

Q: NO: 7

Probability of regional instability  
and heightened levels of violence in the absence  
of Pak-Afghan consensus-based approach.

### Introductory Remarks:

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Afghanistan is the heart of Asia; If it suffers, the whole region will suffer. 99

(Allama Iqbal)

The above-mentioned lines of great Sir Iqbal get a clearly validation in the ongoing regional instability and resurging terrorism in the wake of missing Pakistan and Afghanistan rapprochement. Certainly, if aversion between these two states continues to exist, the whole region would face the far-reaching repercussions. Recent resurgence of terrorist activities in Pakistan backed by the TIP (Tehrik Taliban Pakistan) and ISK (Islamic State - Khorasan) having deep linkage with Al-Qaeda and Afghanistan

Taliban is a glaring evidence. It clearly depicts how this could threaten the peace of region. Iran, a country rich in Shia community could be the next target of the TTP and QSK if Pakistan and Afghanistan continues to have tightered relations. China, and Russia can also face severe impacts of this aversion. Undoubtedly, the existence of China's flagship project ~~in~~ the ~~China~~-Pakistan Economic Corridor is at stake. Russian relations ~~can~~ amidst having Ukraine war may face hardships in the form of terrorism. The impacts can also go beyond these states. In other words, Central Asian Republics can face economic hardships due to this worse relations. Thereby, instability and violence in the region seems ineluctable while having tensed relation between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

## An Overview of Tensed Relations Between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

To overview the recent adversarial relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan, one can see the rise of terrorist activity in Pakistan. In response, Pakistan's policy

of pushing out Afghan refugees back to their country is also the part of this tense relation. Though Pakistan's economic conditions are pushing the country leadership to do so, yet it cannot be denied that the loss of Afghanistan land for terrorist activity in Pakistan is also a major cause behind this policy shift. In short, relations between two states have been tense now, which is not good for the region.

How Instability is the fate of Region in

The absence of Afghanistan and Pakistan

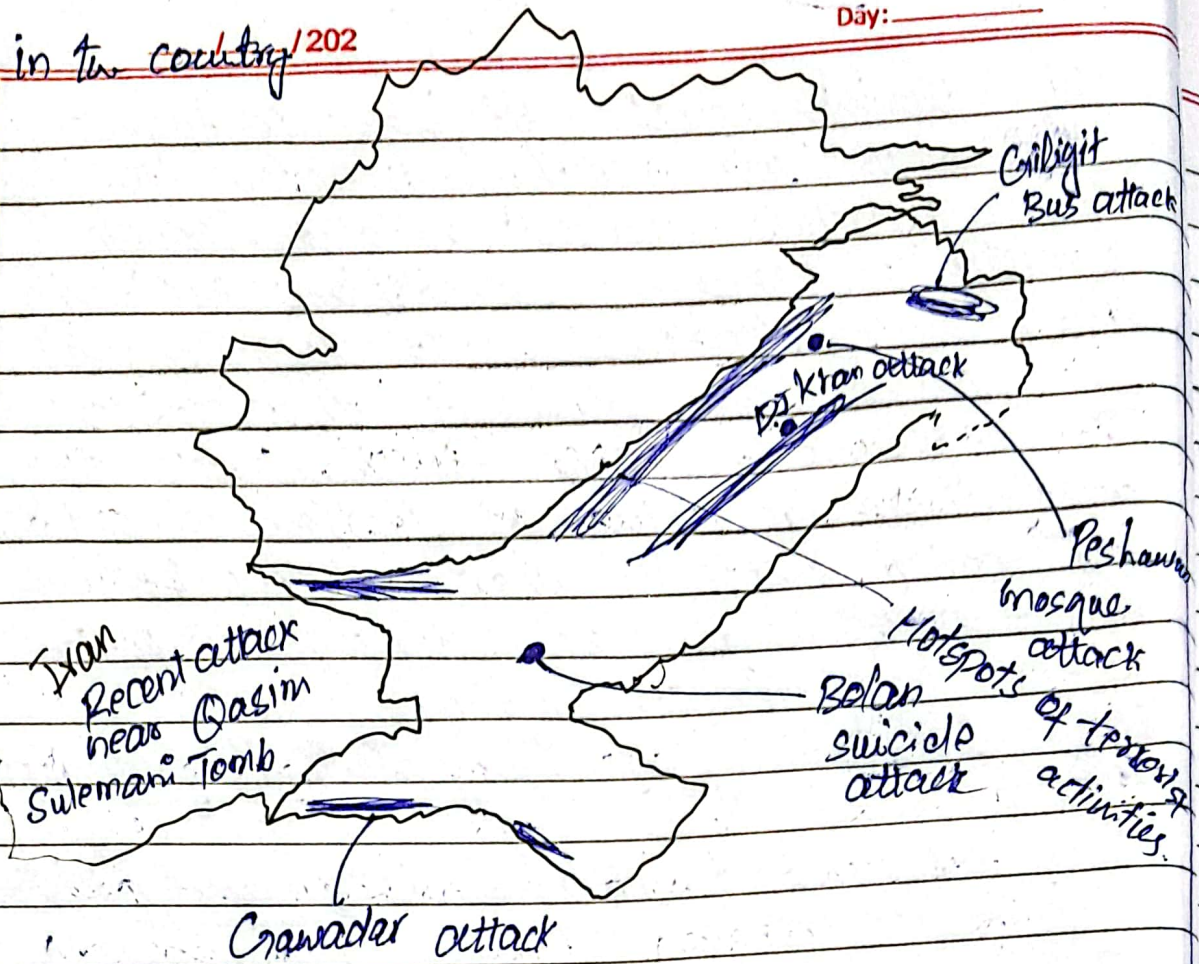
Adverse Relations.

There are many ways to see that ~~meanwhile~~ ~~the~~ region will face instability and violence, ~~meanwhile~~ ~~if~~ ~~Afghanistan~~ and Pakistan remains in hostile relations. Resurgence of Terrorism: A looming risk to the regional peace.

There is plenty of evidence that terrorism in Pakistan has once again got pace. Recent report by the HRCP (Human Rights Commission of Pakistan) while talking about terrorist attacks claims that in year 2023, there have been 783 attacks in Pakistan. The map shows major attacks

in the country / 202

Day: \_\_\_\_\_



Recent attack in Iran clearly substantiates that Afghanistan and Pakistan's tense relation would deeply breed instability and violence in the region.

Economic prosperity at stake while Pakistan and Afghanistan missing Reconciliation:-

Another impact that would bring Pakistan and Afghanistan hostility is an economic domain. As far as both the states adopt a harsh and tight policy towards

each other, region will continue to face economic instability. Simply, Pakistan if provides route to warm water then Afghanistan is the gateway to C.A.R. (Central Asian Republics). Hence, their relations would impact <sup>negatively</sup> economic life of the region, resultantly, instability and violence would increase.

The Probability of Proxy wars in region:

It is inevitable to stop the phenomenon of proxy wars. As Pakistan and Afghanistan owing to their geographical location and strategic position own a great standing in the region. Hence, their adverse relation can provide a great chance to anti-state actors to launch their missions. Certainly, if the border filtration has to be stopped, smuggling of commodities and human have to be ended, cordial relations between two states are inevitable. Thereby, it can easily be inferred that region will continue to face instability and violence if both the states miss cordiality and reconciliation.

Shia-Sunni Conflict may get ignited: Taliban

versus Iran:-

Pakistan has 22% Shia community, while Afghanistan also owns a large community of Shia. On the other hand, Iran is another Shia state. Thus, the conflict between the former two states can trigger Shia-Sunni conflicts in the region. Hence, instability and violence while Pakistan and Afghanistan face at crossroads is ineluctable.

Recognition of Afghanistan: An Illusive dream while having tensed relations with Pakistan:-

There are not two ways about the viewpoint that recognition of Afghan-Taliban-led government is improbable without a neighbouring state-~~having~~ a nuclear ~~power~~ power. Because the <sup>harsh</sup> relation would not

breed <sup>good</sup> chances for Afghanistan Taliban in global standing. Eventually, this would continue to disturb the region as they would be facing internal millennials without recognition

Sovereignty of China's BRI and CPEC at

Stake, thereby, regional instability is

over the horizon.

Another threat that is associated with the harsh relation of Pakistan and Afghanistan is to China. There is no doubt that Pak-Afghan adverse ties would have a direct impact on CPEC — a Chinese flagship project under BRI. Hence, it would pose a grave threat to the promises of BRI regarding regional stability.

CARs Unable to Access South Asia If

Pakistan and Afghanistan Have Adverse

Relations.

Last but not the least, without friendly relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan Central <sup>Asian</sup> Republics would not be able to access hot waters of Pakistan. Nor region would be able to fulfill their other needs without CAR. Hence, peaceful relation is mandatory between

## Critical Analysis:

There is underlining the fact that Afghanistan is the heart of Asia, yet it is as sure as death that Pakistan is the pivot of regional economic and political future due to its geographic and strategic location. Thus, both countries must acknowledge the potential of each other. They must devise "healthy, friendly and cordial policies. For without rapprochement between two states, the regional stability and prosperity would remain an illusive dream. The same can be assessed in the words of the author of 'Pakistan's Foreign Policy From 1947 to 2014,' Abdul Sattar:

If Afghanistan really aims at its internal stability and long term prosperity while Pakistan aspires to be the Asian tiger, it is a sine qua non for both countries to chart-out plans and policies that foster cordiality and reconciliation between these two states.

## Concluding Remarks:

To conclude the debate and give



the finishing touch, it is pertinent to reiterate that in the absence of regional consensus-based approach between Pakistan and Afghanistan, the regional future seems wandering in the valley of instability and heightened risks of violence. Simply because the absence of rapprochement would provide an easy chance to anti-state actors to fish in hot-waters. Smuggling will continue to rise; terrorism would not cease to exist. Neither Afghanistan would get internally stable nor Pakistan would be immune to the life-threatening terrorism. Thereby, the far-reaching repercussions of this ~~adverse~~<sup>adverse</sup> relations would equate to stability of whole region. No country including China, Iran, CAR, (Central Asian Republics) would be able to handle the dreadful impacts this missing cordiality.

Q: 5

## Population Dilemma and Measures to Address it.

### Introduction:

According to a recent report

of the UN and IMF, Pakistan's population has crossed 231 million. The ongoing population explosion has not only impacted economic life but also resulting in rapid depletion of natural resources. It happened because the political leadership did not take appropriate measures timely. Subsequently, nature responded. Nature not only reacted through creating the issue of water-scarcity, but also alarmed the authorities through bringing food insecurity. ~~and~~ Though phenomenon has already grasped a pace, yet it is manageable and corrigible. Certainly, if the authorities take adequate steps to stop the further increase of population in Pakistan, the issue can be averted. For example, by introducing population planning campaigns just like Benazir Bhutto, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, did, and through <sup>and</sup> incentivised policies like One Child policy of China, and awareness campaigns regarding women bodily autonomy, the issue can be tackled. As there is a famous quote of Ding Xio Ping, a former Chinese head:

“Population could be either an asset or a liability.”

In Pakistan, the latter seems more valid. Thus, political leadership must take measures to address the issue.

## How Nature would Respond if We fail to take Charge of population

There are many ways nature can take control of population if the leadership fails to do so.

Water-Scarcity: The Foremost Reaction of

Nature :

First of all, nature has already told that if Pakistan continues to grow its population, it would not show any mercy to bring the issue of water scarcity. The World Bank already places in its reports Pakistan as one of water-stressed countries.

The reason is simple and candid: over-consumption and excessive consumption of this precious resource. Billions of gallons of water is being used by masses in Pakistan certainly from cooking to serving an industry, water is essential.

Thus, the demand is getting increased due to population increase hence nature is loosing the risk of water scarcity.

## Rapid Depletion of Natural Resources like coal, fossil-fuels:

Nature has also revealed another lesson for the nation that if they do not manage and take charge of their grassy lands it would create a dilemma of depletion of resources. Be it the coal resources of Balochistan or minerals or fossil fuels, it would end them.

These lessons clearly substantiate that if we do not take charge of population, nature would certainly.

There is a huge debate that due to increasing population Pakistan's natural resources are continuously depleting. For example, forest area is decreasing.

## The Dilemma of Food-Insecurity: Another Natural Response:

Another threat that nature

poses ~~too~~ the unchecked growth of population is of food insecurity. As Pakistan's masses are increasing in numbers as food requirements are doubling. However, nature does not like it, thereby, it has brought about the issue of food insecurity. It is doing so leaving adverse impacts on agricultural growth and yielding. Hence, if we do not take control of our population, nature will take control.

### Dirty-Air Quality and Other Environmental Reactions of Nature:

Nature is also threatening the growing numbers of masses through making air quality dirty and unhealthy. Recently, Lahore's quality of air has touched the 490 points in AQI (Air Quality Index), which is hazardous for children, women, old, and young. Thus, it is proved that if we ~~are~~ not manage our population, nature will do.

## Measures to address the Issue of

### Population :-

However there are certain measures that can be taken to ~~control~~ population.

### Implementation of Population Planning Policies

#### Like 'One Child Policy of China' :-

First of all there must be devised population planning policy in the country to control the unrestrained growth of masses.

Just like China's One Child policy, the country can adopt some policies to handle the issue.

### Measures to ensure Women-Bodily Autonomy Following the U.S Model :-

Another way to control

population control is that women should be provided with bodily autonomy. As most of the pregnancies are unwanted, thus women bodily autonomy can bring a huge change.

### Availability of Contraceptives in Remote Areas:

Availability of contraceptives in remote areas has always been a chief concern. Their inaccessibility to these measures also leads to growth of population. Thus there must be policies and measures to address the issue as it can be helpful in controlling the population.

### Incentivise for Adoption of Reward Principle and Media Campaigns:

Last not the least, there must be reward policies for those who own less number of children. Media's role is a sine qua non to handle the issue.

## Critical Analysis:

Unquestionably, Pakistan's population is going out of control, not only hampering economic growth but also damaging the food and agriculture industry. Yet there is a glimmer of hope. Just like every disguise has a blessing, the population explosion carries a youth-bulge, which is a promising factor. Hence, along with measures to control population, the administration must also take steps to tap this precious human resource as it is the need of the hour.

## Concluding Remarks:

To conclude the debate, it is accurate to say that if we do not take the control of population, certainly it is the nature that would react and respond. Sadly, this natural response would be friendly and welcoming. As nature has already shown some glaring manifestations including water-scarcity and food insecurity. Hence, it has become the dire and pressing need of the country to devise policies that aim at population control and management of already existing populace. For it is vital for the country's economic and social life.



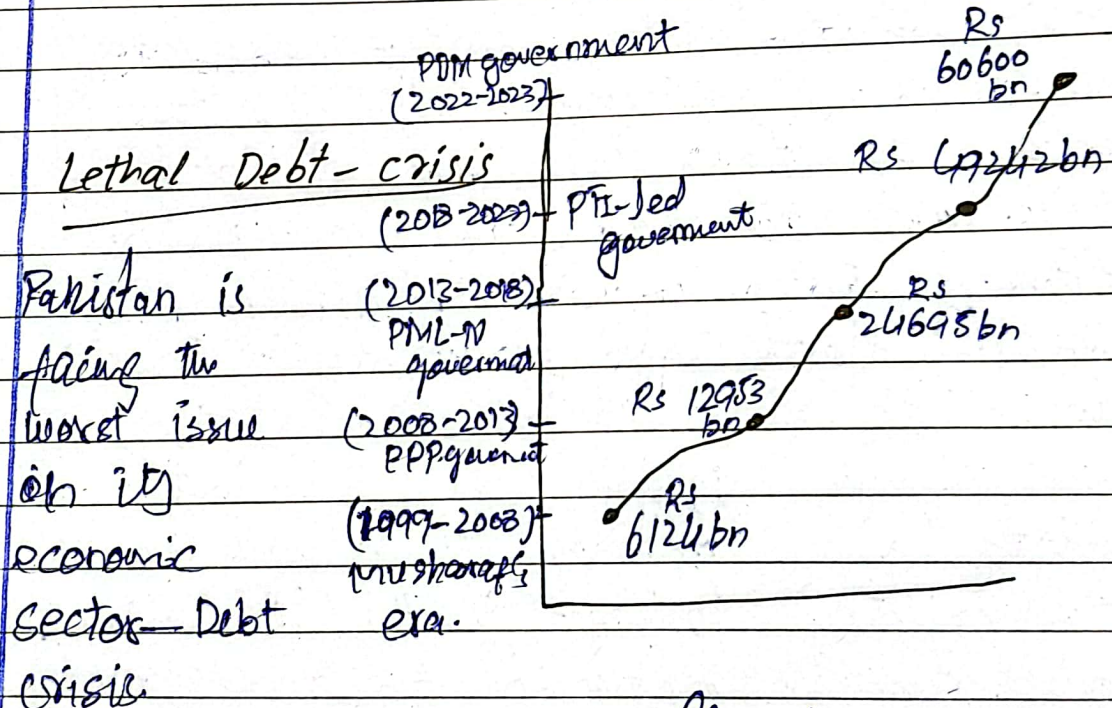
# Economic, Environmental, and Demographic Challenges, and Future of Pakistan.

## Introduction:

Pakistan is passing through hot waters. It is almost facing problems almost in every sector. From economic realm to environmental security, from demographic transition to internal security challenges, all are paving a path for a new future. These challenges can be both: threats and opportunities. Certainly, two ongoing economic dilemmas including debt-burden, state-loss-incurring state-owned enterprise (SOEs), low collection of tax, less ease of doing business and circular debt can reshape the future of Pakistan thoroughly. Similarly, recent floods and draughts in Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab underlying climate change, looming risk of water scarcity may change the future course of the country. Policy-shift is imminent. People changing behavior towards water consumption can be seen over the horizon.

Recent decision of shifting from geopolitics to geoeconomics can also be seen in the wake of ongoing economic and environmental issues. On the same pattern, the issue of increasing population is also igniting new debates among political leaders. There is a talk to top the youth-bulge; a special focus is being emphasized on the control of population. Hence, it can be said that Pakistan is at a ~~pot~~ critical juncture where the ongoing economic, environmental and demographic challenges can reshape the future of country.

## How Economic challenges can reshape future of Pakistan



The diagram clearly tells how it is increasing. It would have certainly

a direct impact on the future of the country. Similarly another issue is lower Tax to GDP Percentage — 10%. Pakistan is facing this issue for a long time.

Certainly, it would have a great impact on Pakistan's economic life.

### Informal Economy

Corporate sector, education hospitals, hotels and restaurant industry are one of those industries which remains out of the periphery of formal economy. Thus, it would have a deep affect on Pakistan's future. Import-based growth model

Pakistan since a long time is following a borrowed growth model. Certain talks are underway in political corridors. Thus, change in this model would create a new lack of Ease of Doing Business. Future.

Recent focus toward automation while keeping the lack of ease of doing business would also change future. Uncontrolled Circular Debt

Lastly, 1.4 trillion Rupees of circular debt would also impact the future of country.

## How environment challenges can reshape future:

There are many challenges in environmental domain. First of all, Recurring of Floods and Droughts

are causing a serious threat to Pakistan hence they would deeply impact the future of Pakistan. Recent 2022 floods impacts are there to assess the value.

Rising sea level threatening the existence of Thatta, Badin and many other areas.

Another threat is rising sea level. According to World Economic Forum and Senate's Standing committee on climate change warns of future impacts of increasing air pollution, rising sea level.

As earlier mentioned air quality index has already made Pakistan hazardous. Thus, it would impact health future of Biodiversity loss in the wake of severe weather patterns <sup>country</sup>

Lastly, biodiversity loss and as in the form of forest land would also shape future of Pakistan.

## How demographic challenges can reshape the future of Pakistan:

There are many demographic challenges for Pakistan.

Population Explosion — Greater Fertility rate and less mortality rate:

No doubt, the ongoing increasing phenomenon of population increase has a great linkage with the future of the country.

### Aging population

Pakistan is having increasing aging population. Certainly to handle and care them would need a lot of resources. Thus, it can be said that it would impact future.

Women population: Half of the total country's population

Future of Pakistan can be reshaped as half of its population is women. Bangladesh

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is glaring proof how it has touched the height of success and prosperity through women contribution.

Hence this marriage can reshape the future of country.

### Critical Analysis:

There is no two way about the fact that the above-discussed economic, environmental and demographic challenges can reshape the future of the country. However, the debate also clears that this future could be bad or good depending on how Pakistani administration reacts. Certainly, if the aim is to turn these challenges into opportunities, the ongoing political instability must be ended. Security concerns of business community must be addressed to expedite the pace of CPEC projects.

### Conclusion:

Simply put, the existing economic, environmental and demographic challenges place Pakistan at a political juncture, which can shape the entire outlook of Pakistan's future. Either, these challenges can bring about a positive

transformation or they may end up with a dreadful outlook. For example, if the leadership do not introduce structural reforms to <sup>broaden and</sup> enhance tax-base, make population-controlling policies, and measures to control over consumption of resources, by no means the bleak future picture can be prevented. To end the debate and leave a final note, the words of Ishaat Hussain, the author of 'Governing the Ungovernable' are these:

“Most of our crises are not crises but opportunities; what makes them crises is the inefficient and ineffective governance.”

Q: 2

Services of Shah Wali Ullah  
and Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi, and  
their Impacts on the History of  
the Subcontinent

Introduction:

“The brave and courageous man, a custodian of Ummah; whom Allah has awakened at the right time.”  
(Allama Qadri)

66 Shah Wali Ullah is a transitional head in the history of subcontinent. His attempts to meet the Islamic teachings with modern needs are beyond imagination. 99

(K.K. Aziz, the author of 'The Making of Pakistan')

The famous lines of Allama Iqbal are about Sheikh Anwar Sirhindi while the latter ones clearly speak of Shah Wali Ullah's contribution in the history of the subcontinent.

Both the persons have played a vital role in preventing Muslims of the subcontinent from cultural assimilation, uplifting their moral standards and political consciousness. Be it the liberal version of Deen-e-Ilahi of Akbar or Jahangir's policy of prostration Sirhindi ~~had~~ discarded them boldly and courageously. Similarly, be it the gambling in 'Shaitaan pura' or the bid'at — Innovation — in Islamic teachings, Shah Wali Ullah had played a vital role in curbing them.



## Major Services of Shah Wali Ullah

- Translation of Qur'an in Persian language
- Introduced Statecraft Principles
- Economic policies of Islam with reference to Modern needs.
- Practiced 'Ijtihad'.
- Disbanded the Hindu Cultural Practices followed by Muslims such as Holi.
- Challenged the Gambling, Drinking and other Ills of Shaitan Pura.
- Wrote 'Hajit-us-Balighah'.

## Services of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi

- Challenged the liberal version of Deen-Illahi of Akbar.

→ Discarded the Ills of society that were against the Islamic Teachings

→ The idea of 'Wahadat-ul-Shahood'

→ Denied to prostrate in front of Jahangir.

→ Promoted the teachings of Islam.

Impacts of these Reformers on the history of the Subcontinent:

## Political Impacts on the history of the Subcontinent

→ Political consciousness in the form of two nation theory

→ ~~Req~~ Maturity against Mahatas due to Shah Wali Ullah

## Social Impacts on the history of the Subcontinent

→ Overthrow of anti-Islamic practices

→ Prevention from Cultural  
Assimilation

Religious Impacts on the history of the Subcontinent

→ End of Innovations in  
Islamic values

→ Gambling, Drinking declined

→ Islamic teachings in Shaitan  
para.

## Modern Significance:

The world nowadays more or less is confronting the same dilemmas as the subcontinent faced <sup>few</sup> centuries ago. Evidences like war crimes in ~~Israel~~ Palestine, Myanmar, and Ukraine, <sup>and</sup> devoid of moral values among masses bear witness that there is a direly need of reformists like Shah Waliullah and Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi who could tell ~~pro~~ and convince people towards the values of peace coexistence while strictly adhering to one's faith. Terrorism led by so-called Islamists can be tackled through the teachings of these persons.

## Concluding Remarks:

The discussion clearly substantiate that the two reformists have played a conclusive and vital role in the history of the subcontinent. They did not only changed the ~~political~~ religious landscape of ~~Indian~~ subcontinent but also transformed the ~~political~~ political and economic structures of society. From eradicating the ill of gambling to preventing from cultural assimilation, from realizing Muslims their identity to introducing economic fair principles, each and every service of these two

personalities deeply impacted the history of the subcontinent. It was their foundational steps towards two nation theory that later on ended up with the creation of Pakistan and provided the Muslims freedom from the enslavement of the Hindus and Britain colonialism.