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Current Affairs (Relations)

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~ Faculty Member, NOA
~ Editor-in-Chief, NOA Publications




Join me @

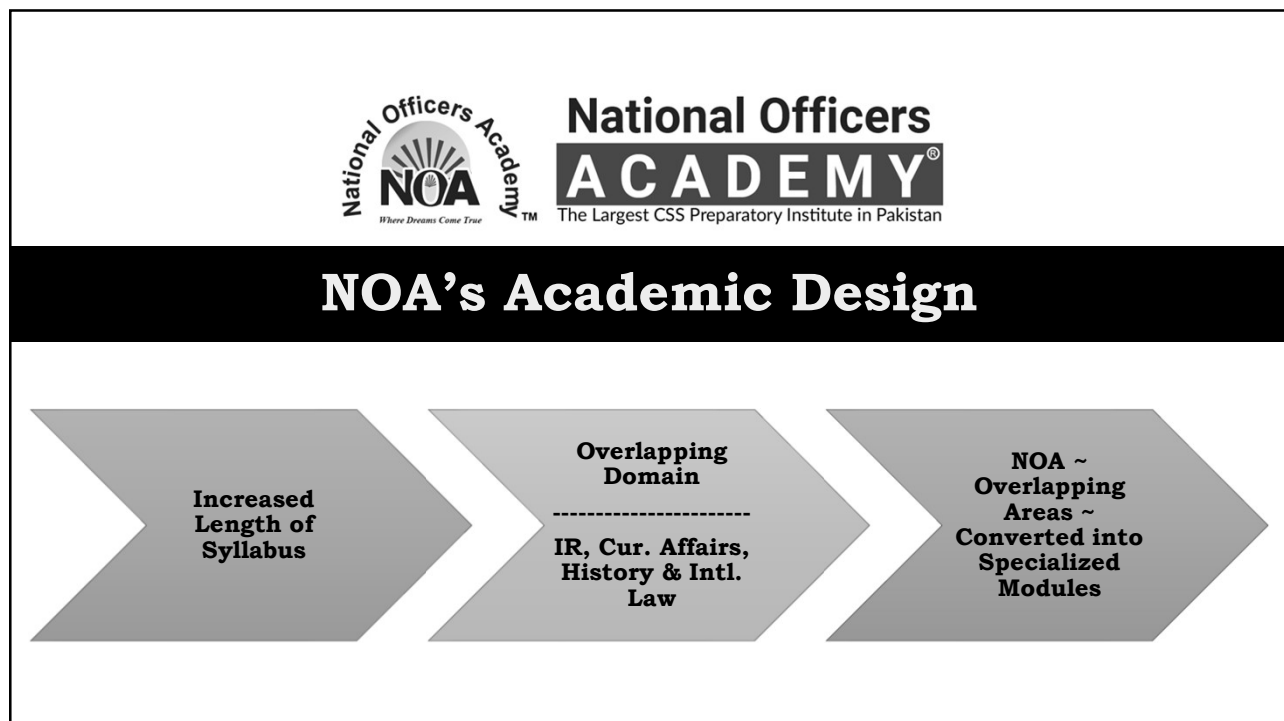



@Currents & Relations with HA Gondal




@Hassan Ali Gondal

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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)

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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)

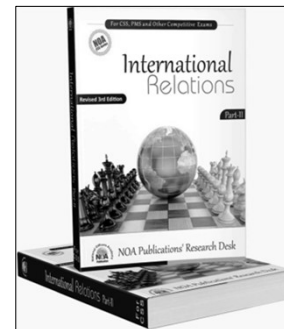
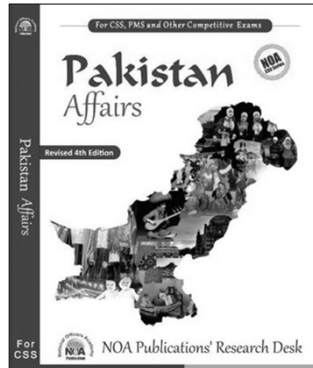
~ Pakistan Foreign Policy for USA Post 9/11 ~ China FP
~ Georgian Crisis ~ Crimean Crisis ~ Recognition of Israel
~ Maps ~ BRI/CPEC ~ US vs. Russia ~ USA vs. China ~ India vs. China

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Recommended Readings



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Topic: Foreign Policy & National Interest

Recommended Readings

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

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Introduction



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

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Case Study: National Interest



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Survival

Immediate Existential Needs

Stability

Mid-Term Needs

Sustainability

Long-Term Needs

Raison D'état

Reason of Existence of a State

3S-RD-6NI

Significance

- Primary NI
- Secondary NI

Permanence

- Permanent NI
- Temporary NI

Relevance

- General NI
- Specific NI

~ Security ~ Welfare ~ Law & Order ~ Justice ~ Freedom ~ Ideology

Challenge:

Anything with a potential negative impact

Paper Attempting Tip:

Bottom-Up Approach

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Evaluating Effectiveness of Foreign Policy



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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**

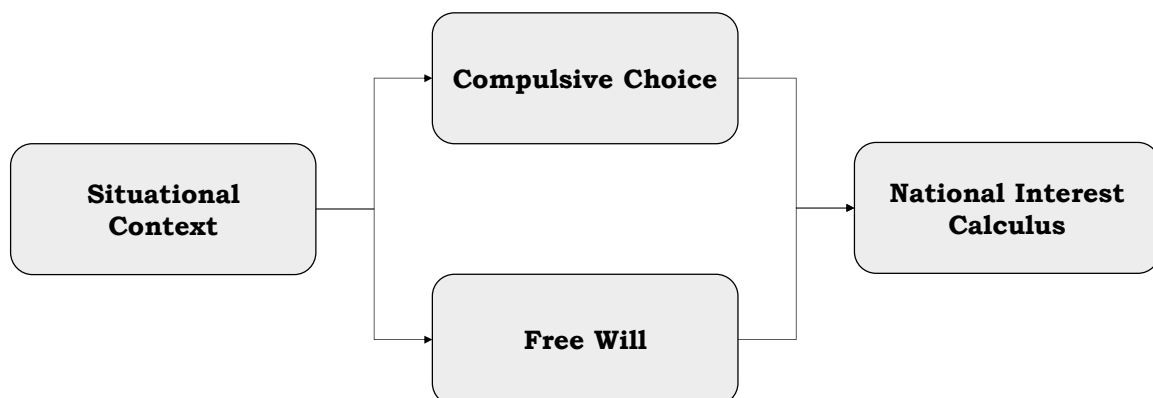
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Evaluating Effectiveness of Foreign Policy

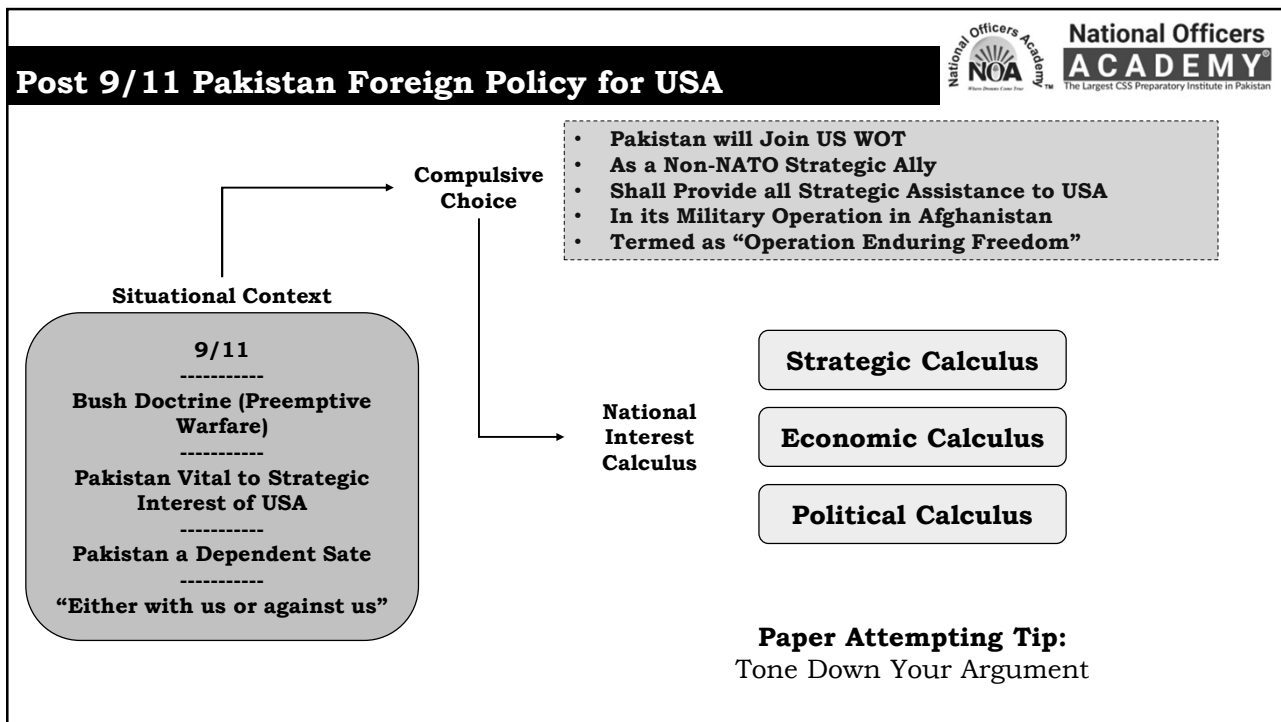


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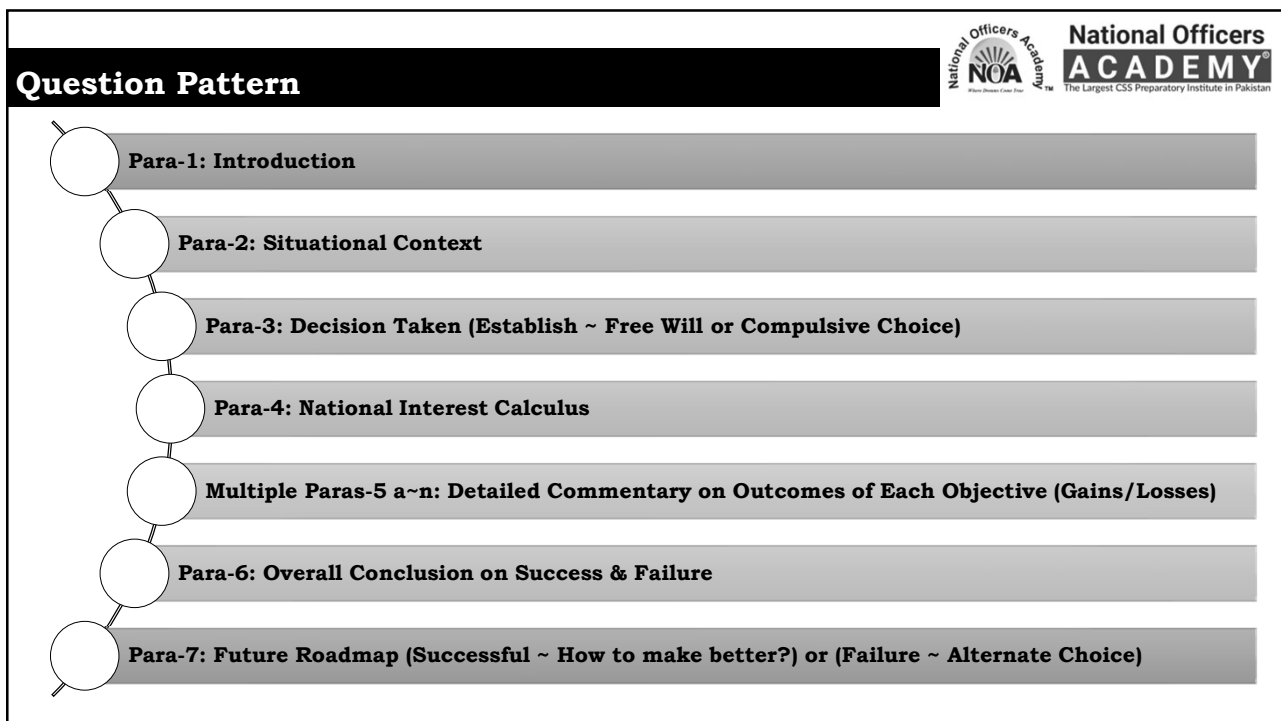
Foreign Policy Formulation Process ~ Understand Jargons



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Determinants of Foreign Policy



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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	International Determinants International Stimuli External Factors Environmental Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geo-Politics • International Organizations • World Public Opinion • Polar Structure

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Assessing Role of Determinants



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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

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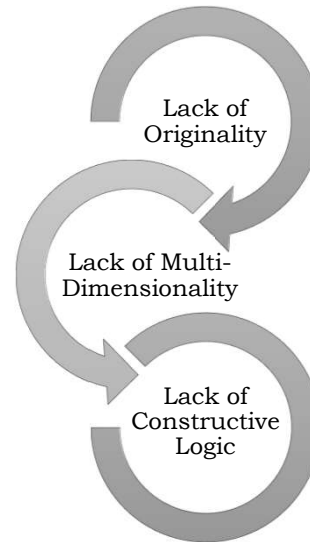
Recognition of Israel



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Brainstorming (Argument Building) Tip:
Why-Why Analysis?

Element	END	Decision
Military Capabilities	N	~
Economic Capabilities	N	~
Social System/ Values	D	No
Political System/ Culture	D	No



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Sample Paragraph



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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.

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Decision Making & Analysis of FP



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**Graham
Allison's
Models
(ABC Model)**

A. Rational Actor Model

B. Bureaucratic Politics Model

C. Bargaining Model

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Topic: Russia in Focus

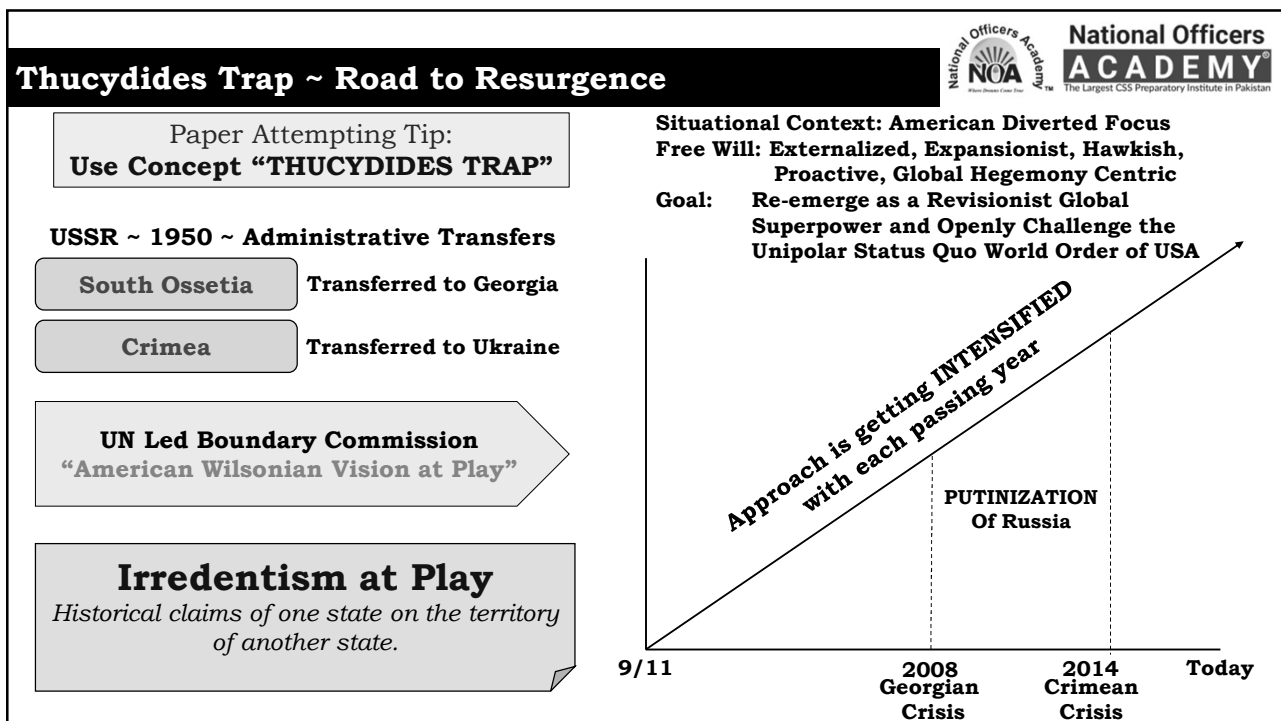
Recommended Readings

- **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**

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Russian Foreign Policy Framework					
Discussion Building Theme Pre-Post 9/11					
Situational Context	Compulsive Choice	National Interest Calculus	Paradigm Shift	Situational Context	Free Will
Defeated in Cold War Collapsed in 15 Parts 4x Domain Weakness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military • Economy • Political • Social + NATO Strict Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internalized • Isolationist • Skeptical • Reactive • Domestic Agenda Centric 	4R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrengthen • Rehabilitate • Restructure • Reconstruct REGAIN IT LOST NATIONAL POWER BASE	9/11 ----- Bush Misperception about Russia ----- Bush Doctrine “Preemptive Warfare Doctrine” ----- NATO + US Got Engaged in WoT (Afghanistan) ----- Strategic Vacuum for Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externalized • Expansionist • Hawkish • Proactive • Global Hegemony Centric 	RE-EMERGE AS A REVISIONIST GLOBAL SUPERPOWER AND OPENLY CHALLENGE THE UNIPOLAR STATUS QUO WORLD ORDER OF USA
1991			9/11		Today

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Russian Build-Up (From Georgia to Crimea)



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- 2007 ~ Military Operation in S-Ossetia
- Terrorism vs. Genocide (Ethnic Cleansing)
- Anti-Terrorism vs. Humanitarian Intervention
- Bush Response ~ POLICY OF APPEASEMENT
- Backfired



- 2014 ~ Annexation of Crimea
- Controversial Referendum
- Obama Response ~ POLICY OF BRINKMANSHIP
 - Assets & Investment Frozen
 - Stoppage of Gas Supplies to Europe
 - Embargo on Arm Supplies
 - Putin Entering into SYRIAN Theatre
- Backfired

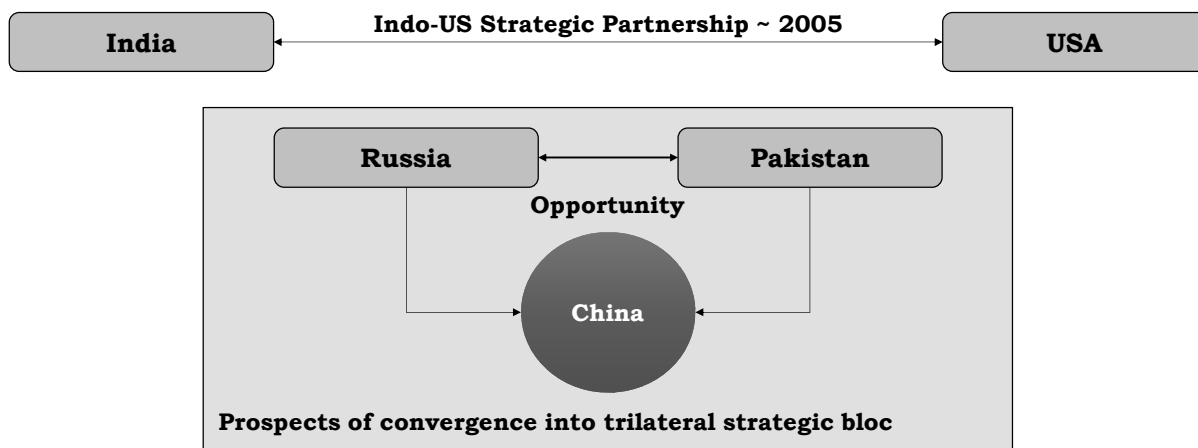
Theme:
"Continuity of American Miscalculations"

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Decoding Pak-Russia Relations



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Thesis Statement: The growing pulse of cordial relationship between Islamabad and Moscow was in reality a reaction to Indo-US Strategic Partnership further facilitated and catalyzed by Chinese converging (facilitatory) factor.

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Pak-Russia Relations (Irritants & Aspects)

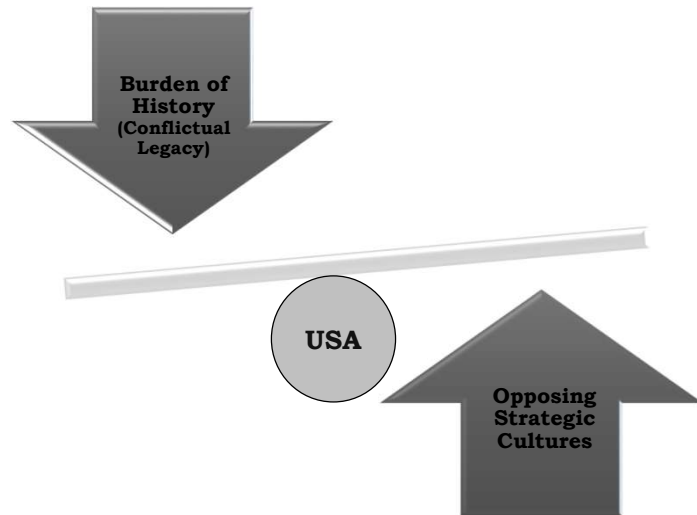


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Discussion Building Theme
Acronym for Russian Actions
(Foreign Policy)

“NOS”

- **N** = Nature ~ Reactive
- **O** = Orientation ~ Anti-USA
- **S** = Scale ~ Entire Globe



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Recent Cooperation & A Pulse for Future



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Pak-Russia Relations (Recent Highlights)

Strategic Aspects

SCO ~ RATS Military Exercises

**AMAN-VII Naval Exercise
(March 2021)**

**Full Spectrum Deterrence &
Tactical Nukes**

Economic Aspects

CPEC Strategic Partner

North South Gas Pipeline

**Re-Investments (PSM), Barters
& Concessionary Oil**

Political Aspects

SCO Membership (Russian Bid)

Troika Plus

**Kashmir Issue (Article 34-A &
370)**

Social Aspect

Natural Converging Factor

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Topic: Understanding Key Aspects of Maps

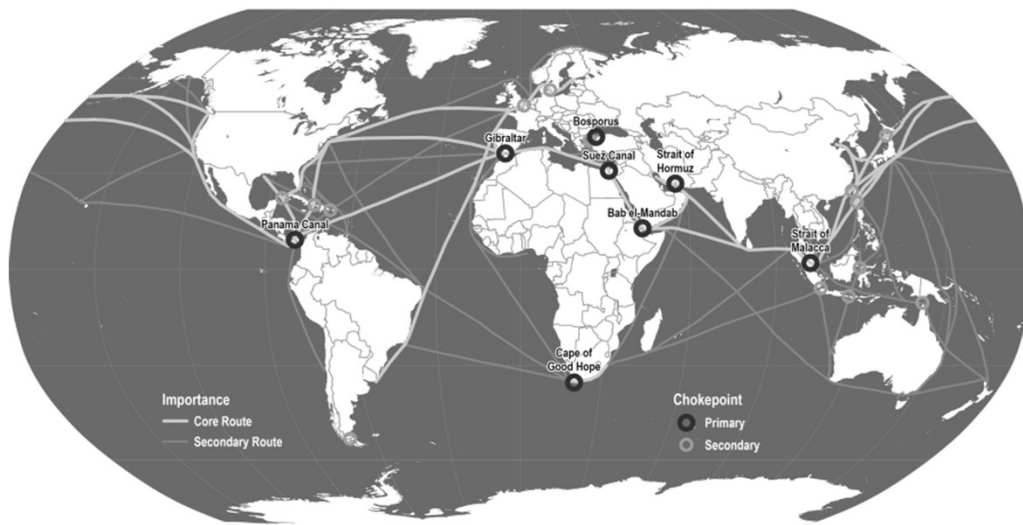
Recommended Readings

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

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Understanding SLOCs & Choke Points

- **SLOCs** ~ Sea Lanes of Communication
- **Choke Points** ~ Bottlenecks points connecting sea's pathways




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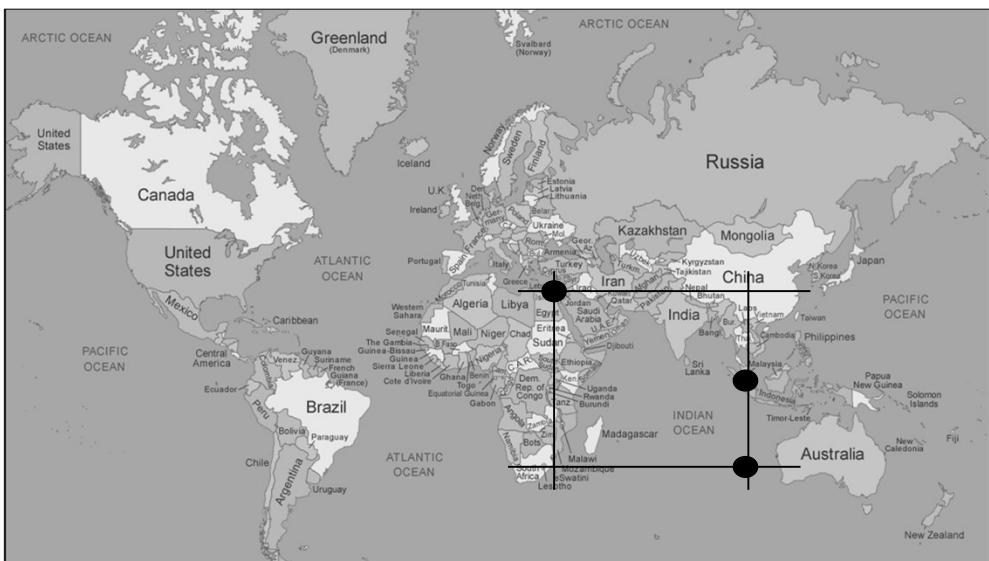
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Understanding Regions (Indian Ocean Region)

- Regions are marked either by marking choke points or extreme points or both.



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Hotspots

- Pak-India
- KSA vs. Iran
- China vs. India
- Sri Lanka
- Afghanistan
- Persian Gulf
- Yemen Crisis
- BRI (CPEC)
- Arabian Sea
- Energy Politics
- India vs. Nepal
- Myanmar
- 7th Fleet (USA)
- Critical Chokes
- Etc.

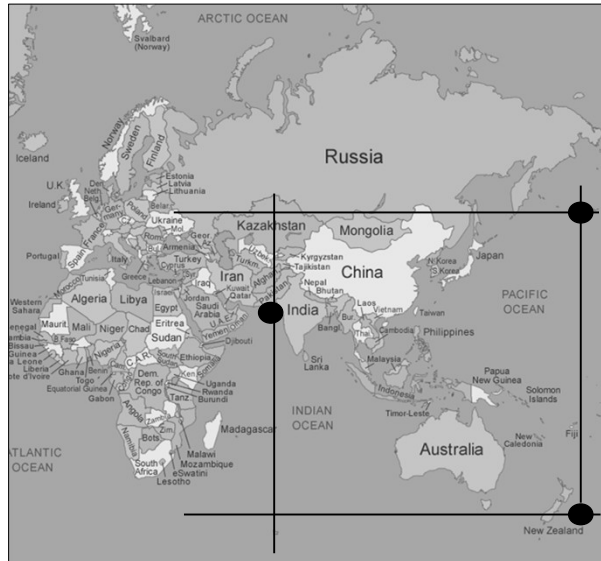
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Understanding Regions (Asia-Pacific)



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- Regions are marked either by marking choke points or extreme points or both.



- Hotspots**
- Pak-India
 - China-India
 - South Asia
 - SEA
 - Korean Issue
 - Japan vs. China
 - AUKUS
 - QUAD
 - FOIP
 - SCS
 - ECS
 - BRI
 - RECP

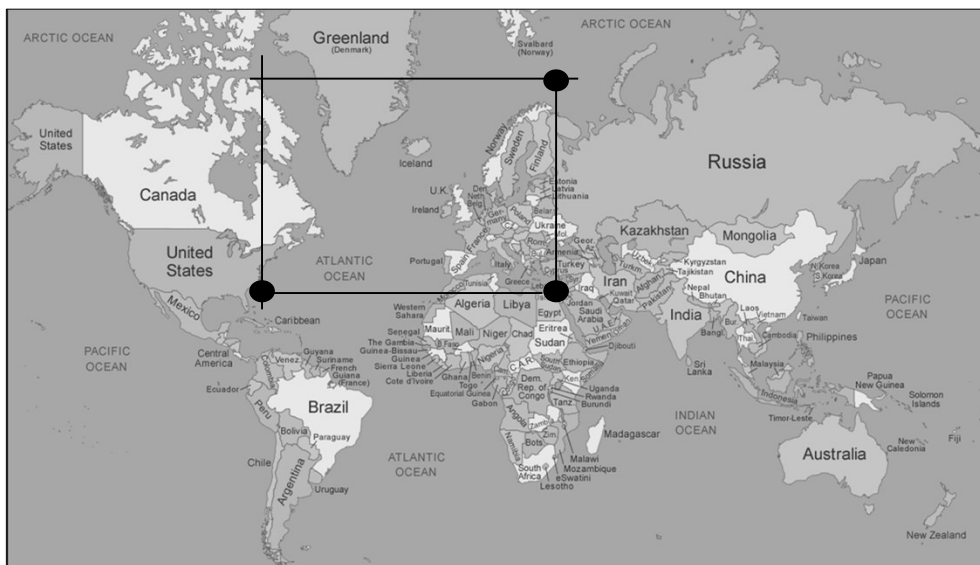
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Understanding Regions (Euro-Atlantic Region)



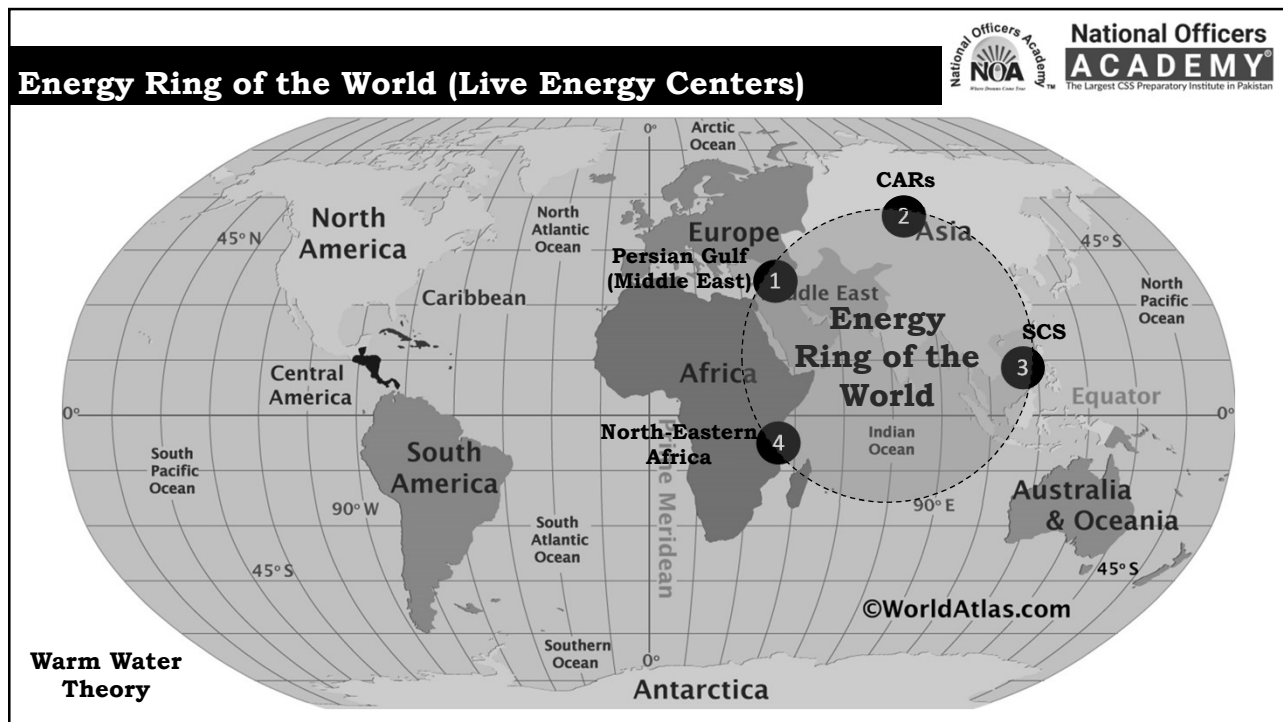
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- Regions are marked either by marking choke points or extreme points or both.




- Hotspots**
- Ukraine-Russia
 - NATO
 - EU Disintegration
 - Exits
 - Refugee Crisis
 - Turkey
 - France
 - Germany
 - B3W
 - Etc.

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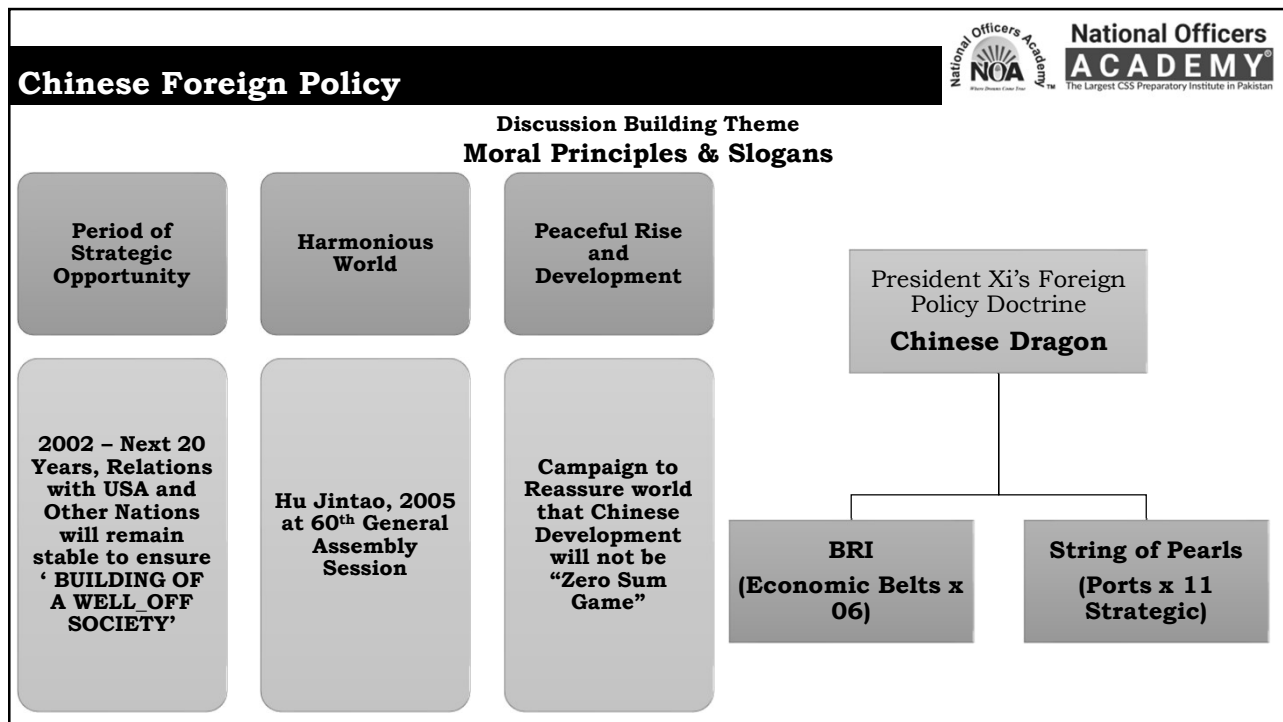

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Topic: China in Focus

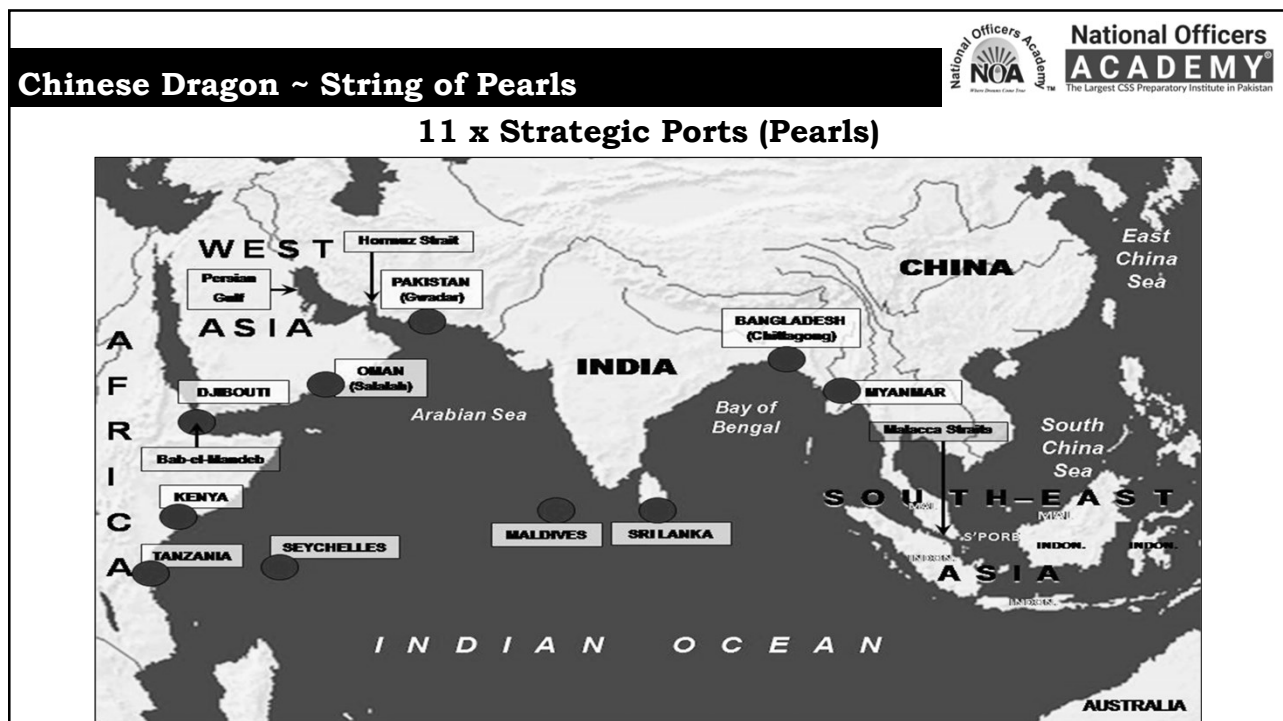
Recommended Readings

- **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**

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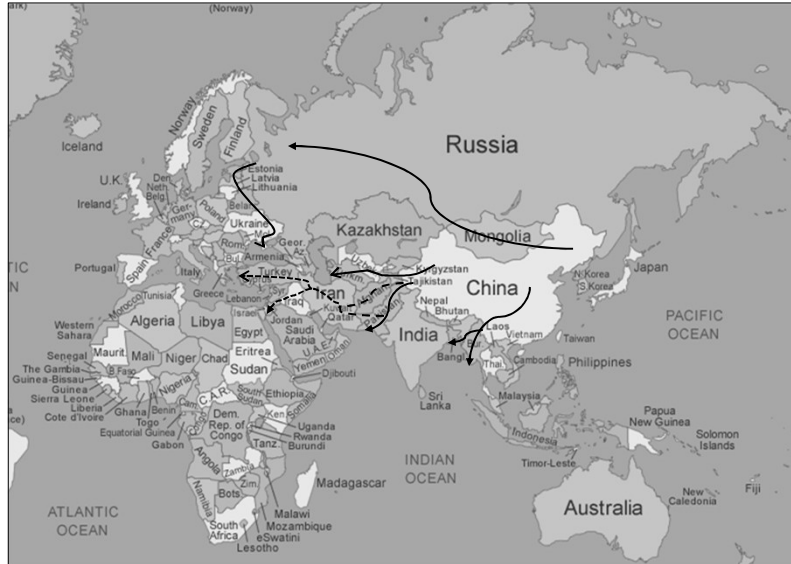
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Chinese Dragon ~ Belt Road Initiative (BRI)



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06 x Strategic Economic Belts (Road Connectivity)



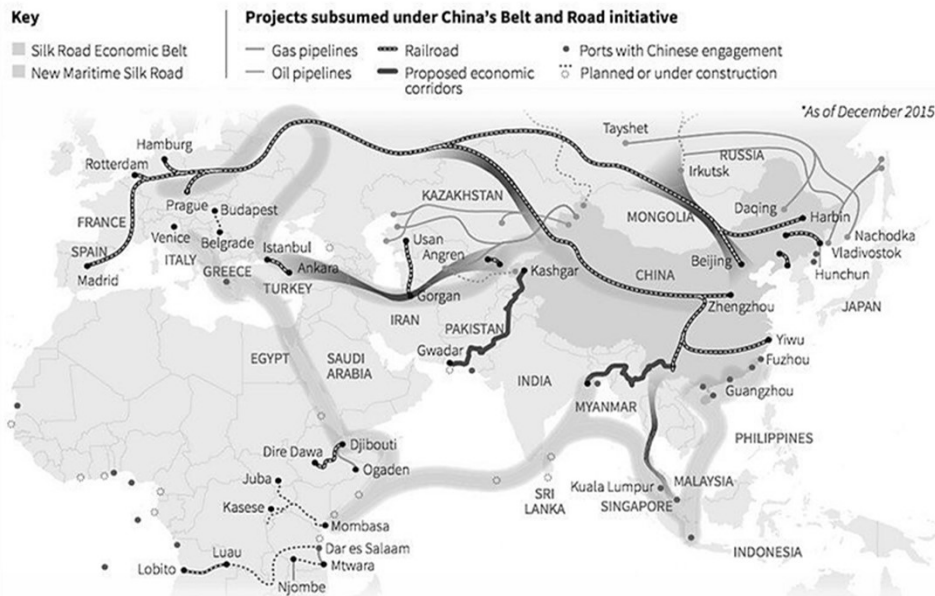
1. **China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)**
2. **China-Myanmar-Bangladesh Economic Corridor**
3. **China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor**
4. **TUT (Tajikistan-Uzbekistan-Turkmani. Economic Corridor**
5. **Eurasian Economic Corridor (Russia-Estonia-Latvia-Belarus-Ukraine Economic Corridor)**
6. **Middle Eastern Economic Corridor (Pakistan/Afghanistan to Iran to Iraq-Jordan/Turkey)**

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Chinese BRI in Totality



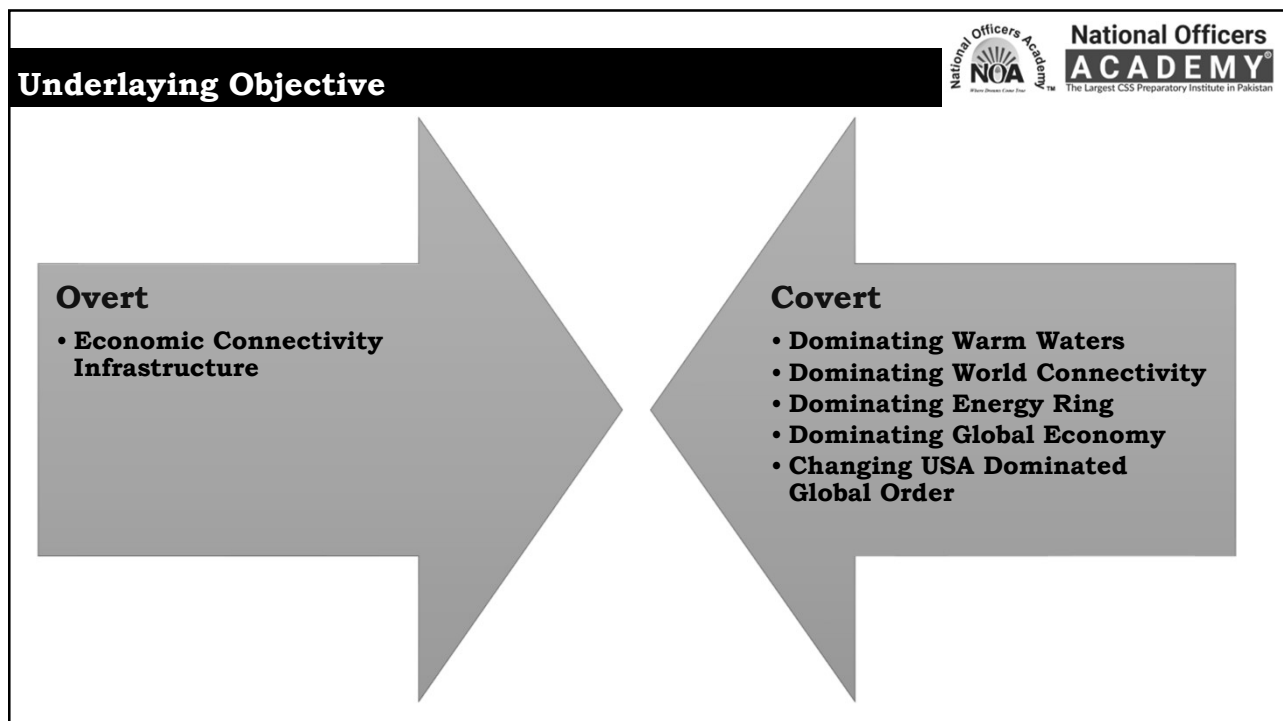
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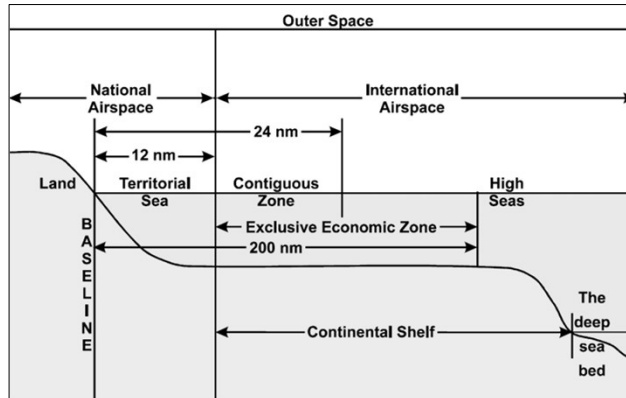
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De-Coding South China Sea Dispute



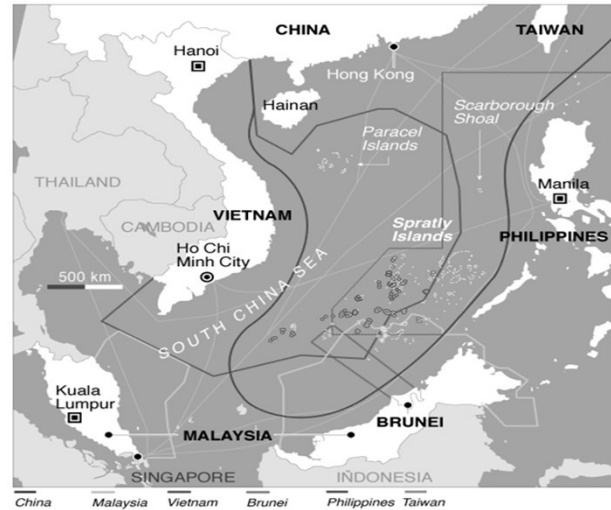
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International Law on Seas United Nation Convention on Law of Sea (UNCLOS-III)



**China can't rely on it. Need to diversify connectivity and accessibility.
THE THESIS OF GWADAR (CPEC).**

South China Sea Dispute Chinese Nine Dashed Line

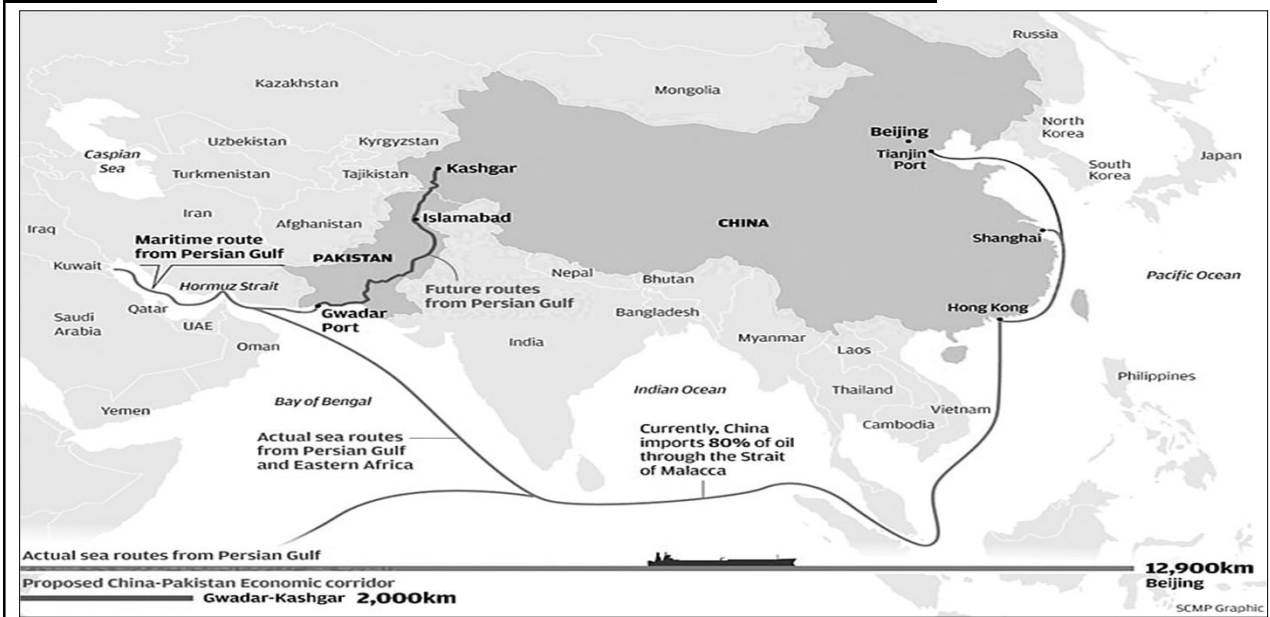


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Case of Gwadar (Pak-China Relations)



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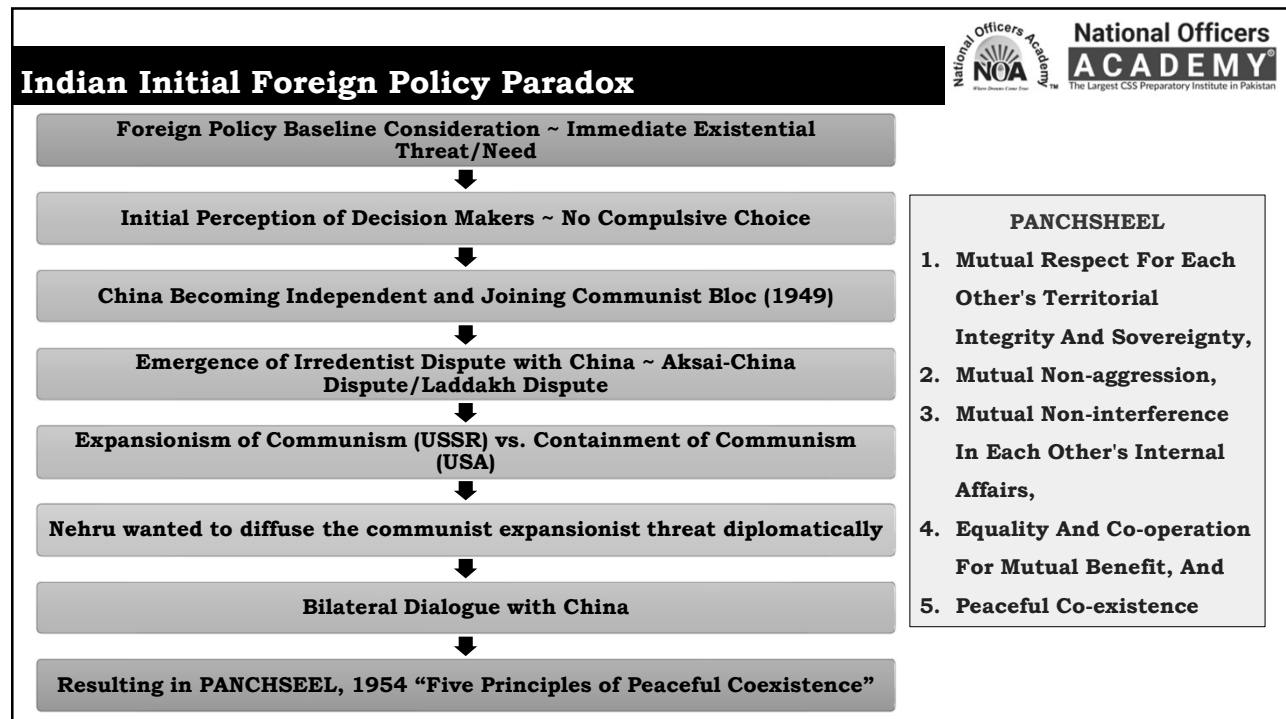
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Topic: India in Focus

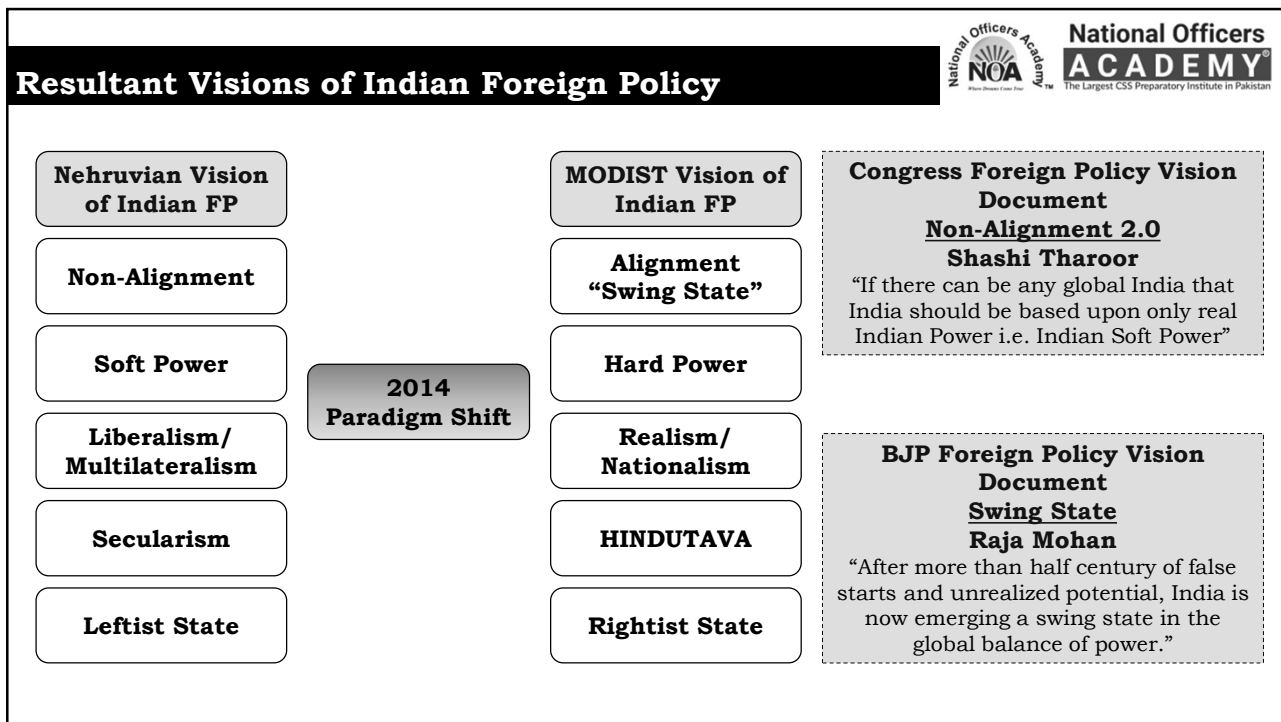
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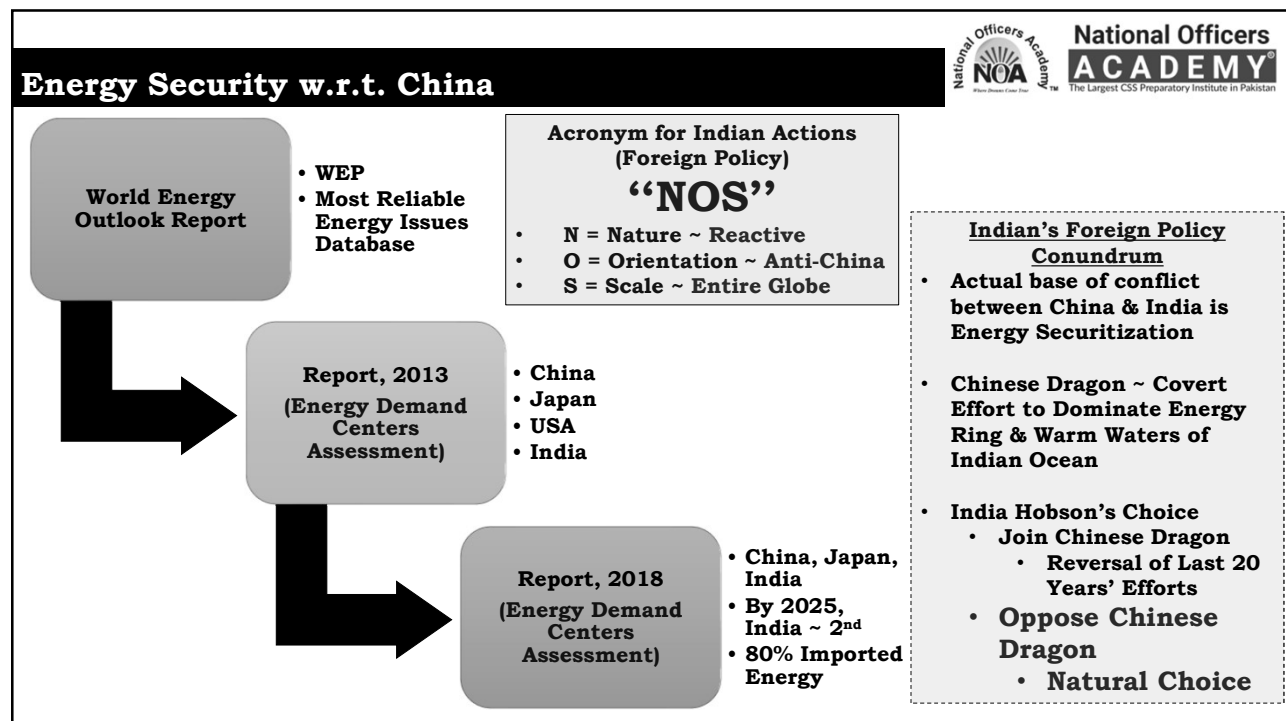
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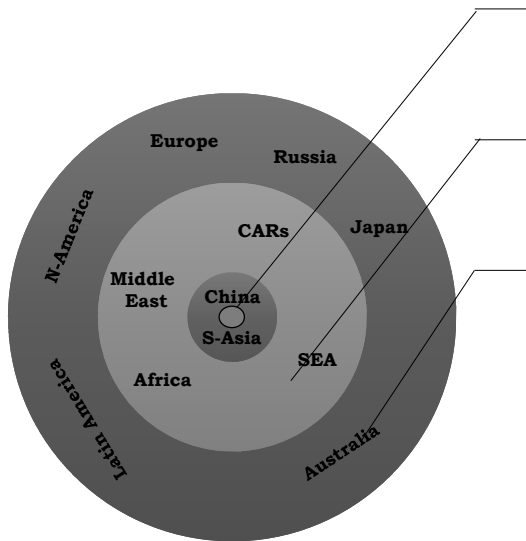


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Concentric Sphere of Influence Model of FP



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**Immediate
Neighborhood
(Military
Expansionism)**

**Extended
Neighborhood
(Bilateralism & Divide
& Rule)**

**Peripheral
Neighborhood
(Swing State)**

Immediate Neighborhood Approach of India

Aggressive, Expansionist, Hegemonic, Militaristic Agenda in order to create SECURITY OBSTACLES in way of successful completion of Chinese Economic Initiatives.

Tip: Use this Theme for Present Paradox of Pak-India Relations

Extended Neighborhood Approach of India

Making political, economic and strategic bilateral power alliances with Pro-USA/Anti-China regional powers in order to balance the growing Chinese sphere of influence in respective region.

Peripheral Neighborhood Approach of India

Swinging towards Anti-China Global Great Game
Refer: QUAD, I2U2, G4, G7, B3W, FATF, NSG, AUKUS, etc.

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Pak-India Relations (Mapping Key Contours)



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**Colonial Legacies
(Burden of History)**

**Irredentism
(Kashmir)**

**Hyper Nationalism
(Religion)**

**Traditional & Non-
Traditional Security
Competition**

**Arms Race
(Conventional &
Nuclear)**

**Regional & Extra-
Regional
Intervention
(Geo-Strategic
Interests of Great
Power)**

Terrorism

**Beggar thy Neighbor
Policy of India
(MFN, FATF)**

**Energy
Securitization
Complexity of India**

**CPEC (Pak-China
Strategic
Partnership) vs.
Indo-US Strategic
Partnership**

**Kashmir Issue
(Article 35-A & 370)**

**Expansionist
Policies of India in
Immediate
Neighborhood**

**Lack of Conflict
Resolution (Too
Much Focus on
Unilateralism)**

Chabar vs. Gwadar

**Populist Domestic
Politics**

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Dispute Resolution Mechanism ~ Best Route??



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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

- Nehru-Liaquat Pact (1950)
- Khawaja-Nehru Dialogue, 1952
- Sikander Mirza-Nehru, 1957
- Bhutto-Sawaran Dialogue, 1960
- Ayub-Indra Gandhi, 1966
- Bhutto-Indra Gandhi, 1973, 1975
- Zia-Rajiv Gandhi, 1988
- Composite Dialogue, 1998
- Lahore Declaration, 1999
- Agra Summit, 2001
- Ufa Summit, 2015

No Big Breakthrough

Multilateral Route

- UN resolutions on Kashmir
- SAARC on Regional Cooperation

No Big Breakthrough

3rd Party Mediation Route

- Seize Fire Agreement, 1949 (UN)
- Indus Water Treaty, 1960 (WB)
- Tashkent Declaration, 1966 (USSR)
- Rann of Kutch Arb. 1968 (UNSG)
- Simla Agreement, 1972 (USSR)
- Nuclear CBMs, 1998 (USA)
- Kargil De-escalation, 1999 (USA)
- Balakot De-escalation, 2019 (KSA)

Only productive route in historical discourse.

But not workable in prevailing situation.

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Topic: Foreign Policy of Pakistan

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- Chapter 8 ~ NOA's Pakistan Affairs Book (Selective Topics)
- Chapter 5 ~ International Relations (Part-II Book) by HA Gondal
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Thematic Understanding of Past-Present



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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

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Determinants, Contours & Phases



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Determinants	Contours	Phases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quest for Security • Survival as Independent State • Troubled Relations with India • Reliance on West • Solidarity with Muslim World 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

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

Recommended Readings

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

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Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective)



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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
8. Solution ~ Multilateral Approach (Reforming SAARC)



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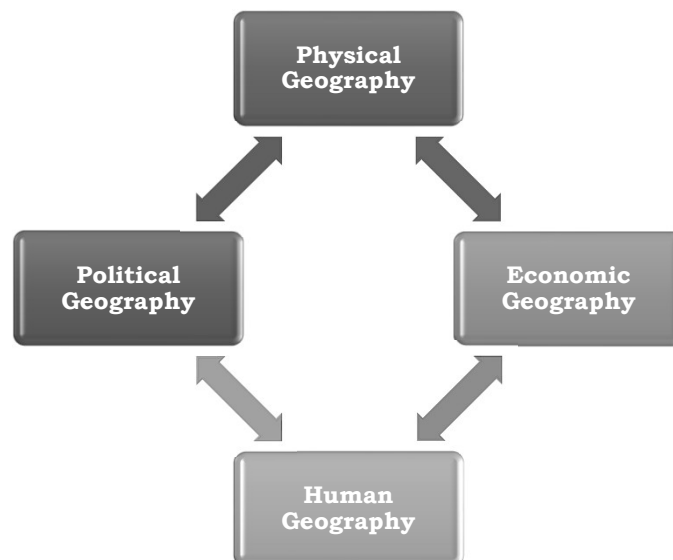
Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective)



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Discussion Building Theme
Construct Arguments in Flow of
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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
8. Solution ~ Multilateral Approach (Reforming SAARC)



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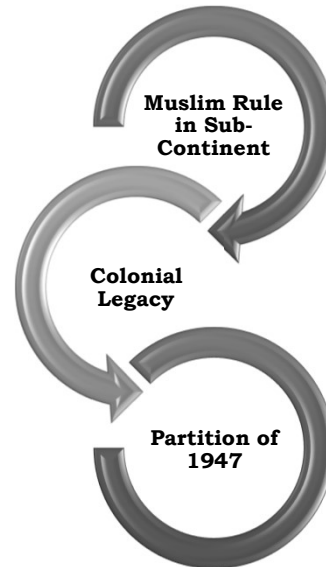
Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective)



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Discussion Building Theme Construct Arguments in Flow of Following Outline

1. Corridor of Instability
2. Multidimensional Complex Diversity
3. **Burden of History**
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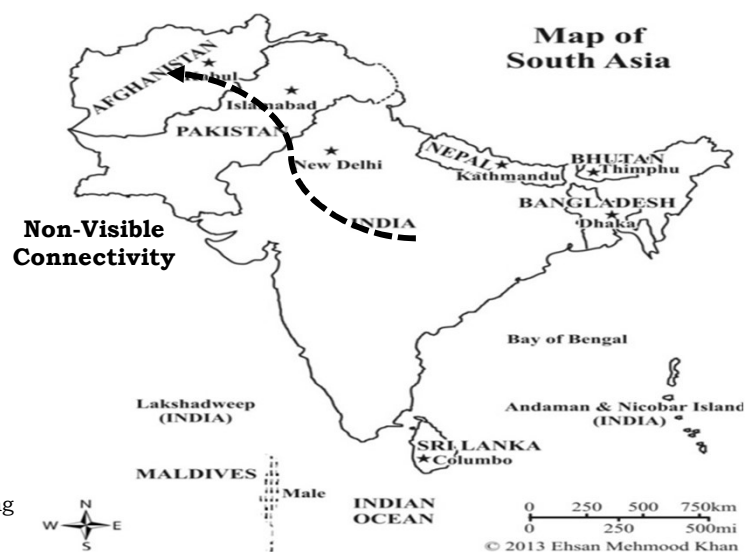
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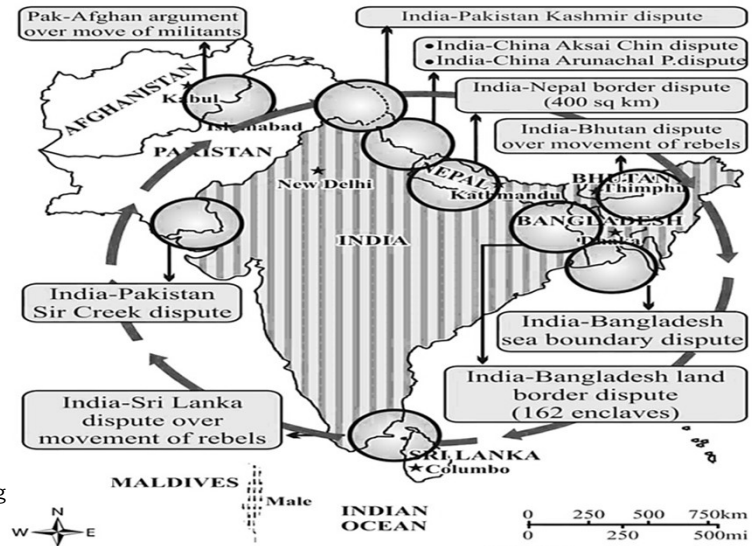
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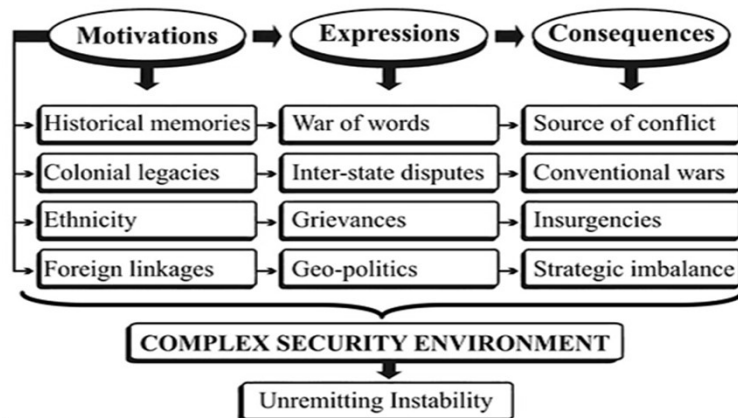
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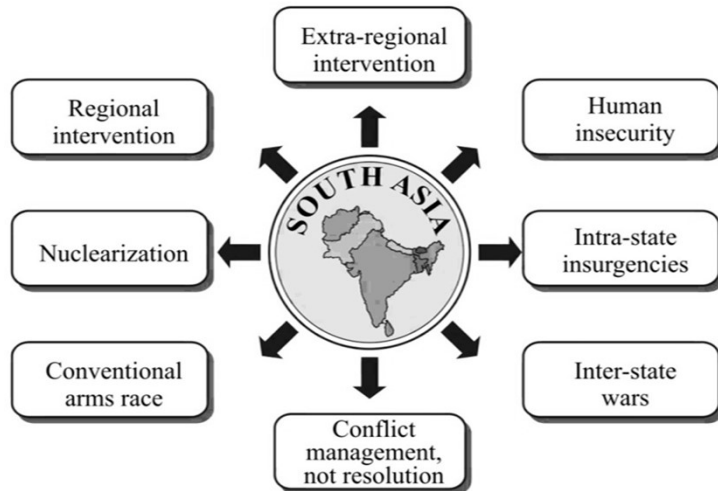
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Cause-Effect-Solution (Analytical Perspective)



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(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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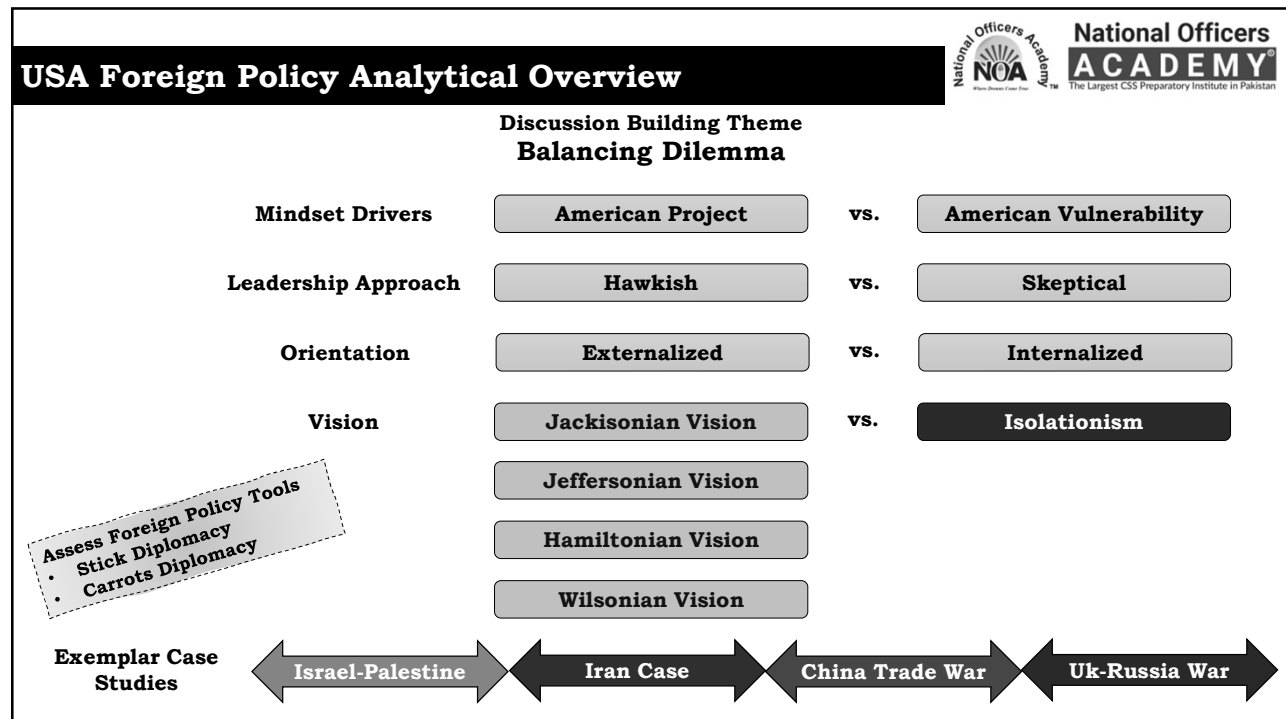
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Topic: Foreign Policy of USA

Recommended Readings

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

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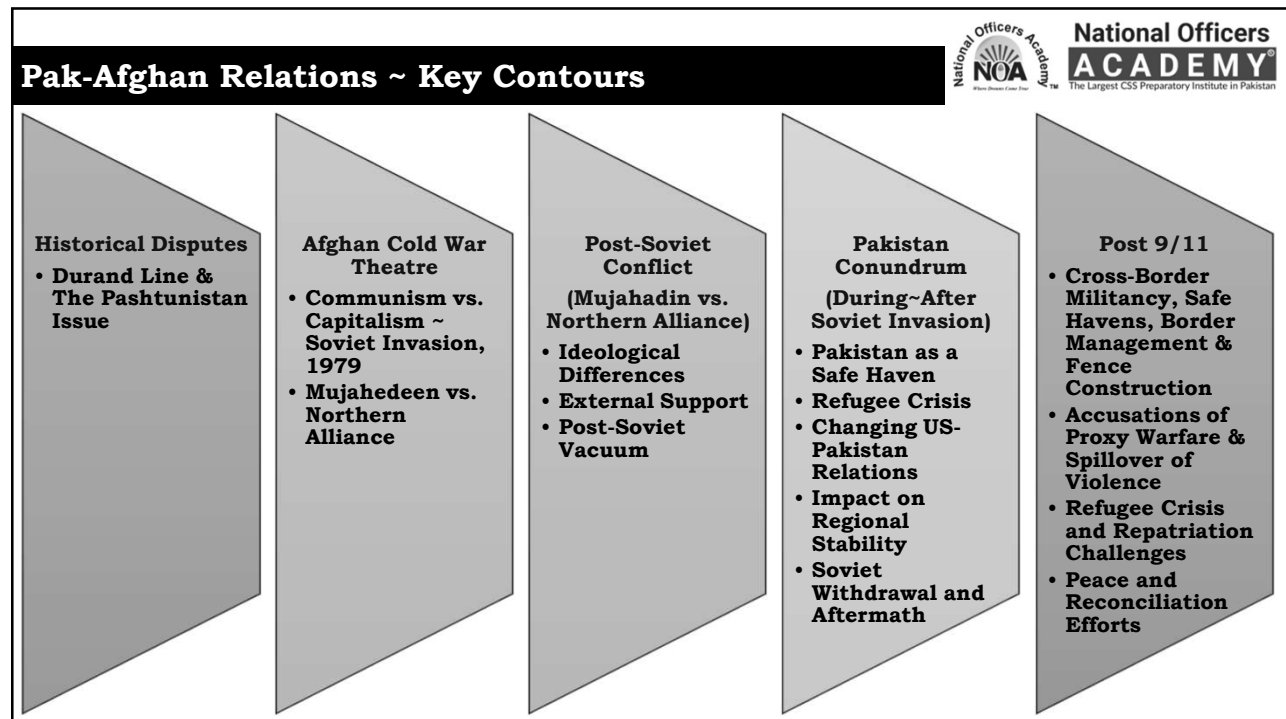
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Topic: Pak-Afghan Relations

Recommended Readings

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

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Pak-Afghan Relations ~ Analytical Framework



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Analysis Technique Strategic Need Analysis

Why Pakistan Needs Afghanistan?

☐

☐ **Energy Security**
(CARs Access)

☐ **Pro-Pakistan Regime**
(Strategic Depth)

☐ **Cross-Border Terrorism &
Border Management**

☐ **CPEC ~ Stability on Afghanistan
Borders**

☐ **Export Potential**

Why Afghanistan Needs Pakistan?

☐

☐ **Refugee Crisis**

☐ **Loose Employment Opportunity**

☐ **Landlocked State**

☐ **International Recognition**

☐ **Inclusive Government**

**Converging
Factor**

**Converging
Factor of China
& Exit of USA**

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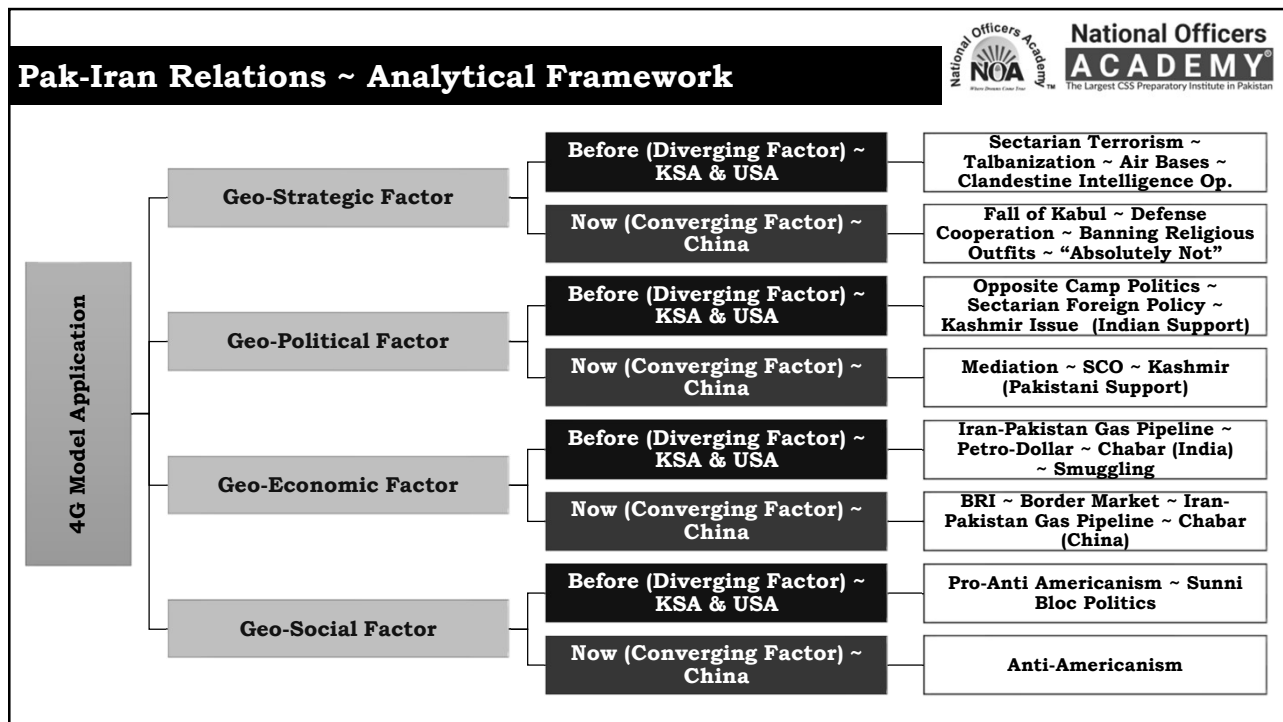
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Topic: Pak-Iran Relations

Recommended Readings

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

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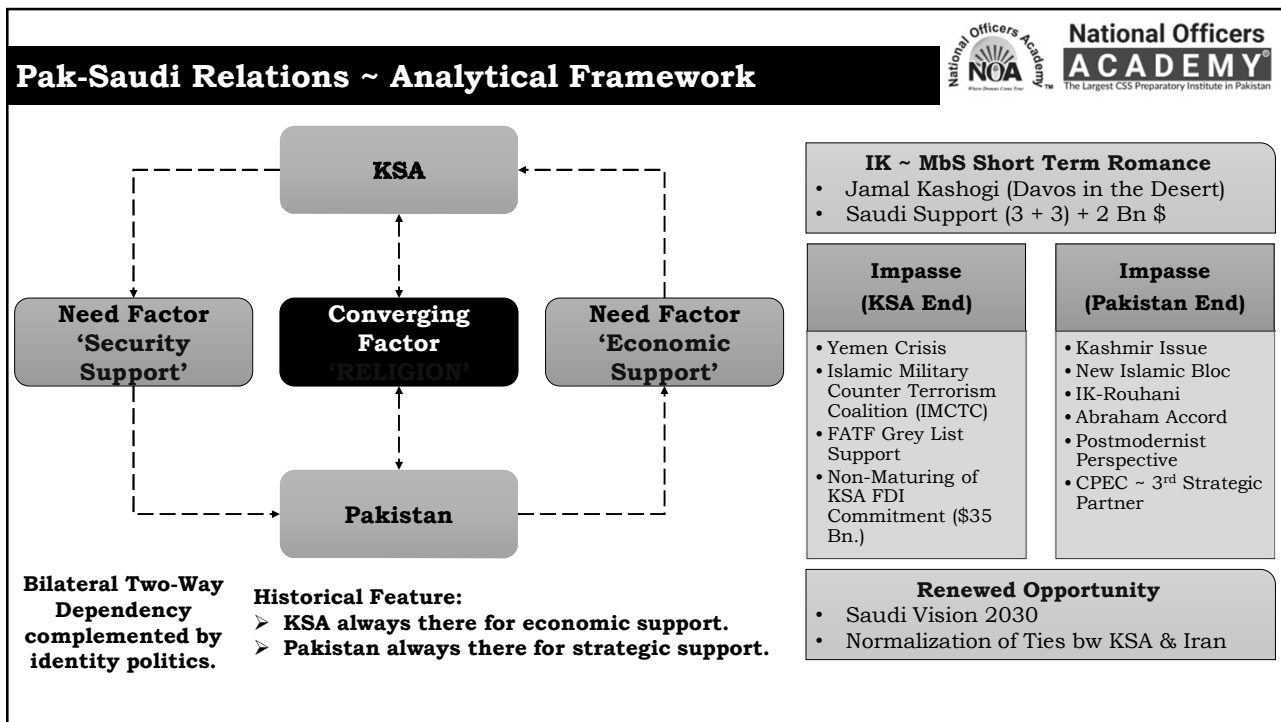
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Topic: Pak-Saudi Relations

Recommended Readings

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

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Current Affairs (Relations)

Thank You