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"UNIPOLAR, BIPOLAR OR MULTIPOLAR: NEW DIRECTION OF THE WORLD"

A. Introduction

B. Multipolarity is the new direction of the world:

(a) International organisations do not have a single decision maker but multiple representatives.

Case in Point: P-5 members of United Nations Security Council

(b) Global economies are liberalised and support free trade and lower tariffs instead of single hegemon.

Case in Point: NAFTA, European Union Free Trade.

(c) Varied powers are carrying out developmental infrastructure projects in third world countries.

Case in Point: IMEC versus ^{BRI}~~PEC~~
and B3W

(d) The rise of global south counters supremacy of west at multiple fronts.

Case in Point: BRICS (more than 50% of global population)

(e) Cultural Diversity portrays inclusivity as a global approach.

Case in Point: UNESCO heritage sites include Giza pyramids and Mohenjodaro.

(f) Multiple hubs of technology provide benefit to consumers.

Case in Point: Samsung vs Apple competition.

(g) The strengthening regional bonds between states indicate tilt towards multipolarity.

Case in Point: ASEAN, SCO

(h) Enhanced military cooperation between countries depicts notion of collective defense.

Case in Point: USA gave nuclear powered submarines to Australia under umbrella of AUKUS.

- (i) The decline of Dollar as the sole currency for international trade is an outset for multipolarity.

Case in Point: The end of petro dollar agreement and oil-trade in Yuan.

- (j) Decades long conflicts are being resolved by peaceful regional mediatory powers.

Case in point: Saudi-Iran rapproachment brokered by china.

- (k) The upholding of norm of "national sovereignty" indicates practice of civilizing natives null and void.

Case in Point: Non-repetitive pattern of invasion like Iraq Invasion 2003.

C. Conclusion

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"The World has changed from vertical command and control to horizontal connect and collaborate," wrote Thomas Friedman in his book *The World is Flat*. This quotation is a hint at the global system post cold-war; where rivals USA and USSR decided to call-off decade old rift. Following this, USA became the sole global power for a while until the rise of China. Ever since then, the world is operating in a collaborative competition. Issues are transnational and hence require collective efforts for resolution. Each region hosts its own powerful state competing for global influence. This results in multiple powerful states that are influential in one domain or the other. At the political front, even UN solves issues based on suggestions from a diverse group of countries. The relations of free trade further enhance economic cooperation rather than

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competition. Multiple developed states are projecting on infrastructure building. Post cold-war Western Supremacy is countered by rising Global South. The acknowledgement towards cultural diversity is also an indicator of a multipolar world order. It is a pertinent fact that multiple countries are rising in political, military and economic domains which is resulting in a multipolar world order.

In the political arena of today, collective decision-making is practiced. There is no one single country that is the representative of all others. International organisations (governmental and non-governmental) operate on collectivity principles. The United Nation Organisation is an exemplary case study. All countries have one vote and the Permanent 5, a diverse group of leaders give verdicts ~~for~~ on matters of utmost significance.

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In the economic domain, no single country is the lender. A complex interplay of economic dependence on one another overrides the sole reliance on one strong economy. This showcases multiple economic powers in the world. The liberal economic order ~~is~~ is evident in Free Trade Agreements like NAFTA and removal of tariffs with European region.

The display of power is ensured through the investment of developed states into the developing world. In the present era, more than one developed nation is investing in development projects of developing world. China has launched the Belt and Road Initiative that touches South and Central Asia. On contrary, USA has announced IMEC in the Middle Eastern region. Such projects result in influence, networking and multilateral collaborations.

The Rise of Global South challenges the western hegemony during unipolarity. In the contemporary world politics, nations of the global south are progressing and evolving at a faster pace than ever. BRICS, an association of countries of south is a hallmark achievement of a multipolar system. This organisation holds more than 50% of global population as member countries. It is believed to be challenge for EU.

* The rise of several powers in international arena brings with it the acceptance for ~~the~~ diverse cultures and values. This alters the past traditional universalization of cultures and anglocization of societies paradox. The UNESCO list of heritage sites is one document that includes diverse monuments ranging from Northern lights, to Egyptian pyramids and ruins in Sindh. Such cultural values indicate social acceptance towards inclusivity.

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The new world order of multiple centres of dominance bring parallel options in the realm of technology. Instead of having a single company, consumers enjoy a wide range of options to choose from. The Samsung versus Apple debate has favoured consumers and also resulted in a number of other brands like Huawei to make a mark.

Regional cohesion is also an indicator of multiple centres of power in the world. There exists one major power (either economic or political) in every main region of the world. The concept of "one policeman of the world" is fading with emerging regional integration approach. Institutions like ASEAN, SCO, QUAD, AUKUS and several others are all co-existing and directing towards a multipolar world order.

Military might is also an

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essential power calculator in the past, states practiced isolated military expansions in order to attain an upper hand. The contemporary patterns are different. States collaborate in the military domain and agree upon collective defense pacts. The United States has made a trademark deal involving nuclear submarines with Australia. Such agreements are refuters of unipolarity.

Power lies in the worth of currency. For decades, USA remained a superpower due to Dollar hegemony. Today, other currencies like the Chinese Yuan, Russian Rubble and Dirham are gaining momentum. PetroDollar Trade is no longer the solely available option for energy trade. Other countries are exporting oil and crude oil resources, ultimately enhancing the value of their local currencies. This paves route for shared global power dynamic.

Conflict Resolution has advanced due to varied potential stakeholders. The new direction of world system operates on mediatory principles as an attempt to maintain peace. Many countries and their leaders volunteer to play a part in settlement of affairs, regardless of issue prevailing in developing or developed world. China has recently brokered a peace agreement between arch-rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran. If they had waited on a single power, as in history, the rivalry would only prolong.

International Politics of today is far beyond personal prejudices. This is also because not one but multiple countries collectively run the show. The notion of sovereignty of a state has gained more prominence than ever. This multipolar system enabled stabilized regimes and hence peace. Recent decade has not witnessed any event like Iraq invasion or others.

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In a nutshell, the contemporary world is on the verge of multipolarity. Multiple power centres are operating across the globe and ensuring coordinated functioning. This reaps benefits for the global population. Consumers of technology enjoy multiple options and better service. Regional cohesion in the form of institutions ensures peace. Joint defense activities are a positive indicator of healthy balance of power. No single currency upholds privileged position in stock markets. Diverse states volunteer for the settlement of disputes. The principle of national sovereignty keeps interference limited and maintains peace. There exists a great possibility that such connections and joint ventures shall help keep war at bay and ensure prosperity in diverse arenas.