

Exam

Name:-

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Question:- 8:-

Pakistan Saudi Arabia have signed a historic defense pact. Critically evaluate the causes and implications of the deal?

Answer:-

Pakistan Saudi Arabia Security Agreement

The pact was signed in September 2025. It is driven by various factors. This agreement marks a significant escalation in their long-standing security relationship, solidifying their commitment to mutual defense and regional stability. It is not made public yet due to which terms and conditions of the agreement are not known. It ~~may~~ can/may be a defense support in form of weapon or training of soldiers or deployment of troops or even a nuclear security umbrella is offered by Pakistan to Saudi Arabia, no one knows.

- Political reconciliation with Baloch leaders and addressing core grievances is crucial but difficult due to mutual mistrust and competing interests with the Baloch nationalist landscape.
- In KP, improved coordination between federal and provincial governments could improve counter militancy strategies.

2) Socio-economic Development:-

Addressing socio economic deprivation and including local populations in major projects like CPEC could reduce the appeal of militancy. However, such developmental initiatives must be coupled with transparent governance and equitable resource sharing.

3) Counter Narrative and Integration:-

Reintegrating programs for former militants and counter-narratives to extremist ideology can reduce recruitment but these require sustained investment and multi-sectoral cooperation.

4) Reform Justice System:-

Conduct a thorough examination of why past attempts to reform the criminal justice system have failed and work to create a more responsive and effective system.

Conclusion:-

The revival is multi-faceted, rooted in political exclusion, socio-economic neglect, and flawed security policies.

c) US withdrawal from Afghanistan:-

The US withdrawal allowed groups like TTP to regain strength and operate more freely, which has spread to other areas like Balochistan.

D) Tactical causes:-

Militants have adapted their tactics to include suicide bombings, hijackings and expanded attacks beyond traditional hotspots to cities like Karachi and Punjab broadening their impact. Increased coordination among factions and the radicalization of insurgents have strengthened militant resolve and capacity as well as expanded their social base beyond traditional tribal structures to include educated middle-class supporters.

Recommendations:-

1) Political engagement and Dialogue:-

- Integrate political and military solutions:-
 Develop policies that go beyond military operations to include dialogue, economic inclusion etc.

• Strengthen local governance:-

Addressing power vacuums by improving local governance and strengthening the capacity of local institutions to provide services and manage affairs.

- Weak governance:

The ineffectiveness of old governance systems and the absence of effective local governance structures have created power vacuums that militant groups exploit.

The fragmentation and re-consolidation of militant factions in both provinces, with coordinated alliances like BRAs in Balochistan increase operational sophistication and threat scope.

B) ^{economic} ~~Socio-economic~~ and Grievance-Based Causes:-

- Economic Marginalization:

Economic underdevelopment, lack of infrastructure, and spillage effects of major projects like CPEC without adequate local inclusion intensify Baloch resentment, making militancy a vehicle for political expression and economic redress.

- The use of militant - controlled ~~groups~~ governance and courts in tribal areas undermines state control and legitimacy, creating alternative power centres that feed militants' influence.

- **Persistent internal vulnerability**:-

Existing internal vulnerabilities like a ~~at~~ lack of comprehensive national security policies contribute to the ongoing problem.

In KP, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and other groups have re-established their presence in areas including South and North Waziristan and other parts of Khyber. Violence has increased sharply, targeting military, paramilitary and police forces. The revival includes re-emergence of Taliban training and recruiting centers. The overall resurgence of militancy reflects the failure to eradicate these groups fully and points to the need for a comprehensive ~~militancy~~ political and military strategy to address grievances and restore stability.

Reasons of revival of militancy:-

A) Political Factors:-

In KP, Political instability and strained civil-military relations weaken coherent governance and security responses, allowing militant groups like TTP to regroup and expand operations by exploiting local grievances and mistrust of authorities.

• Political marginalization:-

In Balochistan, decades of political marginalization, lack of genuine political reconciliation, and failure to address Baloch nationalist demands ~~of~~ fuel separatist militancy. The state's reliance on militarized approach and repression instead of meaningful political dialogue has intensified resistance.

ensuring smooth transition and management.

Conclusion:-

Formation of new provinces in Pakistan faces significant constitutional, political, ethnic, economic and administrative hurdles that requires careful navigation. A combination of constitutional reforms, inclusive national dialogue, federal decentralization, and economic planning are essential to overcome these barriers.

Question: 4:

There is a dangerous revival of militancy in KP and Balochistan. Critically evaluate the reasons and give recommendations?

Answers:-

Introduction:

There is indeed a dangerous revival of militant militancy in KP and Balochistan. The insurgency in **Balochistan** has intensified sharply, marked by sophisticated attacks such as the latter express kidnapping in March 2023, which resulted in many hostages and casualties. Various militancy factions like Baloch liberation Army, ~~Free~~ faction etc. are conducting suicide bombings, seizing territories temporarily and targeting Chinese nationals and CPEC projects. The militants have escalated attacks, including suicide bombings involving both men and ~~women~~ women and have expanded operations beyond Balochistan, notably in Karachi and parts of Sindh and Punjab.

addressing the issue and reducing political debates.

2) Promoting National Dialogue and Consensus

Engage all stakeholders, including federal and provincial governments, political parties, ethnic groups, and civil society, in dialogue to create an inclusive consensus on the criteria and process for new provinces.

3) Decentralization and Federal Reforms

Strengthen provincial autonomy through federal reforms, diminishing centralized control and enhancing governance at provincial and local levels, making the creation of new provinces less contentious by addressing autonomy concerns.

4) Economic Feasibility Studies

Conduct detailed economic and administrative feasibility studies before creating new provinces to ensure financial viability and equitable resource distribution, avoiding economic instability.

5) Learning from Comparative Models

Pakistan could draw lessons from India's linguistic-based state formation, which strengthened federalism and governance, ensuring that new provinces in Pakistan also foster national integration rather than division.

6) Gradual and Phased Approach

Instead of sudden creation, adopt a phased approach with administrative separations such as regional secretariats or autonomous regions, as interim steps toward full provincial status.

and governance challenges. ~~retire these concerns~~ pose ~~significant obstacles, they can be~~

5) Centralization of Power:-

strong centralization limits provincial autonomy and creates resistance to decentralization. Power through new provinces. Central governments often prioritize maintaining central over accommodating regional aspirations. This diminishes the provinces' ability to manage their own resources, policies and developmental agendas, fostering grievances and demands for smaller or new provinces perceived as better representatives of regional identities. This also stems from the political culture of overdeveloped state central overshadowing a relatively underdeveloped civil society at the provincial level, contributing to ongoing ethnic and regional tensions.

b) lack of National consensus:-

The absence of hard-based national agreement across political, ethnic and regional lines hinders progress of the issue. National consensus is crucial for constitutional amendments required for new provinces.

Recommendations for addressing the Issue:-

1) Establishment of a constitutional commission:-

Regular appointment of a constitutional commission (every 10-20 years) to review demands and propose solutions for new provinces can provide a structured, legal framework for

PPC have shown opposition to new provinces making constitutional amendments and consensus politically unfeasible. These divergent interests, combined with the constitutional requirement of two-thirds majority in both houses of parliament and approval from the concerned provincial assembly, creating formidable political and legal barriers. The politicization of the issue detracts from alternative solutions which might more effectively address regional disparities without fracturing the federation.

3) Ethnic and linguistic identities:-

These identities fuel demands for new provinces based on identity politics, however, these demands can lead to regionalism and inter-ethnic tensions, making it politically sensitive and challenging to create boundaries that satisfy all groups. Drawing boundaries is difficult due to overlapping settlements and competing claims, often risking ethnic polarization and conflict. While demands for new provinces may promote political recognition for marginalized communities, they also risk deepening divisions in an already fragmented society. Such identity based provincialism may undermine national cohesion and encourage exclusionary politics.

4) Economic and Administrative concerns:-

Economic implications, including resource distribution and financial viability of new provinces, pose significant hurdles. Existing provinces fear loss of resources, while new provinces may struggle with initial underdevelopment.

and devolving power might be a more effective solution without the need for new provinces.

Creating new provinces requires amendments and national consensus which makes the process more complex. The discourse reflects underlying issues of ethnic identity, resource allocation, administrative efficiency and political control which requires a careful, fact-based debate for a viable solution.

Hurdles in the formation of New Provinces:-

Following are some of the main hurdles in the formation of New Provinces:-

1- Constitutional and legal barriers:-

The 1973 constitution of Pakistan makes the creation of new provinces difficult, requiring significant constitutional amendments and national consensus for any such change. This constitutional rigidity limits flexibility in addressing regional demands for new provinces. The key legal barrier is Article 239, as it mandates that any bill to create a new province or alter provincial boundaries must be passed by a two-thirds majority in both houses of Parliament. Additionally, the Provincial Assembly of the affected province must approve the bill by a two-thirds majority of its total membership.

2- Political complexity and partisan interests:-

Political parties often use the issue of new provinces for electoral gains, which leads to politicization rather than genuine resolution. Conflicts of interests among major regional political groups and ethnic parties complicate consensus-building for new provinces. For instance, parties like PML-N and

PART-II

Question: 3:

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

Answer:-

Introduction:-

The formation of new provinces in ~~Pakistan~~ has been a recurring issue in Pakistan's political discourse, driven by ethnic, linguistic and administrative factors. Pakistan is a federal state, but the spirit of true federalism is still evolving, with continued tensions over resource distribution and provincial autonomy. The debate intensified after the renaming of NWFP to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which sparked demands such as the creation of a Hazara Province and a South Punjab province, as well as demands for provincial status for Bahawalpur. Political parties, media and civil society actively engage in this discourse, with the National Assembly passing resolutions in favor of new provinces and political parties proposing national commissions to demarcate them.

Some argue that new provinces could better represent ethnic minorities, improve governance, and decentralize power and address regional underdevelopment. Opponents, however, warn against ethnic fragmentation, increased administrative costs, and political manipulation under the guise of reforms. They argue that empowering local governments

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