

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

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Question # 08

CHALLENGES TO PAKISTAN & THEIR FUTURE

⇒ Introduction:

While the neighbouring countries around Pakistan are moving forward with their hopes to touch the sky, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan is facing the darkest era of its life. Be it the risk of default, or the resuming of terrorist attacks, every field of life here is suffering from a backlash. Analyzing the situation critically, it is not much difficult to predict the near future, that is definitely going to be a struggling period for Pakistan.

⇒ Challenges to Pakistan:

Although 2022 appeared as a crisis year for Pakistan, the challenges were not the new ones. They already existed but

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their pace got accelerated, after the political instability rose to its height. The investors got confused whether to initiate and ~~or~~ continue their businesses or the crisis will worsen with time. The economy, business, industry, tourism, international image, domestic affairs--- ~~in~~ in short every field and institution had to suffer. Only a few challenges will be discussed below.

* Economic Challenge:

Pakistan is ranked 88th among 132 economies by the Global Innovation Index 2023. Pakistan had a GDP per capita of USD 1,474 in 2023, ~~as~~ compared to USD 14,30 a decade earlier. The figures show a constant decline from past few years. The reasons may be immensely vast but the fact lies in a challenging future ahead.

After getting rid of the economic default of the country, Pakistan went into a debt trap. International Monetary Fund (IMF) gave funds but sanctions were also imposed by them. Continuously

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rising fuel prices and inflation are one of the result. As per data, inflation rate in Pakistan increased to 29.1% in December, 2023. This has led the business industries to refrain from flourishing in Pakistan.

The industrial crisis caused by sinking economy ~~is~~ has also been a major economic challenge. Majority of big company brands shut their businesses in Pakistan including Dawlance, Toyota, Suzuki etc. This has given a set back to the industry. Refraining the new investors to start their luck here. Resultantly, the Economy has become a biggest challenge to survive in future.

* Environmental Challenge:

UN - Habitat P

Global Climate Index (GCI) has ranked Pakistan as the 5th most vulnerable country to climate change. With this, Pakistan is exposed to another major challenge i.e. environment. While the whole world is facing the same issue, Pakistan has

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The worse case as the developed states are burning ~~fast~~ more carbon and getting less affected while ~~the~~ Pakistan is amongst those that burn less but get more affected.

The pollution based smog is spreading from Lahore and adjacent areas to the whole country air. Even the 'most clean' Islamabad has also started showing the signs of smog day by day. Breathing without a hindrance is becoming challenge with time.

Another challenge posed by Environmental crisis for Pakistan is shifting Industries. The decision by COP28 of shifting fossil fuels has a risky effect on already sinking economy of Pakistan. The Industries based on non-renewable resources have to be shifted on renewable resources that requires a lot of effort, finance, time, and expertise. All the ingredients are lacking to an extent in Pakistan. Resultantly, environmental changes are also going to be a

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challenge for Pakistan.

* Demographic Challenge:

While the resources are getting scarce in the world, Global population is getting a rise with time. In Pakistan's case, the issue is more worse as Pakistan is ranked number 5 in the list of most populated countries by Worldometer. Such an increase in population has also given acceleration to resource scarcity and dependency.

Rest of the world is using their heavy population to bring prosperity in their countries but in the context Pakistan is unable to achieve the milestone. The Prosperity Index puts Pakistan at 136th showing the fact that the population here is a weakness rather than the strength for the state.

One of ~~the~~ ^{such} weak point ~~of~~ is growing ~~to~~ hunger as a result of inflation. People are either dying of hunger.

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or committing suicides and murders that is raising the crime rate in the country. The Global Hunger Index 2023 shows the threatening situation where Pakistan stands 102nd out of 125 countries. Resultantly, lesser resources, employments, and measures for more population are a threat for the future of Pakistan.

Analyzing the Future of Pakistan :-

Although IMF has given a hope of 2% increase in the economy of coming days of 2024, the realistic analysis ~~years~~ # claims the different. The political institution is not willing to settle the dispute resulting in a long-going instability. People are losing their belief in any betterment in the ~~future~~ yearly future.

A stable political system is essential for a stable economy.

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Until the country gets a constitutional government settled, the future of Pakistan will give a keep giving a gloomy picture. The economy is still not taken as a serious issue even though the dollar has kept rising against rupee. The coming fiscal year is going to be a challenge for Pakistan to meet the demands with the sources.

Along with that, the threats posed by environment are also predicted to get accelerated with time, as the climate change will keep rising. If the suggestive measures are not taken into account, the issues will not only limit to smog. ~~but~~ And intense weather but the wildfires, floods and earthquakes will get abundant. But ~~it~~ it will be too late to manage the loss.

Pop Demographic challenges are also needed to addressed with a serious attitude otherwise the frustration over

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deprivation will increase to a fearful extent. The peace prevailing in the state may get destroyed where ~~the~~ poor will kill the rich to diminish their hunger. Such a drastic future can only be avoided if the prevailing situation is taken as a serious issue and stern measures are taken to control it.

⇒ Conclusion:

Even though the situation of Pakistan is not very hopeful in the coming future, a good governance will play a key role in making the view optimistic. Analysts suggest a serious behavior towards the current issues in order to get rid of the threats in future.

Question #05

"If we do not take charge of Population Size, Nature will do it"

⇒ Introduction:

Nature has always been a regulator of world phenomena;

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where humans fail to do it. But the process of ~~the~~ natural regulation is very painful that is difficult for humans to bear. That is reason of the ~~a~~ ~~suggest~~ warned statement "if Humans don't take charge of population size, nature will do it." In other words, if the world does not ~~reduce~~ ~~the~~ take ^{the} burden over Earth seriously, Earth will ^{itself} do it.

⇒ Pakistan's Context:

In Pakistan's context, we have to shorten the lens from global to state level. That is the only difference. Pakistan has to take the issue seriously, otherwise ~~the~~ climate change nature in the form of climate change has started doing it.

If we look at the floods, wildfires, earthquakes and the intensifying weathers, the facts gets revealed that nature is steadily increasing its process of managing the population size. People are getting reduced ~~in~~ in numbers during these disasters, but

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we are not taking the issue seriously.

Even the predictions highlight the process to be worse in the future, Pakistan does not seem to be much interested.

Although the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami project ~~for~~ was started to restore ^{the} ecosystem, the planted trees were not ~~to~~ bothered to be taken care of. The result was a failure of the project. Same goes with other projects ~~that~~ that specifically targeted population size. For instance,

The Population Policy of Pakistan, launched about 21 years ago in 2002. But nothing worth mentioned change was brought through it.

~~Currently~~, Recently, Pakistan has ~~has~~ set a target of reducing its total fertility rate from 3.8% to 2.6% uptill 2045 in order to raise its current Contraceptive Prevalance rate. Their previous target for 2020 was not fulfilled although, ~~we~~ it is

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hoped to change the history.

Suggestive Measures for Mitigation:

Pakistan is already being supported by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in order to control child ~~me~~ the population. But ~~statist~~ Pakistan itself is required to take measures to address the issue. Some important ones are discussed below:

→ An Effective & Reality-based Population Policy:-

There is a dire need for an effective population policy in order to maximize Pakistan's developmental efforts' outcome. The policy should be reality-based and achievable, rather than an ideal accumulation of flowery points. For that purpose, all the policy making steps are needed to be carefully incorporated in the process. Only this would help in devising an implementable population policy.

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→ Addressing Socioeconomic Factors:

Another measure to be taken necessarily is the contributing factors' identification. The state machinery needs to be employed in order to address the social and economic factors that contribute in an increasing size of population in Pakistan. This is the key step for an effective implementation and evaluation of the policy.

→ Sustainable Development and Resource Management:

Thirdly, the milestone of sustainable development should be achieved through effective resource management. For that purpose, a detailed analysis of demands and supply proportion is required. This will become a base for fair distribution of resources paving the way for sustainable development.

→ Accessible Family Planning Services:

The concept of family planning is a taboo for majority of the population. Even

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→ ~~Education & Awareness:~~

though, the Sabz Sitara (Green Star) Clinics are built across the country, majority has no access because of the taboo or restricted environment. Therefore, it is needed to spread the clinics in far flung areas, breaking the taboo and normalizing the family planning services with easy accessibility.

→ Economic Incentives and Empowerment:

People with low economic status give birth to more children in order to raise their standard of living. The concept of 'more people, more income' should be changed through providing economic incentives to such class. Also they should be empowered to the extent that one person is enough to raise his family.

→ Education & Awareness:-

Another measure to control the population is spreading awareness and education regarding the process. Educational

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institutions should educate the children about the issues of growing population. Media and counselors should engage their audience with interactive measures to spread awareness. Public gatherings, seminars, social media, print media and digital media are all an effective series of media to spread the cause.

⇒ Conclusion:

Pakistan is currently facing a looming threat of population size which may result in a disastrous change in future. Therefore, effective steps are a dire need to be taken as soon as possible.

Question #07

PAK - AFGHAN RELATIONS FUTURE

⇒ Introduction:

The relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan have always

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been intense since 1947. Where the mid of 20th century was a ~~very~~ wave of happiness for all the migrants to Pakistan, the long-ago brotherhood between the Subcontinent's muslims and Afghans got shattered. The major reason for this clash became 'Durand-line' division that separated Afghanistan from Pakistan. This was the start of an unprecedented relation between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

→ Efforts to Resolve the Clash & Results in Past:

It has always been tried to resolve the by Pakistan and Afghan governments. ~~But~~ the ~~change~~ One of the efforts was the occupation of Afghan migrants in Pakistan for decades. The government representatives used to visit both the countries in order to normalize the ties. But the change of governments always turned the progress reduce to the least point.

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Along with that, the demand of Afghan population for Pakhtunistan claimed the area of Pakistan till Thelum. The idea used to threaten the Pakhtoon population in Pakistan to stand with the Afghan demand, creating a rift and unrest in the state.

The smuggling of arms across the border and support of ~~to~~ proxy war in Pakistan ~~also~~ also proved to be major causes for intense relations between the two. The efforts proved to be nullified again when the recent process of returning the migrants back to Afghanistan took place.

Present State of Affairs:

It was hoped to get the Pak-Afghan relations better after the government of Taliban took charge in 2021. The peace in Afghanistan ~~did~~ gave an initial vibe of improving the relations amongst the ~~to~~ countries. The visit of Pak army personnel

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was one of the cause. But the practical view did not prove it. The ~~Feder~~ TTP got active again with an improved strength and force. As expected, Taliban Government in Afghanistan did not oppose them and denied Pakistan's claim to support them. Resultantly, the resuming terrorism in Pakistan led to a ~~conflict~~ conflict among them again.

Another recent issue that ~~is~~ increased the intensity of conflict is the returning of Afghan migrants. The process of returning is criticized by Afghan government saying that they did not get enough time to accommodate such a large population. On the other hand, Pakistan claims to have given enough time before the final step. Resultantly, the conflict starting from unavailable regional consensus, has reached to a more intense level where the chances of deadlock are looming.

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Region's Future: An Analysis

In context of current situation of relations, the absence of a regional-consensus based approach appears to be prevailing. The stubborn attitude is a biggest hinderance among the states, where both the countries do not seem to be interested in resolving the root cause of the issue.

The Future of the region appears to be characterized by instability among the ties and as a result, heightened levels of violence. The efforts have been diminished to a deadlock, that is expected create instability in the coming future. None of both is seeming interested in creating a peaceful relation start.

The terrorism prevailing in Pakistan and the claim over Afghan Taliban to support it,

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may emanate the violence to
a larger level. ~~and~~
Resultantly, the balance of
Terror ~~and~~ efforts may prevail
on both sides. The two
States, in other words, may
become rivals and there
is a chance that Afghanistan
allies with India in
order to deteriorate the
situation in Pakistan.

If the neighbours become
enemies, it will be the
hardest situation for Pakistan.
Already it is suffering from
internal conflicts, that also
may get heightened as a
result. That is why, it is
needed to address the
future issues beforehand.

→ Conclusion:

~~Pak~~ To conclude, Pak-Afghan
relations are ~~very~~ much needed
to be improved, in order
to create peace in the
region. This may help Pakistan
in resolving the internal
issues. Therefore, a regional-
consensus approach is advised
to be adopted on both sides.

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Question # 03

PAKISTAN RESOLUTION & THE PAKISTAN MOVEMENT

Introduction:

With the beginning of the World War II in September 1939, the Viceroy of India Lord Linlithgow declared India's entrance into the world war without consulting the provincial governments. In this situation, Jinnah called a general session of the All-India Muslim League in Lahore in 1940 to discuss the circumstances and also to analyze the reason for the defeat of Muslim League in the Indian general election of 1937, in some Muslim majority provinces.

Pakistan Resolution 1940:-

On March 23, 1940, at its historic session held at Minto Park in Lahore, the Muslim League passed the historic Lahore Resolution that came to be commonly known as the Pakistan resolution, demanding a separate

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home land for Muslims of the Sub-continent.

Demands of the Resolution:

The resolution moved by the Bengal Chief Minister, A.K. Fazl-i-Haq, and introduced by Chaudhry Khaliquzzaman and others inter alia, formally called for the creation of an independent state in the regions where Muslims constituted a majority.

The resolution repudiated the concept of United India and recommended the creation of an independent Muslim state consisting of Punjab, NWFP, Sindh, and Balochistan in the northwest, and Bengal and Assam in the north east.

It was made a part of Muslim League's constitution in 1941.

Pakistan Resolution: The Magna

Carta of Pakistan Movement:

Magna Carta is being a base considered a base of human rights in the world. Some is ~~is~~ the importance of Pakistan resolution for Pakistan.

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Movement. It was on the basis of this resolution that in 1946, Muslim League decided to go for one state for the Muslims, instead of two. It stated that

No constitutional plan would be workable or acceptable to the Muslims, ~~until~~ unless geographical contiguous units are demarcated into regions which should be so constituted with such territorial readjustments as may be necessary.

The demand had a great appeal for the Muslims of every persuasion. It revived memories of their past greatness and promised future glory. Therefore, they responded to this demand immediately and the Pakistan Movement was started.

In other words, Pakistan resolution was the pillar of the Pakistan movement, the base over which the idea of Pakistan stood firm.

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It turned the direction of Muslims of sub-continent straight and clear. They were wandering here and there for their rights, they got a clear path to move forward and get their destination. They took the idea and the Movement for Pakistan came into practice.

Conclusion:-

Being the Magna Carta for Pakistan Movement, Pakistan resolution holds a special place in the history. The resolution, therefore called Pakistan resolution, is considered to be a milestone for the Pakistan Movement that later led to the creation of Pakistan on the map of the World.