

Question No. 2

Ans:-

The period following the military coup of October 1999 marks a critical and turbulent phase in Pakistan's democratic evolution. While the initial years saw a regression into controlled democracy, the subsequent era has been defined by a resistent push towards parliamentary supremacy, albeit constantly challenged by institutional friction and perpetually polarizing ethnic political culture.

→ Evolution of Pakistan's Political System and Culture (Post-1999)

(a) Military Rule and Hybrid Democracy (1999-2008):- It was begun with the suspension of constitution and imposition of the Legal Framework Order (LFO) 2002. This fundamental altered the political structure by creating Presidential system with sweeping powers Article 58(2)b. Politically, the era was defined by the suppression of military over political parties.

The political culture during this phase was characterized by a managed democracy, a decline

in parliamentary vitality, and a growing sense of disenfranchisement among the public. Conversely, the lawyers' movement for the restoration of judiciary heralded coming a powerful demand for constitutionalism, planting the seeds for future democratic resilience.

discuss these parts by further giving subheadings.....

→ Democratic Supremacy (2008-2018) :-

The 2008 elections initiated a critical phase marked by the transfer of powers between two civilian governments in 2013. The system transitioned towards genuine parliamentary democracy, culminating in the passage of 18th Amendment (2010).

Culturally, this period saw the maturation of democratic norms, with an increased role of civil society, and the rise of highly active and often interventionist judiciary. However, the culture also became increasingly polarized, and lacked consensus on core economic and foreign policy issues, reflecting democratic immaturity.

3. The Era of Hybridity and Friction :-

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The political system in recent years has been frequently considered as a Hybrid regime where civilian role is perceived to a highly influenced by non-elected institutions. This system is evidenced by high level of executive/judiciary confrontation and perceived imbalance of power.

Furthermore, Culture has developed into an extreme state of intolerance and toxicity because policy of politicians have been shifted from policy debate to personal attacks. This type of toxic Culture directly undermines the effectiveness of elected governments and weaken public interest.

Democratic
Consolidation/
Supremacy

Military Rule
and Hybrid
Democracy

Pakistan's
Political
System

The Era of Hybridity
and Fiction

⇒ Constitutional Developments Shaping Continuity and Governance

Constitutional Development	Impacts	
	Continuity Democratic	Governance
18 th Amendment	- Abolish Article 58(2)(b) - making non-democratic dissolution of gov.	- Abolish the Concurrent legislative and devolved 17 ministries
21 st and 22 nd Amendments	- Establishment of military courts and implying necessity.	- 22 nd Amendment for the appointment of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)
Judicial Activism/ Restoration ✓	The restoration of Judges (2009) reviews the supremacy of Constitution	Judicial Activism increased assertiveness over the executive but destrain the policy.

Conclusion:- The constitutional developments of the post-1999 era particularly 18th Amendments have successfully strengthen continuity, making it nearly impossible for democracy to be legally derailed. However, genuine democratic governance

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments and be on 7-9 pages.

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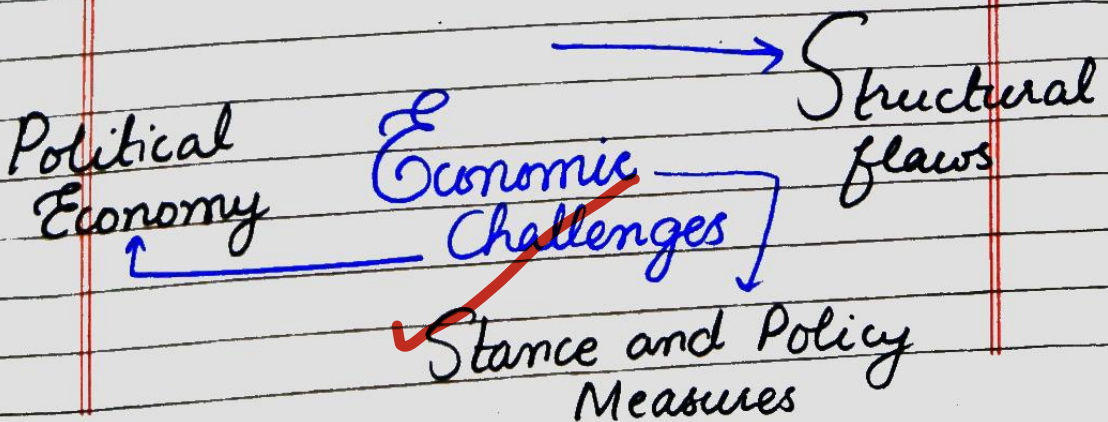
Political effectiveness remained challenged by an evolving but consistently immature culture. Pakistan must now address the culture that fuels friction, ensuring the spirit of consensus matches the ethnicity of constitution.

Qno. 3

Ans:-

INTRODUCTION:-

The persistent economic crises in Pakistan which are characterized by crippling debt, chronic current account deficits and high inflation is often a perfect debate between deep-seated structural flaws. While structural deficiencies form the bedrock of the crises, the political economy is the active force that prevents their correction, making it more decisive challenge.



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1) Structural Flaws:- Structural flaws are inherent, long-term weaknesses in the economy.

(a) Narrow Tax Base:- Pakistan's Tax to GDP ratio remains critically low around 9-10%, due to over-reliance on indirect taxes and major exemptions enjoyed by the powerful sectors like agriculture, real estate and retail trade.

(b) Chronic Twin Deficits:- Chronic twin deficits are due to high low exports and high imports especially in energy and fiscal deficit, high spending and low revenue due to reliance of loans and frequent recourse to the IMF.

(c) Loss-Making Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs):- Entities like PIA, Pakistan Steel Mills, and GENCOs incur massive losses that are continually absorbed by the national exchequer, bloating debt.

(d) Low Production and Export Concentration:- The economy is heavily focused on a low-valued textile exports, lacking diversification into sophisticated manufacturing.

⇒ Political Economy:-

(a) Elite Capture and Rent-Seeking:-

Powerful political, bureaucratic, and commercial elites forms cartels that actively resist reforms that would eliminate their unearned income. This is also because the legislative elite often belongs to the landed gentry.

(b) Institutional Weakness:- Institutions, like FBR and other bodies, are often lack autonomy, and suffer from high turnover, making it impossible to implement consistent policy.

(c) Civil-Military Imbalance:-

Strategic economic decision-making is often influenced by non-economic considerations, which leads to further civil-military imbalance.

⇒ Stance and Policy Measures:-

The core of Pakistan's economic predicament lies in the political Economy. While structural flaws are merely the symptoms of a political system that is unable to impose fiscal discipline and challenges elite interests.

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Challenge	Policy Measures	Solutions
Elite Resistance	Eliminate all tax exemptions and enforce progressive taxations	Secure a bi-partisan consensus among all major parties.
Insufficient State Enterprises	Sell all non-strategic loss-making PSEs in a transparent time-bounded manner	Launch public awareness campaigns and ensure that it address the genuine concerns.
Institutional Weakness	Grant full fiscal, administrative autonomy to the key institutes like FBR, SBP, NEPRA	Pass legislation that establish legal thresholds for political interference.
Low Exports	Industrial policies towards high value sectors like IT etc	Maintain the exchange market by discharging exports

Conclusion:- While Pakistan's economy requires technical solutions to the structural faults and political economy. Only by tackling the political economy; confronting elites capture, fostering democratic consensus and strengthening institutions can generate Pakistan to the road of prosperity.

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Question No.4

Ans:-

INTRODUCTION:-

The relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan in the post-August 2021 period, the return of Taliban to power, has been a rapid deterioration from initial optimism to a state of profound mistrust and confrontation. The trajectory is dominated by the failure of a new regime to address Pakistan's security amplified by challenges relating to border control, mass migration, and evolving regional dynamics.

⇒ The Trajectory of Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations (Post-August 2021):-

Phase	Features	Pakistan's Postures
Guarded Optimism 2021	Hope of regional stability, a secure border and access to central Asia	Active engagement, humanitarian support and diplomatic advocacy.
Monitoring Friction 2022	Rise of TTP, attacks on Pakistan, which were facilitated by Afghan soil	Shift from dialogues to increase security pressure.

Active
Confrontation
2023 - Present

Repatriation of
illegal/refugees
increased border
clashes

Hardening of
the security
stance, refugee
expulsion to
Pressure Kabul.

The most significant shift is the realisation in Islamabad that the chance of regime change in Kabul has not security dividends. Instead, the resurgence of ~~TTP~~ TTP has placed the relation under severe inparable strain.

⇒ Key Factors on Bilateral Ties:-

(A) Border Security:- The issue of border security, specially the concerned of durand line and the present of militant groups has been primary negative influence

(B) Refugee Issues:- Pressure of millions of refugees, compounded by a new influx post-2021, has shifted from a humanitarian concerns to significant socio-political security challenge in Pakistan

(C) Regional Re-alignments:- The withdrawal of the US and the new regime's isolation have triggered a subtle but significant realignments of regional interests.

Conclusion:- The trajectory of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations post-2021 is undeniably poor. While trade remains strategic imperatives, the ties are a refuge to the fundamental disagreements over border security and the TTP. The failure of Afghan regime to meet its security obligations which are combined with the domestic pressure resulting from the refugee disbursement, had led Pakistan to adopt a more assertive and unilateral approach but signaling its resolve against the threat of cross-border terrorism.

Question No. 5

Ans:-

INTRODUCTION

The relations between Pakistan and USA has undergone a fundamental transformation in the post-2021 era. That was driven by US Military withdrawal from Afghanistan, the intensified US-China great power competition, and the internal political change in both Washington and Islamabad. The dynamic has been

shifting from a fragile military alliances to one of the trans-actional cooperation.

=> Strategic Re-alignment and Global Power Shifts:-

1) US Pivot to Indo-Pacific:- Primary US strategic focuses are confronting China's rise. Pakistan's deep, long standing, and economic relations with Beijing.

2) Post-Afghanistan Utility:- The US withdrawal from Afghanistan eliminated the immediate military necessity of Pakistan.

3) US-India Strategic Nexus:- India was a major strategic partner of US and primary counter-weight to China in the Indo-Pacific.

=> Changing Dynamics:- The change of government in Pakistan (2022) and the continuation of the Biden Administration have led to a more pragmatic, though less

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Feature	Strategic Partnership	Current State
Vision	deep + long term aligned on regional security and political ideology	Narrow + issue specific interests
Trust	High mutual interest	Condition based mutual interest
Alignment on China/India	Would require Pak to align with US strategy against China	Quid pro quo → Pak maintains strategic autonomy while seeking US economic support
Decision making	Consultative and coordinated on major regional policy	Unilateral policy decided by both sides.

Conclusion on Nature of Relations:-

→ The US-Pakistan relations is definitively Transitional Cooperation.

① Lack of Shared vision:- Two countries don't share common strategic vision for the region.
Pakistan's imperative is economic

survival and maintenance of strategic autonomy, while the US imperative is counter-China containment and counter-terrorism.

② Quid Pro Quo:- The relationship survival on specific transactions. Pakistan receives financial and diplomatic support. E.g. IMF aid, advocacy, trade access and the US receives assurances on C-T threats and regional stability.

③ Absence of Trust:- The past is littered with mistrust. E.g. Aid conditionality, drone strikes, Glame games, which prevents the depth of engagement required for genuine strategic partnership.