

Explain the main contours
Pakistan's political culture is
marred with extreme polarization
Explain and suggest remedies.

2.

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan's political polarization has emerged as a disturbing aspect of socio-political landscape which hinders the progress and stability of nation at large. The deep rooted divisions among political ideological, and societal lines have led to fragmented society, ineffective governance, and impeding the country's development politically, economically and socially. However, this challenge can be averted by taking pragmatic measures such as promoting the culture of dialogue, strengthening the

Date: _____

democratic institutions, provincial inclusion and launching public awareness campaigns.

2. WHY PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL CULTURE IS MARRED WITH EXTREME POLARIZATION?

Civil-Military Divide

Economic Inequality and social Injustice

Driving Factors OF Political Polarization

Partisan Politics

Power-centric rather than people centric democracy

Following paragraphs will discuss how Pakistan's political culture is marred with the extreme polarization.

(a). Partisan Politics: Politics of hate speech:

The first and foremost factor that contributes to the political polarization is partisan politics. As politicians prioritize the personal interest over national interest. Hate speech and character assassination has become common to disregard the political rivals.

For instance, the confrontational style of politics of two major political parties, (PTI) and (PML-N) has created toxic political environment.

(b). Civil-Military Divide:

Another major factor that contributed to intense polarization is civil-military divide. Military's involvement in politics, in the history, has weakened the political parties and created the mistrust and wide gap amongst political

parties. Fortunately, Pakistan has witnessed four military coups, that further fueled the polarization.

(c). Economic inequality and social injustice:

Moreover, economic inequality and social injustice, also fueled the polarization. As small provinces often accuse Punjab of acquiring more resources and financial share. Thus, economic inequality and social injustice, further adding fuel to the fire.

(d). Regional and Ethnic divide

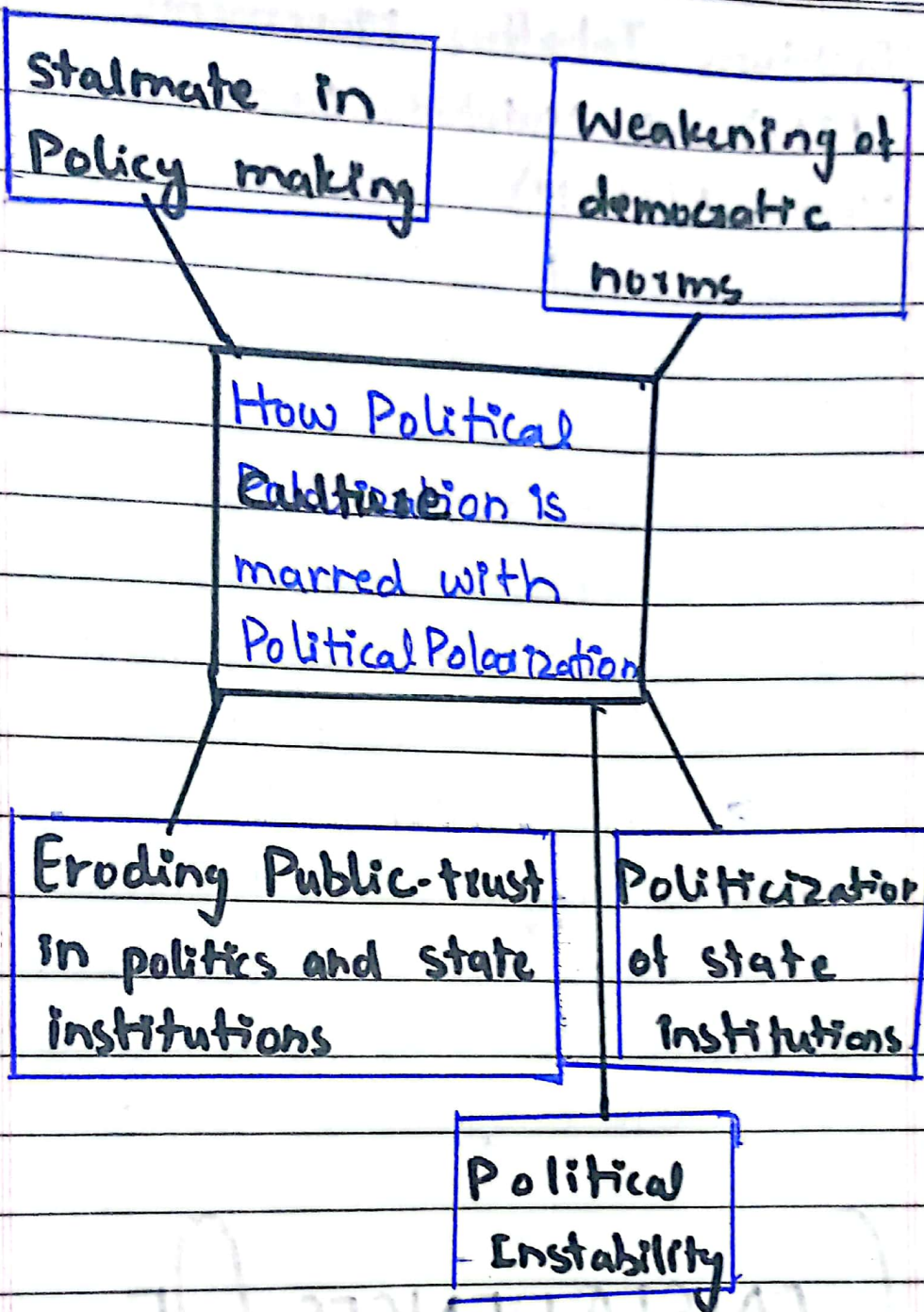
Another, significant factor that increase polarization is regional and ethnic diversity of Pakistan. Ethnic movements in Sindh and Balochistan with Punjab dominated politics further fuel the polarization. For example, Political Parties like

Pashtuns Tahaffuz Movements (PTM) and Mutahida Qomi Movement (MQM) to safeguard the rights of Pashtuns and Muhajirs further exacerbates the challenge.

(e). Power-centric rather than people centric democracy
Last but not the least, power-centric democracy instead of people-centric democracy further exacerbates the polarization. As it always results into public distrust in the state institutions and political systems.

3. CONSEQUENCES OF INTENSE POLARIZATION

The upcoming chart will shed the light on the consequences of Political Polarization.



4. WAY FORWARD TO AVERT THE CHALLENGE OF POLITICAL POLARIZATION

Following paragraphs will discuss the remedies to avert this challenge

(a). Promoting the culture of dialogue and cooperation over confrontation in Politics

It is essential to promote the culture of dialogue and cooperation by following ways.

- **Renewal of Charter of Democracy (COD)** by comprising all political parties

- **Following South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission** led by Nelson Mandela, to brought divided groups together

(b). Strengthening the state institutions

Another major step to avert this challenge is strengthening the state institutions by ensuring the independence and autonomy of state institutions:

- **By ensuring independence and autonomy of ECP, NAB and Judiciary.**

(c). Addressing the grievances and reservations of smaller provinces:

Another major step would be addressing the grievances of smaller provinces by following ways

- * Ensuring provincial autonomy
- * Devolution of power and resources
- * Ensure equitable resource distribution
- * Granting provincial governments control over local resources

(d). Launching media campaigns to foster awareness and political literacy

It is imperative to launch media campaigns to foster awareness and political literacy among populace. This will help people to understand and make informed decisions.

(e). Addressing the root causes of

Date: _____

Political turmoil:

Addressing the root causes of political turmoil, that led to the intense political polarization. As political polarization is the outcome of unaddressed grievances that exacerbates the situation.

5.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, Political culture of Pakistan is plagued by intense political polarization that impacted the country socially, economically and politically. This led to fragmented society, bad governance and weakening of democratic institutions.

However, this challenge can be averted by taking suggestive measures. As

Quaid-e-Azam, the father of nation

said: "Unity, faith and discipline are key to our success"

This serves as the reminder of the need for unity in Pakistan's polarized political landscape.

Question no 02:

Explain the main contours of recently passed 26th Constitutional Amendment in Pakistan, particularly in the context of independence of Judiciary:-

1.

INTRODUCTION

The 26th constitutional amendment of Pakistan holds significant importance in the context of judicial independence. As the judiciary plays a crucial role in upholding the constitution and ensuring the separation of powers. However, after the passage of 26th amendment

... on crises which aims to
redefine the balance of power
among three pillars of state.

a. INTRODUCTION TO THE 26TH CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The 26th constitutional amendment
of 2024, also called the Constitutional
Package, focuses on judicial
reforms. It limits the tenure of
Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP)
to three years, curtails supreme
Court's suo motu power, and
gives the Prime Minister
authority to select the CJP from
among the three most senior
judges of the supreme court.

(1). MAIN CONTOURS OF 26TH CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

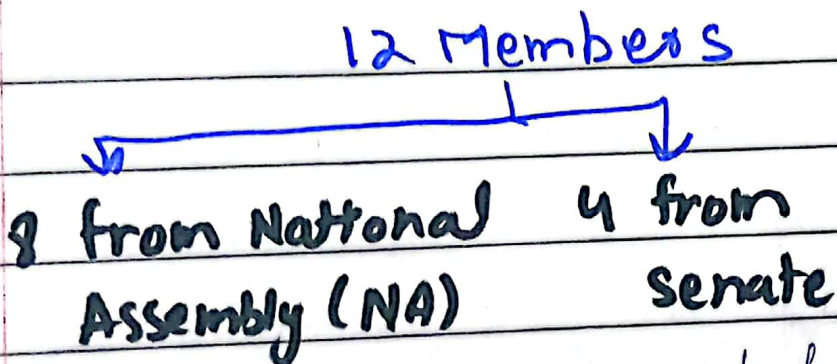
Following paragraphs will
highlight the main contours
of 26th constitutional amendment.

A. Key changes to CJP's appointment Process

Amendment to Article 175A:

The CJP will now be appointed from the most senior judges upon the recommendation of Special Parliamentary Committee. The Prime Minister forward the name to the president.

Special Parliamentary Committee Structure:



proportional representation of parliamentary parties.
Require Two-third Majority.

CJP's Term Limit:

The CJP's term is set up three years.

Date: _____

D). CHANGES TO SUPREME COURT'S JURISDICTIONS:

Reduction of suo moto Power

The SC can not initiate suo moto proceeding on its own beyond the scope of applications filed under Article 184.

Case transfer Power:

Under Article 186A, the SC now has power to transfer cases between high courts take them up itself.

E). MODIFICATION TO JUDICIAL COMMISSION'S ROLE:

Direct Nominations to the Prime Minister:

✦ Omission of the older eight members parliamentary committee structure.

✦ Direct nomination of CJP by PM.

Date: _____

JCP Rule-Making Powers:

The JCP can establish criteria of evaluation and fitness of Judges.

6. CHALLENGES OF 26th

AMENDMENT

Erosion of
Judicial Independence

Undermining the
separation of
Powers

CHALLENGES OF 26th Amendment

Politicization of
Judicial
Appointments

Potential for
short-term
Political
gains

Uncertainty
over implementation

Date: _____

CONCLUSION:

To conclude, the 20th amendment redresses the balance of power among different pillars of state and raises concerns over the independence of judiciary.