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Question No #03

1 Introduction

CPEC is the flagship project of the BRI project. CPEC provided investment in a critical period when Pakistan was facing extreme terrorism. Moreover, the country was facing 12-14 hours loadshedding in 2014-2015. It added more than 20,000 MW to the system which not only reduced electricity shortage, but also increased economic activity in the country. The failures of CPEC are multiple but one cannot deny the potential of the project to shape the future of Pakistan.

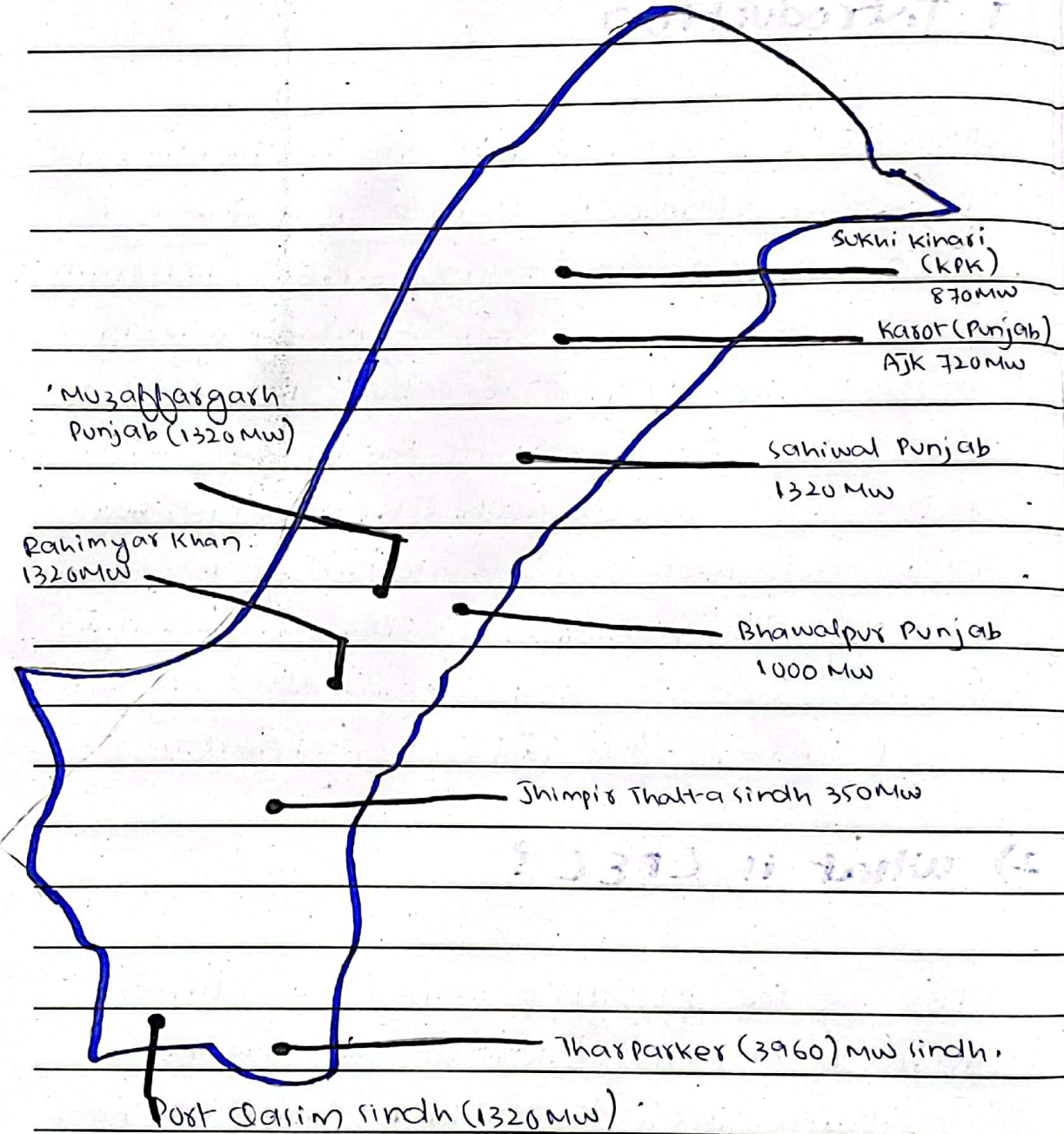
2) What is CPEC?

CPEC is the flagship project of China started in 2015 under the Xi Jinping ambitions project of BRI. Initially, CPEC was announced around 45 Billion dollar investment, but it increased to 60-65 billion dollar.

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3) Projects under CPEC



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3) Success of CPEC.

3.1) In Energy sector

In 2015, Pakistan was facing the shortage of 10,000 MW. However, after the CPEC the 20,000 MW ^{are} added to the system. Today, Pakistan has the potential to produce up to 36,000 MW, exceeding its peak demand of 24,000 MW. **Ministry of Energy (Power Division)**

3.2) In transport sector

In transport sector, CPEC has built 510 km of Highways and 932 kilometers of road network. Under this project, 10 billion dollars have been invested since 2015.

(CPEC website)

3.3) In shipping and port industry

Under the CPEC project, China is ~~ship~~ building Gwader port which will become the most developed port in the country. Moreover, they are also constructing Gwader **Salman Paper Product**

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model city, ~~and~~ airport, and hospitals.

Li Hen (Retd) Asim Saleem Bajwa

3.4) In Economic Sector: Special Economic Zones

Under PEC, six special economic zones have been created which will not only provide employment but also enhance Pakistan's manufacturing industry. The textile exports increased to 30 billion dollars in 2022.

(Dr Moeef Yousuf) (World Bank 2019 report)

3.5) In agricultural sector

China is also providing human resource and technology to boost agricultural sector. China's per acre yield is 80 times more than Pakistan, WB report 2019. Therefore, Pakistan can learn from China.

3.6) In human capital resource sector

Chinese are not only providing investment and technology, but they are also sending their best to Pakistan so that Pakistan can achieve best quality human resource.

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3.7) In International support and diplomacy

China is the all weather friend of Pakistan. It has been supporting Pakistan's stance towards Kashmir since decades.

It also provide financial assistance in the time of crisis. **(Dr Siegfried O. Wolf)**

4) Failure of CPEC

4.1) Increase Pakistan's external liabilities: 130 Billion dollar

The main failure of CPEC is that it has increased Pakistan's external liabilities. It has reached to 130 billion and upto half is Chinese loans in the CPEC project. **(Economic Survey 2022)**

4.2) Rise of Terrorism

CPEC has increased inequalities. Many analyst believe that CPEC has only benefited the elite. Therefore, many

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antagonized dissidents of Balochs started attack on Chinese nationals.

2-4) Increase unrest in Baluchistan: Gwader Haq Do Tahreek

CPEC has also increased unrest in Baluchistan due to fishing rights. In 2022, Gwader Haq do Tahreek was established which demanded more resources and rights for the locals. **(The China-Pakistan Axis: Asia's new geopolitics)**

2-5) Affects Pakistan and west relations: Alice wells called CPEC a Debt trap

CPEC has also affected Pakistan and west relations. Even American diplomat called it debt trap from China and called Pakistan a economic colony of China. **(Alice U. wells)**

2-6) Enhance Energy tariffs and cost

CPEC projects energy projects are mostly operate on non-renewable resource which raises

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not only affected climate change but also has increased energy prices in the country.

July and August 2023 Electricity bill soared 100pc

5) How CPEC can be converted into success

5.1) Materialize Special Economic zones potential which will enhance manufacturing in the country

If government want to successfully implement CPEC than it should escalate work on the special economic zones. It will enhance Pakistan's manufacturing capacity and will reduce the fiscal deficit. **(Dr Hasan Alikari)**

5.2) Renegotiate Energy sector related terms and conditions

In 2019, the former P.M Imran Khan government renegotiate the terms with TPPC. He said that no more payments in the dollars and Pakistan would not pay capacity charges to the TPPs. The step was right, but it is **Salman Paper Product** not implemented yet.

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5.3) Provide security to Chinese workers and Engineers

~~China~~ In the last few years, Pakistan experienced a surge in terror attacks against Chinese nationals which has eroded China's trust on Pakistan's security. So, security of the Chinese should be the main priority of civilian and military establishment. (Dr Amir Rana)

5.4) Address Baluchistan people concerns and grievances especially missing persons

Baluchistan grievances should be addressed otherwise it will impact the project.
(Ayesha Siddique)

6) Conclusion.

To conclude, CPEC has multiple pros and cons but if certain proactive measures are implemented than its ~~with~~ pros will overtake its cons.

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Question No #04

1) Introduction

KSA and Iran deal is the historic deal which not only provide stability to the region but also reduce the influence of the US. This deal has multiple positive impacts on the region. For instance, it will reduce escalation and proxy war in the region and affect US and Israel foreign policy objectives of isolation of Iran. Furthermore, it has also multifaceted implications for Pakistan.

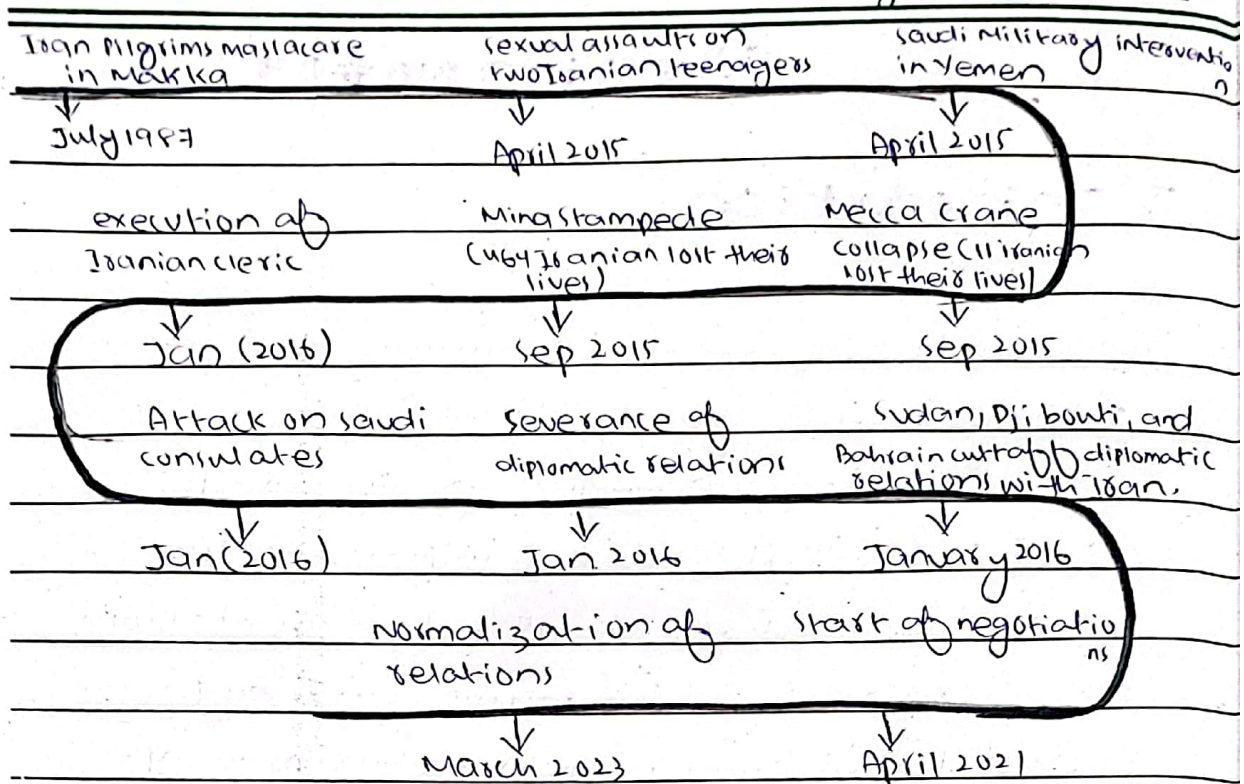
2) Decoding Historical relations between KSA and Iran

KSA and Iran were good friends, but when Islamic revolution came in 1979, the relation between the two countries reached bottom line. In 2016, Saudi's killed Iran Shia cleric which led to closure of diplomatic relations between these two countries. Both countries are involved in proxies called cold war of the Muslim world.

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Timeline: The trouble history of Iran-KSA relations

3) What are the positive implications on the conflicts

2.1) Reduce insurgencies and proxies in the region: Syria entry in Arab league and peace talks with Houthis

~~Ques~~ KSA and Iran deal will diffuse tensions in the middle east. Both countries are involved in the proxies in the different. So, peace between these countries will enhance peace in the region.
(Fareed zakaria)

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3.2) Affect us and Israel policy of isolation to Iran

KSA and Iran deal will affect us and Israel policy of isolation to Iran. Both the US and Israel considered their common enemy and they are trying to isolate Iran in the region, but this deal will only open the way for Iran in the region. (Vail Nasser)

3.3) Enhance Iran's confidence and strengthen its axis of resistance

KSA and Iran deal will enhance Iran's confidence and strengthen its axis of resistance. The October 7 2023 attacks by Hamas were the manifestation of that confidence. (Ian Bremmer)

3.4) Entry of new emerging powers China and Russia in the regional politics: a step toward Multipolar world.

With the deal of Iran and KSA, China has become a major player in the regional politics. Its trade with the middle eastern countries has increased upto 200 to 300

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300 billion dollar. Today, China is the largest trading partner of the region, surpassing the USA in 2019. (Michael Kugelman)

3.5 Reduce Arab world dependency on the US.

This deal will reduce the Arab world dependency on the US. The Arab world was highly dependent on US security world. However, they are diversifying their trade and security alliances with other major powers. (Noam Chomsky)

3.6) Enhance collaboration between the Iran and KSA which will provide stability in the hydro-carbon market.

This deal will enhance collaboration between the Saudi and Iran, which will provide stability in the hydro-carbon market. It is because sanctions on Iran have not only affect Iran, but ^{also} the hydro-carbon industry. (Joseph S. Nye Jr)

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4) What implications will Pakistan face?

4.1) Reduce sectarianism in the country:
Sunni vs Shia divide.

Pakistan is a multi-ethnic and religious country. Therefore, many analysts believe that this deal will be helpful to diffuse sectarianism and tensions in the country. (Maleeha Lodhi)

4.2) Provide a balance approach to Pakistan in its relation with Iran and KSA.

Pakistan established its close relations with the Arab world and its dependency on the Arab world deteriorated its relation with Iran. However, this deal will provide a balance approach to Pakistan. (Aziz Chaudhary)

4.3) Enhance progress on Pak-Iran pipeline project.

Pakistan and Iran signed a pipeline project in 2010, but due to pressure from the Arab world and western bloc, the Salman Paper Project was affected.

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4.4) Diversify Pakistan's trading options with Iran especially in hydro-carbon trade.

This deal will diversify Pakistan's trading options with Iran. Before that, it was not possible because of Pakistan's dependency on the Arab world and its resistance towards Iran. So, this deal will open a new avenue for Pak-Iran relations to further couple their economies. (Sohail Mehmood) (former foreign secretary)

5) Conclusion

To conclude, the Iran and KSA deal is the win win situation for the region and Pakistan. However, this deal has upset western powers; therefore, Pakistan has to play its cards carefully in the multi-polar world. As every country is diversifying its alliances and trading partners, Pakistan should also diversify its relations especially with Iran and other regional and global powers.

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Question No #07

1 Introduction

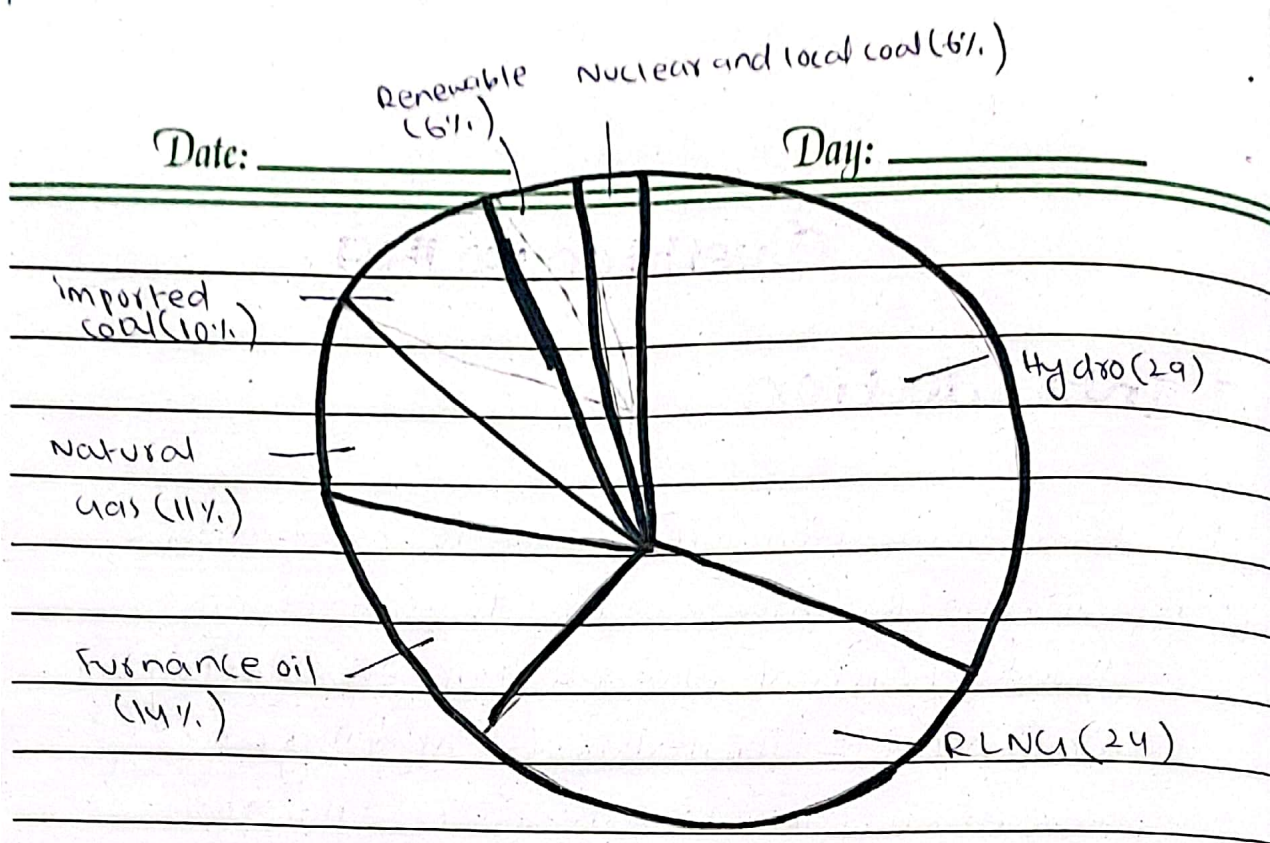
Pakistan's socio-economic future is linked with reforms in the power sector. It is because without efficient power sector, the country cannot achieve its status of Asian Tiger. Moreover, it cannot materialize its geo-economics without the sustainable power sector. In addition, its fight against climate change is not completed without shifting towards renewable energy. So, Pakistan's future is linked with its power sector performances.

2) How Socio-Economic future of Pakistan is linked with reforms in the power sector: An overview

Pakistan's energy sector liabilities has reached upto 2.3 trillion \$ in 2023 from 1.8 trillion in 2020. with the liabilities and losses, the country is producing the most expensive energy in the region. Therefore, many analysts believe that Pakistan's future is linked with power sector performances.

(Economic Survey 2022)

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3) Why energy reforms are crucial for socio-economic future of Pakistan

3.1) Cheap renewable energy will increase foreign direct investment

Cheap renewable energy will increase foreign direct investment. When a country offers low energy prices, the investors try to set up their industries on that country. For instance, Bangladesh was offering cheap and reliable energy. Consequently, its FDI jumps from 2pc to 14pc in just 4 years.

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3.2) Sustainable renewable energy will reduce Pakistan's dependency on hydro-carbon imports.

Sustainable renewable energy will reduce Pakistan's dependency on hydro-carbon imports. Pakistan in 2022 imported more than 30 billion dollars of hydro-carbon which led to trade deficit of 50 billion dollars. (Dr Waqar Ahmed)

3.3) Sustainable energy will provide help against climate mitigation

Moreover, sustainable energy will be helpful to provide options against climate change. It will be helpful to achieve Pakistan's 2030 energy goals. (Khuram Husain)

3.4) Renegotiate terms with TPPC will save dollar reserves

Pakistan is producing the most expensive energy in the region. Besides, it is paying in dollars. Therefore, renegotiation with TPPC is a need of hour.

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3.5) Privatization of energy sector will reduce power loss

Privatization of energy sector will reduce power losses. Pakistan's energy sector has become outdated and inculcated loss of 20 to 22 percent to the national exchequer. (Dr Kaiser Bengali)

3.6) Privatization of energy sector and shift towards renewable will provide cheap and reliable energy

Privatization of the energy sector and shift towards renewable energy will not only provide cheap energy but also reliable energy to the country. (Dr Salman Shah)

3.7) Upgradation of current energy infrastructure will reduce the risk of country wide black out.

Pakistan faced three major country wide black out due to outdated system in the last decade. Therefore,
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upgradation of existing energy system is crucial for the country's energy security. (Dr Waqar Ahmed)

3.8) Reforms in energy sector will reduce power theft

Power theft is common in the energy sector.

The country is facing billions of rupees in the power theft. Therefore, reforms

- is a need of hour to reduce the power theft in the country.

(Dr Shahid Anjad Chaudhary)

4) Conclusion

To conclude, Pakistan is facing severe energy crises which has long term impacts on its

national security. It is because the power sector is linked with socio-economic prosperity of the country. Therefore, preventive measures are required to address power sector vulnerabilities.

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Question NO # 08

1 Introduction

The US became a sole superpower after the fall of Berlin wall. However, due to multiple causes, the US is losing its leadership at the global level.

The war in Vietnam, Cambodia, and the war on terror have destroyed the US hegemony. It has lost its soft power and its status as a neutral arbitrator. Therefore, the world is heading towards multi-polar world where power lies every rather than in the US.

2 How the US become a sole superpower in the world: Decoding Pax Americana

In 1800, Britain was the sole superpower controlling over one-third of the world's land. However, after the world war 2, Britain lost its hegemony. The cold war period was started in which the world divided into two bloc the liberal world led by the US and the communist world led by the USSR. After the fall of Berlin wall, the USA became a sole superpower in the world.

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3.2) The unconditional support for the Israel state

The USA has been providing unconditional west support to Israel since 1948. The USA was the first country to recognize Israel as an independent state. It is providing more than 3 billion dollar military aid to Israel. Consequently, it has affected its image as a neutral arbitrator.

3.3) The rise of rest: China, Russia, and India

The rise of rest has challenged the US led liberal world order. Many analysts believe that ^{the} US ^{doesn't} didn't enjoy super power status in the multipolar world due to the emerging power centers in Asia.

3.4) NATO Expansion of Eastern Europe antagonize Rest: Russia-Ukraine war.

NATO continued eastward expansion has not challenged the US but the western

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World order. The Russia-Ukraine war is the manifestation of that decline. Even Russian president seem more confident despite western sanctions.

3.5) Excessive use of economic sanctions by Washington against its adversaries

The excessive use of economic sanctions by Washington against its adversaries, such as North Korea, Iran, and Russia have challenged the US led financial system.

4) How it would affect US global leadership? of the world

4.1) Eroding trust on the US as a neutral arbitrator.

The world is moving away from the US and western bloc due to their selective definition of human rights. China has emerged as a new peace broker in the

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World with
Iran-KSA deal.

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4.2) Fall of US-led dollar dominated international system: De-dollarization

The global south is aligning themselves against the western world order. As a result, de-dollarization has escalated across the globe with more and more countries are trading in their local currencies rather than dollar. For instance, China is buying oil from Russia in Yuan and similarly India is buying cheap oil in Indian Rupees.

4.3) Experiencing global isolation on the Israel-Hamas war

The US is first time facing isolation on the Israel-Hamas war. It was the only country which was supporting escalation in the region.

4.4) Decreasing US influence in the global south.

The US is losing its allies in the global south especially in the Arab world. Last year, Saudi Arabia refused to increase production despite US request which shows the USA

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its partners in the region...

4.5) The fall of democracies and American led liberal world order.

With the fall of the USA, many analysts believe that democracies will also fall.

The authoritarianism has increased. In 2009, nearly 60 percent population lives in democratic countries but that number has fallen to 40 percent in 2023.

5) Conclusion

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To sum up, US liberal world order is facing multifaceted challenges due to the rise of rest and the blunders which the US took during its peak period. Therefore, many analyst believe that the US will not lead the globe and it is only a powerful country like other countries in the world.

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