

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS (SEC-II)

Q4:

INTRODUCTION: The Taliban's return in August 2021 transformed Pakistan-Afghanistan relations from a state of uneasy cooperation with a Western backed Kabul to complex, transactional and security centered relationship. The trajectory since 2021 is characterized by conscious engagement, episodic escalation over the frontier, intensifying migration pressure and shifting regional architecture in which Pakistan must manage China, Iran, Russia and other actors' growing role in Afghanistan.

SUMMARY OF OVERALL TRAJECTORY:

1) Initial outreach and pragmatic engagement (2021-22)

Pakistan adopted largely pragmatic posture - recognizing the changed reality, pushing for stability and engaging diplomatically while pressing the Taliban to curb cross border military activity.

2) Frictions and Enforcement (2022-24) Rising militant attack attributed to Afghan based groups and tensions along the Durand Line prompted Islamabad to harden measures, tighten border control, visa/passport rules and crackdown on undocumented Afghans.

3) Escalation and Competition (2024-2025)

Cross border incidents targeted strikes and high profile security operations produced reciprocal rhetoric and intermittent clashes raising bilateral distrust while economic and diplomatic connectivity efforts remained continued at a limited pace.

1) DYNAMICS & IMPACTS OF BORDER SECURITY

* DYNAMICS: Durand Line remained the principal fault line. Pakistan has repeatedly accused Afghan territory of harbouring militants (TTP and allied groups) who launch attacks at Pakistan. Islamabad has responded with military operations, increased frontier fortification and selective cross border strikes. These measures intensified from 2023-2025.

* IMPACT OF BILATERAL TIES:

- 1) Trust Deficit: Security incidents have deepened mutual suspicions.
- 2) Operational Friction vs Diplomacy: Pakistan's kinetic responses produces short term disruptions but complicate long term political engagement and risk escalation.
- 3) Domestic Politics and Securitization: Border security became domestic political priority

in Pakistan.

2) REFUGEE ISSUE SCALE & CONSEQUENCES:

* SCALE: Post 2021 displacement and secondary migration have raised Pakistan's refugee population. Pakistan hosts large numbers of registered Afghans and estimates suggests additional hundreds and thousands arrived after 2021. Waves of deportation and deaths have observed mass return and enforced departure in 2023-2025.

* IMPACTS ON BILATERAL TIES:

- 1) Humanitarian and Diplomatic Strains: Forced repatriation and expires of Afghan citizen cards and deadlines to leave have generated friction with Kabul and criticism from international agencies.
- 2) Domestic Security Linkage: Islamabad links refugee control to counter-terrorism, arguing that undocumented population can be exploited by militants.
- 3) Burden on Afghanistan: Large, fast returns strains Kabul's limited capacity and can feed instability inside Afghanistan. It's a feedback loop that ultimately harm Pakistan's security aim by creating fragile borders.

REGIONAL REALIGNMENT:

TRENDS:

- China's Increasing Outreach: China has sought to anchor Afghanistan into regional connectivity (through proposals to extend CPEC links) and to deepen economic engagement with Afghanistan.

- Russia and Iran Engagement: Moscow and Tehran have extended pragmatic dealings with Taliban on security and economic matters; multilateral fora and quadrilateral talks (Pakistan, Russia, China, Iran) reflect a new regionally led approach to Afghanistan.

Reduced Western Leverages with diminishing Western presence, regional powers grew influence.

IMPLICATIONS FOR BILATERAL TIES:

- 1) Leverage and constraints: Regional actors like China, Iran, and Russia give Kabul alternative partners limiting Pakistan's unilateral influence.
- 2) Mixed prospects: New regional frameworks offer chances for trade and border cooperation but also create competition for influence.

2) Policy Shift: Pakistan now operates as one among several stakeholders requiring balance diplomacy that targets security cooperation with economic engagements.

Q8: POLITICAL & SOCIAL IDEOLOGIES IN PAKISTAN MOVEMENT:

INTRODUCTION: Between 1930-1947 Pakistan movement evolved from a political struggle for Muslim rights into mass demand for a separate homeland. The shift was driven by political and ideological movement that emphasized Muslim identity, cultural distinctiveness and the need for self determination. Three defining events - The Allahabad Address, Congress Ministries of 1937 and The Lahore Resolution - transformed these ideas into political reality.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL IDEOLOGIES:

Muslim political thought during this period was grounded in "Two-Nation Theory" asserting that Hindus and Muslims were two different nations with their own religious, cultural and social systems.

ISLAMIC IDENTITY: Became the unifying social

ideology among Muslims.

POLITICAL SEPARATISM: Emerged as the guiding principle driven by fears of Hindu domination in democratic India.

Both these ideologies gave coherence and direction to Muslims' nationalism under All India Muslim League.

THE ALLAHABAD ADDRESS (1930):

Allama Iqbal's address at Allahabad provided a philosophical foundation for a separate Muslim homeland.

- He envisioned self governing Muslim majority provinces in Northwest India.

- Iqbal's concept linked religion with politics and proposed Islamic principles should shape governance and society.

This addressed and transformed Muslims' identity into political goal.

THE CONGRESS MINISTRIES: (1937-1939)

The Congress victory in national election exposed the illusion of Hindu-Muslim coexistence.

- Discriminatory policies, promotion of "Vande Mataram" and Hindu bias in administration created

resentment among Muslims.

- These experiences convinced Muslims that constitutional safeguards were insufficient, strengthening the demand for complete political autonomy.

THE LAHORE RESOLUTION (1940):

The Lahore Resolution gave formal political expression to the ideological evolution.

- It demanded independent states in Muslim majority areas.
- This marked the transition of minority rights to nationhood and sovereignty.
- It unified diverse Muslim factions under the Muslim League's leadership and set final direction towards Pakistan.

CONCLUSION: From 1930-1947, the Pakistan

Movement was shaped by ideological blend of Islamic identity, political self determination and reaction to Hindu majoritarian politics.

Q6 ROLE OF IDEOLOGY IN PAKISTAN'S NATION BUILDING PROCESS:

INTRODUCTION: Ideology has been central to Pakistan's nation-building. It supplied the moral purpose, legitimacy and identity for the new state created in 1947. From the Two-Nation Theory and the Objective Resolution to later state policies, competing readings of what Pakistan meant - A Muslim homeland, Islamic state or civic nation - shaped institutions, law, education and politics. The ideological debate has therefore been both constituted and contested.

ROLE OF IDEOLOGY IN NATION BUILDING:

- 1) **FOUNDATIONAL LEGITIMACY:** Two-Nation Theory and the Objective Resolution (1949) provided the constitutional and moral basis for Pakistan, linking statehood to Muslim identity and framing the purpose of governance.
- 2) **STATE IDENTITY AND LAW:** Ideology guided constitutional development, influenced legal framework and justified special protection for

Muslims culture and institutions.

- 3) **SOCIAL COHESION AND MOBILIZATION:** Ideological narratives (Islamic identity, Muslim nationalism) were used to mobilize support, forge elite consensus and create national symbols, educational curriculum and public rituals.
- 4) **SOURCE OF POLITICAL LEGITIMACY:** Political parties and military repeatedly invoked ideological claims religious legitimacy or guardianship of ideology to justify rules, reform or repression.

EVOLUTION OF INTERPRETATION OVERTIME:

- 1) **Early Period (1947-1958)** Formative and Plural: The initial phase balanced Islamic ideals with modern, territorial statehood, debates remained open between secular and religious conservatism.
- 2) **Constitutional Consolidation (1960-1973)** Ideological Negotiation: Under Ayub Khan and later Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, ideology was instrumentalized for developmental goals while the 1973 constitution attempted to synthesize Islamic character with parliamentary democracy.

3) ZIA ERA (1977-1988) JURIDICAL ISLAMIZATION

A decisive shift - state led Islamization redefined ideology into legal and institutional terms, narrowing pluralist interpretations and empowering religious actors.

4) POST ZIA PLURALISM V/S RADICAL NARRATIVES:

Democratic, political and civil society pushed for plural, rights based reading while militancy and conservative forces pressed stricter often exclusionary versions of Islam in society and state practices.

5) CONTEMPORARY PHASE (2010 - present)

Ideology remains salient but is increasingly balanced against security imperatives, economic pragmatism (eg CPEC) and rights discourse. Debates are now focused towards inclusive citizenship minority protection and whether ideological identity should be civic.

CONCLUSION: Ideology has been the engine and arena of Pakistan - nation building. It legitimized state formation, shaped laws and institutions and mobilised society.

Q7:

INTRODUCTION: Pakistan's inclusion among the world's top 20 climate vulnerable countries (V20) reflects not only external climate shocks but also internal policy and development failures. While global climate change intensifies hazards, it is Pakistan's environmentally hazardous development model that amplifies their impacts and sustains its vulnerability.

PAKISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT MODEL AS CORE CAUSE

1) **UNSUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION:** Rapid unregulated expansion of cities has destroyed natural drainage systems turning heavy rains into urban floods.

2) **DEFORESTATION AND LAND MISUSE:** Forest cover has now fallen below 5%, aggravating soil erosion, flash floods and loss of biodiversity.

3) **WATER MISMANAGEMENT:** Over reliance on canal irrigation and ground water exploitation has degraded water tables and intensified drought cycles.

4) INDUSTRIAL AND ENERGY PRACTICES:

Dependence on fossil fuels and poorly regulated industries contributes to pollution and health hazards weakening resilience.

5) WEAK ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE:

Fragmented institutions, poor enforcement of laws, and lack of disaster preparedness transforms natural hazards into human disasters.

Thus while climate change act as a trigger, Pakistan's internal development choices determine the scale of destruction and recovery capacity.

STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

1) INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS: Establish a National Resilience Authority to unify climate environment and disaster function under one framework.

2) CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE: Enforce risk based construction and integrate drainage, flood zoning and heat adaptation into urban planning.

3) WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Promote efficient irrigation, regulate groundwater extraction and invest in small reservoir and recharge projects.

4) ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION: Launch large scale afforestation and watershed rehabilitation linked with community based employment.

5) CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION: Expand renewable energy, incentive green industry and gradually phase out fossil fuels subsidies.

6) LOCAL PREPAREDNESS AND SOCIAL SAFETY NETS: Strengthen early warning systems and provide immediate financial relief to disaster hit population.

7) ACCOUNTABILITY AND FINANCE: Tie climate funds to governance reforms and transparent climate risk reporting.

CONCLUSION: In essence Pakistan's environmental hazardous development model -not climate change alone -keeps it among the most vulnerable nations.

By reforming its growth patterns, governance & management Pakistan can be made a climate resilient nation.