

## Question 7

Pakistan's economic elite is predisposed.....

## Answer Number 7

### INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is caught up in the shambles of a deadly economic crisis. The crisis has been long building up and it continues to worsen amidst the elite capture. Even though the problems do seem daunting; but, instead of structural reforms, the economic elite transfers the burden on the masses. Unironically, the already suffering are led into suffering more. The poor are taxed more, their quality of life declines while the rich continue to live unbothered. This explains the inability of the elite to comprehensively understand the situation at hand or sheer lack of interest to solve it wholly.

2

## ECONOMIC REALITY OF PAKISTAN AND THE PHENOMENON OF ELITE CAPTURE

There is no denying that the country faces a grim situation with respect to economy. In 2023 the country saw the inflation mark rise above 35%, which is alarming enough to shake any country.

The expected poverty level according to a World Bank report is also predicted to stay around 40%.

The economic elite, however, is still not grasping the structural root of the problem because that would affect them. The elite is hyper-focused on unsustainable solutions like taxing the masses and borrowing. This continues because the elite has a powerful role in the state systems.

3

## STRUCTURAL ISSUES OF THE ELITE THAT NEED REFORMATION

### 3.1 LACK OF INNOVATION

The country has a severe lack of innovation, which affects it negatively in the modern age. In every field age old mechanisms are being used that slow down efficiency and hamper progress. In fields like agriculture, industry, IT; Pakistan lacks far behind in innovation.

### 3.2 INVESTMENTS IN REDUNTANT SECTORS BY RICH & PROPERTY

The elite of Pakistan continues to invest and channel their income through unproductive sectors. Pakistan has seen an overwhelming growth of housing societies in the past. This generates income for the rich. However it is considered one of the most unproductive sectors globally.

### 3.3 NO GOVERNMENT REGULATION TACKLES THE ELITE

The sectors with a strong elite capture

capture are some of the most untaxed sectors.

International reports marked 28 leading housing societies of Pakistan being untaxed.

### 3.4 PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS BECOME PRIVATE PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The state-elite nexus creates an environment where even modern workable concepts like public private partnerships get hijacked. The mechanisms are essentially robbed off their purpose and start feeding the elite. In recent past there have been multiple allegations against private builder contractors, but none were addressed.

### 3.5 RISING GRAND CORRUPTION INDEX

The rising stats of Pakistan's corruption index indicate a strong input of corruption at the grand level. Any reform amidst corruption is like filling a bottomless bucket with water.

### 3.6 GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

DECLINING

Declining governance and accountability mechanisms attribute to the elite capture and lack of transparency in their operations. Governance

entails:

- Voice

- Rule of law

- Accountability

- Efficiency

- Participation

- Strategic Planning

However, the absence of these poses a threatening situation for all.

## 4

### FLAWED WAYS ADOPTED FOR AVERTING THE CRISIS CURRENTLY

#### 4.1 EXCESSIVE TAXATION THAT IMPROPORTIONALLY AFFECTS THE MASSES

There is nothing wrong with taxation, however

it becomes a problem when done unfairly. Progressive taxation is adopted only till it blurs the line between elite and working class.

## 4.2 CONDITIONALITIES OF LOANS

### RUIN COMMON MANS QUALITY OF LIFE

Even though the foreign loans seem like an easy way out; the conditionalities that come with it are detrimental. The rise in inflation raises prices of everyday necessities and ruins the quality of a common mans life.

## 4.3 FOREIGN DEBTS THAT NEED TO BE REPAYED

Foreign debts are not gifts.. They are loans that need to be paid back with interest. They curb a nations sovereignty and pile up national debt on the national treasury.

## 4.4 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ARE HALTED

Another part of these unsustainable solutions is the immediate halt of development projects. This is also a part of the conditionalities and even without that there isn't enough money for development. Lack of development aids the cyclical process of governance decline, increased elite capture, more corruption and economic crisis.

## 5

### WAY FORWARD FOR PAKISTAN

#### 5.1 REDUCE ELITE CAPTURE TO ESCAPE THE CYCLICAL MENACE

Reducing the elite capture through structural reforms and democracy is the way out from this cyclical mess whereby one flaw reinforces the other. A step by step approach suggests eliminating the root cause of the problem.

## 5.2 STRENGTHEN THE TAXATION SYSTEM

'TAX THE RICH'

'EQUITABLE TAXATION'

These two should be the goal which taxation reforms. Strengthening the taxation system ensures everyone's input according to their income and assets. The de facto progressive taxation should be introduced.

## 6

## CONCLUSION

It is true that the elite impose conditions in the lieu of economic crisis. However, it needs to be realized that it is their factual mechanism which is causing this, not the other way round. For economies to rise, the rich invest in innovation, pay tax and contribute positively; they don't massively plant sugar cane crops that are not country friendly nor do they invest in tax free real estate.



## Question 5

Afghanistan leaders want to pursue.....

## Answer 5

1

### INTRODUCTION

The entire globe has its eyes and ears on Afghanistan's every new step. It is because of the new Taliban government there, which is nothing but an anomaly in the contemporary modern world. Pakistan, however, has to focus much more than the rest due to its proximity, history and ties. An independent foreign policy of Afghanistan is a bitter sweet reality for Pakistan. It does mean that there will be no intervention in the region, but no intervention also means the radical government be let loose with no check or balance. Both of the positives and negatives have a direct impact on the future of Pakistan.

Afghanistan relations.

## 2 AFGHANISTAN SITUATION POST US WITHDRAWAL

Even though talks and plans of US withdrawal from Afghanistan were in motion since 2014, the withdrawal happened quite haphazardly. With the withdrawal there was an immediate Taliban government which had starting gain control of various areas even during US presence. The aftermath of the withdrawal however, is very tragic. The domestic conditions of the country have hit rock bottom especially due to economic crisis, rampant poverty and global alienation. Majority of the Afghan population does not have sustainable income. There is also an emerging humanitarian crisis. Foreign policy of such a neighboring country does have impact on Pakistan.

## 3 REASONS FOR PURSUING AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY

### 3.1 WANT OF PRACTICING INDEPENDENT SHARIAH IDEOLOGY

The Taliban government is very strict about its ideology. Enforcement of radical shariah has been on their top agenda since ever. They have implemented it whenever they were given space to do so. Assimilation with others does not seem a strategy in their handbook. Any influx of international intervention has the potential to dilute their aims.

### 3.2 FREEDOM FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF A CLIENT / PROXY STATE: THE COLD WAR LESSON.

The cold war and its Afghan theatre, followed by the 20 year long War on Terror; the Afghani's have dealt with multiple consequences of interference, hardly any positive. As a reaction there is an urge to separate their foreign policy from international influences.

## 4 CONSEQUENCES FOR THE PAKISTAN - AFGHANISTAN

### RELATIONS = POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES

#### 4.1 FREEDOM FROM BIASES GIVES AFGHANISTAN AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF THE BRI INITIATIVE

The freedom from influences gives Afghanistan the viable option to become a part of the Belt and Road Initiative actively. This is great for Pakistan as it is relying on CPEC's success for its economic revival. The corridor to Central Asian Republics can open doors to new horizons.

#### 4.2 REMOVES FOREIGN INFLUENCE IN THE REGION

The removal of foreign influence in the region serves as a great bonding scenario for both the neighbors. Pakistan is already practicing non-alignment since the past few years. If Afghanistan practices the same, the region could be devoid of polarizing international politics.

#### 4.3 INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY

INDICATES SOVEREIGNTY AND OWNER-

SHIP ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT.

CURTAILS REFUGEE PROBLEM

Aims of independent foreign policy indicate a sense of ownership by the Taliban government towards national cohesion and the idea of sovereignty. If the leaders of the state are taking up national approach instead of guerilla warfare, the burden on Pakistan to act like the mature sibling reduces. Pakistan can be free of the likes of refugee crisis.

#### 4.4 THIS CAN MARK BEGINNING OF

GOOD TRADE RELATIONS

An independent foreign policy gives the Afghans space to focus on their economies and trade. As the closest nation, Pakistan can benefit from it. This can prove to be a new chapter in the liberal interrelated world.

#### 4.5 NON INTERVENTION CAN GIVE SPACE TO AFGHAN GOVERNMENT TO GO TO ANY LENGTHS IN COMPROMISING HUMANITARIAN VALUES

Pakistan is strictly against the radical implementation of laws under Taliban government. Especially with regards to human and women's rights. Already the government has banned female education, presence of women in public without a chaperone and female voice. Without any foreign involvement, these things seem to grow, making it difficult for Pakistan to remain cordial.

#### 4.6 AFGHANISTAN MIGHT BECOME A LAUNCHING PAD FOR TERRORIST

## ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN

There was a surge in terrorist activities in Pakistan post the US withdrawal. The Taliban government seems to have ideological and historical connections with the terrorist organizations of Pakistan such as Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan. With the prospect of independent foreign policy, Pakistan might face the issue of tackling the terrorism reality.

## 4.7 INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY GIVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE NEXUS WITH INDIA

There have been previous revelations of RAW working with Afghan coalition to create fault lines in Pakistan. The option of opting for independent foreign policy gives the option of picking friends and foes for oneself.

## 4.8 ADVENT OF WAR LIKELY TO BE ELIMINATED

The practice of independent foreign policy creates the hope of eliminating war like conditions in Pakistan's neighbours. Hence the seep in of war in Pakistani territory will eliminate.

## 5 ADJUSTMENT TO THE NEW REALITY

The Pakistani government and stakeholders have a risk of opportunities and challenges that come with the prospect of independent foreign policy. Navigating through these challenges is the key.

## 6 CONCLUSION

The Afghanistan government's decision to pursue independent foreign policy is a result of its experiences and ideology. Pakistan has to carefully evaluate the benefits from this situation and counter the challenges that come with it.



## Question 4

Critically evaluate Sir Syed's trinity.....

## Answer 4

### 1

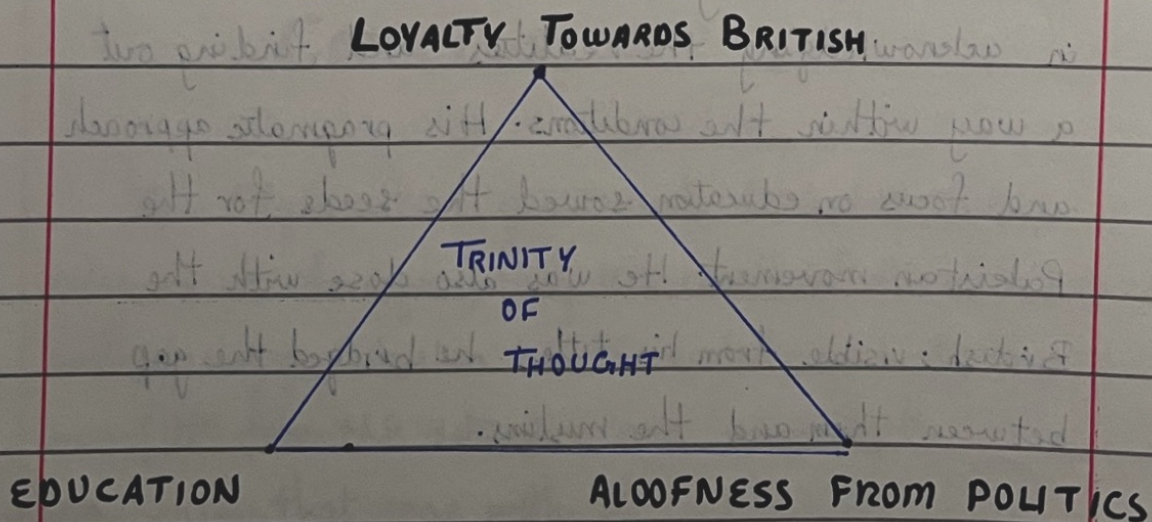
### INTRODUCTION

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was a very forward looking, intellectual and wise person. He would not jump up at the idea of emotional decisions and his ideology reflects that. He saw the Indian attempt at independence before his eyes and believed in learning from mistakes. He believed in acknowledging the realities and finding out a way within the conditions. His pragmatic approach and focus on education sowed the seeds for the Pakistan movement. He was also close with the British; visible from his title; he bridged the gap between them and the Muslims.

2

## SIR SYED AHMAD KHANS IDEOLOGY FOR MUSLIMS

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was a practical realist. His ideology circled around empowering muslims vinstead of deallienating them from the system. He was against any sort of interference that would bring further harm. His aim was forming a strong sustainable community that can voice its concerns, once they have the ability to do so. Some radicals of the time disagreed with him owing to his assimilative approach but eventually his vision is what led to the creation of the Pakistan movement. His ideology for muslims is as follows:



### 3

## ELABORATION OF HIS IDEAS

### 3.1 LOYALTY TOWARDS BRITISH

#### (a) HAD SEEN THE POST 1857 WAR REALITY "RISALA - E - ASBAB - E - BAGHAWAT HIND"

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was a witness to the post 1857 war scenario. The Britishers labelled it a mutiny and dealt with those involved in a similar way. Sir Syed learned that they - the Muslims - must not affiliate themselves with such factions. He wrote the 'Risala-e-Asbab-e-Baghat-e-Hind' to clarify the reasons behind the said 'mutiny'.

#### (b) RECOGNIZED THE STATUS QUO

Sir Syed was fully aware of the status quo. He accepted the British as the ruling power

because he knew that acknowledgement of the reality is what can lead to actual desired outcomes.

Otherwise it becomes a free fire situation

"Muslims must acknowledge the reality of the sub-continent"

- Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

(c)  
UNDERSTOOD THAT BRITISHERS ARE THE ONES THAT CAN SUPPORT MUSLIM

INDIVIDUALITY

'LOYAL MOHAMMADANS OF INDIA'

Acceptance of the status quo also meant the understanding that only Britishers can support and grant muslim individuality. The Hindus would obviously curb it due to the idea of a native large homeland. To connect Britishers and Muslims, he wrote the 'Loyal Mohammadans of India.

(d)

EXTREMELY AGAINST SELF HARMING

FOOLISH ENTHUSIASM

He was never of the ideology that shouts in the face of death. He guided the muslim community to stay away from self sabotaging activities in the heat of enthusiasm.

### 3.2 DEVOTION TO EDUCATION

(a)

#### EDUCATION AS A MEANS TO UPLIFT

Empowering the muslim society was his strong forte. He encouraged muslims towards education as he felt this would strengthen them in the longer run. He believed education was a means to uplift the society. Mohammadan Anglo Oriental Schools and Collages were the first brick

(b)

ENCOURAGED SCIENCE AND TECH; WANTED MUSLIMS TO CATCH UP WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY AT GHAZIPORE

He wanted to ensure that Muslims of that time were well equipped with modern knowledge and were not left behind. He established the Scientific Society at Ghazipur with same purpose. His efforts also include translating scientific researches for the Muslims of India.

(c)

### ENHANCING INTELLECTUAL ABILITIES

For him, education was not limited to reading and writing. His aim was empowerment and creating educated citizens. He organized debates and literary interactions. Muslims of that time rose in intellectual powers.

(d)

### ALIGARH : THE ARSENAL OF PAKISTAN

Proof of his abilities and insightful vision can be seen by evaluating the forefathers of the Pakistan movement. Most of them were a product of the Aligarh System set up by Sir Syed Ahmad

Khan. Which is why Alijard is often labelled as the arsenal of Pakistan.

### 3.3 ALOOFNESS FROM POLITICS

(a)

ACCEPTED THAT FIRST WORK NEEDS TO  
BE DONE ON SELF (MUSLIMS)  
DID NOT WANT TOKEN PARTICIPATION

Sir Syed recognized the need for Muslims to work on themselves first. He also understood that political participation offered at the time was tokenism. He wanted the Muslims to work on themselves first instead of either being satisfied with tokenism or engaging in premature conflicts with the British.

(b)

UNDERSTOOD HOW REVOLUTIONS AND  
CHANGE OPERATE:

Due his vast knowledge and well read habits,

he was aware of how revolutions work and how they fail. For him, participation in politics at that time was a recipe for disaster. It was best to be aloof from politics at the time.

4

### LESSONS FOR TODAY: EVALUATE THE CONTEMPORARY SITUATION AND STRATEGIZE ACCORDINGLY

Sir Syed's ideology presents a lesson for the nation today also. It is not following his thought blindly; instead, evaluate the contemporary situation. His vision suggests intelligent evaluation of the situation at hand and acting smartly to deal with it.

5

### CONCLUSION

Sir Syed's modern insight empowered Muslims. He made them stand on their own feet. His intelligence turned out to be fruitful for the situation and serves lessons for Muslims and Pakistanis today.



## Question 8

Enlist major components of national .....

## Answer 8

### 1

## INTRODUCTION

National integration is essential for every country to stay viable in the global discourse. Integration refers to the homogeneity of a nation. It does not necessarily imply that citizens of a country must all agree on everything. It just ensures a sense of cohesion amongst them. Fair practices and equity encourage cohesion, on the other hand if there is discrimination and lawlessness, the fault lines of the nation get deeper. To make a nation strong and self sufficient national integration is essential.

2

## ESSENTIALITY OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Even though it is an intangible concept, its roots strengthen the foundations of a nation. Without national integration countries crumble apart. The war of 1971 and the formation of Bangladesh is a testament to the importance of it. The tensions that sparked the conflict were all examples of missing integration:

- Feeling of Alienation
- Language Issues
- Resource Allocation

## 3 MAJOR COMPONENTS OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION

### 3.1 HONEST LEADERSHIP

Benevolent and honest leadership is an essential component of national integration. The

leaders of a nation lead the path and ensure domestic contentment. Leadership should not be a reflection of segment of the population. Belonging to certain ethnicity is natural but being a representative of the community solely must not be done.

### 3.2 COLLECTIVE MASSES : ON ONE PAGE

The masses must have it in them to act collectively. The cultural humanitarian bonds between the citizens of a country are essential. Interpersonal relations between them ensure integration.

### 3.3 COHESION THROUGH EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES

National integration means equitable distribution of resources amongst all federating units and factions of community. Each part of society must get its fair share according to an acknowledged mechanism such as the NFC award.

### 3.4 COLLECTIVE IDEAS AND SHARED THOUGHTS

Not agreeing on everything is the beauty of democracy, however, collective ideas and shared thoughts of the citizens help in integration. The ability to perceive a situation or

### 3.3 COHESION THROUGH EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES

National integration means epitome distribution of resources amongst all federating units and factors of community. Back part of society must get its fair share according to an acknowledged mechanism such as the NFCA award.