

Name: Huda Mahmood
LMS ID: 29452

Batch: ISB OB-52

1

SECURITY CONCERS OF PAKISTAN

INTRODUCTION:-

A nation like any other organic entity goes through different life stages from birth to infancy to the identity crisis of adolescence & then budding into maturity, if not guided and groomed properly by institutional strengths with political, social & cultural steadiness, like a handicapped person, would suffer from inertia & purposelessness & fall into decline and decadence. These stages are partly because of the governmental policies & partly because of the way the state leadership acquiesced itself and partly because of the changing perspective and preferences of people.

In our case, sadly due to the early demise of our founder, Pak was left orphaned in its early years. It lost the dream of a healthy youth & restricted our natural growth. After Quaid's death, Pakistan had no guidance & was in a state of political bankruptcy & moral asidity. Pak has been going round & round in aimless circles since its very inception. It's starting cutting itself, losing in less than

a quarter of a century not only itself but also the rationale for its creation. Lack of good governance, rule of law and real democracy has been our continuing hallmark.

DILEMMA FOR PAKISTAN:-

Looking at the example of other developing and developed countries, we find ourselves a unique example of federation with no other parallel in the world. We are probably the only nation with provinces based on ethnicity and language. No other country, roughly equal to Pakistan's geographical & population size has so few and so large provinces. In this kind of setup, no method of governance could work.

Most of the large and medium sized countries in the world are divided into provinces or states. China has 34 provinces, India 29 states and 7 union territories, France 28, Germany 16, Egypt 26, Switzerland 26, Iran 30, Turkey 81 provinces, US 50 states and UK 114 counties. Division of a country into smaller provinces as administrative units ensure effective & efficient governance by elected bodies at local and grassroot levels. Because of our poor political conduct & lack of discipline, we are perhaps not

suitable for a parliamentary system.

There is an increasing discontent in Balochistan and other smaller provinces against what is referred as "Punjabi Dominance," and unequal distribution of resources and power. Our constitution does not provide a solution of these issues. If this were to continue we would be left with a loosely wired skeleton of a nation with corrupt politicians playing havoc.

There have been animosity and friendship between nations since the beginning. Even in the primitive time individuals developed relations to increase their peace and security & minimize threat. In today's modern society with a strong and stable governmental system, security policies are very important. Especially with the recent paradigm shift of power in this region Pakistan need a foreign policy with a strong security policy addressing both internal and external dimensions.

SECURITY :-

Charles W. Kegley defines security as, "Freedom from fear, risk and danger." Security is a relational phenomenon. It depicts the capabilities, fear and threats of an individual & the states with which they interact.

NATIONAL SECURITY:-

National Security refers to freedom from external physical threats. These are not only territorial threats but also economic, social, political and cultural concerns. National security as a whole is security from both traditional & non-traditional threats.

THREATS TO PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL SECURITY

Pakistan is a consociation society with religious groups having conflicts over petty issues. There are many vertical and horizontal cleavages that divide the nation on the basis of colour, creed, caste, religion, language and race. These differences affect the economic & political stability of a country. There are many causes leading to this instability & increasing the internal security threats.

DYSFUNCTIONAL POLITICAL SYSTEM

Security threats of a nation increases if the political system is dysfunctional. It can lead a nation to total failure and collapse. Politically, Pakistan is quite weak as we are going through yet another difficult course. A good political system should be extractive, regulative, symbolic, distributive and responsive. For example by imposing

taxes in the country and by increasing foreign investment, it shows that the extractive capability is alive.

UNPLANNED MODERNIZATION

Globalization has slowly pierced its way into Pak's economic and political forums. Luxury hotels and restaurants are sprouting up in every corner. Western countries seem to have found a lucrative market here & with their products being high in demand found a way to stay. Our country, however rich in computers and agriculture, lacks in electricity and water resources.

MEDIA'S ROLE

Media plays a big role in creating disruption among the nation. Media houses are owned by moguls and conglomerates that have only one point agenda i.e., profit maximization. They spread misinformation and rumours, thus creating dispute among nation. It leads to migration of dreams and increased panic among people. In today's world media plays a big role in exacerbating the problems & portraying a wrong image of Pakistan.

SENSE OF ALIENATION

Unequal distribution of power and resources causes sense of alienation among people & leads to regional disputes. This affects the security of the country.

RELIGIOUS DISHARMONY

Pakistan is a country with many religions. Muslims being predominant with Christians, Jews, Hindus, Parsis & Ahmedi as minorities. Discrimination between the people on the basis of religion is a cause of weak internal security. Govt. should handle the disputes in a peaceful manner. Resources and power distribution should be equitable.

PHILOSOPHICAL DICHOTOMY

Differences between the educational elites & religious ulmas causes problems in the nation. Despite coming from same politico-cultural conditions, they fail to provide a unanimous solution to our problems. Their being divided leads to disputes. This is because neither of them truly understands the religion.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Pakistan is among the top 10 countries in the world that is affected by climate change. Both extremes of weather - drought & floods are seen here. Pakistan suffered from devastating floods in 2022 and is yet recovering from it. Climate change devastations effects our economy, which is already declining.

FOREIGN INTERVENTION

Intervention by other countries leads to disruption of the country economically & politically. It is believed that India, Afghanistan and Israel have sent different groups to create destruction in various regions of the country. RAW, Indian intelligence agency, always tries to orchestrate destructive strategies in the country.

GEOGRAPHICAL THREATS TO PAKISTAN

Pakistan is a country in South Asia, a region bounded by Himalays in the north & Indian ocean in the south. Pakistan is located in the region called "Junction of Asia" as all 3 regions; South Asia,

Central Asia & Southeast Asia meet here.
Due to its strategic location, Pak. has many external threats.

SECURITY CONCERNS WITH INDIA

The deep-rooted historical & cultural conflicts b/w India and Pakistan clearly indicate why Pak-India relations have been marred by armed conflicts & tensions. The core issue is Kashmir dispute - which caused the wars of 1948, 1965 & 1999. Many analysts believe that internal disorder in Pak is due to the Indian intervention in Balochistan. It seems that India is not only increasing its defence budget every year but it has also started arm race in the region. & Pakistan is compelled to pursue it because of the feelings of insecurity.

SECURITY CONCERNS WITH AFGHANISTAN

Despite shared geography, ethnicity & faith, relations b/w Afghanistan & Pakistan have never been smooth. Pak's foreign policy about Afghanistan has always been based on Muslim brotherhood. But successive govts. in Afghanistan

remained pro-India hence making Pak. believe that its western & eastern borders are insecure. Pak. recognized Afghanistan in May 1997 although the pro-Taliban policy was criticized by the world. After 9/11, Pak was compelled to change its policy in favour of the US.

Again after Aug 2021 US withdrawal & Taliban take over, Pak. has almost similar concerns.

CONCLUSION :-

In this age of globalisation, old and out-dated gimmicks won't be at all sufficient to cope with the threats faced by Pak. By good governance, independent judiciary & following rule of law, we can achieve national security. Foreign policy must show the strength of the govt. Policies should provide safeguard to Pak's national interests. A pattern of friendly and stable working relations should be established with the neighbours.