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## **AI at the Crossroads: The India-Israel Defense Cooperation and Its Strategic Implications for Iran**

**Naveen Zahra**

Mphil Scholar IR, University of Management and Technology, Lahore

[naveenkhan416@gmail.com](mailto:naveenkhan416@gmail.com)**Abstract**

This article discusses how artificial intelligence AI-led defense cooperation is creating a new trilateral relationship among India, Israel, and Iran. It explores the consequences of growing strategic and technological cooperation between India and Israel, specifically in the field of AI-boosted military capabilities, and how it is already altering power dynamics in the region, causing strategic tension in Iran. Based on the Neorealist theory, the paper evaluates the role of AI as a force multiplier in the defense, which alters the conventional precedents of deterrence, surveillance, and alliances. It uses qualitative case analysis and process tracing to evaluate the effort of India to achieve technological independence, and the export-driven innovation policy of Israel, and compares it to the limited but innovative reactions of Iran to sanctions and geopolitical isolation. The paper holds that militarization of AI will deepen the regional security dilemma, bend the traditional arms control norms, and prompt the emergence of novel asymmetric and technological containments. Finally, the paper has pointed to the strategic rebalancing taking place in West and South Asia, which is not about troop deployments, but rather about algorithms, data supremacy, and predictive military services.

**Key Words:** Defense Cooperation, India-Israel Relations, Iran Security Strategy, Strategic Triangle, Cyber Warfare, Surveillance Systems, AI Militarization, Neorealism, Regional Security

**Introduction**

The current rise in tensions in West Asia causes Iran a strong regional nation with worries to see Indian-Israeli AI deals as a serious risk to its security. This partnership challenges Iran in two ways: it could diminish Tehran's standing in the Middle East as it builds stronger ties between India and Israel and by providing advanced intelligence and anti insurgency support to India, it could be used to keep watch on Iran's proxies and militias. The movement of AI enhanced ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) equipment or missile defense systems to India could straightaway affect Iran's defense power and its wider standing in the world.

This article discusses how AI use in defense cooperation by India, Israel and Iran has deep strategic effects on the region. Being a rising state and a significant buyer of defense, India tries to use AI in the armed forces to improve its self reliance and influence in the region. With its advanced AI and cyber technology, Israel considers India important for helping Israel boost its defense market and strengthen partnerships with other technologically aligned democracies. On the other hand, Iran thinks that this approach is meant to isolate it by threatening its purpose and security in the region.

The central research question driving this study is:

What is the effect of AI-driven defense partnership between India and Israel on the security of the region and how is Iran reacting to these developments?

The question will be studied using three processes: analyzing geopolitics, technology development and changes in government policies.

The goal of this article is to understand how AI is changing conflict in warfare and prompting new patterns of cooperation and rivalry among countries. The study will examine how AI-based tools affect the region's security posture, plans for defense and the forming of alliances due to the tense history and mistrust between nations.

### **The Indian Government's Policy on the Topic**

Because India wants to be a country that can rely solely on its own technology, it uses artificial intelligence in its defense systems. The Indian government has recently worked hard to develop critical military technologies in country, through the Atmanirbhar Bharat program and also acknowledges that AI will be very important in the future of warfare. (Pande, 2024) According to the Indian Ministry of Defence, AI is a "sunrise technology" that offers new opportunities, so several programs have been launched under the Defense AI Project Agency (DAIPA) to use AI in military development. The primary topics cover intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR), autonomous vehicles and drones, systems for command and control and cyber warfare. As part of the strategy change, India sees Israel—a country with impressive military technology and effective solutions—as a good partner for building AI related apps for the defense sector.

Defense ties between India and Israel date from the early 1990s, but these have strengthened strongly during the last decade. (The Diplomat, n.d.) Both nations have teamed up for projects and agreements that pay attention to buying weapons as well as the transfer and co building of high tech products. Hi tech Israeli Indian platforms give India critical help in managing the risks near China and Pakistan, thanks to AI powered navigation, loitering munitions, radar and defense systems. Moreover, AI powered surveillance systems built with the help of Israel are now being used in key regions like Jammu & Kashmir and along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), where immediate intelligence and responsiveness are needed most. (Indian Defence News, 2022) They also help India's internal security become more capable of dealing with terrorism and insurgencies which is something Israel excels at.

When making defense policy on AI, India also weighs larger strategic considerations. The Indian government looks to acquire leading Western defense technologies indirectly by having close ties with Israel which has strong connections to the U.S. and NATO. Even while taking a nonaligned approach for a long time, New Delhi has strengthened its defense collaboration with the US as part of the Quad and through India. Also, through joint projects with Israel, India can progress in AI more rapidly, skipping some of the difficulties that affect its own AI research and development. Enhancing AI with Israeli help is also meant to ensure India can check China's growing strength in the region, manage issues closer to it and spread influence in Middle East countries.

India knows that increased collaboration with Israel in defense technology, especially AI, might impact its connection with Iran and other important regional actors. India has long done business with Iran in energy, diplomacy and Chabahar, but its growing defense partnership with Israel has resulted in disagreements. New Delhi has tried to keep its connections separate, yet Iran thinks the India-Israel AI relationship is a sign of a greater alliance that might threaten its security in the region. This belief can add to the challenges India deals with in its West Asian policy due to the

regional challenges and rivalries. Even so, India keeps importance on its relationship with Israel, as part of its broader modernization process and AI initiatives, demonstrating its openness to manage geopolitical problems for lasting gain.

### **Israel and Its Policy Regarding the Issue**

Over time, Israel has worked hard to maintain a leading role in military innovation and now artificial intelligence supports its national defense and security. Key to battlefield transformation in Israel are the IDF, Ministry of Defense and companies like Elbit Systems, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), all of which focus on AI. Israel uses AI across its armed forces such as in robotics, weapons that hit their targets, analyzing possible dangers, cyber attacks and AI supported decision making. (Middle East Institute, 2023) Existential security risks and a lack of manpower in the past made Russia place great emphasis on innovation which resulted in a mindset that promotes swift development and adoption of new technologies. Because of this environment, Israel now exports advanced AI based defense solutions to countries like India.

For the Israelis, India plays a major role as both an economic and strategic ally. Deals made in India by Israel include those for missiles (such as the Barak8), UAV platforms, missiles for antitank operations and radar systems. In recent times, role relationships between buyers and sellers have changed, now bringing more R&D and advanced platform production efforts. There are many gains for Israel when it partners with India on AI. With a large market and developing modernization efforts by India, Israel can keep supplying arms to India even as more countries enter the international defense business. America's agreement with India contributes to Israel's "periphery doctrine," inviting partnerships across Asia and Africa that help to challenge threats from the Middle East. Strong technological links with India benefit the region's economy, but they also help with geopolitics by decreasing the regional influence of Iran, a country both countries consider a common rival.

The country's Aldefense policy is influenced by its tough security situation, mainly because of its continued rivalry with Iran. Besides seeing Iran as a nuclear menace, Israel claims that it has used cyber warfare and deployed its proxies to expand its influence in the region such as with Hezbollah in Lebanon, various militias in Syria and Iraq and the Houthis in Yemen. In this situation, AI makes it possible for Israel to find, halt and avoid threats faster and more precisely. Israel uses AI and machine learning more in its Iron Dome weapon to guide and destroy incoming missiles. Likewise, its claimed participation in attacks on Iranian nuclear systems (for instance, Stuxnet) demonstrates an approach of acting preventively rather than reacting to threats. Collaboration with India helps Israel promote its defense solutions worldwide, at the same time, forming a less formal but strong alliance against Iran.

This partnership in AI defense by Israel and India helps send a diplomatic message. It enables Israel to participate in the IndoPacific region's security efforts and it helps create informal groups that match its moves to better connect with Arab countries. More and more strategic links are isolating Iran globally and putting it under pressure technologically. While Israel never publicly brands its agreement with India as directed against Iran, the partnership is obvious from its strategy. Shipping AI systems to India makes Israel stronger in the region and because of this, Iran may be forced to confront new challenges in securing nations like India, for example if these AI technologies are set up in the Indian Ocean, where Iran wishes to be influential.

All in all, Israel relies on a mixture of business advantages, technical ties and international relations for its AI defense policy toward India.

### **Iran and Its Policy Regarding the Issue**

Iran is very concerned about the rising defense partnership between India and Israel regarding AI. The Islamic Republic has been viewing Israel as its main enemy, so seeing Iran and India workings more technologically together is considered a new challenge to Iran's strength and reach in the region. Being aware of its shortcomings in regular fighting, Iran often uses irregular methods like helping allies in wars, developing missile systems and mounting cyber efforts to affect the Middle East. AI is being used more often in defense by nations that threaten the United States which could reduce those advantages. With modern AI, ISR technology, unmanned weapons and advanced targeting, the U.S. can deal with the hidden tactics Iran once depended on by using proxies like Hezbollah, Hashd alShaabi and the Houthis. Iran is concerned that India and Israel working together might allow earlier detection of its actions and improve the ability to take preemptive steps which could erode its control over the situation.

Iran worries more than before about India's growing influence in the region. Cooperation between Iran and India grew over the years thanks to energy trading, both nations helping in securing Afghanistan and joint work on the Chabahar Port. Recent development in India's foreign policy, notably the enhanced ties with Israel, has affected the way Tehran looks at New Delhi. In the eyes of Iran, India's apparent acceptance of Israeli weapons seen as hostile towards its allies is not how India has always acted in the area. India purchasing Israeli drone and missile defense systems, supported by AI, worries Tehran because they could be used in key areas for Iran along the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. Experts view these changes as India moving towards joining regional security structures supported by the United States and these systems give a major role to Israel.

Iran has reacted to what it sees as circle of pressure from various nations in different manners. First, it has worked to improve indigenous AI and cyber abilities, facing challenges because of sanctions and restricted access to modern technologies. Iranian armed groups like the IRGC and associated universities now focus more on using AI for network security, swarming drone operations and electronic warfare. Since Iran is not as advanced as Israel or India, it uses resources at home and gains from China and Russia to help with its technological progress. Secondly, Iran is seeking to build more relations with regional allies for an asymmetric way of deterring enemies. Iran is building closer military ties with Syrian groups, Hezbollah and Shia militias in Iraq and Yemen to maintain control as technology becomes more significant.

Iran has been more open in diplomatic settings about its concerns with the close co operation between India, Israel and Western countries in technology. By acting through groups such as the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and by building closer ties with countries like Turkey and Qatar that oppose Israel's influence, it has raised its voice. Iran sees China selecting West Asia as a growing area for business like the case with BRI is important in dealing with India Israel co operation. (Observer Research Foundation, 2024) Still, because Iran faces diplomatic problems, has issues with its nuclear program and is heavily affected by sanctions, it is harder for it to compete with the effects of the India Israel AI collaboration. All in all, Iran thinks that the increasing AI use in India Israel military operations is harmful to its security in the region and strengthens its stance against opposition. Tehran is trying to adapt in technology and diplomacy, but it is still facing a growing difference between itself and other countries in defense and

technology. This partnership may persuade Iran to renew its military strategies and its use of indirect warfare, since AI now helps clear the fog of war.

### **Impact Analysis**

Israel and India working together with AI is impacting strategic planning in West Asia and South Asia and their partnership spreads to many other countries. What stands out most is the quick appearance of a new line of technical connections that changes the ways countries in the region defend themselves and balance forces. Through working together on drone warfare, cyber intelligence, missile defense and surveillance with AI, India and Israel are making conventional warfare more advanced. It leads to a difference in military capabilities and also agility in strategy which gives each nation quick response times, precise strikes and wide understanding of what's happening in and out of the air. The result is that countries which have advanced in using AI in their armies are gaining an advantage over others such as Iran. Older ideas about keeping balance such as relying on country size, geographic location or alliances, are not as useful anymore. AI makes speed and having more information the key to gaining power. The effects of a nuclear Iran would be important on many levels, including its identity and survival. Because India can use Israeli AI-based systems, especially in reconnaissance and cyber defense, it grows stronger at locating and countering threats connected to Tehran's proxy and irregular allies.

Disruptions can happen to Iran's deterrence approach which relies on missiles as well as tactics in the region involving Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Yemen, as a result of advanced surveillance, accurate predictions and focused strikes. As a result, if Israel and India develop their AI systems further, they might threaten Iran's defense strategy and additionally leave Iran cut off from new technological developments. The country fears that the old approaches it uses to compete in the world covert activities, staying hidden and dealing indirectly will fail to work in a setting dominated by algorithms.

The existence of this triadic relationship among countries results in cracks in current strategic alliances and the rise of alliances based on technology. Even though New Delhi follows a nonaligned policy, most view it as part of a bloc of democracies and technology powers along with Israel, the U.S., Japan and a few European nations. Such perception is also strengthened by the way these nations unite their strategies on challenges such as fighting terrorism, safety at sea and cyber defense. Other regional countries that worry about Iran, seeing India and Israel form an AI strategy architecture, are more likely to seek participation or alignment. It becomes possible to use technological containment against Iran, without agreement, so it lacks advanced equipment, but other rivals have a stronger defense system.

In spite of this, Iran is required to create strategic bonds with nations that do not fall under Western influence, for example China, Russia and some areas of the Global South. Even so, there are some boundaries in these connections. Though both Russia and China are willing to offer support, mainly they want to keep Iran weak, rather than help it grow.

Basically, the way India, Israel and Iran are interacting marks a new turn in international conflict driven by AI. Now, AI is being used for military purposes and this affects how threats are seen, alliances are made and deterrence rules are developed in practice. The close AI-based collaboration between India and Israel places Iran in a shrinking strategic position and forces it to change if it wishes to keep value in the shifting digital war arena.

**Theoretical Framework: Neorealism and the AI-Driven Security Dilemma**

Using Neorealism or Structural Realism gives the best viewpoint for analyzing how India, Israel and Iran are involved in AI and defense. Created by Kenneth Waltz, Neorealism holds that because there is no international authority to enforce rules, each country aims to survive by building up power, mostly via weapons and military technologies. States are conscious of their own place and desire to increase their strength in a self-help environment. Because of AI, changes in military technology have added another level of complexity to the way power is distributed internationally. Including AI in these fields of surveillance, cyber warfare, autonomous weapons and data analysis can unbalance the situation among nations, making the security dilemma worse.

Neorealism describes why India and Israel are focusing on AI: both hope to boost their abilities as the area becomes more dangerous and competitive. Because of the increased risk from China's advanced military and the ongoing insecurity in Pakistan, India is motivated to achieve similar technology and capabilities. Surrounded by opponents and constantly at odds with Iran, Israel sees AI as fundamental for proactively keeping risks at bay and fast response to menacing situations. They are coming together because both countries see common dangers and want to strengthen their military power. Neorealism holds that countries form alliances because of their material needs, shaped mostly by the global race for new technology.

Equally, the theory helps explain Iran's decisions and activities. From the Neorealist view, Iran's actions are consistent with coping with a new power imbalance that disfavors it. Their AI affiliation is commonly understood as friendlier powers circling Iran which lowers Tehran's independence. This looks much like Waltz's "threat" theory which states that countries react to a bigger threat, even if it's not about to be a war. When vulnerable, Iran acted according to Neorealist thinking by working to develop AI itself and purchase technology from Russia and China. Unlike India and Israel, Iran is affected by numerous constraints such as sanctions, diplomatic attrition and difficulties in getting dual-use technologies which decrease its ability to respond properly.

Neorealism further shows, thanks to AI, a more serious side of the security dilemma. Askari (2023) argues that AI intensifies the classical security dilemma by introducing unpredictability in both perception and action, as states cannot fully know the capability or intent behind automated systems. (Askari, 2022) Usually, if one state strengthens its military, others worry and up their own defense which causes arms races and tensions to rise. With the use of AI, these effects occur more powerfully. AI systems are sometimes secretive, helpful in many applications and may be easily enhanced. (The Wall Street Journal, 2024) When AI is used for warfare, the lack of ways to verify its use makes it hard for nations to assume what someone might do or have. Such thinking encourages both states to take potential actions ahead of time which heightens the risk of error. Thus, Iran's fear is about the potential use of these AI technologies which might cover cyber attack, intelligence gathering and even automated battles.

Overall, Neorealism gives a clear framework for understanding how India, Israel and Iran work together as AI militarization takes form. It reveals why countries try to be strong in technology, cooperate in groups and find themselves in more intense security-based conflicts. It further points out that AI reshapes power, because it is not only a tool, but also a key changemaker in an anarchic world. Under this theory, what appears to be unusual such as India's and Israel's partnership and Iran's reaction is just a result of technology's growing role in international affairs.

**Application and Methodology**

Looking at this cooperation case study through Neorealism and its impacts on Iran allows us to better understand state tactics in the fastchanging field of AI defense. In order to apply this framework, one looks at how states respond based on how power is distributed, the nature of security problems and how they act toward balancing other powers. When using this theory, the main idea is that India, Israel and Iran function with each other in a world where survival and gaining power is most important. The use of artificial intelligence in the military changes the way countries compete, impacts the balance and leads to quicker changes in strategies. The approach seeks to understand how AI spreads leads to more rivalries, encourages nations to form partnerships and changes how threats are perceived.

The study employs qualitative case research and it includes a comparison of India's, Israel's and Iran's policies and defense doctrines. It relies on secondary data from many sources, for example, defense white papers, government documents, academic journals, think tank reports (for example, from RAND Corporation, Brookings Institution, ORF, INSS Israel) and wellknown media organizations. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and other similar sources are consulted to track the patterns of defense purchases and the movement of technology. Alequipped equipment, including drones, cyber equipment, ISR (intelligence-surveillance-reconnaissance) platforms and missile defenses, are carefully examined, as well as how India and Israel use them strategically. Approach data, comments by policy decisionmakers, recorded parliament debates and interviews included by defense officials strengthen the analysis.

To learn why each country makes its unique strategic moves, the study looks at the three cases side by side. This method requires using a handful of guiding questions to compare every one of these countries.

1. How does the government at present prepare for and respond to AI threats in terms of policies and technology?
2. What does the state think are the main threats from the other two groups?
3. Which strategies or changes in policy has the country introduced to keep up with changes in the way the region's power is divided?
4. Why do these policies appear to help nations gain or secure power and resistance?

The method allows patterns of strategy agreement and disagreement, as well as doctrine changes, to become clear. For example, becoming more involved with Israeli AI is examined in India as a step toward becoming stronger in Asia, partly due to worries about threats from China, Pakistan and Iran. In the same way, it is suggested that Iran's approach to technology is defined by what it cannot do, chiefly due to sanctions and being outside major Western AI markets and this suggests it avoids competing directly.

The research also uses process tracing to show the development of AI cooperation between India and Israel over the last decade, highlighting main changes such as joining efforts in missile technology, setting up cybersecurity ties and sending delegations from each country to the other. The assistance of Israel and India, referred to above, happens amid broader shifts such as the U.S. exit from the Iran deal (JCPOA), the Abraham Accords and the new U.S. policy in the IndoPacific region.

All in all, Neorealist theory is used with qualitative techniques to thoroughly analyze how artificial intelligence alters strategic relationships and regional security. This way of study reveals that AI

militarization is a major factor driving new developments in power struggles, ways threats are seen and who joins forces among nations.

### **Literature Review**

More people have been focusing on the links between AI and international security because they are now trying to understand how AI could impact military policies, alliances and deterrence in different countries. According to Paul Scharre (2018), Michael Horowitz (2019) and Elsa Kania (2020), AI is being discussed as a new kind of generalpurpose technology that can upset traditional military balances and bring about challenges like algorithmic escalation, battlefield automation and hidden decisionmaking. They say AI brings about chances for improvement as well as risks for error, mainly in unstable regions.

Experts have looked into how AI is influencing usual strategies in partnerships between countries in defense. *Balancing Theory: Neorealism and Beyond*, by Kenneth Payne (2021), stresses how AI impacts strategic judgment and Murray and Posen highlight the historical ways in which changing technology affects alliances and grand strategy. Many experts have analyzed why Israel excels in shaping AI defense solutions. In their studies, Brookings, INSS Tel Aviv and RAND describe how AI helps in Israel's counterterrorism, drone operations and missile defense and how this affects the approach of both Iran and Hezbollah.

AI and defense cooperation with India is not something that has long been reported in the literature. According to ORF (Observer Research Foundation), IDSA (Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses) and Carnegie India, India is applying AI techniques in its military organizations. Analysts point out that India's connections with Israel and the United States are key for getting drones, satellite intelligence and improved systems for surveillance while fighting. A big part of the existing research looks only at each pair in partnership, not studying the full impact of trilateral or wider regional alliances, for instance India-Israel relations with Iran.

Experts have widely explored Iran's military and technological approach which is part of asymmetric warfare, since the country has been affected by sanctions and worldwide pressure. Authors such as Afshon Ostovar and Trita Parsi have established that Iran gets around its weaknesses in standard military technology by investing in missiles, cyberattacks and proxies. Still, there is not much academic work on Iran's reaction to the use of AI and new military technologies, mainly when it comes to working with non-Western groups. Publications such as those from the Atlantic Council and SIPRI only provide a limited view of Iran's cyber skills and its relationships with China and Russia, but they do not explain how Iran responds to the rise of AI in their region or to threats coming from other countries.

Most significantly, there have not been many explorations of how AI helps bring India and Israel together and influences Iran. Defense studies often focus on Israel being militarily superior, India upgrading its military or Iran using resistance tactics that are hard to match. It is still difficult to connect the dots and understand that AI greatly alters regional power relationships, not only by adding new technology. Consequently, this study helps to grow the literature in several major areas. It first brings together the technology and strategy sides of AI by using Neorealism to examine how countries react during fast technology change. Besides, it develops a three-sided approach to exploring India, Israel and Iran's strategic relations which shows the emerging trends in alliance building. Also, it examines how AI in defense contributes to the stress on security throughout the world and particularly in unstable regions such as West Asia and South Asia.



This study reviews these gaps to give a prompt and supported point of view on AI becoming a weapon, the realignment of some defense relationships and the challenges that Iran is facing because of increases in digital warfare.

### **Discussion and Policy Analysis**

The partnership between India and Israel in AI-based defense indicates a major change in regional strategic systems which may lead to both stability and instability. This realignment is centered on the fusion of two technologically developed democracies looking to stand out as the global order becomes more uncertain due to multipolar rivalry, technology races and political fragmentation. India and Israel teaming up in AI for the military was chosen with intent to strengthen their data power, create a good defensive stance and be ready for future advances. However the increasing role of AI in international strategy confirms Askari's (2022) claim that the security dilemma is evolving from a weapons-based arms race to a competition over algorithmic power.

For India, teaming up with the US gives a quicker and more affordable way to improve its defense systems. AI assisted in ISR, defenses against drones and cyber defense give India an edge over Pakistan and China. On the other hand, India can use Israeli help to acquire advanced Western technology, yet remains separate from Western defense organizations such as NATO. At the same time, it makes us contemplate how autonomous India's choices remain. By aligning more with U.S.-Israel security, India could get involved in Middle Eastern disputes that may prove difficult for its diplomatic efforts on the West and Iran or Russia.

For Israel, this working relationship is seen mainly as a way to expand strategic influence. Besides a large defense market, India works alongside other countries to keep Iran from growing its influence in the region. The increase in Israel's AI-driven defense sales to India such as the sales of Iron Dome systems, improves its reputation as a global technology leader. Yet, Israel needs to make sure it is protected against others using advanced technologies in unplanned situations that might lead to diplomatic problems.

Out of the three, Iran is limited in its actions. The decisions Made are mostly shaped by what is required, not by what they want to do. Since access to Western or Israeli AI is not possible, Tehran has to develop its own AI or work with China and Russia on technological projects. Nevertheless, most such partnerships are not equal and are more about trading technology, so major technological advances are uncommon. Even today, Iran depends a lot on proxy groups, unconventional attacks and IT tactics, but these strategies may no longer be secure with the spread of AI in surveillance. Should Iran fail to make great progress in AI or change its regional approach, it might be left technologically surrounded and with little influence.

The weaponization of AI creates three important issues from a policy standpoint.

1. **Arms Control and AI Governance:** Due to a lack of rules controlling AI-powered warfare worldwide, the threat of violence is now especially high where tensions are rising, especially in the Middle East. The fact that AI arms control does not exist now makes it easier for errors, unplanned strikes and automatic responses to happen. Actors in the region, for example India and Israel, should strive to implement confidencebuilding suggestions and AI-centered military policies—even if these policies are only in effect between the two nations.
2. There is a risk that the AI arms race will cause instability because states may not fully understand this new technology. Countries that develop advanced AI might believe they can respond first and stay ahead of their competition. It may cause a process that keeps things from

returning to normal. Both nations should make a greater effort to send clear and public signals to Iran and nearby nations to decrease the odds of inadvertent escalation.

3. **Strengthening Equal Technology:** It is important to prevent AI progress from causing one group of countries to control the world's security more than others. Global institutions and midlevel nations should take part in tech diplomacy to ensure ties, ethical principles and building of the regional tech industry.

Thus, the strategic triangle formed by India, Israel and Iran demonstrates a new phase in international security, focusing on things like algorithm development, digital control and speedy technological progress, rather than just traditional military strength. When designing policies, we need to consider that data, predictions and speed play a bigger role now and strategic decisions might come more from machines than from generals.

### **Conclusion**

Forming a strategic alliance with Israel in artificial intelligence is a big step for India's defense and security ahead. As countries rethink power projection, gathering information and the way they fight wars using AI, the alliance represents a new direction shaped by the same worries and need to be on top of technological developments. Working more closely together indicates these countries are shaping new security systems in which AI skills are now as important as having more military hardware.

The article looks at the relationship between India and Israel in AI defense and the effects on Iran. Following Neorealism, we have noticed that the disorderly world, states' hunger for strength and forming alliances explain the choices of all the actors. Because of threats coming from China and Pakistan, India is looking towards Israeli AI tools to increase its military capacity. Because Israel is constantly threatened and wants to expand its strategic relationships, it sees India as a reliable buyer and a continued partner. Tehran views such activity as evidence of American efforts to contain it which intensifies its feeling that it is under pressure and prompts unconventional approaches online and among its allies in the region.

Unlike in ordinary arms races, using AI in weapons is a challenge that's different from others. It moves much faster than before, its operations cannot be easily seen and it does not respect the normal guidelines of arms control. Changes in the region are vast due to India and Israel building strong ties through technology, while Iran tries to balance this by looking to different groups or building its own. In addition to changing in the armed services, strategic thinking is evolving: today, power rests more in ability to process huge volumes of data, make accurate predictions and create effective algorithms, rather than in the past when it depended on numbers of troops and long missile trajectories.

It is very likely that the strategic impact of this AIrooted shift will escalate in the near future. With no global framework in place for military AI, regions may try to use force to obtain advantages they think are important. Iran will not stop working on its AI projects even with sanctions and it may receive support from both China and Russia. Further, AI could make India and Israel centers for finding answers to security issues and their special focus may impact numerous IndoPacific and West Asian issues.

It really emphasizes the immediate demand for reform in policy, thoughtful planning and improvements in theory. AI is not simply another way to defend, but it changes the way countries interact strategically. Officials should know that the race to develop AI is equally about hidden

decisions, rapid intensification and dominance in technology. Attention, careful analysis and proactive actions are needed from all involved in this growing type of conflict.

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