

Topic/ Q3 Floods in Pakistan: Background, causes, Effects and Prevention?

Ans 1- Introduction.

Flooding is arguably the most destructive natural hazard facing Pakistan, given its geography, climate and development challenges. The country's vulnerability was starkly exposed by the catastrophic 2022 and now in 2025 floods which affected about 35 million people and caused damages and losses in the tens of billions of dollars. Historically, the 2010 floods submerged one fifth of the country, while 2022 floods inflicted damages of over \$30 billion, displacing more than 30 million people. The 2025 floods again exposed Pakistan's climate vulnerability, proving that such disasters are no longer rare incidents but recurring national crisis shaped by both nature and human neglect.

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Q - What are the primary causes of the 2025 floods in Pakistan?

Q-1. How did ~~no~~ climate change and extreme weather patterns contribute?

The ~~large~~ 2025 floods were largely triggered by record ~~monsoons~~ monsoon rainfall, which, according to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), was 88% above average between July 1 and July 15. Simultaneously, ~~another~~ Pakistan faced an intense heatwave exceeding 48°C , leading to glacial lake outbursts and massive runoff in rivers.

Climate Scientists attribute this to ~~"Climate whiplash"~~ alternating periods of drought and intense rain - a result of global warming. Pakistan contributes less than 1% to global emissions but remains among the top 10 most climate-vulnerable nations, according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2025.

9.2 Day: What role do governance and (3) human activities play?

Natural causes alone do not explain the devastation. Human mismanagement turned heavy rain into a catastrophe. Urban encroachments, deforestation, and weak drainage systems have reduced the land's natural absorption capacity. Cities like Lahore and Karachi, now covered with concrete, cannot absorb stormwater.

Despite NDMA's early flood alerts in June 2025, local authorities failed to implement evacuation and mitigation plans. Unchecked construction on floodplains, poor maintenance of embankments, and corruption in municipal systems worsened the impact.

3 - What were the human, economic, and environmental impacts of the 2025 floods?

3.1 Human cost.

By September 2025, NDMA confirmed over 900 deaths, more than 1,000 injuries, and 3 million.

People resued in relief operations.
 Almost 1 million were displaced.
 Beyond numbers diseases like
 Cholera, dengue, and skin infections
 were reported in camps.

3.2 How did the floods damage the economy and agriculture -

Economic losses were staggering -
 The Planning Ministry and NDMA
 jointly estimated the damage at
 Rs 3,856 billion (about \$14 billion)
 Around 1.3 million acres of crops -
 especially rice, cotton, maize and
 sugarcane - were destroyed.

The World Bank's report 2021
 report noted an 11% drop in agricultural
 output, leading to food inflation and
 a \$1.4 billion loss in exports, mainly
 due to the collapse of the cotton
 supply chain. The State Bank of Pakistan
 lowered its GDP growth projection from
 3.4% to 2.9% for FY 2026, citing
 flood-induced setbacks.

3.3- What were the environmental and infrastructural consequence?

Over 200,000 houses were damaged, 59,000 completely destroyed, and 22,800 livestock lost. Bridges and roads in Sindh and Southern Punjab collapsed, isolating villages. Erosion and landslides in northern areas disrupted transport and hydropower. The event also intensified glacial instability, reinforcing fears that Pakistan's water cycle is entering a dangerous phase of unpredictability.

4- What are the implications of 2025 floods for Pakistan's development and security?

The 2025 floods are more than a natural disaster - They pose a development and national security challenge. With billions lost, Pakistan's fiscal widened, and reconstruction demands strained limited resources.

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Socially, floods deepend inequality and rural poverty. Displaced population migrated to urban areas, putting pressure on housing and services. Environmentally, they highlighted how climate insecurity can escalate into political instability.

Analysts at IDRI and UNDP Pakistan argue that repeated climate shocks could erode state capacity and fuel internal displacement, making climate resilience a core security priority.

5- What steps should Pakistan take to prevent and mitigate future floods.

5.1- What structural measures are required? Pakistan urgently needs to strengthen floods-management infrastructure.

i- Construct small and medium dams to store runoff and manage river flow.

Reinforce embankments and de-silt ~~river~~ regularly.
 Upgrade ~~urban~~ drainage system, especially in flood prone cities.
 Restore wetlands and floodplains and absorb excess water naturally.

5.2. What Policy and institutional reforms are necessary?

Flood control requires more than engineering; it demands governance reform. Disaster-risk management must be built into ~~provincial~~ development plans, not treated as emergency relief.

Stricter zoning laws should prevent construction in flood-risk zones. The Ten Billion Tree Tuss Tsunami Project must continue to combat deforestation, while NDMA and

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- (iv) - Data, technology, and governance are important as dams and embankments
- (v) - Regional cooperation over river management and weather data is essential to anticipate disasters - need stronger coordination and independent funding.

5.3 - How can Pakistan enhance climate adaptation and diplomacy?

As one of the world's most climate-vulnerable nations, Pakistan should seek climate financing from global institutions such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and World Bank. Domestically, it must invest in community-based early warning systems and digital and alert networks to ensure timely evacuations.

International partnerships for data-sharing on river flows and regional climate cooperation - especially with India and China - can reduce trans-boundary flood risks.

(10) b - what lessons can Pakistan learn from the floods.

- i. Climate change is a daily reality, not a future threat.
 - ii. Preparedness saves lives - early warnings must be paired with local action.
 - iii. Investment in resilience pays off more than reactive relief.
- (7) Conclusion -

discuss these by giving subheadings.

work on the structure of the answer.

Pak and current Affairs.

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Topic/4

Pakistan- India Relations: Kashmir Dispute, Terrorism, Baloch Insurgency, and Regional Implications.

attempt and upload a single qs for evaluation at a time.

Ans

Introduction.

The relationship between Pakistan and India has remained one of the most complex and conflict-prone in South Asia since the Partition of 1947. Rooted in the Kashmir dispute, shaped by wars, marked by mistrust, and complicated by terrorism and regional rivalries, the bilateral ties remain fragile despite intermittent peace efforts. The year 2025 once again witnessed tension following the Pahalgam attack and subsequent multi-domain confrontation, reminding the world that South Asia's nuclear stability remains precarious.

“Pakistan-India ties continue to oscillate between hope and hostility, with the Kashmir question casting a long and unbroken shadow.” Dawn (May 2025)

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Day:

The Kashmir Dispute - The Core Issue.

1. Political and Legal Perspective.

Kashmir is the central and defining issue between Pakistan and India. Pakistan regards it as an unfinished agenda of Partition, arguing that as a Muslim-majority region, it rightfully belongs to Pakistan under the logic of the two-nation theory.

“Pakistan's stance on Kashmir is rooted in international law, the UN Charter, and the right of the self-determination”

IPRI (2024).

India, however, claims that the instrument of Accession (1947) signed by the then Maharaja legitimises its control. Since August 2019, when New Delhi revoked Article 30, Kashmir's semi-autonomous status was abolished, triggering deep resentment in Pakistan and international concern.

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Day 2 - Humanitarian and Rights

Dimensions -

Multiple human-rights reports from Amnesty International, BBC and UNHRC - have documented curfews, communication black-outs and civilian casualties in Indian-administered Kashmir - Pakistan consistently these as violations of international humanitarian norms.

2 The Pahalgam Attack and the May 2025 Multi-Domain Confrontation

The Pahalgam attack (22 April 2025) - in which militants targeted Indian tourists - became the immediate trigger for the May 2025 escalation. India accused Pakistan of harbouring militant networks; Islamabad denied any involvement and condemned the act. Between 7-10 May 2025, both states engaged in limited multi-domain warfare involving drone strikes, air skirmishes, and cyber operations.

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The Council on Foreign Relations
CFR observed

“The May 2015 crisis revealed the thin margin for error between conventional confrontation and nuclear miscalculation.”

3- Terrorism and the TTP Factor-

Pakistan continues to face terrorism primarily from the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which operates from sanctuaries across the Afghan border. These attacks challenge Pakistan's internal stability and drain military focus.

India often uses this as a pretext to label Pakistan as a “terror sponsor” while Pakistan accuses India of financing anti-state elements through Afghan territory.

“India and Pakistan's mutual accusations over terrorism have created a vicious circle where both are simultaneously victims and accusers.”

Pakistan's Security force
 Launched Operation Azam-e-
 Istehkam (2024-2025) to dismantle
 TTP cells and reaffirmed their
 zero-tolerance Policy toward
 terrorism. The Foreign Office
 reiterated "

"Pakistan does not differentiate
 between good or bad terrorists;
 terrorism in all form is condemnable."

4- Balochistan Insurgency and External Interference.

"The insurgency in Balochistan
 represents Pakistan's internal challenge
 but has acquired an external dimension.
 Islamabad claims that India's
 intelligence, RAW, fund and trains
 separatists to destabilize CPEC
 projects. The arrest of
 Kulbhushan Jadhav (2016)

remain central to Pakistan's evidence
 of Indian interference. (Rather than rely solely
 on forensic evidence)
 Pakistan's stance emphasizes economic inclusion, development
 project, national interest to curb terrorism

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Day:

5- Regional and Global Implications

1- Great Power Rivalry=

China's Partnership with Pakistan and India's alignment with the US and QUAD transform bilateral crises into of global strategic competition.

The Stimson Center (2025, warned, "South Asia risks becoming the next flashpoint of U.S.-China strategic friction?"

2- Economic Fallout:

Post crises, cross border trade halted, tourism declined, and investors feared instability - a blow to regional connectivity.

3- Nuclear Deterrence Risk:

The May 2025 episode demonstrated how quickly local incidents can approach nuclear thresholds. Belfer Center (Harvard) "The integration of ^{2025 noted} drones and cyber ^{to South} warfare adds new instability Asia's deterrence equation?"

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Day 6

Foreign Office of Pakistan: May 2025,
"The Peace in South Asia can not be achieved by
force or coercion. The road to stability runs
Pakistan's Stance - through Kashmir,
not around it".

1- On Kashmir:

Firm moral, legal, and diplomatic
support for Kashmir self-determination
based on UN resolution.

2- On Terrorism:

complete rejection of terrorism
as a tool of state policy,
reaffirmed through counter-terror operation.

3- On Dialogue:

Pakistan calls for unconditional talks
on all outstanding issues, especially
Kashmir, under international supervision.

4- On Regional Peace:

Islamabad promotes "geo-economic
over geo-politic." focusing on connectivity
CPEC, and trade-led peace.

5- On India's Conduct:

Pakistan criticises India's unilateral revocation of
article 370 and alleged human-rights violations
in Kashmir, calling them "grave threats to regional stability."

8- Conclusion. As The Guardian (May 2025) apply
In South Asia, Peace is not just the absence of war
Policy Recommendation: It is the presence of political courage.

Elaborate it

i- Revive Composite Dialogue:

Resume the structured dialogue suspended since 2016, starting with humanitarian issues and LOC ceasefire reaffirmation.

ii- International Mediation:

Encourage quiet diplomacy through neutral actors (UN, AC, China, Turkey, and Western middle powers).

iii- Address Root Causes:

Pakistan must pursue political inclusion and development in Balochistan and KP to neutralise internal vulnerabilities.

iv- Information Diplomacy

Proactively use global media and research platforms (e.g. ISSI, IPRI) to project Pakistan's narrative internationally.

v- Regional Cooperation-

Revive SAARC and ECD mechanisms to reduce mistrust through economic interdependence.

These headings can be elaborated more