

Q#2
1).

INTRODUCTION

HTS (Hayat Tahrir al-Islam) Islamist rebels have toppled down Bashar al Assad regime in Syria. It has caused an unprecedented change in Syria. This change was a surprise for the whole world as the victory of the rebels occurred within a short span of time. This victory has ended the regime of the ruling that was more than 50 years. So, the rise and fall of this regime will be determined through the rebellions, the divide and rule, and the role of great powers.

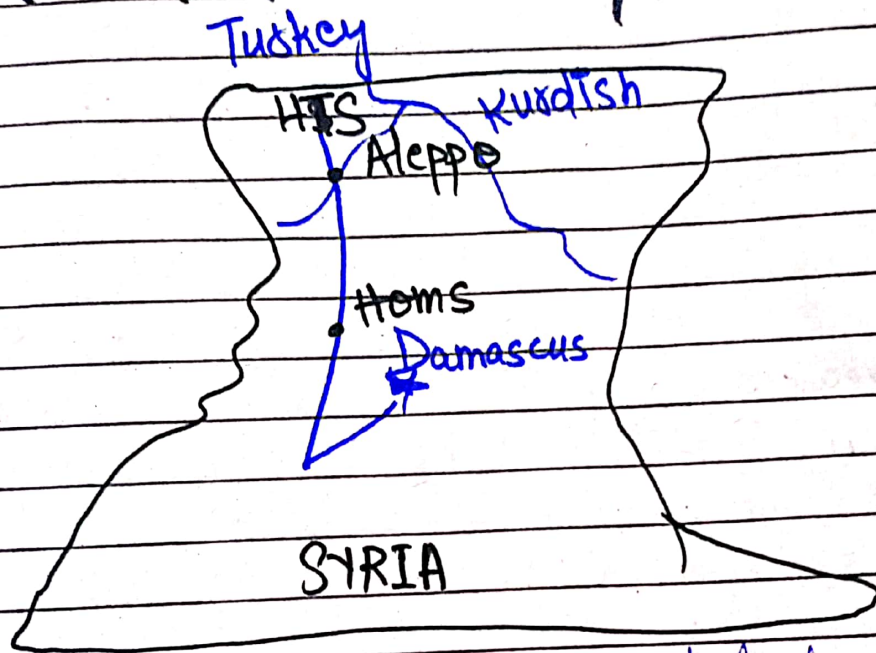
2). BACKGROUND

The ruling of the Assad regime started with the ruling of the **Hafez Al-Assad**. He has one son, who was considered as the upcoming ruler of the Syria died in a car accident. However, Bashar al-Assad was obtaining a degree in **ophthamology**. He was called by his father in order to control the ruling in Syria. The people suffered a lot

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under this ruling and huge number of people migrated to the other states as a safe haven.

3). DOWNFALL OF BASHAR AL ASSAD'S REGIME:



Syria is controlled by the number of rebels. The North of Syria was controlled by the **Kurdish** group. Although the control also shifted was also extended to the ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) and SNA (Syrian National Army) and SDA (Syrian Democratic Army). SNA is backed by **Turkey**. While USA also supported the number of other proxies

as well.
3.1) Shift of Power: Bashar al Assad's
refuge in Russia

The downfall was started within a week when HTS started to move from Aleppo, then to Homs. He reached swiftly towards the Damascus while Bashar-al-Assad migrated had taken a refuge in Russia.

4) REASONS

These are a number of reasons behind the downfall of Assad's regime. Some are described below:

4.1) Sufferings of Syrians led to the rise of Rebels:

People suffered a lot under his torturous regime. He used a force in order to maintain the ruling of more than 50 years. People suffered a lot. That was the main reason of the rise of the rebellious groups in order to get freedom from suppression and oppression.

4.2) Rule Divide and Rule: Fall of Syrian Regime

Syria is not controlled

Single handedly by Bashar-al-Assad. It was divided with number of rulings among various factions. Conversely, Bashar-al-Assad controlled almost 70% of Syria while the remaining 30% was controlled by the other elements.

4.3) Rebellion lasted for a long time :

The rebellion started from 2011 in the consequence of the effects of the Arab Spring. It also fell due to the Civil War of 2013. It had a huge repercussions. Although the war was victorious within a short span of time but a fight against this ruling was not less.

5) IMPLICATIONS

The fall of this regime has a number of implications, such as:

5.1) Aims of the Israel's Expansionism:

After the fall of Bashar-al-Assad regime, Israel started strikes towards Israel and destroyed a number of military equipments and other

major sites which were crucial for Syria. It used a policy of **protectionism** as a mere response in order to protect the Syria from future attacks against Israel.

5.1.1) Israel's Motives:

In the same manner, Syria-Israel also started the to capture the buffer zone between Israel and Syria, that is Golan Heights. This buffer zone was created after the Arab-Israel war. Israel wanted to maintain the permanent settlements towards Golan Heights.

5.2) Turkey: Major beneficiary

Some considered the role of Turkey behind this. Turkey is a huge beneficiary from this fall as it considered the Kurds as a constant enemy while Bashar al-Assad was not agreeing on the terms of Turkey.

5.3) Influence of USA: Fall of Power of Russia and Iran

USA also wanted to influence the Syria in order to counter the influence of **Russia** and **Iran**. So, this incident weakened the reach

of Iran against Israel due to the decline of its proxies influence in Syria and other Axis of Resistance's regions.

6). SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths	Weaknesses
1) Sufferings of Syrians may decline 2) Syria may succeed if HTS takes will take the proper approach regardless of just portraying the democracy.	1) The great powers may take advantage. 2) Threats of rebels and Israel.
Opportunities	Threats
1) Opportunity towards the prosperity.	Opportunity may prove a blessing in disguise due to a foreign influence.

7). CONCLUSION

After considering all things, it is proved that the fall of regime brings a hope for the Syrians. It cannot be stated that regime

change is successful regardless of seeing the aftermath after its fall. In essence, the illusion will be broken by considering the effects of the great powers.

Q#4)
1.)

INTRODUCTION

Russia-China, growing economic, strategic and geo-political collaboration is an effort to potentially challenge the US led world order. This effort is witnessed in a number of deals in order to counter the influence of U.S directly or indirectly. This major threat is recognized by the U.S and it is using its measures upto some extent.

2.) COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA:

2.1) ECONOMIC COLLABORATION:

Russia and China are collaborated in a number of events against USA, such as:

2.1.1) Reducing the influence of Sanctions:
In the ongoing Russia-

Ukraine War, USA has imposed a number of sanctions against Russia. However, China is purchasing a cheap oil from Russia in order to counter the influence of USA. It indicated that the great superpowers effect is declining.

2.12). Rising organization like BRICS: Threat to Dollarization

Russia and China also collaborated on the platform of **BRICS** (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). This organization will help to counter the effect of dollar by the introduction of its own currency.

2.13). Rising influence due to the projects like BRI:

The China is also expanding its network and communication through the project of BRI. This project connect the South Asia, Middle East, Africa and Europe. However, USA introduced **IMEC** (India, Middle East, Europe Corridor) but this project doesn't seem to be in practical terms. Thus, China and Russia may wanted

to control the already established world order.

2.2). STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Russia and China also collaborated strategically. Russia and China are also supplying huge number of weapons to each other.

2.2.1). Supporting weapons for each other in the ongoing strategic wars:

Russia is supporting the China on the ongoing issue of **South China Sea** and **Taiwan**. This support was also extended by the contrary support of the claim of Russia towards **Kyiv** by China in the ongoing **Russia - Ukraine** war.

2.3). GEO-POLITICAL COLLABORATION

Russia and China were also collaborated geo-politically in a number of ways, such as:

2.3.1). Use of Veto Power: Countering the effects of US.

They were also using the veto power in order to support each other on the political events and the rivalry

against their rebels. Thus, it may help in order to decline the effect of U.S.A.

2.3.2). Shift from the Unipolar to the Multi-polar World:

Another major factor is the rise of multilateralism. It is considered as a major shift from the unipolar to the multipolar world. The major beneficiaries are Russia and Iran that are against the superpower, that is U.S.A.

2.3.3). Communist School of Thought: Capitalistic Ideologies:

The communism is also spreading due to the fulfillment of promises by China through major collaborating events with the Global South. Although China also ~~ap~~ adopted capitalistic measures upto some extent, it portrayed itself as a communist like Russia. However, China helped a lot in reducing poverty of the poverty-stricken nations.

3). SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION:

The schematic representation is explained as below:

Collaborations

Economic

- 1). Reducing the influence of sanctions
- 2). BRICS: Threat to Dollarization
- 3). BRI: expansionism

Strategic

- 1). South-China Sea
- 2). Russia-Ukraine War

Geo-political

- 1). Veto Power
- 2). Multi-polar world
- 3). Communism: Capitalism

4). CONCLUSION

Reiterating the main idea, the Russia and China are considered as a major threat for USA in terms of economic, strategic and geo-political interests. These interests are changing the world order but also proved beneficial for the global South through the rise of globalization and inter-connectedness among nations. Hence, these interests posed a huge threat to the US led world order.

Q17:
1).

INTRODUCTION

The Middle East had witnessed a huge change in recent years. This change may

produced a number of beneficiaries and losers in the ongoing conflicts. The effect is considered as long-lasting due to the witnessing events of change in Palestine, Syria, KSA, Lebanon and other Yemen. So, the expansion of Israel, setback of the Axis of Resistance and other events led to the change of scenarios.

2). CONFLICTS OF MIDDLE EAST

The major conflicts witnessed in the Middle East

are were:

- 1). Palestine Conflict
- 2). Syria's Change of regime
- 3). Friendly relation between KSA and Iran through China

2.1). BENEFICIARIES:

The beneficiaries of the ongoing conflicts are described below:

2.1.1). Israel's Expansionism: Claim of Measures of Protectionism

Israel is a huge beneficiary in case of Palestine Conflict and Syria's fall of existing regime. The attack of Hamas gave an opportunity in order to extend its expansionist ideology.

by controlling its territory. In addition, Israel got an opportunity in order to counter the effect of Syria's rise against it as a mere claim. The main aim was to capture the Golan Heights. Thus, Israel was successful in order to annex the territories through a mere claim of protectionist measures.

2.1.2). Opportunities for U.S.A for maintaining the influence:

U.S.A also got an opportunity in order to counter the influence of Russia, China, and Iran in the Middle East. The fall of the long-ruler in Syria provides an opportunity in order to maintain its influence as the Assad's regime was pro-Russia. Furthermore, Israel is a long-existed partner of U.S.A and supported the U.S.A in major events. That is why, Israel is also supported by the U.S.A in unprecedently.

2.1.3). China's benefit through peaceful relations:

China will get a huge benefit by maintaining the friendly relations between KSA and Iran. This will open the

opportunities for China in order to no further expand its influence through a number of collaborations. Additionally, China also got an opportunity through peace as U.S.A is engaged in the ongoing conflicts and wars. These conflicts are deteriorating the economy of U.S.A regardless of its huge supply of weapons and other strategic tools.

2.2) LOSERS

These conflicts led to the emergence of the losers, which were described below:

2.2.1) Declining Influence of Axis of Resistance of Israel:

The huge loss is suffered by Iran due to the failure of Axis of Resistance in Middle East. Hamas, Hezbollah and Hezbollah suffered a huge setback due to the constant killings of their number of leaders like Ismail Haniyeh and others.

2.2.2) Ceasefire Agreement between Israel and Lebanon: Another setback to Hezbollah

Lebanon also laid its weapons in front of Israel as it was unable

to counter the strikes of Israel. They signed a ceasefire deal but this deal had no proof regardless of the hypocrisy of the Israel. Hezbollah suffered a huge setback due to this agreement as its influence in decline in the south of Lebanon.

2.2.3). U.S.A experienced the rise and fall:

U.S.A is also suffering. First, its image is destroyed in the whole world as a protector of the human rights. Second, U.S.A is also unable to counter the influence of Israel in terms of elections and others. So, Third, the economy of U.S.A suffered a huge setback. Hence, U.S.A witnessed the rise and fall due to the ongoing conflicts in Middle East.

2.2.4). Declining power of Russia; Fall of Syria's Regime of Assad Dynasty

Russia's and power also decline in Syria as it was engaged in the war against Ukraine. This proved that Russia did not afford another conflict that will lead to the decline of its power.

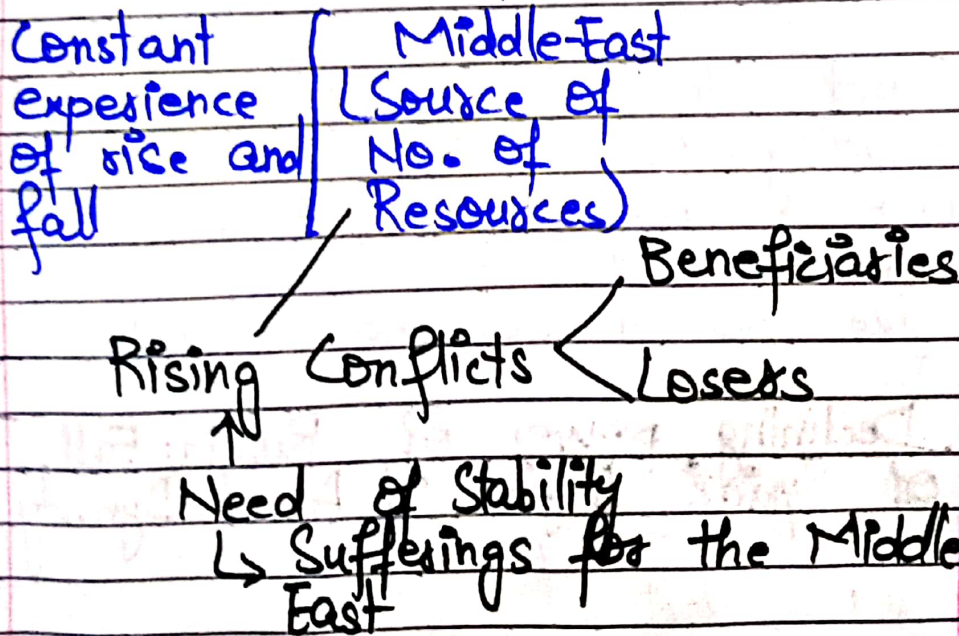
3) RECOMMENDATIONS:

Following are the certain dem^r recommendations:
U.S.A shall try to develop peace and stability regardless of intervening in the affairs of another state.

A number of other ceasefire agreements shall also be signed in order to maintain the stability in the Middle East.

4) CRITICAL ASSESSMENT:

Opportunistic Land



5) CONCLUSION

After considering all things, it is proved that the conflicts brought a huge

change in the whole region due to emergence of beneficiaries and losers. Hence, it is proved that these conflicts are beneficial for socially, politically, economically with a number of major setbacks to a number of nations. In essence, only the peace will bring the stability in the region.

#8:
1).

INTRODUCTION

CPEC project is slowed down due to various factors. However, certain measures will help to de-intriguate the project between Islamabad and Beijing and will make Phase II a tangible reality. This project needs a revival as CPEC brings a huge prospects for Pakistan and China. The major concerns are **security** and other opportunities led to the slow down of the project of CPEC. Hence, revival is a great demand for both nations.

2). REASONS BEHIND THE

SLOWING DOWN OF THE CPEC:

2.1). Security concerns:

Security is a huge concern for China due to the number of attacks on the Chinese in Pakistan. For instance, Bisham Attack, the attack on the Chinese citizens in Karachi airport and others. Hence, the security is a major challenge for China and Pakistan.

2.2). Interference of the Foreign Agents through malpractices:

The other foreign agents are also interfering in order to slow down the influence of China by adopting unethical practices such as the rise of proxies and other threatening events in Pakistan.

2.3). Rise of Opportunities: Halt to CPEC project

China is also busy in order to find the opportunities in other continents in order to further expand its influence through collaborative efforts hence, the other chances. Posits a threat to the project of CPEC.

3) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RE-INVIGORATING CPEC:

Following are the number of options or recommendations for re-invigorating the project and leads the Phase-II towards the tangible reality.

3.1) Mutual Consensus: Declining Security Threats:

Pakistan shall firstly try to solve the the threats for the Chinese for accelerating this project. It will be possible through their joint efforts. However, China shall also understand that the threats are not just for Pakistan but they are also used to contain the China. Hence, China and Pakistan shall deal the issue with mutual consensus.

3.2) Recognition of Common Enemy: Danger to Collaboration

Pakistan and China shall try to recognize its common enemy for reducing the effects of external factors towards them.

3.3) Finishing the already-run projects.

China shall try to finish the already started projects before moving towards other opportunities. This is a more beneficial for reaping the benefits from existing projects.

4). CONCLUSION

Hence, it is noted that CPEC is a flagship project to the Pakistan and China. That is why the challenges to it are also rising in order to finish this project. So, mutual efforts will help to counter the threats for starting the Phase II of this project.