

Subjective - II

Q8

Pakistan - Saudia Arabia have

Signed a historic Defence

Pact - Critically Evaluate?

1. Introduction :-

The Pakistan Saudia Arabia defense deal signed on 17-September 2025. that signals both countries opportunity and entanglement.

Both countries have been ~~His~~ allies for decades Pakistan have sent military trainers to Saudia Arabia for providing Energy and Financial support to Pakistan. Newly pact "Strategic^{mutual} Defence Agreement" (SMDA) between Pakistan and Saudia declares that "any aggression against one will be considered an aggression against both."

2. Causes Of Deal

① Deep rooted bilateral relationship and Mutual dependency

Pakistan and Saudia Arabia share nearly eight decades of defense, economic and religious linkage. Saudia Arabia was among those countries which early recognized Pakistan and signed friendship deal in 1951.

Over the passage of time, Pakistani troops and trainees have served kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and KSA have financially support to Islamabad for energy assistance.

→ The new Pact is seen as the Institutionalization of what has been a special relationship rather than its creation.

For Pakistan, Kingdom has been a lifeline. Oil credit, remittances from its large expatriate population and investment during crisis of economy.

→ For Saudi Arabia, Pakistan offers a battle hardened military, security expertise and in certain conflicts, a proven partner. The defence pact emerged out of this symbiosis.

② Changing Regional Security Environment

The middle East's security architecture is in flux; Israel widening confrontation the US's uncertain commitments, Iran's growing influence and post-Gaza war ripple effects. For example one Israeli media analysis marks the pact as a "watershed" moment in light of recent Israeli air strike on Qatar.

→ For Saudi Arabia's perspective, reliance solely on US security guarantee is no longer sufficient - it seeks diversified security links - For Pakistan, they

environment provides an opportunity to raise its strategic relevance beyond South Asia.

③ Economic & Strategic Necessity for Pakistan

Pakistan is grappling with serious fiscal and foreign exchange pressures, economic fragility and need for investment and credit. Formalising defence ties with Saudi Arabia can be interpreted as part of a Transactional Bargain security for investment. Reports indicate that after the agreement, Pakistan set up an 18 member high level committee to pursue economic advances with the kingdom. In short Pakistan seeks not just a military partner but a stabilised foe for its economy.

④ Deterrence logic and geopolitical Signalling

"Aggression against one is aggression against other" statement of agreement is deterrence posture. Saudi Arabia wants to send a signal to Iran, Israel, Afghanistan and other regional actors that it has credible allies.

→ For Pakistan it is a chance to project deterrence beyond its traditional India-Pak axis.

→ moreover speculation that Pakistan's nuclear umbrella might de facto extend to kingdom amplifies the significance of the pact.

"Reuters" reports that the deal puts Pakistan's nuclear umbrella into middle east security picture.

, Together these causes converge the bilateral history, regional flux economic need and deterrence justification make the pact both understandable and strategically rational from both sides.

Implication of Deal

The deal is looking beneficial for both countries due to following aspects

→ Formalising defense cooperation enhances deterrence. A Joint response commitment could make adversaries pause. Saudi Arabia sees in Pakistan a credible partner given its large standing army and nuclear status.

→ For Pakistan, heightened significance in middle East improves its strategic standing. It is no longer simply a south Asian actor but a partner in Gulf security architecture.

, Another benefit for Pakistan, this deal can strengthen the Pakistan economically by creating opportunities for youth. as an employment expansion to eradicate poverty.

→ This may also leads to Technology Transfer, joint production and investment

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The pact includes talk of training, intelligence sharing and possibly manufacturing.

- Deepening ties of Pak with Saudi Arabia can help Pakistan attract investment, oil credit and improve economic stability.
- Pact also created diplomatic and regional neighbouring implication.
- For Pakistan, it may enhance profit in the muslim world, potential access to new market and defence partnership.
- For Saudi Arabia diversifying security partners signalling independence from US military umbrella forging a stronger deterrent force.
- Global implication and proliferation concerns are also important aspects of pact.
- US & NATO will watch closely the extension of nuclear deterrence of Pakistan's tie up in Gulf. It could signify a multipolar security shift reducing US dominance in Gulf.

Conclusion

SMDA is indeed historic agreement. It offers to Pakistan security relevance and economic hope. To Saudi Arabia, it provide diversified deterrence and muslim world partner. The causes deep bilateral history, regional transformation, economic

independence and deterrence logic are sound and compelling. The success is dependent on implementation, clarity of scope, resource mobilization and careful diplomatic neighbouring management.

Q2 PAK Afghan Relations----

Introduction:-

Though Pakistan and Afghanistan share deep cultural, ethnic and historical ties, their bilateral relationship has repeatedly been troubled. The recent escalation in October 2025 marks one of the sharpest crises since the fall of previous Afghan government. Despite mediation efforts, by China and other regional actors, the underlying causes of tension remain unresolved.

=> Major Factors underlying the Tensions

① Rise of Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP)

The most important trigger of recent tensions is rise of TTP. October 2025, crisis was Islamabad's long standing complaints that militants of TTP

operate from Afghanistan Territory with tacit or overt protection - Pakistan claims that the Afghan Taliban government failed to act decisively. In Oct 2025, security forces in Pakistan reported that attacks ~~from~~ ^{from} Afghan soil surged promoted air strikes by Pakistan inside Afghan.

In 11-12 October, Afghan Taliban attacked Pakistani border posts which Pakistan called breach of its sovereignty.

② Unresolved Issue of Durand Line

Pakistan and Afghanistan shares a common border of 2640 km named "Durand Line" that still remain disputed among both countries its is major cause of tension.

Pakistan regard this international boundary but Afghanistan challenged its legitimacy. This unresolved issue add mistrust.

③ Strategic realignment and External Influence

Afghanistan's dialogue with Indian Foreign Minister in Delhi preceived as a threat of encirclement by Pakistan.

Afghanistan and India realigned against Pakistan and India is using Afghan proxy and supporting TTP and TTA against Pakistan.

(4) Economic and Humanitarian dimension

Pakistan is hosting Afghan Refugees from decades. Recently, the government started sending back undocumented Afghans, saying it was necessary for security reasons. Afghanistan took this as unfair and politically driven.

② Improvements / Way Forward

① Diversify mediation

China remain an important mediator, the involvement of multilateral forum like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and OIC can provide structure and legitimacy.

② Institutionalized cooperation for security

There should establish a Joint Border Commission (JBC) with Pakistani and Afghan agents as well as third party (China, Turkey) monitors to verify cross border movement.

③ Narrative and Confidence building

Islamabad and Kabul should engage in people to people diplomacy, cultural

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exchanges, joint media programs.

Conclusion

Tension between Afghanistan and Pakistan continue because of security, border and refugee issues. Pakistan's action are mainly for safety and security but Afghanistan is mistaking this. Afghan got support from external allies like India Against Pakistan. There should be mediation of third party to resolve security, refugees and border issues.

Q4 Dangreous Revival of Military in KP.....

Introduction

Pakistan is once again facing trouble due to military resurgence in KP and Balochistan. After many operations to counter terrorism like Zarb-E-Azab and Rad-ul-Basol, some years went of calm but these areas reappeared militant terrorist force that attacked on Pakistan Forces, government officials and many civilians. The revival is not only a military forces security issue but also threatens Economic stability and national security of Pakistan.

Major Causes of Revival

① Spillover from Afghanistan

In 2021, Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan dramatically changed the regional security landscape. Groups like Tehreek E Taliban Pakistan found new and safe havens across borders from where they can attack on Pakistan.

② Weak Governance and Law Enforcement

Both provinces suffer from administrative in-efficiency, weak policy system and corruption. That remains major causes of their revival.

③ Political Marginalization

many baloch feel politically excluded from decision making in Islamabad. The lack of genuine representation in national policies concerning resource management. particularly in mining and energy sectors. has deepened resentment.

→ In KP's tribal belt, communities displaced during military operations feel neglected and unrewarded despite their sacrifices.

④ Economic Deprivation and Youth Unemployment

KP and Balochistan, both rank lowest in Pakistan's Human Development Index (HDI). High poverty rates, limited access to education and scarce job opportunities leave many young people vulnerable to recruitment by militant groups that offer money, identity and sense of belonging.

5) Cross Border Terror Networks & Funding

The resurgence of militancy is also linked to the regional smuggling economy - drugs, weapons and minerals, which finances extremist groups.

6) Ideological Radicalization

The proliferation of unregulated madrassas, extremist online content and sectarian propaganda continues to promote radical worldviews. Locals influenced by Jihadist ideologies that glorify the violence.

= Consequences

- Renewed attacks on security personnel and infrastructure undermine national security.
- Fear and instability.
- Negative image of Pakistan globally.
- Humanitarian crisis grows as displacement, poverty,

Recommendations

① Strengthen border security and intelligence cooperation

→ Pakistan must enhance border fencing, surveillance and intelligence sharing with Afghanistan to prevent infiltration.

② Effective civilian Government

The state must ensure that the military operation are followed by strong civilian administration, police presence and access to justice. Local governments should be empowered and funded to deliver basic services to restore trust.

③ Political Inclusion & Dialogue

The grievances of marginalized communities must be addressed through political dialogues. In Balochistan, genuine negotiations with nationalist leaders can be useful to resolve issue.

④ De Radicalization and Counter Narrative

Should launch sustained deradicalization programs that combine psychological counseling, religious re education and skill development.

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5) Strengthening Law Enforcement and Judicial Reforms

should train and equip police forces in counter-terrorism operation, improve coordination with intelligence agencies and ensure timely prosecution of terror cases through special courts

Conclusion

The revival of militancy in KP and Balochistan is not merely a law and order challenge but reflection of deeper structural and political crisis. Ignoring its underlying causes will allow extremists to resurface in new forms. Pakistan must adopt a holistic approach that combines targeted security operations with inclusive governance, socio-economic justice and regional cooperation.

Q3

Formation of New Provinces

Introduction

The demand for the creation of new provinces has been a recurring political debate in Pakistan since independence. It reflects the country's

diverse ethnic, linguistic and cultural composition as well as persists issues of unequal development and political marginalization. Some people advocates and some oppose the narrative due to opportunities and challenges

Hurdles

(1) Constitutional & Legal Complexities

- The creation of new province in Pakistan requires 2rd majority in both houses of ³ Parliament along with approval from the concerned provincial assembly under Article 239 (4) of constitution. This high constitutional threshold ensures stability but also makes reforms politically difficult. For instance, the Punjab Assembly's reluctance to endorse the division of Punjab into new province has stalled the south Punjab proposal despite political consensus at the federal level.
- Additionally, there is no clear constitutional procedure for determining new boundaries sharing assets or reallocate civil servants.

(2) Political Resistance and Power Interests

One of major hurdles is resistance from existing provincial elites who

fear losing Political influence, administrative control and financial resources. Political parties often use the 'new Province' slogans to gain electoral mileage rather than genuinely pursue the administrative reform -

→ For example call for Hazara or South Punjab Provinces intensify near elections but fade afterwards.

B) Ethnic and Linguistic Sensitivities

Pakistan's provincial boundaries often align with linguistic and ethnic identities. Therefore, any attempt to redraw these boundaries risk provoking identity based politics.

C) Lack of Public Awareness

The debate on new provinces is often emotionally charged but poorly informed. There is a limited research on how smaller province unit have improved governance in other federations like India and Nigeria.

D) Fear of National Fragmentation

Pakistan's traumatic experience of Partition in 1971 still influence Policy making. Many political leaders

fear that further division along ethnic or linguistic line could encourage separatism.

Recommendations

- There should have a comprehensive constitutional framework.
- There should be broad based political consensus.
- There should be an objective criteria to define ethnic, non ethnic and population and size for new provinces.
- Local Government should be empowered under Article 140-A to decentralized the power effectively.
- Fiscal Reforms and Proper resource management, revise NFC award etc.
- Public dialogue and research based Policy should adopted.

Conclusion

The formation of new provinces in Pakistan is legitimate but complex aspiration while it promise better governance political inclusion and balanced development but also carries serious problems like constitutional development and administrative challenges. If handle wisely, the creation of new provinces can strengthen the national integration.