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Name	ATIFULLAH
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Part-II

Q 2 Services of Shah Waliullah and Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi ; -their impacts on the history ...

I Introduction :

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi and Shah Waliullah rendered great service to the survival of Islam and preservation of unique separate muslim identity. Through their efforts in religious and political spheres they saved Muslims from the domination of Hinduism. Their services provided a firm foundation for the area independence movement and ultimately the creation of

a separate Muslim homeland.

## II. Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi

He is also known as the reformer of the second millennium. He was born in Sirhind in 1564 A.D. He is the descendant of Hazrat Umar R.A. He became a disciple of Hazrat Khawja Baqi Billah and later on became the head of the Naqshbandia order of sufism.

## III. His Services:

### a) Countered the Revivalism of Hinduism.

The revivalism of Hinduism was in full swing during his times. The dominance of Hinduism ~~can~~ be was evident from the ban on cow slaughter, eating and drinking in public places during 'Ekuashi' while the same was allowed

during Ramadan. Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi encountered this revivalism and said that the honour of Islam is in the humiliation of infidels, whoever esteem the infidel will humiliate the believers.

### b) Presented Islam in its pristine form:

Institutions such as sufism were distorting the true image and teaching of Islam. Concepts such as the unity of religion, Ram and Rahman, and Kaaba and Kashi as same were common. Sheikh Ahmad castigated all these concepts. According to him, "Ram and Krishna are the creation of God. If Ram could not protect his wife, how could he protect others. How can the creator and creation be considered as one".

### c) Opposed Akbar's Deen-i-Ilahi

To appease hindus and pacify the agitating Rajputs Akbar announced his own religion: Deen-i-Ilahi. The image of Islam was sacrificed at the altar of political gains.

Sheikh Ahmad opposed Akbar's religious policy. He explained to Akbar's nobels Abul Fazl and Faizi the difference between Islam and 'kufur', between 'truth and falsehood'.

### d) Reforms in Sufism

Sufism was corrupted and maligned due to influence of other religions. The concept of 'Wahdat-al-Wajood' was popular. Sheikh Ahmad countered this concept and presented the concept of 'Wahdat-al-Shuhood' which was according to the teaching

of Islam. Thus  
he reformed sufism.

#### iv. Shah Waliullah.

He was born in  
1703 A.D and during the  
reign of Aurangzeb Alamgir.

At 5 he started learning  
Quran. Later on he learned  
logic, jurisprudence, Hadith,  
medicine, science and maths.

#### v. Need for reform:

After the death of  
Aurangzeb Muslims decline  
started. Their social, moral,  
political and religious degrada-  
-on ensued. Marhatas, Juts  
and sikhs were running amock  
while challenging the Muslim  
rule. The -time was ripe for  
the arrival of a reformer.

Shah Waliullah, like his  
predecessor, Sheikh Ahmad  
Sirhindi, took on the  
responsibility of saving the

muslim.

## vi HIS SERVICES:

### a) Translation of Quran

Quran is the guidance. It has all the lesson for a living a good life. Shah waliullah knew the importance of understanding the Quran's teaching. The people of sub-continent did not understand Arabic. Shah waliullah, despite opposition and criticism, translated the Holy Quran into Persian.

### b) Teaching of Hadith

For the first time in the sub-continent Shah waliullah started formal teaching of Hadith to his students.

### c) Encouraged using Ijtihad

Shah waliullah encouraged the utilization of ~~using~~ tool of Ijtihad. Ijtihad is

is an important tool that find answers and solution to new realities. It was, however, abandoned by scholars. Shah Waliullah encouraged its use.

#### d) social reforms:

He advised Muslims to shun all the Hindu custom and rituals that had penetrated the Muslim society. Encouraged marriage with widows, discouraged extravagance, rites of soham and chellum and mourning for more than three days.

#### e) political services:-

Shah Waliullah was aware of the declining Muslim rule. New political forces and centrifugal forces were challenging the Mughal rule. To secure the political future from the rising threat of Marhataas,

and Sikhs, he forged an alliance between Ahmad Shah Abdali and Najib-ud-dala. In the third battle of Panipat the Marhatas were defeated and their dreams of subjugating Muslims were crushed.

## vi. Impacts on history of the sub-continent.

The services of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi and Shah Waliullah greatly impacted the history and future of the sub-continent. They strived to preserve the separate Muslim identity. This later on became the Two Nation Theory. Based on these services the Muslims of sub-continent demanded the creation of a separate Muslim homeland. Thus, the services of Sheikh



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Ahmad Sirhindi and Shah Waliullah directly helped in the creation of Pakistan

### VII. Conclusion:

The social, religious and moral degradation and the political declination of Muslim prompted Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi and Shah Waliullah to come to the fore and save the Muslims. They did a yeoman service to Muslims and Islam. Through their efforts they reformed the social fabric, moral posture of Muslim society.

It was their services that helped Muslim preserve their separate identity and paved the way for the creation of Pakistan.

Q.5 If we do not take charge of our population size, Nature will do it....

Ans

### I Introduction

Pakistan's population is growing at an alarming rate. The unsustainable growth in population is directly or indirectly linked with the polycrisis the country is faced with. In the absence of preventive checks, nature is deploying its positive checks to keep the population growth sustainable. However, the current trend in population growth is a recipe for the Malthusian trap or catastrophe. Pakistan needs to take drastic measures in this regard to avoid being devoured by this monster.

## II. Pakistan's population growth: An overview

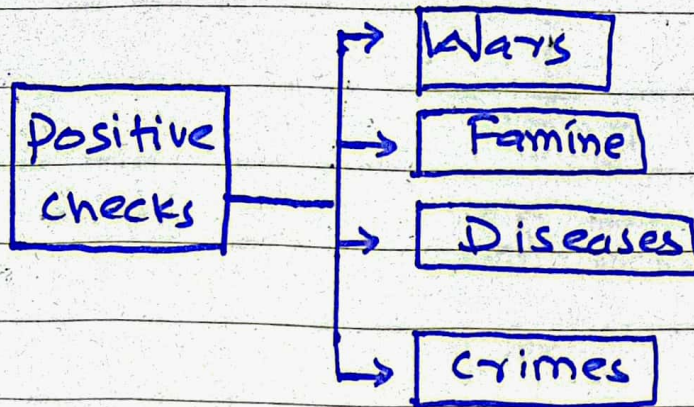
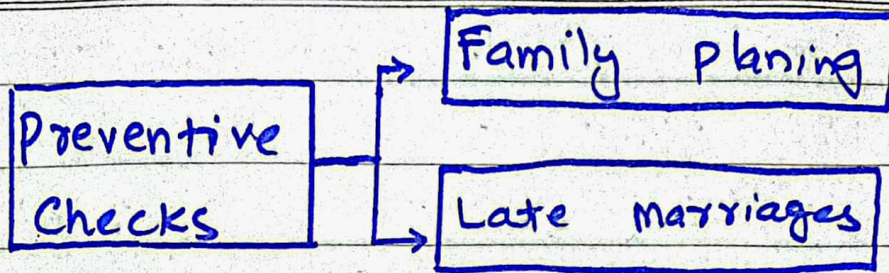
At the time of Independence the population of Pakistan was 37 million. Today, it is 240 million according to 2023 census. Population growth rate is a staggering 2.55%.

To put it into perspective, Pakistan has been adding one Denmark annually to its population.

## III. Checks on population: Malthus Theory.

According to Thomas Malthus, the famous demographer, there are two kinds of checks - that keep the population stable. The preventive checks, which are applied by humans and the positive checks which are applied by nature.

In the absence of preventive checks nature takes its course.



IV. Pakistan's case: positive checks prevalence.

Failure of Pakistan to apply preventive checks to control population, is grappling with -the wrath of nature in -the shape of positive checks.

a) Conflicts and wars:

The unsustainable growth in population is directly linked with the bad law and order situation in the country.

Population growth has amplified the causes of war and conflicts. Hundreds of thousands have lost their lives to these population born conflicts. Thus, through wars and conflicts nature is addressing the issue of population explosion in Pakistan.

### b) Famine and Food Insecurity.

The availability of food and the number of mouths need to be feed are directly linked. The rising population is increasing the demand for food. It is not reciprocated by the required enhancement in food. Resultantly, food crisis is bred leading to food insecurity in the country. According to the World Food Programme (WFP) Pakistan is 6th on the list of countries facing acute food security. Inadequate food ~~as~~ led to shortening of life and death. Thus, the

mounting pressure on food sources is pushing the people to deaths.

### c) Diseases:-

Diseases and health problems are other natural checks on the growing population. For instance, Pakistan, besides Afghanistan, is the only country still grappling with polio. Hepatitis, T.B are out of control. According to World Health Organization (WHO), the country is on the verge of AIDS epidemic. Similarly, one in four adults in Pakistan is diabetic. All these grim health realities are the consequence of population explosion.

### d) Pollution.

The growing population is the cause of pollution in the country. The country's ~~metropolitan~~ major cities: ~~are~~ Lahore and Karachi

are top in the top 10 most polluted cities in the world. Pollution in turn, as per the WHO figure, will shorten the lives by 5 years in the country. Thus pollution is another natural check on population control.

#### V. Measures needed.

The deleterious impacts of the growing population urges the need for taking drastic measures. Some of the measures are:

##### a) Women empowerment and education.

To stem the unbridled growth in population Pakistan should empower women, enhance girls education. An educated woman will likely delay the marriage. Similarly, she will be aware of the consequences of fast unsustainable.

## Population growth.

Bangladesh resolved its population problem through women empowerment.

Its population in 1971 was 17% more than Pakistan;

today, it is 22% less than Pakistan. Thus through

women empowerment and education Pakistan can resolve

its population problem.

## b) Enhancement in Contraceptive Prevalent Rate.

Contraceptives are imperative for stemming population growth.

Pakistan has a low contraceptive prevalence rate. Resultantly,

population is added to with unintentional births. According

to the Population Council,

of the 9 million annual pregnancies, 4 millions are

unintentional and around

2 million end up in abortion.

Pakistan needs to enhance



its contraceptive prevalence rate to control its population.

### c) Religious clergy role

Clergy can play a vital role in addressing the issue. One of the factors behind population growth is the misunderstood and misinterpreted religious injunction about increase in the member of muslim ummah. The clergy should explain that as per Quranic injunction a three year gap is mandatory between child. Similarly, a strong and physically fit believer required three years of mother care. The Quranic injunction are clearly in favour of population planning.

### vi. Case studies :-

Thailand, Taiwan and

Iran controlled their population growth through effective family planning. Financial assistance was given to couple having fewer children. Reproductive health and sex education were made part of curriculum. Resultantly, the fertility rates were reduced.

#### VII. Conclusion:-

Pakistan growing population is not paid heed to by the authorities. Resultantly, nature is controlling it through its own ways in the form of calamities. ~~and~~ To cope with the problem of population explosion Pakistan need to empower women, promote girls education and enhance contraceptives.

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## 8 Pakistan at a critical juncture.

### I. Introduction:

Pakistan is faced with polycrisis. The confluence of socio-political and economic problems has brought the country to the edge of a precipice. These crises are what the intellectuals term as critical juncture. They will shape the future of the country.

### II. Critical Juncture

The concept of critical juncture is given by Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson in their book "Why Nations Fail". According to them every nation in their life comes across events or confluence of factors that disturb the existing

political and economic order the society. Such events have the potential to be turned into blessing: Inclusivity.

### III. Pakistan critical juncture

#### a) Economic crisis:-

Pakistan is going through one its worst economic crisis. The dangling sword of default is staring the country in the face. Inflation is rocketing, foreign reserves are depleting and unemployment is rising. The country is buried under massive debt.

#### b) Environmental challenge:-

The country is faced with the fatal consequences of climate change and global warming. The 2022 flood played a havoc with the country taking lives and rendering an economic loss worth 36 billion.

### c) Demographic challenge

Pakistan's population is growing at an alarming rate. The current population, as per the 2023 census, is 240 million. By 2050 it is expected to reach 270 million. It is growing at 2.5% rate. The growing population is a recipe for the Malthusian trap or crunch. The population is causing several socio-economic and political problems. Similarly it is causing deterioration of the environment.

### d) Political Polarization and instability:

The country is grappling with political crisis. The society is more polarized than ever along multiple lines. Similarly, political instability and political chaos are threatening the fledgling democracy.

### e) Terrorism challenge:-

The resurgence of terrorism is giving the country a tough time. According to Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS) the country witnessed 29 suicide attacks in 2023. Attacks on security forces have become a norm.

### IV. Turning the critical juncture into blessing.

Pakistan can turn these challenges into blessing. Inclusive institutions can be established as a response to these challenges. These institutions in turn can turn the fate of the country up side down.

### a) Economic crisis dealing.

The economic crisis has the potential to open the eyes of the stakeholders. An

economic reform agenda can be chalked out. Structural reforms can be brought in the economy.

### b) The Demographic Dividend:

A large population is not a bad thing per se. China for instance, the world and most populous country, has turned the demography into dividend. Pakistan too can cash on the growing population. Given that more than half of the population is in the working age, Pakistan has a chance to tap into this asset.

### c) Extremism and Terrorism can be cashed.

These menaces can work towards forming a charter of society. A more tolerant, resilient and accommodative society can be forged as a response to the case

of extremism and terrorism.

d) Turning political polarization into blessing.

The political challenge can prompt Pakistan to make a renewed charter of democracy. It can lead to a democratic culture and an end to the dynastic and identity politics.

v. ~~Conclusion~~:

v. Case studies

In 14th century, labour protested for their rights in Europe. England gave the labours rights and prospered till became the super power.

The rest of the Europe, particularly Eastern Europe quelled the protest and lagged behind England.

Similarly, in post colonial



Africa, the Botswana embarked on journey of establishment of inclusive institution. It took the opportunity in both hands and developed. The rest of the Africa remained in the hands of dictators.

#### VI. CONCLUSION:

Pakistan is facing numerous socio-economic and political challenges. However, it can turn these challenges into opportunities. The fate of the country is to be decided by the way it will deal with these challenges.

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Q7 Absence of consensus based approach between Pakistan and Afghanistan; - future.

Ans.

I INTRODUCTION:-

Since their coming into power, the Afghan Taliban have maintained an aggressive posture towards its neighbour over security, border management and resources. With Pakistan in particular the regime relation did not take the course as expected. The lack of consensus and an effective crisis management apparatus threatens the regional peace. Multiple faultlines exist between the two neighbours which may ignite an unwanted security situation. The two countries need to find some common

ground for cooperation  
ii. An overview of Afghan  
Taliban two years in  
power.

During their two years  
stunt in power, the Afghan  
Taliban made some progress  
regarding the law and order  
and economy. It initiated the  
Qosh Tepa canal project,  
started investment in the  
mines and mineral sectors  
and restored some law and  
order, though with force.

Towards its neighbours, however,  
their posture is not encouraging.

Picked a bone with Uzbekistan,  
Iran and later on with  
Pakistan.

iii. Areas where there is  
lack of consensus.

a) The Duran Line.

The Afghan Taliban, like  
the previous regimes,

reject the Durand Line as a de facto border.

In fact it destroyed the border infrastructure:

the wire, in some areas.

The regime is more aggressive in this matter than its

predecessors. The two countries

thus lack a consensus on

the existence of Durand

Line as a border.

## b) Water Resources

Pakistan is lower riparian country to Afghanistan.

Much of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa depends on the

water of river Kabul. The

Afghan Taliban population tendencies prompt it to

use the water card. It

started diversion of Kabul

river. Similarly, it has

announced damming the

Kabul river. There is no

formal water sharing agreement between the two countries.

c) The presence of militants Afghan Taliban is hosting and supporting the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). TTP is using the Afghan soil against Pakistan. Despite multiple time raising the matter multiple time by Pakistan, the Afghan Taliban do not take action against TTP. Similarly, the country is host to the Islamic State Khorasan province (ISK) which are responsible for some deadly attacks in Pakistan. There is a lack of consensus between the two countries regarding the TTP. For Pakistan TTP is a terrorist organization

However, for Afghan Taliban they are 'brothers in arms'.

d) The Question of Refugee Pakistan is host to some 7 million Afghan refugees. The countries do not have any refugee settlement agreement or apparatus in place.

### iii. The danger of lack of consensus.

The lack of consensus between the two countries is dangerous. These areas ~~and many~~ are potential area of igniting a conflict between the two countries.

The recent upsurge in terrorism in Pakistan is a case in point. The TTP is conducting their operation and target with impunity while roaming

freely under the Afghan Taliban patronage in Afghanistan. The rising incident of terrorism prompted Pakistan to expell the non-registered migrants, mostly Afghans. The move draw criticism from the Afghan Taliban. Due to lack of consensus the relation between two countries are not good.

#### iv. Building consensus and greater engagement: The way forward.

To avoid any unfavourable situation, the countries need to forge consensus on the outstanding issues. Some area of cooperation and greater engagement are as follows:

##### 9. The Railway line:-

Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan

tri nation railway  
connecting Pakistan through  
Kharlachi pass to mazar-e-sharif  
in Afghanistan and Termiz  
in Uzbekistan.

### b. TAPI

The Turkmenistan, Afghanistan,  
Pakistan, India gas pipeline  
which the USA has also lent  
support to need to be  
materialized.

### c. CASA-1000

~~the~~ The power transmission  
line that will supply electricity  
to Pakistan via Afghanistan  
from Kazakhstan.

Through these connectivity,  
energy and trade infrastructure  
Afghanistan stake in the regional  
peace will rise and it will  
do effort for it. Consequently  
the peace in the region  
will return.



v. ~~Options before~~

vi. Conclusion.

Pakistan and Afghanistan has a number of differences and outstanding issues. The two country lack a consensus between them on these issues. consequently, they may flare up conflict between the two countries. There is a dire need of establishing mutual consensus through accomodation and greater engagement between the two countries.