

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

Part II

QNO2

➤ Political Objectives of Aligarh Movement.

Introduction

Although the essence of Aligarh movement was the educational uplift of Muslims of Indian subcontinent. But this movement was not devoid of political objectives. This movement became a source of raising political awareness among politically deprived Muslims of subcontinent. Due to this political awareness, the students of Aligarh played pivotal role in forming a separate homeland. So, Aligarh movement not only served educational objectives but also political objectives.

Political objectives of Aligarh Movement:

a) Reconciliation with British:

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan who started Aligarh movement knew that without gaining the co-operation of British Government, Muslims can never get their political rights.

So, Aligarh Movement acted like a catalyst to improve Muslim British ties.

Example

Muslim Students started learning the language of British 'English' under Aligarh movement. This helped Muslims to reconcile with British for political gains.

b) Aligarh movement made Muslims aware of their political rights:

Muslims were in a

miserable condition after war of 1857. British Government removed them from all high offices and posts. They were deprived of their political rights.

But Aligarh Movement infused a new spirit in Muslims to know what are their political rights and how to achieve them.

For Example

Under Aligarh movement, Muslims realised that they need more representation in central legislation to deal their problems. They demanded this political right from British Government.

c) **Alloofness from Indian National Congress, to maintain separate political identity of Muslims:**

Under the platform of Aligarh Movement, Sir Syed

Ahmad Khan gave this political awareness to the Muslims that Indian National Congress is a Hindu majority party, and it would work only for the worldly interests of Hindus. So, it would be in the favour of Muslims to stay aloof of Indian National Congress to maintain their separate political identity.

For Example

“There is no doubt that Sir Sayyid was successful in persuading the Muslims to stay aloof from Congress. In Congress session 1886, there were only 33 Muslim delegates out of 431.”

(Khalid Bin Sayeed, Pakistan The Formative Phase 1857-1948)

d) **Aloofness from politics unless Muslims get higher education:**

Aligarh Movement provided a platform to Muslims to get standard education before entering the politics. Sir, Syed Ahmad Khan made Muslims to believe that without education they cannot deal British and beat Hindus in political spheres. So, until Muslims get education they should detach themselves from politics.

“Equipped with education, Muslims would not only be able to discharge their social obligations but would be able to work for the progress and welfare of their country.”

(K.B Sayeed, Pakistan, The Formative Phase 1857-1948).

e) **Two Nation Theory: A major political service of Aligarh Movement:**

Muslims of subcontinent, wanted to work with Hindus

to gain independence from British Raj. Many Muslim intellectuals also were in the favour of united India. But after Urdu-Hindi Controversy of 1867, when it became obvious that Hindus and Muslims are two separate nations.

So, Aligarh Movement became a platform to propagate this theory and to urge the Muslims to work for a separate homeland as they are a separate nation.

"I am convinced that Hindus and Muslims could never become one nation as their religions and way of life are very different from each other."

(Sir Syed Ahmed Khan).

So, despite educational objectives, Aligarh Movement got its political objective to flourish Two Nation Theory.

¶) Formation of Pakistan: A major political objective of Aligarh Movement.

Aligarh movement was able to gain political objectives along with educational objectives. The students of Aligarh movement were at the front line in the creation of Pakistan.

Pakistan, a major political objective was achieved under the Aligarh Movement.

► Conclusion

Therefore, despite being educational in character, Aligarh Movement was not devoid of political objectives. It was successful to strengthen Muslims politically and to get Pakistan.

QNO5

GROWTH OF POPULATION IN PAKISTAN

► Introduction

The population of Pakistan is increasing at a rapid pace. The spell of this growth of population is hampering socio-economic climate of Pakistan. Population growth is putting a pressure on meagre and mismanaged resources of Pakistan. Every sector has been affected by this population increase.

► Why the growth of population is fast in Pakistan.

There are many reasons behind this fast growth of population in Pakistan which are as follows:

a) High fertility rate of women:

The fertility rate of Pakistani women is high as compared to the fertility rate of women in our neighbouring countries.

According to UN estimates:

"The fertility rate per woman in Pakistan is 3.3."

So population is increasing day by day.

b) Fastest growth rates of Pakistan:

Pakistan's population is increasing at fastest rate.

"Population growth rate in Pakistan 2.8%, which is fastest in the world."

That is why according to the results of 2023 census.

"The total population of Pakistan is 241.49 million."

(census 2023 results)

c) No family planning and unwanted births:

Due to different social, cultural and religious taboos, Pakistani people do not consider family planning an important factor. So they face the issue of unwanted births.

According to the estimates:

"Each year in Pakistan, there are 1.4 million unwanted births and 2.2 million abortions."

d) low literacy rate: a factor behind population bulge.

Low literacy rate among women is also a cause of increasing population.

"Women in country who have no education have 4.2 children per woman, but among highly educated women, the average is 2.6 children per woman."

(Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey of 2017-2018).

e) Poor Governance and lack of ^{interest} Governments to control population:

Pakistan is dealing number of problems these days due to bad governance. Our Government also not showing interests to make policies and to take steps to control the population. Bangladesh has halved its fertility rate but in Pakistan no vibrant steps have been taken.

Impacts of population growth on Socio-economic climate of Pakistan:

a) Food insecurity due to growing population:

Although Pakistan is an Agricultural country but because of poor policies of Government and lack of technology, we import food items from other countries. Pakistan is becoming a

'Food scarce' country day by day.

"Pakistan stands at 99th position out of 121 countries in terms of hunger."

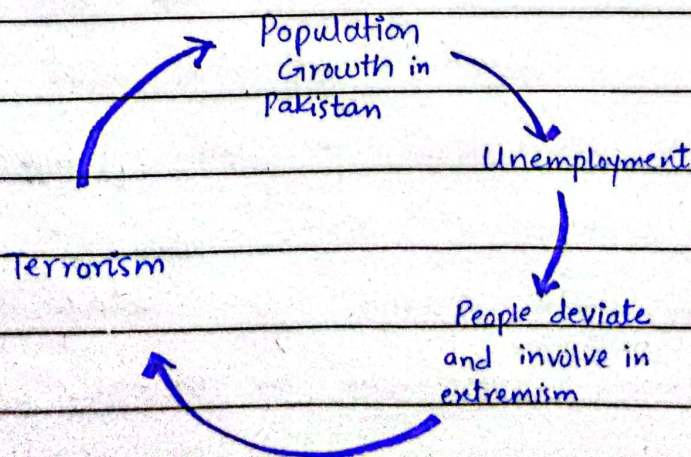
(Global Hunger Index Report 2022)

b) **Surging unemployment is another result of population growth:**

Due to increase in population, Pakistan is facing problem of 'Unemployment.'

"Unemployment rate among university graduates is 31%."

(Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, 2022)



c) Increasing urbanization in Pakistan due to population growth:

Due to increase in population, people are shifting from villages to cities for better opportunities. Pakistan has become seen high urbanization in whole South Asian region due to population growth.

d) Threats of climate change will increase due to population growth:

More population means more pollution and Global warming.

“Pakistan is eight most vulnerable nation to climate crisis.”

(Global Climate Risk Index)

This population growth is increasing Pakistan's vulnerability in context of climate change.

e) **Mismanagement of resources ^{is} can ~~be~~ increased ^{ing} due to population growth:**

Pakistan is already facing the mismanagement of its resources. Population growth is further exacerbating this issue. Population growth ^{is} ~~can~~ causing conflicts among provinces about resource distribution.

f) **Water scarcity is increasing due to Population growth:**

Being a lower riparian country, Pakistan is a water scarce country. Increasing population is putting pressure over the availability of water to people.

"Pakistan ranks 3rd in world among countries facing acute water shortages." (UNDP Report.)

Conclusion:

Pakistan should take vibrant steps to keep the gemme ~~is~~ of

population growth in the bottle to avoid the horrible consequences.

Pakistan should learn from the policies of other countries that have overcome this problem.

QNO7

PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS OF PAKISTAN

Introduction

Pakistan is facing severe constitutional crisis these days and this is the true manifestation of Pakistan's poor political governance. Due to political instability and poor political governance the history of Pakistan to remain adherent to its supreme document is quite harrowing. That's why the constitution of Pakistan had remained under crisis since it came into being in 1973.

How constitutional crisis are the manifestation of poor political governance?

Since the formation of Pakistan, political governance has always affected Constitution. The constitutions of 1962 and 1956 were abrogated due to poor political governance at that time.

It's been 50 years to our present constitution of 1973, but still our political elite is not serious to uphold its sanctity. During the last one and half years, the poor political governance has hampered our constitution.

Lack of consensus among political elite leading to constitutional crisis:

Present Government of Pakistan the interim

Government and the former PDM coalition Government lack the consensus over different issues of country. So due to lack of consensus and poor political governance, constitution has been violated many times.

Recent constitutional crisis and poor political governance:

a) Dissolution of Punjab and KPK assemblies and poor political governance to hold elections:

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Ansaf (PTI) Government dissolved Punjab and KPK assemblies prematurely in demand of early general elections.

The federal PDM Government announced interim Government. The PDM Government could not hold elections in

Punjab and KPK within the constitutional limit of 90 days.

Therefore the poor political governance and violation of Article 224(a) of 1973 constitution lead to the constitutional crisis.

**b) Ambiguities to Government, who will give the election date
Election Commission or President:**

The federal Government could not make any consensus to decide who will give the date to hold elections in Punjab or KPK. The Government exacerbated the obscurity to decide the date. This deadlock took constitution under crisis and manifested the poor political governance.

c) Violating Supreme Court orders to hold elections in Punjab and KPK by May 14, 2023.

Day: _____

Date: _____

The Chief Justice of Pakistan Umer Atta Bandial took ~~notice~~ suo motu notice under the Article 184(c) of 1973 constitution and ordered the federal government to release funds and to hold elections in Punjab and KPK assemblies. But federal government did not comply with the orders of Supreme court and did not hold elections. This took constitution under more crisis.

d) **Extended tenure of interim governments of KPK & Punjab is manifestation of poor political governance :**

Article 224(a) => 90 day limit of interim government

But federal government of PDM extended the tenure of interim government violating the constitution.

e) Violation of fundamental rights of public is due to poor political governance.

Right to vote: By not holding elections in Punjab and KPK, Government is depriving public of their right to vote.

Amendments in Official Secret Bill and Army Act:

Empowering secret agencies so much to conduct operations against public is violation of fundamental right of people.

Choosing Representatives:

"State shall exercise its powers through chosen representatives." (1973 Constitution)

But interim Government are not our chosen members. So it is also violation of Constitution.

Day: _____

Date: _____

7) Obscurities about General Elections

Our Government has failed yet to announce the date of upcoming general elections. People do not know when they will have a stable elected Government in country.

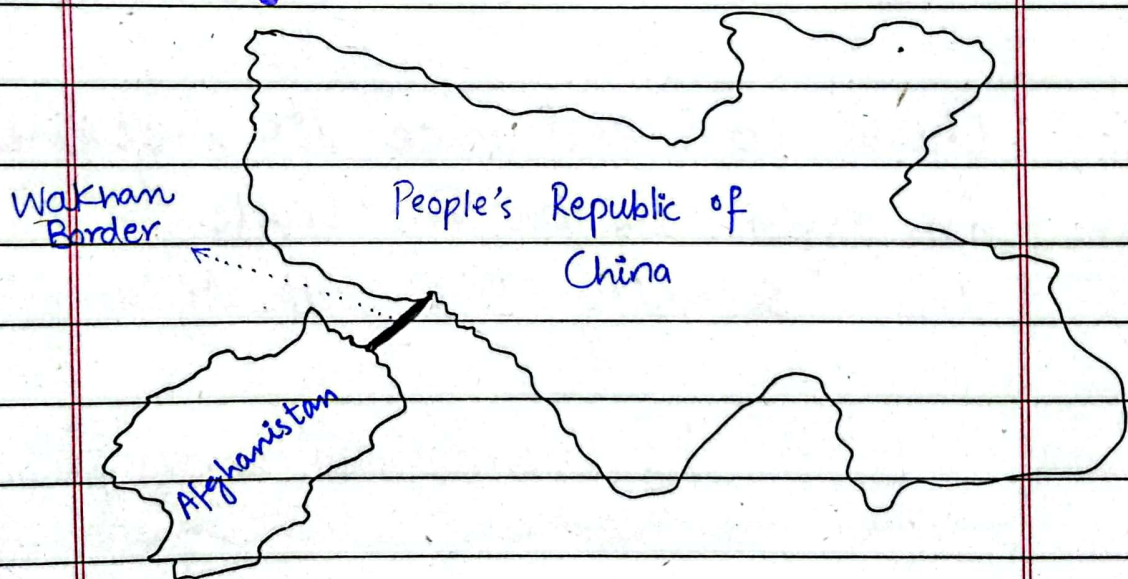
Conclusion

All these examples of constitutional crisis shows that this is because of poor political governance. It is dire need of time for the political elite to uphold the constitution and to hold elections in time to save country from disaster.

it seems that China has different approach towards Afghanistan and has appointed an ambassador to Kabul.

China's aim behind this move:

Geostrategic importance of Afghanistan for China:



China shares a small border with china through Strait of Wakhan. The geostrategic location of Afghanistan can give access to china to the middle eastern countries. This can boost China's

trade.

b) China's wish to be an influential regional actor;

China always desires to create hegemony in the region. Building relations with Afghanistan can help China to be an influential regional actor.

c) China can enhance its influence in region by boosting trade and security ties with Afghanistan;

Afghanistan is facing international isolation. China wants to trade with Afghanistan as the Afghanistan would be a demanding market to Chinese goods.

Moreover, the security of whole region cannot be assured if Afghanistan is not safe.

Therefore China wants influence in region by improving the security of region.

d) China's BRI project can be successful with the help of Afghanistan:

China wants to connect its market to Middle East, Europe and Africa. As Afghanistan is at the cross roads so China wants to extend the BRI partners to enhance the regional dominance.

e) China's diplomatic skills to fix the regional problems to enhance influence:

China has emerged as a new Global mediator after Saudi Iran Rapprochement with the help of its diplomacy. So engaging Afghan Government through

diplomats can fill the dreams of China to create regional hegemony.

f) Afghanistan's resources can further help China to boost its economic progress.

As Afghanistan has abundance of resources but not explored due to instability in Afghanistan over past 40 years. But China is interested to invest in Afghanistan to explore its resources. This could strengthen Chinese economic hegemony.

g) This engagement can help China in US-China rivalry.

After US withdrawal from Afghanistan, it is in the favour of China to engage Afghanistan and to use anti US sentiments to

Increase Chinese influence in Asia.

f) A message to the hesitation of west to engage Afghanistan:

This engagement is also a clear message to US and west which are reluctant to engage Afghanistan because in this way China can prove itself as the guardian of the region. ~~China~~ Everyone knows isolated Afghanistan is a threat for whole world but by engaging Taliban Government, the human crisis inside Afghanistan and security situation of the region can be made better.

Conclusion

China has vested interests behind naming ambassador

Day: _____

Date: _____

to Afghanistan. China's desires are completely based on the desire to be an influential global actor and to create hegemony.