

Q3. Future of nuclear politics ...

INTRODUCTION:

The sovereignty of a state is the most crucial factor for the existence of a state. However, the recent breach of international agreements ensuring sovereignty of states, has put a question mark on the authority of such organizations and the possible destructive outcome of such actions.

The US-Israel attack on Iranian nuclear sites ~~on~~ not only posed a dent in Iranian sovereignty, but also put the future of security in middle east at risk. This transgression by the western powers has escalated the race to achieve arms and strengthen military - as far as attaining nuclear power - to act as a deterrence.

BACKGROUND OF IRAN-ISRAEL CONFLICT:

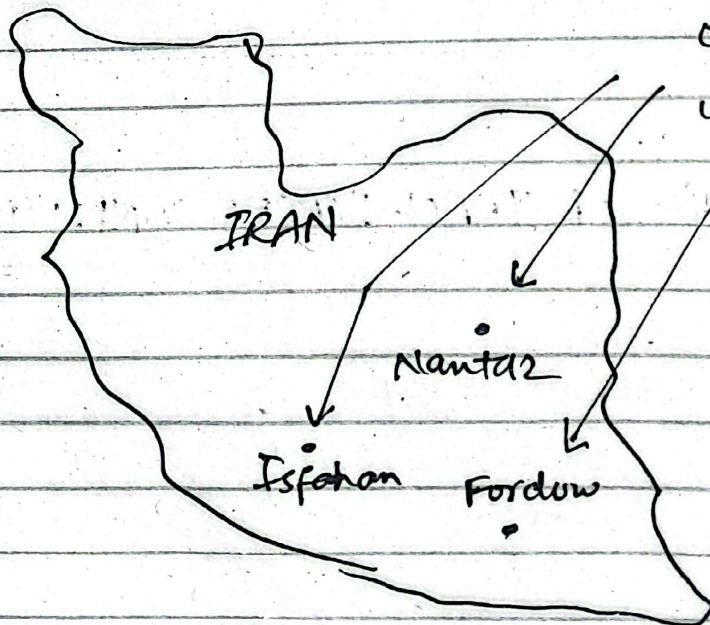
The conflict between Iran and Israel is not only a geo-strategic one, but rather a religious one as well. Iran is a muslim state

with a shi'a leadership and majority, whereas Israel at present is a Zionist. Both countries do not have common interest, rather conflicting ideologies.

Israel considered Iran a threat to its national security and created a propaganda claiming the presence of nuclear enrichment plants in Iran.

US ALIGNMENT WITH ISRAEL:

The US, being a world power, strategically and diplomatically align with Israel. Owing to this alignment, the Trump administration decided to attack the three Iranian nuclear sites in Fordow, Nantaz and Isfahan on 22 June, 2025.

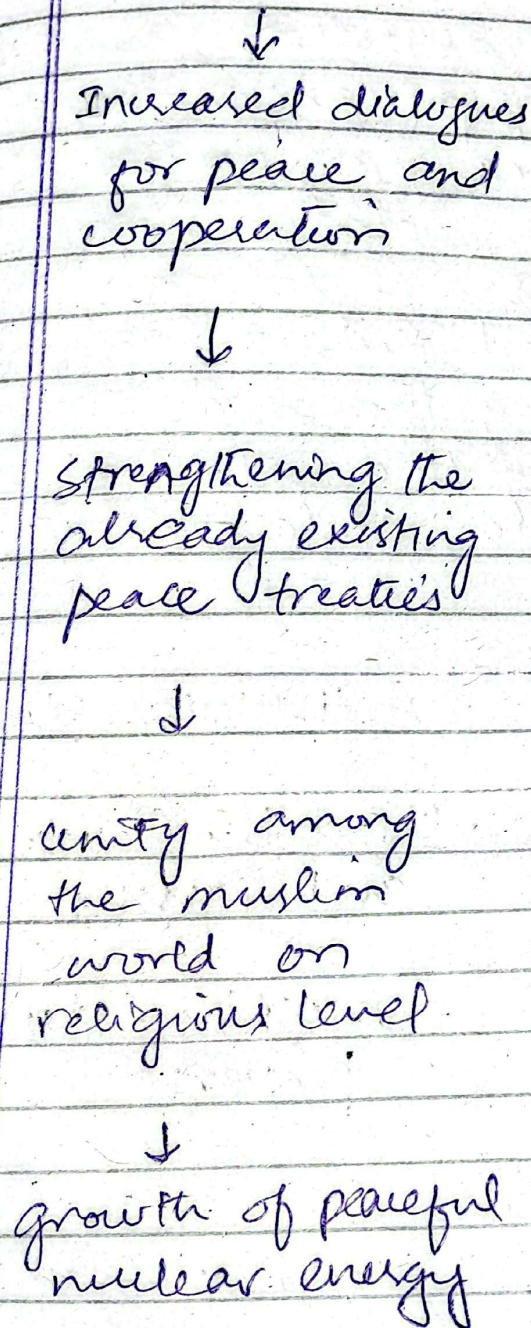


US attack
on 22 June, 2025

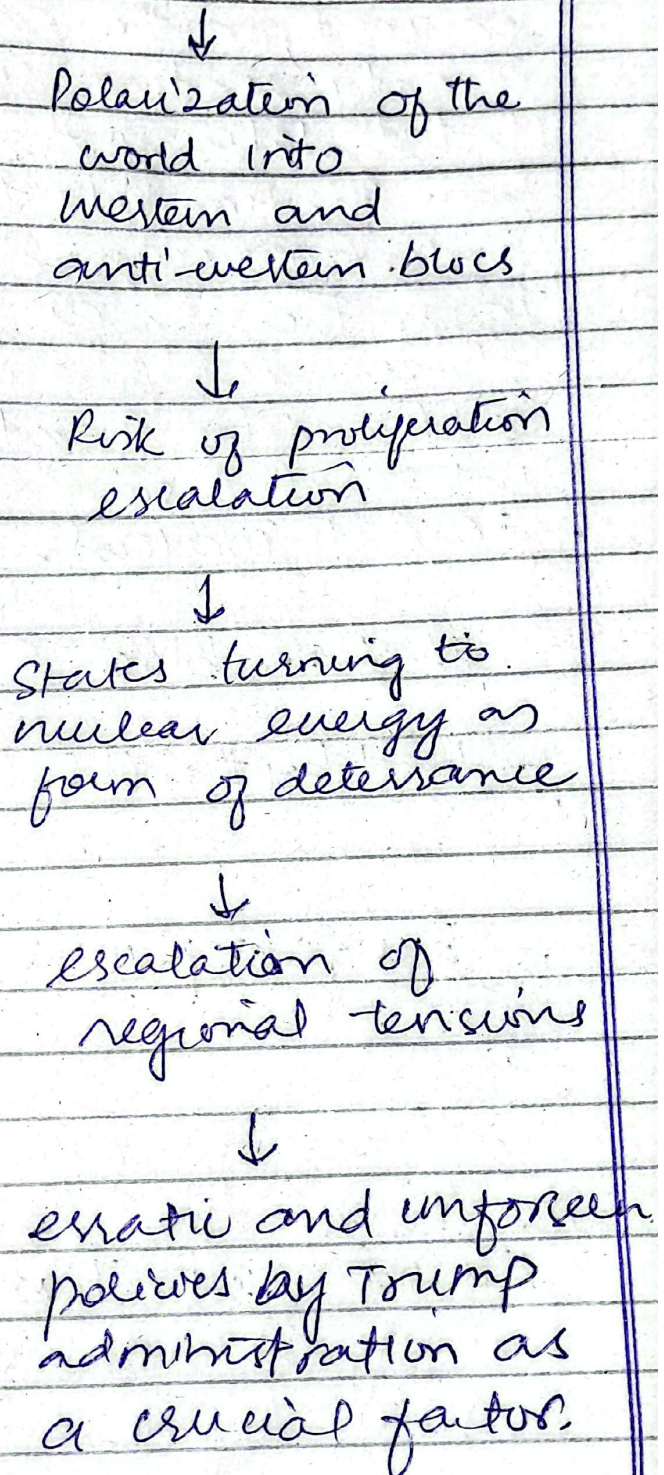
"Operation
Midnight
Hammer"

FUTURE NUCLEAR POLITICS IN MIDDLE EAST:

Positive aspects



Negative aspects:



(a). Polarization of world into blocs

The US-Israel attack on Iran can be seen as an attack on west on the eastern nation. The already eroding super power of the United States of America has further been thrown into the isolation after anti-American blocs are strengthening. The China and Russia lead blocs are polarizing the world and ultimately leading the states into choosing one side - Western or Anti-Western.

<u>Western bloc</u>	<u>Anti-Western bloc</u>
- lead by the U.S.	- lead by China and Russia
- European powers	- mostly Asian powers

After the US. attack on Iran, the relations between Russia and Iran. Military and security assistance was provided to Iran by Russia. The diplomatic

Relations have strengthened.

(b) Proliferation of nuclear power to create deterrence

Post US-Israel attack on Iran has increased the risk of nuclear proliferation to create deterrence. Currently there are nine internationally known world nuclear powers.

Nuclear powers

- (1) The United States
- (2) The United Kingdom
- (3) China
- (4) Russia
- (5) France
- (6) India
- (7) Pakistan
- (8) North Korea
- (9) Israel

NPT

(Non Proliferation Treaty)

↓ signed by

- (1) The U.S.
- (2) The U.K.
- (3) China
- (4) Russia
- (5) France

Middle eastern states will turn to acquiring nuclear power for sovereign integrity and protection.

(c) Weakening of non-proliferation institutions:

The breach in international treaties and violation of IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) has put the credibility and writ of these organizations at risk. The official statements by IAEA were disregarded and US-Israel faced no repercussions for violating the UN charter on state sovereignty.

(d) Inconsistent behavior of the U.S. prompting Gulf states towards independent protection

The Gulf states have majorly depended on the United States of America for regional protection. Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Yemen, Kuwait have army bases of the U.S. in their lands. However, under Trump administration and rising Israeli influence over Washington's decision making has forced the Gulf states to re-think their policies of choosing ^{the} U.S. as their defence rather than independent arms and defence.