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34644 - LMS ID

## SUBJECTIVE PART

→ Question # 2: (Bashar-ul-Asaad regime)

### ANSWER

#### → Introduction

Situation in Syria has been under complexities since the starting of Bashar-al-Asad's regime. The situation got more worst in 2011, when the movement of Arab Spring arose out in Middle East. However, He (Asad) remained successful to protect his regime against the rebellion but he gave

a spirit to the rebel groups against himself. Since 2011, the economic, political and social condition of Syria has remain below the average line. Finally, in December 2024, Rebel groups along with the support of local population became successful to overthrow the regime of Bashar-al-Asaad.

## 2 → Overview of the brutal regime of Bashar-al-Asaad

Hafez-al-Asaad, the father of Bashar-al-Asaad remained in power from 1971 to 2000. In 2000, Bashar-al-Asaad took the regime after the death of his father. From the last two decades, Syria has become

a hotspot for wars and conflicts. Millions of people had have lost their lives and are relocated.

In a nutshell, Assad family regime proved to be a brutal rule.

## → Reasons behind the downfall of Assad's regime

There are multiple reasons behind the downfall of Assad's regime. These reasons provided a clear path to the people and rebels to overthrow the regime. These includes:

### 1) Aristocratic Rule of Assad

Since 1971, the government of Syria has remained under the aristocratic rule of Assad family, first, under father and then under son. The wave of liberal democracy hit the country in 2011 but remained

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unsuccessful to takeover the  
governance and Assad remained in  
rule till 2024.

## 2 → Awareness of Rights among the people

Syrian people had been  
deprived with the basic  
human rights. This developed  
a sense of awareness among  
the people and they came  
out against the government.

## 2 → Assad's Brutal Rule: Resulted in deaths and dislocation of Syrian people

The government of Syria had  
brutally treated the Syrian  
people. According to THE -  
ECONOMIST and BBC reports  
in last 13 years 1.3  
million people have been  
killed and more than 12

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million people have been displaced. These victims and their families showed sympathies for the rebel groups and even helped them to overthrow the government of Assad.

2 → Weak Economy and Untrained Military: provided a clean path to the rebels

The economy of Syria has been almost collapsed since the civil war has started in the country. Moreover, the government remained unsuccessful to provide the good weapons and training to the military. This helped the rebel groups to overtake the country without any resistance.

## 2 → Advancement of Rebel Groups and the Support of International Community

There are many small and large rebel groups operating in Syria but the most prominent among them is the HTS (Hayat-ul-Tahir-ul-Sham). This group is led by a former Al-Qaeda member named as Mohammad-At-Jalani.

## 2 → Military and Economy of HTS

HTS, has been backed by the west with latest weapons and economic help. According to the international media debates, HTS was backed by Israel, USA and UK.

## 2 → Response by the Government

Syrian government has shown

little retaliation against the rebels. In fact, Bashar al-Assad fled from the country on 08 Dec-2024 and his government officials decided to negotiate with the HTS to avoid any destruction.

Hence, HTS started from 5 December 2024, first they captured Aleppo and Hama and on 09 of December they remain successful to control more than 70% of the Syria.

## 2 → Current Situation and

### Future of Syria

Negotiations have been done between the government officials and the HTS leaders. It is decided that the current PM will leave the country until the next Prime Minister is government. Moreover, it is decided

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to conduct elections in  
march 2025, which will be  
based on true democracy.

The future of Syria is  
not clearly visible as yet. How-  
ever it is hoping that the  
next government will show  
some tolerance towards the  
country and will help the people  
to get their rights.

## → Critical Analysis

The regime change in Syria  
was the need of the hour.

Bashar-al-Assad was not a  
capable person to run the  
country. Similarly the social  
condition of the population  
was becoming worse with  
the passage of time. Likewise  
he remained fail to boost  
the economy and resultantly  
unemployment and inflation hit



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the country badly. He was the ruler who killed millions of people for the sake of power but eventually his misdeeds became the cause of his own downfall.

"To every action, there is always an equal but opposite reaction"

Although, Newton said this in the field of physics but it suits with the actions of Assad who, in reaction had to leave the country which he ruled for 24 years.

## 2 → Conclusion

The rule of Assad became his own enemy. His corrupt government and aristocratic rule fueled the Syrian people and

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eventually stand against him.  
With the fall of his regime,  
a wave of hope and  
happiness has spread in  
all over the country.

## QUESTION # 5: (Dallas and Swift)

### → Introduction

After the cold war, the world was divided into global south and global north - sometimes also called global east and west. Power dynamics were also shifted from military power to economic power. In contemporary era, the race is to dominate the world through economic mean. For this purpose, US has been taking lead in the form of dollar. whereas, to counter

The western influence eastern nations has also developed alliances among themselves and with other western countries.

2 → Dollar and Swift as a weapon by US against Global South.

US, being the largest economy in the world, has influenced the world with his dollar diplomacy. Today, the trades between different countries are done through the dollar payments. Similarly, it has become an international or global currency.

Likewise, Swift is an online payment method which helps the users to send and receive online payment anywhere in the world in the

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form of dollars. Both of these have impacted the global trade and transition.

2 → How it is used as a weapon?

Southern, specially the third world countries are exploited through this weapon. All the western international funding institutes including World Bank and IMF uses dollar to give aid to the needy country. As a result the circulation of dollar increases and the local currency of that particular country devalues. As a result the dependency on dollar increases.

2 → BRICS+ and Their Strategies to Counter Western Influence

BRICS was founded in 2009 with only 5 members. The main moto behind the formation

of organization was to trade among the member states without any barriers. With the passage of time, the organization expanded and became BRICS+. Currently it has Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran and UAE. It holds 54% of the global population and 42% of the global wealth.

### → Barrier free trade

Members of BRICS+ has no barriers in between their trades. Trade can be done without any duty or custom. Likewise, sea routes, cargo, by roads and by air, this can be happens.

### → New Development Bank (NDB)

Another biggest initiative by BRICS+ is the formation of New Development Bank. This

is a substitute to the IMF and WB aid programs. Member states can easily seek aid and loan without any policy recommendation by the institute.

→ Formation of BRICS PAY: an alternative to Swift

Russians have Mir network, China has Weipay and India uses Unified payment method. Collectively, a new payment method will be adopted by using the technology of UPI and Weipay. More importantly, BRICS has started the interbank transactions, which allows the user to send and receive local currency without converting it into dollar or any other currency.

2 → Adaptation of Crypto payment methods

Moreover, BRICS has also started using block chain technology for the payment gateways. The method is decentralised and requires no third party to participate. This will not only enhance the trade but will also counter the hegemony of dollar.

## 2 → Critical Analysis

Although US and other western countries has led the world through dollar diplomacy as a tool for exploitation, but with they have also helped the third world countries to come over their difficulties and economic problems. But with the growing influence of BRICS and China economy, the west is losing their

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dominance in the southern nations. China along Russia, sees US as their sole enemy and wanted to finish its influence from the region. For this purpose both countries has been involved in multiple bilateral agreements and organizations.

## 2) Conclusion

With the growing use of technology and information, it is becoming hard for US to keep his status as sole hegemon power.

The world has witnessed the intentions of west and have seen how they are affecting the global south. For this reason more and more countries are willing to become a part of BRICS to escape from the trap of US and west.



## QUESTION # 6 (Islamabad-Kabul Tension)

### → Introduction

Pakistan shares <sup>largest</sup> border with Afghanistan (1640 miles). But unfortunately the relations between both countries are not good due to a single factor, which is terrorism. Both countries blame each other for providing safe heavens to terrorists. During the 2024, Pakistan has been attacked several times by the terrorists who are operating from Afghanistan. Moreover, War on Terror and then the departure of NATO forces in 2021, fostered the new wave of terror attacks. To curb this situation, Pakistan needs to negotiate with Afghan

government and also, should start the presence of troops on Afghan borders.

## 2 → Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan:

Raising questions on security of Pakistan

Since the American and NATO forces intervened in Afghanistan, the presence of Afghan terrorists in Pakistan increased.

In these last 2 decades, Pakistan has witnessed the severe wave of terrorism, losing economic and social image of the country.

The question arises, where were the security force when they cross the border? The simple answer to it is that they use their proxies for their personal sake.

## 2 → Pakistan Facing Criticism from the World

The world has a perception that Pakistan produces or provides safe place for terrorists to operate. The similar was also told by Donald Trump in 2018, when he said: "We are spending billions of billions of dollars against terrorism but Pakistan is providing safe heavens to them"

## 2 → Withdrawal of America from Afghanistan, Giving Control in the Hands of Taliban

In Sep 2021, US completely withdraw its forces and officials from Afghanistan and without any retaliation the Afghan Taliban took the country under their control. They installed their own

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government, and resultantly the effects were faced by the Pakistan in the form of terrorist attacks.

→ Afghan Taliban are being used as a proxy against Pakistan

The presence of Afghan Taliban in the provinces of KPK and Balochistan makes it easy for other countries as entities to launch them against Pakistan. According to the reports, currently there are about eight proxies who are working for other countries especially India.

→ Effects of Terror attack on Pakistan

Terrorism on the soil of Pakistan

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has detracted the image of Pakistan in international arena. Pakistan is known as a Terrorist state globally. Furthermore, economy had faced severe challenges, FDI stoppage, Pakistan was also placed in Grey list. Most importantly Pakistan lost 58,000 lives in these deadly attacks (ISPR Report-2024). Similarly in 2024 only, Pakistan was attacked 538 times, which is 171% more than the 2023. (PIPS)

## Recommendations

### → Bilateral Agreements and Table Talks

Both countries leaders should sit and decide the policy to stop this violence. Both nation are facing severe

security challenges.

## 2 → Construction of Durand Line

Being the longest border, it makes it easy for terrorists to cross the border and to enter into Pakistan. Constructing the border will make it difficult for terrorists to cross it.

## 2 → Economic and Trade Agreements:

The best way to provide relief to the poor people

Pakistan and Afghanistan should open border for legal means of trade. Fruits, vegetables, seeds and other industrial products should be allowed to move between both countries.

This help in increasing the economy growth and providing

employment to the people.

2 → Tightening Security and Intelligence along the border and within provinces

Pakistan need to increase the security presence on the western border to mitigate the threat of terrorism. Similarly, intelligence should provide reports actively so that the situation can be under control.

2 → Political Stability on Both Ends: The need of the hour

Political situation on both sides is unstable. Pakistan is facing governance crises while Taliban government is only recognized by 2 countries. This makes the situation more complex for Pakistan to negotiate with Afghan government.

## → Critical Analysis

Both Pakistan and Afghanistan are not economically well to spend billions on security. However, the only possible way to overcome this critical situation is to sit on table and decide bilaterally. Stability is the need of the hour for both countries because because both countries are not up to the mark in global area. For this purpose, Pakistan needs a stable government leadership to talk with Afghan Taliban and to protect the nation from being washed.

## 2 → Conclusion

In a nutshell, the presence of TTP in Pakistani soil is the bone of contention between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Both countries



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are facing troubles and in this situation rising tensions between countries is not a good strategy. However, through peaceful negotiations and in the presence of a third party an agreement should be done to stop this bloodshed.

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## QUESTION # 8: (CPEC-Slowdown)

### 2 → Introduction

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an infrastructural project by China for its trade to other countries using Pakistan to reach to the warm waters. This project was started in 2015 and has costed almost 65 Billion US Dollars. But due to some reasons

The project lacks quick completion. Completing this project will not only help China but also Pakistan.

- 2 → Problems that are slowing down the CPEC project

### 1) Security Issue in Pakistan

Pakistan is facing severe security challenges. The increase in terrorists' presence in Balochistan and ~~KPK~~ KPK hinders the situation. Terrorists are posing a threat to the Chinese engineers and workers. In 2024, 17 Chinese have been killed by the militant attacks.

### 2) Political Instability in Pakistan

In last 10 years, Pakistan has

changed 5 Prime Ministers, which is an alarming situation for the country. Likewise, every political leader has its own personal interest in terms of alliances. Some prefer to be western allies while others wanted to be a regional ally.

### → 3) Economic Crisis in Pakistan

The Economy of Pakistan is going through a really tough time. The rupee has lost its value against the other currencies. So, it makes difficult for Pakistan to spend on human capital and even to contribute in projects like CPEC. This further puts the burden on China to look for other factors in Pakistan.

#### 4) Geopolitical Pressure on Pakistan

The geopolitical tensions between west and China makes it difficult for Pakistan to tilt on one side.

#### 5) Public Perception and Miscalculations.

In Pakistan, public is of the view that through CPEC, China is trying to control the country and to extract its resources.

Such perceptions raises anger among masses who in return stands against the government and the investor country.

#### 2 → Recommendation to Overcome these Problems

##### 1) Improving Security condition in Pakistan

Pakistan needs to improve the security condition to

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make it safe for Chinese workers and officials.

This will not only help to complete and operate CPEC but rather it will attract more foreign investment into the country.

2) Political Stability in the country should be ensured

Political leaders are the key figures in shaping the foreign policy. Pakistan need to stable its political arena to normalize the relation with China and other countries.

3) Bringing Economic Reforms

Pakistan should bring economic reforms to stabilize the economy of the country. Once the economy

will become stable, rest of the tensions will automatically be decreased.

#### 4) Following a Balanced Approach Between West and China

Pakistan can not tilt on one side. The need of the hour is to adopt a balance approach between China and the West. This will help economically and will also help to keep the country safe from sanctions.

#### 5) Educating and Raising awareness among masses

Government should raise awareness through social media and digital platforms. Moreover, providing technical education and skills will

also the people to get jobs in the projects under CPEC.

## 2 → Critical Analysis

There are multiple factors involved behind the slowing down of CPEC. However, these factors can be overcome through proper governance and bilateral discussions. Moreover, building trust between both country is important to resume the project and to complete it as soon as possible. Last but not the least, Pakistan needs to handle the current security situation. Under such conditions no foreign investor will come to Pakistan. By working on these steps and

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recommmendation, Pakistan  
can also achieve the trust  
and honor of China along  
with the other Asian  
countries

## 2) Conclusion

“Economy is the start  
and End of  
Everything” David Cameron

For the sake of economic  
benefit, Pakistan should work  
with China to complete  
and operate CPEC. This will  
increase the geopolitical importance  
of Pakistan in the world  
and definitely will attract  
more foreign investors  
to Pakistan.

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