

Q8)

Political stability is a prerequisite for well-functioning, flourishing socio-economic outlook of a country. Sadly, our country has ~~been~~ long been suffering from political instability. As a result, Pakistan is engulfed in severe socio-economic crisis. Some of the way in which political instability can deteriorate the socio-economic outlook of Pakistan are as under:

How has Political instability in Pakistan led to socio-economic crisis

1) Inconsistent And short-term economic Policies:

For an economic policy to work, it is important that it remains constant over a long period of time. However, the political instability in Pakistan

and the early removal of governments has led to inconsistent economic policies being formed. Every time a new government is voted in, it changes the economic policy to align it with their economic objectives. However, when the government is removed prematurely, the new government, that assumes office, changes the economic policy to meet their objectives. In this way Pakistan has been suffering due to inconsistent and short-term economic policies that lead to socio-economic crisis.

2) Investors lose trust:

Political stability is necessary for economic development. Hence, the political instability in Pakistan has deterred ~~many~~ many investors from investing in the country. Investors need a conducive business environment, hence when they don't find a country's political landscape to be stable, the investors

lose trust in investing in that political country. Not only does it discourage new investors from investing, but the existing investors also start to pull out their money and invest somewhere else. This can further deteriorate socio-economic conditions of a country.

3) Devaluation of National Currency

Poor economic policies coupled with lack of foreign investment are recipe for economic disaster. Poor economic output strains a country's currency, devaluing it. This devaluation ~~worsen~~ worsens socio-economic conditions of a country.

4) High Inflation:

Political instability also leads to high inflation. Poor economic policies

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and devaluation of currency has a ripple effect that raises the prices of commodities. This is also evident from the case of Pakistan as according to the Economic Survey Pakistan (22-23) the consumer price index stood at a staggering 29.2, indicating high inflation levels.

5) Economic crisis lowers living standards:

The economic crisis induced by political instability can directly impact the citizens. People start spending less on their daily requirements ~~which lowers~~ and ~~give~~ essentials. As a result the living standards of a country ~~start~~ begin to drop. Reinforcing this thought, UN Human Development Report ranks Pakistan 162/192 countries on Human Development Index. This shows how political instability can lead to socio-economic crisis.

6) Poor Infrastructural Development:

Political instability can lead to a lack of infrastructural development. Many public institutions such as hospitals, educational institutions, roads remain underdeveloped which can cause social problems. Alif Ailaan report ~~reinforce~~ highlights that 48% of Pakistan's schools lack the basic infrastructure like walls, toilets, chairs etc.

7) Increased Unemployment:

Political instability can lead to the closure of many businesses and industries. This can lead to severe socio unemployment adding to the country's socio-economic problems. International Labour Organisation (2023) indicates that over 5 million Pakistanis

remain unemployed.

Policies to alleviate the crisis

1) Free And Fair Election

conducting free & fair elections can go a long way in inducing political stability.

Elections are the basic fundamental aspect of any democratic country, and hence by giving people the right to choose their desired representatives, the socio-economic conditions can be improved.

2) Reduce Polarization:

Pakistan is also grappling with polarized sentiments - People have developed polarized views because of oversimplification of complex issues. Hence political leaders should work on reducing

such extreme viewpoints in order to form a more cohesive and cordial environment.

3) Long-term Economic Policies :

All major political parties of the country should join hands and devise a long-term consistent economic charter for the country. It should also be ensured that this charter is followed by ~~the go~~ all the governments who assume power. This will ensure that there are no fluctuations in the economic policies of the country.

4) Decrease the intervention of non-Democratic actors.

One of the biggest reasons for political instability is the

constant intervention of non-democratic institutions. Hence it should be ensured that such intervention is stopped in politics so that the democratic landscape of the country can evolve.

Conclusion

To sum up, Pakistan's political history is marked by series of coups, ~~the~~ dissolution of parliament, and assassinations that have kept the country from evolving. These issues have also had a profound impact on the socio-economic conditions of the country. However, by forming policies that aim to strengthen the democracy, this problem can be surmounted.

(Q 7) "Our objective should be peace within and peace without

"We want to live peacefully and maintain cordial and friendly relations with our immediate neighbors and with the world at large" — Jinnah.

The founding father of Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah set the basic principle of Pakistan's foreign Policy while addressing the first constituent assembly of Pakistan.

However, as time elapsed the newly independent country: Pakistan, found itself engulfed in intricate and complex geo political challenges that eventually led to ~~the~~ its departure from Jinnah's vision. In the present times, Pakistan finds itself in the midst of three hostile neighbours.

Furthermore, the slowed progress in CPEC underscores the ~~the~~ annoyance of ~~our~~ Pakistan's ally: China. How ~~have~~ can these tensions and exasperation of close allies a failure of Foreign Policy of Pakistan?

Failures and Hurdles in the Foreign Policy of Pakistan

1) Growing Tensions with India:

India has long been hostile towards Pakistan. These tensions started the day both the countries obtained their independence and are still perpetuating hitherto. Kashmir issue has been a major cause for these tensions. Kashmir is a disputed territory claimed by both the countries. Both the countries have fought ~~several~~ several wars during their short history. In present times, India remains one of the biggest threat to Pakistan and is supporting many terrorist groups in Pakistan. This was also uncovered in 2020, when Pakistan's intelligence agencies ~~disove~~ ~~reveate~~ discovered the vast network of arms and finance supply by India

to these terrorist organizations. All this irrefutable proof was compiled into a dossier and sent to UN, but no action was taken about it. Hence, ~~this~~ security threats emanating from India still looms at large, ~~which is~~ and the failure to highlight India's violation of Pakistan's sovereignty and its support to terrorism in Pakistan remains a failure of the Foreign Policy of Pakistan.

2) Afghanistan crisis :

Pakistan - Afghanistan hostility dates back to 1947, when Afghanistan refused to accept the Durand line (Pakistan - Afghanistan border) and ~~prevented~~ ~~Pakistan~~ tried to prevent Pakistan from becoming a member of UN.

Since then Pakistan - Afghanistan ties have seen many fluctuations. Pakist

an's support in assisting the resistance against Soviet invasion of Afghanistan thawed the ice between both the countries. However, with the withdrawal of America from Afghanistan and ~~Fed~~ Tehreek-e-Taliban Afghanistan in power, both the countries are seeing an ~~incr~~ increase in tensions. Pakistan has expressed its apprehensions to TTA about how Afghan soil is being used to conduct terrorism in Pakistan, but little ~~it~~ was done to ~~it~~ address Pakistan's concerns. As a result, in retaliation, Pakistan announced the repatriation of Afghan refugees, which further heightened the tensions. Hence failure to resolve the issue diplomatically and resorting to such extreme means is another failure of Pakistan's Foreign policy.

3) Increasing Tensions with Iran:

Pakistan and Iran have long enjoyed cordial ties, ~~but~~ but ~~recently~~ in recent times there has been an increase in tensions between both the countries.

On 16 January, Iran carried out missile strikes in Pakistan allegedly aiming Jaish al-Adl, a terrorist group located in Pakistan. The foreign office of Iran made a statement that it respected Pakistan's sovereignty but no compromise will be made on Iran's security. This elicited a befitting response from Pakistan. On 18th January, Pakistan launched a series of coordinated and specifically targeted military strikes in Iran's southeastern Sistan and Balochistan province. The ~~at~~ attack was called 'Marg Bar Sarmachar'.

However, both the countries have expressed the ~~dis~~ desire to alleviate the tensions. Iran, ~~having~~ historically having cordial relations with Pakistan, ~~is~~ resorting to such extreme measures to ~~is~~ address its concerns highlight the failure of Pakistan's Foreign Policy.

4) CPEC being slowed down:

The slowed process of CPEC highlights yet another failure of Pakistan's Foreign Policy. This slow in process can be attributable to Pakistan falling short in addressing China's concerns. The rise in Terrorism in Pakistan has cost many Chinese engineers/workers their lives - Chinese citizens seem to be the aim of terrorist groups operating in Pakistan. This is also evident from a suicide attack on a bus carrying nine Chinese

engineers who were working on a hydropower project. Failure to address ~~these~~ chinese concerns and the ^{resultant} slowed progress of CPEC is another failure of Pakistan's foreign Policy.

Recommendations for Pakistan

D) Expose India on Global Platforms.

Pakistan should expose India's support for terrorist insurgencies in Pakistan.

Pakistan already has proof of Indian involvement in terrorist activities in Pakistan. Pakistan should leverage global platforms to uncover India's violation of international law and patronage to these terrorist organizations. Pakistan should also reach out to global leaders and ask them to hold India accountable for

its actions.

2) Improve Diplomacy with Afghanistan and Iran:

In order to ~~also~~ prevent tensions between its neighbours from rising, Pakistan should reach out to both these countries and encourage ~~diplomatic~~ resolving issues through diplomacy.

3) Joint-Intelligence operations against TTP:

Pakistan should also push TTA for conducting joint intelligence operations in Afghanistan to eliminate TTP hideouts. This will ensure Afghanistan's sovereignty is not damaged and also the elimination of TTP launching raids.

4) Expel Afghan TTP leaders :

Pakistan should also ask TTA to expel TTP leaders who are actively ~~pursuing~~ supporting terrorism in Pakistan. such efforts can improve relations between both countries.

5) Address China's Apprehensions :

Pakistan's Foreign department should sit with their ~~etc~~ chinese counterparts and ~~seek~~ attempt to address china's concerns and ensure security to chinese citizens in Pakistan.

Conclusion

To encapsulate, Pakistan's Foreign Policy has proven ineffective in creating friendly and cordial relations

with its neighbours. The growing tensions serve as a testament to the country's ineffective foreign policy. Hence, ~~it is~~ ~~at~~ in present scenario, it is all the more important to address this issue.

Q5) The inception of G7 had a profound bearing on the geo-political landscape of the world. G7 was made up by members that held significant military, economic and political influence. The world witnessed how this organization shaped the world order. However after decades of uncontested dominance, there is another organization on the rise that could threaten the long held dominance of G7. But first, the question arises that what the factors needed for an organization to become a success story?

Factors needed By an Organization for success

1) GDP contribution:

This is one of the biggest factor for the success of any organization. The significance of an organization increases ~~as~~ according to the \downarrow GDP contribution it holds. Global

a) Military strength:

Another major factor for success of a organization is the military strength of its members. The larger ~~military~~ the military is the more significance the organization will hold.

3) Population Representation:

If ~~the~~ an organization represents more population, its significance is all the more increased. This is because the decisions taken by a particular organization is viewed to be the ~~the~~ opinion of the people it represents.

4) Resources that the members of an organization contain:

This means the resources that the member states of an organization contain. This could be the natural resources such as oil, or gas that the member states of a organization have.

5) Contribution to Global Trade:

This refers to how deeply the world is ~~deeply~~ interconnected ~~with~~ in trade with the member states.

of an organization.

6) Different institutions established by an organization:

This refers to institutions that are established by an organization. This includes financial institutions to lend financial help, integrated justice institution to resolve disputes, or NGO's that provide assistance to different parts of the world.

Overview of BRICS

BRIC is the acronym first coined by Jim O'Neil, an economist American Economist. His view were formally materialised by Russia in 2009, who took the initiative and called a joint summit of Brazil, Russia, India, China.

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In 2010, South Africa was also added to this group. In the 15 Summit held on 22 August, 2023 in South Africa it was announced six more countries are going to join BRICS: Argentina [later did not join], Saudi Arabia, UAE, Ethiopia, Iran and Egypt. Now BRICS is being viewed as a genuine ~~contel~~ contender to G7's hegemony. Following are factors why BRICS is likely to succeed in future despite the hurdles it faces:

Factors why BRICS has a Bright Future

1) Massive Global GDP contribution 36%

BRICS' member states have some of the - major ~~and~~ highest GDP in the world. This financial dominance is likely a factor why BRICS is

~~they~~ will have a Bright future.

2) Military Strength:

BRICS' member states have significant military strength and are placed amongst the strongest in Global Power index. Such exemplary military strength will make BRICS a strong and dominating organization.

3) Population Representation:

BRICS represents around 40% of the global population that makes it one of the largest organizations in terms of population representation.

4) Resources.

BRICS' member states hold 80%

of the world's oil production and exportation. This oil Hegemony makes BRICS a rising, dominating power of the world.

5) Global Trade contribution:

BRICS' member states like china and India are one of the largest contributors to global Trade with deeply interwoven economies with the rest of the world. This is why BRICS is likely to have a bright future.

Conclusion

To sum up, BRICS is a rising global force that weilds significant influence.

Although it faces series of challenges, but with such massive economic, political, military power, it is correct to assume that

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BRICS will have a bright future.

Q4) The genesis of Israel-Palestine conflict dates back to 1948, when the UN partitioned the state of Palestine in two parts: Israel, Palestine. This led to Arab-Israeli war from which Israel emerged victorious. However, the conflict did not end there and subsequent wars were fought to reclaim the territory of Palestine but with no success. Israel also continued to expand and illegally seize ~~to~~ Palestinian territory.

Brief Overview of Hamas's attack on Israel

On 7th October, 2023, Hamas launched an assault on Israel. Hamas soldiers crossed the border from 13 different points and in three different ways.

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land crossing, sea, Ariel parachutes. More than 2000 Israeli soldiers and citizens civilians were killed and more than 100 soldiers were brought back ~~by~~ as hostages. Israel responded by cordoning Gaza. Gaza is being denied food, electricity and medical supplies. Israel has launched numerous air strikes and ordered the complete ~~evacuation~~ evacuation of northern Gaza. Israel has also commenced ground operations ~~to~~ against Hamas. The civilian death count has risen above 25000, yet the western leaders have fallen short on demanding a ceasefire. With the conflict in Gaza raging on, there is a fear that it will spread to other parts of the region:

Chances of expansion of Israel-Hamas war into the whole region.

1) Israel Assassinate Hamas leader in Lebanon:

Israel has conducted aerial strike against Hamas leader present in Lebanon. Although, Israel claims that the attack was not aimed ~~to~~ at Lebanon's sovereignty, the former has announced that this act will not go ~~a~~ unavenged. Hence there is a chance that the conflict might expand to Lebanon.

2) Houthis attack vessels ~~ent~~ going to Israel:

The Houthis in Yemen have carried attacks and taken hostages from the ships that are going to Israel. ~~#~~ Houthis claim that ships will not be allowed to take supplies

to Israel. Hence Houthis have jumped into the fight.

3) US & UK strike on Houthis:

US-UK strike on Houthis have brought the two powers in the conflict. US-UK hold that red sea route is a significant ^{trade} route and no armed group can be given a carte blanche to disrupt the trade route.

4) Iran's is being dragged into the war:

Iran~~s~~-led ~~gr~~ armed groups in Iraq have launched attacks on US troops ~~se~~ stationed in Iraq, killing three US troops. US has ~~a~~ responded by attacking numerous Iran backed ~~targets~~ targets in Iraq and Syria. Hence if the Israel-Hamas conflict

continues, there is a high probability that the conflict will turn into a wider conflagration - conflagration.

Impact of Israel-Hamas war on global power politics-

1) Saudi-Israel normalization of ties sabotaged:

Before the Hamas attack, there were talks that Israel and Saudi Arab ~~are~~ will normalize ties. However, after the attack this process has ended, which will be a major blow for Israel.

2) UN secretary invokes Article 99:

United Nations General Assembly
secretary: Antonio Guterres has

invoked article 99 of the UN GA. This allows the General Assembly to bring any issue it deems to be a threat to global peace to the Security Council's attention. This invocation shows that there is a mounting pressure against Israel.

3) ICJ Ruling :

South Africa has also launched a legal case against the genocide committed by Israel. The International Court of Justice has concluded that Israel is committing genocide but failed to stop it from continuing. Though Israel still continues to assault Gaza, ICJ's ruling indicates ~~the~~ a change in global perception towards the decades long conflict and acts as a diplomatic slap on ~~is~~ Israel.

4) Unprecedented Protests:

Many parts of the world, especially the western countries, saw unprecedented support for Palestine. This change in public opinion indicates the changing global power politics.