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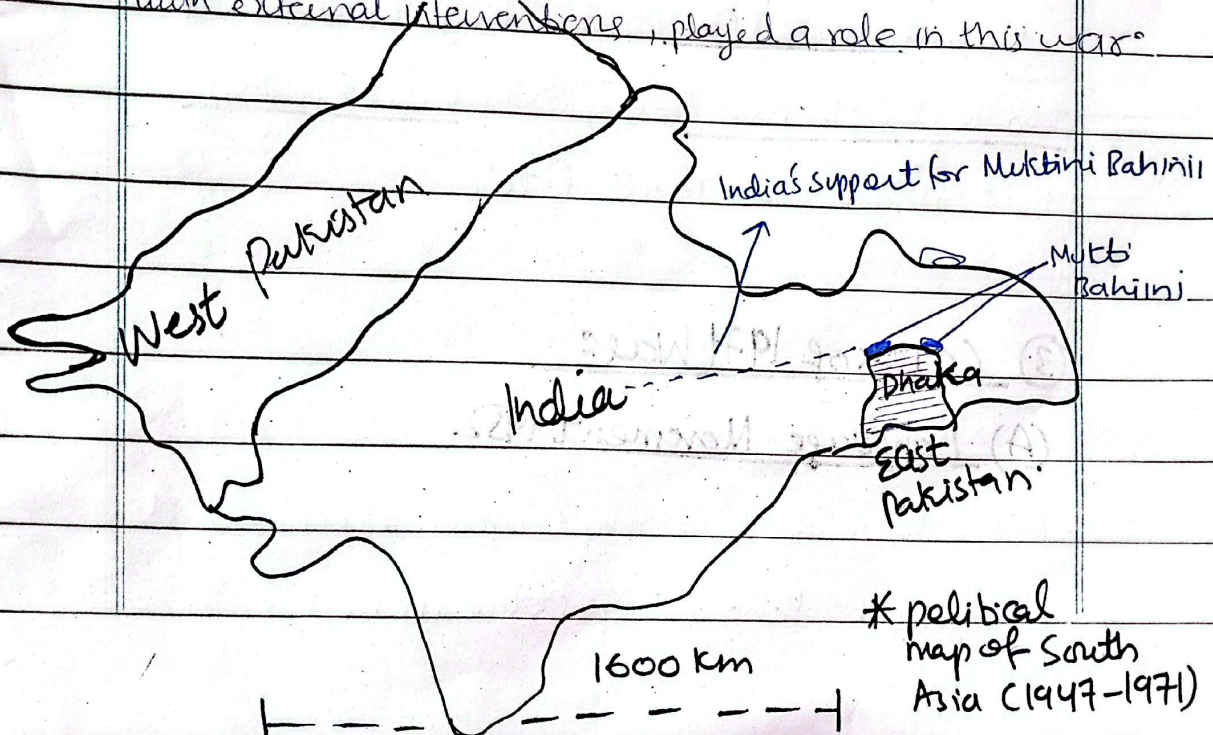
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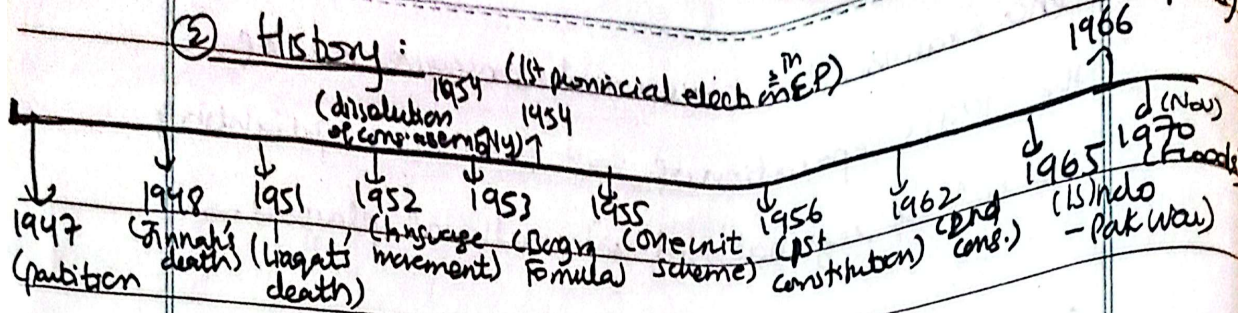
Examine the causes and consequences of the 1971's separation of East Pakistan, highlighting the role of regional and international players.

Answer:

(1) Introduction:

Since its inception, Pakistan has suffered from a toxic mix of cultural, political, economic and linguistic issues that led to the separation of two wings, i.e., Eastern and Western. Since geography provides constants, the large chunk of India separating the two regions by 1600 km further fueled the grievances. Both internal factors along with external interventions, played a role in this war.





Right after partition, in 1948, address, Quaid-e-Azam stressed Urdu as national language which triggered protests in East Pakistan. The 1952 violent language movement further created grievances among East Pakistanis. Furthermore, from the rejection of Rogers formula and imposition of One unit scheme to 1971 separation of East Pakistan coupled with India's overt and covert helps, Pakistan faced not just a territorial loss, but a huge blow to its two nation theory, along with identity crisis that stayed with it till date.

③ Cause of 1971 War:

(A) Language Movement 1952

After talks of imposition of Urdu as a national language, Bengalis felt threatened

and saw it as a linguistic crisis, hampering their distinct identity.

(B) Bogra Formula's Failure (1953)

Muhammad Ali Bogra as the Prime Minister of Pakistan, presented the Bogra formula to ease the tensions between the two wings. He stressed bicameral legislature with equal representation for both regions. When the constituent assembly was about to approve it and draft its first constitution, it was dismissed by Governor-General Ghulam Muhammad unilaterally.

Bogra Formula

Proportionality in lower house

Parity in upper house

Alternative Prime ministership

(C) Imposition of One-Unit scheme 1955

To counter the majority population of East Pakistan, the West Pakistani leaders introduced the One-unit scheme to merge the four provinces of West Pakistan into a single unit. It faced opposition from both East Pakistani politicians and Baloch, Sindhi, and Pashtun leaders.

(D) 1956 Constitution

The 1956 Constitution played a very limited role in resolving the crisis of the two wings.

It rather fueled further conflicts by giving equal legislative powers to both East and West Pakistan.

(E) 1962 Constitution

The 1962 Constitution, too, ignored the East Pakistan's marginalization. It introduced a

unicameral legislature i.e., a single National

Assembly with equal seats for both wings.

It is Basic Democracies (80,000 electoral college)

institutionalized inequalities against Pakistan.

(F) 1966 Mujib's 6-Points

Mujib-ur-Rehman in 1966 presented 6 points for East Pakistan's autonomy. However, it was seen as secessionist by the West Pakistan.

(G) 1970 General Elections

Both in 1954 provincial and 1970 general elections, power was not rightfully transferred to the East Pakistan.

(H) 1971 Separation of East Pakistan

In 1971, finally the East Pakistan got separated from the West Pakistan. After the failure of Round Table conference between Ayub and Mujib.

(4) Consequences of 1971 War:

(A) Political Consequences

Pakistan faced a deep political upheaval and its political clout in south Asia region got weakened, too. It made Pakistan weaker internally allowing external factors to exploit it. Though it led to the return of civilian control, Bhutto's rise as a populist leader did not revive democratic dispensation as such.

(B) Economic Consequences

Most of the revenue was generated by East Pakistan's jute and tea; its loss left West Pakistan to fend for itself. Moreover, Pakistan had to rely on foreign aid and debt to avoid default.

(3) Social Consequences

The social scars of war left a deep imprint on the people's minds in both regions. The sombre memories of loss, trauma, and abuse left a sour legacy.

(4) Military Consequences

The military budget was increased drastically to capacitate the armed forces against all external threats.

(5) Role of Regional Players

(A) India's Support to Mukti Bahini

India played the most active role in the secession of East Pakistan. It armed and trained Bangladeshi freedom fighters (Mukti Bahini) to wage against the West Pakistan.

(B) China's Diplomatic support

China provided a diplomatic support to

Pakistan. However, it offered no military support, except showing some diplomacy via naval shipments to Karachi ports.

(C) OIC's Limited Role

OIC played a very limited role by convening a foreign ministers' session in 1971 but no ceasefire resolution was produced.

(6) Role of International players

(A) USSR's Support for India

The USSR-India Friendship Act in 1971 helped India to support Bangladesh. USSR vetoed ceasefire resolutions in UNSC to ensure diplomatic cover to India's actions.

(B) US' Tilt to Pakistan

The US tilted to Pakistan to counter the Soviet influence. The Nixon-Kissinger talks were mediated by Pakistan, so US had to provide military aid to Pakistan.

It also deployed US Enterprise in the Bay of Bengal as a show of support.

(C) UN's Action Analysis

Due to the veto power of P5 (US, UK, France, China, Russia), it could not stop the violence in the separation. It even could not implement relief operations in both wings.

Critical Analysis

Conclusion

The separation of East Pakistan was not just a territorial loss, but exacerbated the identity crisis in the West Pakistan. It also led both wings to question the credibility of Two-Nation Theory. Moreover, US' betrayal compelled Pakistan for undergoing strategic diversification.

Conclusion

It could be concluded that both internal and external factors led to the disintegration of East Pakistan. It left lasting scars on all fronts ranging from political and social to economical. Moreover, both regional and international players played their roles in the process.