

Question

Explain in detail the Sir Creek and Rann of Kutch disputes between Pakistan and India.

Answer:

I. Introduction

II. Sir Creek Dispute

- i- History
- ii- Strategic Importance
- iii- Pakistan's claim on Sir Creek
- iii- India's Claim on Sir Creek
- iv- Pakistan's rejection of India's claim

III. Rann of Kutch Dispute

- i- History
- ii- Strategic Importance
- iii- Pakistan's claim
- iv- India's Claim
- v. War of 1965
- vi. Tashkent Agreement

IV. Comparative Analysis

V. Conclusion

I. Introduction

Sir Creek and Rann of Kutch are two of the many disputes between Pakistan and India. Both of these disputes are located in the province of Sindh in Pakistan and in Gujarat of India. These areas are rich with natural resources. That is why both of these disputes have a strategic importance. Sir Creek is an unresolved dispute after 80 many years. However, Rann of Kutch has been resolved through the Tashkent agreement. In Tashkent agreement 90% of Rann of Kutch was given to India and the remaining 10% was given to Pakistan. In case of Sir Creek dispute, both parties, India and Pakistan, reject the claim of other each other. These disputes have further worsened the relations of both countries.

II. Sir Creek Dispute

i- Historical Overview

Sir Creek dispute happened after the independence of Pakistan. The area of Sir Creek is disputed from the independence day. Both countries claim Sir Creek but no fruitful result has come.

Date: _____

Day: _____

ii- Pakistan's Claim on Sir Creek

Pakistan Claims the whole Sir Creek. Pakistan claims "Green line"

Minimum description under a heading should be 5 lines

Basis of Pakistan's Claim on Sir Creek

Pakistan Claims Sir Creek in accordance with Sindh Resolution of 1914. This was signed between the government of Sindh and the Rao Maharaj of Kutch.

iii- India's Claim on Sir Creek

India Claims the half of Sir Creek. India claims "Red line" of Sir Creek

Basis of India's Claim on Sir Creek

India Claims Sir Creek is in accordance with "Thalweg Doctrine"

iv. Pakistan's rejection of India's Claim on Sir Creek

Pakistan respects the Thalweg doctrine. But Pakistan rejects India's Claim on Sir Creek based on Thalweg doctrine as it is applicable to non-tidal rivers.

Sir Creek Dispute

Pakistan's claim on Sir Creek
Green line; Sindh Resolution 1914

India's claim on Sir Creek
Red line; Thwaites doctrine

Pakistan's rejection of India's
claim; non-tidal river

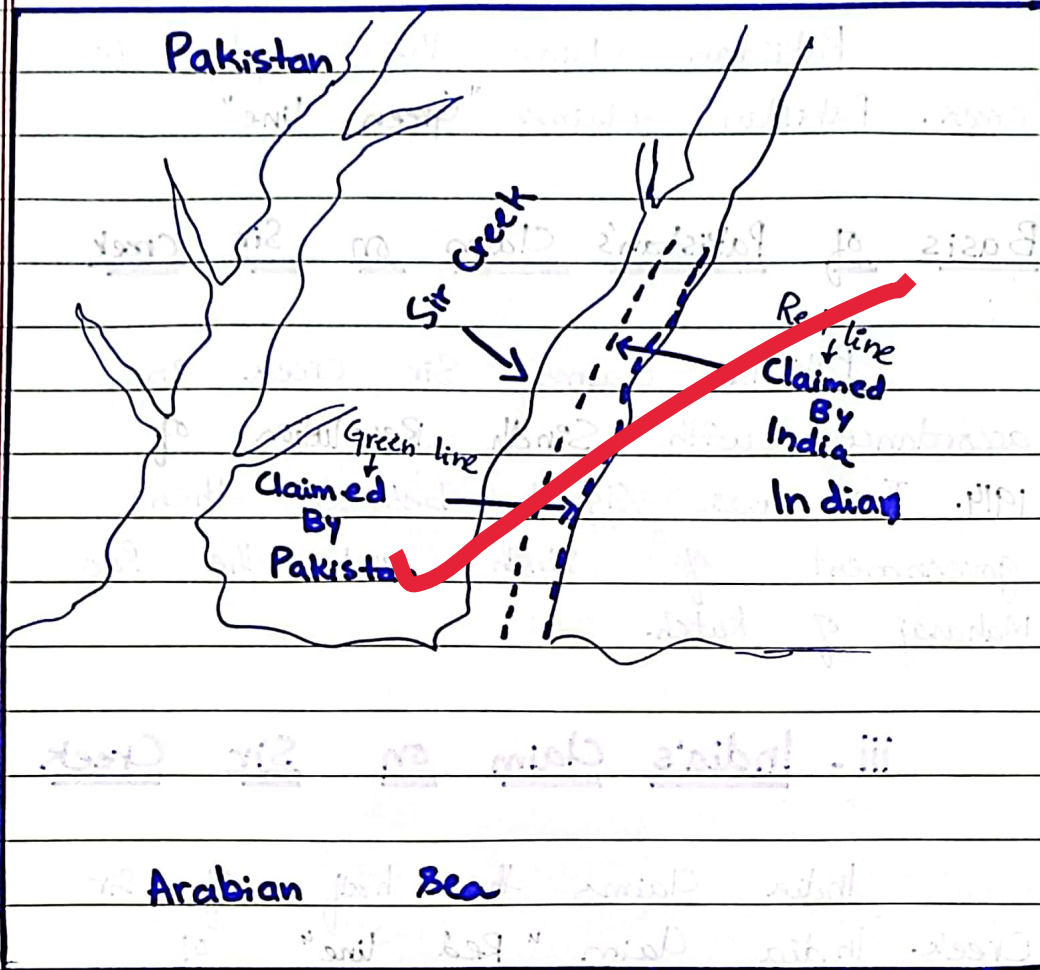


Figure: Sir Creek Dispute

V. Strategic Importance of Sir Creek

Sir Creek is really important as the area is enriched with natural resources. It has potential for fishing and possible hydrocarbon reserves.

Maritime Boundary

Maritime boundary will be

Date: _____

Day: _____

given in accordance with the area each country has of Sir Creek.

III: Rann of Kutch Dispute

i. Historical perspective

Rann of Kutch dispute, just like Sir Creek dispute, started after the independence of Pakistan. Both countries started claiming Rann of Kutch to be the part of their territory. Rann of Kutch lies between Sindh of Pakistan and Gujrat of India.

ii. Strategic Importance of Rann of Kutch

Rann of Kutch is the area filled with salt marshes. So both countries wanted to have this natural resource filled area.

iii. Pakistan's Claim on Rann of Kutch

Pakistan claimed Rann of Kutch to be the part of them entirely. Pakistan want the boundary to pass from its eastern side

Improve the description of the arguments

Date: _____

Day: _____

iv. India's Claim on Rann of Kutch

India: Claimed Rann of Kutch to be the part of India in accordance with Thalweg doctrine.

v. Indo-Pakistan War 1965

The dispute of Rann of Kutch was serious that it led to the war of 1965. Both countries did not want to let go of Rann of Kutch.

vi. Tashkent Agreement 1965

As the war was going on, ceasefire happened. Tashkent agreement took place to resolve the issue. It was an agreement of peace.

vii. Three-man Tribunal by ICJ

3-man tribunal took place under the order of International Court of Justice. They gave their decision in 1968 on Rann of Kutch.

viii. Result of the dispute

90% of Rann of Kutch was given

Date: _____

81

Day: _____

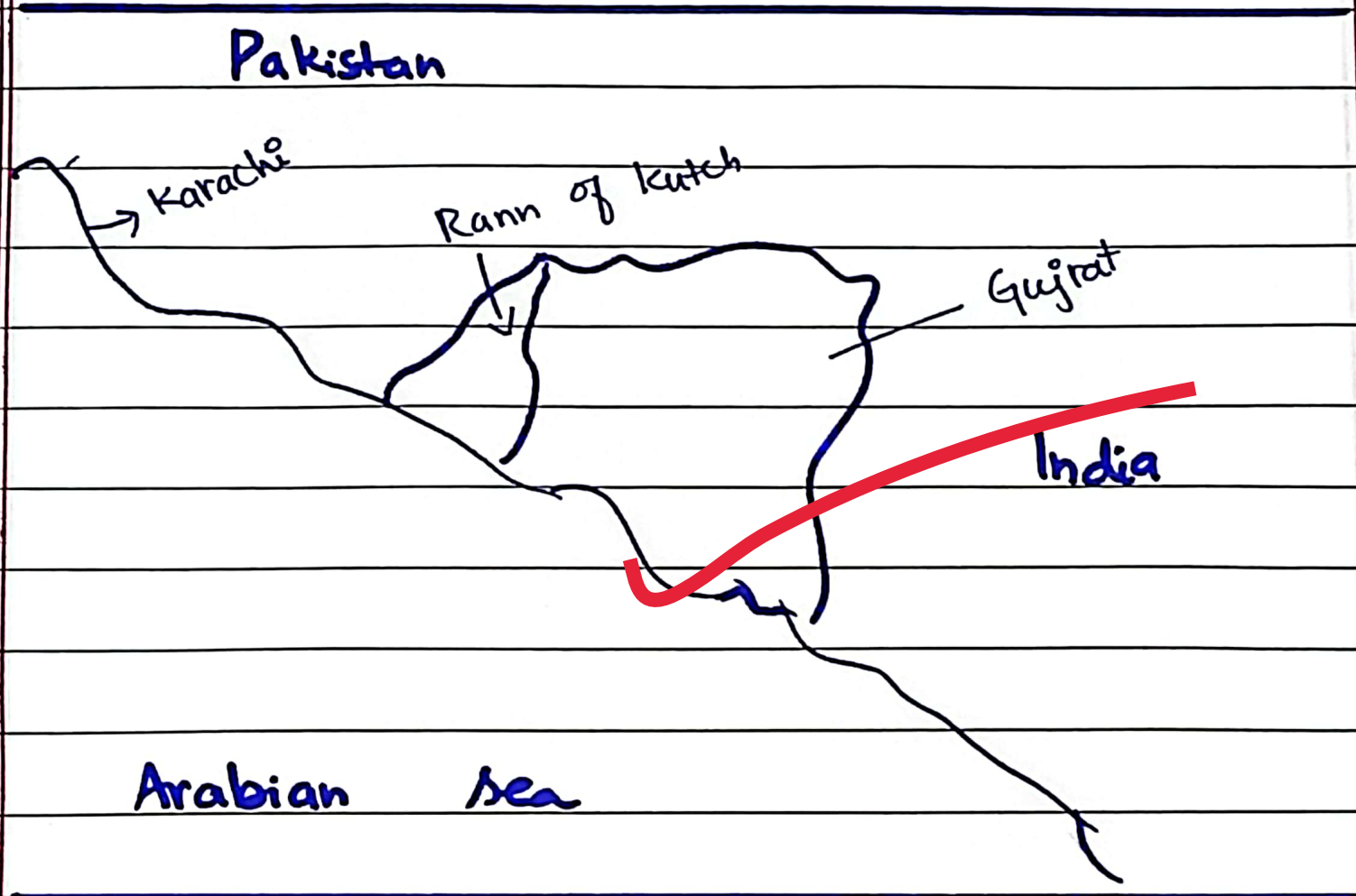


Fig: Rann of Kutch Dispute

to India, and 10% was given to Pakistan.

Rann of Kutch Dispute

India claims Rann of Kutch to be theirs

Pakistan claims Rann of Kutch to be theirs

Dispute led to war of 1965,

Tashkent Agreement

90% to India; 10% to Pakistan

IV. Comparative Analysis

Both of these disputes are similar according to areas of Gujrat of India and Sindh of Pakistan. But Rann of Kutch has been resolved through Tashkent agreement. However, Sir Creek dispute is still ongoing after so many years. Efforts have been made but there has not been any fruitful results till now.

Resolved Dispute

Unresolved Dispute



Rann of Kutch Dispute

Sir Creek Dispute

Conclusion

The disputes of Sir Creek and Rann of Kutch started after independence. Both disputes have their own claims. Rann of Kutch dispute has been resolved through Tashkent agreement. However Sir Creek dispute is still ongoing. India claims red line while Pakistan claims green line of Sir Creek. Both countries need to take strategic measures to solve this dispute.