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Modi's visit to USA and further expansion of Indo-US Strategic Partnership is a real challenge for Pakistan. Discuss the strategic, political and economic implications of this unholy alliance particularly with respect to Pak-China relations.

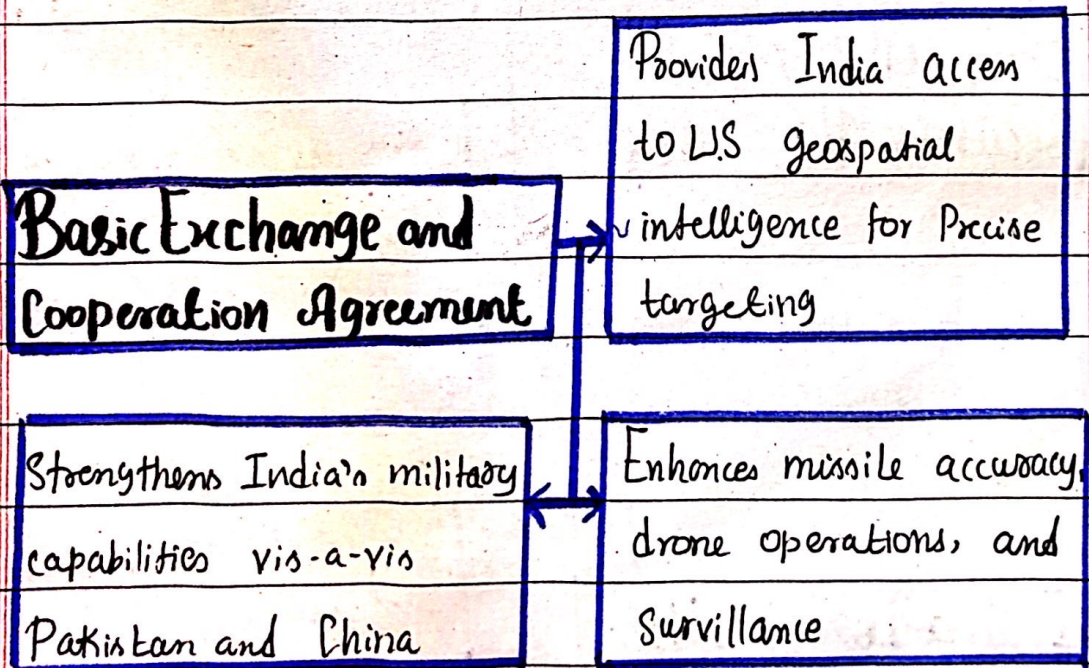
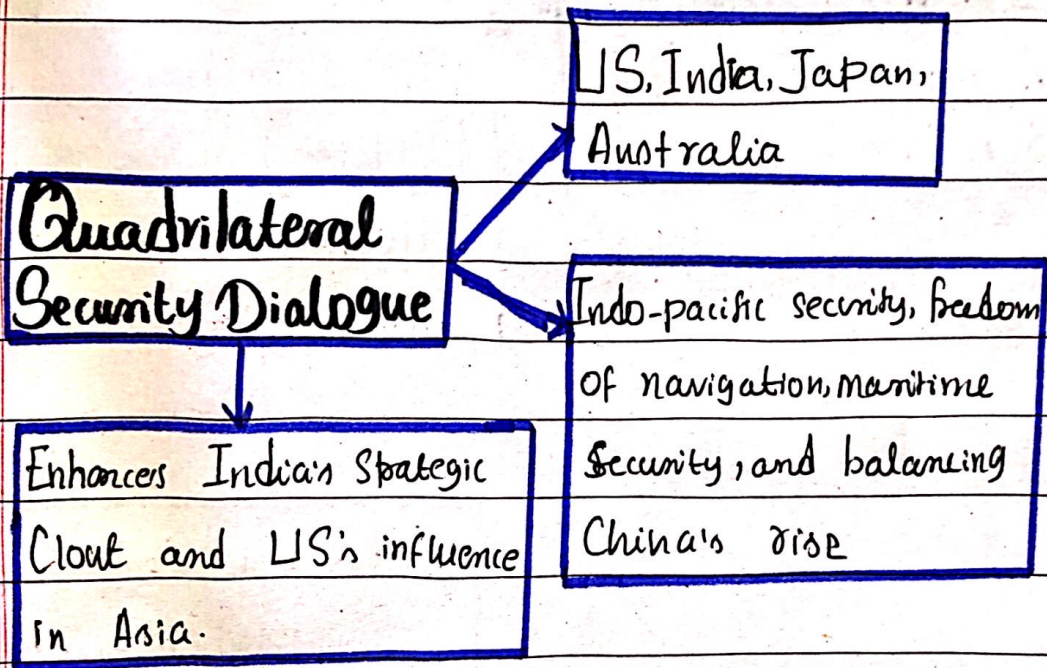
1. Introduction

The Indo-US Strategic Partnership, reinforced by Modi's Washington visit, reflects a structural shift in global politics. Anchored in defense agreements, QUAD, AUKUS, and economic cooperation, it seeks to contain China and elevate India's power status. For Pakistan, this alignment generates serious challenges: strategic insecurity, political isolation, and economic strain, especially against CPEC. This answer evaluates the strategic, political, and economic implications of this alliance with reference to Pak-China relations.

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2. Framework of Indo-US Strategic

Partnership



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Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement

Allows reciprocal access to military facilities for refueling, repairs, supplies

Symbolizes deepening defense interoperability

Facilitates joint exercises and operations in Indian Ocean and Pacific

Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement

Provides India access to encrypted US Communication Systems

Strengthens Indian Position as a Strategic US Partner.

Enhances secure military communication for joint operations

India-Israel-UAE-US Grouping-I2U2

Economic, food, security cooperation.

Indoan regional influence and multilateral engagement

Indo-US partnership beyond defense- into energy, investment, and innovation

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**Bid to Aid in
NSG & G4**

US supports Indian

Nuclear suppliers

Group (NSG) membership

despite non-Npt status

Recognition of India as a
responsible global power
with strategic influence

Supports Indian position
in G4 for permanent
UNSC seat.

3. Implications of Unholy Alliances

For Pakistan

(a) Strategic Implications

Security Dilemma

Realist Challenge

Critical Theory

(i) Indo-US alignment: Security
Dilemma and Balance of Power in

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South Asia

In realist terms,

Modi's US visit cements Indo-US alignment, intensifying the security dilemma for Pakistan by fueling nuclear competition, space weaponization, and disturbing South Asia's balance of power. The 2023 GE jet engine pact illustrates Indian military modernization, accelerating arms race dynamics and compelling Pakistan toward deeper alliance politics with China to preserve deterrence equilibrium.

(ii) Indo-US Strategic Convergence: A Realist challenge for Pakistan-China Axis

Realism sees states chasing power and security. Modi's US visit shows this: it builds Indo-US ties, makes Pakistan more exposed in Afghanistan, and supports American Pivot to Asia with India to contain China. This weakens Pakistan's strategic

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depth and CPEC. The QUAD's Indo-Pacific buildup proves how balance of power creates mistrust and rivalry.

(iii) Indo-US alliance: A critical theory view on Pakistan-China Challenges

Through the lens of Critical theory, Indo-US strategic ties after Modi's U.S. visit appear as tools of hegemony, blocking open sea lanes of communication and endangering CPEC. This alliance supports U.S. Indo-Pacific aims, limits Pakistan's access, and strengthens India's navy near Cawadar, turning "security" into domination and undermining Pakistan-China cooperation.

(b) Economic Implications

Containment of China

Neo-Mercantalist

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Neo-Colonial Dependency

(i) Indo-US alliance: Containment of China and Indian regional hegemony

Modern US visit show a power partnership aiming to contain China in a 'Cold War 2.0'. Using Hegemonic Stability Theory, American promotes India as regional hegemon, sidelining Pakistan. This hurts Pak-China projects like CPEC, limits Pakistan's economic options, and creates dependency, while Indo-Pacific strategy strengthens India's role as pivot against Chinese rise.

(ii) Dependency Theory and Neo-Mercantilist Containment in Indo-Pacific Geopolitics

Indo-US strategic Partnership under free and open Indo-Pacific strengthens American hegemony and India's role as proxy balancing. This alliance fuels

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Dollar-Yuans tussle, restricts Pakistan's energy security, and sidelines it in supply-chain diplomacy. Dependency deepens on China via CPEC, while U.S.-India nexus constructs Pakistan's economic peripherality, undermining multipolar balance and regional autonomy.

(iii) Dependency Theory and Hegemonic Stability in Indo-US Strategic Convergence

The Indo-US partnership shows neo-colonial dependency, where India gains power and Pakistan faces economic periphery risks. Through B3W vs BRI rivalry, U.S. hegemony supports India's rise, sidelining Pakistan in SCO, ECO, BRICS. IMF pressure, defence pacts and tech-transfer deepen asymmetric interdependence, limiting Pakistan's sovereignty while pushing reliance on China's BRI multipolar shield.

(c) Political Implications

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Cold War 2.0

Multipolarity

Regional Polarization

(i) Realist Balance of Power and Cold War 2.0 Strategic encirclement

Indo-US Partnership

reflects realism's self-help and balance of Power, with Washington arming India to contain China, creating Cold War 2.0 dynamics. Pakistan faces a security dilemma, CPEC disruption, and Strategic encirclement. Liberal interdependence favors India, while constructivist identity discourse paints China-Pakistan as authoritarian bloc, pushing Islamabad deeper into Beijing's orbit.

(ii) Indian hegemony and balance of power under realist Security dilemma

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India's growing Partnership with the USA shows power politics in action. It creates a regional security dilemma, where Pakistan feels threatened and turns more towards China. This alliance revives multipolarity and sharpens sphere of influence rivalries, weakening Pakistan-U.S. ties while pressing Islamabad deeper into Beijing's orbit, disturbing the fragile balance of power in South Asia.

(iii) Balance of threat and rules-based order in Indo-US Axis

Modi's U.S. visit deepens Indo-US axis, framed as rules-based order but seen by Pakistan-China as strategic encirclement. Taiwan flashpoint and Ladakh standoff expose territorial insecurities, while U.S. tech transfers tilt balances. This alliance magnifies Pakistan's economic and diplomatic vulnerabilities, reinforcing regional polarization and weakening prospects of cooperative security.

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architecture in South Asia.

4. Conclusion

To encapsulate the whole discussion, Indo-US closeness, marked as ruled-based border, fuels regional insecurity. Taiwan and Ladakh China threat perception. Moreover, Indo-US strategic embrace intensifies regional polarization by emboldening India and worsening China. For Pakistan, this alliance amplifies security dilemmas, economic vulnerabilities, and diplomatic isolation, making the partnership a decisive challenge to its strategic depth and regional stability aspirations.