



The Key Role of Iran's Military Forces in the Recent Flood; a Potential Power for Civil Purposes

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Today, Iran is one of the most natural disastrous areas in the world. Each year we encounter vast catastrophic events such as earthquakes, storms, and floods in some part of the country that cause casualties and widespread damage. Severe floods have affected some major provinces of Iran since mid-March 2019. Consequently, various governmental organs were involved to help people (Figure 1) (1).

Recently; the role of army forces in such disasters has become more prominent worldwide. Military relief to civil authorities, its policy, and methods are now the challenging tasks in different countries (2, 3). Iran's military forces showed their potential abilities in recent floods to manage and control the condition in accordance with the other humanitarian organizations. Inviting multidisciplinary teams immediately to the affected areas, helping the casualties, and prompt reconstructing the vital destroyed structures are some of their apparent capacities (4).

Furthermore, encountering a wide spectrum of critical situations in the military field, including triage system usage, would qualify the military system to manage the civilian crisis well. Surely, providing adequate casualty care and proper data collection are primarily needed (5). Moreover, this could occur based on strong future planning and the high relationship between different organizations. This responsibility is now a new topic in some developed countries to help the civilian parts in different tasks such as security supports, search, and rescue (SAR), transportation, and even medical and equipment assists (6).

Owing to our recent experiences, it is time to revise the traditional concept of various incoordination aids by different humanitarian organizations. Wasting the time and equipment, inadequate and overlapping tasks in a disaster is the reason why the military forces could be as an ideal choice in these conditions. Military aids to civil authori-

ties should be more considered the main role of the armed forces of Iran. It is strongly recommended to introduce the principles of military aid to civil authorities, planning on innovative practices in the future, and strategic mapping to improve the civil-military coordination in disasters.

Footnotes

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