

## **THE LIFE AND SCIENTIFIC LEGACY OF POLITICAL GEOGRAPHER STEPHEN BAR-JONES**

**Alaa Saadi Mohammed and Prof. Dr. Adnan Kadhum Jabbar Al-Shaibani**

Geography Department, College of Education for Human Sciences, Al-Muthanna University, Iraq.

### **Abstract:**

Political geographer Stephen Bar-Jones was considered one of the leading figures of political geography in the second half of the twentieth century, whose studies centered on the study of political units (the state), he held a very important position among the American geographers. The incident of the attack on the port and the military base in Pearl Harbor, which was followed by his move to work in the geographical office in the State Department of the US Department of State. He directed the compass of his studies towards political geography as well, after he had obtained a master's and doctorate in the branch of physical geography, his studies in political geography occupied the largest share, including many important studies, among them was the border demarcation booklet, in which he outlined the stages of border demarcation between countries.

The objectives of this research emerged to shed light on the life of political geographer Stephen Bar-Jones, especially his professional and career life. The plan of this research has been developed based on the historical method of investigating the scientific heritage of geographer Stephen Bar-Jones, and the analytical method, to achieve the goal of this research, to reach the desired results, the researchers divided the structure of this research into three researchers. The second topic dealt with scientific contributions in the field of general geography, then the third topic dealt with the scientific contributions of political geographer Stephen Bar-Jones in the field of political geography.

**Keywords:** Life, scientific legacy, political geographer, Stephen Bar-Jones.

### **Introduction :**

Political geographer Stephen Barr Jones devoted a large part of his life to developing academic geography in general and political geography in particular, in universities and institutes at the time, leaving a scientific heritage that contained many articles and studies that included many concepts and solutions for many problems in this area.

### **The first topic**

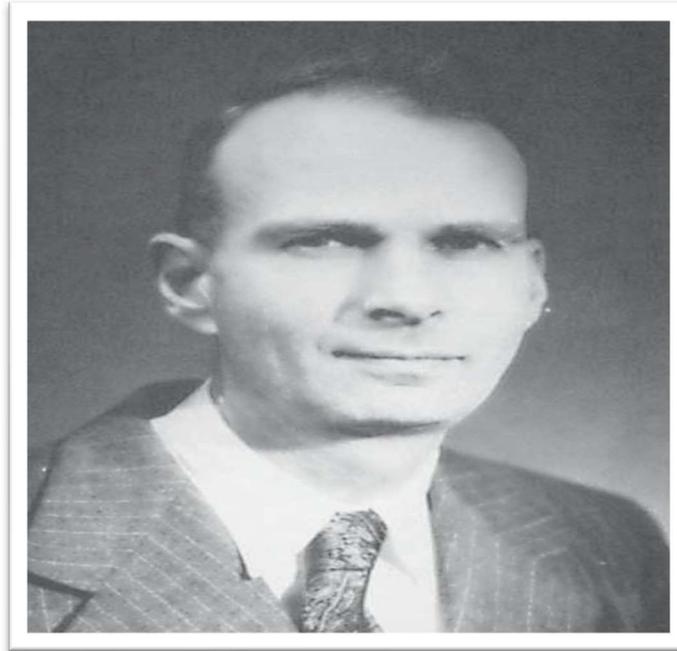
#### **The career and career of political geographer Stephen Bar-Jones**

One of the pioneers of American politics, Professor Stephen Bar-Jones, picture (1), was born in the city of Seattle in the state of Washington on February 23, 1903 (1), the same state in which he completed his studies. He received his BA in geography with distinction in 1924 with honors, majoring in geology from the University of Washington, and in 1929 he obtained a master's degree in the same discipline from Harvard University, and in 1934 he received a doctorate in general geography from The university itself (2).

Stephen Jones' career began when he was a student, he worked for three years as a radio editor on a ship sailing from Seattle to Alaska, he also worked as a ranger in Paradise Valley, and on Mount Rainier, and on the

northern edge of the Grand Canyon. These activities were able to reflect his love of nature and his keen interest in mountain climbing and hiking. Stephen Jones worked as a petroleum geologist in Al Berta, Canada. By his walk in the Canadian Rockies, he deduced the scientific name for the subject of his dissertation tagged "Human Occupance of the Bow - Kicking Horse Region Canada" (3).

The first stop in his career was teaching in the colleges of the Oregon School, which is now known as the Oregon College of Education, from 1932-1935, after that, he joined the University of Hawaii as a teacher during the period 1935-1942, and then to Yale University, which had the largest share of his years of service, where he served during the period 1943-1971, where he held the position of Head of the Department of Geography and Maps in 1943 (4).



**Picture (1) Stephen Bar-Jones (1903-1984)**

-Sours: Chauncy D. Harris , In Memoriam Stephen Barr Jones, Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol(75), 1985, P. 271.

Simultaneously with this service, Stephen Jones taught at the University of Toronto during the period 1938-1939, and he also taught at the summer schools at the University of Washington and Pennsylvania State University (5).

His career was not limited to teaching service in colleges and universities, but field changes appeared that contributed to taking another parallel path. Three weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, which was in 1941, he received a letter From then-Secretary of State Cordell Hull, his recall was part of a broader mobilization of scholars to use their talents to advance the American war effort. Since then he has held the position of Senior Assistant to the Division in the Geographical Office of the State Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (6).

Since occupying this position in 1941, he began to write articles on political geography and international borders. During the period 1942-1943, he was able to prepare a study material on border problems, which was

of great importance to the extent that it was supported by the Carnegie Endowment for International), and also joined as an associate researcher at the Institute of International Studies at Yale University (7).

Jones received a high-level fellowship, which freed him from teaching and gave him the opportunity to take a trip around the world during the period 1963-1964, but after his return from the trip, the Presidency of Yale University canceled the geography department and transformed the study of geography into academic units, however Jones continued until Retired in 1971 (8). After that, no work was mentioned to him, because of his suffering from cancer, which was the cause of his death on April 18, 1984, in Sun City, in the state of Arizona, at the age of 81 years (9).

During this scientific march, he sought to develop geography significantly, both at the level of schools and universities in the United States, and at the level of geographical organizations. Under the title "Geography and world affairs" (10), which aimed from behind it towards several goals, the most important of which were (11):

1. Helping students understand the nature of the political world with its changing pattern of countries, and its geographical patterns.
2. In his vision, man is bound by the environment that he cannot control.
3. The need for students to realize that the face of the political world was not always fixed, but rather changes, and each individual was responsible for that change, whether in the present or the future.

This book came in seven chapters, through which the author explained how global politics looks and how geography and global affairs are linked, as geographical factors such as terrain, climate, vegetation cover and the like are basic patterns in changing world affairs, giving politics the importance of religion, or education, or Atomic energy, as he claimed that there is no perfect government at all, but varies between good, and not good, and some of them are very bad, because it is unlikely that there can be perfect government at all because it is made by humans full of failures, and the body of the book also contained areas He concluded by directing the students' ideas and developing their aspirations for the future (12).

At the level of geographical organizations, societies and international magazines, he held many positions. At the level of the Association of American Geographers, he was a member during the period 1946-1948, then he served as its honorary president in 1959, then Chairman of the Honor Committee between 1960-1961, and during This period merged with the American Association of Professional Geographers. He served as a contributing editor for The Geographical Reviest, issued by the American Geographical Society, during the period between 1955-1972. Not only that, but he worked as a consulting editor for the Journal of International Politics between 1949-1958. He also served as Deputy Chair of the Department of Geology and Geography at the National Research Council between 1948-1951, and was elected an honorary fellow of the American Geographical Society in 1956, and was awarded an award of merit by the Chicago Geographical Society in 1948. Moreover, he sought to develop geography through His participation in the meetings of the National Council of Teachers of Geography (13).

### **The second topic**

#### **Stephen Jones' most important scientific contributions to general geography**

General geography in all its branches, whether natural or human, has attracted the interests of Professor Stephen Jones, leaving many studies in it. The tourism geography branch received only one study out of its totality. In 1936, it completed a study under the title "Recreational regions of the Canadian Rocky Mountains".

This study came as a result of his admiration for the beauty of the landscape and for discovering the recreational areas in the Canadian Rockies, analyzing the natural factors affecting the distribution of tourist facilities (14). This was followed by a study in physical geography in 1937 entitled *The Classification of Hawaiian climates*. It was an accurate comparison between the Köppen and Thornthwaite systems in the possible classifications of the climates of Hawaii (15). But in 1938, when he moved to live in the state of Hawaii, he turned his attention largely to his new homeland, publishing many in-depth studies on it. In the same year, he published a study in geomorphology under the title "*Geomorphology of the Hawaiian Islands*" (16).

Then he followed her with an extensive study in 1939 on the elements of weather and climate in the Hawaiian Islands, supporting this with many maps and illustrations, under the title "*The weather element in the Hawaiian climate*" (17). In this context, he also presented in 1942 a study entitled "*Lags and ranges of temperature in Hawaii*". It studied the delay of seasons after solstices, as well as the daily and annual temperature ranges in Hawaii, based on temperature data for forty-three weather stations in the United States affiliated with the Meteorological Center (18). Under the title "*Speculative interpretation of Mid-Pacific weather*". He published a study in 1944, which focused on the prediction of precipitation patterns in summer, and temperature reversals during the period of constant surface winds to the east or northeast (19).

As for his studies in the branch of economic geography, in 1951 he published a study entitled "*The economic geography*" of atomic energy. This study came to accurately predict that the great powers are seeking to control these raw materials, because the possession of significant quantities of them will give a small state a high value. Therefore, the economic geography of atomic energy may reflect political geography as much as it reflects purely economic power. He also dealt with minerals and their value, stressing that atomic energy will not be much cheaper than traditional energy sources. He also predicted that due to the high costs of capital, the construction of nuclear power plants will be negatively affected by the high interest rate (20).

As part of his endeavors to advance the science of geography, in 1952 he presented an article in a public lecture at the University of Toronto entitled *The Enjoyment of Geography*.

In which he invited academics to conduct studies in geography as they help enrich the ability to sense the beauty of landscapes, and to appreciate the complexity and interrelationship between its constituent elements. Noting that many of those entered this field because they "loved geography" through maps, travel, interest in distant places, or enjoying the beauty of attractive scenery, but he pointed out that academic curricula pay little attention to geography as an experiment in discovering the beauty of the world. Pointing to the importance of realizing geography with its scientific and applied aspects, but also calling at the same time for the necessity of recognizing its human aspects (21). Geographical thought won one study out of all Stephen Jones studies, which was under the title "*Geographical thought in the United States*" in 1955. It dealt with the main features of the development of geography in the United States until 1954 (22).

### **The third topic**

#### **Stephen Jones' most important scientific contributions to political geography:**

One of the most important branches of human geography, namely the branch of political geography, acquired the largest share of the studies of Professor Stephen Jones, as he published his first research paper in this specialty in 1932 and he was still a graduate student entitled "*The Forty-ninth Parallel in the Great Plains: Historical Geography of Frontiers*." (*The Forty - Ninth Parallel in the Great Plains : The historical geography of a boundary*). He studied the historical stages of border development, starting from the fur trade, passing

through the age of buffalo, and then raising livestock and ending with agricultural fields (23).

His second study came in 1934, a time when thinking was active to establish a union of provinces with the intent of achieving greater efficiency. Some were supporting the formation of larger political units than provinces to be based on natural areas, so his study bore the title, "Within the State Borders in Oregon, a review Intra-state boundaries in Oregon Commonwealth Review. Jones suggested in this study, is to modify the proposed areas to conform to the administrative system of the state, as is the case in the service areas of most federal states that provide more efficient government services (24).

As part of the expansion of his previous study on the forty-ninth parallel border line, and with the support of the Social Sciences Research Council, he conducted a study entitled "The Cordilleran section of the Canada-United States borderland", in which he studied the effect of borders. International studies on tourism, migration and the flow of goods and services, and the study also included problems related to water supply, forests and the complex legal problems of air pollution (25).

His move to Hawaii in 1938 not only affected his studies in the branch of physical geography, but also focused on the study of some geographical aspects and their impact on its internal politics, namely, the impact of changing population distribution, ethnic composition, location of the capital, internal political borders and political parties, Voting and labor movement in Hawaii, this study bore the title "Geography and politics in the Hawaiian Islands" (26). It followed it in another study in the same context in 1940, but this time it was about its foreign relations from the time of its discovery in 1778, that is, from the time of the fur trade to the impact of its strategic location on its foreign relations. A study in political geography (Hawaii and the Pacific) (27).

His studies on international borders were of great importance, as Bishr began his study in this context in 1943 under the title "The description of international borders." He likened the international borders to human skin, as they may have special diseases or reflect certain diseases in The body, and made it clear that the description of borders cannot be reduced to a set of rules, and made suggestions to help clarify the verbal description of international borders in diplomatic notes, treaties and other documents (28).

As for the problems facing countries after wars, they won a part of Stephen Jones' studies, as he conducted a study in this context in 1943, and it was entitled "Field geography and post-war political problems". This study came as a result of anticipating the need to monitor the geographical reality of the lands after the Second World War, perhaps providing assistance in solving the expected problems such as rehabilitation and reorganization, dependent areas, and the process of setting borders (29).

The year 1945 witnessed the publication of one of his most important achievements in the field of political geography, which is the practical pamphlet that was supported by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace because of a campaign of paramount importance. (Boundary-making), as the title refers precisely to the usefulness and inevitable limitations set by this academic handbook, as Stephen Jones indicated in its importance that it "must be in the baggage of technicians whose debuting work is supposed to begin after the setters" (30).

It consists of (270) pages and provides compelling evidence, in a systematic way, about the dilemma that besetting statesmen when they ignore the necessity of actual field monitoring (31). Professor Jones acknowledges his indebtedness in this scholarly work to Whittemore Boggs, for giving him the opportunity to make this booklet, in which he relied on the library of the US State Department (32). In which he described the four stages of demarcation, which are (33):

- **Definition stage:** It is the stage of selecting the border site and defining it in a treaty or official document. The treaty includes a description of the border and the geographical area that the border crosses. The more detailed and accurate the description, including comprehensive geographical coordinates, the more the path of the political boundary is correctly determined, and the less potential for conflict between the two neighboring states.
- **Identification stage:** a stage that transforms the limitation of a mere text in the treaty into a line drawn on maps.
- **Designation stage:** This stage includes the process that defines the boundary line or aids the nature by placing physical marks on the ground through several methods, for example, barbed wire, concrete pillars, fences, etc., describing this as the process by which the state acquires sovereignty over the lands.
- **Administration stage:** It is the last stage and includes maintaining the political line, in order to maintain its effectiveness through its protection. He also made a suggestion that the borders should be maintained periodically after border demarcation.

Professor Stephen Jones's fellowship with a distinguished and large group of political scientists at the Institute of International Studies at Yale University produced three focused research papers dealing with the geographical aspects of security and strategy, and were published as a memorandum by the Institute, the first in 1944 on Australia and New Zealand, the second in 1945 on Africa, and the third in 1948 from the North Pole (34). Subsequently, with funding from the Geography Branch of the Office of Naval Research, and support from Yale University, he prepared five research papers on a study project entitled "Theoretical Studies in National Power" between 1953-1955(35).

In 1954, he devised a theory, under the title "unified field theory of political geography", and it was conducted under funding from the Office of Naval Research, as he saw in its importance the link between the field of political geography and the field of political science. The stages of the emergence of the state according to five sequential episodes, starting with the idea and ending with the region / state (36). In the same year, he joined her in a successful study under the title "The Power Inventory and National Strategy", through which he sought to identify the basic elements in the power of the state: such as human resources, which he divided into population size and age structure, and what he called "mental resources." Which represents the educational and technical level of this population. and the social, political, economic and military systems of a country (37). While a study in 1955 entitled "Views of the political world" resulted in a serious attempt to apply some concepts in physical and human geography to the study of the political world, including the concept of regions, hemispheres, political divisions, and numbers Population distribution, the economy, and the political control of individuals (38).

In 1955, his study gained so much importance that it was reprinted several times, as it was a survey under the title "Global strategic views". In it, he indicated that the movement (may be moving messages, military forces, or capital) is the essence of the strategy, also, the strategy is not limited to military art, and that every political decision requires action or is followed by the movement. In it he also touched on the conflicting strategic views of political scientists about the country that wants to become a great power, referring to "Alfred Thayer Mahan", who emphasized sea lane and sea power, Halford Mackinder who emphasized land power and improvements in land transportation as key to the heart of Eurasia, contradicting Mahan's views, and Nicholas J. Spykman who focused on the edge of Eurasia, and "Alexander de Seversky" who gave a major role to the

Air Force, while the opinions of Stephen Jones were contrary to these scholars, which made a common consideration for the density of the population, its culture and the material base on the one hand, and on the other hand, the strategy or movement by air, sea and land. Explaining in this study the strategic importance of the North Pole in the future (39).

After this study, he discussed another study on the circumstances under which the scope of wars could be limited in 1955, under the title "The Conditions of War Limitations", in which he examined. Stephen Jones concluded his series of studies in political geography, with a study on April 1, 1959, which he delivered in his speech as honorary president of the Society of American Geographers at its fifty-fifth annual meeting in "Pennsylvania" entitled "Boundary Concepts" in the Setting of Place and Time), to the effect that ideas about boundaries are themselves related to the geographical and historical environment, with wide-ranging examples (40).

### **Conclusions:**

1. The geographer Stephen Jones held a very important position among the American geographers in the fifties of the last century.
2. Political geographer Stephen Jones had a scientific heritage rich in many geographical studies that shed light on the natural and human side in them, but they were not investigated by Arab studies.
3. Stephen Jones' show transfer to work and consultancy in one of the most important state institutions, the role that the political geographer plays in political decision-making.
4. Stephen Jones developed a scientific theory that seeks to link between geopolitics and political science.
5. The science of political geography gained the largest share of Stephen Jones' studies, authoring many important studies that find solutions to many political problems, especially the Handbook of Making Borders.

### **Suggestions:**

1. Paying attention to the scientific heritage of Stephen Jones, whether in the natural or human aspect, especially in the books and writings of political geography, like the rest of political geographers.
2. Attempting to benefit from the solutions and treatments that Stephen Jones addressed in his scientific heritage at the present time, and work to develop them.
3. The attempt of many political and strategic research centers to support, finance and develop geography studies, especially in the field of political geography, due to its importance in developing many solutions to the problems related to the present time.

### **Margins**

1) Chauncy D. Harris, In Memoriam Stephen Barr Jones, Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol (75),1985,P. 271.

2) Ibid,P.271.

3)Ibid,P.271.

4)Ibid,P.272.

5)Ibid,P.272.

- 6) John W. donaldson and Alison J. willlams, *Delimitation and Demarcation: Analysing the Legacy of Stephen B. Jones's Boundary-Making*, Routledge,UK, Vol(13),2008,P.P.678-682.
- 7 ) Ibid,P.273.
- 8)Ibid,P.272.
- 9)Ibid,P.271.
- 10) Ibid ,P. 272.
- 11)Stephen B. Jones and Marion .F.Murphy ,*Geography and World Affairs* ,fourth edition ,Rand McNally and Company,USA,1957,P.P3-5.
- 12)Stephen B. Jones and Marion .F.Murphy ,*Geography and World Affairs* ,Op.Cit.,P. 5.
- 13) Chauncy D. Harris ,OP.Cit.,P.272 .
- 14) Ibid, P275 .
- 15) Ibid, P274 .
- 16 ) Ibid, P275.
- 17)Stephen B. Jones,*The Weather Element in the Hawaiian Climate*, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, USA, Vol( 29), 1939,P.P. 29-35 .
- 18 ) Stephen B. Jones ,*Lags and Ranges of Temperature in Hawaii* ,*Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, USA, Vol (32),1942,P.P. 68-97.
- 19)Chauncy D. Harris ,OP.Cit.,P.275 .
- 20 ) Stephen B. Jones, *The Economic Geography of Atomic Energy*, Taylor & Francis, UK, Vol( 27),1951, P.P. 268-274.
- 21) Chauncy D. Harri s,Op.Cit., P.275 .
- 22 )Ibid,P.275.
- 23 ) Stephen B. Jones ,*The Forty-Ninth Parallel in the Great Plains The Historical Geography of a Boundary*, Routledge, USA, Vol (31), 1932, P.P. 257- 258.
- 24) Chauncy D. Harris ,OP.Cit.,P.273.
- 25) Chauncy D. Harris ,OP.Cit.,P.273.

- <sup>2</sup>6) Ibid ,P. 273.
- <sup>2</sup>7) Ibid ,P. 273.
- <sup>2</sup>8) Stephen B. Jones, The Description of International Boundaries, The Association of American Geographers,USA, Vol(33),1943,P.P.99-117.
- <sup>2</sup>9) Chauncy D. Harris ,OP.Cit.,P.273.
- <sup>3</sup>0) William G. Fletcher, Boundary-Making: A Handbook for Statesmen, Treaty Editors and Boundary Commissioners by Stephen B. Jones , American Geographical Society, USA ,vol(36) ,1964,P.342.
- <sup>3</sup>1)Hexter, J.H. Review Book of Boundary Making ,The American Historical Review, USA, Vol(51), 1946, P.488.
- <sup>3</sup>2) Stephen .B .Jones and Norman .L.Hill, Boundary Making, The American Political Science Review, Vol(39),USA,1945,P.P.1028-1029.
- <sup>3</sup>3) John W. donaldson and Alison J. willlams, Op. Cit., P.684 .
- <sup>3</sup>4) Chauncy D. Harris , OP.Cit.,P.274 .
- <sup>3</sup>5 ) Ibid,P.274.
- <sup>3</sup>6) Abbas Ghali Al-Hadithi, Introduction to Political Geography, 1st Edition, Dar Al-Amal Al-Jadida, Damascus, 2020, p. 41.
- <sup>3</sup>7) Stephen B. Jones, The Power Inventory and National Strategy , World Politics, USA ,Vol (6),1954,P.P.421-452.
- <sup>3</sup>8 ) Chauncy D. Harris,OP.Cit.,P.274.
- <sup>3</sup>9 ) Stephen B. Jones, Global Strategic Views, American Geographical Society ,USA ,Vol( 45),1955,P.P. 492-500.
- <sup>4</sup>0)Chauncy D. Harris, OP.Cit.,P.274.

## Sources

1. Chauncy D. Harris, In Memoriam Stephen Barr Jones, Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol (75),1985.
2. John W. donaldson and Alison J. willlams, Delimitation and Demarcation: Analysing the Legacy of Stephen B. Jones's Boundary-Making, Routledge,UK, Vol(13),2008.

3. Stephen B. Jones and Marion .F. Murphy ,Geography and World Affairs ,fourth edition ,Rand McNally and Company,USA,1957,P.P3-5.
4. Stephen B. Jones,The Weather Element in the Hawaiian Climate, Annals of the Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol( 29), 1939.
5. Stephen B. Jones ,Lags and Ranges of Temperature in Hawaii ,Annals of the Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol (32),1942,P.P. 68-97.
6. Stephen B. Jones, The Economic Geography of Atomic Energy, Taylor & Francis, UK, Vol( 27),1951.
7. Stephen B. Jones ,The Forty-Ninth Parallel in the Great Plains The Historical Geography of a Boundary ,Routledge ,USA, Vol(31),1932.
8. Stephen B. Jones, The Description of International Boundaries, The Association of American Geographers, USA, Vol(33),1943,P.P.99-117.
9. William G. Fletcher, Boundary-Making: A Handbook for Statesmen, Treaty Editors and Boundary Commissioners by Stephen B. Jones , American Geographical Society, USA ,vol(36) ,1964.
10. Hexter, J.H. Review Book of Boundary Making ,The American Historical Review, USA, Vol(51),1946.
11. Stephen .B .Jones and Norman .L.Hill, Boundary Making, The American Political Science Review, Vol(39),USA,1945.
12. Abbas Ghali Al-Hadithi, Introduction to Political Geography, 1st Edition, Dar Al-Amal Al-Jadida, Damascus, 2020.
13. Stephen B. Jones, The Power Inventory and National Strategy , World Politics, USA ,Vol (6), 1954.
14. Stephen B. Jones, Global Strategic Views, American Geographical Society ,USA ,Vol (45),1955.

