

Q8. Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have signed historic defence pact. Critically evaluate the causes and implications of the deal.

1. Introduction - Strategic Mutual Agreement
2. Causes leading to pact
 - a. Regional Security Issues
 - b. Strategic economic advantages
 - c. Religious ties - Muslim brotherhood?
3. Implications
 - a. Risks and opportunities for Pakistan
 - b. Saudi Arabia - getting reliable partner

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia - Defence Pact

On 17th September 2025, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a mutual defence agreement in Riyadh. It is binding framework for joint military engagement in both wartime and peace time. The key clause of pact that declares "any aggression against either country shall be considered an aggression against both". This strong language of this particular clause also resembles NATO Article 5 in its essence. However, Pakistan's foreign office claims that this act is formalisation of longstanding

military alliance between both countries not a new commitment and Saudi officials have also endorsed this claim. Pak and Saudi Arabia has enduring friendship this agreement has built on decades long cooperation on military and defence deployments. While the text of pact has not been public yet but it is a pact formalising military cooperation among both countries. Formalisation of this pact came after Saudi Arabia perceived that USA is no longer a reliable security partner, especially when it comes to Israel. Amidst regional tension in middle eastern countries, Saudi Arabia sought ~~help~~ partnership with Pakistan, to leverage it financially and get its military support. Pakistan's military had proved its mettle ~~with~~ⁱⁿ war with India recently. Also being the Nuclear Country it was strongest choice for Saudi Arabia. This pact has set regional realignments, leveraged Pakistan as it will get funding, Saudi Arabia now has reliable partner against rogue state of Israel.

Causes of PAK-SAUDIA PACT

1. Regional Security Issues.

Instability in regional area has driven both of countries to this Pact. The Middle eastern region is undergoing heightened instability with Israel being totally a rogue state. Attack on nuclear sites by Israel on Iran, another attacks occurred on Syria in 2024, and persistent genocide in Gaza, are unsettling the region. With US not being able to rein in Israel, the recent attack on Qairan was final straw for this Pact to be commemorated. In case of Saudi, Pakistan's war with India in ^{May} 2025 also led to need external backing of country which is rich in oil so that supply is never cut off when energy demands arise in context of war with India or any other states.

2. Strategic - economic advantages.

After attack on Qairan, Saudi no longer have any confidence in security umbrella of US. However, US being the

world superpower, Saudi Arabia cannot aside it completely either thus joining a pact with a nation — Pakistan, which has quite friendly term with Superpower is best strategy for Saudi Arabia. Thus it signed military-defence agreement with Pakistan for its security and stability in the region. As for Pakistan, it is going through severe economic crisis and this pact is life line it needs for stability economic and also investments for its military research.

3. Regional ties — Muslim Brotherhood.

Pakistan-Saudi Arabia have enjoyed enduring friendships for decades. Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have deep religious ties for which they have helped each other out multiple times throughout the history. From early recognition of Pakistan by Saudis, military adventures both part of Islamic Organisation, Pakistan has also defended Saudi sites in past with Saudi Arabia helping Pakistan financially many time being muslim brother. Pakistan as military power with Saudi Arabia reinforcing its leadership in muslim

world both states are depicting their soft-powers.

Implication of the PACT

1. Pakistan - a strategic anchor.

Pakistan has elevated its profile with now posing as a strategic anchor in the Gulf. The confidence of the middle eastern countries in US has surely declined. These middle eastern countries would also look for a guarantor soon. With Russia already engaged in war, and China having no interest in entering regional political game, Pakistan is only viable option which is already in part with middle eastern country.

2. Elevation carries Risks for Pakistan

Pakistan being guarantor of safety and security of Saudi Arabia has now entered itself in new mayhem of Gulf politics. Previously middle eastern politics had no concern for Pakistan as it was not a threat nor a fruitful in any way. Now Pakistan is also by default on enemy axis of Israel as well. Israel being close

ally of ~~Pakistan~~ US, it may carries harmonization risks for Pakistan. Now Pakistan has to ~~be~~ balance its ties with china, US, Iran, and Saudi Arabia as well. This ^{may} Part stretches and complicates this balancing act.

3. Saudi Arabia goi reliable security partner in most unreliable era of politics and defence

Saudi Arabia, no longer trusting USA security umbrella and NATO arrangement as USA failed to prevent attack in Gaza, by not being able to control Israel and NATO not being to contain Russia after it declared war on Ukraine.

Saudi Arabia reduces its reliance ~~of~~ on these two and moved to the Part arrangement with a reliable partner - Pakistan. Pakistan's military supremacy is ~~added~~ leverage as they will be training source and manpower at Saudi's back. Also entering a part with a muslim brother rather anyone else such as India, Saudi has reinforced its leadership claim in the Muslim world.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this strategic alliance between two countries is a major development with regional instability, western alliances being unreliable partners. For Pakistan this elevated its reputation and beneficial for economic gains & for Saudi it gives them reliable partner and deterrence against attacks. It also signals regional actors (India, US, Israel) that security architecture this region is evolving.

Increase number of arguments
Explain how it is a historical
deal??

Q No: 3 The formation of New Provinces is a recurring discourse in Pakistan. ---

Formation Of New Provinces

- Introduction

Debate of formation of New Provinces is recurring debate in Pakistan. It is often in response to ethnic administrative and developmental disparities. While the idea aims to promote good governance, equitable resource distribution, it is hindered by complex constitutional hurdles, economic costs that country is unable to afford. To cater these hurdles Pakistan can form specialized committee which may address the issue on ethnic, religious, and economic costs while prioritizing administrative division for better governance.

- Background.

Pakistan is a federation. It has a Capital and four provinces namely - Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Balouchistan with some tribal territories and other under capital Islamabad.

Debate of more provinces started with 18th Amendment, giving which gave provinces more authority with NFC Award - while poor governance and unequal resource distribution still remain the issue and true spirit of federation was never enacted. With passage of time these movements also became political and ethnic based. For example, Non-Pashtun part of KPK wanted province for their name "Khyber Pakhtunkhwa". Punjab, South Punjab demand their separate province upon rationale of that there is unequal distribution of resources within Province and Balouchistan also demand provinces for better administration.

Hurdles in formation of new Provinces

1. Constitutional Barriers

After separation of East Pakistan, an extremely high threshold was put in place under Article 239(4) - This article requires two-third majority in Provincial and National assembly.

Constitutional making this process completely unviable, there are no clear procedural mechanisms which can be followed for division into more provinces.

2. Political Barrier

Existing division of provinces serves immensely to the ruling elite. This elite capture party also have greater influence in assembly. Thus elite capture makes division of provinces almost impossible. Different political parties support the narrative of more provinces with every election season, to get vote bank they instigate ethnic debate for formation of new provinces instead of genuine administrative reforms.

3. Pluralistic Society

Pakistan is a pluralistic society, having diverse ethnic, religious and other identity complexities. The demand of division of provinces on ethnic grounds is extremely complicated and it will open another Pandora box. Such as smaller groups in different

areas will start demanding their own province and it also risks cohesion on national level.

4. Economic Constraints

New provinces will require new bureaucracies, police, courts and assemblies that would require a massive financial resources, which Pakistan's constrained economy can hardly bear.

5. Absence of Cohesion

There is neither any ~~get~~ consensus on parliament nor in public over demand of new provinces. Public debates are only emotionally charged and does not address actual issue at hand. There is no technocrat input on policy at administrative levels.

— Recommendations.

1. Addressing Constitutional Mechanism

In respect to constitution two options are viable. Making of a constitutional committee that addresses the issues of constitution

and also address any framework that may be followed for fulfillment of these demand. This coupled with getting referendum from the concerned province preceding the commission's approval.

2. Political consensus

Major political parties must ensure a national and not regional demands that may reflect more cohesion.

3. Administrative division

Most justifiable division of provinces is administrative division - It ensures efficient governance, which is actual demand and need of the hour. Instead of drawing provinces on ethnic-linguistic demands which may instigate more divide and disparities.

4. Public Awareness and Debates

Encouraging public awareness and public debates on discourses which emphasize unity and an understanding of why administrative units are far more serving idea than the

Kindly increase content under headings and add facts

ethno-linguistic divisions.

5. Strengthening local governments

Devolving powers to ~~ethnic~~ district and tehsil level to address grievance of people. It may ~~also~~ slow down the demands of provinces. Division of province is indeed inevitable for better governance, but till Pakistan is able to afford this economic costs local governments should be strengthened.

6. Economic focus

Creation of provinces demands huge economic cost, which Pakistan can barely afford. Thus extensive studies are required for targeted resource allocations and framework of division ~~before~~ of resources before announcement of provinces.

- Conclusion

Creation of new provinces has its hurdles with economic hurdle being the major one along with constitutional and political barriers. However, with transparency, effort and

will towards creation of provinces for actual governance this demand of provinces can be filled. As demand is a tool for equitable resource allocation and good governance if not hindered by political motives. This can also strengthen the federation and produce efficient governance which is federation true spirit.

Instructions to get good marks in current affairs paper

Important Note:

Marks would be given on the following parameters

a- Content 60% References 15% Subject specific language 15% Graphs and charts 10%

Add 12-13 headings in each question and write 8-9 sides to get above 15 in each question

END

the questions carry 3_4 parts... each part has equal weightage so discuss all equally

Give examples from present events to justify answers

Give attractive introduction and Conclusion as well

always give headings from the question statement.. take words from the statement

link each of the argument to the asked part in the question... if you fail to do so, no matter how accurate content is, if your heading is not align with what is asked in the question, it won't be accurate

Good Luck