

## Current Affairs

# Question

## INTRODUCTION.

On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a historic Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement in Riyadh. The core objective is to pledging that an act of aggression against one would be considered an act against both - This agreement strengthens the old relation based on mutual religion, security cooperation and economic interdependence. Pakistan has provided military training, defence personnel and strategic support to the country in the past, in exchange Riyadh provided financial and energy assistance - This new pact transforms the old friendship into formal written defence alliance signalling a regional dynamics as US influence declines, Iran becomes active and global alliances continue to shift - The pact shows that both the countries are working to strengthen their position, Saudi Arabia aims to become independent and better protected, while Pakistan seeks to improve its diplomatic



Explain how it is a historic deal???

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
MTWTFSS

importance and gain economic support.

## Causes of the Pact

1. Historical ties and long cooperation.  
Both the countries have shared close relations for decades - Pakistan have provided military support in return of energy and financial assistance. The pact formalise this decade old relation.
2. Saudi Arabia's changing security needs.  
Saudi Arabia feels the US cannot fully guarantee its security. Rising threats from Iran and regional tension with Israel have increased its insecurity. To reduce the dependence on Western Power it seeks new defence partners like Pakistan.
3. Pakistan's Strategic and Economic Goals  
Pakistan faces serious economic pressure and looks to Saudi Arabia for support. Stronger defence ties may bring financial help and energy relief, on bigger picture Pakistan wants involvement and importance in the muslim world and stronger deterrence against India.

This is not a way to build arguments  
Add headings with references



4. Shifting Regional Security Environment -  
 The middle East and South Asia are going through major changes. Conflicts involving Israel, Iran and other powers have reshaped the region. Partnering with nuclear armed Pakistan helps Saudi Arabia improve its security, linking Gulf and South Asia defence interest.

## Benefits of the Pact

1. Strengthening muslim world's unity  
 The deal helps unify muslim majority nations under shared defence and security goals, enhance the cooperation with OIC framework and show that islamic countries can collaborate without Western mediation.

2. Defence Industry growth for Pakistan  
 Pakistan's defence industries, such as heavy Industries Taxila (HIT) and Pakistan Ordnance factories, may receive contracts for weapons tanks or ammunition supply to Saudi Arabia.

3. Job creation and Training opportunities.  
 Thousands of Pakistani military officers, engineers and technicians could find employment and training opportunist in Saudi Arabia.



#### 4- Counterterrorism and Intelligence Cooperation.

Both countries face terrorism & internal security threats, pact could strengthen intelligence sharing and anti terror training and border security coordination, improving safety in both regions.

#### 5- Potential for Energy Security

Saudi Arabia could offer favourable oil credit terms, investments in Pakistan's refineries or energy cooperation projects under this deal, it would improve Pakistan's energy stability and help manage its foreign reserves.

## Risk Factors & Challenges

#### 1- Burden and Unclear Commitments for Pakistan

Pakistan's limited resources and geographical distance make it hard to provide large scale military support in Gulf. No clear explanation regarding what is expected of Pakistan in case of the conflict.



## 2- Tensions with India, Iran and Israel-

For India, this pact could be worrying because it connects Saudi Arabia to Pakistan security network, complicating future military planning. Iran may see the deal as a new anti-Iran alliance, while Israel might view it as a strategic setback, especially since Pakistan is a nuclear power <sup>may</sup> result in mistrust and tension in the region.

## 3- Strain on Relations with US

Both Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have long depended on the US for military aid and technology, may create diplomatic tension, if US feels sidelined due to growing relation. To avoid losing major ally Pakistan needs to maintain its ties with China, Iran and US.

## 4- Risk of Involvement in Conflicts

By committing to the defence pact, Pakistan could get dragged into middle eastern conflicts, this would stretch its military and could damage its neutral foreign policy image.



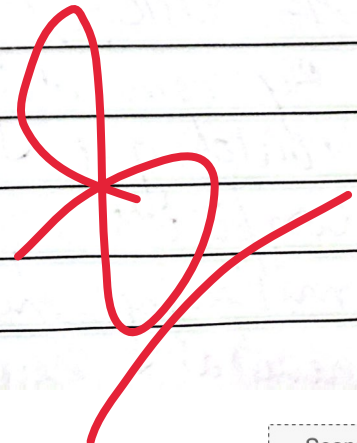
# Conclusion

This agreement marks a historic turning point in both Saudi and Pakistani foreign policy: from informal cooperation to a written mutual-defence commitment - it reflects the shifting sands of global geopolitics where the Gulf is seeking new security partners and South Asia is integrating into that architecture - While it offers real strategic advantages for both parties, it is not without major risks. It is a high stakes bet, one that could reshape the security map of the region, but one whose success depends on careful planning, smart diplomacy and strategic discipline -

Improve length

Write 8-9 sides

Add facts as well



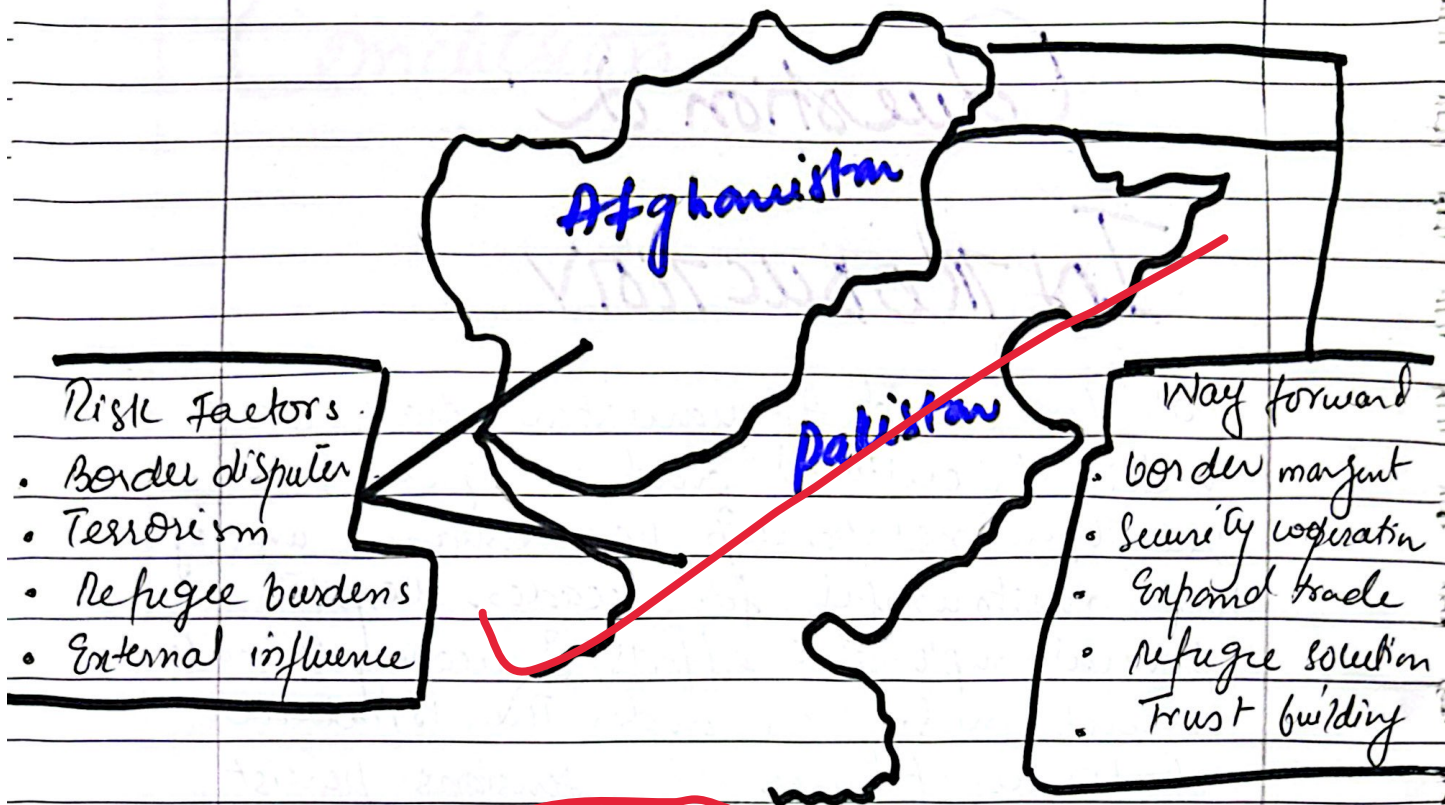


## Question 2

### INTRODUCTION

Pakistan, and Afghanistan share deep historical, cultural and religious ties, yet their relationship has remained uneasy and mistrustful for decades. Despite several diplomatic efforts, including China's recent mediation under the bilateral dialogue framework, tensions persist along political, security and economic lines. The main reasons include border disputes, cross-border military and differing regional alignment. Both countries are interdependent for peace, trade and stability in the region, but mutual suspicion and external influences have prevented lasting cooperation.





## Risk Factors.

Link to the asked part

### 1. Border and Territorial disputes

The frontier between Pakistan and Afghanistan, especially the Durand line has never been fully accepted by Afghanistan. Pakistan treats it as its international border, while some Afghan voices dispute it as imposed by colonial legacy. This deep-seated disagreement mistrust and frequent clashes along the border.



## 2 - Cross border Terrorism and Militant Safe Havens

One of the key issue is Pakistan's claim that anti-Pakistan militant groups, such as Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan, operate from Afghanistan with insufficient control by the Afghan government. On the otherhand Afghanistan views Pakistani military operations inside its borders as violation of sovereignty, These keep the relationship unstable.

## 3 - Refugee burdens and Trade disruptions

Frequent border closures and security incidents have disrupted transit trade, causing economic losses for both countries, for example Torkham crossing's prolonged closure due to clashes. At the same time Pakistan hosts millions of Afghan refugees.

## 4. External influence

Relations are further strained by the involvement of external actors. India's growing engagement with Afghanistan is seen as a strategic challenge by Pakistan. China's mediation



efforts are positive, but triangular dynamics and complexity, overlapping interests of global and regional powers complicate direct bilateral cooperation.

### 5. Weak Institutional Mechanism and Trust deficit

While Pakistan, Afghanistan and China have established dialogue platforms, such as trilateral foreign ministers dialogue, the actual implementation of agreements - sharing intelligence, enforcing ceasefires, remain weak.

## How Relations Could be Improved.

### 1- Strengthen border management and clarify regulations

Both countries should agree to clear rules for border crossing, jointly manage the frontier and establish rapid conflict-response protocols.



## 2. Joint Counter Terrorism and Security Cooperation

A credible and sustained mechanism for intelligence-sharing, tracking militants and controlling cross border movements must be instituted. Pak-Afghan, with China's cooperation support, should commit to shared responsibility for denying safe havens.

## 3. Revive and Expand Trade Connectivity

Promotion of trade, transport and energy and linkages will build economic interdependence, making peace more valuable than conflict - ~~enduring~~

## 4. Build people-to-people ties and refugee solutions

Encouraging cultural exchanges, easing visa regimes, promoting joint educational and vocational programmes will soften public hostility. Pakistan should also work towards sustainable refugees policies with international support.



### 5- Trust building

Regular high-level dialogues, clarity of commitments, transparent mechanisms and third party monitoring (including China's facilitation) will reduce uncertainty -

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the Pak-Afghan bilateral relationship remains troubled by border issues, militant threats, economic disruptions and institutional weaknesses. However, the opportunity for improvement exists through joint security framework, improved trade and connectivity, concrete border management and stronger institutional trust building. With the constructive involvement of China and consistent bilateral effort, both nations could move from repeated tension to stable cooperation, bringing for broader peace and prosperity to the region -

Please use different pen for heading and arguments

Substantiate your arguments with authentication facts

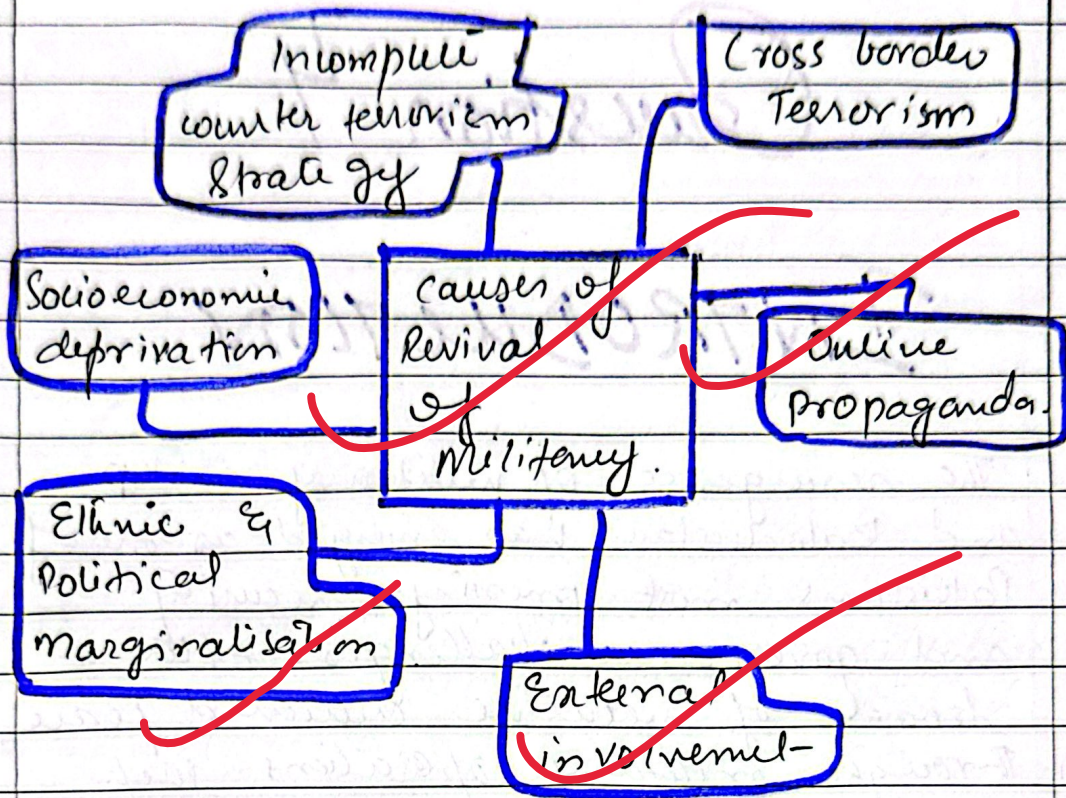


# Question 4

## INTRODUCTION

The resurgence of militancy in KP and Balochistan has emerged as one of Pakistan's most pressing security and governance challenges. After a decade of relative achieved peace through military operations such as  Zarb-e-Azab (2014)  and  Radd-ul-Fasaad (2017) , the country is once again witnessing an alarming rise in terrorist incidents targetting security personnel, civilians, foreign nationals and development infrastructure. The revival reflects a complex of internal governance weaknesses, regional instability, cross border infiltration and socio economic deprivation. Moreover, the Taliban's return to power in  Afghanistan (2021)  has strengthened the terrorist groups operating within Pakistan's border. If these remained unchecked, it threatens national security and Pakistan's long term stability.





1 ~~Cross border~~

# Causes of Revival of Militancy

1- ~~Cross-border terrorism:~~

After Taliban's takeover in Afghanistan in 2021, several militant groups, particularly the Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan, found safe havens ~~also~~ across the border. The porous Durand



line and weak Afghan control over border regions have allowed militants to regroup and attack inside Pakistan.

2. Incomplete counter-terrorism Strategy  
While Pakistan succeeded in clearing militants' strongholds through military operations, post-operation governance and rehabilitation were weak. The National Action Plan was not fully implemented especially its political, judicial and educational reforms, allowing militancy to reemerge.

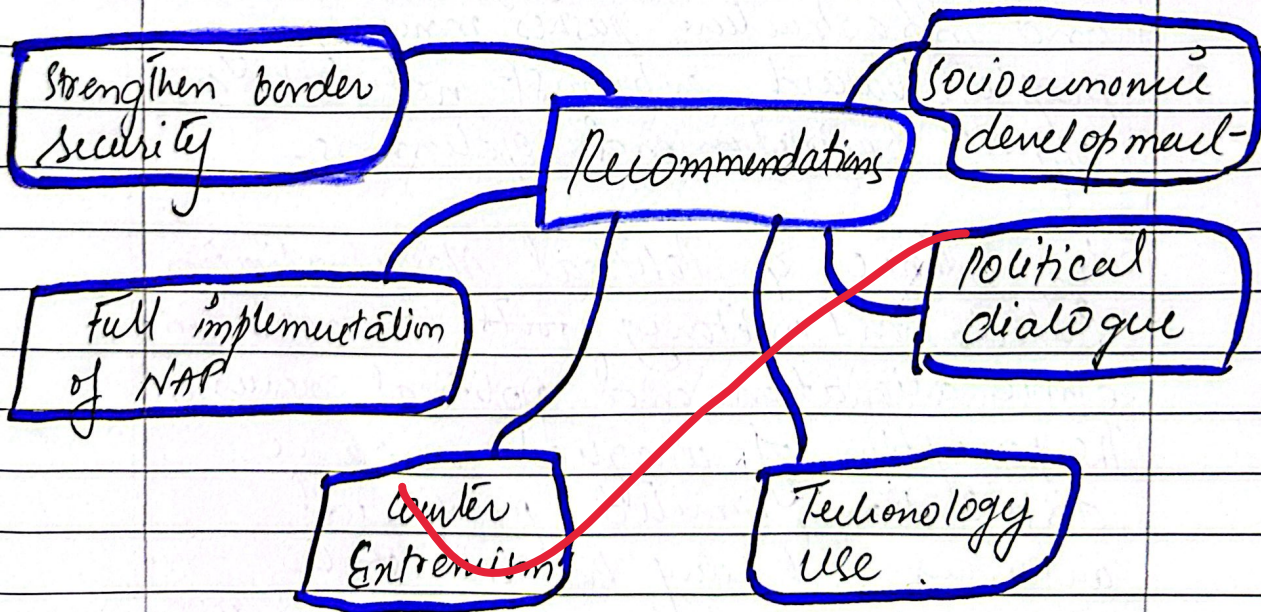
3- Socio economic Deprivation  
KP's tribal districts and Balochistan's remote areas remain underdeveloped and poorly governed. Lack of jobs, education, and infrastructure pushes many young people toward extremist networks and exploits frustration and hopelessness.

4. Ethnic & Political Marginalisation  
Balochistan's military roots has roots in ethnic alienation and political exclusion. The perception of unequal resource distribution, limited provincial autonomy, and heavy handed state response has fueled separatist narratives and insurgent movements.



5- External involvement & Proxy Warfare  
Foreign intelligence networks especially from India and Afghanistan are believed to support separatist and terrorist groups to destabilize Pakistan - Evidence of external funding to Baloch insurgents and TTP faction has been highlighted in several security briefings.

6- Online Propaganda.  
Militant organisations have shifted to digital radicalisation, using social media to recruit and spread extremist ideologies - Weak cyber monitoring and lack of counter-narratives have made youth vulnerable especially in deprived areas.





# Recommendation for Improvement

## 1- Strengthen border security

Pakistan must improve border fencing, surveillance and joint monitoring with Afghanistan - intelligence sharing through bilateral forums (Pak - China - Afghanistan) should be enhanced to prevent militant movement.

## 2 - Full implementation of National Action Plan

Reviving national Action plan in letter and spirit is vital including reforms in the police, judiciary, madarassas and counter-extremism programs. Militant linked political groups must be monitored and prosecuted under anti-terror laws.



### 3- Socioeconomic development of Afflicted Regions-

Pakistan must launch special development packages for KP and Balochistan focusing on education, health, roads and employment. Economic integration reduce recruitment into militant groups and youth will be saved from the disaster -

### 4- Political dialogue and Inclusion

Address genuine grievances through political negotiation, especially in Balochistan. Empowering local leadership and ensuring fair resource distribution under the NFC Award can reduce alienation -

### 5- Counter-Extremism

Expand rehabilitation centres for former militants and promote moderate religious education in madrassas. Religious scholars should play a role in spreading anti-violence messages -



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%

## Conclusion

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

Add manifestations part

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