

Batch: 54

Pakistan Affairs Test

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Q. The ascending potency of hybrid warfare being foisted on the state of Pakistan is adding to the security woes of the country. Elaborate with examples.

The idea of a hybrid warfare is not a new phenomenon. After World War II, countries were quick to realize the heavy costs one must bear for an all-out military warfare against another country. So what followed then is what we call hybrid warfare, a term which has gained traction in the past few decades.

~~(According to Hoffman)~~ First defined by Hoffman, the term hybrid warfare refers to a collective form of warfare which employs all kinds of means + violent or not, coercive or not ~~alternatively~~, simultaneously or not - against another. It could include proxy wars, fanning ethnic & problems or other latent cleavages in a society from the back door, using cyber attacks and what not. (Pakistan) ~~The~~ ~~more~~ It has

~~Since~~ now become a widely employed warfare type by many countries in the world, a very prominent example being the Russia-Ukraine war in 2014. However, for states such as Pakistan which are already in a perilous position, the increase in hybrid warfare adds to the security woes that the country already faces.

Since its independence, Pakistan has engaged in a constant hybrid warfare with its immediate neighbor and rival, India. ~~(Not only did India waged the)~~ Looking back at the relation between both the countries, there have been numerous instances where India has used various tactics to exploit the domestic situation and international image of Pakistan. For the former, we can take the example of the 1971 war between East and West Pakistan, where India not only added fuel to the increasing polarization within the state, it actively backed East Pakistan against its West counterpart in the war. ~~the~~ ~~was~~ Adding to that, ~~it~~ ~~was~~ throughout the 80s and 90s, India constantly used its nuclear power

supremacy over Pakistan to coerce the latter with the threat of its use. This was later effectively neutralized after Pakistan developed its own nuclear program.

On the other hand, India has used various international mediums to display a negative image of Pakistan and put down its concerns on key issues such as the Kashmir issue. According to the Indian Chronicles, a study by EU Dis info Lab in 2019, India used 750+ websites to debate Pakistan on the international level. This makes it harder for Pakistan to bring up any legitimate issue in front of the international community and be taken seriously.