

Q Discuss the significance of Pakistan's geographical location. How has it been both an asset and a liability for the state's security and foreign policy?

SIGNIFICANCE OF PAKISTAN'S LOCATION:

Introduction:

Pakistan lies in the centre of South Asia, Central Asia, Arabian sea and middle East. It is positioned on such geographical location which enjoys different seasons and different geographical features ranging from sky high mountains to deep sea. The neighbouring countries with interesting and characteristics in stark contrast makes Pakistan relevant in every era and situation. Where there are benefits due to geographical locations, it is also not

derivable that it brings home threats both external and internal that makes existence tough.

"The geographical location of Pakistan can raise it to the heights of glory, only if strategically important and sane decisions are made."

— Stephen Cohn.

SIGNIFICANCE OF LOCATION OF PAKISTAN.

Lies at the heart of South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East and Arabian sea.

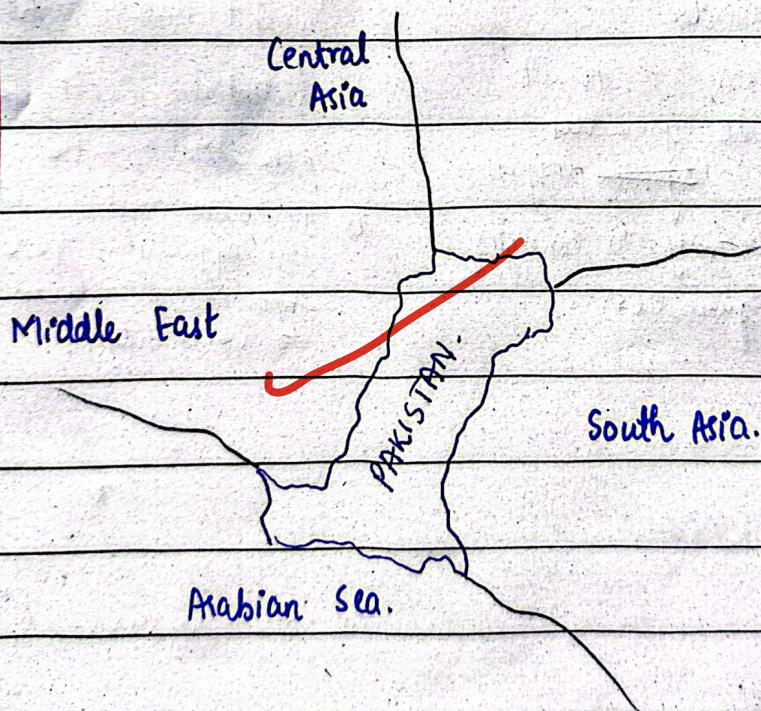
Close proximity to global and regional powers

Significance:

Home to different, diverse geographic features.

1. Lies in the heart of South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East, Arabian sea:

Pakistan is strategically located in the centre of Asia where it has access to different regions like South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East and Arabian sea. This has made its relevant in different parts of the world ~~without~~ only due to its geography.



2 Close Proximity to Global And Regional power:

- 1 To the north East of Pakistan is China. China has raised as a global power recently which increase Pakistan's significance as a reliable Partner.
- 2 To the ~~East~~ is India, a regional hegemon. Out of all the south Asia countries only Pakistan can counter the ~~rest~~ rising influence of India through its nuclear capabilities.

"Pakistan's ~~proximity~~ to India and China is making it relevant both in Global and regional arena."

- Moeed Yousaf

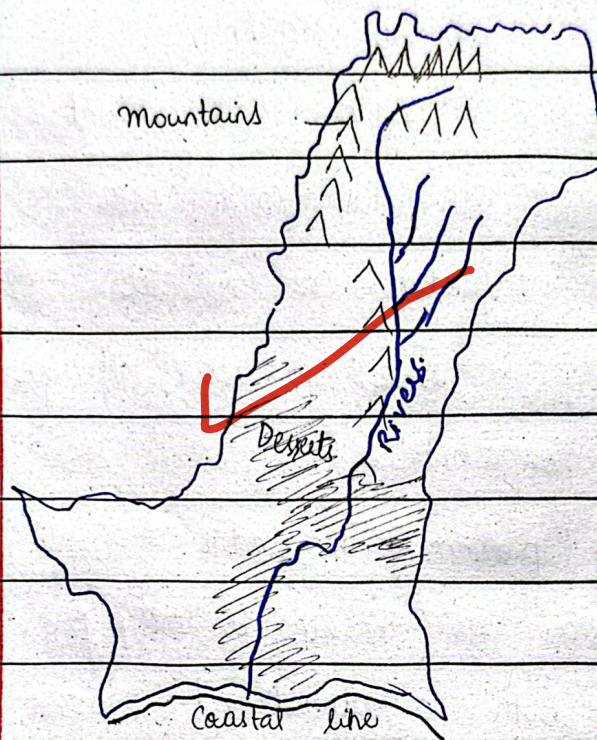
(Security Analyst)

3 Home to diverse geographic features:

Pakistan is located on grounds which

relate your headings and arguments to the qs statement.....

bares from the highest of mountains,
to deserts, to terrains, to sea. These
diverse geographic features add to the
significance of the country



PAKISTAN'S GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION: AN ASSET.

Strategically
important
location -
maintaining
its relevance

Offers transit
trade to
land locked
countries

Economic
opportunities
from proximity
to China

Shortest
sea
route for
trade

1 Strategically important location,

Pakistan has been relevant in global affairs since its inception due to strategic position. The cold war era proved beneficial for Pakistan to tackle one power against another.

"Pakistan is located in such a position which can be reason for its glory"

~ Christopher Nolan.

2 Offers transit trade :

Pakistan has an annual income of \$ 1 bn only from transit trade of Afghanistan. It can also offer new sea route to China to cut short its length. sea route for trade with Europe.

3 Economic opportunity from proximity to China:

China is the new global economic hegemon. Pakistan is located in a very favourable spot of China. The flagship project of BRI that is CPEC is one example of the importance of Pakistan's location to China.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AS A LIABILITY;

Involvement in foreign wars due to position

Threat from Arch rival India

Instability and Terrorism in western neighbourhood adds to the headache.

1 Involvement in foreign wars:

Pakistan is located in position which drags it to foreign wars without direct involvement. Cold war and the Afghan war on terror are

two such events that has pushed Pakistan's progress decades backward.

A Threat from Arch rival,

Pakistan is in close proximity to India which has been an existential threat to it on many events.

3 wars are fought with India which makes Pakistan's position a liability.

Pakistan's foreign Policy is always India-centric because it has caused existential threat since its inception.

- Kameez Khan

3 Terrorism and Instability on western border,

The instable Afghanistan as a border

is another constant threat to Pakistan's
foreign security. TTP as an ideological
Brother to TTA has caused severe
turbulence in the security and foreign policy
of the state.

Conclusion:

Although Pakistan has remained relevant
in Global Area from time to time
but wisdom lies in the fact
that how Pakistan transform its
condition due to this opportunity. History
is filled with examples which can
be used to learn lessons. Pakistan
has been on the rise and fall due
to its location many times but
stability is required which can be
made sure by strategic and efficient
strategies.

"To thrust back or to jump forward
both lies in the Hands of Pakistan."