

Question No. 2

1) Introduction :

The fall of Bashar Al Asad regime occurred on 8, dec, 2024. It marked the revolution on the land of Syria. Syria is a country in middle east surrounded by Yemen, Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Egypt. HTS stands for Hayat Tahir Al Sham. It is rebellious organisation based in Syria. Whereas, Bashar Al Asad remained the president of Syria for 23 years from 2001 to 2024.

During to certain internal and geopolitical grievances and rivalries, it wreaked toppling down of Asad's regime.

2) Shedding light on HTS

HTS stands for Hayat Tahir Al sham. It is sunni based insurgents' organisation. It emerged in around 2014. It was created by Jeelani who is known as father of HTS.

An kid wrote something against the govt of Bashar Al Asad that sparked the rebelan instincts in the people of Syria.

3) Historical context

The authoritarian regime of Bashar Al Asad was followed by his father who ruled Syria for ample years. In Syria, the majority people is sunni and Bashar Al Asad

was a Shia. During to such social discriminations, Bashar remain a cruel leader for them. He imprisoned many of them - Sunnis - and kept them in incarceration, if any found against state-narrative, strict penalties were imposed.

4) What are reasons behind unprecedented change in Syria?

- Internal factors

1) Sectarian divide between populace and leadership

As per Al Jazeera, 80% (percent) of the population of the Syria is Sunni.

However, Bashar Al Assad was a Shia. Thus, this

regime
follow-
up

is
Assad

divide exacerbated the ongoing rivalry for many years.

2) Economic downturn and high inflation during Asad's Regime

Asad's cruel rule remarked as odd times for people of Syria. As it marked highest inflation, reduced purchasing power of people - alienated them to become rebels.

3) Political mishap due to authoritarian tendencies of Bashar Al Asad

As per Al Jazeera, the inheritory rule of Bashar Al Asad and his father ignited apathy among populace. HTs remain the pivot of

critiques for Bashar Al Assad regime.

Rights remained undermined and liberties remained contained, thus fuelling the fire of rebellion.

4) Mass atrocities and encroached right to a fair trial

As per Al Jazeera and BBC, Assad regime remained a very brutal regime where people were imprisoned due to protest. The right of freedom of speech or expression was contained by the elites. Thus, igniting them to become radicals.

Geo-political reasons

1, Proxy war between US and Russia

As per Al Jazeera and BBC, the organisation of HTs was backed by US sources and the government of Assad was backed by regional power of Russia and Iraq.

Thus, Assad took the asylum in Moscow after his fall of govt.

2) The idea of greater Israel

As per Israeli resources Israel want to expand his powers in the neighbouring countries. It remained the censored motive behind this

fall of govt.

3) War of semiticism
v muslim world

As per analyst, Israel intends to create a separate Jewish state for them.

5) What are implications of unprecedented change in Syria

1) Fall of Asad's regime

On 8, dec, 2024, the rebellious group of HTS captured Damascus and it led to uncontrollable mob rule, resulting in falling down the throne of Asad.

2) Freedom to illegal detainees

It marked the day of freedom for the prisoners in jails.

3) Israeli capture of land of Syria

Post fall of Assad's regime, it was considered as *Carte blanche* to Israel. Thus, Israel, following their motives captured some parts of Syria.

b) Conclusion

In a nutshell, the fall of Assad's regime was the result of mass atrocities, internal division and the proxy rivalries between the global powers of US and Russia. It may be called a step towards greater Israel.

Question No. 5

1) Introduction :

The emergence of SWIFT and dollar hegemony was witnessed in the earliest 21st century. The US hegemony and neo-imperialism has driven the global world order for the decades. In addition to it, the technological advancements, advanced military equipment marked their influence in the globe.

However, By 2009, the emergence of BRICS challenged the US-led world order and its rampant influence of countries. Not only it challenged dollar acceptance but the authoritarian role of US in global politics.

2) Emergence of BRICS

BRICS was the name coined by Neil in 2001. It was a multinational organisation that came into being in 2009. The first summit took place in 2009.

The initial members of BRICS were Brazil, Russia, India, China and South-Africa.

However, currently the organisation comprises of 10 members with membership of UAE, Iran, Ethiopia, Argentina and Indonesia in 2024.

3) Motives of BRICS

1) The motto of de-dollarisation

The emergence of BRICS was followed by

the global financial crises in 2008. It was disastrous experience for world economies and they (China, Brazil) decided to put an end to dollar

2) Put an end to US hegemony

Brics has planned to counter global hegemony of US through normalizing trade in local currencies.

- 58 percent global foreign reserves in dollar.

3) Introduce new global financial system to counter the influence of IMF and World Bank.

Brics in the pursuit of countering the rampant reliance of countries for the

financial aid through the institutions like IMF and world bank.

In that place, BRICS introduced

- New development bank
- Contingent reserves arrangement

New development bank is a body to provide assistance, policies, research and surveys like world bank.

CRA is a body to provide loans interest free to states struggling through economic recession. Uses.

4) How US may react to BRICS-led global financial order

1) Sanctions of US on member states

As per Al Jazeera,

recently US has imposed 100 percent tariffs on Chinese technological imports.

Moreover, sanctions on Russian oil and recent sanction on Pakistan missile program. As Pakistan has officially applied for membership of BRICS.

2) Hostile relations with Turkey

As Turkey has also applied for the membership of BRICS despite being the member of global military alliance, NATO.

3) Creation of new organisation to counter the influence of BRICS.

The organisations like AUKUS, QUAD and B2B2 are created to counter the influence of China-led world

order

4) Introduction of India - Middle east economic corridor (IMEC)

In the pursuit of countering BRICS influence, India, Saudi and US has launched connectivity program to foster trade.

5) What BRICS may do to counter the western exploitation on permanent basis

1) Normalise local currency in trade

As some countries of BRICS has started the trade in their local currencies. It will result in reduced pressure of dollars in forex reserves of countries, thus

providing an ease to trade.

2) Strengthen regionalism through diplomatic ventures

The idea of regionalism will cater the grievances of the member states thus lessening the reliance of western powers.

3) Provide a conflict resolution mechanism

Countries like India and Pakistan has remained in rivalry on Kashmir issue. Thus, BRICS must mediate between both countries and increase diplomatic relations.

4) Bolster regional trade in South-Asia.

As per Al Jazeera, the trade in South Asia remains at 5% whereas the trade in EU is around 60%.

Despite the fact that BRICS accounts for 25% of the global GDP,

5) Reduced reliance on US technological imports

As US accounts for majority of technological equipments and China is the biggest market of US technological imports.

Conclusion:

The China-led world order in form of BRICS must strengthen regionalism, trade and diplomacy to put an end to US sanctions-based hegemony.

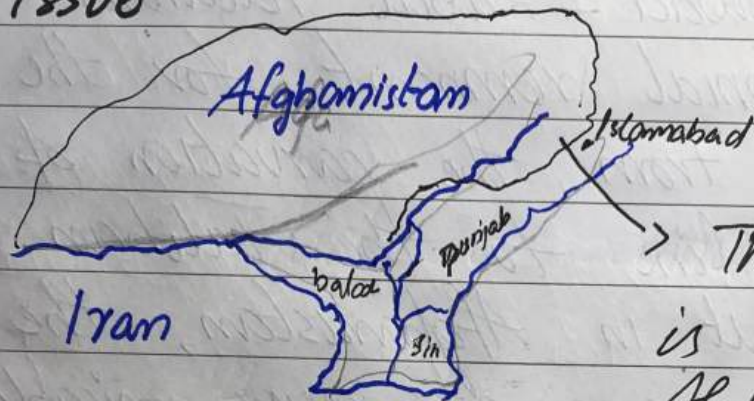
Question No. 6

1) Introduction :

The bumpy road of Islamabad - Kabul relations is a colonial remnant for the Pakistan. From the carving of Durand line to the Taliban led govt in Afghanistan, the relations remained never amicable. Be it the reigns of Hamid Karzai or the Ashraf Ghazi, both emerged as not so amicable for Islamabad. In addition to it, post 9/11 and after the move of US from Afghan land, the terrorist organisations like TTP, Al Qaeda, ISIS and ISKP held their grounds in the mountains of Hindukush, threatening national sovereignty of Pakistan.

2) Historical grievances of Afghanistan towards Pakistan

1) The Pashtunism issue



This region is claimed by Afghanistan

As per Afghans, they are the Pashtun community and the ethnic relationships of RPK is very strong with them. Thus, they demand the land of Pakistan up until the Indus river.

2) Durand Line issue

From the very start - the boundary of Durand

line which was created in late nineteenth century is not considered a valid agreement

Why?

- Pre-colonial agreement
- Forced agreement

3) Pak's indulgence in War of Terror and mass deportation of Afghan nationals.

3) Overview of current situation

Currently the situation remains hostile between Kabul and Islamabad.

- Recently Chief of Army Staff called the menace of terrorism as "Fitna ul Khawarij"

Moreover, the security agencies of Pakistan are trying to

held diplomatic dialogues with the Taliban backed government.

However, no green flag seems to be waving.

Recent attacks:

- Attack at Bannu cantonment
- Attack at Chinese officials in Swat
- Attacks at Marduk and Razmuk areas of north and south Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Waziristan.

COAs called them 'Kharj's' meaning ones creating chaos in country.

This word remains the jargon of Khalifa Rashidun.

4) What are strategic pathways to put an end to merance of terrorism in Pakistan?

"An eye for eye makes the whole world blind"

(Gandhi)

1) Strict implementation of National plan of Action.

National plan of action was the policy created by the national security council of Pakistan in 2014, post AP's peshawar attack.

- Regularised madrassahs (seminaries)
- Strict accountability of curriculum
- Strengthen the morale of law enforcement agencies.

2) Hold diplomatic engagements with taliban government

Instead of physical measures, there must be amicable dialogue between the taliban government and Pakistan.

"How can there be war on terror, when war is itself ~~an~~ terror."

(Noam Chomsky)

3) Strict implementation of 9 Cs defined by Maleeha Lodhi

In the book: Pakistan beyond the crisis state, the diplomat, Maleeha Lodhi defines 9 points to put an end to menace of terrorism in Pakistan.

5)

4) Introducing high tech weapons

High tech weapons will predict the acts of terrorists, providing ease.

5) Increased man force will serve the purpose

6) Anti-guerilla warfare tactics

As TTP, the Tehreek e Taliban organisation uses guerilla warfare tactics which means acts and run.

Thus use of drones and GPS may serve the purpose.

5) Conclusion :

The organisation of TTP must be confronted on both diplomatic and territorial front to put an end to

The menace of terrorism in Pakistan.

- a) Increased man force will solve the problem
- b) Anti-terrorist tactics

Question No. 8

1, Introduction :

The project of CPEC is the sub branch of the giant project of BRI (Belt and Road initiatives). It was introduced in 2013, whereas CPEC was introduced in 2015.

The project of CPEC includes the investment of \$ 62 billion.

Such initiative marked an impetus in the cordial relations between Pakistan and China.

It fostered growth, development, trade, employment and introduced innovation in the practical realms.

2) Overview of CPEC

Amidst the government of

ex prime minister Nawaz Sharif, the project took its roots.

Objectives of CPEC :

1. Infrastructure development
2. Technological advancement
3. Creation of special zones in rural areas
4. Innovation and growth
5. Mass employment
6. Connectivity thus increased trade.

Current projects under way :

- 1) Special economic zone — Allama Iqbal international zone in punjab
- 2) Dhabaji — special economic zone in Sindh

- 3) ML-1 railway track
- 4) Jhimpir wind project
- 5) Mahmud, Dasu and Diamer Basha dams.

3) What are reasons behind the slowing down of the CPEC projects.

1) Political pushup due to polarised politics

Following the start of CPEC in 2015, Pakistan has gone through major political setbacks. As disqualification of Nawaz marked country wide chaos.

2) Global pandemic of COVID-19

By the end of 2019

the advent of COVID made a downturn in global and national markets due to long term of long lock down.

3) Insurgencies and anti-states ideologies

Organisations like BLA and BLF: Balochistan Liberation Army claimed that Chinese projects are form of colonialism.

Moreover, they have ample times attacked Chinese engineers working at Gwadar port.

4) Protests obstructing the trade routes

Recently the insurgents in Balochistan blocked the

road connecting manipur and
guadar which is major trade
route.

5) Economic woes followed
by global change of prices

In 2023, according
to Pakistan economic survey, the
global prices of oil touched the
threshold. Thus, it affected the
trade through CPEC routes.

4) What are recommendations
to Islamabad and Beijing
to re-invigorate?

1, Renegotiations of
international agreements - NIOUS

As Pakistan remains on
bumpy road due to fallors,
it is incumbent to review the

now consistently.

2) Improved dialogue listing down the impediments in execution of CPEC.

All factors impeding the growth of CPEC must be considered and it must be made sure that policies align with the addressal.

3) Improve security measures on BITE areas

It will provide free and secure environment to engineers.

4) Introduce tech-based trade and E-initiatives

China must incorporate top notch construction strategies to

expedite the process.

5) Foster digital currency and online trade.

As digital renmobi, there should be digital rupees to expedite trade.

5) Conclusion.

In a nutshell, CPEC remains a worthwhile opportunity for Pakistan. Thus, all factors must be considered wisely and true policy, addressing all obstacles must be introduced. It will lead the relations of Sino and Islamabad to the pinnacle.