

Q No-3

### Introduction:

KSA - Iran rapprochement is a major development in 21st century. It has potential to end decades long proxy war that have been waged by KSA and Iran to further their interests. The detente brings stability in middle east, a war-torn region. The normalization also positively impacts countries like Pakistan. It is considered to be a good omen for success of CPEC as Iran and KSA are both part of BRI. The detente between KSA and Iran can help reduce sectarianism in Pakistan and improve ties with India.

## A) → Positive implications of KSA-Iran rapprochement on conflicts of Middle East

How KSA-Iran rapprochement positively implicates Middle Eastern conflicts is discussed below in heads.

### ① Lowering of tensions in Iraq

Iraq has remained hub of proxy war for decades. KSA and Iran have supported opposite sides. However, the rapprochement between KSA and Iran lowers tensions in Iraq.

### ② Forging of compromise in Lebanon

Rivalry between KSA and Iran has been the major hurdle to reach a compromise in Lebanon. Iran has supported Hezbollah. While,

KSA has supported the opposite party. However, the rapprochement helps forge political compromise in Lebanon.

③ Restoring of ties between Damascus and Gulf countries

Syria has sought investments from Gulf countries for long. The investment helps it to rebuild war-torn country.

However, KSA-Iran cold war has foiled those attempts. Iran has supported Bashar-ul-Assad.

While, KSA has supported rebel groups. So, improvement in KSA-Iran relationship

surely help Damascus to restore its ties with Gulf countries.

The reason is that the move is not opposed by Iran.

## B) → Impacts of KSA-Iran rapprochement on Pakistan

The detente has far reaching impacts on Pakistan. They are discussed below in heads.

### ① Success of CPEC

CPEC project is critical to Pakistan. Its success depends on KSA-Iran relations. KSA-Iran rapprochement brings stability in the region. They are also part of BRI. So, success of CPEC is directly linked with KSA-Iran relations.

### ② Reduction of Sectarianism

Pakistan was almost 20 percent of its population Shia. However, the majority belongs to Sunni group.

KSA and Iran rivalry  
has ensued sectarianism  
in Pakistan. However,  
ending of rivalry between  
them helps reduce sect  
based violence in Pakistan.

### Conclusions:

To conclude, KSA -  
Iran rapprochement  
has positive impacts  
for middle eastern  
region and Pakistan.  
It helps to  
reduce tensions in  
Middle east and  
helps Pakistan in  
the success of CPEC  
and controlling of  
sectarianism in the country.