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Muhammad
Tahir
RWP - Batch 72

Current Affairs
Mock test

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(Question 02)

Pak-Afghan relation
continue to remain
these tense even after
mediation by china.
what are major factor
and how could it be
improved?

Introduction:

Relations b/w ~~th~~ Afghanistan
and Pakistan
have been strained
repeatedly. cross-border
firings, militant incursion
, refugees flow and mutual
distrust are major themes.
Recent ceasefire efforts
by third-party mediation
have reduced violence
at time but not have
fixed root cause.

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major factors (Analysis)

(1) militant sanctuaries and cross border attack:

Pak accused Taliban Regime in Afghanistan of not preventing TTP and other militant groups from using Afghan soil to strike inside Pakistan. This leads to military responses and fuels public anger.

(2) weak-border management and porous terrain:

The Durand line is rugged with mixed tribal population and limited state presence making control, policing, and intelligence cooperation difficult.

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(3) Political trust deficit:

Historical grievances produce low political trust. Each cross-border incident deepens suspicion and lead to tit for tat rhetoric.

(4) local grievance and displacement:

Military violence and operations displace civilian on both sides. Wharase humanitarian aid refugees issue add friction.

(5) Competing external influences:

Regional powers in Afghanistan and Pakistan complicate bilateral initiatives.

Then why mediation is not enough?

After mediation by China FM Wang Li with Ishaq Dar and Amir

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Khan mutaqi, situation hasnot yet changed.

Recent clache blu both countries are evidences

Mediation can produce ceasefire or agreement but without onground verification, incentives for local commanders and institutional mechanism, agreement quickly fail. TTP is unable to dismental or dissuade TTP attack.

measures to improve relations:

1) Formalize a joint border management mechanism by adding locals into this process.

2) Join counter terrorism intelligence cell to share actionable intel on militant movement to minimize civilian harm.

3) Local Reconciliation and

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and economic incentive should be provided. to curb militant recruitment and give tangible reason to cooperate.

4) Third-party mediation and CBM:

Involve big powers and UN to prolong the ceasefire agreement. This can curb militancy

5) Humanitarian Arrangment should be ensured.

Bilateral protocol for refugees and displaced person plus joint mechanism for return compensation to reduce humanitarian flashpoint

Conclusion:

Sustainable peace requires converting short term ceasefire into durable institutions. mediation help, but real improvement depends

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building trust and daily level cooperation, not only periodic summits.

<Question 07>

How could Pakistan balance in relation after recent Engagement with USA and strategic partnership with china?

Introduction:

Pakistan Foreign policy faces classical small-state dilemma. Pakistan maintain strategic and economic interest with china and deepening engagement with USA.

Both Brings pros and cons. There should be careful and balancing diplomacy.

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Key elements and of challenges:

1) Economic interdependence with china:

China is major Pak strategic and economic partners (CPEC investment) and defense ties (80% military exports by China) is viewed as central to infrastructure and security planning.

2) Geostrategic value of USA:

Renewed USA interest in Pakistan for regional security, supply chain and counting rivals open diplomatic space investment opportunities and cooperation.

3) Perception and Strategic hedging:

Balancing must avoid perception in either

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that Pak is choosing sides, both are sensitive to sign of shifting allegiances.

Policy option and recommendation approach:

1) Adopt clear path and posture:

publicly reaffirm long term partnership with china while actively pursuing pragmatic cooperation with USA on area of mutual interest.

2) Issue based cooperation - compartmentalize relation:

Security: continue long term defense ties with china, deepen intel coordination with USA on counter-terrorism.

Economy: seek USA FDI investment while pressing china for CPEC.

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3) transparency and cooperation:

Both countries should be informed about major decisions- proactively manage expectation.

Regular tripartite can reduce suspicion.

4) Protect National sovereignty:

clarify domestic policy red-lines so external power understand limit and Pak doesn't look like bargaining chip.

5) Economic diversification and domestic reform:

Strengthen domestic governance, anti-corruption measures and regulatory framework so Pak can attract investment from both china and USA.

6) Leverage:

Engage in regional

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economic group, ECO, SCO,
 or to build broader
 diplomatic base and
 reduce bilateral pressure.

Conclusion:

Balancing China and
 USA is feasible if
 Pakistan pursue predict-
 able relations that protect
 national interest and
 communicate clearly with
 both countries

<Question 06>

How do you see
 chances of end of
 Ukraine Russia war
 when demand of
 Russia and NATO
 are conflicting and
 poles apart? Elebo
 rates.

This war remain in-
 tractable. By late 2025,
 multiple track exist

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but remains contradictory
 - Russia seeks security
 concession and NATO
 plus Ukraine insist
 on territorial integrity
 and reject Russian
 demands.

This gap make
 negotiated lasting
 settlement difficult
 in near term even
 after Alaska Summit
 - 2025.

Chances of end- scenarios:

1) Best case (low-probal- ity):

A negotiated freeze
 along current lines with
 international guarantee
 and phased security
 arrangement.

This require strong
 incentive for Russia
 and security guarantee

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for Ukraine - politically fraught and likely temporarily. Analysis say this politically contentious in Europe and Kyiv (CSIS).

2) Prolonged settlement (medium probability):

war of attrition continue. Neither side achieve victory; battlefield changes but diplomatic settlement elusive. many expert see this as most likely near term path.

3) Escalatory shift (low to medium probability):

Either a major breakthrough for one side or political shock (leadership change, sanctions) could force a settlement in terms unfavorable for

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for one side. Predicting such a shock is uncertain.

Factor will determine outcome:

- ✓ military balance and logistical (ability for offense sustain).
- ✓ Funding by west to Ukraine.
- ✓ Russia domestic politics and economic upheaval.

Policy implication:

- ✓ Keep diplomatic channel open. This preserve Kyiv negotiating leverage.
- ✓ Use sanctions as bargaining chip.
- ✓ Prepare for long game of war to decide resilience.

- ✓ Credible security guarantee that reduce incentive for Russian

Conclusion:

Given current condition comprehensive and

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and durable peace seems unlikely. international community can increase chance of stable settlement by coupling serious support of military and creative diplomacy that offer security guarantees.

(Question no 03)

Formation of new provinces in Pakistan
: hurdles and Recommendation:

Introduction:

The idea of creating Provinces is not new but no progress has made yet since 1970s. creating new province can strengthen federal of done wisely.

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but political and ethnic hurdles keep issues resolved.

Federal Pakistan

Punjab (South Punjab demand)
KPK (Hazara province ---)
Sindh (Karachi Province)
Balochistan (Adminstru)

Reason: Governance, Equity, identity

Hurdle: Constitution, Politics, economy

Solution: Consenses + Reforms

(A) why new provinces are in demands?

(i) Administrative efficiency:

Pakistan's four province are too large and diverse to be governed effectively. Alone Punjab has 110 million people - larger than many countries. Small province can

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governance closer to people.

27 Unequal development

i:-

Southern Punjab, interior Sindh and part of Balochistan lag behind in health, education and infrastructure. New province ensure local priorities addressed.

3) Ethnic and linguistic Representation:

Group like Hazara communities in KP and Sanjiky speaking people in south Punjab feel underrepresented.

4) Political Balance:

Some analyst argue that more province would reduce Punjab dominance in national politics and promote fair federation.

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major hurdle:

① Constitutional complexity:

Article 239(4) require $\frac{2}{3}$ majority in both provincial and local national assemblies for this tough political task.

② Political Resistance:

Established parties fear losing control and vote bank.

③ Ethnic sensitive:

Redrawing borders can trigger new ethnic tension. In Sindh, dividing Karachi from Sindh is seen as attack on Sindhi identity.

④ Economic Viabilities:

New bureaucracies, assemblies and budget makes it hard for provinces to run.

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⑤ Lack on Consensus on boundaries.

Even within region demanding separation, there's no agreement on border. E.g like exact district that should form South Punjab province.

Critical Evaluation:

While idea has developmental appeal, it misused for political mileage damage credibility. These debate comes with no pragmatic steps demand before election but fade afterward.

It can destabilize ethnic harmony. However denying people can fuel frustration.

Real issue is Decentralization, not just division of governance and fiscal autonomy

improve with existing structure

Recommendation:

- (i) National commission formation
- (ii) Conduct Referendum
- (iii) Gradual Administrative division
- (iv) Ensure fiscal sustainability.
- (v) Process should be neutral
- (vi) Promote inter-provisional dialogue.

Conclusion:

If carried out this process carefully, it can strengthen federalism Pakistan need evidence based approach that balance efficiency, equity and national unity.