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Subjective Port - Port II

Q.8 Pakistan Saudi Arabia have signed a historic defence pact. Critically evaluate the causes / implications of the deal.

Introduction = The Pakistan-Saudi Agreement defence pact is the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement signed on September 17, 2025 between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. This pact is a formalization of existing security cooperation, committing both nations to meet an attack on one as an attack on both. Key aspects include strengthening defence ties, enhancing joint deterrence, and fostering long-term security collaboration through initiatives like defence industry cooperation and technology transfer. The agreement as quoted by Reuters the Saudi official said - "was the culmination of years of discussion." "This is not a response to specific countries or specific events but an institutionalization of long-standing and deep cooperation between our two countries."

Specifics of Pakistan-Saudi Security Agreement or Pact=

The agreement is not made public. The terms and conditions are ~~known~~ not known. People are only inferring about this pact through its name, although Pakistan has long had Saudis deployed in Saudi Arabia, currently estimated at between 1,500 and 2,000 troops, providing operational, technical and training to help Saudi military. But the specifics or the further details of this pact is not known, even the question of nuclear security umbrella offered by Pakistan to Saudi Arabia is not fully known.

Why Pakistan, is trusted with the Security role? it's Causes=

United States of America has always remained the security guarantor of the Middle East, but recent actions of Israel, and its attack on Doha, Qatar has proven that it would not defend any country, if the aggressor / initiator is Israel. Secondly Middle East, cannot rely on Russia, as Russia is stuck on its own

Was back home with Ukraine. Also it cannot trust emerging superpower in technological advancements "China", as China's policy is not to go to war for the sake of allies. Also it is not wise for the Middle East, to take refuge / for help from the opposite bloc, as this step would create tensions with United States. Therefore Pakistan seemed to be the better option for numerous reasons as follows:

- ① Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have been in an informal security arrangement since 1967, under which Pakistan deployed troops in Saudi Arabia to defend Holy Mecca. i.e. Makkah and Madinah, as it did in 1979.
- ② Pakistan heads MCIC (Military Counter Terrorism ~~Coalition~~ Coalition). A military alliance of approximately 41 countries. Its main objective is to counter militancy or insurgency. The leadership of this alliance has been with Pakistan, as the head of the organization is the ex-military chief - Retired General Raheel Shereef. The different departments under MCIC are all headed by Pakistani security.

(3) ~~One of the~~ Perhaps, one of the main reason is that Pakistan is the only ~~ex~~ 'Nuclear Country' with nuclear power. As nuclear arsenal is best security deterrence. Saudi Arabia need that in future. Therefore it was the need of the hour to sign defence pact with Pakistan.

Implications of the deal, and US Reaction =

United States has cordial relations with Middle East Countries. Specifically, it is a security guarantor of Saudi Arabia. It has established 19 ^{military} ~~bases~~, ~~it is~~ ^{bases}. On top of that Saudi Arabia is the largest buyer of United States in terms of weapons and investments. All these investments and infrastructure 1- guarantor of petro-dollar agreement cannot be reversed over-night. ~~and~~ United States would play a role of diplomacy and Saudi Arabia cannot afford to have strained relations with United States, as it is still the strategic partner of United States, and ~~as~~ ^{it} would eliminate

The Security pre-occupancy of the Saudi Arabia for years to come. Also Pakistan, once again being is having good, cordial relations with India after Pakistan appreciated Donald Trump for his peacemaking efforts in the 7th - May 2025 brief armed conflict with India. Therefore there are lesser chances possible chances of United States getting threatened by the deal. However if the nuclear security umbrella is offered by Pakistan to Saudi Arabia, then there might be a strong opposition from US.

Pakistan Saudi Arabia Agreement and implications of the deal with neighboring countries

(a) Pakistan-Saudi Agreement and its impact on India =

~~Pakistan~~ As discussed above, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have had good relations driven by security arrangement. Saudi Arabia has also supported Pakistan on Kashmir Issue. Meanwhile India has established socio-economic conditions relation with Saudi

Arabia by becoming one of the largest energy importer to Saudi Arabia. Also, it is a major market for Indian workforce who send in remittances. Also their relations accelerated and further cooperation was enhanced, when Pakistan in 2015 refused to send its troops to Yemen on the request of Saudi Arabia. This not only antagonized Saudi Arabia but the whole Middle East. Reluctantly, they all expanded trade relations with India. Saudi Arabia became one of the ~~top~~ largest investor in India and India becoming the second largest buyer of KSA in terms of energy. Meanwhile Saudi Arabia also toned down its support for Pakistan on Kashmir Issue. However this new defence agreement could 're-energize' Pakistan-Saudi Arabia relations, giving setback to India. India would have to reconsider its policy and security arrangements. ~~This is~~ The IMEP Project, a project linking India to Europe and with U.A.E could use its momentum. Even if trade cooperation continues,

Date:

political trust will be harder to sustain.

Pakistan-Saudi Arabia Agreement and It's impact on Iran?

Pakistan has always been faced with tough choice when it comes to dealing with both countries such as Saudi Arabia and Iran. Both countries are the arch-rivals in terms of geo-political domain. Specially driven by sectarian reasons. It is Iran vs Middle East countries. Also Saudi Arabia immense, Socioeconomic importance in Pakistan + meaning Saudi Arabia is a hub of Pakistani laborers which leads to 8 billion dollars a year to Pakistan. This some advantage is not being offered by Iran. Hence Pakistan has to look out for its own benefit, yet it cannot afford to have strained relations with Iran as Iran is one of the key neighbors of Pakistan. Also, Iran in recent years have titled towards India as Pakistan persistent tilt towards Saudi Arabia and Middle East.

When Pakistan joined IMTC, it enraged Iran. Tehran called it a Sunni-military alliance instead of Muslim Military alliance. Reluctantly as discussed above, Pakistan relations with two countries are greatly influenced by the Secretary's advice within the country. Pro-Iran policies are not well received by the Sunni community, and vice versa. However this pact can lead ~~to~~ Middle East, Saudi Arabia and Iran specifically, and Iran to be on some page as Israel also attacked Iran on 18th June 2025 killing top generals and scientists and affecting Iran's energy industry overall. Therefore this or create further alliance or this treaty pact can be expanded to counter the threat of Muslim world to its regional security: "Israel"

Also, recently relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia have been cordial, since 2023 with the help of China, they ~~are~~ resumed diplomatic relations and lifted a ban on USA. Due to all these

results, there are lesser chances of
Iran objecting POK-Saudia defence
agreement.

Conclusion = In Conclusion, Pakistan-Saudia
Arabia defence pact is mutually
beneficial despite its negative/positive
implication of the deal in neighboring
countries. As Pakistan needs financial
assistance in terms of bail packages,
whereas Saudia Arabia needs to
strengthen its regional security and
warfare. As common threat perception
strengthens an organization, there are
greater chances of Saudia Arabia
investments in Pakistan in Petro
Chemical complex in Gwadar, investment
in agriculture and minerals can help
revive economy of Pakistan.