

Q.2: Pak-Afghan relations continue to remain tense even after mediation by China. What do you think are major factors and how could it be improved.

=> Outline

1. Introduction.

- a) Historical & cultural & religious ties reference
- b) China as mediator.
- c) Thesis: Despite mediation, relations remain strained due to a complex interplay of historical distrust, security dilemmas, recent issues.

2. Major Factors behind the Persistent Tension.

A) security Dilemma.

- i) Presence of TTP & Safe Havens.
- ii) Afghanistan's counter narrative.
- iii) Durand Line Dispute
- iv) Intelligence Rivalry

B) Political and Ideological Divergence

- i) Clash of governance models.
- ii) Recognition and Legitimacy.
- iii) Historical baggage.

C) Economic and Humanitarian challenges.

- i) Refugee crisis.
- ii) Trade and Transit issues.
- iii) water disputes so little

D) The Regional geopolitical dimensions.

- i) India's Role in Afghanistan.
- ii) Limits of Chinese mediation.
- iii) US - withdrawal and Power vacuum

3. Measures for improvement: A way forward.

A) Diplomatic & confidence building measures:

Date: _____

3. Recommendations for a feasible way forwards.

A) Building constitutional and political consensus.

- i) Clarify the constitutional process.
- ii) Bipartisan parliamentary committee.
- iii) Phased approach.

B) Ensuring Fairness and inclusivity.

- i) Administrative, No Ethnic, Basis.
- ii) Transparent resource-making formula.

C) Managing the transition.

- i) ~~cost~~ cost benefit analysis.
- ii) Federal support for setup.
- iii) Public mandate.

conclusion

Q. 3: The formation of new provinces is a recurring discourse in Pakistan. Critically evaluate the hurdles and give recommendations.

Ans.: 1. Introduction:

While the creation of new provinces is often argued for administrative efficiency and political empowerment, the process is fraught with significant constitutional, political, and ethno-nationalist hurdles that requires careful navigation and consensus-building.

2. Critical evaluation of major hurdles.

A) Constitutional and legal hurdles.

- i) High legislative threshold.
- ii) Provincial Assembly's consent.

B) Political and Administrative hurdles.

- i) Lack of political will.
- ii) Inter-provincial and intra-provincial rivalries.
- iii) Administrative Overhaul.

C) Socio-cultural and ethno-nationalist hurdles.

- i) Ethnicity vs administration.
- ii) Opposition from established interests.

D) Economic and Resource-based hurdles.

- i) Division of resources.
- ii) Financial viability.
- iii) Cost of establishment.

- i) Sustained, High level dialogue
- ii) Joint commission on TTD.
- iii) De-escalate the durand line

B) Security cooperation:

- i) Intelligence sharing.
- ii) Coordinated border management.

C) Deepening Economic Interdependence.

- i) Formalize Trade Agreement.
- ii) Energy and Infrastructure projects.
- iii) Managed Refugee Repatriation.

D) Regional and international engagement.

- i) Leverage China & other neutrals.
- ii) Track-II Diplomacy.

Conclusion:

The path to normalization requires pragmatic, step-by-step engagement, prioritizing mutual economic survival and security over historical grievances and zero-sum geopolitical games.