

# Current Affairs

## Question #2

### Outline

- Introduction
- Pak-afg relationships
- Evolution of Pak-afghan relations
- Refugee repatriation policy of Pakistan.
- Increasing terrorism in Pak  
from afghan soil.
- Pak-Afghan border clashes
- Pakistan hard stance against  
Afghanistan
- Failure of Peace talks with  
Taliban
- Strengthening Indian-Taliban  
nexus
- Blocking of Pakistan trade routes  
for Afghanistan trade
- Policy framework for Pakistan
- Conclusion.

### Introduction

The relationship between the Pakistan and Afghanistan are like the roller coaster i.e. Sometimes stable and many

times deteriorating relationships. As the Pakistan support afghanistan in soviet invasion but the relationships worsen due to Pakistan support of USA in war on terror. Currently, the relations shifted toward security concerns, as Pakistan is paying terrorism from afghanistan soil. As a result of this, Pakistan has adopted hard stance toward afghanistan, blocked afghan trade routes, adopted refugee repatriation policy. Recently, the border clashes between both countries and indian - afghan nexus worsen the relationships. Therefore, Pak need to adopt diplomatic negotiatory approach with defending their country from terrorists. for balancing relationships

## Pakistan - afghanistan relations

The relationship between Pakistan and afghanistan

evolved with evolving geopolitical conditions. Recently, Taliban takeover in Afghanistan and their hard approach towards the terrorists concerns of Pakistan heightened the tensions among both countries, and difficult the situation for dialogues between both countries.

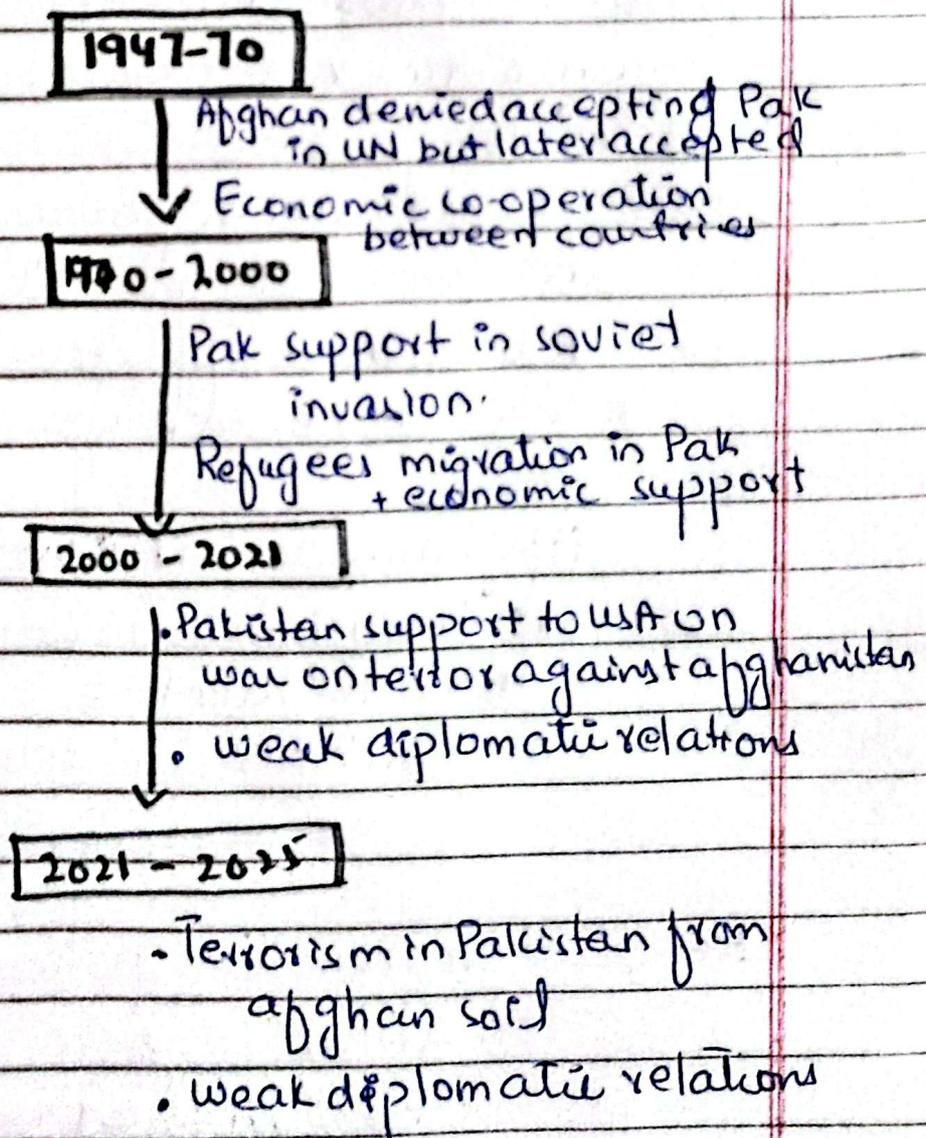
The Pakistan afghan relations evolved with changing geopolitical order and economic interest of the country.

(Maleeha Lodhi -  
External challenges  
of Pakistan)

### Evolution of Pakistan Afghanistan relations

The relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan evolved from the border tensions to bilateral relations

Both the countries share religion and cultural interest. But Afghanistan was the first country to not recognize Pakistan in UN. Then the relations shift from not recognition to co-operation during Soviet invasion. But the Pakistan tilt towards USA in war on terror worsen relations.



## Increasing terrorism in Pak front Afghanistan.

The terrorism in Pakistan has increased from Afghanistan side. According to the UN Reports, the TTP and other small terrorist organizations are conducting terrorist attacks on Pakistan and other South Asian states through Afghanistan side. Pakistan has shown concerns regarding terrorism and call Taliban to take measures for controlling terrorism. But the Taliban not responded effectively related to Pak concerns.

Afghanistan soil is used for terrorism in Pakistan, that is threat to security of country.  
(Maleeha Lodhi)

## Refugee repatriation policy of Pakistan

Pakistan has adopted refugee

reparation policy due to increase in terrorists attacks in Pakistan. According to IPR Report, 3M afghan refugees are living in Pakistan out of which 40% are returned back through reparation policy. This reparation of afghan refugees is beneficial for security in Pakistan but afghans has showed deep emotional and anger concerns for this action.

Afghanistan - Pakistan border clashes.

The Pakistan and Afghanistan relations worsen by the border clashes between both countries. Pakistan has conducted air and land strikes on

the terrorists positions in Afghanistan. As a result of which, terrorists responded through terrorism in Afghanistan, Pakistan territories and return attacks on Pakistan borders.

The border clashes between Afghanistan terrorists and Pakistan heightened the tension between both countries (Maleeha Lodhi).

Pakistan hard stance against Afghanistan -

Pakistan has adopted hard stance against Afghanistan due to no response on terrorism concerns. According to the Shahbaz Sharif, if Afghanistan borders are used for terrorism in Pakistan, Pakistan will take strict actions against it.

Failure of Peace talks with Taliban -

Pakistan and Taliban has conducting peace talks with the Taliban on Qatar and Turkey. But these talks are failed due to ineffective response of Afghanistan against the Pakistan concerns.

on terrorism from the afghanistan land. These failure of talks intensified the situation among both countries.

### Strengthening Indian-Taliban Relations

The relationship between afghan talibans and indian are strengthening gradually due to economic and diplomatic co-operations among both countries. They both sign project related to the construction of shahtoot dam in Kabul river that is a threat to water security in Pakistan. These growing relations weaken the Pakistan-afghanistan relations.

The afghanistan tilt toward india instead of Pakistan will deteriorate afghan-Pakistan relations

(Shahid Mehmood - AmLust)

## Blocking of Pakistan trade routes for Afghanistan.

The Pakistan has closed its borders for the trade of Afghanistan after the border clash between both the countries. As Afghanistan transport option and heroin to other countries from Afghanistan Pakistan borders. The end of economic relations worsen the relationships between both the countries.

## Policy framework for Pakistan.

Pakistan need to adopt following ways for balancing the relationship with Afghanistan.

- ① Negotiation with Afghanistan with conducting terrorists operations

Pakistan need to negotiate with afghanistan with conducting terrorist operations.

As defending country against terrorist are necessary but the maintaining peace and good relations with western border are also crucial.

Pakistan negotiated with afghanistan by the mediation of china for reconstructing relations

Economic Co-operation with afghanistan with compulsion of joint terrorism operations

Pakistan need to rebuild economic relations with afghanistan. As the economic co-operation is necessary for strengthening relations. But Pakistan place the compulsion of joint actions against terrorism with taliban for maintaining security in the country.

Economic Co-operation  
between two countries  
help to melt ice among  
their relations.

(Henry Kissinger)

Conclusion.

Pakistan-afghanistan relations  
are worsen due to the  
Pakistan reparation policy  
& Pak-Indo-afghan nexus and  
recent border clashes between  
both countries. Apart this,  
security concerns of  
Pakistan related to terrorist  
attacks also weaken relations.  
Hence, Pakistan need to  
adopt diplomatic approach  
for balancing relations with  
afghanistan with resolving  
security concerns.

**Question #2.**

Analyze the renewed Pakistan-  
US relations - - - - -  
- - - - - evolving environment

## Outline.

- Introduction
- Pakistan-US relationship
- Evolution of Pakistan-US relations
- Pakistan-US relations and Geopolitical interest
- Pakistan-US relations and economic interest
- Shift in geopolitical order and restructuring US-Pak relations
- Strategy for balancing relations
- Conclusion.

## Introduction

Pakistan-US relationships evolved with evolving geopolitical and economic interest of the both countries. These relations shift from economic and diplomatic co-operation to defence co-operation against the terrorism. Both the countries maintain their relations on the basis of their interest. Recently, the economic co-operation has strengthened between both due to change in geopolitical interest of

USA and economic interest of Pakistan. USA adopted policy of containing china while Pakistan has adopted policy of increasing influence in region in recent years. As a result of their objectives, they both signed deals on rare earth metals and increase counter terrorism co-operation.

But Pakistan need to adopt balanced approach for maintaining relations with both china and US.

This question argues the evolving US-Pakistan relations and shift in geopolitical and economic interest.

Pakistan - US relationships.

The relationships between Pakistan and USA always based on economic interest of Pakistan and geopolitical interest of USA. They both always keep transactional relationships.

between both the countries. Pakistan want to stabilize its economy since its inception so it tilted toward USA bloc. while USA in 20<sup>th</sup> century want to contain USA and in 21<sup>st</sup> century to china. These economic and geopolitical interest bring both countries together.

The USA held great importance in the foreign policy of Pakistan due to the security threat of the country.

(Maleeha Lodhi -  
Pakistan external  
challenges)

Evolution of USA - Pakistan  
relationships

The relationship between Pakistan and USA evolved with change in geopolitical interest. The Pakistan has joined western bloc after its independence and provide military and diplomatic

supporters containing Soviet and war on terror. But after the USA withdrew from Afghanistan, relations weakened. In recent years, the relations between both countries has strengthened after India-Pak conflict.

1947-1970

Pak joined western bloc

Economic co-operation increased

1970-2000

Pak support US in containing Soviet on Afghanistan

Economic sanction on Pak nuclear program

2000-2001

Pak support on WOT against terrorism

Provide military bases and receive economic aid.

2001-2025

Relations deteriorated after US withdrawal from Afghanistan

Rebuild in relations after indo-Pak conflict

## Pakistan USA relations: Geopolitical Interest of Pakistan.

The relations between USA and Pakistan rebuild due to change in geopolitical interest of the countries. Following are the geopolitical interest that has reshaped their relations.

1. USA policy of containing china. USA has adopted policy of reducing chinese influence in the region. As Pakistan is the neighbour and friend of china and their economic cooperation has increased through CPEC. Pakistan is among the largest export destiny of china. USA want to rebuild relations with Pakistan to contain chinese projects in country. The foreign office of USA has released statements that P. "China is the partner and USA is the present partner of Pakistan" It determine d

USA interest in the country.

USA mediatory role in Indo-Pak conflict

USA president Donald Trump has played a mediatory role in Indo-Pak 2025 conflict. Due to this role, Pakistan has named the president for the Nobel peace prize.

Pakistan rebalancing approach to USA for reducing Indian influence.

USA has held great importance in foreign policy of Pakistan. Pakistan want to rebuild relationship with the USA to reduce USA influence on India. As the India-US relations has strengthened from the recent years that is the great security threat to Pakistan. Therefore, Pakistan has rebalanced relations with the USA.

## Pakistan-USA relations and Economic interest.

### ① Pakistan-USA trade relations

The Pakistan and USA has strong economic co-operations. According to the economic survey of Pakistan - US is the largest trading partner of Pakistan. Pakistan export agricultural products to the USA.

### ② USA investment in Reko-Dig in Pakistan.

The USA has invested in the Reko-Dig project in Pakistan. As the Pakistan site of Reko-dig is rich in rare earth metals, and USA has required these for the development of critical infrastructure. According to the ISSI Report, USA company has announced to invest \$15M in Reko-dig. This economic cooperation strengthen relations between both countries.

How the strengthening relations between USA and Pakistan determines shifts in global order.

Through following ways, the economic relations between both countries determine shift in global order.

Shift from India to Pakistan:  
USA has shifted from India to Pakistan. As India has become key ally in Indo-pacific strategy but the diplomatic relations with Pakistan has constrained relations with India. Donald Trump has impose 50% tariffs on India in which 25% are punitive tariffs. While the tariffs impose on Pakistan are 19%. This reflect the change in USA interest from India to Pakistan.

Pakistan - US relations strengthened

The economic and diplomatic relationships between Pakistan and USA has strengthened. They both started anti-terrorism co-operation and USA invested in Pakistan. Apart this, the high profile visit of Pakistan PM and head of defence in USA also strengthened relations.

### Strategy for balancing relations

Pakistan need to balance its relation with china and USA. As the china has started CPEC with Pakistan. Hence, Pak need to co-operate with china economically through CPEC and militarily through counter terrorism operations and technologic sharing. With this, Pakistan also need to continue relations with USA in Reko Diq project. This balancing approach protect Pakistan against unilateral tilt toward one country.

Conclusion.

The US-Pakistan relations has strengthened after the Indo-Pak conflict. US company has invested in rare earth metal project in Pakistan. The high priority exists between both countries also strengthened relations. But Pakistan need to adopt balanced approach with USA and china to harness complete benefits from both country.

**Question #3.**

Outline.

Indo-Pak relations and Indus water treaty.

Indian unilateral abrogation

of treaty

Implications

Measures for Pakistan

Conclusion.

Introduction

The Indo-Pak relationship are

worsen since the separation of both countries due to territorial dispute and allegations of terrorism. They both have fought wars on their disputes. But the Indus water treaty among both are long standing treaty of the world among two rival countries. But the India unilaterally suspend the treaty due to terrorist attack at Pahalgama. This unilateral suspension intensify the relationship between both countries, increases risk of nuclear war, heighten water security in Pakistan, and undermined the stability in south asia. The question examines the implications of unilateral abrogation of Indus water treaty by India.

Indo-Pak relations and Indus water treaty.

Pakistan and India has

signed Indus water treaty that distribute the water of Indus river among both countries. It is signed in 1960 due to mediatory role of world bank. Both the countries has fought 4 wars on Kashmir's issue but the treaty remains alive.

The Indus water treaty is the long standing treaty among the two rival countries.

(President World Bank)

Indian unilateral abrogation of Indus water treaty.

India unilaterally abrogate Indus water treaty in 2019 after the terrorist attack on Pahalgam. This abrogation of treaty is against the principles of the treaty. Indian

claims that Pakistan has conducted terrorist attacks in Indian territory. On basis of this claim, they unilaterally suspend the treaty. As the Indian PM said, Blood and water not flow together.

Pakistan stance regarding abrogation of treaty.

Pakistan has adopted the reactive policy towards India regarding the abrogation of Indus water treaty. They criticized Indian action and appealed case on International Court of Justice.

If Indian has suspended treaty, we declare war against India.

(Bilawal Bhutto - FM of Pakistan).