

Q#2:-

11/40

Critical evaluation of
the chances of the continuation
and expansion of
Hamas-Israel war:

- 1) Introduction: 11/20
- 2) Historical Context of the war
- 3) Factor that could lead to continuation and expansion of the war.
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- 6) Challenges to further escalation.
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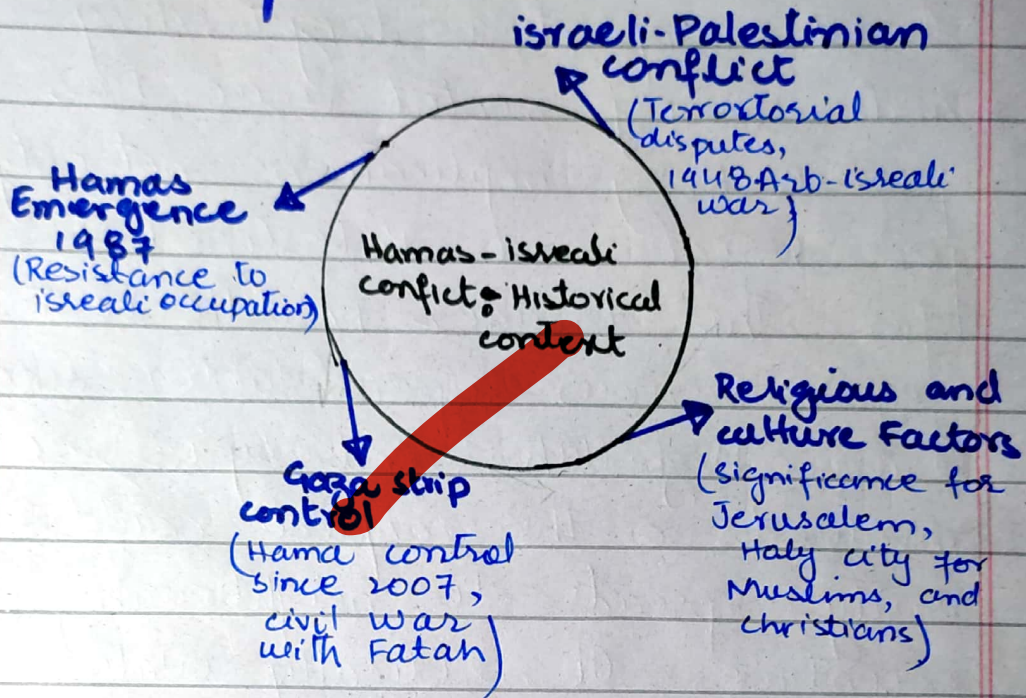
1. Introduction:

The Hamas-Israel conflict, a longstanding and deeply rooted issue, has far-reaching implications not only for Israel and Palestine but for the broader Middle East region. Various regional actors like Iran, Hezbollah, and Syria are involved, so the conflict could easily spread to neighbouring countries. It critically evaluates the likelihood of the Hamas-Israel war spreading throughout the region, considering historical tensions, regional alliances, and external interventions. By exploring these factors, it aims to understand the broader implications of the ongoing conflict and its capacity to trigger widespread instability in the Middle East.

2. Historical Context of

the Hamas-Israel

Conflict:



3) Factors that Could lead to Continuation and Expansion of the war:

(3.1) Regional Actors

Involvement: Iran, Hezbollah,

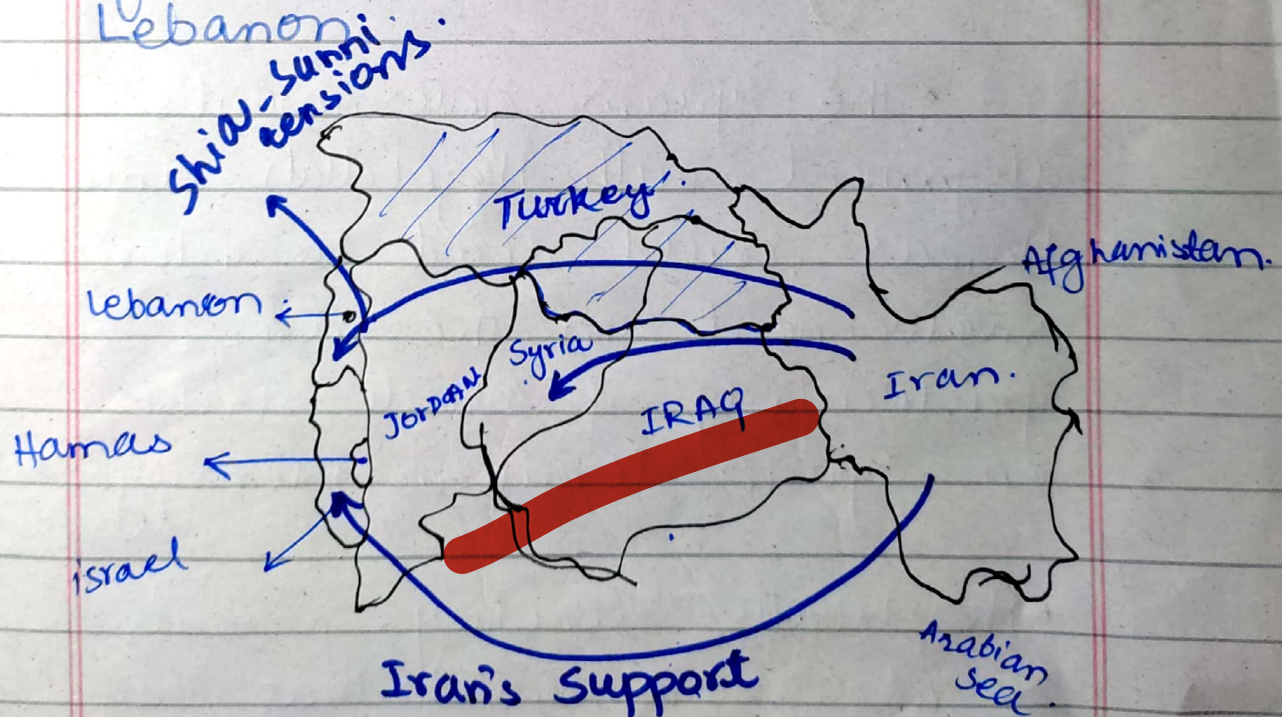
and Syria have supported Hamas.

It could escalate the conflict by providing military or financial assistance.

(3.ii) Sectarian and

Ideological Divides:

Shia-Sunni tensions and (w/egs) regional alliances could fuel the conflict. Hezbollah's Involvement would further extend the war into Lebanon.



(3.iii) The U.S and International Dynamics:

The conflict could provoke wider international involvement with such as the U.S and European powers. These powers have strong alliances with Israel, while others, including some Arab states, may support the Palestinians.

(3.iv) Syrian Involvement:

- The Syrian's government's alignment with Hezbollah and Hamas could lead to indirect involvement in the war, particularly if Israeli strikes on Syrian territories intensify.

- Hezbollah's secretary-general, Naim Qassem, stated that the Lebanese group will support Syria against "terrorist" groups.

4) Political Scenarios:

• Continued Low-intensity Conflict:

As long as Hamas retains operational capabilities, low-intensity conflicts will likely persist in Gaza and potentially escalate in the West Bank.

• Regional Wars:

An escalation by Hezbollah or Iranian proxies could trigger a wider regional war, drawing in multiple countries (Iraq, Syria, Lebanon) and complicating international responses.

• Ceasefire Negotiations:

Diplomatic efforts may lead to temporary ceasefires; however, without addressing underlying grievances, these are unlikely to result

in lasting ~~peace~~.

| Region | key Actors | Influence. |
|---------|---------------|--|
| Iran | Iran | Provides military aids and financial support to Hamas and Hezbollah, leads the Axis of Resistance |
| Lebanon | Hezbollah | Military ally of Hamas, shares expertise and may engage directly against Israel if conflict escalates. |
| Syria | Syrian Regime | Facilitates weapon transfers from Iran to Hezbollah; maintains a cautious stance to avoid direct conflict with Israel. |

5) Current Indicators of Regional Spillover:

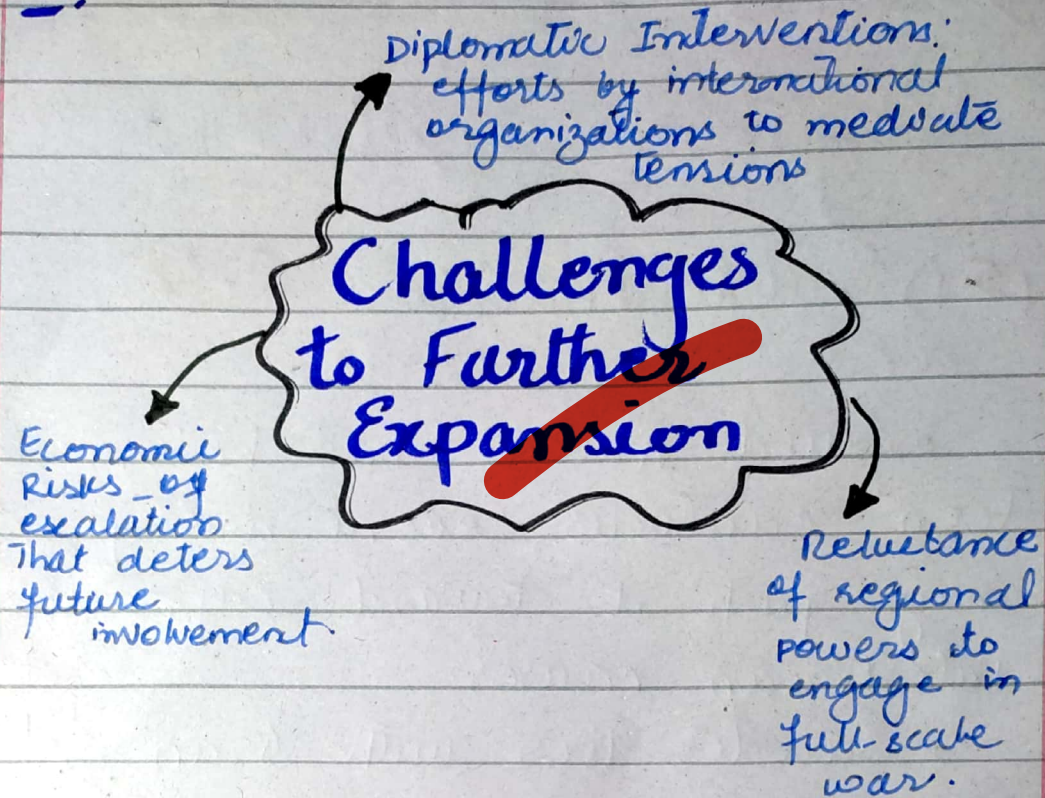
(5.i) Saudi Arabia's Role and Concerns:

- Saudi Arabia has historically been cautious, recent developments may push it toward supporting Palestinian causes.
- Saudi's ties with Iran and its rivalry with Israel may further fuel the regional spillover.

(5.ii) Turkey's strategic position:

- Turkey has shown support for Palestinians and criticized Israel's actions, potentially escalating tensions.
- Turkey's military presence in northern Syria and its influence in the region may involve it in a broader conflict.

6:



7: Conclusion:

While the Hamas-Israel conflict presents risks for regional escalation, various diplomatic, military and economic factors can influence its concentration and expansion. Regional actors may become more involved, but global pressure and careful planning could prevent the war from spreading across the region. Proactive engagement will be essential to mitigate further escalation.

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