

QUESTION No 01

Pakistan's foreign policy in the regional context.

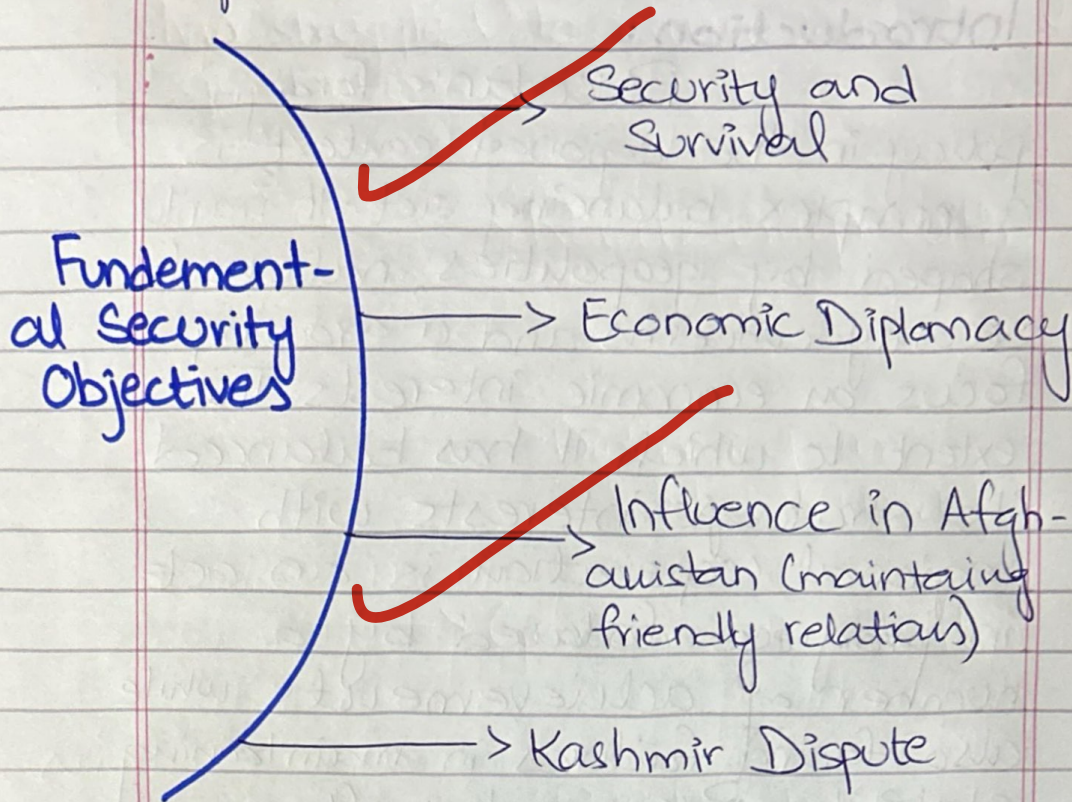
1. Introduction:

Pakistan's foreign policy in the regional context is a complex balancing act. It is mainly shaped by geopolitics, national security concerns and a growing focus on economic interests. The extent to which it has balanced its strategic interests with regional cooperation is an act in progress followed by a number of achievements while also facing failures in maintaining stability. Pakistan has often relied on alliances and partnerships to safeguard their interests like China, USA and Gulf countries, while at the same time dealt with tensions and conflicts. This fact reveals that the foreign policy is constantly trying to achieve the perfect balance.

2. Critical Evaluation of Regional Foreign Policy:

It has historically been dominated by the security

framework which helped to strengthen the state but neglected regional cooperation.



2.1 Security and Survival of the Nation: A Major Priority

Pakistan's fundamental objective has always been to protect national security particularly against the hostile India. This pushed Pakistan to pursue strategic alliances with major global powers.

\$60 billion China Pakistan Economic Corridor strengthens Pakistan's strategic position in South Asia.

2.2 Economic Diplomacy to Long Term Security

The path to economic growth and regional connectivity are essential to long term security.

National Security Policy (2022-2026) prioritizes trade partnerships and foreign investments. CPEC is an essential step towards that.

2.3 Kashmir Dispute between Pakistan and India

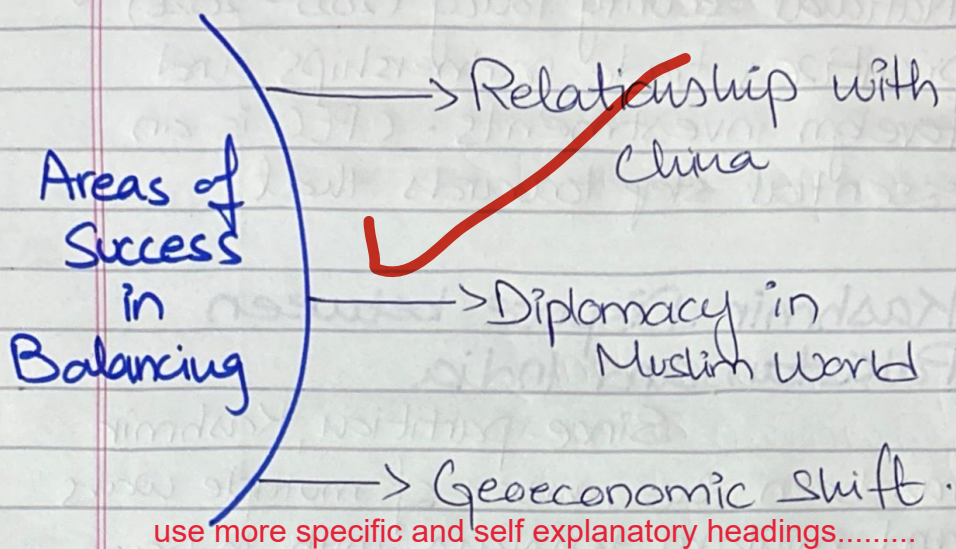
Since partition, Kashmir has been the reason of multiple wars and military tensions with India. Pakistan has tried bilateral negotiations, mediation through the UN and using International forums. Resolving Kashmir dispute can shape both strategic and security policies.

2.4 Influencing Afghanistan to Maintain A Non-Hostile Environment

Pakistan aims to ensure a friendly neighbour across the western border. Pakistan's engagement in Afghanistan has been a mix of interventions, refugee management and handling geopolitical.

3. The Extent of Balancing: A Mixed Record

Pakistan's foreign policy has struggled to achieve an equilibrium.



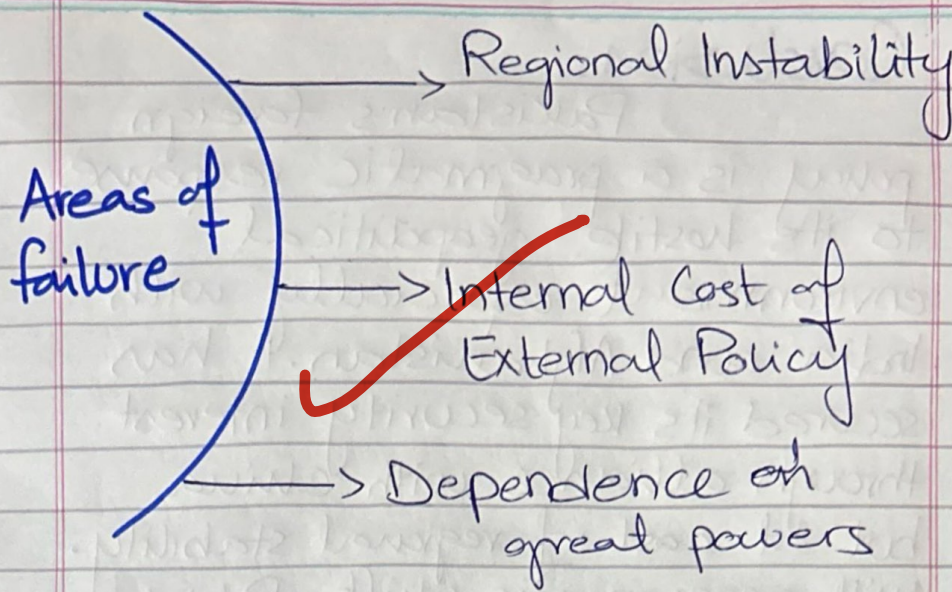
3.1 Relationship with China

Pakistan has a long term strategic partnership, CPEC, with China that has provided with \$60 billion investment and strategic ~~counter~~ counter weight to India.

3.2 Diplomacy in Muslim World

Pakistan has maintained ties with Saudi Arab and Iran often serving as mediator dealing with energy imports and financial lifelines.

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments....



3.3 Regional Instability:

By prioritizing a military-centric view of security, Pakistan has often alienated its immediate neighbours. It has limited the potential for regional integration and economic prosperity.

3.4 Dependence on Great Powers:

The historical and on-going dependence on great powers for support has often constrained its strategic autonomy. The continuous IMF bailouts highlight a persistent economic fragility.

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments and be on 7-9 pages.

Conclusion:

Pakistan's foreign policy is a pragmatic response to its hostile geopolitical environment especially with India and Afghanistan. It has secured its key security interest through alliance with China but at cost of regional stability. With geoeconomic shift, Pakistan must adopt a trade and stability oriented foreign policy for lasting balance.

QUESTION No 2

Kashmir is the core issue between Pakistan and India.

Introduction:

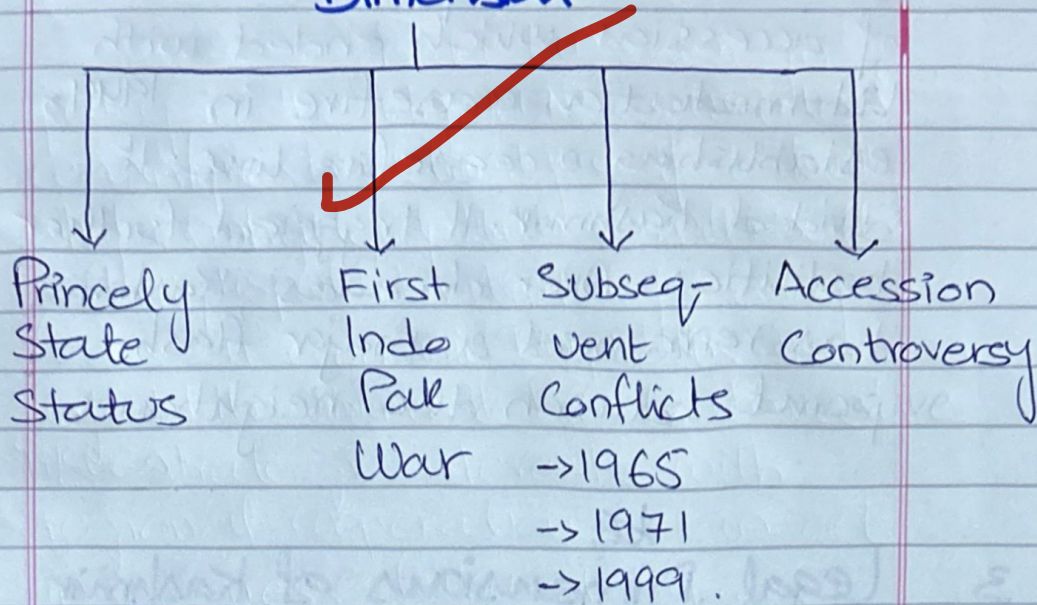
Kashmir has been the reason of multiple wars, tension and hostility between Pakistan and India. Over the decades, Kashmir has remained a central focus of Pakistan's foreign policy, involving diplomatic efforts at the UN, bilateral negotiations and engagement with international forum. Its legal status, unresolved boundaries and the aspirations of Kashmiri people continue to complicate peace efforts turning it into an increasing challenge for diplomacy, regional stability and security in South Asia. Any progress or escalation in this issue directly affects Pakistan-India relations making it a matter of wider regional concern.

Historical Dimension of the conflict:

The ~~historical~~ historical origin of the conflict starts from the

partition of 1947

Historical Dimension



2.1 Princely State Status

During 1941, Jammu and Kashmir was one of the largest princely states with a Muslim majority of 77% but ruled by a Hindu Maharaja. This created immediate tension.

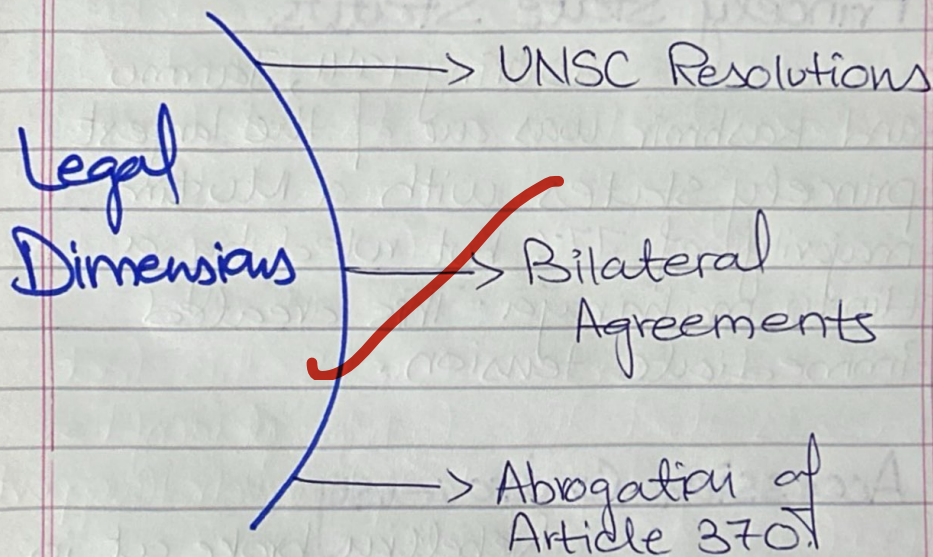
2.2 Accession Controversy

Rebellion broke out in the Poonch region. Also, tribesmen from Pakistan's province invaded the state leading to assistance from India and signing of the Instrument of Accession.

2.3 Indo-Pak War Leading to Subsequent Conflicts:

First Indo-Pak war was the result of the Instrument of accession which ended with UN-mediation ceasefire in 1949, establishing a ceasefire line. It divided Kashmir. It triggered further hostilities. Over decades, Kashmir has remained a major flash-point between the neighbours.

3 Legal Dimensions of Kashmir Conflict



3.1 UNSC Resolutions:

The UN passed resolutions which called for
→ withdraw its tribesmen and nationals from state

- called India to reduce its forces to minimum level
- free and partial plebiscite

3.2 Bilateral Agreements

In 1972, converted ceasefire line to line of control and committed both countries to settle dispute bilaterally

In 1999, both countries agreed to increase efforts to resolve issues.

3.3 Article 370 Abrogation

India's revocation of article 370 was viewed by Pakistan as violation of UN resolution and international law.

4. Evaluation of Pakistan's Policy on Kashmir

Strengths
And
Achievements

→ Moral and diplomatic support

→ Ideological consistency

→ Strategic leverage.

4.1 Moral and Diplomatic Support

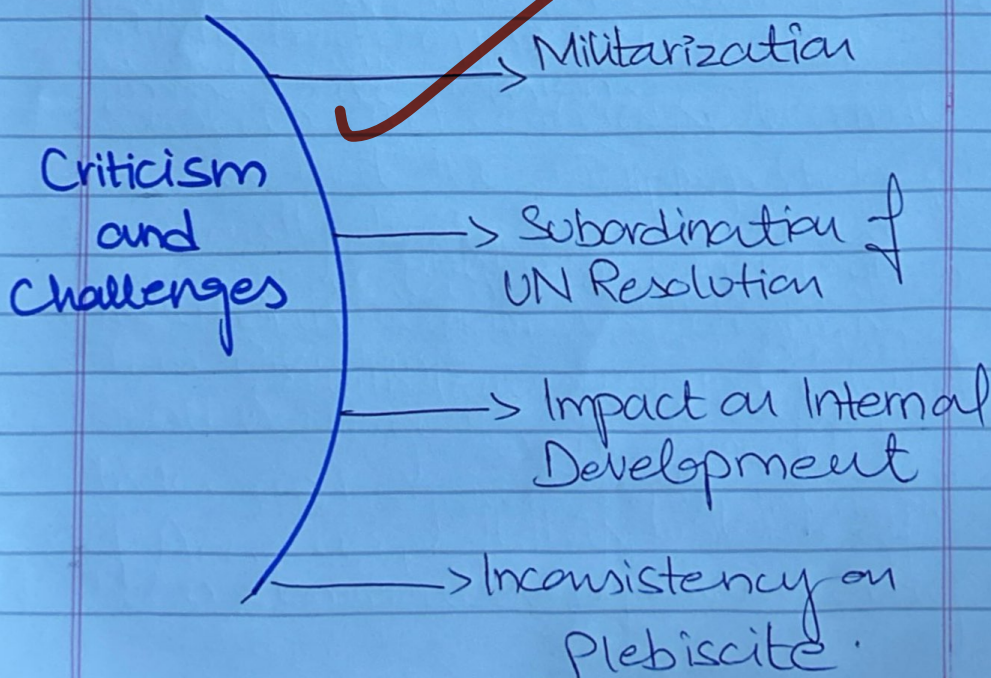
The issue has been still in discussion at international forums like UN, OIC and International human right bodies. Pakistan has been advocating for Kashmiri right to self determination.

4.2 Ideological consistency:

The policy is consistent with Two Nation Theory maintaining that Kashmir is Pakistan's "jugular vein".

4.3 Strategic Leverage:

It provides Pakistan with a focus for its foreign and security policy, maintaining balance of power narrative in South Asia.



Conclusion:

Kashmir is the core issue defining the relationship between Pakistan and India. Its complicated nature is bound with its historical legal interpretation and diplomatic history marked by military conflict and cross border tensions. Pakistan's policy has been hampered by use of unconventional means.

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