



## Unipolar, Bipolar, Or Multipolar: A New Direction of the World. Outline

1. Introduction: Although, the world has experienced unipolarity and bipolarity for several years, however, the new direction of world is multipolar which can be seen from rising middle powers, growing Chinese influence and its collective-gains approach in global affairs etc. Hence, a new direction of the world is multipolar due to waning US hegemony.
2. Evolutionary Journey of the New World Order:
  - 2.1 Emergence of US and USSR after 'world war II' ensued bipolarity:
  - 2.2 Fall of Soviet Union gave birth to unipolarity: America as a superpower
  - 2.3 Rise of middle powers and growing multipolarity: A picture from 21st Century

### 3. Increasingly Multipolar: A New Direction of the World

3.1 Growing role of China in building inclusive alliance; formation of SCO in 2001

3.2 Rising middle powers; BRICS expansion and inclusive multilateralism

3.3 American containmentment policy increased multipolarity; BUI 3 to counter BRI led to more multipolar world

3.4 Collective climate resilience efforts prerequisite of 21st century problems; COPs and multipolarity

### 4. Reasons behind an increased multipolar world order:

4.1 US authoritative handling of world affairs: Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003

4.2 Chinese collective developmental model; Connectivity and a key to economic prosperity

4.3 Failure of forced democracy in Afghanistan; US waning hegemony in post-NATO withdrawal from Afghanistan

4.4 Realization of geoeconomic importance by global south; Saudi-Iran rapprochement

5. Multipolarity guarantees more economically stable world:

5.1 Flexibility in maintaining international relations: A case study of Sino-Pakistani all-weather friendship

6. Conclusions:

## Essay

The current global power dynamics is based on multipolarity. A multipolar system involves various major powers with their own spheres of influence. It evolved from bipolarity in post WWII era to unipolarity in post-USSR-fall period. This shift is driven by increasing multipolarity and rise of China in global affairs. Moreover, growing influence of middle powers also contributed to multipolar world order. Furthermore, international problems such as climate change and terrorism has also driven this new direction of the world. There are many factors which have contributed to the current world order such as withering American hegemony, its mishandling in Afghanistan and Iran etc. This essay aims to explore increasing multipolarity. It will also shed lights on core reasons behind the direction of the world and how it is more secure.

The evolutionary journey of current world order began in 1946.

During this period, United States and USSR emerged as two great powers in the aftermath of WWII. The world was divided into bipolar or two blocs: the Eastern bloc was led by USSR and the western by US. It has ended with the fall of Soviet Union in 1990 which resulted in unipolar world direction dominated by US. However, American hegemony was challenged by emerging power China, who - after divorcing its protectionist foreign policy - engaged activity in global politics. Therefore, a new world order emerged to be multipolar, due to the rise of middle powers like China.

To begin with arguments on how the current world order is

multipolar, it would be fair to say that increased role of China in global affairs is manifestation of multipolarity. The effort was made by China to ally different powers while the world was divided under the influence of <sup>struggling</sup> sole super-power - USA. This can be ascertained from China's initiative of forming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in 2001 in Shanghai, China. This shows that the efforts to unite the world was not only conceived theoretically, but China also took practical steps to achieve multipolar goals.

Besides, rising influence of middle powers is another manifestation of multipolar world direction. The mushroom growth of middle powers is due to their capacity to engage globally and build diverse relationships. The leaders of middle powers such as Brazil and India tried to expand their spheres of influence in global affairs. As a result of this, under the umbrellas of BRICS, they made efforts to expand it to six emerging powers: including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, Argentina

UAE and          in 2023 in Johannesburg Summit. This shows that the world is moving towards multipolarity with varying ebbs of different states.

Moreover, American efforts to contain China paved the way for multipolar world order. The policy was aimed at curtailing its reducing hegemony. However, ironically, their countermeasures boosted multilateralism. This can be ascertained from G7 initiative of BUI in 2022. Although, it was launched to counter BRI project, yet it designed in such a way that it unfolded collectivism due to multilateral-investment policy by G7 countries. Therefore, new direction of the world is multipolar due to joining initiatives by world wealthiest ~~economies~~ countries.

Apart from this, collective climate sensitive efforts also created vacuum for multipolarity to be filled with. Twenty-first

Century's requires problems are multipolar in nature and hence requires solutions accordingly. For instance, climate change and global warming require collective measures to mitigate its repercussions. As a result of this, Conference of Parties by UN member states on climate-change is case in point which demonstrates increasing multipolarity. This shows that new direction of the world is based on multipolar system with necessity of collectivism.

Above mentioned paragraphs discussed how new direction of the world is multipolar. The following arguments will discuss major reasons behind current world order. First one of the major reasons behind multipolarity is US authoritative behaviour in global fora. America enjoyed unipolarity for a significant period which empowered it - enough to take unilateral decisions regardless of UNSC approval. US, nonetheless tried to suppress the world



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under its dictatorial rule. As a result of this desire, US launched pre-emptive strikes on Iraq in 2003 under the pretext of global security agenda. This paved the way resulted in <sup>an</sup> increased unity among developing countries due to the fear of attacks by US. Hence, the US hegemonic power.

Moreover, China's ambitious plans to create more connected world, in order to ensure economic sustainability, is another reason behind growing multipolarity. It was sponsored due to the rising uncertainties in unipolar world under US. Chinese developmental model aims at collective-gains and massive investment in countries where backwardness prevail. As a result of this, China launched

BRI which aimed to increased global connectivity in order to assure smooth trade via railroads etc. This shows, that the efforts to connect countries were not only conceived theoretically, but also China also took practical steps to achieve its goal of collective development.

Furthermore, US failure in Afghanistan and its war-on-terrorism is another reason behind an increased ~~unipolar~~ multipolarity. Being the preacher of democracy, US tried to impose democratic form of government in various tribal states, including Afghanistan. However, it failed in its mission in spite of seventeen years of forced rule under NATO. This resulted in loss of face of US on international level and paved way for waning hegemony of the country. This shows that unipolarity died and gave its birth death gave birth to multipolar world order.

Last but not the least, realisation

of economic hurdles is another reason behind multipolar world order.

In global politics vested interests are key to changing dynamics, hence realising potential of prosperous economic opportunities and challenges is crucial to harness economic potential.

This geoeconomic importance was realized by global south middle inc developing countries who tried to bring about more economic security. This can be ascertained from recent Sudi-Iran rapprochement

after seven years of regional proxies. Therefore, discerning the importance of economic prospects resulted in a multipolar world order.

Abovementioned paragraphs illustrated the new direction of the world and its causes.

The current multipolar world is economically more stable as it guarantees economic security.

It ensures flexibility in maintaining international relations which can be ascertained from Sino-Pakistan peaceful co-existence.

Although, Pakistan maintains balance in its relations with US and China, its friendship with China has never been impacted.

China supports and respects ~~Pakistan~~ sovereignty of other states. As a result of it, China's ambition to erect more viable world ~~and~~ in which every country gains benefit is an example of how multipolarity is gaining prominence in present times.

To encapsulate this essay, it would be fair to state that the new world direction is multipolar. The illustrations of multipolarity are very many.

from mushroom growth of developing states including SCO and BRICS countries. Moreover, collectivism is a prerequisite of twenty-first century. As a result of it, rising collaboration regionalism and globalization through various organization is evidence of multipolar. Many reasons have contributed to increasing multipolarity such as US authoritative step in Afghanistan and Iran. Furthermore, rise of China as an economic giant also opened path for multipolar world. Therefore, it is concluded that the current world direction is multipolar not bipolar or unipolar.