

# Pakistan Affairs

Q. No # 2:

## Introduction:

"Allah shall revive at the end of century a head who would revive its religion" (Sunan Bin Dawud)

The services and reforms of Shah Waliullah and Syed Ahmed Shaheed had long-lasting impact on the political, social and religious aspects of the lives of Indian Muslims. They undermined the deep social evils and Hindu reformist movements. Therefore, in this situational context, it had become important to revive the true teachings of Islam in Muslim society and to regain the lost glory of Muslims. Their reforms had deep impact on the Muslim political consciousness and laid the basis of future political movements of Muslims.

## Services of Shah Wali Ullah:

Shah wali ullah was born in early eighteenth century.

His father was the founder of Madrasah-Rahimiya which is then taken care by Shah wali Ullah.

### 2) Translation of Quran in Persian:

As the language of Quran is Arabic and Muslims of Andia did not understand it due to language barriers. The ulema interpreted Quran in their own way and many social evils were rising up. Therefore, Shah wali translated Quran in Persian language, so that Muslims can understand and interpret in its true manner.

Waheed-uz-Zaman has said,

"Shah wali ullah has earned the fame by translating Quran in Persian language which nobody else can do."

### 2) Efforts against Sectarianism:

Shah wali ullah had seen the sectarian differences among the Muslims of India. So, he described the matter on three bases i.e. Quran, Sunnah and God. He said that when these three are common to all sects, then there is no possibility of any sectarian beliefs.

### 3) Efforts for to achieve the approach of Moderation:

Shah wali ullah did many efforts to slow down the extremist approach. He was of the view that everyone is Muslim, the sects do not matter.

Wahed-uz-Zaman said,

"Shah-wali' ullah was so moderate that it was difficult to find which school of Fiqh he belonged to."

### 4) Identification of causes of Muslim decline:

Shah wali ullah was the first Muslim who identified the causes of muslim decline. He identified that the Bankruptcy, poverty, laziness are the prime reasons for the fall of Muslim decline. G.H Qureshi in his book, "A short history of Pakistan"

"Shah wali ullah was the first one who identified the causes of Muslim decline in subcontinent."

### 5) Teach Muslims to adopt Jihad instead of Taqleed:

Shah wali ullah urged the Muslims of India to pick up the sword and do not give up until the infidels are unable to rise up.

### 6) Lessons for the economic prosperity of Muslims:

Shah wali ullah gave the roadmap for the economic

prosperity of Indian Muslims.  
According to him, the resident  
of a specific area has the  
first right and everyone should  
get according to his needs.

## Services of Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi commonly  
known as 'Mujaddid Ali Farisani'  
born in the mid of 16<sup>th</sup>  
century. He did great efforts  
for the revival of Muslims  
in subcontinent.

### 2) Worked for the betterment on true Islamic teachings:

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi worked  
for the betterment on true  
Islamic teachings. He tried  
to abolish the social evils  
in the Muslim society.

"Ram an Raj cannot be  
equal, as creator cannot be  
equal to its creation"

(Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi)

## 2) Opposition of Assimilation:

At that time, bhagti movement and AVbae's deen-e-ellahi was prevalent. Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi persuaded Indian Muslims about their separate identity and a separate Nation.

## 3) Forceful voice against rulers:

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi had raised his forceful voice against Mughal rulers. They were involved in number of moral evils and were involving Hindus in government affairs. For this, he had awared them and raised voice against them.

## 4) Promoted Shari'ah's superiority over Mysticism:

Mujaddad Ali Qasbi Saadi has promoted that the Shari'ah interpreted by Quran and Sunna occupies the superior position while mysticism cannot be

above the Shariah

"Kashf and revelation do not come through Sufis but through Quran and Sunnah and the prophets of God."

### 5) Strong opposition of united Nationhood:

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi has raised strong voice against united nationhood. He was of the view that Muslims and Hindus are entirely different and cannot live as a nation.

## Impact on Subcontinent

The sermons of Shah Waliullah and Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi has strong impacts on the Muslims of sub-continent.

### 1) Arise of Muslim Nationalism:

The movement of

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi has laid the basis of Muslim Nationalism in India. He protected the Muslims from the assimilation.

"Had there been sukh-kul or universalism, there would be assimilation but due to Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi the Muslim Nationalism arose and Muslims demand separate state afterwards." (Nehru).

## 2) Ending of social evils from Muslim society.

Both reformist had worked hard for the solution of social evils in the Muslim society. This helped in the ending of social evils from Muslim society.

## 3) Influence upon Sir Syed and Alama Iqbal:

Shah waliullah and



Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi had deep impacts on the Sir Syed and Alama Iqbal. The nationalism of Majadid has deep influence on Iqbal's idea of nationalism.

According to Iqbal,

He is the savior of Millat's wealth in India whom Allah has sent to save his Islam.

#### 4) Reformation of society on religious basis:

Shah waliullah has reformed the society religiously by translating the Quran. While Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi has opposed the Biddat, assimilation of Muslims and the unreligious activities of Mughal rulers.

#### 5) Political conscious of Indian Muslims was defined:

The two reformist had defined the political conscious of Indian Muslims. All the muslims political movements were

based on the nationalism of Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi or the separate nationhood of Shah wali Allah.

### Conclusion:

In short, Shah wali Allah and Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi has laid the foundation of all the intellectual, religious, and political movements of Indian Muslims. They played great role in revamping the Muslim society and raised their voice against Muslim rulers who were unfaithful and were responsible for the moral decay of Muslim society.

QNO#5

## Introduction-

"I believe that Human over-population is the fundamental problem on Earth today and we humans have become a disease, the human pox (David Foreman)."

Pakistan is facing the rising danger of over-population. Population explosion is the most dangerous problem for Pakistan. It is the virus which takes the life of country. Therefore, it is important to control the population, otherwise grave issue would arise and nature will itself respond to the issue of over-population.

The natural resources will start depleting, poverty and inflation would be at highest and many other issues. It has the long-lasting impacts which are crippled

cannot bear.

## Population figures of Pakistan:

According to Pakistan Bureau of statistics in recent census, population of Pakistan is 241.43 Million compared to 207.49 Million in 2017.

## Causes of population explosion in Pakistan:

There are various causes of population explosion like patriarchal society denied of giving reproductive rights of women, child marriages, lack of education and failure to devise and implement policies.

If not controlled, nature would do this,

It is imperative to control the size of population, otherwise nature would respond to it.

### i) Depletion of natural resources:

Due to rising population, there is great risk of depletion of natural resources. In this way, the number of people would increase and the commodities required would be decreased. A time would come when there is not enough resources for the rising population. According to UNEP, excessive consumption of non-renewable resources by excessive population would result in the lesser resources for future generations.

### ii) Low Human Development:

Due to increased population, Pakistan is facing the risk of poor development of human resource. There is not enough health, education, basic needs of life required for human development. Human development of Pakistan is

0.48% which means that only a child born in Pakistan is only 48% effective and efficient if given optimum health and education.

### iii) Increased environmental degradation:

Increased environmental degradation can occur if population of Pakistan would increase at the same rate. The floods of 2022 has taken over the life of 1500 people and a loss of \$30bn. Increased people would require increased transport and increased need, which will result in more severe climate disasters.

### iv) Poverty and inflation:

Pakistan is facing inflation and poverty. Due to increased population, the people pushed to poverty has increased. The

dependency ratio has increased and poverty and inflation rises. Core inflation in Pakistan has risen upto 20.4%.

### Increased risk of famine

Nature can respond to the rising population by increasing the risk of famine. Increased population require an increased water and food which are insufficient. Ultimately, famine would occur.

### Case Study of Bangladesh

Being the part of Pakistan till 1971, the example of Bangladesh can be taken due to similarity in demography, geography and all religious and social aspects.

At the time of separation of East Pakistan, the population of Bangladesh was 65 Million and of Pakistan 56 Million. Now, Bangladesh has stopped its

population to 172 Million while that of Pakistan has increased four times to 491 Million.

It is the alarming situation for Pakistan still, the birth rate of Pakistan is 2.55% but of Bangladesh, India and Nepal stopped it to 1.1%, 2.12%, and 1.26% respectively.

## Measures to control Population

### i) National family planning policy programmes

It is imperative to launch the National family planning programmes to start the campaigns for family planning. Case study of Bangladesh: started the National family planning policy programme in 1978 and drag down the growth rate from 6.1% to 2.2%.



ii) Awareness among <sup>women</sup> ~~Men~~ about their reproductive rights:

It is substantial to start spreading awareness among women about their reproductive rights. In this way, population can be controlled when women would themselves make the decisions according to their health and resources.

iii) Awareness campaigns through Media:

It is the century of social media. It must be utilized for the benefit of Pakistan and awareness must be spread among masses about population control.

iv) Stop child marriage and education of women:

Child marriage is the biggest evil and it must be stopped immediately. Almost

55 Million girls are succumbed to child marriage globally every year. Educate people about women education. According to a survey, educated women bear on average 2.4 children while uneducated 4.1 children.

#### v) Limited child policies:

Government must start such policies and should limit the number of children born by the couple. China and Singapore has faced severe population crisis but controlled it through one-child policy.

#### vi) Role of Ulama in interpretation of Religion about population control:

It is the high time that Ulama should play their part by interpreting the religion in its true sense. In this way, people can

adapt family planning methods without any hesitation.

vii) Contraceptives should be free and accessible:

All the primary health care centres in rural areas must have the facility of contraceptives and other family planning methods.

### Conclusion:

Population explosion is the grave issue Pakistan is facing today. It has become imperative to control otherwise serious problems can occur with the efficient policy making, education of women and through role of religious scholars, the issue of over-population can be solved.

## Q No # 8

### Introduction:

Pakistan is facing the most adverse circumstances till its inception. The country is facing severe economic, environmental, and demographic challenges. It is at point where the policy making will decide either the country will sink or float. The GDP of country has seen its lowest, the floods of 2022 has destroyed the infrastructure, and the population explosion in the form of highest youth population are the challenges faced by the country today.

### Economic Challenges of Pakistan:

Pakistan is facing severe economic challenges in the form of fiscal deficit, current account deficit, Trade deficit, and poverty and inflation.

### i) Fiscal deficit:

Fiscal deficit is that the expenditure of state is more than its revenue collection. The reason is the low collection of revenues. In 2023, the collection of revenue was just 12.1% of GDP.

### ii) Trade deficit:

Pakistan's imports are way greater than that of exports. So, the dollar outflow is greater than the inflow. This results in reduction of foreign reserves.

### iii) Poverty and inflation:

In 2023, Pakistan is facing severe inflation. In energy sector and LRG, the prices have skyrocketed. The core inflation has reached 20.4%.

### iv) Increased share of provinces in Budget:

After the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment, the provinces has to get increased share of NEC a from the previous one. This is the one of the reason the economy is not surging, as federal government is in deficit.

## Environmental challenges of Pakistan

Despite contributing just 0.58% of global carbon emissions, Pakistan faces the severe impact of climate-change disasters. The floods of 2022 had destroyed infrastructure, agriculture and economic loss of almost \$30bn.

## Demographic challenges of Pakistan

Pakistan is facing the challenge of population explosion. Almost 64% of population is between the age group 16-30 years. It

may be proved useful if skilled and labour but may prove fatal if not utilized adequately.

## Strategies to overcome the current Challenges of Pakistan

At this juncture, the holistic approach by combining the economic, political, social and environmental policies can only save Pakistan from these challenges.

### Environmental Sustainability is required:

The first and foremost is the need of environmental sustainability. The first step is to shift towards renewable energy sources, urban farming to improve the air index, organic farming and agroforestry. In this way, more trees are integrated into the farming landscape. The sustainable water-supply projects must be launched.

## ii) Necessity of Regional Connectivity:

Regional connectivity has become essential. More projects like CPEC must be capitalized, so that transit economy must be raised.

## iii) Broaden the social safety NETS:

To reduce the poverty and inflation, it is essential to support and release social safety NETS for the primum people who are in dire need of food and shelter.

## iv) Institutional Reforms and institutional capacity building:

First and foremost in institutional reforms is the independent judiciary and easy access to justice of common public. Governance reforms must be done to make transparency in anti-corruption campaigns. Integration of technology and staff training.



programmes for institutional capacity building.

#### v) Investment in Human Capital:

Uzair Yannis in his article in Atlantic wrote that biggest problem of Pakistan is the unskilled human labour.

To make the human capital effective, it is important to launch vocational training programmes and inculcate skills required for modern economy.

#### vi) Industrial and Trade policies:

It is important to rationalize the trade policies by substituting the imports with domestic products and promote the export. Exports can be increased by diversification of exports base. The development of small and medium size enterprise are also helpful.

## vii) Structural Reforms in Energy and agricultural sector:

It is imperative to reform the energy sector and agricultural sector. In energy sector, shift towards renewable energy sources and the rationalization of tariffs by diminishing the subsidies. Agricultural system must be modernized for optimum production.

## Conclusion:

Pakistan is at juncture of economic, environmental, and demographic challenges. The shrewd and strict policy making which requires combined economic, social, political and environmental policies are required for the current challenges of Pakistan.