



Q.2

Introduction:

The Israel-Iran "Twelve-days-war" concluded after US jumped into the conflict and attacked Iran's nuclear sites. The conflict itself had several implications on global power politics, especially regarding the declining American-led liberal order and revisionist global order led by China and supported by Russia. American legitimacy of use of power has borne the massive brunt, and multipolarity has received a renewed acceleration. China's explicit kinetic response has been minimal, while the diplomatic overtures to delegitimize American hegemony has received a new push. Russia, however, already engaged in a war against Ukraine, is experiencing its resurgence of power, and has been awaiting for such opportunity to legitimize its own use of power. Israel supported by America, and Iran supported by Chinese and Russian interests provide

a gateway to a multipolar global setting.

Background of the Israel-Iran war:

Israel conducted a massive, comprehensive attack on Iran. Its aggression fostered a sense of insecurity across the region.

The concept of legitimate war has been endeavoured to change under the label of pre-emptive self defence, invoking the very Article 51 of UN charter. Although UN charter does not allow preventive strikes as legitimate, Israel supported by America has been recalibrating the concept of global order. Israel condemned Iran of possible use of Nukes against its territory, once Iran succeed in making one. Although IAEA and several other international watch dogs deny that Iran is having any intentions of making nuclear bombs, Israel denounces such reports and invokes 'existential threat' discourse. The war itself ~~that~~ reached a situation of stalemate where Iranian missile capability and Israel's air defence systems were in constant

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engagement. Israel; to fulfill its war objective, promised America to engage on its behalf with its B-2 bomber to obliterate Iranian nuclear sites. As the war came to its end, America had conducted such strikes at three nuclear sites in Iran. American engagement, that too so explicit, shocked its global order. The very foundations of legitimacy were shaken and it opened the door for China and Russia to delegitimize American imperial ambitions.

Implications on global power politics pertaining to US, China and Russia:

The post WWII order with UN as its apex body had already been shaken by unilateral actions from global powers. What was deemed to be a collective security, liberal economy, and democracy, has reversed to Realist agenda of self-help and national interests.

Russia's resurgence, and aggression against Ukraine, invoking these realist calculations, already battered the liberal world order. While the recent



American action drew the last straw. The world of order governed by International law has destabilized. It has opened opportunities for revisionist powers. China the arch-rival of America has still not employed any explicit kinetic measures; however, its diplomatic overture are accelerating.

China's interests in Iran and anti-liberal order overtures:

Iranian regime has been viewed as aligning with Chinese interests for decades now. China's role in recent Israel-Iran war has been implicit and diplomatic majorly. China calculates that American overstretch and continuous engagements would eventually bring its downfall. Amid that, China has to procure maximum support from all over the world and especially global south. Its engagement in Africa and with other major powers within BRICS have already been endeavouring to destabilize American led order.

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As per, Chinese president Xi Jinping, when asked in 2014 about China's role of a revisionist power and a possible confrontation with US, he mentioned that Chinese calculations don't align with a western concept of "Thucydides trap". That is to say, China does not believe that increase in power of one, involves insecurity of the status quo power. Pertaining to this understanding, Chinese explicit anti-American action in the wake of US attack on Iran was bound to be not on board. Thus, not in near future, but continuous endeavors to exacerbate American decline, widening its fault lines through diplomatic overtures, China would bring a new world order or accept the emerging multipolarity.

Russia's resurgence and renewed legitimacy of use of power in the wake of American aggression against Iran:

Although seen as Russian ally, Iran was not explicitly aided by Russia



during the "12-day war". Russia already engaged in a war against Ukraine saw American aggression against Iran as an opportunity to justify its own hegemonic overtures in its region.

Furthermore, the growing Russian and Chinese alignment already pose a greater threat to American order. With America's accelerating decline, Russian-Chinese interests along with global south can recalculate the global world order.

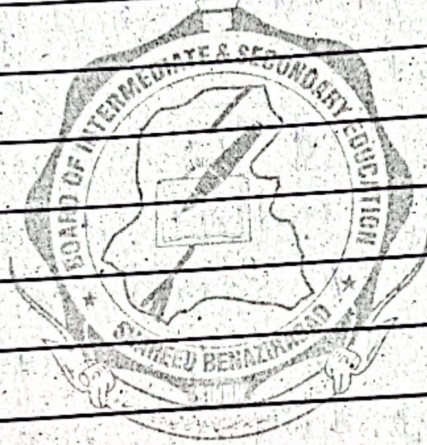
Conclusion:

America under Trump administration had already caused a massive disruption to global order. Europe has begun to realign itself from American interests; while, Russia and China were already in awaiting such fault lines. Will this bring a new world order led by Russia and China with other major powers on board or a world in disorder with no hegemon to stabilize it? Israel-Iran conflict

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was not merely another regional limited-war, but it ensured a war of legitimacy, implicitly. Power without legitimacy merely destabilizes the order. China and Russia together have potential to widen the growing fault lines and bring a new world order.



Q. NO. 5

Introduction:

India on 7th May employed an unprovoked aggression on Pakistan, claiming to hit terror sanctuaries within mainland Punjab and Azad Kashmir. In response, Pakistan retaliated with missile attacks, swarms of drones and cyber warfare. Besides, Pakistan downed 5 jets including Rafales on 7th May. The 4-day conflict concluded after continuous American engagement on 10th May, 2025. These four days saw comprehensive engagement in several war fronts either it be conventional way or non-traditional; like, drone warfare and cyber attacks. Besides that, the major aspect of the conflict was not military engagement, but diplomatic, narrative war — during the conflict and also in post-conflict period. Both the countries had conflicting legal grounds to legitimize their actions. In order to



achieve global support for one's narrative, both the countries dispatched diplomatic teams to different countries. India's narrative revolved around Pakistan as a terrorist country; while, Pakistan's narrative revolved around India as a destabilizing power in the region, pursuing its hegemonic ambitions. Evaluating who succeeded in post conflict diplomatic drives, Pakistan seemed to receive larger share of global and regional support.

Diplomacy during the conflict:

Although India received global sympathy after the parliament attack, no country accepted Indian claims of Pakistan's involvement. India to date has failed to provide credible evidence to establish its allegation on Pakistan. Therefore, when an unprovoked aggression on Pakistan under the "Operation Sindoor" was employed, Pakistan received the global support. It culminated when China,



Azerbaijan, and Turkey ~~came~~ informed an explicit support ~~to~~ to Pakistan. On the other hand, no country supported India's aggression, and its false narrative of "attacking in self-defence." Thus, India failed on diplomatic front during the conflict.

The post-conflict diplomatic drives of India and Pakistan:

Both the countries after the conflict dispatched their diplomatic drives to several countries for shaping global narrative in accordance with one's own.

Indian narrative:

- i) Pehalgam attack was orchestrated by Pakistan.
- ii) Pakistan in its territory provide sanctuaries to terrorist organizations.
- iii) India's attack on these sanctuaries

was non-escalatory and limited.

iv) Talks with Pakistan would never realize until Pakistan ceases its terrorism against Indian state and provide good will intentions.

Pakistan's narrative:

(i) India has failed to provide any iota of evidence to prove its allegation on Pakistan regarding Peshawar attack.

(ii) There are no sanctuaries within the territory of Pakistan, operating against Indian state.

(iii) Indian attack on Pakistan on 7th May was unprovoked and illegal; thus, Pakistan responded in its self-defense, to reestablish conventional deterrence.

iv) Indian allegation of terrorism against Pakistan to obscure bilateralism is merely to create a diplomatic inertia; so that the outstanding issue of Kashmir



Remains unresolved.

Pakistan succeeded in its diplomatic overture to shape global narrative with accordance of its own:

India failed to procure ascent from any country to establish Pakistan as a terror state. Even its protest in IMF board meeting to halt the provision of loan to Pakistan, failed. On the other hand, Pakistan reclaimed strategic space in White House. Pakistan's COAs had lunch with Donald Trump, the president of America. He has also aligned with Pakistan's claim of doing 5 jobs, which however, India still denies. India's false narratives, extravagant media posturing, and without credible evidence, attacking a nuclear neighbour has heavily caused a blight to its international image. Domestically, too, Pakistan has succeeded in reestablishing, an otherwise, bruised national enthusiasm.



However, Indian government is still facing domestic pressure over different failures; both in battle field and diplomatic stage.

Conclusion:

After the May conflict, both the states tried to attract global support to their own national narrative. India's hollow claims without evidences and legal grounds failed to achieve desired diplomatic support. On the other hand, Pakistan's sound response and battlefield wins were admired and commended. Its diplomacy succeeded in ~~deb~~ debunking India's allegations and achieving strategic space in Washington. In domestic front, too, the post-conflict shaping in Pakistan succeeded to procure national unity and sense of patriotism. While in India, government, upon its failure to fulfill its war and diplomatic goals, is still facing public outcry and opposition's resistance in parliament. The post-conflict diplomatic drive was a win for Pakistan.

Q No. 7

Introduction:

Pakistan's economic history has been a recurrent patterns of booms and busts. It has remained dependent upon foreign aid for decades now. Although 1960s green revolution was an indigenous marvel, since then, Pakistan has not witnessed any similar economic success. One of the major reasons is the incumbents' short-term policies to mitigate long-term economic necessities pertaining to structural recalibration. Pakistan's macro economic instability is due to micro economic disruptions at lower levels. At macro level Pakistan faces Balance of Payment crisis, trade deficit, depreciating currency value, inflation, unemployment, and limited GDP growth. However, all these macro disruptions are linked at lower level with wider structural problems in education, Research and development, Governance issues, business-unfriendly



environment, awaiting reforms in agricultural sector and industrial sectors, and at large political culture. Therefore, the economic revival of Pakistan would be an elusive dream until an extensive structural reforms are not introduced.

Current macro economic issues in Pakistan:

- i) Balance of Payment crisis: It deals with Pakistan's inability to meet its expenditures, thus asking for foreign aid. This burden of foreign debt further requires its servicing in ensuing years, depleting the share of revenue.
- ii) Trade deficit: It deals with Pakistan's inability to meet its exports with imports. Thus, depleting the limited foreign reserves.
- iii) Depreciating currency value: It accounts for the relative decrease in the value of Rupee against the global currencies, making imports expensive.



iv) Inflation: It deals with decreasing purchasing power of citizens in regards to increasing expense of products.

v) Limited GDP growth: Since Pakistan fails to meet the revenue thresholds to evade balance of payment and trade deficit, GDP growth remains stagnant. Making it further difficult to meet growing demands of expanding population.

Short-term maneuvers by the incumbents to meet urgent macro disruptions:

Instead of resolving the underlying structural problems as in why exports are not increasing compared to imports? What are the governance lapses in meeting payment crisis? The incumbents here historically resorted to short term reliefs to economic busts. These maneuvers are as follow:

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- procuring
- i) ~~Lending~~ loans from international financial institutions;
 - ii) subsidizing the loss making sectors.
 - iii) Tuning interest rates to change currency value instead of ^{letting} market decide
 - iv) Nationalizing industries (in past)

Long-term structural reforms required for economic revival:

- (i) Investing in human capital:

It is the human capital that runs industries and businesses. Making education necessary, spreading extensive network of vocational training centers, enhancing skills, would provide the best result in all sectors. Employment issues too would resolve once highly educated and skilled youth is nurtured.



ii) Investing in Research and development:
In order to improve quality of exports and accelerate technological development, constant research in all emerging realms of science, industry, technology, space and digital sphere must be encouraged. It requires political will and funding.

iii) Resolving governance issues to make business friendly environment:

Business today has been impeded by the governance lapses in administrative realm of the country. Corruption, nepotism, red-tapism, political favors and illegal ransom collection are all rampant in the business circle of the country. They need immediate halt.

iv) Reforms in Industrial sector:

- a) privatization
- b) SOEs must be off loaded with unrequired employments
- c) Organizational matters must be depoliticized.
- d) Private sector must be encouraged to invest.

v) Reforms in Agricultural sector

- a) the sector is not comprehensively taxed.

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b) abatement for water must be raised as to mitigate water losses too

c) canal systems need re-engineering to halt seasonal floodings, diversifying agricultural output.

d) ~~SMs~~ SMEs must be encouraged with micro, macro loans to invest in agricultural sector.

Conclusion:

The economic revival of Pakistan is not possible until and unless structural reforms are not employed. It revolves around human capital and important sectors of industry and agriculture. Research and development too require funding to improve quality of production, and at large governance issues must be resolved. Futile short-term maneuvers by incumbents are only allowed if long-term structural reforms are already enacted; otherwise the economy will keep suffering from macroeconomic instability.