

## PAK. AFFAIRS

Q:6 Joining the US led coalition in the war against terrorism has many short and long term repercussions for Pakistan. Elaborate.

### 1. Introduction:

Pakistan joined US-lead war on terror after 9/11 attacks on US Twin towers in 2001. It aimed to pose war and enmity with the rivals of US, or against which US was fighting. This lead to many short and long term repercussions on Pakistan. It impacted the political, social, economic and global stature of Pakistan.

### 2. Short term repercussions of war on terrorism for Pakistan:

Pakistan faced many short term repercussions by joining US war on terror:

## i- Distorted Bilateral "relations:

Pakistan experienced a series of strained relationships with its immediate ~~nearby~~ neighbour Afghanistan. Both countries do not share cordial relations which further give rise to many other problems.

## ii- Increased Radicalization:

The country faces extreme radicalization after joining US-war on terror. Different alliances and their extremist ideologies prevail in the country, causing riots and disturbances.

## iii- Refugee Crises:

The refugees bulk also increased after tensions ~~in~~ in the relations of US, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

~~It further~~ They posed <sup>to be</sup> an added burden on the country's economy and already increased population.

## iv- Internal Stability Dilemma:

US-Pakistan alliance after 2001 pose great threats to the internal security and stability of Pakistan. It increased militancy across the borders which caused a great deal of instability and attacks on civilians and other institutions.

#### v. Drift towards Sectarianism:

The strained relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan as a result of US war on terror and US ties with Pakistan exacerbated sectarian tensions in the region. It gave rise to polarization and increased violence along religious lines.

#### vi. Challenges to National Security:

The National security of the country deteriorated and more militant and terrorist activities on the civilians, institutions and security forces took place.

Case: APS (2014) attack.

### 3- Long term repercussions of war on terrorism for Pakistan:

There:

There were several long term repercussions after Pakistan joined US-lead war on terrorism, which greatly impacted the Pak-Afghan relations.

#### i. Terrorism/ Increase in Terrorist Attacks:

Pakistan faced the ~~is~~ problem of increase in terrorist attacks.

~~after~~ The militancy surged due to Afghan ~~and~~ Jihadists and <sup>such</sup> groups expressed rage over Pakistan's actions against Afghan Taliban.

#### ii. Distorted International Image:

Pakistan being declared a terrorist country and the distorted ties with Afghan leadership/nation ~~distorted~~ it tarnished its international image in front of the global community. It was due to anti-Afghan operations.

being conducted in Pakistan led by US.

### iii. Economic Costs:

The war waged against Afghanistan imposed economic burden on ~~the~~ Pakistan. Pakistan had to bear the cost of military operations, loss of foreign investment and damage due to attacks. It ultimately weakened the state.

### iv. Geopolitical Shifts and Alliances:

Pakistan's alignment with US strained its traditional alliances and caused a shift in the geopolitical <sup>relations with</sup> circum positioning. Countries like China and Russia suffered in this course of time.

### v. Impact on Civil-Military relations:

The war-on-terror threats enhanced military involvement. The military also intervened in the political affairs causing distorted relations between the democratic institutions and public trust.

## vi. Impact on Education and society

The ~~go~~ attacks on educational institutions and social sufferings of public increased to a dangerous level. This ~~will~~ eventually led to education crisis and lack of development and cooperation.

## 4. Critical Analysis:

The short and long term repercussion on Pakistan after joining US led war on terrorism deteriorated the internal and external situations of the country. Some of the hazardous impacts of war on terror <sup>are</sup> still a threat to Pakistan. Moreover, the security situations and bilateral ties with Afghanistan need serious and solution-oriented approach to develop cooperation between both countries and bring peace in the region.

## 5. Conclusion:

As Pakistan joined US-led war on terrorism after 2001, it lead to repercussions on Pakistan.

It posed threat to the country's diplomatic, external and security situations. It also impacted its relations with Afghanistan; its closest neighbour and other challenges which it had to face.

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