

Q:- Discuss -the instruments and techniques of 'Hybrid warfare' in context of Pakistan.

Definition of Hybrid Warfare

The use of military and non-military tools in an integrated campaign to achieve surprise, seize the initiatives and gain psychological as well as physical advantages using diplomatic means; electronic and cyber operations; covert and occasionally overt military and intelligence action, and economic pressure, all are the techniques of Hybrid warfare."

(James K. Withers)

Good  
Relevant content  
Relevant headings  
Enough  
Enough length  
Paper presentation is fine

Introduction:-

There were many ages when we look into history, the most recent was industrial age, which brought new techniques of war. The joint warfare in post industrial age include airforce, navy, mission command and multidomain operations. However, presently, the information age

enlarges the <sup>scope of</sup> war tactics. These tactics include conventional threats, cyber attacks, diplomatic means against adversary, violent networks, economic means, NGOs disinformation, and many others. In context of Pakistan, starting from the <sup>end of</sup> ~~end of~~ <sup>1971</sup> ~~1971~~ <sup>the withdrawal</sup> ~~the withdrawal~~ of USA from Afghanistan, and today the survival of militancy in country, are the clear evidences that strategy of Pakistanis in Hybrid war;

2- Origins of Hybrid Warfare

It was culmination of cold war that marked by the end of tussle between Capitalist and Communist blocs. In that case, neo-liberals <sup>argued</sup> ~~argued~~ that there will be no such hostile event in future. However, Barry Bazan—the security analyst—admitted that the concept of security will not vanish in Twenty-First century and gave the concept of non-traditional security. In fact, some events from last two decades

confirmed this concept. For instance, the Lebanon-Israel war 2006 in which Hizballah equipped and trained by Iran surprised the Israel. Besides, the successful use of internet and social media influenced the global opinion. Likewise, the annex of Crimea in 2014, where Russia utilized disinformation, economic manipulation, diplomatic pressure and military action. Some tactics has been used against Pakistan by hostiles where the starting point was fall of Dhaka 1971 in the result of Indian Hybrid policy:

### 3- Instruments and techniques of Hybrid warfare against Pakistan.

3.1- Disinformation: Pakistan has suffered alot due disinformation, especially from hostile neighbours India. According to a report published by DisinfoLab, India for 15 years served to discredit Pakistan on the forums of United Nation

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and European Union. Also the screenshots of Indian journalist Anshu Goswami's 2019 texts exposed the Indian multisided Hybrid war against Pakistan.

### 3.2 Diplomatic Isolation:-

Diplomatic Isolation is another instrument used in Hybrid warfare. India has been effectively utilizing it against Pakistan either on the forums of FATF or OIC. Moreover, the Uri false flag operation in 2008 was an act to diplomatically isolate the Pakistan on the platforms of human right, against death of Burhan Wari.

### 3.3 Non-state actors:-

Pakistan has beared some aggressive consequences of cold war and war of terror. Meanwhile, the non-state actors were used by India to destabilize the security within state. Pakistan made possible to expose this hybrid strategy when RAW network unearthed by intelligence agencies in 2016. It was headed by Indian Navy commissioned officer Kulbushan Jadhav. He admitted the terrorist activities in

Karachi, Balochistan and economic hub Gwadar port.

### 3.4. Ethnic Uprising:-

The tool of ethnic uprisings is very common in hybrid warfare. The same tool was used against Pakistan in the shape of Balochistan separatism movement. In fact, in 2013 the army chief of India General Vijay Kumar admitted the bomb blast in Karachi and to doled money to violent separatist in Balochistan.

### 3.5 Social Media:-

Social Media is a fast mean of communication. Its role in security is also vital because of two reasons. The first reason is, it is used to propagate the public opinion however, it also can alter it. Second, it is a theater of information either valid or non-valid, which can cause a serious threat to state's security. Such as, It is also documented that the protest of Tahrir Square-2011 in Cairo was.

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was mobilized through Facebook. Further, in context of Pakistan, the 700 plus fake accounts were reported by Hybrid CoE that were working against Pakistan and China.

### 3.6 Cyber Attacks:-

Cyber attacks is also a technological tactic used in hybrid war. In 2018 almost all banks of Pakistan reported to be a victim of cyber attacks. Also a huge amount of money were stolen. It identifies the breach in cyber networks, which can be exploited by hostile enemy.

### 3.7 Economic Pressure

The hybrid war includes the economic sphere too. The miserable condition of Pakistan's economy is an evidence. The state is having 220 million inhabitants, besides a nuclear country and still is hostile for 1 billion dollars trench by IMF (International Monetary Fund). Undoubtedly, the security of state depends

on strong economy. But, under such economic conditions, the state's security is on question.

### 3.8 Drone attacks:

Drone attacks were used against Pakistan by allied forces during war on ~~terror~~. which <sup>x</sup> bring brought a wave of hatred in the civilians and distrust on state's agencies who are responsible for their security.

### 3.9 Influx of migrants:

Recently, there is a mass migration from Afghanistan to Pakistan after the Taliban government came into charge. The political and economical instability <sup>in Afghanistan</sup> is pushing the masses for migration. Here, the non-state actors can find an opportunity to enter in Pakistan and sabotage the security.

## 4. Way forward for Pakistan:-

### 4.1 Fostering the democracy:-

Pakistan can mitigate the challenges of hybrid warfare by fostering the democracy. As, only a credible and trusted government can take preventing measures effectively. Also, it must has public support to work efficiently. Unquestionably, it is only possible to by flourishing the democracy within state.

### 4.2 Inter-faith relation:-

Pakistan can effectively prevent the hybrid warfare drives by developing inter-faith relations. For this reason, the some reforms in judiciary are inevitable. Further, a strong cooperation is needed between institutions and judicial structure. These measures will boost the faith in between the institutions on the pillar of justice.



### 4.3 Unite diplomacy:-

In the era of globalization, Pakistan can take the preventing measures by promoting the unite diplomacy. As, today there are several regional and international organizations, which can assist Pakistan against hybrid war. For example, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, from which Pakistan build its capacity through Regional Anti-Terrorists (RAT). Overall, by developing the unity with international organizations, Pakistan would be able to defeat hybrid drives.

### 4.4 Collective institutional decision making:-

The collective institutional decision making within the state, would be a useful tool for Pakistan against hybrid war. In this case, parliament, public and media should cooperate each other to gain the national interests. In fact, media is a useful tool for developing the opinion in public. Whereas,

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it also bridge public with parliament.  
Thus, Pakistan can beat the hybrid war  
-threat by collective institutional decision  
making.

#### 4.5 Collective national efforts.

The Pakistani society as a  
nation must do collective efforts  
for the mitigation of hybrid menace.  
Because, the military is responsible  
for national territorial integrity. But,  
hybrid warfare use fought on multi-  
domain fronts, where only military  
and security institutions can not fulfil  
the achievements. Hence the civil society  
cooperation is needed to promote  
the efforts against this war.

#### 4.6 Investing in Research.

Research based policies are  
practical tools for the prevention of  
hybrid threat. In this case, the state of  
Pakistan must invest in independent  
think-tanks to get fruitful results  
against war.

## 4.7 Media Literacy

The concrete role of media and its importance is discussed above, hence, to control this instrument must be first priority of states authorities. It can be done by a proper legislation for media and social media. Also, by investing in journalism to promote literate and thoughtful journalists. Thus, media literacy is a beneficial instrument for Pakistan against the menace of hybrid war.

## 5- Conclusion:-

Hybrid warfare is the reality of Twenty-first century, and Pakistan is currently facing this threat. It includes different types of instruments and techniques such as; it fought on the diplomatic, economical and social fronts. Moreover, disinformation and electronic tactics using social media and cyber attacks. Despite all these, Pakistan has proven to have

Capacity against these wages. However, some key areas needed to be in focused for further precautionary measures. In nutshell, Pakistan is under the threat of hybrid war, which need collective national capacities for mitigation of this menace. Because,

“Every age has its own kind of war, its own limiting conditions, and its own peculiar perceptions”

[Carl von Clausewitz]