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Q Every state designs its foreign policy on national interests, rejecting feelings and emotions. Why did Pakistan prefer emotion, feelings and ideology in its foreign policy. Also analyze its impacts.

1) Introduction:-

"Foreign policy is the pursuit of national interest"

- Hans J. Morgenthau,  
Politics among nations

This quote clearly emphasizes on the point that foreign policy reflects the national interest of a country. However, since the inception of Pakistan, its foreign policy was forged around emotions, feelings and ideology. This was due to historical foundation based on Islam, trauma of Kashmir separation, opposing the oppression in Gaza etc.

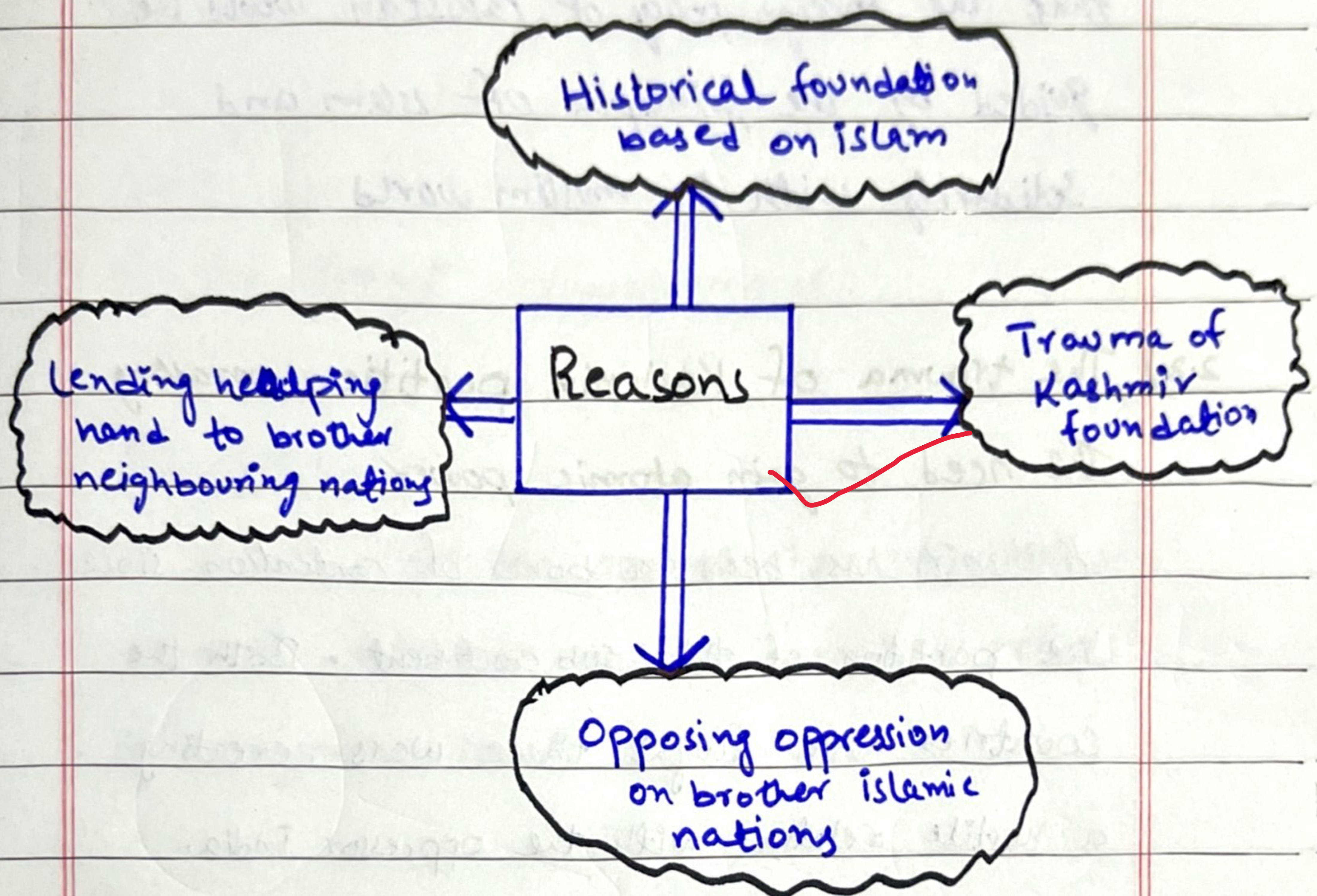
The impacts of this have positive aspects in the form of attaining the atomic bomb, and Islamic diplomacy gains. But it also gives rise to a few repercussions such as, internal instability and fluctuating relations with great powers.



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2) Why did Pakistan prefer emotions, feelings and ideology in its foreign policy



2.1) Historical foundation based on Islam:

Providing an Islamic lens to the foreign policy  
Pakistan was formed on the basis of  
Islamic ideology. The Muslims of subcontinent  
needed a separate homeland where Islamic  
beliefs should be at the pinnacle. This enabled  
the foreign policy of Pakistan to create strong  
relations with Islamic countries.



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Example:-

The objective resolution affirmed that the foreign policy of Pakistan would be guided by the principles of Islam and solidarity with the muslim world

2.2) The trauma of Kashmir partition making the need to gain atomic power

Kashmir has been a bone of contention since the partition of the sub continent. Both the countries have fought three wars, creating a hostile relation with the oppressor India.

After the Smiling Buddha, Pakistan ~~feelt~~ felt threatened. This forced Pakistan to get its own atomic weapon giving birth to a defensive foreign policy with India.

"Pakistan's foreign policy, conditioned by India's hard power superiority, came to view the nuclear option as the best for national security"

- Hasan Askeri Rizvi,

Pakistan's nuclear development



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2.3) Opposing the oppression on brother Islamic nation by rejecting ~~the~~ Israel as a nation

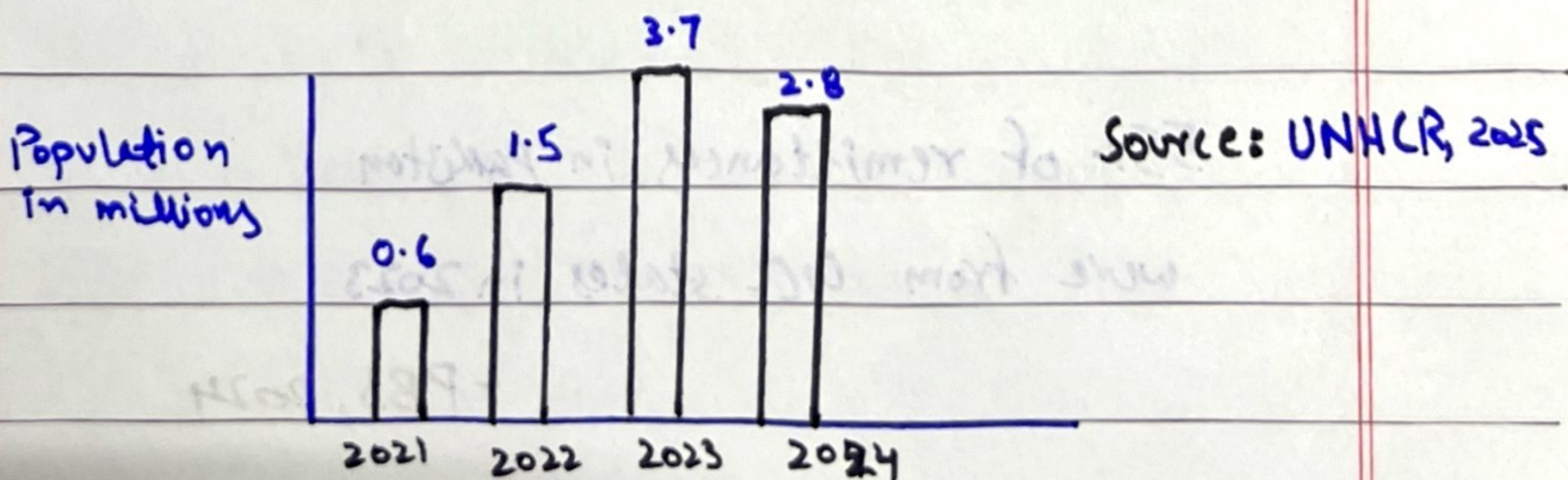
Pakistan's foreign policy displays a feeling of empathy with the Palestinians. It has always stood against the atrocities being committed by the illegal occupier Israel

Example:-

Pakistan opposed the UN partition plan for Palestine and has constantly refused to recognize Israel

2.4) Lending a helping hand to the brothers in Afghanistan in the form of immigrants

Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan is an emotional one. It has granted for refugees to settle in Pakistan to live a peaceful life.



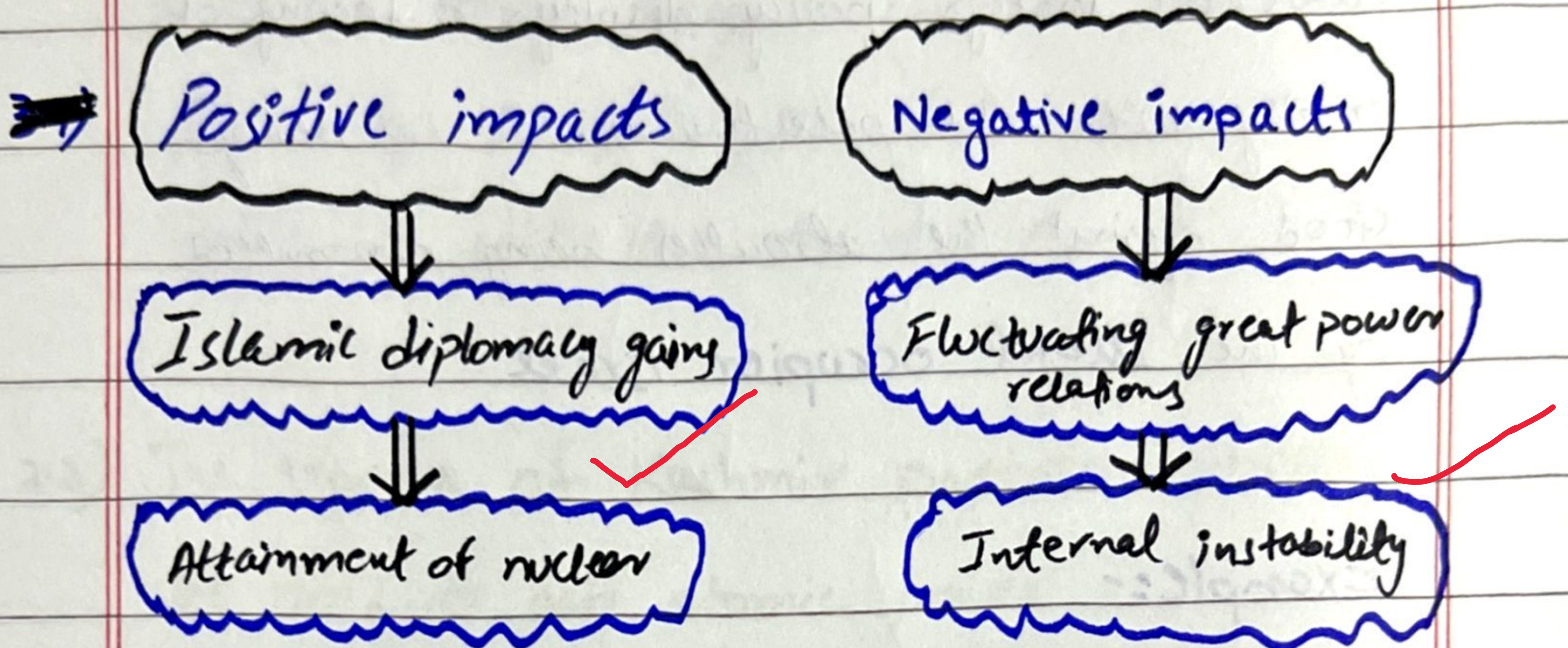
Description: The following graph shows influx of <sup>Afghan</sup> refugees in Pakistan



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### 3) Impacts of incorporating emotions, feelings and ideology in the foreign policy of Pakistan



#### 3.1) Positive impacts

##### (a) Islamic diplomacy gains granting financial aid through GCC states

Through Islamic ideology Pakistan has gained Islamic diplomacy via its foreign policy. It has maintained stable and friendly ties which has led to the granting of financial aid as well as other economic perks.

55% of remittances in Pakistan were from GCC states in 2023

- PBS, 2024



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## b) Attainment of nuclear warheads enhancing sovereignty

Despite multiple sanction threats, Pakistan remained steady and moved towards its goal to gain atomic power. This bold move led to enhanced sovereignty of Pakistan, sending a message to the enemy states not to mess with Pakistan.

The attainment of nuclear weapons was a turning point in enhancing the strength and security of Pakistan

✓ - Maleeha Lodhi,

Pakistan beyond the crises

## 3.2) Negative impacts

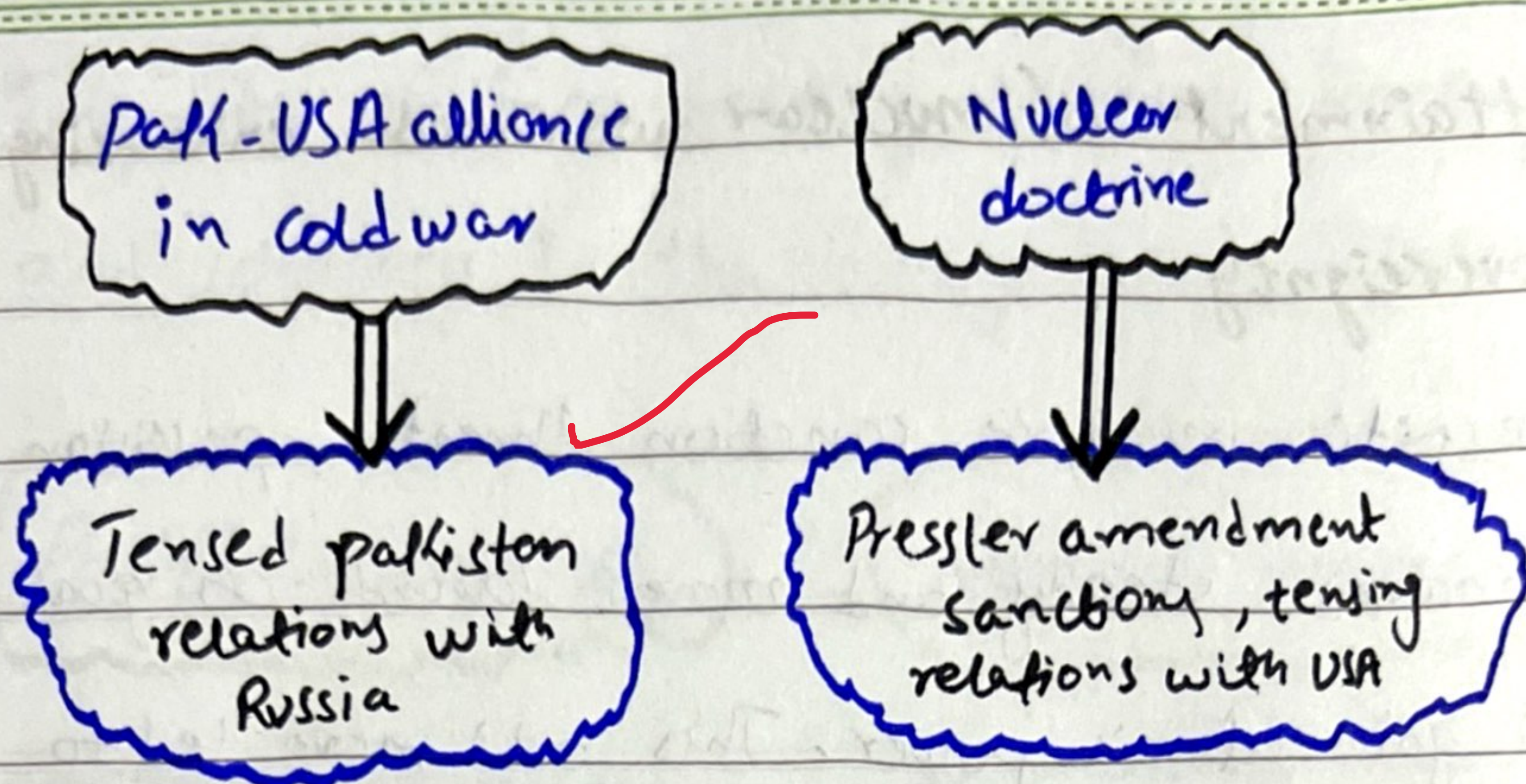
### a) Fluctuating relations with great powers

The volatility in Pakistan's foreign policy led to fluctuating relations with the great power around the globe. This caused ~~loss of~~ loss of trust, sanctions and weakened global image.



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## b) Internal instability due to Afghan refugee spill over

Pakistan a developing country lacks the resources to properly manage its population. The refugee influx further adds fuel to the fire. This increases job scarcity giving rise to radicalization, which ultimately causes internal instability in the country.

"Pakistan spends 500-600 million US dollars for Afghan refugees which adds strain to the country, causing internal instability"

- World bank, 2023



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#### 4) Conclusion :-

To conclude, yes Pakistan's foreign policy effectively shows traits of emotions, feelings and ideology. This is due to the historical Islamic ideology, trauma of Kashmir partition, support for brother nations etc. This act as a double edged sword. On the positive side it has provided a leverage in gaining Islamic diplomacy and helped to attain nuclear warheads to enhance its security. But on the other side, it has caused fluctuating relations and internal instability. Hence, careful cost-benefit analysis is a need of the hour.

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