

# Final Mock - CA

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## QUESTION 1:-

### Introduction:-

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The Bashar-ul-Asad's regime in Syria was toppled down by HTS Islamist rebels in the last quarter of 2024. The regime fell within just a week of the attack by Jilani led HTS group. This was an unprecedented change in Syria and came due to a number of changes in the security dynamics of the region majorly due to the ongoing war in Israel. There are far-reaching implications on the region with a new Sunni government in Syria.

## Fall of Bashar ul-Asad Regime:-

The regime of Assad that had its hold in Syria for the past 2 decades finally came to an end with the toppling down of the government by HTS rebels and Bashar al Assad fleeing to Russia. It took only a few weeks to collapse the government and to keep full control of the country. The regime backed by Russia, Iran and Lebanon fell and the Shia led government collapsed. Now the Tilani led HTS has established a Sunni-led structure in Syria.

## Reasons for the fall of Assad Regime :-

There are a number of reasons that took place and led to

the fall of the government some of which are as follows:-

### \* Decrease in military support from Russia:-

Russia has been one of the biggest supporters of the Assad government in Syria. With Russia's military engaged in Ukraine and with ongoing financial sanctions on Russia. The military support from to stabilize the Syrian government from Russia decreased with time led to the weakening of the Assad government.

### \* Iran-Israel Ongoing Skirmishes:-

The ongoing and continuous skirmishes between Iran and Israel diverted Iran's proxies and militant support to Syria and towards Palestine and Israel. Iran sent

almost  
almost 120,000 troops to support  
the Syrian government which were  
redistributed among the Syrian  
government and against Israel, so  
the Assad regime fell weak.

\* Decreased support from Hezbollah:

Due to the ongoing conflict  
between Hezbollah and Israeli

forces. The Lebanese militant  
group Hezbollah was not able

to support Syrian government and  
the regime eventually fell due to

lack of support from previous  
allies.

\* Re-organization of HTS: -

The HTS Islamist rebels  
re-organized and made structural

reforms within the organization to  
create a strong front politically

and militarily. The strength of

HTS gained enough power to topple the weakened Assad regime.

#### \* Turkey's backing to HTS:-

Though Turkey has not openly accepted this, but it backed HTS to topple the Assad government which was a Shia-led government. Turkey stated that Syrians have rights to choose a government and as Syria is a Sunni-majority country, Turkey considering itself the leader of Sunni-world accepted the newly formed Syrian government.

#### \* Many regions stayed under HTS rule:-

Many regions in Syria continued to remain under the control of HTS even when the Assad regime had its control over

Syria. So, it was easier for HTS rebels to expand their territorial control over other regions of Syria eventually leading to fall of  <sup>Assad,</sup> regime.

## Implications of the fall of Syrian Regime.

\* Israel attacked Syria and took control of ports:-

As soon as the Syrian government fell, Israel attacked Syria and took over a few regions. It reached Aleppo that is a few kilometers away from Golan Heights that is essential for Israel as 15% of its water comes from there.

## \* Rise of Sectarian Violence in the Region:

As the conflict became a Sunni-Shia conflict with HTS rebels following Sunni Islam and Assad's regime being Shia. This is creating a rise in sectarian violence in Syria as well as the neighbouring regions of Syria.

## \* Rise of Pan-Islamist Ideology

The Tiloni led HTS is the follower of Pan-Islamist ideology.

The new government promotion in Syria promotes the ideology and undermines the Pan-Arab ideology supported by Iran and Russia.

Thus the Pan-Islamist ideological influence has increased with the new Sunni government in the region.

## Conclusion:-

The collapse of Damascus and Assad Regime was due to the lack of military might, support from allies and regional tensions due to Hamas-Israel war. With it having far-reaching implications on Syria, Lebanon and regional countries, the rise of sectarianism, pan-Islamist ideologies and Israel's control over Syrian terrorists are some of the most pressing implications at the moment.

## QUESTION 4:-

### Introduction:-

Islamabad and Kabul have always seen a disturbing relations of mistrust, blame game and

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tensions always on the rise. Both the countries have blamed each other for terrorist activities. As the two countries share mutual borders, TTP has used Afghan demand to create havoc in the Pakistani ~~some~~ areas. This has continued to be a pressing issue for the peaceful relations of both the countries.

## Islamabad-Kabul Relations:-

The two capitals of the neighbouring countries Pakistan and Afghanistan have had strained relations for decades now. With Pakistan's involvement in Afghanistan's political system, creation of mujahideen to fight the Russian led government and the U.S led war on terror, the two tensions between Islamabad

and Kabul have been present for decades now. But the tensions continues to persist due to presence of Taliban on both sides of the government.

TTP using Afghan land for terrorism in Pakistan.

The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) though considered dismantled after the fall of Taliban government with US's takeover of Afghanistan. But TTP has again re-organized itself ever since the comeback of Taliban and their takeover of Afghanistan's government. TTP is using Afghan land to create havoc in Pakistan and is using it as a launch pad for terrorist attacks in Pakistan. This has led to security concerns between the two

countries.

## # Recent TTP's terrorist attacks in Pakistan:-

There has been an increase in terrorist attacks by TTP in the last couple of months. The last quarter of 2024 experienced multiple terrorist attacks in the areas of South Waziristan, Parachinar leading to many fatalities. There have been more than 2000 casualties in 2024 due to terrorist attacks mainly attributed with TTP, who use Afghan land as a launching pad.

## Implications on Islamabad - Kabul relations:-

# Continued mistrust between the two:-

The continuous attacks in Pakistan by TTP create a constant feelings of mistrust among Islamabad and Kabul. Both the countries are skeptical about each other's initiatives to curb the violent terrorist attacks and to stabilize the region.

#### \* Persistent Security Concerns:-

The neighbouring regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan continue to face instability, security challenges and loss of human lives. There is a persistent security concern lingering on between the two countries.

#### \* Hindrances in CPEC progress:-

The disturbed peace and order situation in (Afghanistan) Pakistan hinders the

CPEC progress and continues to be a great concern for both Pakistan and China

#### \* Loss of infrastructure:-

The terrorist attacks in Pakistan has led to the loss of infrastructure in Pakistan. Pakistan blames Afghanistan for it's damages and loss of human life and valuable infrastructure, TTP continues to create havoc in the country.

#### \* Strained relations between the two:-

As with the rise in TTP terrorist attacks in Pakistan, the tensions between both the countries rise as Pakistan blames Afghanistan for the lack of law and order in it's country and the spillover effect in Pakistan.

## Recommendations for Islamabad - Kabul:-

### \* Seal border leakages:-

Both Islamabad and Kabul need to secure and seal their borders to (over) prevent border leakages that lead to the frequent and easy flow of weapons and militants across the region.

### \* Control over Weaponization:-

The easy access to weapons in both Afghanistan and Pakistan needs to be controlled. The casual and easy flow across the borders the control on smuggled goods especially weapons and assault guns need to be curbed by the mutual efforts.

### \* Open negotiations between Islamabad and Taliban government in Afghanistan:-

There needs to be a very blatant, open negotiation between Afghanistani Taliban and Pakistani government to strike a deal to curb the militants on both sides of the border.

To decrease (and reduce) the terrorist attacks and have a check on them.

### \* Improving law and order on both sides of border:-

The law and order situation needs to be improved by both the governments to curb the ongoing terrorist attacks in Pakistan that creating loss of infrastructure and human life in Pakistan.

## Conclusion:-

Pakistan and Afghanistan both need to have an open conversation about the law and order situation. Effective policies are needed by both to curb the ongoing militant attacks by TTP (on both) in Pakistan. Rather than blaming each other for terrorism, collective effort is required to improve the stability of the regions joining the two countries.

## QUESTION 6:-

### Introduction:-

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Pakistan is facing multiple crisis of staggering economy, heavy debt crisis to law and order situation to political instability, essential structural reforms are



needed to improve the situation in the country. The reforms will be in all affairs of the state from industries, to energy to political and agriculture reforms to improve the ongoing crisis of Pakistan.

## Need for Structural reforms in Pakistan. -

Pakistan requires structural reforms in all the affairs of the state to improve the economy of the country and to bring it back on its feet. Some of them are as under:

### \* Agricultural reforms:

The agriculture being the biggest sector of in Pakistan requires the most scrutiny in terms of improved performance. It

is essential to bring important reforms like increase in the agricultural tax to improve the tax base of the country. To provide

- To provide agricultural initiatives to farmers to undergo more agriculture in the country.
- To safeguard the loss of water in agricultural practices in the country.
- To improve the agricultural product cost can eventually increase in agricultural export and decrease the agricultural import.

## \* Industrial Reforms

- The industries in Pakistan need to be (made) strengthened to increase production to decrease reliance on imports.

→ To Privatizing the industries that are in loss to improve the profit-loss margin.

→ To implement effective policies in the industrial sector to boom the economy.

### \* Energy Reforms:

→ Decreasing the subsidies in the energy sector to decrease the burden on the national treasury.

→ Privatizing the energy institutions that are in loss.

→ Checking on the number of employees and the remittances being paid.

→ Paying off the debts to decrease the burden of payment crisis in Pakistan.

## Conclusion:-

The country needs to undergo many structural reforms to improve the situation of economy in Pakistan and to decrease the burden on the treasury and the citizens in Pakistan.

## QUESTION 7:-

### Introduction:- 9/20

The political system is the back bone of any country and its stability is pre-requisite for the development of any country and its progress and growth. By maintaining political stability in a country can lead to socio-economic growth of the country. Political discourse and dialogue is the basis for any

Stable democratic system in the world.

## Importance of Political Stability:

The political stability is the one of the most essential elements of law and order in the country. It is the basis for the development and growth of the country and a pre-requisite for socio-economic stability of the country. All the countries in the world with booming economies have stable political system to support them.

## Need for Political Dialogue:-

For a country to have a stable political system, smooth and constant political dialogue and discourse is needed to

run the smoother functioning of the political system. Some of the ways through which a grand political dialogue between all the stakeholders can be achieved are as follows:-

### \* Practicing Tolerance towards opposing political views:-

The leaders and political parties need to practice tolerance towards opposing political views and need to respect them as valuable additions to a grand political discourse for the smoother functioning of a political system.

### \* Removing barriers between dialogue:-

All and any other barriers in undergoing a mutual dialogue between different stakeholders and

parties is required to create a grand political dialogue eventually leading to political stability.

### \* Checks on Political Language: -

The political language being used in the Parliament, press conferences, Talsas and talk shows need to be kept a check on. To create a respected political environment with a mature and informed political discourse essential for political stability.

### \* Respecting all branches of government: -

All the three branches of government need to be respected and the separation of powers and influence and jurisdiction need to be respected to

create a stable political system supported by ~~stable~~ and smooth political discourse.

### \* Prioritizing National Interest over political agendas:-

The political dialogue in the country needs to be about the interest of the nation and its people. Rather than prioritizing personal political agendas, the national interest of the country needs to be the topic of all and ~~every~~ political dialogue formally and informally.

### \* Avoiding use of emotions in political dialogue:-

The political discourse and dialogue should avoid the use of emotions as it blurs the vision and senses. A practical



and realistic political dialogue needs to take place in the parliamentary sessions free of blame game and name-calling and rather focus on the real political agendas.

### \* Curbing the extreme political polarization :-

To create a smooth and effective political dialogue, the extreme political polarization in the country needs to be curbed and addressed. To create a stable political system, polarization needs to be challenged with new and fresh ideas from all the political parties and political stakeholders.

### Conclusion:-

The political dialogue and

a mature, respectable political discourse is the basis of a stable political system which is highly essential for Pakistan to adopt to address multiple challenges of polarization, name-calling, intolerance, staggering economy and destructive political system of the country.

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