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Batch 83 (41203)

Mock Exam (VII)

International Relation

(Part - I)

Q.No-1

Discuss the concept of international society. Critically analyze its Origin and evolutionary process. Is the rationale of international system proposed by English school holistic enough to address the contemporary Challenges to the globe?

## 9 Introduction

The contemporary international arena is anarchic yet structured, where states operate in the absence of a central authority.

The concept of international society, central to the English School, explains how states despite anarchy form a society guided by shared rules, norms, and institutions. Hedley Bull describes this as an "anarchical society"

emphasizing that order and stability emerge not from coercion but from mutual recognition, diplomacy and normative frameworks.

This perspectives bridges the Realist focus on power with idealist aspirations for justice, offering a holistic lens to analyze both historical and contemporary global challenge.

## b Conceptual Foundations

/: ~~Orig~~

Hudley Bull's 'Anarchical Society' Highlights that order is maintained through mutual recognition of sovereignty, law and conventions.

Martin wight's Rationalism bridges Realist prudence with idealist aspirations.

Focus on rules, norms, and shared understandings that govern state behavior.

## c Westphalian Sovereignty

Originates from 1648

Treaty of Westphalia, establishing state sovereignty and non-interference. Provides the legal and normative base for modern state interactions.

## d Historical Evolution

19th Century: Concert of Europe institutionalized conflict management through diplomacy

20th Century: Globalization  
cyber threats end

transnational crises  
challenge traditional  
norms.

In the 19th century, the Concert of Europe institutionalized diplomacy, illustrating that major powers could maintain order through norms and consultations, avoiding large-scale conflict. The 20th century saw the emergence of League of Nations and later the United Nations, formalizing multilateralism, collective security, and rule based cooperation. These developments show that even under anarchy, states seek mechanisms to coordinate behaviour, limit conflict and uphold shared

expectations. However the system has always been dynamic, adapting to shifting power balances and emerging threats.

## e Norms and Institutions

International society functions through shared norms, rules and institutional frameworks that regulate state behavior. States cooperate via treaties, conventions and multilateral organizations recognizing mutual obligations and legitimacy. Institutions like the UN, BRICS and SCO exemplify how rules-based cooperation mitigates conflict.

while facilitating diplomacy  
economic collaborations and  
security coordination.

This framework underscores  
that sovereign states can  
voluntarily follow norms  
balancing self-interest  
with collective responsibility.

## f. Strengthen of the Concept

The English School's  
international society  
provides a holistic analytical  
lens, integrating both  
Realist and idealist  
insights. It explains  
why states cooperate  
despite anarchy emphasizing  
that order can emerge

Without a central authority. By focusing on shared norms and institutionalized diplomacy, it accounts for historical continuity in conflict resolution and multilateral engagement. Moreover, the framework accommodates both power considerations and moral aspirations offering a balanced perspective on international relations.

## 9 Limitations and Critique

Despite its explanatory power, the concept has notable limitations. It remains Eurocentric drawing primarily on western diplomatic history and

Underestimates the role of non-state actors such as transnational corporations, terrorist groups and cyber actors. It also provides limited guidance for contemporary challenges like climate change, global pandemics, and asymmetric warfare. Consequently, while it captures the dynamics of state-centric order, the framework requires augmentation with constructivist and liberal approaches to fully address modern global issues.

## h Contemporary Relevance

In today's multipolar

and globalized world the English School remains relevant in analyzing UN interventions, regional cooperations, and multilateral diplomacy. It helps explain why states adhere to rules voluntarily, even in the absence of overarching authority. However, emerging challenges necessitate adaptive interpretation integrating human security cyber governance and transnational norms. The framework thus provides a foundational lens, but must evolve to remain fully effective in understanding contemporary international relations.

## Conclusion

The concept of international society offers a comprehensive framework bridging power, norms and institutions.

It explains how states maintain order under anarchy, while balancing self-interest with shared obligations.

Historically robust, it has guided diplomacy from the concert of Europe to the UN era. Yet 21st-century challenges - cyber threats, climate crises, transnational terrorism - require flexible multi-layered approaches integrating both state

and non-state actors. Ultimately, the English school provides a normative and analytical foundation but contemporary global governance demands its adaptation and expansion to effectively manage the complexities of a globalized, interdependent world.

## Q NO. 2

Examine the concept of asymmetric warfare and its application in contemporary conflicts...? particularly in the context of Pakistan-India relation

## ● Introduction:

Asymmetric warfare refers to conflict in which belligerents possess markedly different military capabilities, leading the weaker actor to adopt unconventional strategies to offset conventional disadvantages. Unlike traditional symmetric conflicts dominated by directed force-on-force engagements, asymmetric warfare emphasizes guerrilla tactics, insurgency, cyber operations, and proxy engagements. In the South Asia context this form of warfare has become central to India-Pakistan relations shaping both

Strategic calculations  
and military doctrines.

## b Conceptual Understanding

The essence of asymmetric warfare lies in exploiting vulnerabilities of militarily superior opponent through indirect and unconventional methods. It encompasses irregular operations, terrorism, cyber attacks and economic coercion, compelling the stronger state to face disproportionate costs for engagement. This concept challenges traditional military logic requiring both strategic foresight and flexible doctrines to respond effectively.

to threats that are diffuse multi-domain and often politically sensitive.

## C Historical and Contemporary Application

Historically Pakistan has employed asymmetric strategies to counter India's conventional superiority particularly in Kashmir-related conflicts. Contemporary manifestations include cross-border proxy engagements, limited tactical strikes and psychological operations designed to signal deterrence without triggering full-scale war. India's approach

emphasized conventional force modernization intelligence and counter insurgency operations reflecting a strategic asymmetry where both states calibrate responses to maintain a delicate balance under the nuclear umbrella.

## d Strategic Calculations

Asymmetric warfare fundamentally alters decision-making processes. For Pakistan irregular tactics serve as a strategic equalizer introducing uncertainty and raising the costs of aggression for India. India's calculations involve rapid mobilization

precision strikes and calibrated counter-insurgency while maintaining nuclear thresholds. The presence of asymmetric threats forces both sides to prioritize flexibility, multi-domain readiness and constant risk assessment in their military and foreign policy strategies.

## e Implications for military

### Strategy

The asymmetric paradigm diminishes the absolute value of conventional superiority. Compelling innovation in intelligence, rapid response and hybrid operations. Both states

must consider political, economic, and reputational factors as prolonged low intensity conflicts attract international attention and diplomatic pressure. Nuclearization further complicates military strategy requiring restraint crisis management and calibrated escalation control to prevent inadvertent catastrophe.

## f Contemporary Relevance

In modern South Asia asymmetric warfare remains a core element of strategic doctrine enabling weaker actors to

Leverage unconventional tactics for political and military advantage. Both India and Pakistan continuously adapt doctrines to address cyber war threats proxy engagement and hybrid warfare highlighting the dynamic interplay between conventional and unconventional strategies. Understanding these dynamics is critical for policy making defense planning and regional instability.

## 9 Conclusion

Asymmetric warfare has fundamentally transformed strategic calculations in South Asia, allowing weaker

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act to challenge strategic adversaries while compelling dominant states to adapt, innovate, and exercise restraint. In the Pakistan-India context it informs military planning, deterrence policies and crisis management but carries inherent risks of escalation and regional instability. Effective handling requires strategic foresight, multi-domain readiness and calibrated responses ensuring asymmetric tactics functions as deterrence mechanisms rather than triggers for full scale conflict.

## Q NO. 3

Determinants of Foreign Policy Decision Making: Using the example of USA's evolving foreign policy?

### a Introduction

Foreign policy reflects a state's strategic choices to safeguard national interests in an international environment. It is shaped by a complex interplay of domestic, international and economic determinants which collectively influence the objectives, priorities and instruments of statecraft. The United States provides

a clear illustration of how foreign policy evolves in response to changing internal dynamics and external pressures balancing national security economic imperatives and global leadership aspirations.

## b Domestic Determination

Domestic politics significantly shape foreign policy outcomes. Factors such as public opinion, political institutions, bureaucratic structures and leadership preferences influence decision-making. In the USA, Congress, the presidency and think

Tables play a critical role in framing foreign policy agendas. Electoral politics, party ideology and media narratives often affect choices on wars, alliances, and international commitments reflecting the domestic legitimacy requirement for foreign action.

## C International Determinants

Foreign policy is constrained and guided by the international environment.

Geopolitical competition, alliances, global norms, and threats from other states determine strategic behavior.

For example during the Cold war US foreign policy was heavily shaped by Soviet expansion, containment strategies and NATO commitments requiring strategic balancing to protect national interests and uphold global influence.

## d Economic Determinants

Economic considerations are central to shaping foreign policy. Access to markets, energy resources, trade routes and investment opportunities guides strategic choices. The USA has

historically linked foreign policy to economic expansion, from the Marshall plan in post-WWII Europe to contemporary trade agreements and sanctions regimes using economic tools to project power and influence internationally.

## e Case Study:

### USA's Evolving Foreign Policy

US foreign policy has adapted to shifting domestic, international and economic conditions. During the Cold war ideological containment

and military alliances dominated. Post-Cold war, the USA emphasized liberal internationalism, economic globalization and counterterrorism, reflecting both domestic consensus and international opportunity structures.

In recent years, policies under different administrations have shifted between multilateral engagement and strategic unilateralism, demonstrating how internal politics, economic priorities and global realities interact to shape outcomes.

## f Intersplay of Determinants

Foreign Policy is rarely determined by single factors. Domestic pressures international constraints and economic imperatives interact dynamically, producing complex and adaptive decision-making processes. In the US case political ideology electoral cycles global threats and economic objectives combine to influence both short-term responses and long-term strategy, illustrating the multi-dimensional nature of policy formation.

## 9 Contemporary Relevance

Understanding the determinants of foreign policy is

critical in today's multipolar and interdependent world. States must navigate transnational threats economic interdependence and global institutional frameworks, requiring decision makers to balance internal legitimacy with external strategic imperatives. The US example demonstrates that effective foreign policy is both reactive and proactive integrating domestic stability, global strategy and economic interests.

## h Conclusion

Foreign policy is the product of

domestic, international and economic determinants dynamically interacting to shape a state's external behavior. The USA illustrates how leadership preferences, institutional frameworks, global competition and economic objectives collectively influence policy choices. Understanding these determinants is essential for analyzing foreign policy consistency, adaptability and strategic foresight, highlighting that effective statecraft requires a balanced consideration of internal capacities and external constraints.

## Q NO. 4

Examine the issue of water security in South Asia, IWT, Pak - india — ?

### a Introduction

Water security has emerged as a critical non-traditional security challenges in South Asia, where hydrological resources are unevenly distributed and population pressures are rising. The Indus River system, shared by India and Pakistan is a strategic lifeline for agriculture, energy, and domestic consumption. Recent events including

hydro-aggression and unilateral threats to the Indus water treaty, highlight how water has become both a political instrument and a source of interstate tension, influencing regional stability and security dynamics.

## b Conceptual Understanding of water Security

Water security encompasses the availability, accessibility, and sustainable management of freshwater to meet human, economic, and ecological needs. In international relations, it is a transboundary

Security issue, linking environmental, economic and strategic dimensions. Water **scarcity** can exacerbate political disputes, social unrest and interstate conflicts particularly in river basins shared by rival states with asymmetric capabilities.

### C Historical Context:

#### Indus Water Treaty (IWT)

The 1960 Indus Water Treaty, brokered by the World Bank, allocated river waters between India and Pakistan, serving as a cornerstone of bilateral water cooperation.

Despite multiple wars the treaty endorsed as a symbol of institutionalized conflict management. However recent indian initiatives on dams diversion projects and unilateral abrogation threats have challenged the treaty, raising fears of hydro-hegemony and threatening pakistan's agricultural and energy security.

## d Hydro-Aggression and Tensions

India's Strategic Control over the eastern rivers of the Indus system and its construction of large dams and barrages

are perceived by Pakistan as acts of hydro-aggression. Such moves allow India to exercise coercive leverage, disrupt downstream water flows and gain strategic advantage. In response, Pakistan has modernized its water management, raised international awareness and employed legal and diplomatic countermeasures, emphasizing that water scarcity can escalate into broader security dilemmas.

## e Impact On Regional Security

Water conflicts amplify strategic mistrust

and can trigger cross-border tensions indirectly affecting military postures and diplomatic relations. In a nuclearized South Asia hydro-conflict has the potential to escalate conventional tensions, complicating existing disputes over Kashmir and borders. Additionally water insecurity can contribute to internal instability displacement and economic vulnerability making it a transnational security threat.

## f Policy and Stability

### Measures

Ensuring water stability requires bilateral

Cooperation, multilateral frameworks and technological innovation.

Confidence-building measures such as joint river

Commissions, data-sharing mechanisms and transparent dam operations can reduce

mistrust. International mediation and adherence

to IWT principles remain crucial, while domestic

water conservation, efficient irrigation, and climate-resilient

infrastructure can reduce vulnerability. A combination

of diplomatic engagement, technical collaboration

and regional dialogue

is essential to prevent escalation.

# Contemporary Relevance

In the era of climate change and growing water scarcity, South Asia's rivers are both a source of conflict and potential cooperation. Pakistan and India must recognize that cooperative water management is critical for economic growth, energy security, and regional stability. Failure to address hydro-political tensions can undermine trust, exacerbate bilateral hostilities, and invite external intervention, further complicating South Asia's security environment.

## Conclusion

Water security in South Asia is a strategic and non traditional security challenge with india - pakistan disputes over the indus system illustrating the interplay of environmental, political and strategic factors. Hydro aggression and unilateral threats undermine regional stability, escalate mistrust and heighten vulnerability. Sustainable peace requires institutionalized cooperation adherence to treaties technological adaptation and confidence building measures ensuring that shared water resources become a bridge

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for collaboration  
rather than a trigger  
for conflict.

