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Question# 1

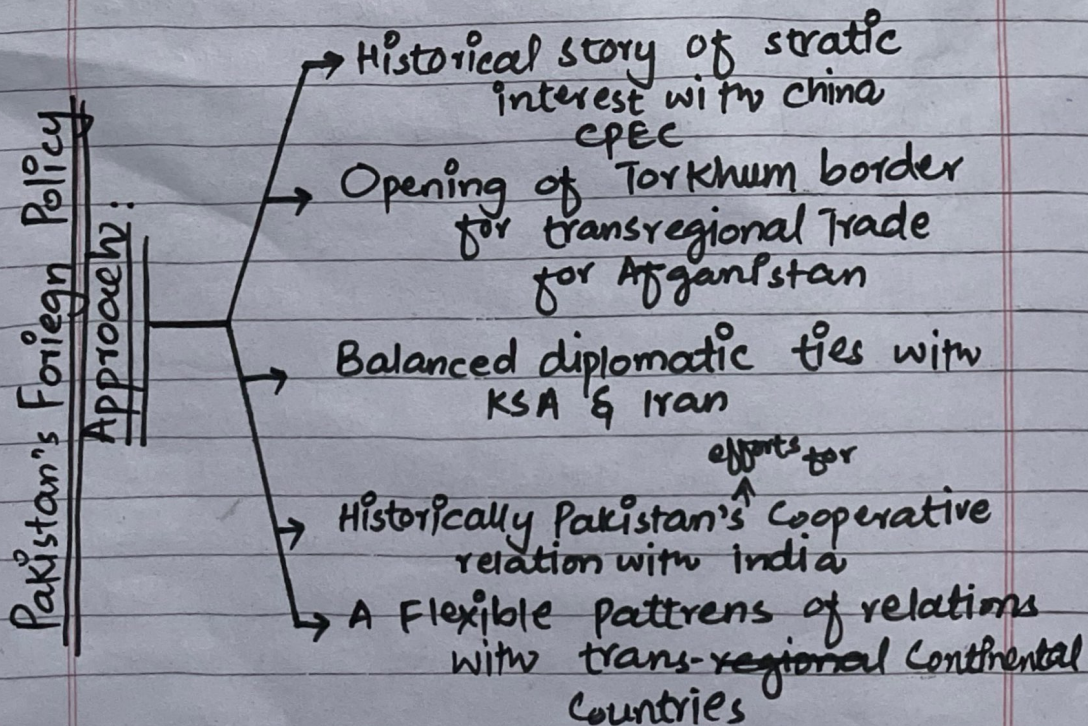
Day: _____

Introduction:

Foreign policy of any country is all about the policy making by the policy makers and think tanks of the country to achieve its material interests. When it comes to the foreign policy of Pakistan then it transpires that despite multigater-ceted challenges regionally such as Kashmir issue, militancy, and sectarian divide Pakistan has played a vital role in shaping its balanced foreign policy to achieve its strategic interests with regional cooperation and stability. Contemporary, the major examples of balanced foreign policy for strategic interests with cooperation and stability is a flagship project with China "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor" CPEC, Opening of Torkhum border for Afghanistan after the revival Taliban regime, balanced relations with Iran and KSA, and despite Kashmir issue Pakistan tried to build its friendly relation with New Delhi however, repeated allegations by New Delhi has restored its old status which is anarchic in nature. However, as it's discussed above that Pakistan efforts for strategic interests with cooperation and stability are remarkable but recent events such as violation of Doha agreement by TIA and Operation Sindore by India are disturbing this balance.

Pakistan's Foreign Policy to Balance its strategic interests with regional cooperation and stability:

South Asian region of Asia contains two major players India and Pakistan. And the diachronic study of their relations reveals that for the cooperation and stability in this region is completely dependent on these two actors. However, there are other actors also present and playing a vital role. Nevertheless, in context of Pakistan's foreign policy Pakistan has tried to shape a balanced foreign policy towards its neighbours and beyond the continent.



A- Historical story of strategic interest with china (CPEC).

As Pakistan has played a vital role in region for strategic interest with cooperation and stability. A flagship partnership with china is one of the major example of cooperation and stability in the form of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor). However it provides the shortest, safest, and surest route towards the middle east. This project was initially started in 2014 and china approximately invested \$62bn for this project. According to a report

"Recently, china has urged to build 500 hospitals in Gawadar Balochistan?"

However, this report reveals that how these both countries are running the symbiotic relations. Despite, all geo-economic partnership, Pakistan and china are also contributing in strategic partnership by signing different defence agreements. Pakistan's dominance over india in recent clashes was a result of chinese technological cooperation. Nevertheless, security threats are the major challenges to undermine the cooperation and stability in region. Such as intervention "RAW" in Balochistan is a biggest reason of unrest and halting the CPEC.

B-Opening of Torkham Border for Trans-regional Trade for Afghanistan:

After 9/11 Pakistan became western ally against Afghanistan in war on terror. But after the withdrawal of NATO and US forces Pakistan's government of that time tried to build the friendly and cooperative ~~but~~ relations with Taliban government in the year 2021. Prime minister of Pakistan stated that;

"Today people of Afghanistan have broken the shackles of slavery."

However, Pakistan had opened its border for trade for Afghanistan. While in **March 2025** Pakistan re-opened its border Torkham for trade. But frequent violations of Doha agreement and once again ~~fire~~ watering the border issues, moreover, TIP led attack on F-C general head quarter in Quetta further put fuel on fire and caused the recent escalation with Afghanistan. However, for longlasting cooperation and stability Pakistan is still striving but government of Afghanistan is blatantly violating me all clauses of Doha agreement. However, such challenges can cause the unrest in the region.

C- Balanced Diplomatic Ties with KSA and Iran:

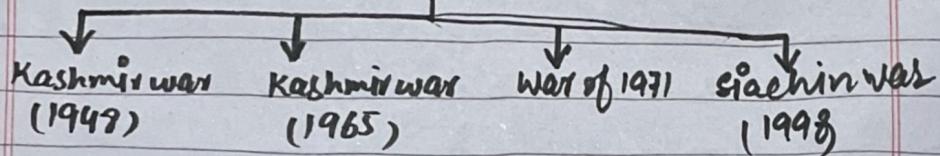
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iran both are the major players in Islamic world. Iran is also a neighbouring country of Pakistan. And the structure of Pakistan's foreign policy is highly dependent on the Iran. In the era of dictatorship in 1988, Pakistan witnessed an immense outrage of sectarian conflicts due to contradictory relations ~~of~~ of KSA and Iran. Such contradictory relations further watered the internal contradictions in Pakistan. But recently, world has witnessed the huge success of Pakistan's foreign policy. Because, Pakistan's balanced diplomatic ties resulted the great cooperation and stability - Pakistan provided all kinds of diplomatic support to Iran during Iran-Israel recent war. And on the other hand, Defence Pact with KSA is also a great example of cooperation. Apparently, there are not any challenges while in future both countries can hope for this best.

D- Historically Pakistan's Efforts for Cooperative relations with India:

Historically, Pakistan has played an essential and cooperative role

role to build the relations with New Delhi - However, despite of all such efforts both countries remained involved in un-ending conflicts and till now they have faced each other in multiple wars.

chronological order of Wars



- Recent Attack on Pakistan Operation Sindoor in 2025, caused the escalation between both countries.

• Quaid's policy towards India

Early days of creation Pakistan Quaid wanted the friendly relations with India - unfortunately, 1948's attack on Kashmir changed his perspectives.

However, breaking of agreements by India unilaterally shows the non-cooperative behaviour of a state-

• Suspension of Indus water treaty by India:

suspension of Indus water treaty unilaterally is another war crime by India and put and a last nail

in coffin. However, despite of domination Pakistan prefers peace and accepted the request for cease fire. However, in regional context Pakistan efforts for cooperative relations are undeniable. But Indian factor is standing as a challenge.

E- A Flexible Pattern of Relations with trans-continental Countries :

Not only trans-regionally but also trans-continental Pakistan adopt the balanced approach in diplomatic ties. However, Pakistan has adopted a flexible pattern of relations between China and USA. Both are the ideological and economic rivals of each other. Historically, Pakistan efforts for war on terror and Doha agreements are remarkable without impacting the relations with China which is Pakistan's defense and economic partner. And playing the vital role in balancing the regional threat from Indian side. However, recently, Pakistan made a deal on rare mineral and oil from America. This is how Pakistan's approach of foreign policy in regional context for strategic interests with cooperation and stability.

D- Conclusion :

As foreign policy of any country is made by its policy makers

Date: _____

Day: _____

and think tanks on the basis of interest.

However, Pakistan's foreign policy remained a balanced policy but due to security challenges at some extent it lost its balance in term of Afghanistan and India.

However, Pakistan has played a vital role in shaping balanced foreign policy for regional cooperation and stability.
