

# Current Affairs (Relations)

### Hassan Ali Gondal

- ~ CSS Teacher for Current Affairs & International Relations
- ~ Faculty Member, NOA
- ~ Editor-in-Chief , NOA Publications



"Perspectives by Hassan Ali Gondal"

@HassanAGondal "HA Gondal"

'CSS-UPSC IR & Current Affairs with Hassan Gondal" @HAG-CSS









#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal



# **NOA's Academic Design**

Increased Length of Syllabus Overlapping Domain

IR, Cur. Affairs, History & Intl. Law NOA ~
Overlapping
Areas ~
Converted into
Specialized
Modules



# Current Affairs (Relations ) ~ Overlapping

1- Current Affairs (3~4)

2- Pak Affairs (2~3) 3- International Relations-I (2~3) 4- International Relations-II (3~4)

5- Political Science-I (1~2)

6- Political Science-II (1~2) 7- Indo-Pak History 8- US-History 9- European History (~1)

10- International Law (~1)

#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal



# **Syllabus**

**Concepts Analysis** 

- ~ Foreign Policy
- ~ National Interest

Foreign Policy

- ~ Russia
- ~ India
- ~ Pakistan

Relations

- ~ Pak-Russia
- ~ Pak-India

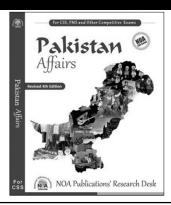
**Regional Perspective** 

- ~ Peace Making
- ~ South Asia
- ~ Focus (Indo-Pak)

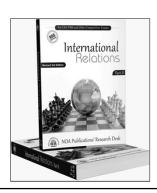
- ~ Pakistan Foreign Policy for USA Post 9/11 ~ China FP
- ~ Georgian Crisis ~ Crimean Crisis ~ Recognition of Israel
- ~ Maps ~ BRI/CPEC ~ US vs. Russia ~ USA vs. China ~ India vs. China



# **Recommended Readings**







#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal



# Topic: Foreign Policy & National Interest

- Chapter 4 & 6 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 3 ~ International Relations (Part-I Book) by Hassan Ali Gondal





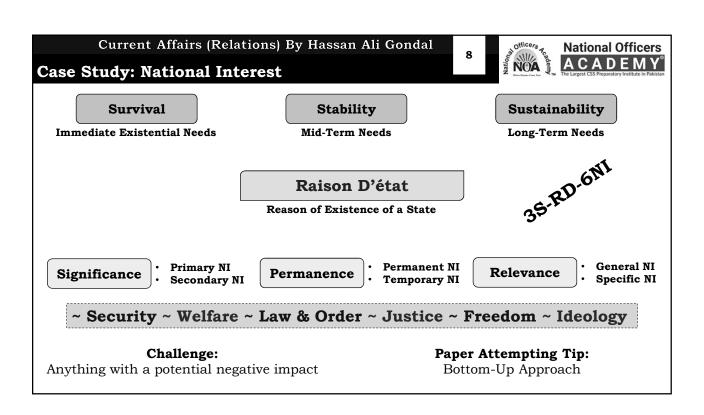
#### Theme-1:

# A policy pursued by a state in its FUTURE DEALINGS with ANOTHER STATE in order to secure its own NATIONAL INTEREST.

· Roadmap for Future

Introduction

- One-to-One Interaction
- Under the Rationale of National Interest
- · Written/Unwritten, Declared/Undeclared, Covert/Overt





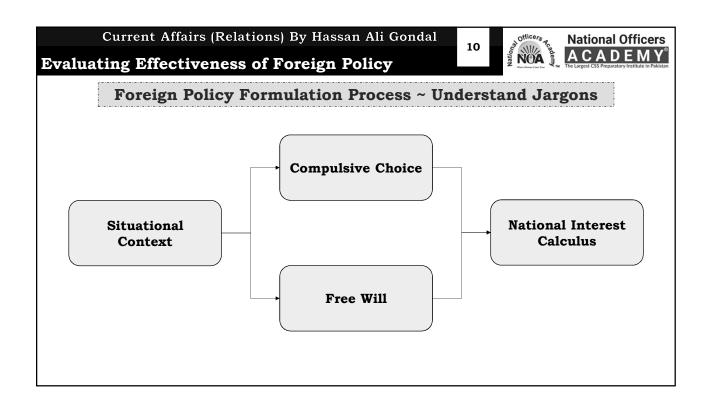


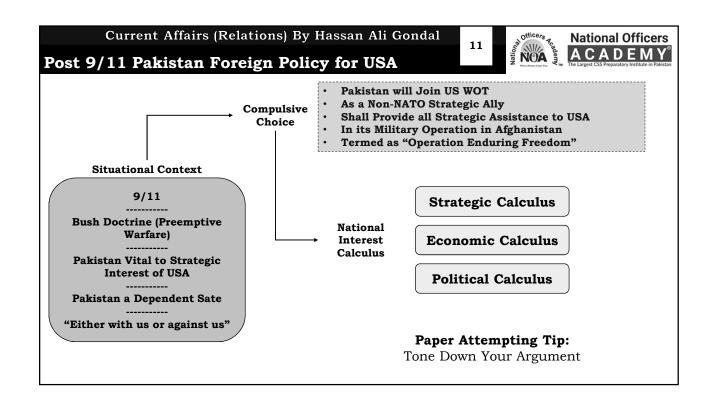
**Evaluating Effectiveness of Foreign Policy** 

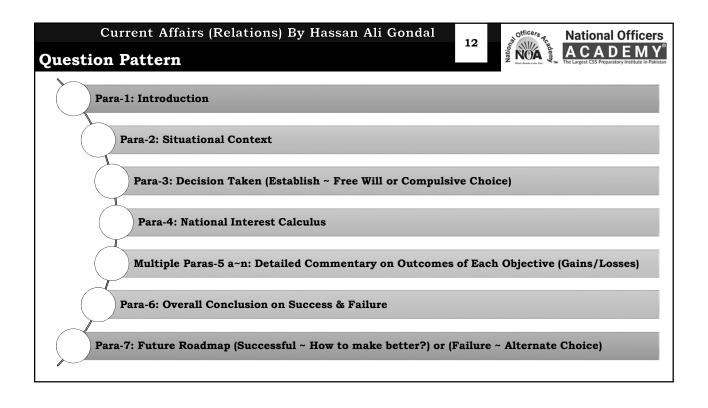
#### Theme-2:

# Success of a foreign policy is dependent upon COMPARATIVE GAINS of NATIONAL INTERESTS in state's own HISTORICAL CONTEXT.

- Leader to Leader Comparison
- Regime to Regime Comparison
- Event to Event Comparison
- Era to Era Comparison
- Point to Entire History Comparison







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#### **Determinants of Foreign Policy**

All those factors which are BROUGHT UNDER CONSIDERATION in order to reach any FOREIGN POLICY DECISION would be termed as determinant of foreign policy.

# Domestic Determinants Domestic Stimuli Internal Factors

#### Elements of National Power

- Military Capabilities
- Economic Capabilities
- Type of Government (Leader's Perception)
- · Size of a State & Geography
- · Culture and History
- Technology
- National Capacity
- Social Structure
- Public Mood & Role of Media
- Political Accountability
- Leadership

# International Determinants International Stimuli External Factors Environmental Factors

- · Geo-Politics
- International Organizations
- World Public Opinion
- Polar Structure

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#### **Assessing Role of Determinants**

#### Theme-3:

Comparison of both states on basis of ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL POWER as well as ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS serves as determinants of foreign policy.

# Analysis Method Remember 'END'

#### E = Enabler

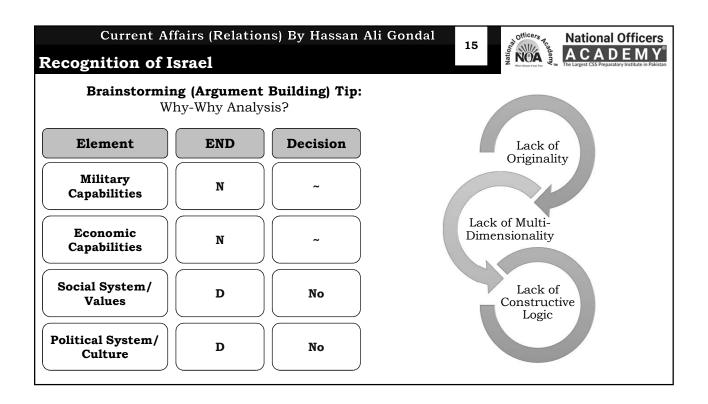
- Point of Strength
- Point of Advantage
- Free Will

#### N = No Impact

 Irrelevant in Respective Situational Context

#### D = Disabler

- · Point of Weakness
- Point of Disadvantage
- · Compulsive Choice



#### Sample Paragraph

National Officers
A C A D E M Y
The Largest CSS Preparatory Institute in Pakistan

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Debate of recognition of Israel has once again resurfaced in diplomatic power corridors of Pakistan. However, careful consideration against multiple determinants shall reveal that any prospective decision of recognition shall come up with both advantages and disadvantages. On the front of advantages, there is a probability that we shall be able to acquire superior military technology to further boost our defense capabilities. Furthermore, we can gain diplomatic leverage of Israel as well its economic niche to bring positive economic outcomes for Pakistan's ailing economy. However, the strategic and economic gains can be traded-off by further boosting our ties with our existing strategic partners - primarily CHINA. However, on the end of disadvantages, this decision shall create major backlash as far as socio-political stability is concerned. There is a high probability that this non-populist decision shall create political instability. In addition, this decision can lead to extreme reaction from different religious factions resulting in further polarization of societal fabric. If we weigh both advantages and disadvantages, apparently the later one appears to be more significant. So, our decision should be based upon socio-political lens. AND it is not feasible to go for any hasty decision of recognition without changing the mindset of masses and a wider consensus building exercise at national level.

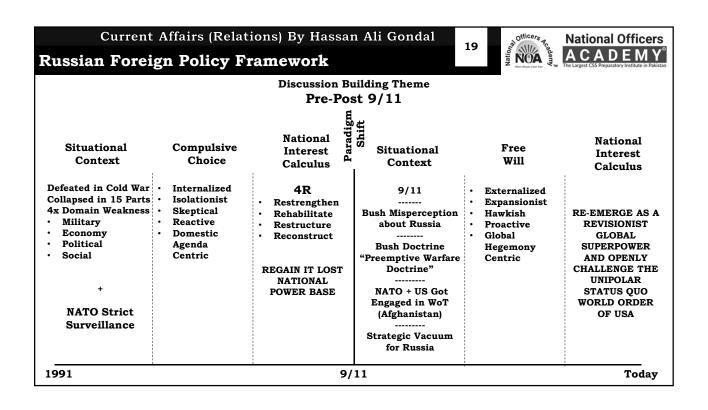
# Decision Making & Analysis of FP Graham Allison's Models (ABC Model) B. Bureaucratic Politics Model C. Bargaining Model

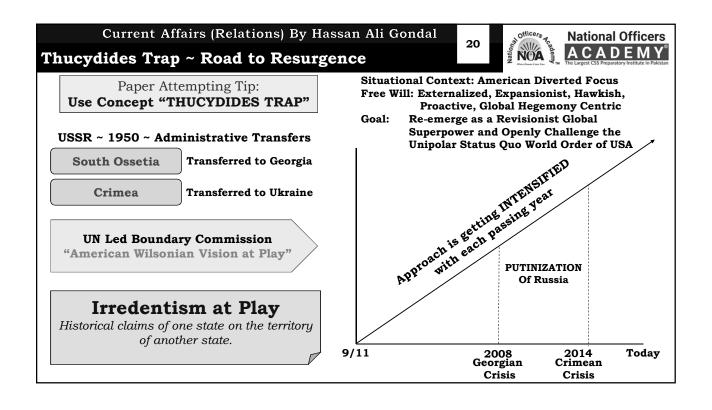
#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal

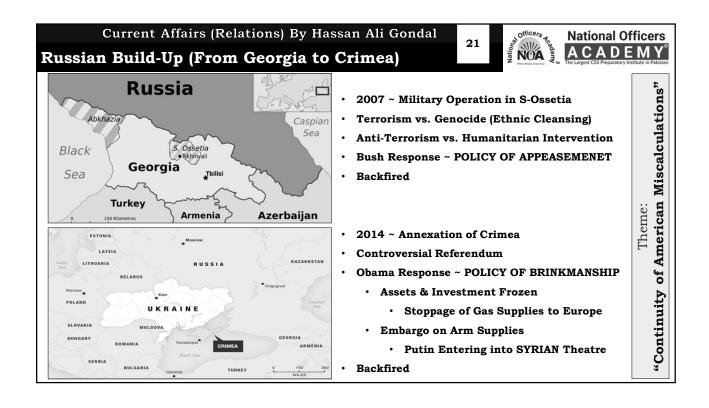


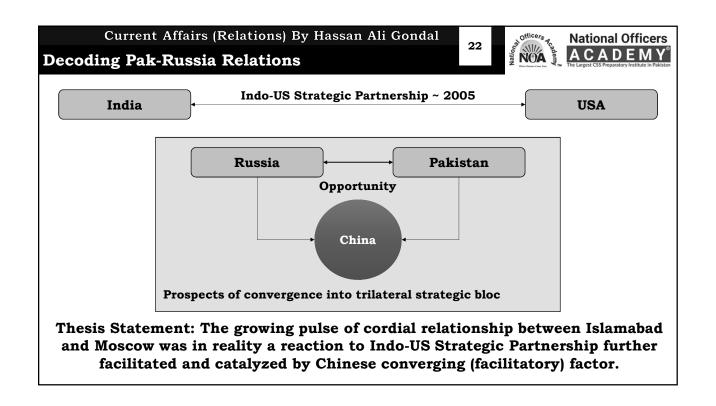
# Topic: Russia in Focus

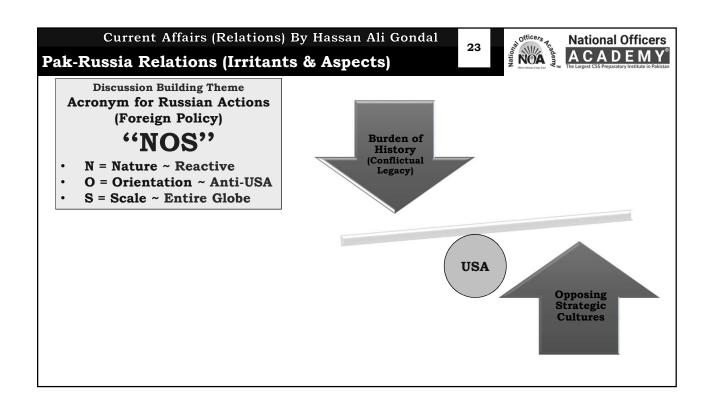
- Chapter 4 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 5 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by Hassan Ali Gondal
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too

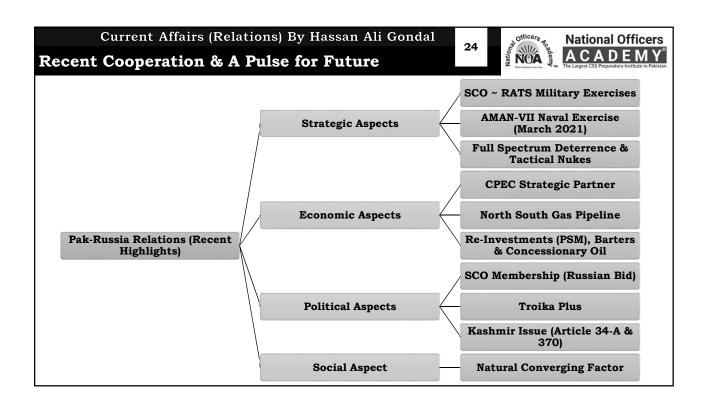










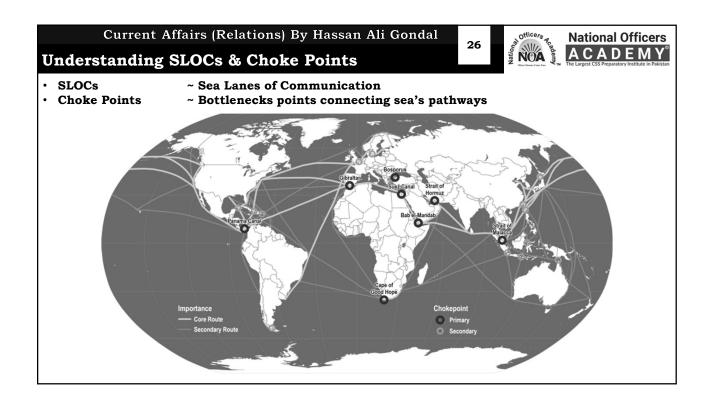




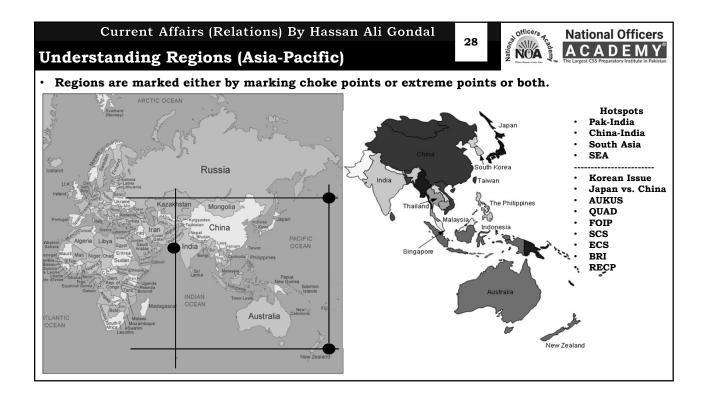
# **Topic: Understanding Key Aspects of Maps**

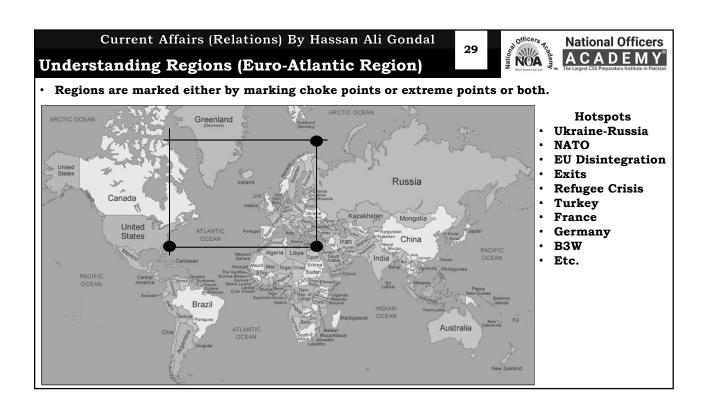
#### **Recommended Readings**

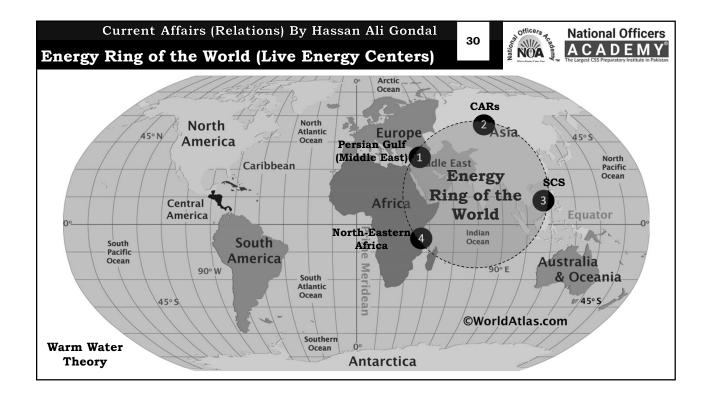
• No Reading ~ For Interest ~ Prisoners of Geography (Tim Marshall)



#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal **National Officers** 27 NOA § A C A D E M Y° Understanding Regions (Indian Ocean Region) Regions are marked either by marking choke points or extreme points or both. Hotspots Greenland Pak-India KSA vs. Iran China vs. India Sri Lanka Russia Afghanistan Canada Persian Gulf **Yemen Crisis** Mongolia BRI (CPEC) Arabian Sea **Energy Politics** India vs. Nepal Mynammar 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet (USA) **Critical Chokes** Australia Etc.



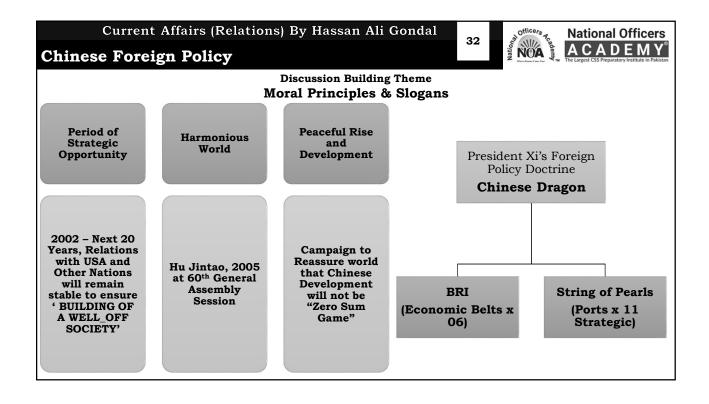




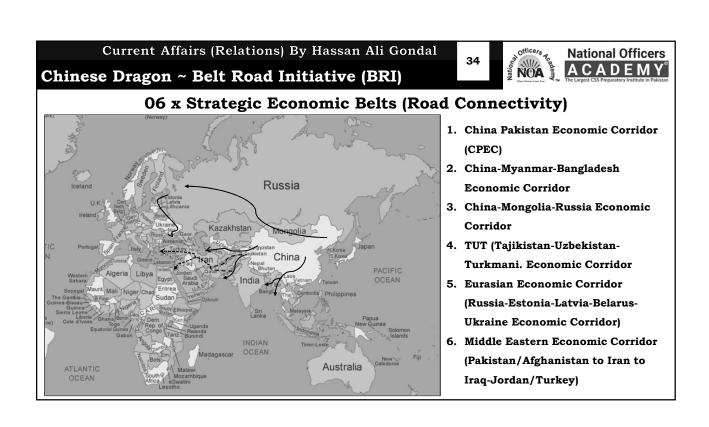


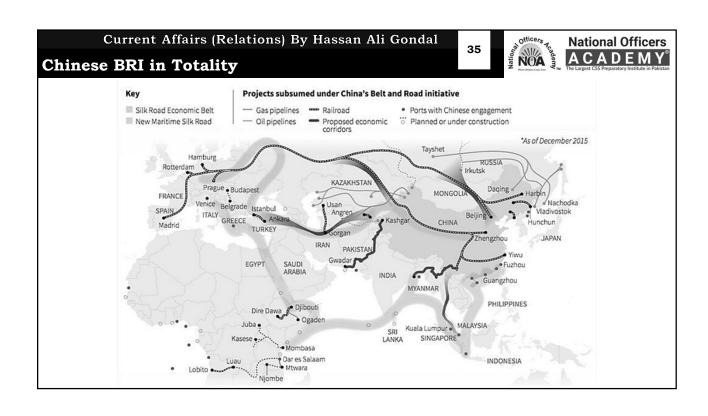
# Topic: China in Focus

- Chapter 5 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 5 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by Hassan Ali Gondal
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too

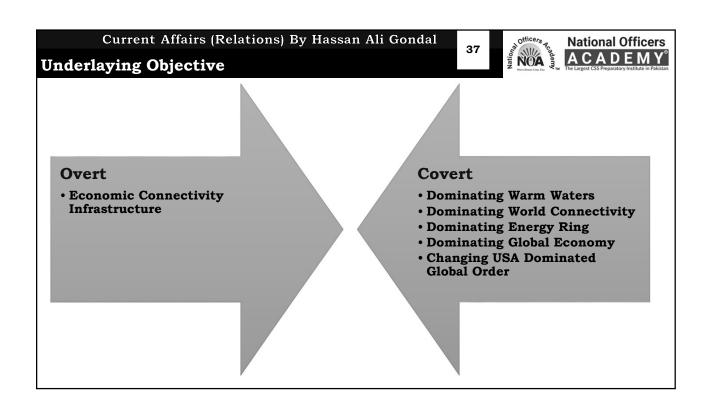


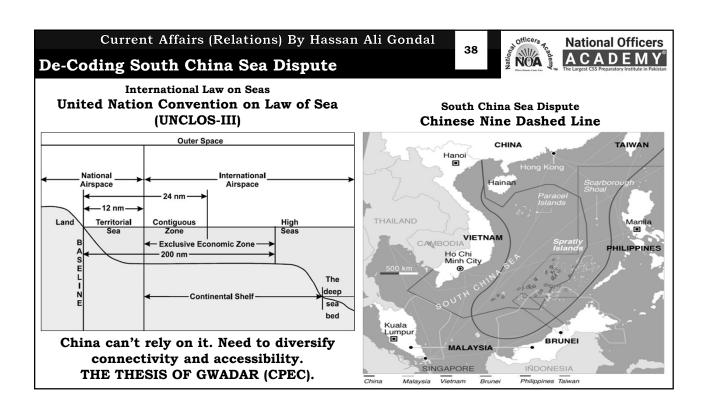


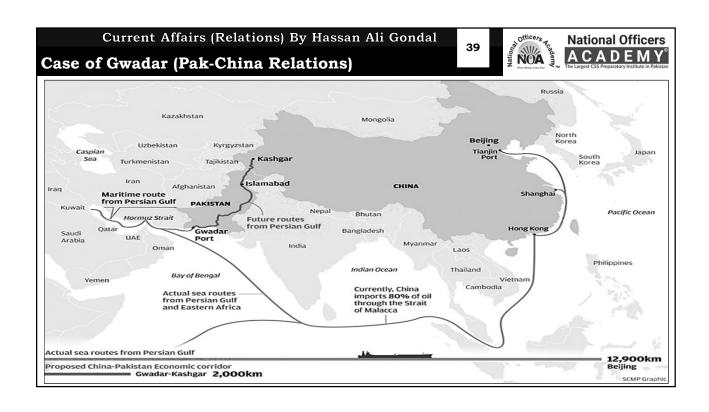


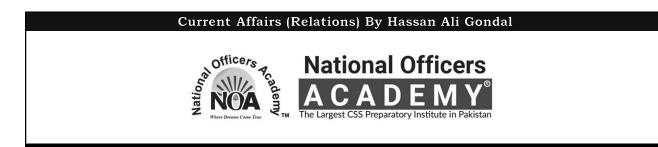






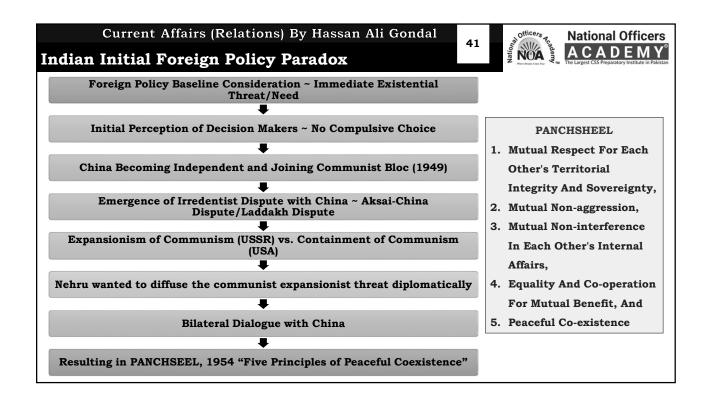


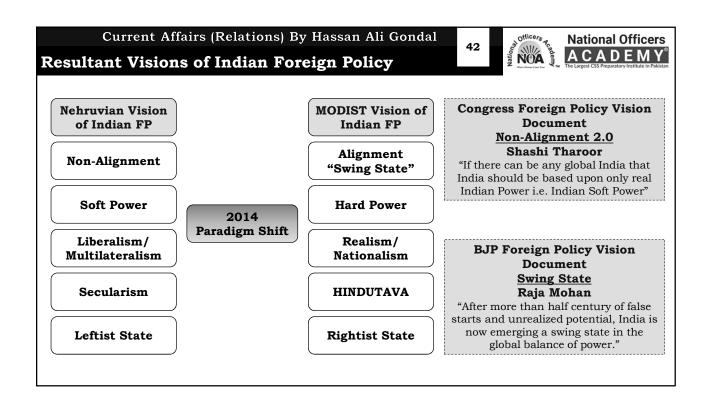


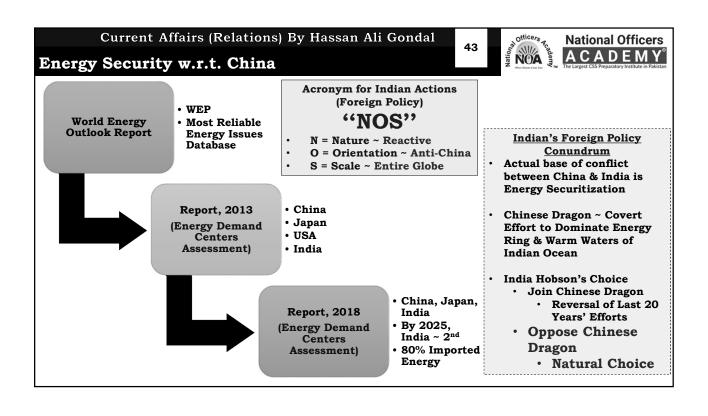


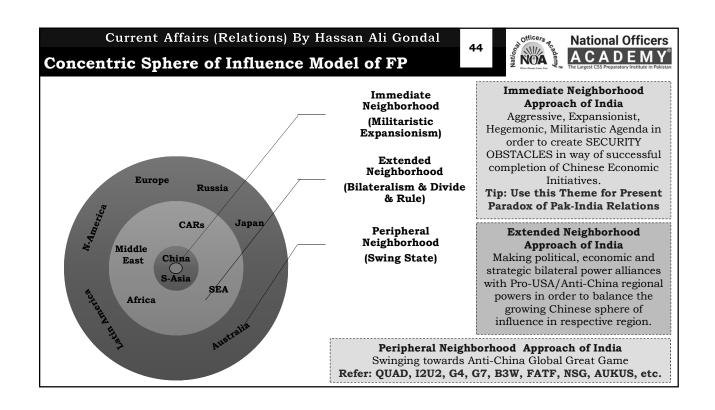
## Topic: India in Focus

- Chapter 5 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 5 & 6~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by HA Gondal
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too









#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal **National Officers** 45 NOA S ACADEMY Pak-India Relations (Mapping Key Contours) **Arms Race** Traditional & Non-Irredentism **Hyper Nationalism Colonial Legacies** Traditional Security (Conventional & (Burden of History) (Kashmir) (Religion) Competition Nuclear) Regional & Extra-CPEC (Pak-China Regional Begger thy Neighbor Policy of India Energy Strategic Intervention **Terrorism** Securitization Partnership) vs. (Geo-Strategic Complexity of India Indo-US Strategic (MFN, FATF) **Interests of Great** Partnership Power) **Lack of Conflict** Expansionist Kashmir Issue Policies of India in Resolution (Too **Populist Domestic** Chabar vs. Gwadar Immediate Much Focus on **Politics** (Article 35-A & 370) Neighborhood Unilateralism)

#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal **National Officers** 46 NOA ACADEMY° Dispute Resolution Mechanism ~ Best Route?? Methodology: Identify different routes/ways in which both countries tried to resolve their conflicts. · Figure out which route was result-oriented and which was not. · Debate the relevance (prospects) of result-oriented route in prevailing environment. **Bilateral Route Multilateral Route** 3rd Party Mediation Route Nehru-Liaquat Pact (1950) UN resolutions on Kashmir Seize Fire Agreement, 1949 (UN) **SAARC** on Regional Cooperation Khawaja-Nehru Dialogue, 1952 Indus Water Treaty, 1960 (WB) Sikander Mirza-Nehru, 1957 Tashkent Declaration, 1966 (USSR) Bhutto-Sawaran Dialogue, 1960 Rann of Kutch Arb. 1968 (UNSG) Ayub-Indra Gandhi, 1966 Simla Agreement, 1972 (USSR) Bhutto-Indra Gandhi, 1973, 1975 Nuclear CBMs, 1998 (USA) Kargil De-escalation, 1999 (USA) Zia-Rajiv Gandhi, 1988 Composite Dialogue, 1998 Balakot De-escalation, 2019 (KSA) Lahore Declaration, 1999 Only productive route in historical Agra Summit, 2001 Ufa Summit, 2015 But not workable in prevailing No Big Breakthrough No Big Breakthrough



# **Topic: Foreign Policy of Pakistan**

- Chapter 8 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 5 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by HA Gondal
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too

rrent Affairs (Relations) By Hassan : Understanding of Past-Prese	48 S A C A
Discussion Building Theme Foreign Policy in Transition	
Historical Outlook (1947~2017)	Attempt for Paradigm Shift (2018~2022)
Riyadh-Washington Centric	Beijing Centric
Socio-Strategic Lens	Geo-Economic Lens
Nationalism	Multilateralism
Realism (Military/Hard Power Lens)	Liberalism (Economic/Soft Power Lens)
Isolation (Indian Propaganda)	Global Agenda Centric
Bandwagoner (Extra-regional Approach)	Balancer/Inter-dependency (Region Centric Approach)
Client State	Mediator State

#### **Determinants, Contours & Phases**

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#### **Determinants**

- Security Concerns
- · Geo-Political Location
- · Kashmir Issue
- · Economic Dependency
- Regional & Global Alliances
- Nuclear Program
- · Domestic Politics
- · Global Events
- · Islamic Identity
- · Diaspora & People-to-People Ties

#### Contours

- · Quest for Security
- · Survival as Independent State
- · Troubled Relations with India
- · Reliance on West
- Solidarity with Muslim World

#### **Phases**

- Formative Years (1947-1953)
- Alliances and Non-Alignment (1954-1970)
- · 1971 and Realignment (1971-1977)
- Cold War and Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan (1979-1988)
- Post-Cold War Era and Nuclearization (1988-2001)
- Post-9/11 and the War on Terror (2001-present)
- Engaging with Regional Powers (Recent Years)

Analysis Theme
Build Suggestions on
Following Themes

Region Centric Approach

CPEC (Economic Lens)

Balancing (Non-Alignment)

Stability

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# **Additional Topics**

**Time Dependent** 

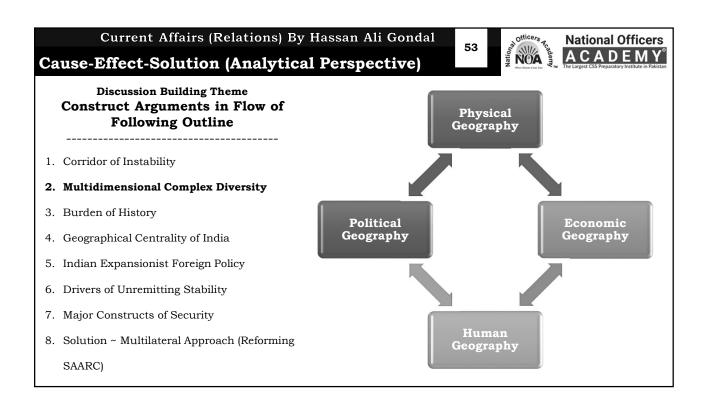


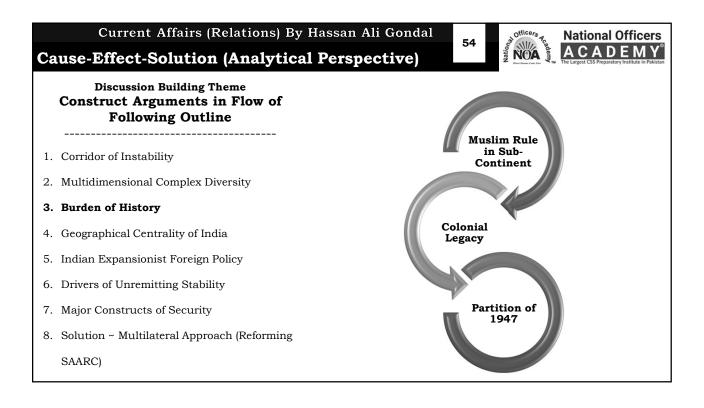
# Topic: Peace-Making & Peace Building in South Asia ~ Analytical Perspective

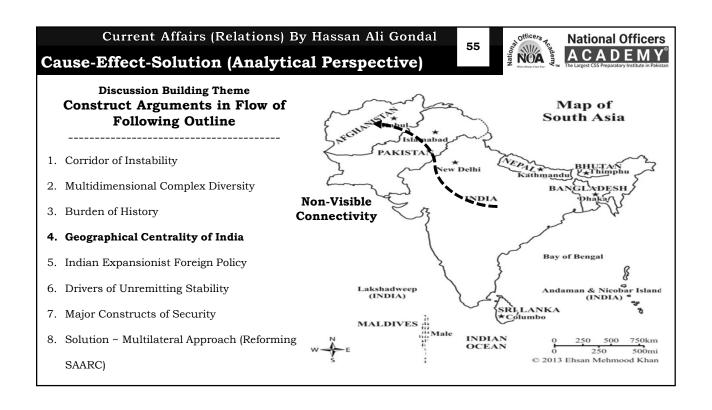
#### **Recommended Readings**

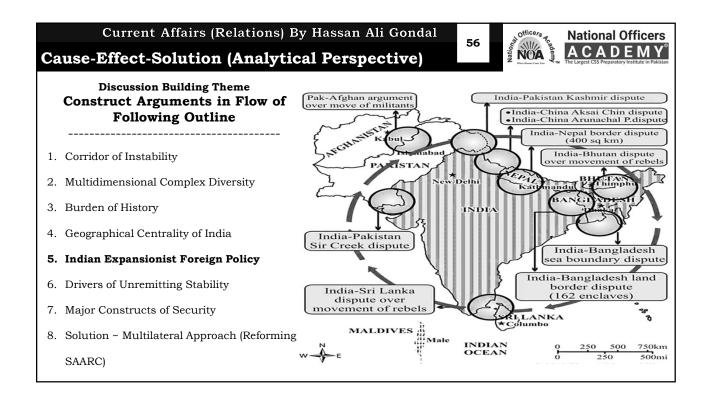
Chapter 6 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by HA Gondal

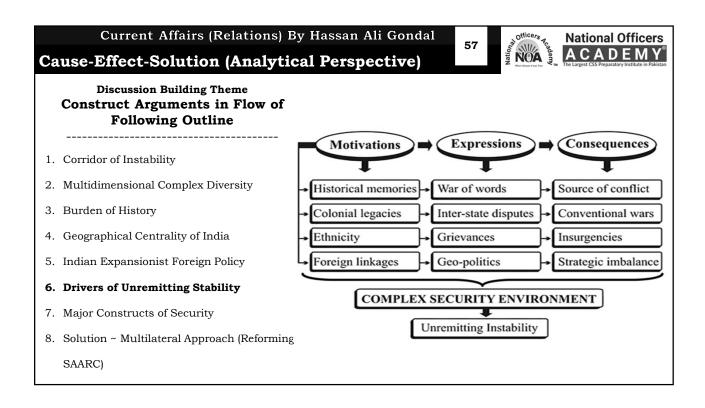
#### Current Affairs (Relations) By Hassan Ali Gondal **National Officers** 52 NOA ACADEMY Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective) **Discussion Building Theme** Construct Arguments in Flow of **Following Outline** 1. Corridor of Instability 25% of World Most <u>Militarized</u> 2. Multidimensional Complex Diversity (Greatest Zone of the Human 3. Burden of History Diversity) 4. Geographical Centrality of India 5. Indian Expansionist Foreign Policy 6. Drivers of Unremitting Stability Largest Array of Territorial & Non-Territorial Disputes 7. Major Constructs of Security 8. Solution ~ Multilateral Approach (Reforming SAARC)

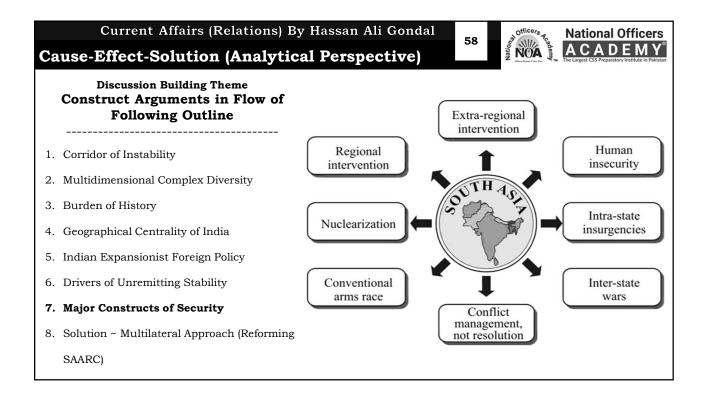
















#### Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective)

# Discussion Building Theme Construct Arguments in Flow of Following Outline

- 1. Corridor of Instability
- 2. Multidimensional Complex Diversity
- 3. Burden of History
- 4. Geographical Centrality of India
- 5. Indian Expansionist Foreign Policy
- 6. Drivers of Unremitting Stability
- 7. Major Constructs of Security
- Solution ~ Multilateral Approach
   (Reforming SAARC)

#### **Functional Restructuring of SAARC**

#### Reforming and Revitalizing SAARC

South Asian Security Dialogue (SASD)

South Asian Nuclear Dialogue (SAND)

Conventional Arms Reduction Dialogue (CARD)

South Asian Parliament (SAP)

Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)

People to People Contact (PPC)

Multi-track Diplomacy (MTD)

Inter-Regional Trade (SAFTA)

South Asian Literacy Commission (SALC)

South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA)

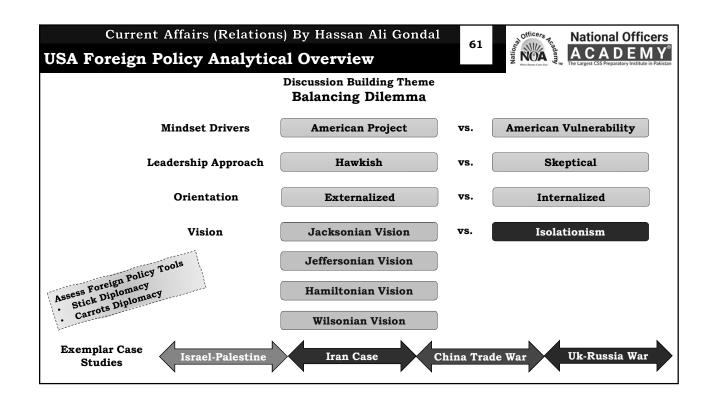
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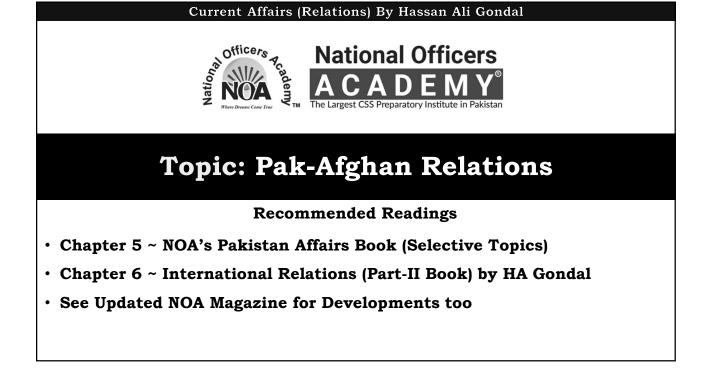


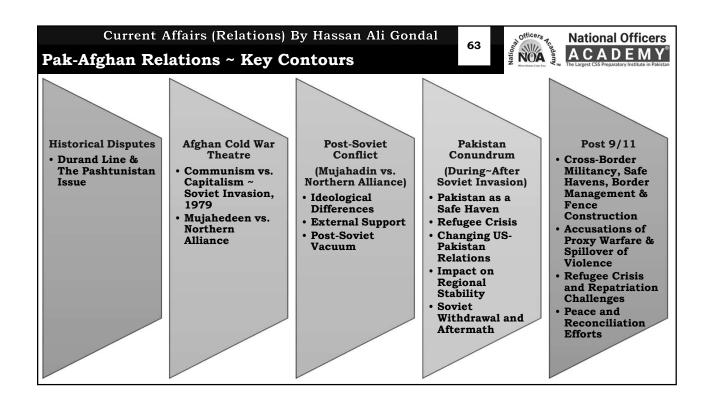
# **Topic: Foreign Policy of USA**

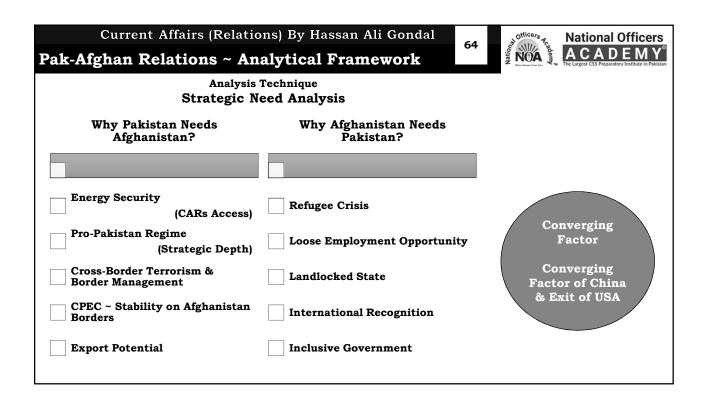
#### **Recommended Readings**

Chapter 5 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by HA Gondal





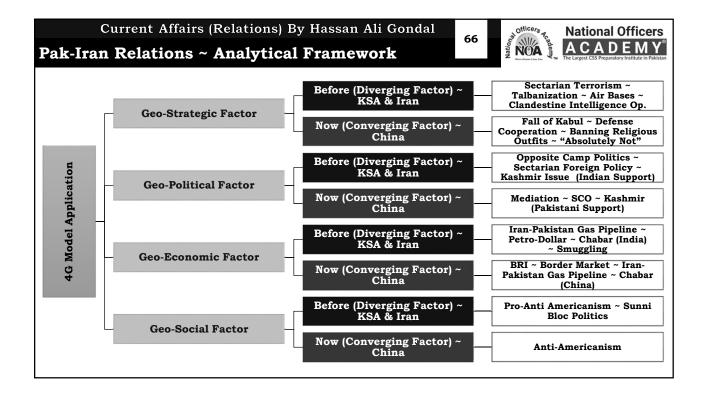






# **Topic: Pak-Iran Relations**

- Chapter 5 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too





# **Topic: Pak-Saudi Relations**

- NOA's Current Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- See Updated NOA Magazine for Developments too

