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Question:

In what ways has Pakistan's approach to regional security --- and Iran?

Introduction:

Pakistan's relations with its neighboring countries depend on lot of factors. The most important ones are terrorism and border disputes. These regional security challenges have resulted in up and down of bilateral relations. Pakistan's approach to encounter these challenges have resulted in opposition from neighboring countries.

1. Relations with India:

Pakistan-India bilateral relations are always seen with the lens of regional security concerns.

Border disputes and the Kashmir issue:

The Kashmir issue remains central to Pakistan-India relations since partition.

Pakistan has a clear stance on Kashmir conflict that it should be resolved under the United Nations resolution. The reluctance of India to carry out referendum that resulted in many conflicts between the two nation. Recently India's abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status. Pakistan has responded by downgrading diplomatic ties and appealing to international community.

Terrorism and Cross-border accusation:

India accuses Pakistan of supporting militant groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM). Pakistan denies these allegation by emphasizing its counterterrorism efforts. These miscommunications limit the progress in bilateral relation particularly on trade and cultural exchanges. The mutual mistrust between two countries acted as barrier to sustainable peace.

## 2. Relation with Afghanistan:

### a) Role in the Afghan Peace Process:

Pakistan played key role in Afghan peace process. Pakistan acted as mediator between US government and Afghan Taliban. However, this influence over Afghan Taliban acted as double-edged sword. The return to power of Afghan Taliban in August 2021 created opportunities for Pakistan to strengthen ties but rising border tensions and cross-border attacks from Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) have created new challenges.

### b) Border disputes and the Durand Line:

The Durand line remains a contentious issue. Afghanistan refusal to recognize the boundary has fueled tensions which results in cross-border attacks. Pakistan's ongoing fencing of the border aims to enhance security but faces resistance from Afghan authorities. This threaten to destabilize border regions and undermines trust between two nation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Day: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Relation with Iran :

a) Border Security

↳ Jaish-e-Adl

b) Sectarian issues

↳ Regional rivalry

c)

→ Conclusion :

Better diplomacy.