

Q 2

Part II

Ans:

Introduction:

There is no doubt that Shah Wali Ullah and Sheikh Ahmed Sirhandi were the towering personalities in the annals of Sub-continent history. They served as a beacon of hope and light for Muslims in their darkest hours. Their countless services in religious and political sphere saved the Muslims from the verge of destruction. Moreover, their services had a permanent mark on the history of sub-continent. Let's take a brief view of services of each personality and then their impact on the history of sub continent.

(1) Shah Wali Ullah and His Services.

Shah Wali Ullah rendered numerous services in religious and political sphere. Some of them are as follows.

(a) Religious Services of Shah Wali Ullah

- (i) Strict Adherence to True Islamic Teachings.

Shah Wali-ullah urged the Muslims to strictly follow the true teachings of Islam. He said that the seeds of muslim destruction lies in the shunning of true Islamic teaching and in adopting un-Islamic traditions.

(ii) Reduced Sectarian violence and differences

He took a moderate stance on every sect of religion and tried his best to reduce violence and defuse their differences and address their grievances. In his book, "Khalifa- Khulafa", he has tried to present Islamic teachings in a true sense.

(iii) Emphasis on the Importance of Jihad and Jihed.

Shah- Wali-ullah urged the Muslims to do Jihed ^{in the way of Allah} and utilize Jihed to present Islam in more acceptable way.

(b) Political Services of Shah Wali-ullah.

① Efforts to Check Marathas' Rise.

Shah Wali-ullah wrote letters to muslim ruler to check the rise of Marathas as they pose serious threat to muslim rule. Sheekh Ahmed Abdali

responded to his letters, and Marathas received crushing defeat at his hands. In this way, he saved muslim ummah.

(ii) creation of separate Muslim identity
Shah Waliullah asked muslim to adopt their separate identity and shun other identities, in this way, a sense of uniqueness developed among muslims.

(iii) Guidelines for Muslim rulers:
He emphasized on competence of rulers and implored them to shun their extravagant and luxurious life style. In this way, rulers adopted more sensible approach to ruling.

(2) Sheikh Ahmed Sirhendi and His services:

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhendi was great saint and mystic who rendered several services to some muslims of subcontinents. Some of them are as follow.

(i) Efforts Against Din-Ilahi:

Din-Ilahi was introduced

by Akbar. It was meant to bring harmony but used as distortion for Islam. Sheikh Ahmed Sirhadi rejected Dair-illahi and urged muslims to accept uniqueness of Islam.

(ii) Wahad-ul-Wajud vs Wahad-ul-Shuhud:

The followers of Wahad-ul-Wajud believed that creator and creatures are the same thing. Every particle of Earth represents God. Sheikh Ahmed rejected it and proposed his philosophy of Wahad-ul-Shuhud, meaning creator and creatures are two different things.

(iii) Struggle Against Tawwaf:

Subis of his time reject Sherech and accept un-Islamic ways. Sheikh Ahmed tried his level best to bring meaningful reforms in Tawwaf and make it in line with Islamic teachings.

(iv) Struggle Against Atheism

Sheikh Ahmed did not

accept un-natural beliefs like atheism, therefore, he tried to make atheism as an unnatural things.

(3) How these reformers impacted the history of sub-continent.

The impact of these reformers had been a positive one on the history of sub-continent, particularly for the Muslims. It can be evident through following arguments-

- (i) Their services united Muslims of sub-continent.

Shah-wali-Ullah's letters and Sheikh Ahmed Sirhadi's struggle against Jahangir united Muslims as Ummah.

- (ii) Their services paved the way for separate identity of Muslims.

Had Sheikh Ahmed Sirhadi not ~~sp~~ spoken against Durr-ud-daula, there would have been no difference between Hindus and Muslims.

- (iii) checked the threat to Islam.

Their efforts helped

to check threats of Marathas, Sikhs and so on. In this way, muslim rule continued in the sub-continent.

(iv) Their services served as a wake-up call for Muslims of sub-continent.

Teachings of both giant personalities served as wake-up call for muslims, making them from their deep slumber and making them face the reality of time.

Conclusion:

Shah-waliullah and Sheikh Suhandi tried to make Muslim Ummah great again. They rendered countless services which had effected the history of muslim in a positive way. Their services waked up muslim, protected Islam and united muslim in the sub-continent.

Q 5

Ans:

Introduction:

Thomas Malthus predicted long ago that unbridled population will exhaust natural resources, leading to disaster - Malthusian pessimism rings true in the case of Pakistan - Its burgeoning population is going to be the cause of its destruction - The ever-growing population of Pakistan can be the reason of Pakistan's collapse as it reduces water reserves, increases food shortage and reduced soil production -
 Moreover, It is not too late. Islamabad has to take corrective measure before it is too late - let's take a brief overview of Pakistan population in Pakistan -

(i) Overview of Population Growth of Pakistan:

Pakistan's population is growing at an unprecedented rate. It can be gauged from the fact that it has been ranked as fifth most populous country in the world -

According to UN estimate, Pakistan's current population is somewhere 240 million. This is a clear proof that population growth of Pakistan is unchecked and uncontrolled.

(2) How Nature would take care of Pakistan's population:

Nature will intervene to check population by depleting natural resources. Some of its evidences are given below-

(i) Increased food shortages:

The first and foremost natural outcome of unbridled population is the increased food shortages. The more the number of people, the more the mouth to feed, causing food crisis.

No wonder, Pakistan is ranked at 99th position in hunger and food shortage index out of 192 countries.

(ii) Reduced water resources:

Another natural calamity of uncontrolled population is the reduced water resources. With increase

population, usage of water increase manifold, causing water shortages. According to IMF report, Pakistan will become water-stressed country by 2025.

(iii) Increased climate disasters and Air pollution

Another way for nature to intervene is to increase climate disasters and air pollution. The colossal floods 2022 affected 32 million people and exacted cost of \$ 30 billion. is a glaring example. Moreover, Pakistan's situation is not satisfactory when it comes to air pollution. Lahore and Karachi are among the most polluted cities of the world, reducing life expectancy of people.

(5) Measures to address population growth.

Several measures must be taken at a very footing to arrest population growth in Pakistan. Some of them are given below.

(i) Formulation of long-sighted policies

and their proper implementation.

The first viable option is to formulate sex-regulated policies. In this regard, China's one child policy is a glaring example. Pakistan should learn from China and envision such policy in our country.

(ii) Prioritizing Education of masses.

Education of masses can be an effective tool to arrest population because literate population know how to control birth rate. According to Demographic Health survey, on average educated women has 2.1 children while illiterate women have 4.2 children.

(iii) Proper interpretation of religious dictates:

Ulema can play a crucial role in this regard. Iran and Saudi Arabia has compelled Ulema to release fatwas about the dangers of population growth. Pakistan should follow the suit.

(iv) Easy access contraceptives :

Awareness about contraception at schools can go a long way to arrest population growth.

The Case Study of Bangladesh and lessons for Pakistan.

Bangladesh has controlled its population growth in a proper way. According to the Economist, magazine, Bangladesh had population of 70 million and Pakistan some during 1960s, now Bangladesh has 160 million population and Pakistan 240 million. Bangladesh has achieved this milestone by educating and empowering women and proper use of families about this critical issue. Pakistan must take a leaf of lesson from the success book of Bangladesh.

Conclusion :

Uncontrolled population growth is a serious threat to existence of Pakistan as it reduces food supply and water reserve in

countries and exacerbates climate-related
catastrophes. Pakistan can turn the
tides of population growth by proper
policies and education of women.

The question is: are we willing
to swallow bitter pills to save
the country from the verge of
collapse.

Q8

Ans

Introduction:

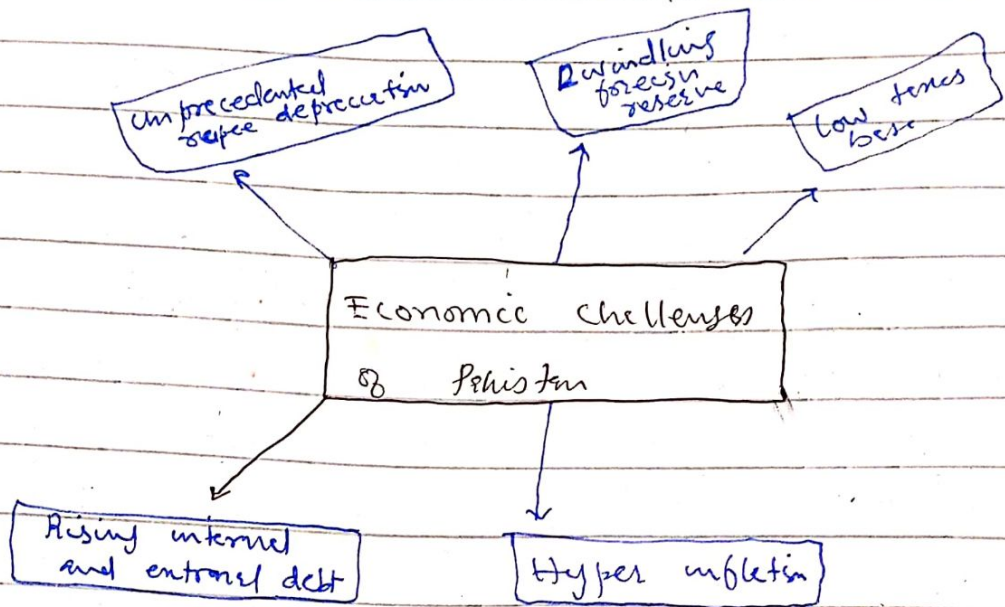
Christopher Jefferson has likened Pakistan to a child which has somehow managed to defeat early child illness, but has not become strong enough to grow properly. The primary reason Pakistan has not grown properly is that it faces numerous economic, environmental and demographic challenges - If these challenges are not tackled properly, they could sour the needs of Pakistan's collapse - Therefore, these challenges must be addressed in order for Pakistan to embark its journey on the path to progress and prosperity.

(1) How Pakistan stands at the Critical Juncture -

Pakistan is standing at critical juncture because of myriad of challenges threatening its survival. Some of these challenges are given below -

(A) Economic challenges of Pakistan:

Pakistan faces numerous economic challenges. Some of them are as follow -



(i) Rising internal and external debt:

UN chief - Antonio Guterres said, "Pakistan is not only flooding in water but also in debt." According to IMF, Pakistan's debt may reach \$130 bn by 2023; 24. Thus, rising internal and external debt is a key economic problem of Pakistan.

(ii) Unprecedented rupee depreciation:

Pakistan's rupee has took a nose dive against dollar.

According to Bank of America, Pakistan's rupee could depreciate upto 2300 by 2024-25.

(ii) Hyper inflation:

Pakistan has experienced double digit inflation in the recent years. According to Economic survey of Pakistan⁽²⁰²³⁾, on average, Pakistan's inflation stands at 29.2 percent.

(iv) Diminishing of foreign Reserves:

Pakistan has very low foreign reserves. According to State Bank report, "Pakistan has foreign reserves to buy import for only two months". This is not a good sign for economy of Pakistan.

(2) Environmental challenges of Pakistan:

Pakistan is facing many environmental challenges. This could pave the way for its collapse. Anotcon Dercithen, in his book "Pakistan: A Hard Country" writes that ecological degradation can be the cause of Pakistan's

collapse. Some of environmental challenges are given below.

(i) Rising Air pollution:

Air pollution has reached record high in Pakistan. This can be judged from the fact that Lahore and Karachi are deemed as the most polluted cities of the world:

(ii) Growing climate induced disasters

Climate-induced disasters like deadly heatwaves in May and July and colossal floods of 2022 are the irrefutable proof that climate change is a serious threat to Pakistan.

(3) Demographic challenges of Pakistan:

Pakistan faces many demographic challenges like rising population, poor health facilities and so on. Owing to these crisis, Pakistan is unable to reach the status of prosperous countries in the world.

(4) Recommendations

- ① Proper implementation of policies is essential.
- ② Garnering political will can do the trick.
- ③ Education of masses can go a long way.
- ④ Improving governance is a crucial for addressing these challenges.

Conclusion:

No doubt, Pakistan is at critical juncture because it faces many economic, environmental and demographic ^{challenges} which are threatening the very existence of Pakistan. As long as these challenges are existing, Pakistan will not achieve the status of prosperous and wealthy nation. Thus, it is a need of hour to address these challenges at the earliest.

Q7

Ans:

Introduction.

Geo-strategic location of Afghanistan makes it a central player in the chess board of the region. Being neighbouring countries of Pakistan, Kabul has been very crucial for Islamabad to achieve regional stability. Maleeha Lodhi, the former ambassador of Pakistan, says, "Pakistan has more to gain from stability in Afghanistan and more to lose from instability in Afghanistan". Moreover, stability in Afghanistan is only possible if there is consensus-based regional approach. Otherwise, it could cause widespread chaos and violence in the region.

(1) How failure of regional-based consensus lead to instability and chaos in the region:

No doubt, in the absence of regional-based consensus approach, Afghanistan could be the sources of violence in several ways. Some of them are given below.

(a) Rise in cross border terrorism:

In the absence of proper approach, cross border terrorism can rise. Pakistan has ^{seen} ~~seen~~ rise of TTP. China could see instability in eastern part and cross state will witness terrorist attack. Thus, rise of Taliban could provide impetus to regional instability.

(b) Creation of fertile ground for nefarious elements:

Another way regional instability could increase is through the creation of fertile ground for nefarious elements. Terrorist organization could find safe havens in Afghanistan and could increase their number in it.

(c) Promotion of black market for weapons of mass destruction.

Instability in Afghanistan could create a fertile ground for black markets of weapons to flourish. According to UNSC report, "TTP has

More sophisticated weapons from Afghanistan
Such trends could mean significant
rise chaos.

(iv) Enhanced Refugee crisis:
As long as the regional
players are not recognizing Afghanistan
regional stability could be threatened
through rise in refugee crisis
across the region.

(v) Promotion of drugs and other
illegal elements:
Unstable Afghanistan can
be a source of drugs smuggling
from the region - This is not a
good omen for the entire region.

**(2) How regional-based consensus
can be achieved:**

There are several
ways to achieve a regional-based
consensus approach to Afghanistan.
Some of them are given
below.

(i) Diplomatic engagement:

The best and foremost way to achieve regional based consensus approach is to engage with Taliban through diplomatic channel. Diplomats can find ways to address the differences and find common ground for consensus based approach.

(ii) Effective utilization of good offices regional organization:

Regional organization can be a good platform to achieve consensus. In this regard, SAARC is a good example to achieve this, because all regional countries are member of it. Another organization is Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) can provide good offices for that matters.

(iii) Engagement of key regional player: China's role is crucial.

China's engagement is crucial. As it has broader deal

USA I mean, it can play a key role in Afghan-Pakistan relation

Conclusion:

There is no doubt that in the absence of regional based approach to Afghanistan, the natural outcome will be regional chaos and anarchy which can be seen in the shape of rise in terrorist attacks, black-market weapons and so on. Thus, regional approach is essential which can be achieved through diplomatic engagement and use of good offices of regional organizations.