

Question no. 2

I Introduction:

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was the first to coined the term of 'Two Nation Theory' for the protection of Muslims' political, social and economic interest in sub-continent. He laid the foundations for upoming generations. Sir Syed worked through educating the Muslim community in the sub-continent. He strictly warned Muslims to aloof from politics. Through education the Muslims of Sub-continent move towards their political and economic rights. Sir Syed advised Muslims to stay closer to British crown for future benefits. Next, communal representation and political separatism through language protection was the prominent initiative of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan. Whereas, Indian national Congress adopted mass protests, agitation policy, majoritarian rule, and wanted immediate constitutional reforms from Brishh Crown. Both segments of society wanted their identity to be intact in sub-continent. However, their strategies were fundamentally different.

II. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's political strategy for Muslim interests

Educational empowerment over immediate politics

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan advocated his idea of educating the Muslims of subcontinent. He stopped Muslims from politics and warned them to stay away from politics. He established schools, colleges, and later the MAO college became University in 1920. Sir Syed was of the view that education will lead Muslims to awareness for their rights.

Founded MAO college 1875 to create bureaucratic Muslim elite

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, founded MAO college for the higher education of Muslims in sub-continent. He argued that the British are closer to Indian Hindus due to their educated background. He proceeded the cause of education with the aid and help of British.

Power through education rather than protest

In "The Making of Pakistan" K-K Aziz argued that Sir Syed worked for the Muslims political rights through education and gave his idea of 'Trinity'. In which first was to achieve educational empowerment. Power through education can be achieved gradually. As the Muslim of Sub-continent defeated in the 'War of Independence', which was a kind of protest.

Loyalty to British crown as political realism

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan viewed British as permanent reality of the Sub-continent. He advocated loyalty to British Crown. He advised Muslims to with confidence of British to achieve empowerment and safety from political annihilation. Syed viewed the British a gift from God.

Ian Talbot in his "Pakistan a Modern History" noted that, Sir Syed noted Muslims vulnerability after 1857 war and the behaviour of British with them

was extremely biased.

Communal representation and political separatism

Sir Syed warned Muslims through his writings not to join Indian National Congress. The party was solely belonged to Hindu majority and they will use Muslims for their benefits. Syed further said that the representation of Muslims can be secured through 'Aloofness' from politics. His 'Idea of 'Trinity' told next about aloofness from politics. Ayesha Jalal in her, "Sir Syed Ahmed Khan^F as first to articulate Muslims political separatism, "The sole Spokeperson"

Separate political identity due to demographic disadvantage

Hindus were in majority and the Muslims were one-fourth of the majority. Sir Syed advocated for the separate identity of the Muslims of Sub-continent. He refused the idea of majoritarian rule in his political struggle for Muslims.

Opposition to early representation from institutions

Sir Syed feared that early electoral politics would marginalize Muslims. Indian National Congress was Hindu-dominated body will never give chance to Muslims to be in power. In 'Islam and Muslim History in South Asia' the Author argues Protective Separatism was the main goal of Sir Syed for Muslims.

Socio-economic uplift as shield against marginalization

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan focused on modern science, English and literature. He focused on civil service exams for Muslims in Sub-continent. His aim was to reverse Muslims socio-economic decline after Mughal Empire collapse. 'Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Muslim modernization' refers to the struggle of Sir Syed for the protection of socio economic uplift of Muslims.

III. Strategies of Indian National Congress

Congress political approach towards mass politics and agitation

Bipan Chandra in 'Indians Struggle for independence' says that the sole purpose of Indian national congress to run majoritarian rule in India through protests, and petitions. Hindus in Indian National Congress (INC) claimed to represent all Indians but largely their motive was for Hindu Nationalism

territorial nationalism for majoritarian rule

Hindus promoted Single Indian nation ~~regard~~ regardless of several minorities. and religious identities. They ignored several minorities insecurities under majoritarian framework. Reference: Sumit Sarkar's Modern India.

Immediate constitutional reforms

Hindus demanded self governance, legislative councils and later Hindu Raj in Sub-continent. Hindus emphasized on majority demographic number to rule over sub-continent, and for the democratic process. They continuously pursue for the cause of democratic process in India. However Sir Syed was a staunch protestor of democracy in India until Muslims get their education.

IV. Critical Evaluations

Strengths of Sir Syed's political strategy

Sir Syed protected Muslim identity from political annihilation. He laid the foundation, for upcoming leader, for Muslims League and Two-Nation-Theory. Muslims followed the footsteps of Syed and achieved separate electorate in 1906. Syed created a modern Muslim leadership class in Sub-continent.

Limitations of his struggle

Political struggles delayed in the process of aloofness from politics. His approach to excessive loyalty towards British proved conservative in long-run. Critics argued that it slowed nationalist movement for Muslims of India.

Historical context of his struggles

The strategy of Sir Syed was contextually rational in post 1857 India. He served as the 'Intellectual Bridge' between decline and political awakening. K.K. Aziz called Sir Syed Ahmed Khan the 'architect of Muslim survival'.

Conclusion:

Sir Syed's political strategy was defensive, gradualist, and identity centered, fundamentally distinct from Congress mass based, majoritarian nationalism, and it ultimately shaped the ideological foundations of Muslim Separatism in India.

Q3. Climate Change

I. Introduction:

Climate change has emerged as an environmental concern into a major traditional security threat for Pakistan. Despite contributing less than 1% to global greenhouse gas emissions, Pakistan ranks among the most climate vulnerable countries of the world. Rising temperatures, erratic monsoons, floods, droughts and glacier melt are directly affecting economic stability, social cohesion and political governance. According to Global Climate Risk Index, Pakistan has repeatedly appeared among the top ten affected countries, highlighting the gravity of the challenge.

II. Socio-Economic implications of Climate change

Threat to economic security

Climate change has severely disrupted Pakistan's economic foundations, particularly agriculture which employs around 40%.

of the labour force. Floods in 2010 and 2022 destroyed crops, livestock, and infrastructure, causing losses exceeding 30 billion dollars. The World Bank notes that climate shocks reduce Pakistan's GDP growth by up to two percent annually, reinforcing poverty and inequality.

Food insecurity and livelihood loss

Erratic rainfall patterns and rising temperatures have reduced crop yield of wheat, rice and cotton. According to Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports, climate induced stress has intensified insecurity, particularly in Sindh and Balochistan. Loss of livelihoods has accelerated rural to urban migration. It places pressure on urban infrastructure and informal settlements.

Human security and health risks

Heatwaves, water scarcity, and floods have increased health vulnerabilities.

The 2015 Karachi heatwave alone caused over one thousand deaths. WHO identifies climate change as a multiplier of disease outbreaks, malnutritions, and water borne ~~disea~~ diseases, especially among women and children.

III. Political and governance implications

Internal displacement and social tensions

Climate disasters have created millions of internally displaced persons. The 2022 flood displaced more than eight million people, straining provincial administration and humanitarian capacity. Such displacements increases ethnic tensions, competition over resources and local conflicts.

Federal provincial coordination challenges

Climate governance in Pakistan exposes weaknesses in governance of Federation. Disaster responses often suffers from

Federal, provincial and local government coordination. Analyst Aqeel Shah argues that governance deficit rather than climate alone exacerbate insecurity outcomes.

Climate and National security

The Pakistan's national security policy recognizes that the climate change is a core national security threat to Pakistan's security. Water issues, glaciers melts and transboundary water distribution are core issues for regional stability particularly Indus River is the core issue between India and Pakistan, As noted by Institute of Strategic Studies of Islamabad.

IV. Evaluation of Pakistan's policy response

Policy and institutional framework

Pakistan has developed several institutes and policy frameworks for the protection of vulnerable areas of concern. These include Climate change ministry,

National Climate Change policy, National Disaster management Authority and Provincial disaster Management Authorities. Pakistan updated Nationally determined contributions under the Paris agreement. It demonstrates commitments at the international level.

Achievements of policy initiatives

Initiatives such as Ten Billion tree Tsunami, climate resilient infrastructure projects and early warning systems, reflects programme. UNDP and UNEP awarded Pakistan for climate change advocacy and at global forums, loss and damage financing initiatives

Structural weaknesses of Pakistan's policy framework

Despite policy frameworks, imple. implementation to these remains weak. Key challenges include inadequate funding, politicization of disaster response, lack of local capacity and poor data integration. The Asian development Bank

note that Disaster management in Pakistan remains reactive rather than proactive.

Gaps in institutional mechanism

There is absence of climate mainstreaming in economic planning. Also, it contribute to weak urban resilience planning. The limited coordination between energy, water and climate institutes aggravate the condition of climate disasters.

Critical Analysis

Climate change acts as a threat multiplier in Pakistan by aggravating existing socio-economic vulnerabilities and governance weaknesses. While institutional awareness has increased, their response remain fragmented and short-term. As Ishrat Hussain argues that without governance reforms and institutional coherence climate resilience cannot be achieved merely through policies.

Conclusion:

Climate change has firmly emerged as a non-traditional security threat to Pakistan, affecting economic stability, social harmony and political governance. While Pak has developed an evolving institutional architecture to address climate risks, gaps in implementation, coordination and capacity continue to undermine resilience. A shift from reactive disaster management to proactive climate adaption, integrated planning, and local empowerment is essential to secure Pakistan's sustainable and secure future.

Question no.4

I. Introduction:

Pakistan occupies a critical geo-strategic location at the crossroads of South Asia, Central Asia and Middle East and Western China. Under China's Belt and Road initiative, Pakistan has emerged as a ~~flagship~~ flagship partner through the China Pakistan Economic Corridor. However evolving regional alignments in Asia, including India's strategic convergence with the United States and China's growing outreach to Central Asia and the Middle East, raise questions about the Pakistan's strategic relevance has diminished or merely transformed from a geo strategic to geo economic role.

II Geoeconomic Significance of Pakistan's Connectivity initiatives

A. Pakistan as a corridor state

Pakistan provides China with the shortest and most secure access to the

Arabian Sea through Guadar port. This reduces China's reliance on the Malacca's strait, a vulnerability highlighted in Chinese strategic literature. According to the Andrew Small, CPEC^{is} central to China's western development strategy and energy security calculus.

B. Trade and energy connectivity

CPEC enhances regional trade integration by linking western China with South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East. Energy projects under CPEC have added significant megawatts to Pakistan's grid, addressing chronic shortages. The World Bank notes that connectivity driven growth can raise Pakistan's GDP by improving logistics, reducing transport costs and boosting exports.

C. Guadar port and meditime geoeconomics

Guadar is positioned near key sea lanes of the Indian Ocean, close to strait of Hormuz through which a significant share of global oil trade passes. Guadar's development

enhances Pakistan's role in maritime trade, energy transshipment and regional logistics, reinforcing its regional relevance

D. Regional integration potential

Pakistan's connectivity initiatives aims to integrate South Asia with Central Asia through projects such as CASA 1000 and proposed railway lines. The Asian Development Bank views Pakistan as a potential hub for the regional energy and trade corridors, if political and security constraints are addressed.

III. Impact of evolving realignment in Asia

A. India's strategic realignment

India's deepening partnership with the United States (US), Japan and Australia through the Quad and Indo Pacific strategy have shifted regional power dynamics. This has reduced Pakistan's traditional security centric relevance to Western powers, particularly after the US withdrawal from Afghanistan.

B. China's diversification strategy other than Pakistan

China has expanded BRI's routes through Central Asia, Iran and Russia, reducing over reliance on any single door corridor. China's diversification limits Pakistan exclusivity. However, Chinese policy documents emphasize redundancy rather than replacement, indicating Pakistan remains an important but not singular route.

C. Afghanistan and regional instability

Continued instability in Afghanistan has constrained Pakistan's ambition to become a regional transit hub. This weakens immediate connectivity dividends but does not eliminate long term strategic relevance as noted by the Strategic Studies Institute of Islamabad.

IV. Has Pakistan's Strategic relevance declined

Critical evaluation

Pakistan's relevance has not declined but evolved. During the cold war and war on terror, Pakistan's importance was primarily geo strategic. Under the (BRI) framework, its value is increasingly geo economic. While Pakistan is no longer central to US led security architecture, it remains vital to China's regional vision, energy security and Western Integration Strategy. As Raja Mohan argues, relevance in the twenty first century is measured by connectivity and economic centrality rather than military alliance alone.

II. Challenges limiting to Geo-Economic Potential

→ Security concerns affecting investors confidence

→ Governance and policy inconsistency

→ Limited export diversification

→ Regional political tensions, particularly with India

Conclusion:

Pakistan's connectivity initiatives under the Belt and Road initiatives framework have enhanced its geo economic significance by positioning it as a corridor state, maritime gateway and regional integrator. Although evolving ~~integrator~~ regional alignment have reduced Pakistan's regional security centric relevance for some global powers. They have not diminished its strategic centric ~~relevance~~ importance. Instead, Pakistan's relevance has transitioned towards economic connectivity. The sustainability of this relevance depends on domestic stability, governance reforms, and the successful realization of connectivity dividends.