NOA - Pakistan - final 2026
Affairs MOCK

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Q.1

1. Introduction

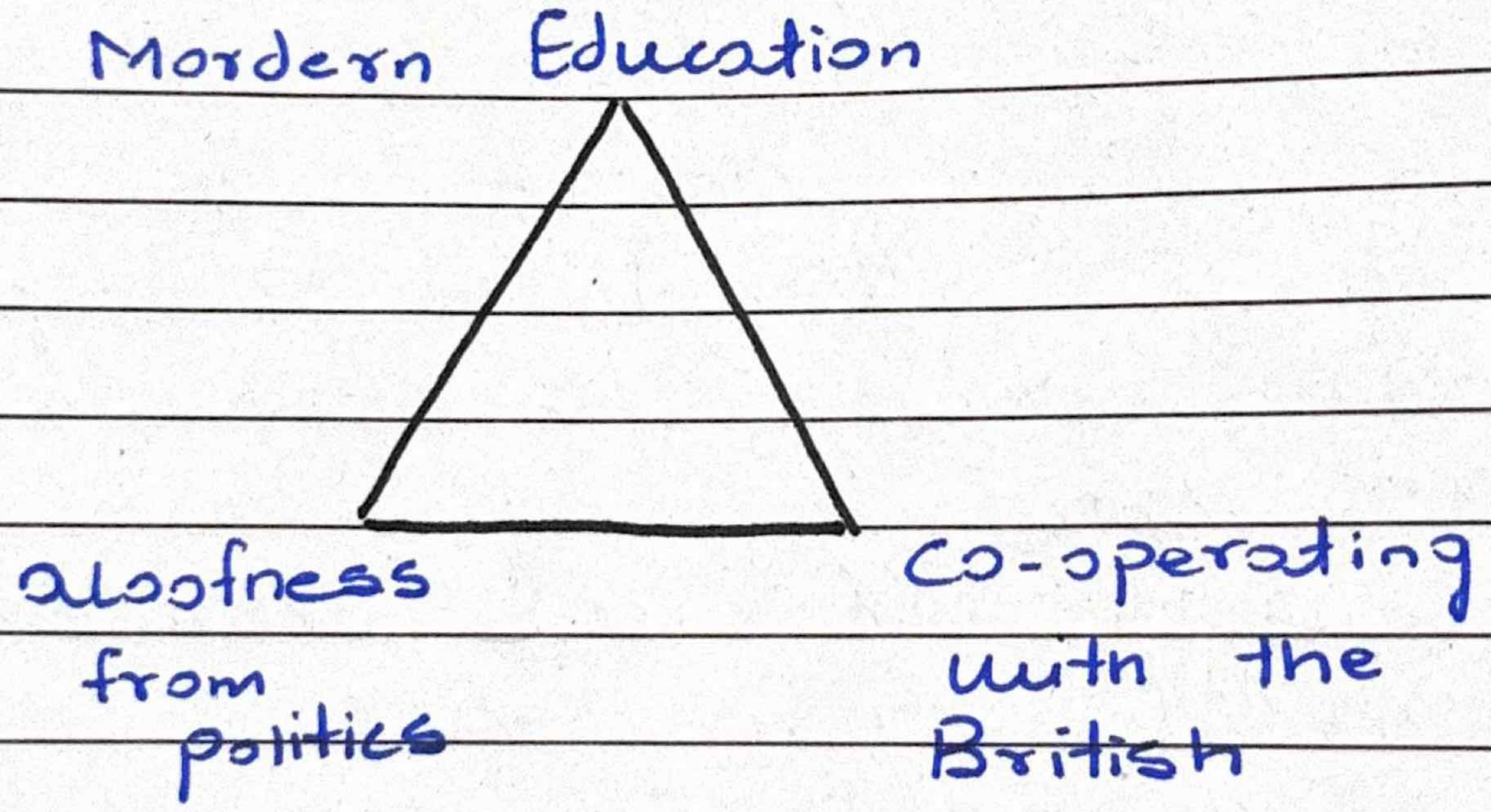
Sir Syed Ahmed khan was one of the most prominent figures for Muslims in the pre-partition era. His policies were way ahead of the time but in many ways laid the ground work for finding a homeland for the muslims of India. In his time he was branded a traitor by some muslim circles as well due to his unconventional approach in dealing with the British.

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2. Critically examine the political strategy of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan for the protection of Muslims interests in British India

1. Trinity Approach



A. Modern Education

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was the first scholar to identify that the decline of Muslims in India was due to failure to require modern education and he encouraged them to

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learn english

B. Aloofness from politics

He encouraged the muslims to stay away from politics as it got them a negative image with the British.

C. ~~Acquirin~~ Co-operating with the British

Sir Syed encouraged muslims to ~~education~~ co-operate with the British as by doing so Hindus were gaining more seats in administrative circles and their social standing was changing.

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2. Two-Nation Theory

Sir Syed was the first that identify Muslims and Hindus were two seperate nations. They had different history, culture and languages. Before this both communities were not seen completely seperate.

3. Aligarh University

Sir Syed also established the Aligarh university where prominent muslim leaders studied and work for the seperate homeland for muslims.

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4. Reducing grievances between british and Muslims through his written work- 'Causes of the Indian revolt'

Sir Syed through his work identified that muslims were not primarily responsible for the Indian revolt and Hindus were the majority.

5. Scientific Society -
translated works into Urdu of various languages

The Scientific Society started by Sir Syed published a lot of work by translating them into urdu. So the muslim masses can be better educated.

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3. How did his approach differ from methods adopted by Indian National Congress?

1. INC (Indian National Congress) was agitational

The INC was agitational with British. They completely boycotted British goods in the Swadeshi Movement.

In the non-co-operation movement, they opposed any dealing with the British until they accepted their demands.

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2. INC refused to co-operate with the British

Unlike Sir Syed, INC policies was based on refusal to co-operate with british. They did not seek any favour from the British but were opposed to them

3. INC was not focused on the acquiring of education of any community - wanted political rights

INC did not focus on educational development of any community. Their work was to get political rights in the running of the country and decide the order of the day.

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4. INC was focused on bringing change through political activism

INC was not waiting for British to be more positive towards them but politically active to create their demands met - annulment of partition of Bengal - 1911

5. INC was focused on removing British from India.

INC wanted complete removal of British from India. They wanted to govern their country themselves.

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4. ~~Conclusion~~

~~Sir Syed Ahmed Khan~~

Critical Examination of Sir Syed's political strategy :

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan understood that muslim heyday were over and the reality was that Muslims were a minority. Unlike hindu dominated congress they had to win favour of the British for their survival.

4. Conclusion

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's policies were evolutionary in the way he gave practical

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way to deal with problems muslims were facing. However his idea that rootness from politics would do muslim good was later changed by the Muslim league as well in 1913 as it became actively involved in politics.

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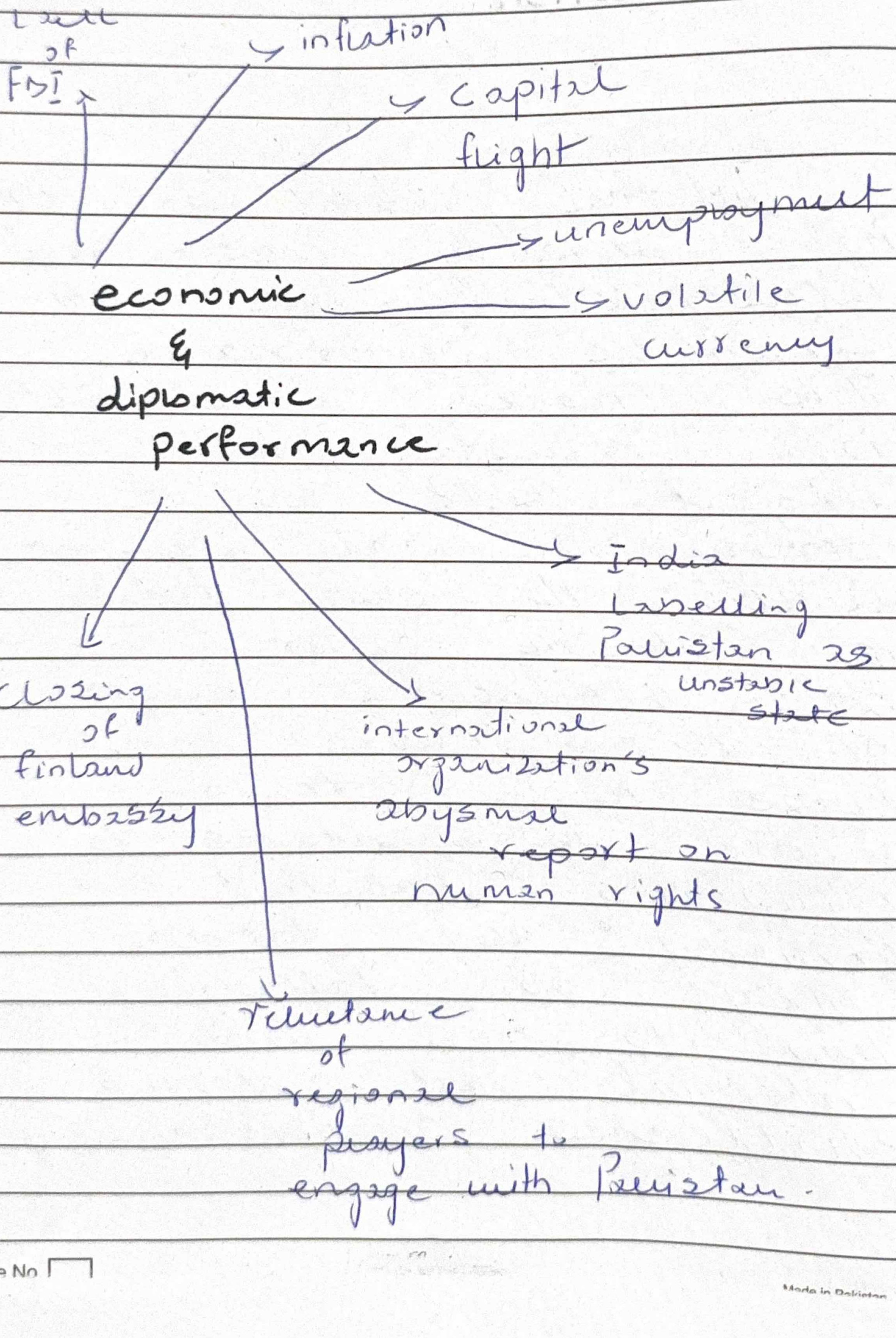
1. Introduction

Internal poutical instability has undoubty constrained Pakistan's economic and diplomatic performance. This makes it difficult for Pakistan to project itself as a strong regional player when its own house is not in order. There are structural causes of this crisis and these have created severe disadvantages for Pakistan's national security and foreign policy as Pakistan has to deal with internal and external challenges simultaneously.

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2. Internal political instability has constrained Pakistan's economic and diplomatic performance



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3. Analyze the structural causes of political instability

1. Constitutional clarity

There is lack of constitutional clarity in Pakistan as one amendment does not get passed and another is talked about.

e.g 27th amendment passed and their is speculation of 28th

2. Blurred lines between different branches of government

Various branches of the government encroach on other and this creates uncertainty as to which branch is to do what

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3. Routine passing of Ordinances

Routine passing of ordinances reduce the stature of parliament that has been devised to ensure legislation. The passing of ordinances creates trust-deficit that eventuly creates political instability.

4. Lack of consensus of election process

All poltical parties contest elections but as soon as they use the results are declared bogus. This creates trust-deficit. In comparison, USA India etc countries respect the prices.

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5. Lack of devolution of power to local governance

Article 140-A guarantees respect of a government structure that gives them local representatives to solve their issues. However, in reality these representatives at present lack power.

6. Politicisation of Bureaucracy

The bureaucracy has become highly politicized in the current government structures as removal/appointment of bureaucrats without due process.

In comparison, constitutional protection given to Indian bureaucrats that reduces political interference.

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7. Discontinuation of policies of predecessor government

Each government discounts predecessor's policies. Akbar. S. Zaidi - issues and challenges in Pakistan's Economy talks about the myopia of governments to discard policies of predecessor policies that creates chaos.

8. Curtailment of free-speech - Excessive powers to PEMRA

PRAPA - Digital Regulatory Power Authority - has been given excessive powers that allow them to silence dissent, and well thought putical criticism. This apply reduces freedom of information - 19-A is given in the constitution.

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3. Impact on Pakistan's national security and foreign policy of poutical instability

1. NATIONAL SECURITY

A. Excessive riots

The result has been routine protests by lawyers, media persons and civil rights activist that lead to escalation of conflict.

B. Conflict between civilians and administrative circle

The civilans and administrative circles have increasingly come at odds due to curtailments of constitutional rights of people.

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c. Easier to brainwash politically active youth

Youth in urban and rural areas easily brainwashed to join circles, such as TTP and BLA - Balochistan Liberation Army - or the false narrative that people's right are violated.

d. Economic cost - reluctance to invest - capital flight

Most investors reluctant to invest in Pakistan that reduces the economic sovereignty as has to go to IMF and World Bank who dictate the economy.

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2. Foreign policy

A. Declining diplomatic reach

The reach of Pakistan in diplomatic ~~fot~~ circles declines due to political instability as less trust by international community - Act222 Ahmed - Diplomatic footprints.

B. Regional partners reluctant to engage with Pakistan

Countries, such as china, become reluctant to engage with Pakistan as unsure about the future of the country.

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c. Internationally damages Pakistan's effort to improve its soft-image

Pakistan's soft-image is damaged due to the negative press it gets from various media channels

e.g 123/160 in human rights index.

⇒ Non-state actors get more space to damage Pakistan's image

The non-state actors get more room to legitimize themselves as representatives of people when there is political instability

e.g BLA arguing it represents people of Pakistan.

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Conclusion

Pakistan's political instability is a result of a variety of factors that are rooted in its structural issues. These issues pose huge challenges for Pakistan on the national security and foreign relations front. Therefore, there is a need to address the structural causes of political instability.

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Q.5

1. Introduction

There are political, economic and administrative factors that undermine federal cohesion in Pakistan. These factors have marred the country for generations and prevented effective working of the state.

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2. Identify the political, economic and administrative factors that undermine federal cohesion in Pakistan.

A.

Political factors → Majority province vs minority provinces
→ hostility between political parties
→ religious divide

Political factors that undermine federal cohesion include the ethnic fault lines that divide people along with minority provinces say in federation, and political divide

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between parties

Economic factors
- federal fiscal imbalance
- disproportionate burden on federation

Burden of debt
- $30 billion

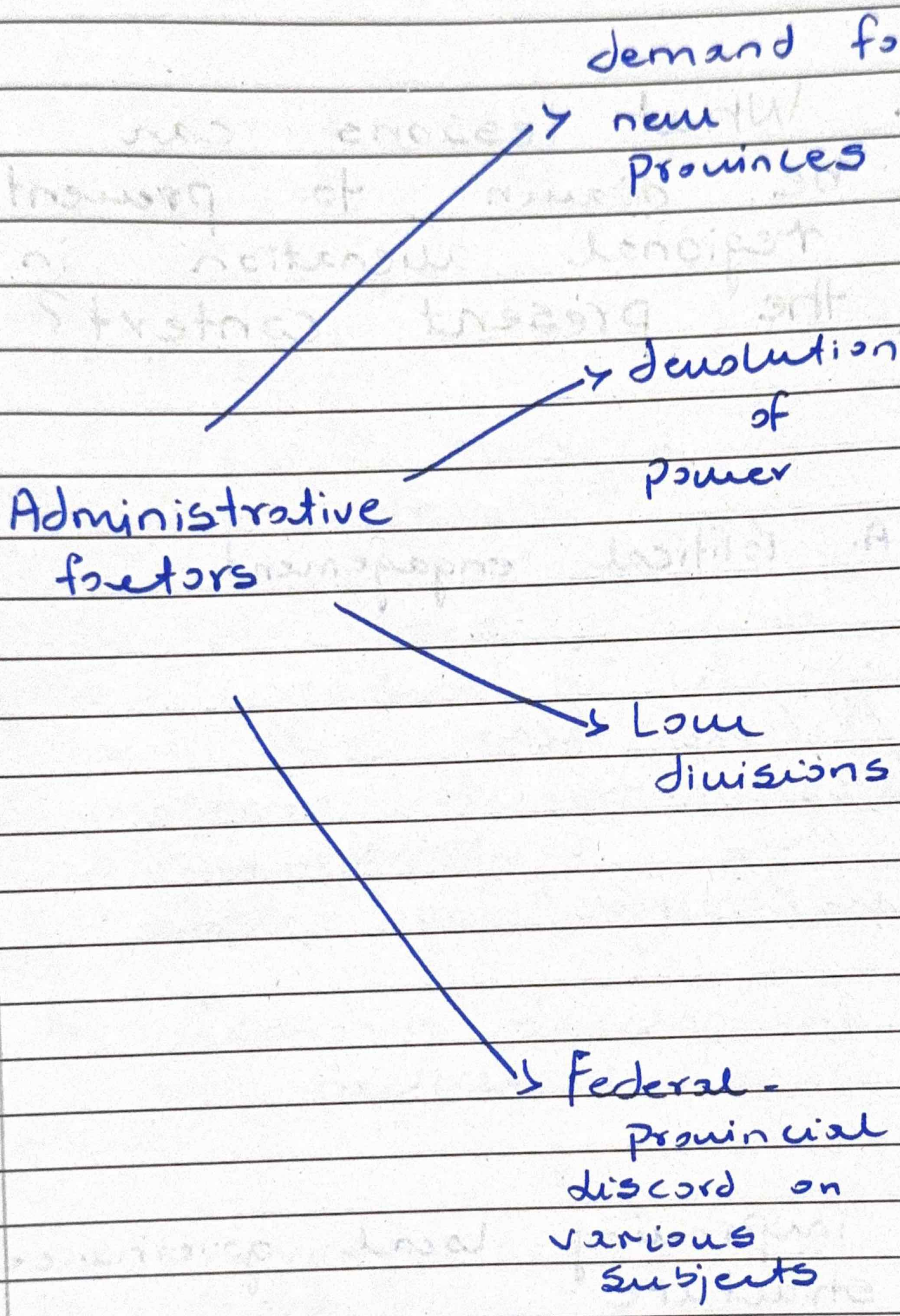
NFC award
- rethinking 18th amendment

Low revenue initiatives to increase tax collection - by province

The economic factors for lack of federal cohesion involve federal fiscal imbalance, circular debt burden on federal government and debate on NFC that is opposed by provinces

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Administrative factor that create discord is federation asking provinces to dessolve powers further as well as creation of new provinces and law and order subject.

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3. What lessons can be drawn to prevent regional alienation in the present context?

A. Political engagement

Political talks with all stakeholders is necessary to keep a permanent environment of peace

B. improving local governance structure

Article 140-A needs to be imposed with framework in 28th amendment. At present, their is lack of timeline for elections and what powers they need to be given.

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c. Swift judicial process

"Justice delayed is justice denied", at present, there are 200,000 cases pending Law institute of Pakistan and this creates tension between people and hostility with the governance as rights denied.

b. Economic development in backward areas

In many areas, the development is in a horrendous state creating further administrative divisions will improve development in areas left behind, such as schools, hospitals and reduce tensions.

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E. Greater share in the indigenous resources

The locals get a minisule share in their own resources. Sui gas taken from an area that entire Baluchistan enjoys but the same area lacks electrification and digital connection.

F. Elimination of rogue groups

The State has to eliminate groups, Such as BLA and TTP, for a viable and permanent peace these groups are creating unrest in the region and counterproductive to development.

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4. Conclusion

There are a range of factors - economic, political and administrative - that undermine federal cohesion. It is therefore imperative that a comprehensive framework is established to prevent regional alienation.

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1. Introduction

The geo-economic significance of Pakistan is immense due to Belt and Road framework as it connects various regions and giving the countries an opportunity to trade with regional and global players. It is therefore no surprize that other projects have sprout up to reduce its significance and counter the growing influence of Pakistan.

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2. Evaluation of the geo-economic significance of Pakistan's connectivity initiative under Belt and Road framework.

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1. Connecting China with rest of the world

China has spent over $75 billion dollars to develop this route as it reduces chinese freight time from 45 days to 14 days according to Bloomberg.

2. Less reliance on Malacca strait for china

China by using the CPEC route reduces its dependence on the Malacca strait that is becoming increasingly hostile with the passing

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day as Indo-pacific tensions rise

3. Russia access to warm waters

Russian ports freeze during the winters as in the Antarctic poles. This makes it difficult to keep trade open throughout the year. By connecting its trade through CARS it can reduce this dependence.

4. Connecting Asia with Europe - new Silk Road

Pakistan's belt and Road allows Asia to trade with Europe

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before trade had to pass through the Panama Canal that is overly stressed. However, through Pakistan - middle East route trade can pass at less interval.

5. CARS - Central Asian Republics connection with South Asia

Central Asian Republics have always sought to export their abundant resources to South Asia but lacked viable trade routes. This gives them an opportunity to trade with South Asia

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6. Asia and Africa connectivity

Through Pakistan Belt and Road, Asia and Africa become increasingly connected

3. Evolving regional alignment in Asia reduced Pakistan's strategic relevance ?

1. Bangladesh strained relation increase Pakistan's strategic relevance

The ouster of Hasina Wajid has improved relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh as after 11 years Bangladeshi foreign minister

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visited Pakistan. This shows regional alignment giving boost to Pakistan's strategic relevance.

2. China's continued support for Pakistan

China is supporting the infrastructure development with CPEC-II in phase. This keeps the prominent position of Pakistan strong

3. Iran has joined ~~CPEC~~ OBOR

China has included Iran in CPEC with $ 400 billion in investment in coming years. This solidifies position of a neighbour of Pakistan and increases connectivity of CPEC.

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4. IMEC losing significance - hostility in middle-East

IMEC is losing significance as Middle-East tensions have escalted with Israel attack on Qatar rethinking between the relations between regional players.

5. KSA - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Pact with Pakistan on defense strengthen image further Pakistan's

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has shown more support for Pakistan making it a strategic partner. This increases Pakistan's image and strategic location.

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6. USA's support for Pakistan and acquiring of minerals interest embolden expansion of infrastructure

USA is also looking to acquire rare earth Minerals from Pakistan and this will give greater funds to develop infrastructure

Conclusion

Pakistan's connectivity initiative are a game-changer for the region with benefits reaching far beyond. The current regional alignments are more in favour of Pakistan and increase its strategic significance

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