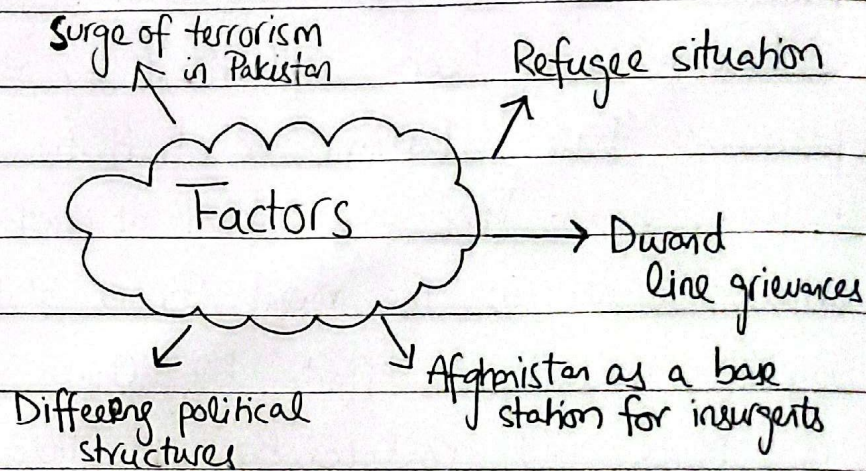


Ans 2) A) INTRODUCTION

Pakistan and Afghanistan share a 2,640 km border called as the Durand Line. They are situated next to each other, share an rich and history full of cooperation and collaboration, yet it has always been undermined by the prevailing tense situation and hostility between them. They have been at each other's throats in the recent times and despite mediation efforts by China to see peace and collaboration in the region, the situation between them remains tense. A lot of that has to do with the refugee situation, the recent surge of terrorism in Pakistan and Afghanistan's support of the terrorist outfits. Furthermore, the porous border between them and the unpredictability of policies of the Afghan Taliban regime continue to make matters worse for both the countries. Peace and settlements are only possible through mutual consensus and

and adherence of both parties along with a commitment towards ensuring peace in the region.

B) FACTORS for tense relations between Pakistan & Afghanistan



i) Surge of terrorism in Pakistan and Taliban's lack of action:-

There has been a recent surge of terrorism in Pakistan mainly in the North-West region of Pakistan along the border with Afghanistan, and the terrorist outfits responsible for it, the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan reside in Afghanistan and are not being retaliated against.

by the Taliban regime. This has led to an increased hostility between the two countries:

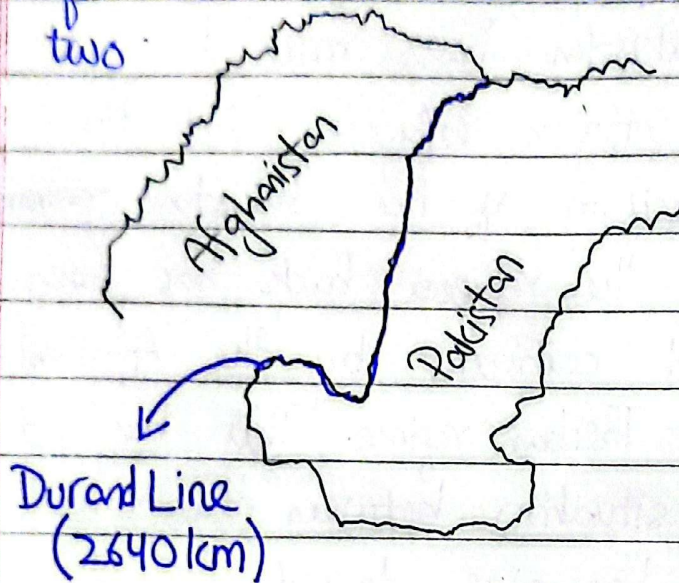
ii) The refugee situation has seen the relationship deteriorates-

Pakistan hosts more than 2 million Afghan refugees. But the recent decision of the Pakistani government to send the refugees back has been met with criticism by the Afghans and the Taliban regime. This has led to the situation between the two countries becoming tense.

iii) The Durand Line remains a grievance of the Afghans:-

The Durand line was established by the British upon consensus and acceptance of both the Pakistan and Afghanistan. Yet, years since the establishment of the border, the Afghans refuse to accept the border officially. They claim areas in

the ICP and Balochistan province of Pakistan, and use it as a grievance against Pakistan. This grievance of theirs on territory demarcation remains one of the primary reasons for tense conditions between the two.



iv) Usage of Afghanistan by India for activities of insurgency in Pakistan:-

Afghanistan according to sources, is one of the base stations of Indian institutions which conduct insurgency operations against Pakistan. The porous border of Pakistan and Afghanistan is utilised by these

insurgents to enter into Pakistan and conduct illegal activities, whether they be terrorist or intelligence operations.

v) Differing Political Structures:-

The political structures and systems of both the countries are extremely different. Pakistan's system is liberal democracy and ensurance of secularism upto some extent whereas, Afghanistan enjoys conservative rule of the Talibans. The methodology, the people channel adhered for decision making are extremely different due to which allignment of visions is not achieved in matters pertaining both the countries and the situation remains tense.

c) WAY FORWARD FOR PAKISTAN AFGHAN RELATIONS:-

i) Bilateral cooperation against terrorism :-

Terrorism is one of the primary cause for the tensions between the two countries and therefore needs to be nipped in the bud. Both the countries should cooperate with each other bilaterally. Engage in intelligence, arms, and military personnel sharing and rid this region of terrorism. Only then, can the relations between the two be improved.

ii) Increased trade engagements :-

The recent times have seen multiple trade disruptions between the two countries. This has led to economic losses for both the countries. Moving forward & both the countries should increase their trade engagements and sign a free-trade agreement to enhance trade and improve relations between the countries.

Day _____
Date _____

iii)

People to people engagements and exchange programs:

The commencement of exchange programs would see more interaction between the populations of both countries. This would help bust the pre-conceived notions against each others and foster relationship building between the two countries.

iv) Dealing with the Afghan refugees-

The current behaviour of the Pakistani government with the Afghan refugees residing in Pakistan has been very strict. Keeping in mind most of them have lived in Pakistan for their entire lives, they should be given more time to leave for their country, the government should also facilitate them in their journey out of the country rather than order them.

D) CONCLUSION

The Pak-Afghan relations have seen the high of highs and the lows of lows. They have remained extremely volatile since the British left and it is upto the governmental authorities of both the countries to soothe them. Both the countries are immediate neighbors of each others and therefore, peace is uncompromisable. It is only through mutual resolution of issues and grievances that both can achieve betterment in their relationship.

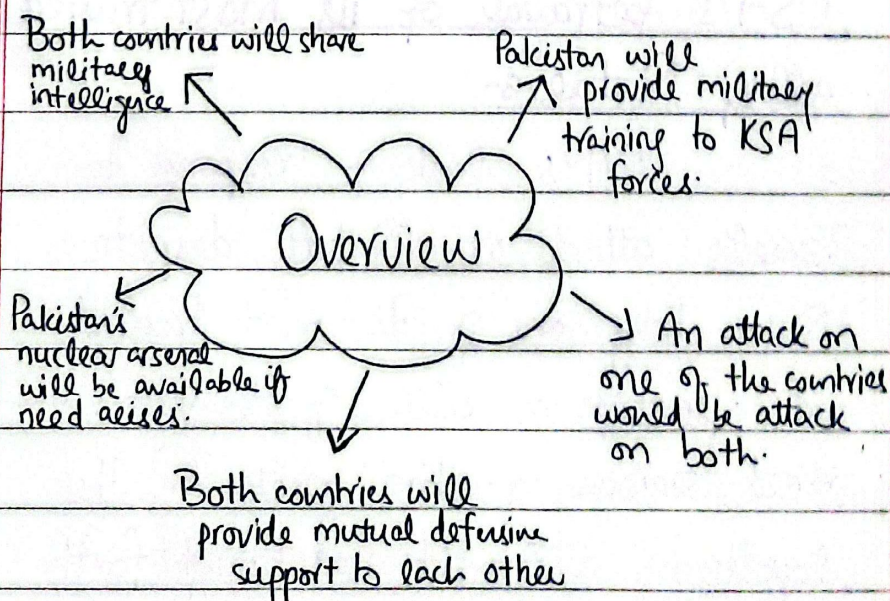


ns8) A) INTRODUCTION

The Israeli Defense Forces attack on Qatar, Doha on the 9th September, 2025 was one of the most perplexing and shocking incidents the world has ever witnessed. It sent ripples of shock throughout the

entire globe so much so that the entire region had geopolitical realignment. It also revealed one new insecurity of the entire middle east, which was a lack of security from the Israeli regime. The USA had failed one of its most trusted ally in Qatar, and this new emergence of insecurity from Israel, was primarily the reason for the signing of the historic defense pact between the Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

B) PAK-SAUDI DEFENSE PACT OVERVIEW



Day: _____
Date: _____

c)

CAUSES FOR SIGNING THE DEAL

i) Israel's erratic behaviour in the Middle-East:-

After Gaza and completely dismantling it, Israel still hasn't showed signs of slowing down. Its continued attacks on Lebanon, Syria, and now Qatar have jeopardised the security of the entire region and therefore, a deal needed to be signed which aims to put a leash on the Israeli aggression.

ii) USA's betrayal of its most trusted ally, Qatar:-

USA's lack of response to Israel's attack on Qatar, despite Qatar being one of its most trusted and prestigious allies of the region raised serious question marks on the loyalty of USA. It had brought forth the reality check for the gulf states.

that against Israel, the USA would not help them. Therefore, to ensure the security of themselves against Israel, Saudi Arabia signed the pact with Pakistan.

iii) Lack of capacity of Saudi Arabia's army:-

The military is not one of the strongest suits of Saudi Arabia and therefore, for their military's capacity building and training they turned towards employing the help of one of the greatest armies in the world, Pakistan.

iv) Provision of Nuclear Umbrella:-

Pakistan is the only country with a nuclear arms. Considering the USA had remained mostly silent on Israeli aggression, the Saudi Arabia desperately required a nuclear umbrella for itself to shield it as use or deterrence against Israel, which is a nuclear state. Therefore, this defence pact between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia was the need of the

how.

D) IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEFENSE PACT

i) Betterment of relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia:-

The defense pact has led to a betterment of relations between the two states. An evidence of it could be seen the ministerial visits of Saudi Arabians to Pakistan. Furthermore, this has led to both the countries effectively engaging in diplomatic ties and value-aligned initiatives.

ii) Deterrence provided to Israel:-

The defense pact has caused deterrence to Israel, by providing a nuclear umbrella to Saudi Arabia. Furthermore, it has erased the insecurity of the Arabians from Israel.

“

An attack on one country will be considered an attack on both.”

iii) A shot at revival of muslim alliances:-

This recent defense pact has started generating a discourse on a possible all-muslim alliance which is the need of the hour for the muslim countries and the global-south. Based on the success of this defense pact, new alliances and pacts of the muslim world could form, leading to a possibility of unification of the muslim ummah, in the distant future.

iv) A diplomatic and geo-strategic win for Pakistan:-

The choice of Pakistan by the Saudi Arabia for provision of defense was a monumental geo-strategic success for Pakistan. This cements Pakistan's reputation in the world for being excellent in combat and will help deter any uninvited advances from adversaries in the future.

v) A dilemma for the USA 8-

The Saudi Arabian pivot towards Pakistan for ensurance of defense when USA were supposed to provide them with it, is a humiliation for the USA. It firmly announces that the USA failed miserably in doing its job and is being replaced. This proves to be a dilemma for the USA on whether it should side with its ally Israel or the gulf states.

E) CONCLUSION

The Pak-Saudi defense pact was a historic agreement between the two which had implications and far reaching outcomes. Israel's unnecessary and violent actions against everyone in its proximity and USA's failure in providing security to its closest allies meant this pact was the need of the hour. It ensures the security of Saudi Arabia and moves us closer towards the betterment of relations of

Day: _____

Date: _____

Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and an
unformidable muslim alliance.