

Q Analyze the strategic importance of the Pakistan-Saudi Arabia defense pact in the context of evolving regional security dynamics.

INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia's defense pact, signed on 17th September 2025, establishes a binding framework for joint military engagement in both wartime and peacetime. The pact opens a gateway for several strategic implications in the region. Moreover, it is aimed to contain Iran's impact in Middle East. In addition to this, the pact gives a security umbrella to Saudi Arabia to fight against the opposing countries. The pact also aids in economic benefit for both countries and helps Saudi Arabia negotiate deals on strong grounds with the US. Although there are a lot of strategic benefits, the pact has some hidden risks. For instance, the pact may pose a threat to US, Israel, Iran and India which may lead to showing aggression towards the signatories. In addition to this, the ambiguous operational parameters of the nuclear weapons also pose risk to the pact. The Pakistan-Saudi Arabia defense pact is a major strategic benefit for both countries. A calculated approach for further proceedings of the pact is necessary to effectively benefit from the pact.

OVERVIEW OF PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA DEFENSE PACT:

The Pakistan-Saudi Arabia Defense Pact, signed in September 2025, commits both nations to mutual defense declaring that any aggression against one

will be considered aggression against both. The agreement aims to develop aspects of defense cooperation between the two countries and strengthen joint deterrence against any aggression, enhancing regional security.

The Pakistan - Saudi defense pact is a double edged sword. It enhances security, strengthens Islamic solidarity and boosts the bargaining power of both states on global stage.

STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA DEFENSE PACT IN THE CONTEXT OF EVOLVING REGIONAL SECURITY DYNAMICS :

Counter Israel influence in region.

Balancing and diversifying US influence in region.

Nuclear deterrence : vague clause but still in action

Enhancing deterrence against Iran : Regional hegemony

Economic and strategic gateway for both countries

Strong position of Saudi Arabia in negotiations with US

Defense cooperation among both countries : security benefit

Diplomatic victory : Attracting more allies in region

Islamic NATO formation : Possibility of new beginnings.

COUNTER ISRAEL INFLUENCE IN REGION:

The major reason of the Pakistan Saudi Arabia defence deal was to counter Israel's influence in the region. The Muslim world is continuously threatened by Israel as it attacked Qatar in recent days. The deal will help the Saudi Arabia to counter Israel through the military assistance provided by Pakistan. Hence the deal hold strategic importance for Saudi Arabia against Israel.

BALANCING AND DIVERSIFYING US INFLUENCE IN REGION:

The pact also hold strategic importance as it will help balance the impact of US in the region. US has been declaring itself for the security guarantor in the Middle East. However, it failed to provide the security to the countries against Israel. The countries need other security aces to save them from the external threats. In this scenario, the deal plays an important role for Saudi Arabia to gain the military assistance from Pakistan for its security.

NUCLEAR DETERRENCE: VAGUE CLAUSE BUT STILL IN ACTION.

Another way the pact hold importance is by giving the umbrella of a nuclear state to Saudi Arabia. Although the nuclear umbrella clause is still vague in this pact but still the pact hold great importance in this way. The security assistance

by a nuclear state will create deterrence among the countries for Saudi Arabia, which is the most basic aim of the country.

ENHANCING DETERRENCE AGAINST IRAN: REGIONAL HEGEMONY:

The Pakistan-Saudi Defense pact strengthens both nations' military and strategic posture in the region by countering growing Iran's influence and hegemonic ambitions. Joint defense cooperations, intelligence sharing and ~~mut~~ military exercises enhance deterrence capabilities, ensuring regional stability. This partnership serves as a balancing force against Iran's assertive policies in the middle east.

ECONOMIC GATEWAY FOR BOTH COUNTRIES:

The pact also opens avenues for deeper economic cooperation. Pakistan serves as a strategic trade and investment hub connecting the Middle East with South and Central Asia, while Saudi Arabia provides vital energy resources and financial investment. This partnership enhances mutual economic growth, trade diversification and regional connectivity through joint infrastructure and development projects.

STRONG POSITION OF SAUDI ARABIA IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH US:

Saudi Arabia's partnership with Pakistan improves its leverage in dealing with the United States. With Pakistan's military experience and nuclear backing,

Riyadh gains a stronger hand in diplomatic defense talks. The alliance signals Saudi independence in the regional matters, compelling US to give importance to Saudi Arabia in deals.

DEFENSE COOPERATION AMONG BOTH COUNTRIES: SECURITY BENEFIT:

Joint defense training and intelligence sharing will help both countries to enhance their military equipments and resources. The partnership ensures readiness against the external threats of terrorism and regional conflicts. The rival countries of both the nations will deter before attacking the countries in anyway as the attack on one will be attack on both the countries.

DIPLOMATIC VICTORY: ATTRACTING MORE ALLIES IN REGION:

The pact hold a diplomatic victory as it provide military and economic assistance to both the country. This diplomatic victory holds an important place in the region as it will attract more allies for both the countries as well as for the region. The world when see the potential of diplomatic engagement in countries will attract for strategic partnerships to these countries which will help boost the economy of the countries in the region.

ISLAMIC NATO FORMATION, POSSIBILITY OF

NEW BEGINNINGS:

The Pakistan - Saudi Defense pact lays the foundation for a potential of "Islamic Nato" for the unified military coalition of the Muslim countries. As Muslim countries will see the potential benefits of the pact, more countries will wish to join the pact. This may help to form a new coalition as NATO for the Muslim countries which will enhance the status of Muslim countries in the world.

RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH PAKISTAN SAUDI ARABIA DEFENSE PACT:

The security pact is for the military strengthening of both the countries. However, this pact may give the negative signals to the rival countries of both Saudi Arabia and Pakistan which may compel them to take counter measures. For instance, Iran may show deterrence against the pact and increase its progress towards the nuclear assets accumulation which may be used against Saudi Arabia. In the same way, India may also ^{be} provoked by the pact, considering it against it. In addition to it, US and Israel may also take counter measures for the pact and also against the Muslim World. Pakistan and Saudi Arabia must show the world that the pact is for positive purposes and not solely against or to attack any country.

WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THE DEFENSE PACT :

The Pakistan Saudi Arabia defense pact is like a double edged sword. It enhances military and economic strengths of the countries but at the same time fuel the issue of regional polarisation. In order to strengthen the defense pact, both countries should not only remain on the military assistance but also focus on the economic developments of both countries. The countries should sign economic deals as well as oil deal which will help strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

CONCLUSION:

The Pakistan Saudi Arabia defense pact is a major development in the Muslim World. The pact aims to provide military assistance to both countries in times of war and peace. The pact holds several strategic benefits for both countries as it helps to counter the influence of Israel as well as US in the region. In addition to it, the pact also provides a nuclear umbrella to Saudi Arabia, which will help the country strengthen its defense against external threats. Moreover, the pact also provides strategic benefits for both countries and helps Saudi Arabia negotiate with the US in a strong position. The pact also provide economic opportunities to both the countries. Although there are benefits, some negative effects also remain hidden. The pact may deter the rival countries of both nations, as well as deter US and Israel who may think that it is signed against them. In this way both countries may face enhanced aggression.

from other countries. Despite the negative effects, the pact plays a major role in the economic and military benefits for both nations.