Syria, officially the Syrian Arab Republic, is a country in the West Asia. The capital of Syria is Damascus. Syria is well known for the Axis of Resistance, specially after Israel-Palestine conflict. Recently, in December 2024, ~~R.~~ Syria met a ~~tragedy~~ big incident in which her more than decades old tyrant ruler ~~Asad~~ Bashar-ul-Assad was toppled down by the rebel group Hayat Tahrir al-sham.
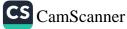
Background: Syria was at peace ~~till~~ since 2020 when an arrangement was made in Russia and Iran. But now the stress and conflict is rising at a time when conflict at one region can quickly spread to other. The rebels led by Hayat Tahrir al-sham, an outfit linked with Al-Qaeda, launched an assault on November 27.

Syria is one of the important component of Axis of resistance and so causing instability in that would be a great celebration for the foreign forces like Israel.

Axis of Resistance and its significance:
Axis of Resistance is a coalition or association between different Muslim countries like Syria, Hezbollah, Lebanon and Gaza - the purpose of all is to protect Iran against any foreign attack and in return Iran will fulfill their economic needs. Axis of Resistance has played an active part recently in Israel-Palestine conflict. The parts of Axis of Resistance like Hezbollah, Lebanon and Iran have retaliated upon Israel's attack on Palestine. So, the stability of Axis of Resistance is crucial for Iran and other parts of Axis of Resistance. On the other hand, causing instability in the Axis of Resistance will benefit Israel because then they would know that their attacks will not be

retaliated, by

Bashar al-Assad and his regime:

Bashar al-Assad is a Syrian dynast who succeeded his father Hafez al-Assad as president of Syria in 2000. For half a century Assad family ruled over Syria. Assad's regime was marked by atrocities, mass incarceration and other grave human rights violations. Many call Assad as puppet or stupid made by the hands of Russia. Assad has just focus on gaining from other countries like Russia but has not protected people's right. Human rights violation is the reason that let syrians have a hostile attitude towards Assad.

Hayat Tahrir al-Sham: A rebel group linked with Al-Qaeda called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham is the reason behind topple down of Bashar al Assad's regime. This group was set up under different name. It was regarded as one of the

most clearly groups against Bashar
al-Assad. It was proscribed as a
the terrorist group by UN, US and
other countries. The topple-down of
Assad by HTS shows that they have
been before Assad since the beginning

Attack on Syria was intentional on

A
Destabilizing Syria was only in the interest
of HTS or some other entity too?
The rebels obviously know what they
are doing, for they struck at a time
when Hezbollah, which played a key
role in depending the Assad governm-
ent, has suffered major setbacks,
while Iran and Russia are busy
in their own conflicts, the former
against Israel and the latter against
Ukraine. But, the question that
must be considered is that why
the well armed and organised rebels
chose to strike when the is a
ceasefire was established between
Israel and Palestine, at least in short
term.
     In fact, further instability in

Syria will only help Israel, as the government in ~~Syria is~~ Damascus is a central pillar of Axis of Resistance. Therefore, we can somehow consider, at least as per the present scenario, that destabilizing Syria will be in the best interest not just for HTS but for Israel too.

Reasons behind fall of Asad:

- It was largely Mr Assad's overconfidence that led to the downfall of his regime. The ex-president failed to learn lessons from the fate of Arab strongmen like Hosni Mubarak. If he had negotiated a peaceful transfer of power with the moderate Syrian opposition, tens of thousands of innocent lives lost in this ~~bloody~~ bloody conflict have been saved.
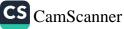
- The efforts and attack of Hayat Tahrir al-sham. As this rebel group was against Assad since so long. HTS attacked Syria on 27 November, 2024.
- The tyrant rule of Assad made his own people hostile towards him. Assad deprived people of their basic rights which always kept a negative attitude towards Assad.

Implications of the instability:
- So far, no major incident of violence is reported in any part of the country. after the fall of Asad's regime. But the situation is teinous, with disparate rebel militia controlling the country. It is difficult that these groups with differing interest will reach an agreement for political setup.
The re is also fear that the change could lead to another period of authoratarian rule. But the recent statement by group leadership

dispel those concerns.

- Other groups that dominates the part of the country may not allow the establishment of a radical religious order.

- Turkey perhaps wield more power to influence the future course of politics of Syria, given its significant clout with some of the rebel groups of the country. Ankara also has a military presence in Syrian territory.

Conclusion: End of a tyrannical rule is a thing to celebrate till we embrace any honnor that future culture awaits. Fall of Assad's regime is a news to celebrate for some while saddening for others. Countries like Israel will benefit from the fall of Assad while countries like Iran and Russia have lost their ally. This is a state of great unstability for Syria unless next government takes the reign.

Q.6

<u>Introduction</u>: COPs are an important moment, where countries have the opportunity to show up for collabration and climate related action. But they alone don't define our future. Many countries participates in the COP to discuss the pressing issues related to climate change. The recent COP called COP29 was held in Baku but is termed as a failed COP because it could not effectively highlight the issues that countries are facing neither it could resolve the financing issue for the developing countries to resolve issues of climate change.

Failures of COP29 were not properly addressed.

Failures of COP29:

• Financing issue unaddressed: We urgently need to invest trillions of dollars in climate mitigation and adaptation - yet even this was the finance COP, very little money was put on the table. Developing countries asked for US $1.3 trillion from developed countries by 2035. But what they

got was only US $300 billion by 2035.

- Many agenda items missed: Many of the agenda items were missed like the inclusion of developed countries, eg. China, so that pool of investment could be increased.

- ~~countries~~ Non cooperating countries: China means business when it comes to carbon neutrality and investment in green technologies. However it wants to stick to definitions of "developing nations" used when the UN's climate framework was devised back in 1992. Under that definition, China — world's biggest economy is still developing, and need only make voluntary contributions to climate finance. India did not paid much attention to COP29 and did nor sent its senior leadership. while, US also did not took serious action because of the election situation in the country.

Commitments at COP29:

- Focus on Climate Finance: Previous COP's have focused on reducing coal but this time COP29 focused on helping countries to deal with the climate change issue financially. The
- The Troika initiative: This initiative was first formalized under COP28. As per this, there will be sustainable efforts for global climate actions.
- Peace initiatives: COP29 is distinctive because of the fact that it launched 2 novel initiatives; COP 29 peace and Climate initiative and the COP 29 Truce appeal. These initiatives stand beyond standard climate actions by addressing interconnected challenges of climate change and global conflict.

Make conclusion relevant to the question.

Conclusion: COP29 was may seem to be a failure but something is better than nothing. Hence, we should celebrate the achievements of COP29 and work on the failures of it. Fingers crossed for COP30!