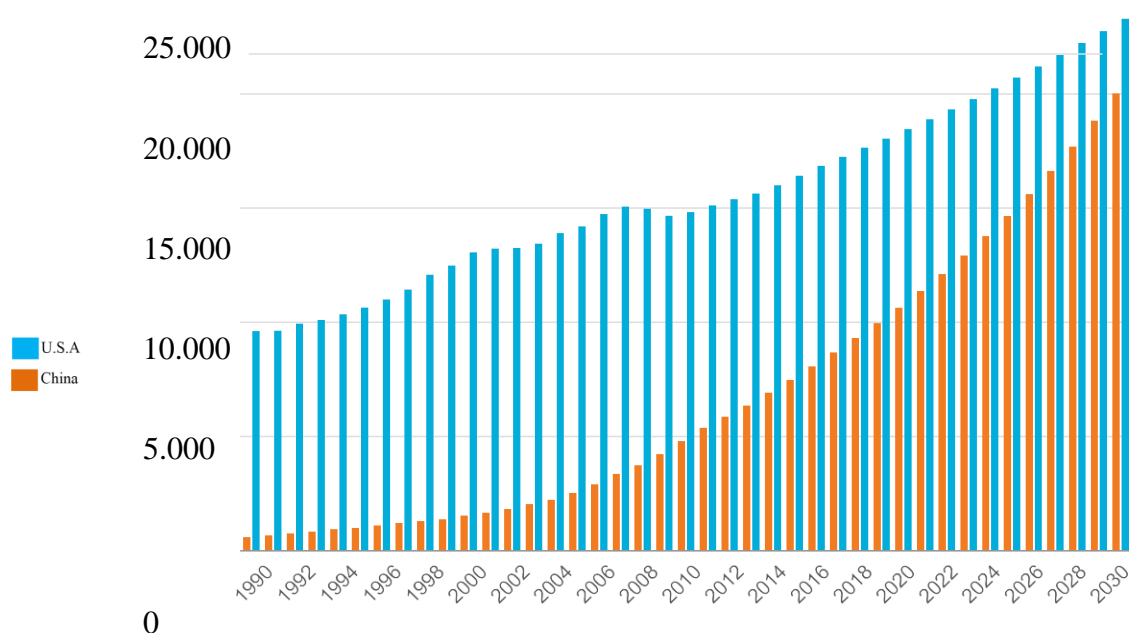


Figure 1.2: Annual Gross Income in China and the USA: 1990–2030

(Euro monitors International from national statistics).

Note: Data are in 2013 prices, fixed exchange rates. Data for 2014–2030 are forecast.

The above figure illustrates China's Gross National Income per capita has grown more than ten-fold since 2000, reaching \$10,410 in 2019.

1.2.5. The End of the Dollar's Privileged Status

The exorbitant privilege of the US dollar as the world's primary reserve currency is coming to an end. Valery Giscard d'Estaing, France's then-finance minister, invented that expression in the

1960s, primarily out of frustration with the United States, which depended freely on the rest of the globe to fund its overextended standard of living (Sample, 2020).

China is the world's second-largest dollar investor and it holds \$1.07 trillion in US Treasury securities as of June 2020. Also, it has indicated that if the United States does not lower its debt, it will lower its shares. Instead, its assets continue to increase. The United States' debt to China accounted for 15% of the total amount owed to foreign countries. China allowed British investors to pump \$13.1 billion into its tightly regulated stock markets in October 2013. As a result, London became the Yuan's first trading centre outside of Asia. This is one way by which China is attempting to get central banks to expand their holdings of the Chinese Yuan, and it is the biggest potential threat to the value of the dollar, as China would like the Yuan to replace the dollar as the world's reserve currency (Amadeo, 2020).

China has been devaluing the Yuan against United States currency since then. It is doing so because its leaders are concerned about the economy's weak growth. The Chinese central bank's continual purchase of US dollars helps to achieve the devaluation goal. Clearly, China's actions have a great impact on the dollar's value (Amadeo, 2020).

Furthermore, other nations are no longer able to buy into the notion that the United States knows better on economic policy, in mid-2009, with the world's central banks maintaining an unprecedented \$4 trillion in US Treasury notes, Russian President Dimitri Medvedev argued that it was time to end the artificially sustained unipolar regime based on one formerly solid reserve currency. Simultaneously, China's central bank governor indicated that a global reserve currency unconnected from individual nations. Take these assign posts of a world to come, and a potential plan, as economist Michael Hudson has argued, to hasten the bankruptcy of the United States financial-military world order (Mccoy, 2010).

In December 2019, the United States and China reached an agreement on Phase One of the trade agreement, whereby China committed to purchasing a significant amount of U.S. goods. If China's exports fall, it may buy fewer US Treasury bills, because China is the second-largest buyer of US debt, if its demand for Treasury's falls, interest rates may rise. Furthermore, any changes made by China as part of its economic reform will have an impact on the value of the US dollar. China's currency, the Yuan, has remained fixed to the dollar (US-China Phase One Tracker: China's Purchases of US Goods, 2021).

1.2.6. The Quest for Global Technological Leadership

Many of the US-China tensions in the areas of technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation arise, because of American concerns over China's ambition to become a world leader in a wide variety of technologies. In particular, is the industrial policy 'Made in China 2025' which aims to develop the high-tech sector in areas such as aerospace, robotics, and information and communications technology is seen as a threat to the United States technological leadership. Furthermore, The Trump administration has labelled China's policies as "economic aggression". Another explanation for the Trump administration's increasingly confrontational attitude toward China is that many next-generation inventions have both civilian and military uses. Thus, the United States' concerns extend to merely economic issues (White House Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy, 2018).

In addition, President Trump interfered in May 2018 to overturn a United States Department of Commerce ban that prohibited the Chinese telecommunications company ZTE from purchasing American technologies for seven years. This comes after ZTE was found to have abided by the terms of a prior settlement deal over violations of US sanctions against Iran and North Korea (Ballentine, 2018).

In the case of Huawei, another Chinese multinational technology company, the US Department of Justice filed series of criminal accusations in January 2019 against the company and

its chief financial officer, including alleged sanctions evasion and robotic technology fraud (US Department of Justice, 2019). In addition, the Trump administration has requested that United States allies – including Germany, Italy, and Japan to refrain from using the company's 5G network equipment due to espionage issues (Woo & O’Keeffe, 2018).

President Trump declared a national emergency in May 2019 and signed an Executive Order prohibiting US companies from using information and communications technology and services from foreign adversaries that pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States (The White House, 2019). Even though the Executive Order does not name any companies, it has been widely seen as targeting Huawei (Stewart, 2019).

1.2.7. Military Spending and International Strategy

Debt service consumes a sizable portion of United States government expenditure, as does military expenditure, foreign wars, and foreign involvement. Because of expenditures in these areas, the United States has spent less on its own development and more on other nations and regions. The globe has been more peaceful in the 20 years after the Cold War ended. Even though 9-11 tragedies occurred and the threat of international terrorism has grown more evident, dealing with this problem does not require a large-scale war or excessive-scale spending (Songshuan & Shulong, 2011).

While the number of wars in the world has decreased in the previous decade, US military spending has surged; total spending on the Iraq and Afghanistan wars alone has already surpassed US\$1.2 trillion. Simply, if the United States did not spend such a huge amount of money on military affairs and invasions and instead spent it on economic, social, and infrastructure development, a hugely different result would have been produced (Songshuan & Shulong, 2011).

1.3 Social Crisis

Racial discrimination is a prevalent experience among minorities in the United States. After years of complaints about the over-policing of Black communities and police violence against

African Americans, they witnessed eruptive protests when a police officer killed George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in May 2020. Thousands of people participated in demonstrations, appearing in force to voice solidarity with Floyd and the movement Black Lives Matter (Gordon-Reed, 2020).

Minorities are being isolated even further and inflaming xenophobia and islamophobia. Racism and Islamophobia are detrimental. It is in fact eroding society to a detrimental level and eroding each civil liberties globally, since the election of Donald J. Trump, racial discrimination has increased because he actively promotes racism in his speech and federal policies. Latino families have been impacted by anti-Latino and anti-immigrant rhetoric. This affects creating a climate of fear. The rise in racial discrimination suggests a nationwide increase in hate crimes against other minority groups (Sarwar & Raj, n.d).

1.3.1 The Racialization and Islamophobia in the United States

The racialization of Islam in the United States and discrimination are influenced by historic, domestic, and geopolitical trends surrounding American Muslims and people who “look Muslim”. In the context of the “war on terror”, the racialization of American Muslims produces obvious experiences of exclusion and abuse for both Muslims and non-Muslims. These experiences are formed by the term Islamophobia, which is now accepted and designated as a special form of discrimination. To imply the meaning of Islamophobia, Richardson (n.d) states:

There is, in reality, no such thing as Islamophobia: it is merely the figment of a paranoid or politically motivated imagination, or constructed out of a desire to perpetuate a siege mentality and sense of victimhood against Muslims, or to put an end to legitimate criticism or to engage in lazy abuse (pp.3-4).

Islamic organizations and defensive groups in the United States criticize this approach towards Islamophobia, citing racism and hate crimes as evidence of anti-Muslim racism in American society. The Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), civil rights and advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C., is at the forefront of combating Islamophobia in the United States. In a 2016 report, Nihad Awad, CAIR's Executive Director, stated that fear and hatred of American Muslims have "moved from the fringes of American society to the mainstream" (Council on American-Islamic Relations, 2016, p.5). During the 2016 presidential election campaign, candidates of the Republican Party made several controversial comments such as, "Islam hates us" "Muslims are uncorked animals", and "I would not advocate that we put a Muslim in charge of this nation" (Bradner, 2015 & Waldman, 2015).

Another Islamophobic commenting word, the fear of "creeping sharia," or Islamic law, has led to legislation designed to humiliate or otherwise target Muslims at an institutional level. The United States and at least 32 states have debated anti-sharia or anti-foreign law bills (Rifai, 2016). This movement reached its climax in 2011 and 2012 when 78 bills or amendments designed to denigrate Islamic religious practices were introduced in the legislatures of 29 states as well as the U.S. Congress (Saylor, 2014).

According to the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), a solution-seeking research institute that tracks Islamophobia in the United States, approximately 80% of U.S. legislators who give this type of legislation also sponsor bills restricting the rights of other minorities and vulnerable groups in the United States. In recent years, anti-Muslim groups and organizations have enjoyed access to at least \$205 million to spread fear and hatred of Muslims (Council on American-Islamic Relations, 2016).

In 2011, the Centre for American Progress (CAP), a public policy research and defensive organization based in Washington, DC, found that seven charitable foundations spent \$42.6 million between 2001 and 2009 to support the spread of anti-Muslim in the United States (Wajahat, 2011).

At the peak of anti-Islam legislation and has inspired attacks against Muslims and non-Muslims across the United States. In the last two months of 2015 alone, American Muslims reported 34 violent incidents against their mosques, acts that serve to frighten Muslim worshippers (Council on American-Islamic Relations, 2016).

In addition to the activities of anti-Muslim groups and organizations, media and entertainment representations of Islam and Muslims are the main factors in the rise of Islamophobia in the United States. According to news channels such as Fox, NBC, and CBS depicted Islam primarily as a source of violence between 2007 and 2013 (Media Tenor International, n.d.). In another 2011 report, Media Tenor found that U.S. and European news outlets focused on the Middle East primarily through the context of Muslim militancy (Media Tenor International, 2011).

The entertainment industry, too, contributes to the racialization of Islam and Muslims, which humiliate anti-Islam and anti-Muslim sentiments. In a study on news coverage from Lexis Nexis Academic and CNN for all terrorist attacks in the United States between 2011 and 2015, researchers found that news outlets gave drastically more coverage to attacks by Muslims, particularly foreign-born Muslims even though these attacks are less common than other kinds of terrorist attacks (Kearns, Allison, & Antony 2017).

The term “racial formation,” as introduced by Omi and Winant (1994), is useful to explore how media determine the content and importance of Muslim identities, by which they are shaped by racial meanings. The reaction of Americans to the genre of action-adventure film, and its increasing use of Arabs and Muslims as villains, shows how Americans’ perceptions of Arab and Muslim populations can be shaped (Wilkins, 2008).

Despite the heterogeneity of the American Muslim population, Muslims in the United States are racialized, meaning they are threatening others based on racial characteristics. Racialization, in this light, is a process by which American Muslims are identified racial differentiation, such as

genetics or skin color, and also through perceived cultural features such as religious symbols, like a beard or head covering. In terms of “war on terror” discourses (Khalid, 2011).

Islamophobic bias continues its trend towards increasing violence (Council on American-Islamic Relations, 2017). In 2016, CAIR recorded a 57% increase in anti-Muslim bias incidents over 2015, which was accompanied by a 44% increase in anti-Muslim hate crimes in the same period. Harassment (a non-violent or non-threatening bias incident) was the most frequent type of abuse in 2016, accounting for 18% of the total number of incidents. According to FBI statistics, the number of hate crimes against Muslims, as of 2015, had stabilized at nearly five times the pre-9/11 rate (Ingraham, 2015).

The number of anti-Muslim hate crime incidents in the United States is likely higher than the numbers documented in the 2016 CAIR report. American Muslims, the organization wrote, “will often not report incidents such as harassment and bullying since there is a certain level of desensitization.” CAIR added that some American Muslims often feel like “nothing can be done” when they are harassed for their faith, feeling that such incidents “have become normal” (Mathias, 2017).

The manifestation of Islamophobia in the United States is often considered as racial and religious bias because the stereotypical Muslim has been constructed as a threatening figure: the bearded, dark-skinned, turban-wearing terrorist guided by perceived archaic religious practices (Singh, 2016).

Racism against Muslims and non-Muslims in the United States is used at the social/interactional as well as institutional level. While anti-Muslim racism often appears in everyday interactions between Muslims and non-Muslims, institutionalized power struggles in the United States are keys to humiliate Islamophobia (Allen, 2010).

1.3.2 Black Lives Matters Movement

Black Lives Matter is an activist movement that began as a hashtag (#BlackLivesMatter) to protest the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed African-American teenager killed in Florida in July 2013. The movement became more widely known and popularized after two high-profile deaths in 2014 of unarmed African-American men (Eric Garner in Staten Island, NY and Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO) at the hands of police officers who were ultimately not indicted. Since August 2014, ongoing local and national protests and other actions were ongoing—often sparked by the deaths of other unarmed African Americans have brought the movement to the public consciousness and conversation (Sarwar & Raj, n.d).

Black Lives Matter evolved into a “movement.” As of August 2015, more than 1000 Black Lives Matter demonstrations have been held worldwide. Black Lives Matter started its journey first as ‘Our lives matter’ (Atkins, 2018, p. 1). The main claim is that the issue of black lives should receive more recognition to call attention to the police violence against black people, and the marginalization of the community. This claim aims at changing the systemic inequality among society (Olasov, 2016).

The violence against black people does not stop. the most prominent incident was last year when George Floyd, a 46-year-old African-American man was killed by police during an arrest in Minneapolis on the 25th of May 2020. While George Floyd wasn't the only black person to die at the hands of US police officers, the images of him being slowly suffocated were quickly seen around the world. His death sparked renewed protests in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. Thousands of people took to the streets in Minneapolis, in cities across the US and around the world, in response to Floyd's death (Lankes, 2021).

At first, tens of thousands of protesters in the US marched peacefully, but a couple of days after George Floyd's death, some demonstrations turned violent. There were reports of lootings,

vandalism, and even shootings. Cars were set alight and there were clashes with police. The National Guard was mobilized, as government officials, including President Donald Trump accused some protesters of engaging in "domestic terrorism"(Çetin, Deniz, Fatih, Pamir & Ezgi, 2020).

1.3.3 Trump and The Immigration Policy

President Donald Trump campaigned on seven major issues two of which involved immigration: The United States imposes on Mexican to pay for a wall on 2000-miles Mexico - US border, and deport the country ' 11 million unauthorized foreigners over half of them are Mexican. he has also promised to reserve President Barak Obama's executive orders that provide temporary legal status to some unauthorized foreigners, and to' put American workers first ' in migration policymaking. Since winning the election, Trump has modified some of his positions, notably announcing that deportation efforts would be focused on 2 million unauthorized foreigners convicted of crimes in the United States (Kaba, 2019).

Trump's focus on unauthorized migration during the campaign has had several effects that may prove long-lasting, including polarizing public opinion about what to do about immigration in general and unauthorized foreigners in particular. Migration may join abortion and guns on the list of issues that deeply divided Americans (Kaba, 2019).

These actions by President Trump confirm fears by much-bigoted rhetoric witnessed during the presidential campaign is already leading to devastating policies. The actions taken by President Trump have nothing to do with national security. They are images of Islamophobia and xenophobia. It needs to stand by the Constitution. A safe America also stands by its constitution, not just because it is the right thing to do, but because it is what makes Americans strong and live with the highest values, and embracing others into the American melting pot as one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all (Executive Order Toolkit: Muslim and Arab Ban, n.d)

1.4 The Cyclical theory on the Rise and Fall of Sovereign Powers

According to Ibn Khaldun, history is a cyclical process in which sovereign powers emerge, get stronger, lose strength, and are conquered by other sovereign powers through time. To be more specific, every society is uncivilized at first and attempts to consolidate authority around its own region (Önder & Ulaşan, 2018).

Philosophers, historians, and intellectuals from all around the world have produced cyclical ideas. The cycle theory of Ibn Khaldun and Arnold Toynbee's civilization theory are two significant hypotheses in the field of the rise and fall of sovereign states. Although they share many similarities, due to their period and circumstances, there are significant characteristics that separate them and make them unique (Önder & Ulaşan, 2018).

Ibn Khaldun defines the fall as a normal process, stating that governments, dynasties, countries, and civilizations are like humans in that they are born, grow, die, and others take their place, only to face the same outcomes again and again. Furthermore, he expects that sovereign powers would last for around 120 years before collapsing (Ibn Khaldun, 2016).

In addition, to Ibn Khaldun's theory, Toynbee (1974) stated that the life cycle of civilization has four stages: genesis, growth, breaks down, and finally disintegration by the law of history; civilizations emerge when the right conditions are met as they develop, and they achieve their peak when they successfully adapt to challenges. However, as a historical fact, civilizations fall and disintegrate not because of external factors such as war or natural disasters but they fall when the creative minority in society loses its power.

In the broadest sense, no culture was ever granted the ability to always be one point ahead of the others. This would indicate a halt to the differentiated patterns of growth rates, technological advancement, and military achievements that have existed since the start of history, but they fall when the creative minority in society loses its power. On the other hand, this reference to historical precedents does not imply that the United States is doomed to fade into the relative obscurity of previous major powers such as Spain or the Netherlands (Kennedy, 1988).

2. A Multipolar World

While the United States remains the world's most powerful country, other powers continue to diversify, making it difficult for the United States to impose its reversal in the way it envisions. In addition, America's plans for world domination are still bearing fruit, but their reach is shrinking considering the US participation of the world wealth had fallen about 25 percent and the industrial world became tripolar with major centers: US, Europe, Asia and Japan. Furthermore, the domination of the United States over China and Southeast Asia has ended since these countries are on their way to becoming independent forces (Chomsky, 2016).

Zakaria (2008) stated that the world in the last two decades of the 21st century is shifting towards a new international system where there is no sole power dominating the global arena. He pointed out that the first shift was the rise of the western world in the 15th century. Later by the 19th century, the United States emerged as the world's only superpower after the dissolution of the Soviet Union; now the third shift is likely to be directed towards Asia. The United States might not fall soon, but the unipolarity system will inevitably end as the world is witnessing new emerging powers such as China and India since the balance shifts every year, the US will remain a powerful country with other several countries as well:

For the first time ever, we are witnessing genuinely global growth. This is creating an international system in which countries in all parts of the world are no longer objects or observers but players in their own right. It is the birth of a truly global order (Zakaria, 2008, p.3).

The international system is moving toward a multipolar structure whereas numerous countries with different capabilities will have an impact on the global system. It was previously decided that a country with military and economic strength, such as the United States, has the power to exercise hegemony, however, one country cannot manage the international difficulties alone. Multipolarity suggests that the US, China, Japan, and India will lead the world's economy;

Iran, Saudi Arabia, and other African countries will have their impact on the world due to energy assets, moreover, Russia, Turkey and Pakistan will benefit from the world because of their geostrategic location this opens the doors for several countries to lead the world. The new system of Multipolarity encourages cooperation among developed countries which can lead to a safer world where security and many other concerns are the responsibility of these developed nations (Sidra Khan & Ourat-ulAin, 2016).

Varisco (2013) in the same context stated that the world will be characterized by the balance of great powers or multipolarity for the next coming decades as well the United States hegemony will be diminished since the rise of China, India, Brazil, and Russia will result in a new international order, moreover, she added:

A return to a multi-polar world characterized by great powers rivalry is, therefore, more than a fable vagary or a theoretical hypothesis advanced by IR scholars, but it looms as a feasible and concrete scenario and a possible outcome for the near future (Varisco, 2013, p.3).

China's global economic share will reach 20 percent in 2030 and India's share will reach 13,5 percent in 2020 meanwhile US and EU share in the world's economy will decrease from 30 percent to 25 percent in 2050. Furthermore, the shift of the international system resulted in a transition in the international monetary system from a bio-polar to a tri-polar paradigm while the Chinese renminbi was included with around 30 percent besides the US dollar with around 40 percent and euro with around 20 percent (Stehrer, 2018).

In the last decade, many emerging and transitional nations have risen faster than advanced countries, resulting in a change in the distribution of global income in their favor. China is currently the world's second-largest economy, following behind the United States and surpassing Japan. As China's and many other countries relative economic weight has equalled or surpassed those of the

G7's middle-ranking economies, the global economy has changed from “unipolar” to “multipolar,” with the G7 becoming less dominant (Wade, 2011).

In 2010 former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton observed that “we see a shifting of power to a more multipolar world as opposed to the Cold War model of a bipolar world” (Aguir, 2017, p.15). Furthermore, Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov, declared: “international relations have entered into a conceptually new historical stage that consists in the emergence of a multipolar world order and reflects the strengthening of new centres of economic development and power” (Aguir, 2017, p.15).

2.1. The transition from Unipolar to a Multipolar World

The United States might remain a formidable world power for the foreseeable future. Even if China takes over as the world's largest economy, the United States is likely to remain number one in terms of military power for decades and other major developed economies will continue to face considerable global influence. In other words, established powers should not be dismissed as submerged powers (Aguir, 2017).

Antkiewicz and Cooper (2011) mentioned that, “such power shift calls for change in the current world order and with the global financial crisis; the future global economic and political leadership must include the participation of the biggest countries of the South” (p.300).

Moreover, over time, nations in the eastern globe such as Singapore, Indonesia, Nigeria, and the BRICS globe have achieved slow economic growth, using significant technical leaps to achieve a sustainable economic height characterized by their Agriculture, Manufacturing, and service sectors. The 1990s were the markable decade of non-western country rise (Chellaney, 2012).

In addition, Menon, (2009) wrote:

The emerging powers of the east have greater potential and the opportunity to lay a benchmark in achieving a nonwestern power that

canal so create an alternative in managing global affairs. These countries can make the most of the current economic downturn and the upheavals in the various parts of the world (p.10).

According to Ferguson, the interregional grouping has led to an increase in alliance formation, which is prevalent in the world system's power cycle theory. This gradual rise of non-western power is roughly aligned with the slowing of the economies of the United States and Europe. The United States has gone through a period of structural deficits, which has resulted in a significant reliance on foreign capital to finance excessive individual and governmental spending. This has reduced its imperial position in the globe, allowing other nations' developing economic markets to make a mark on the international system (Ferguson, 2004).

Conclusion

The perception of the American civilization's fall today is certainly understandable since the other rising powers continue to diversify. As a result, the United States is increasingly unable to impose its will and has been encountering a dismal economic situation since 2008 and in addition to the nation's large fiscal deficits combined with the continuing growth of the Chinese power. Thus, the current century might be a "Chinese century", and other economies such as India, Brazil, and South Africa. These economies, in fact, seem to portend a significant and irreversible shift in global economic power.

Moreover, the continuation of the American century might not be the way it was at the time of the conceptualization in the last 1940s since the contribution of the US economy to the global economy is declining. Also, it is worth mentioning the belief that the United States has lost favor, and therefore influence, in much of the world, because of its various responses to the attacks of September 11 have tarnished the American "brand" and put a dent in America's "soft power". Its fall is also seen in its social structure, as a society divided against itself riven by ancient racial and

ethnic hatreds, where one dominant group tried to keep the rest from having much of anything at all. In addition, its contemporary foreign policy unbalanced with other nations faces several concerns and problems, ranging from heated US-China ties to US-Iranian clashes in the Middle East to the threat of terrorism.

General Conclusion

The American civilization emerged as a leading power since the Second World War where it became a global influence in political affairs after turning away from its isolationism, as well as contributed to the global economic prosperity to act as a prominent actor in the world arena.

Following the Cold War, the United States became the world's only superpower, its dominance and hegemony spread across the globe and the world's biggest institutions were controlled by the United States. Its position as a superpower produced cultural influence and the American dollar became the world's most reserved currency in a unipolar system. However, the American hegemony did not last for long by the emergence of other competing powers.

The American civilization encountered many difficulties from its status as the only superpower that can contribute to the decline, tensions between the US and China, and Iranian confrontations as well as the threat of terrorism. The US lost its privilege and many social crises the US could not handle. Moreover, another shift of the world will witness in the coming years, the rise of China as a rival to US power.

This dissertation takes into consideration the forecastable causes and perditions of the fall of the American civilization, as it is heading toward fiscal disaster, unable to encounter the current challenges needed to compete with China and other rivals; whether the United States might be succeeded by a new hegemon or the world might enter an era of multiple power centres.

Our study aimed to investigate the future of the American civilization and predict the status of the United States in the global arena after the rise of other important powers. In order to conduct this research, we adopted the historical-analytical method based on qualitative research. The study helped us to predict the status of the world after the fall of the unipolar system.

This research is divided into two chapters. The first chapter attempted to recite the main historical events that paved the way for the rise of the American dominance and pointed out the

aspects of the American civilization; the second chapter discussed the predicted possibilities of the fall of American civilization and then presented different opinions concerning the future of the United States and the possibility of multipolar world order.

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الملخص

تمر الحضارات-في سياق دورتها التاريخية-بثلاثة أطوار: نشأة، فتطور، ثم أفول وزوال. تهدف هذه الدراسة الى استكشاف الأسباب والتنبؤات المستقبلية لسقوط الحضارة الأمريكية وتراجع مكانتها في الساحة الدولية. كما تشير الى بروز الصين كمنافس للولايات المتحدة الأمريكية فضلا عن صعود قوى أخرى مما قد يفضي إلى نظام عالمي جديد متعدد الأقطاب. إنَّ البحث في الأسباب التي قد تؤدي إلى سقوط الحضارة الأمريكية والتنبؤ بمصيرها له أهمية كبيرة في مناقشة مسألة تراجع الولايات الأمريكية، وفي تسليط الضوء على الدول التي أضحت تنافسها بشدّة على الساحة الدولية. حاولت الدراسة تقديم إجابة عن السؤال الرئيسي الذي تأسس عليه البحث والمتمثل في الالمام بالأسباب والتنبؤات حول سقوط الحضارة الأمريكية، وهل ستحل مكانها قوة أخرى، أم سيشهد العالم نظاما جديدا متعدد الأقطاب. اعتمدت الدراسة على المنهج التاريخي الوصفي التحليلي حيث تم عرض تاريخ صعود الحضارة الأمريكية ثم تم التطرق إلى التنبؤات حول مستقبل الحضارة الأمريكية. انتهت الدراسة إلى وجود رأيين مختلفين حيث يتنبأ الرأي الأول بسقوط الحضارة الأمريكية ويعزو ذلك إلى أسباب سياسية واقتصادية وعسكرية. أما الرأي الثاني فيتوقع احتفاظ الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية بمكانتها بين القوى العالمية الأخرى لكن في ظل نظام عالمي متعدد الأقطاب.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الحضارة الأمريكية – أسباب سقوط-عالم متعدد الأقطاب- تنبؤات سقوط.