

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The war between Iran and Iraq officially ended when both sides accepted the resolution 598 proposed by the United Nations. On 8 August 1988, the Resolution number 598 became effective.¹ Both sides agreed to conduct a ceasefire. Automatically the war was ended because two sides stopped the using of any weapon. Iraq and Iran realized that the war was not effective for the government and gave disadvantage especially in terms of economy.

The United Nations' assistance was still being upheld. The UN Peacekeepers of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG) was responsible for monitoring the using of arms between Iraq and Iran after the acceptance of the ceasefire between them. In conclusion, the conflict between Iraq and Iran ended by mutual understanding of the two actors.

The United Nations tried to end the conflict, especially on the international scale. The United Nations as peacekeeping agent have several ways to solve the international conflict. The first one is called the normative way and second one is called the practical way. These two ways are also reflected in the work of the General Assembly and the Security Council as the United Nations authorized body.

¹Dodds, Joanna; Wilson, Ben. *Op cit.* p 13

The normative way is about how the United Nations use their authority to produce a resolution. The United Nations Resolution is a formal text adopted by the United Nations body.

The practical way means that the United Nations is a peacekeeping agent which conducts action for maintaining peace and security. Some troops, called UN Peacekeeping Troops, are sent to the conflict area to maintain the situation and even fight to uphold the value of peace and security.

The Iraq-Iran war was held in a very complicated condition, not only focused on one interest, but also on other unrevealed interests. Besides, the economic interest was the most visible goal of this conflict. Also Khuzestan as an oil-rich area owned by Iran became the main purpose of Iraq in invading Iran. But, the bad relations between Sunni and Shi'a contributed to the breakout of this war. Then, the war came with great damage in economic terms and even more in humanity. Iran and Iraq would endure the implication of this war.

The two main actors in this conflict, Iraq and Iran, were upholding their different national interest. As a consequence, the conflict became latent without any understanding of how to reduce their interest for the sake of gaining peace. In summary, there are three aspects which cause the complicated war between Iraq and Iran: territory, ideology, and too many actors involved.

Iraq and Iran claimed their own border. Shatt Al-Arab was the main factor of the conflict. The artificial boundaries could be the reason why the border dispute emerged. Iraq claimed Abadan and Khoramshahr as their territory according to the historical map. But then in fact, Abadan and Khoramshahr is included in Iran territory. When two states claimed each other's territory, it led to complicated border disputes.

Oil also became the source of conflict in the Iraq-Iran war. As we know, the territory of the Middle East is surrounded by oil sources. It makes the states of the Middle East try to expand their territory because they need more national income. They also considered that they had to expand their oil sources. In case of the Iraq-Iran war, Iraq tried to expand their route to the oil sources. Then, Iraq tried to expand by occupying Shatt Al-Arab and some territories of Iran: Abadan and Khoramshahr.

The involvement of third parties also influenced the dynamic of the Iran-Iraq war. They gave support to the main actors in Iraq-Iran in terms of military or even funding. To be mentioned as the third parties in the Iraq-Iran war are the United States and the Soviet Union.

Ideological reasons also became triggers of conflict between Iraq and Iran. In the conflict between two ideologies in Islam, Sunni and Shia, Sunni represented Iraq and Iran upheld Shia. The two ideologies came into conflict with the Iranian Revolution in 1979.

In the peacemaking process, sometimes third parties are important to help end the conflict. They do not support either of the actors in the dispute. Or in other words, they try to accommodate the interest coming from the two actors that are involved in the conflict to earn peace. In the case of the Iraq-Iran war, the third party comes from the United Nations, as a worldwide peace organization to conduct the peace process through negotiation.

In the effort of peace process in the case of the Iraq-Iran war, the United Nations acted as the third party. The United Nations tried to find the solution from the conflict by issuing Resolution 598. This resolution initiated the peace process in the conflict of the Iraq-Iran war. Resolution 598 was released by one of the bodies at the United Nations called the Security Council. The content of resolution in short expressed the Council's concern that, despite its calls for a ceasefire, the conflict continued between Iran and Iraq as it caused heavy loss of life and material destruction.

Compliance bargaining was conducted as the effort to end the Iraq-Iran war in terms of conflict resolution. Specifically the approach categorized compliance bargaining in terms of management approach. This approach suggests that regimes usually keep noncompliance at acceptable levels by an interactive process of discourse among the parties, the treaty organization, and the wider public. According to management

approach, the coming of Resolution 598 successfully reflected on every single point that had been written.

Post agreement regime dynamics were also conducted as the effort to end the Iraq-Iran war in terms of conflict resolution. The regime dynamics in a post agreement phase are divided into two main points. The first is the international post agreement negotiation process and the second is the domestic post agreement negotiation process.

Finally, we can say that the coming of Resolution no 598 effectively ended the Iraq-Iran war because the way to form and implement the resolution used the management approach of compliance bargaining. The United Nations success in ending the Iraq-Iran war was by the mechanism of post agreement regime dynamics. In short, we can see international post agreement through comprehensive disarmament, a road map of reconciliation, dispute settlement, comprehensive normalization and domestic post agreement negotiation process through ratification negotiations, rulemaking negotiations, and enforcement monitoring reporting negotiations.