

July 31st - 2025

Mock - Test

General Knowledge - III

Pakistan Affairs

Part - II : Attempt any FOUR questions:-

Question - 5:

Elaborate the contours of Evolution of Democratic System in Pakistan.

Answer:-

Introduction:-

The evolution of Pakistan's democratic system has been a complex journey marked by periods of democratic governance, military rule and constitutional experimentation. Pakistan has oscillated between civilian and military governments (whichever) which has hindered the development of a stable democratic system.

Contours of Evolution of Democratic System in Pakistan:-

(1) Early Years: (1947-1958): Fragile Democracy and Political Instability:-

(a) Partition and Early Challenges:-

After Pakistan's creation in 1947, the newly-formed state struggled to establish a robust democratic system. Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Liaquat Ali Khan played pivotal roles in the early governance of Pakistan.

(b) Delay (Constitution) Constitution:-

Pakistan's first constitution was not adopted until 1956, nearly nine years after its creation. This delay created a vacuum, with governance taking place under colonial laws.

(c) Political Instability :-

The early years were marked by factional politics with frequent changes in leadership. The assassination of Liaquat Ali Khan led to instability among leaders of Pakistan.

(2) First Military Rule (1958-1971):

An Era of Controlled Democracy:-

(a) Ayub Khan's Coup (1958):

In 1958, General Ayub Khan led Pakistan's first military coup, overthrowing the civilian government.

(b) 1962 Constitution:-

1956 constitution was abrogated and

1962 constitution was introduced with presidential system. It also involves indirect elections and curbing direct participation.

(c) Economic Development but Political Discontent:-
Despite economic progress, (undx) political repression and rising inequality sparked unrest especially in East Pakistan which led to Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971.

(3) Civilian Rule and Separation of East Pakistan: (1971-1977)

(a) Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's Democratic Reforms:-
After the secession of East Pakistan in 1971, Pakistan saw return to civilian rule under Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.
Bhutto oversaw the creation of the 1973 Constitution which remains the backbone of Pakistan's (leag) legal and political system today.

(b) Bhutto's Mixed Legacy:-

While Bhutto introduced significant reforms, including nationalizing industries, his government also receives criticism for authoritarian tendencies and suppression of political opponents.

(c) Political Instability and Coup (1977):-
Mass protests (sp) started (witx) after allegations of electoral fraud in the 1977 elections.

As a result, General Zia-ul-Haq staged a coup.

4) Zia-ul-Haq's Military Rule (1977-1988): Islamisation and Military Dominance:-

(a) Martial Law and Islamisation:- Zia-ul-Haq imposed martial Law, suspended 1973 constitution. His regime is called (Im) Islamisation as Sharia-based laws were introduced which influenced Pakistan's legal and social framework.

(b) No Party Elections (1985): Zia held elections in 1985 on a non-party basis, limiting the scope of democratic politics, and also introduced controversial 8th Amendment.

(c) Death of Zia-ul-Haq:- The sudden death in 1988 led to restoration of civilian rule and return to party-based elections.

(5) Democratic Transition and Instability (1988-1999):-

(a) Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif's Alternating Governments:-

The 1990s saw a pattern of

alternating governments between Benazir Bhutto (PPP) and Nawaz Sharif (PML-N). Benazir's government was (diminishing) dismissed twice in 1990 and 1996. While Nawaz Sharif served three times in 1990, 1997 and in 2013.

(b) Corruption and Political Instability:- (F)
Allegations of corruption and the misuse of power plagued both Bhutto and Sharif contributing to political instability.

(c) Military Coup (1999):-
In 1999, General Pervez Musharraf staged a military coup, by deposing Nawaz Sharif.

6) Musharraf Era (1999-2008):

Hybrid Regime and Controlled Democracy:

(a) Military Rule with Democratic Facade:-

Musharraf introduced a quasi-democratic system, holding elections in 2002 but retaining significant executive power as both president and military chief.

(b) Legal Framework Order: In 2002 LFO

strengthened presidential powers further curbing the authority of the parliament. 2007 Lawyers Movement led by Iftikhar Chaudry demanded for the restoration of full democratic rule.

(7) Democratic Consolidation (2008-Present):

Transition to Civilian Governance:

(a) PPP Government (2008-2013):

The Pakistan People's Party, under president Asif Ali Zardari, led first civilian government to complete its full five year term in Pakistan's history.

18th Amendment in 2010 restored parliamentary powers by reducing president's authority.

(b) PML-N Government (2013-2018):

The PML-N Government of Nawaz Sharif won 2013 elections, though Nawaz Sharif was disqualified but PML-N managed to complete its term, marking the second (conseq^x) consecutive democratic transition in Pakistan's history.

(c) PTI Government (2018-2022):

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf won 2018 elections, but Imran Khan's government was ousted through vote of no confidence

yet marking another peaceful democratic transition.

(d) Current Government (2022-Present):-
Shehbaz Sharif, leader of PML-N, became Prime Minister, though, political tensions continue to (simmer) simmer.

Conclusion:-

Pakistan's democratic system has evolved through periods of military rule, civilian governance and constitutional changes. While the country has experienced democratic evolution in recent years, challenges such as military influence, corruption and economic crises continue to affect the political landscape. The recent peaceful transitions between civilian governments mark a significant step towards strengthening democracy in Pakistan, but its future remains tied to the country's ability to address these persistent issues.

Question 4:-

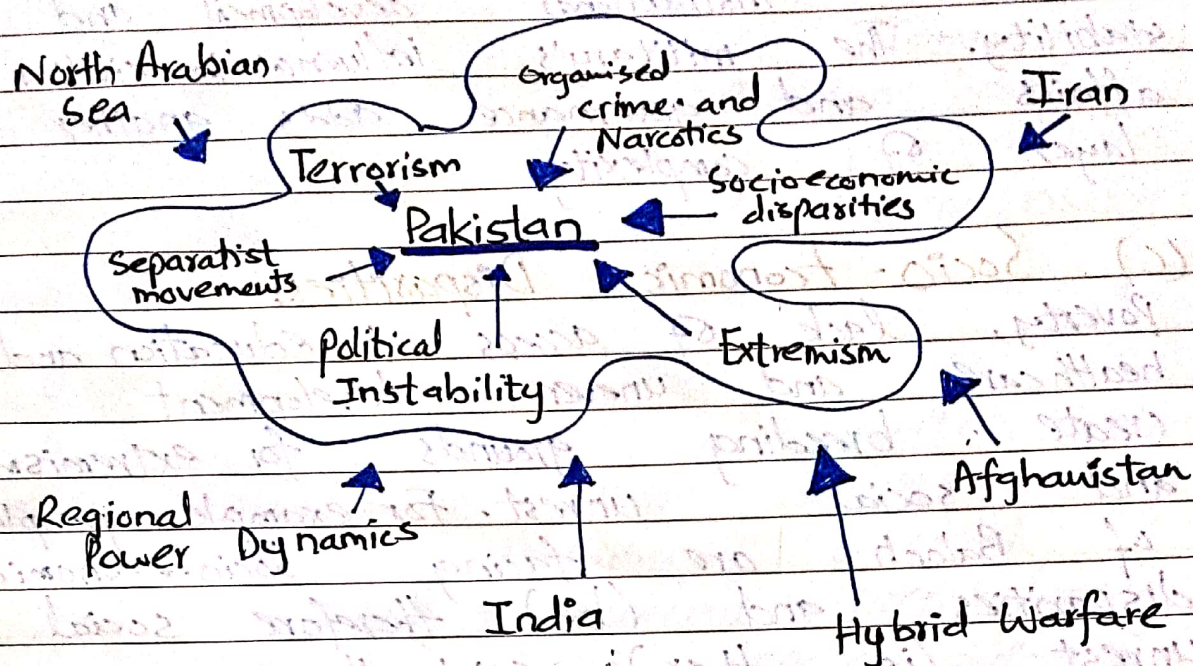
Pakistan's Role in the Region has become strategic due to Changing Security Dynamics for Pakistan. Critically evaluate the Challenges to National Security of Pakistan.

Answer:-

Introduction:-

The Geography of any state, country or nation holds prime importance. Nicholas Spykman highlighted geography's importance in defining Security problems. For Pakistan, geography has been both a challenge and a benefit. Positioned between India, China and Afghanistan, Pakistan navigates complex power (strggx) struggles involving major global players like USA and Russia. Its strategic location now places it at the heart of China-India-US dynamics. Stable relations with its neighbour is vital, influencing its national security policy within South Asian regional paradigm resistant to external pressures. Pakistan currently is facing complex web of national security challenges stemming from both internal and external factors. To counter these, Pakistan

needs comprehensive and integrated approach.



Challenges To National Security of Pakistan:-

(1) Internal Security Challenges:

(a) Terrorism and Extremism in Pakistan:-

Pakistan has long grappled with terrorism, including operating within its (p) borders and those targeting neighbouring countries. This include extremist ideologies and sectarian violence, requiring a sustained and multifaceted counter-terrorism strategy.

(b) Political Instability:-

Repeated military interventions and

fragile political landscape have hampered Pakistan's institutional development and stability. The military's influence in civilian affairs and governance adds another layer of complexity.

(c) Socio-Economic Disparities:-

Poverty, lack of access to education and healthcare and uneven development create breeding grounds for extremism and social unrest. For example people of Baloch are facing socio-economic disparities and (be) therefore social unrest (is there) exists there.

(d) Separatist Movements:-

Balochistan, in particular, has seen separatist movements fueled by grievances related to resource allocation and political representation.

(e) Organised Crime and Narcotics:-

Gun-running, drug trafficking and organised crime networks pose threats to Pakistan's internal security and stability.

(2) External Security Challenges

to Pakistan's National Security:

Disputes in Neighbourhood:

Since independence, Pakistan has faced territorial claims from Afghanistan and the ongoing dispute of Jammu and Kashmir with India. Pakistan confronts ongoing threats from two countries on its western and eastern (border) borders.

(a) India:-

The ongoing tensions and conflicts with India remain a major security concern for Pakistan, requiring constant vigilance and defence preparedness. Pakistan has built nuclear weapons to deter (to) any military assault from India. It has also implemented border security measures to maintain its territorial integrity.

(b) Afghanistan:-

The instability in Afghanistan and the presence of militant groups along the border have spillover effects on Pakistan's security.

(c) Iran:-

Pakistan's southwest border with Iran is fragile and spans about 900 kilometers. This frontier is plagued by drug trafficking, illegal border crossings, terror assaults, human trafficking and illicit transportation into Iran and Pakistan. Furthermore, unrest in Chabahar and Gwadar is a threat to Pakistan's security.

(d) North Arabian Sea:-

Pakistan's strategic location in the North Arabian Sea and Indian ocean allows for efficient regional commerce control. Regarding external challenges to Pakistan, the most serious is Indian hegemony which is expanding its influence through close coordination with United States and other Western allies.

(e) Regional Power Dynamics:-

Pakistan's strategic location makes it a focal point in regional power struggles particularly between US, China and India. Navigating these complex relationships requires skillful diplomacy and strategic partnerships.

Conclusion:-

Given these challenges, Pakistan faces a critical juncture in its national security and governance. Navigating complex geopolitical dynamics, economic constraints, and internal security threats requires a cohesive strategy that addresses both immediate concerns and long-term stability. As Pakistan grapples with these multifaceted issues, the evolution of its national security doctrines remains pivotal in shaping its future trajectory on global stage. Balancing

economic revitalization, social development and effective security measures will be key to forging a resilient path forward.

Introduction:-

The political and economic challenges faced by Pakistan are complex and multifaceted. The country's institutional framework, which was established in the aftermath of independence, has become increasingly outdated and ineffective. This has led to a decline in the quality of governance and a loss of public trust. The economic situation is also dire, with high unemployment, inflation, and a growing foreign debt. These challenges are interconnected and require a comprehensive and coordinated response. The government must undertake a series of reforms to strengthen the institutional framework, improve the quality of governance, and address the economic challenges. This includes strengthening the judiciary, the police, and the civil service, as well as implementing measures to reduce corruption and improve the business environment. The government must also take steps to address the economic challenges, including creating jobs, reducing inflation, and managing the foreign debt. Only through such a comprehensive and coordinated response can Pakistan hope to achieve a resilient path forward.

Question-8-

What are the silhouettes of (Pakistan) Political Economy of Pakistan? Discuss various approaches to develop an egalitarian society in Pakistan.

Answer:-

Introduction:-

The political economy of Pakistan is characterized by a complex interplay of economic (political) policies, institutional weaknesses, and powerful vested interests. Weak institutions, particularly in the areas of taxation and public spending, have hindered economic growth and contributed to persistent trade and fiscal deficits. Furthermore, powerful elites benefit from the existing structure, influencing policies in their favour especially in areas like energy subsidies and tax exemptions for agriculture and retail sectors.

In order to cope with (its) these challenges Pakistan needs different approaches to develop an egalitarian society in Pakistan.

Approaches to Develop an Egalitarian Society in Pakistan:-

(a) Education and Healthcare:-

Those who belong to marginalised backgrounds have not access to education and health. (Tx) These people specifically must have access to quality and affordable education.

Furthermore, quality education and modern education to all can bridge (gaps) geographical and socioeconomic gaps.

(b) Economic Empowerment:-

Pakistan's economic growth has been weak and stagnant particularly

(ix) since 1990s, with a decline in GDP and increased poverty.

Implementing comprehensive poverty alleviation programs, promoting entrepreneurship, job creation and skill development particularly for women and marginalised communities.

Furthermore ensuring equal pay for equal work (cx) brings progress in economic growth.

(c) Social Justice and Inclusion:-

Pakistan can develop into egalitarian

When legal rights are protected especially of marginalised groups, including women, religious and ethnic minorities and enforcing laws against discrimination. Moreover, ensuring equal access to justice, promoting religious and ethnic harmony and implementing policies and programs that promote gender equality on a basis for egalitarian society to develop.

(d) Political Participation:-

Political Participation is another important component of egalitarian society where there are fair representation of all citizens in political and decision-making process. Pakistan must need to increase transparency, accountability and good governance at all levels of government so that Pakistan can be called as egalitarian society.

(e) Social Cohesion:-

A (social) society is egalitarian where there is national unity, cultural understanding and social cooperation and solidarity. Pakistan though facing internal challenges of ethnic differences and national integration

Pakistan need to strengthened social cooperation, compassion and solidarity within communities.

In Conclusion, Pakistan, by addressing all these key areas, can move closer to becoming a more egalitarian society where all citizens have equal opportunities and a fair chance to live a prosperous life.