

## Part-II

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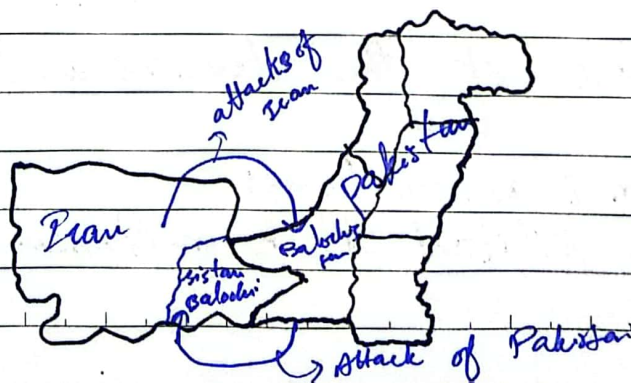
### INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan and Iran share a complex relationship characterized by historical ties, economic collaboration and occasional geo-political challenges. Both the countries worked together on various forums such as ECO (Economic Cooperation Organization). The Iran-Pakistan border is 596 miles long, running from southwestern border of Pakistan to southeastern border of Iran. Historically, Pakistan and Iran faced multiple border controversies. But, the relationship between them is stable. Unfortunately, Iran attacked Pakistan's region in 2024, in response Pakistan also attacked their region. Consequently, the tension between them arise.

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### Pakistan - Iran relations: From allies to adversaries.

On 16, Jan, 2024, Iran air strike baloch region claiming to attack hideouts of Jaish-ul-Adl. In response, Pakistan downgraded diplomatic ties and airstrikes in Iran southeastern region on 18th, Jan, 2024.



(3) What happened on 16-Jan-2024:

On 16, Jan 2024, Pakistan's region Balochistan attacked by Iran with missile and drone. Iran supreme leader Khomeini personally ordered to attack Pakistan. Iran's foreign minister said the operation targeted the militant group Jaish-al-Adl, which he described "Iranian terrorist group." Officials of Pakistan said two children were killed and three others injured in this attack. Pakistan's official also said that the attack was "illegal" and against the sovereignty of Pakistan.

(4) Pakistan's Reactions to Iran's attack

(a) Recalled Ambassador:

After the Iranian attack on Pakistan territory, officials of Pakistan recalled its Ambassador from Iran and dismantle the Diplomatic relation with Iran.

(b) Air-Strikes on Iran's "Marg Bar Samacheh"

On 16, Jan, 2024, Pakistan replied to the attacks of Iran in its way by air-striking on Balochistan-system and killed terrorists.

(5) Reasons of the tensions and Airstrikes.

(i) From Iranian Lens:

(a) Militant Attack on Qassem Sulemani:



perspective of airstrikes is to kill the terrorists of ISIS. As, ISIS took claim of attack on Qassem Sulemani. They attacks in Iran on Qassem Sulemani and live in Balochistan.

### (b) External pressure on Iran:

The conflict between Gaza and Israel is going on and Iran support Hamas and Houthis against Israel which creates pressure on Iran to killed its enemy.

### (c) Direct public attention.

As elections are near and internal issues are high, so it is the domestic move by Iran to direct public opinion.

### (ii) From the lens of Pakistan

#### (a) Growing insurgency in Balochistan:

Pakistan airstrikes on Iran because militant groups which are Pakistani used Iranian land for insurgency in Balochistan.

#### (b) Retaliation message:

As Iran attacked the Pakistan's territory, it is high need to answer this just because of retaliation message to everyone in the region.

© Public pressure on military:

According to  
ISPR, 60% people voted in favor of retaliation  
to Iran airstrike on formal twitter

## Beneficiaries of Pak-Iran Tensions:

① ~~India~~ United States of America to influence Pakistan against Iran:

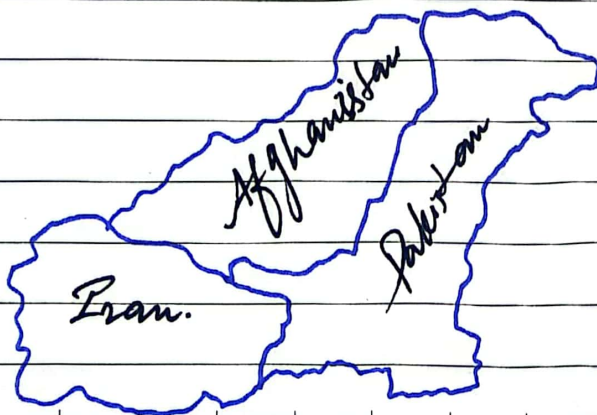
Due to this tension between Pakistan and Iran, United States of America beneficial in its foreign policy. As Biden said, No one likes Iran in the region and condemned Iran air strikes.

② India's proxy role:

India <sup>support</sup> ~~plays~~ proxy against Pakistan in Balochistan and in ~~As~~ this tension there is India's agenda as well. Foreign minister Hosseini said, third party plays role in Pak-Iran tensions.

③ Tensions may beneficial for Afghanistan:

If the tensions between Iran and Pakistan arises it benefits the Afghanistan in terms of economics. As the Afghanistan is the only neighbour which connected with both countries.





## ⑥ Critically Analysis of tension:

Recent attacks of both countries adds a layer of complexity to the diplomatic relations between two nations. Despite simultaneous diplomatic engagements including a recent meeting between caretaker Prime minister of Pakistan and Iranian foreign minister in Iran and joint naval exercises in the Gulf, the strikes undercovers the persistent tensions. However, the diplomatic relations started again with Iran but the eyes of militant groups and enemies are on creating tensions again.

## ⑦ Ways to De-escalate tensions.

### (a) Cross border Collaboration.

Pakistan and Iran must enhance their security on border and make sure collaboration.

### (b) Work on Iran-Pak Gas pipeline:

To ease tensions Pakistan needs to work on previous projects like gas-pipeline between Iran and Pakistan.

### (c) Economic interdependency:

Pakistan and Iran are economically dependent as they are neighbours. Pakistan's northern region is particularly dependent on ~~supp~~ supplies of food, petroleum products and electricity from Iran. Therefore, economic interdependency overcome the tension b/w them.

### (d) Conclusion:

To conclude, the relations between Pakistan and Iran were good in 30 years after Pakistan's independence and it changed after 1979 revolution. In recent times, Pakistan and Iran had good diplomatic relation as they do military exercises and export-import of goods. ~~But~~ However, tension arises in Jan, 2024 by Iran. yet it can be diminish through pragmatic measures.