

Q2. Critically examine the political strategy of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan for the protection of Muslim interests in British India. How did his approach differ from the methods adopted by Indian National Congress?

Introduction:

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan formulated political strategy to safeguard Muslim interests in British India at a time when Muslims faced political decline, economic hardship and educational backwardness after 1857. His approach differed from Indian National Congress which follows the principle of nationalism and majority Rule.

1. Muslim Vulnerability Post 1857: Muslims were viewed suspiciously by the British and are excluded from power. Sir Syed believed that Muslims were not in position to compete politically and need rehabilitation to work before entering into Politics.

2) Education as Political foundation
Sir Syed considered modern education essential for muslim survival. The Aligarh Movement aimed to produce an educated Muslim elite capable of protecting their interests.

3 Loyalist policy toward the British.
He advocated cooperation with the British to restore Muslim confidence and secure employment and political concessions.

4 Opposing to Indian National Congress
Sir Syed viewed congress as a Hindu party. He warned Muslims that joining it would undermine their separate political identity.

5 Critique of Majority rule:
Sir Syed feared that representative democracy would lead to permanent Hindu domination due to numerical superiority. He emphasized

safe guards for minorities.

6 Congress Methods :-
Sir syed believed that
Congress relied on mass
mobilization for political
reforms

7 Gradualism vs Activism.
Sir syed favored gradual
political progress through education
and loyalty, ~~which~~ while
Congress demand racial political
change through activism.

Conclusion

Sir syed Ahmed Khan Political
strategy had concern for
Muslim survival in a
majoritarian colonial system.

By focusing cooperation with
British, getting modern education
he tried to protect Muslims

from political marginalization.
Sir syed's approach laid the
intellectual foundation of
Muslim separatist politics
and proved historically
significant.

Q Why have regional organizations in south and central Asia failed to deliver meaningful integration? Suggest practical measures for strengthening regional connectivity involving Pakistan?

Introduction :-

Regional organizations in south and central Asia, such as SAARC and ECO, have largely failed to achieve meaningful integration despite the regions economic potential. Political conflicts, lack of trust and weak institutional mechanisms have limited their effectiveness. Pakistan due to its strategic location, has a central role to play in enhancing regional connectivity if structural and political challenges are addressed.

Reasons for failure of Regional organizations .

1 Political Conflicts.

Bilateral tensions, especially India-

Pakistan rivalry have often paralyzed regional initiatives, preventing cooperation in trade, energy, and transport

2. Lack of trust:

Lack of trust amongst member states has limited collaboration. Countries prioritize national security over regional development

3. Weak institutional Framework:

Organizations like SAARC suffer from weak secretaries, poor funding and limited enforcement capacity, which hinders decision making and implementation.

4. Dominance of Bilateral Disputes.

Regional platforms are frequently used to advance bilateral agendas rather than promoting collective regional goals.

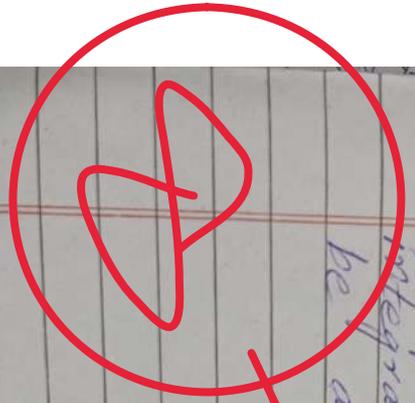
5. Low economic interdependence:

Trade barriers, tariff have prevented economic integration, reducing incentives for collaboration

Practical Measures for Strengthening Connectivity:

- 1) Improve transport and trade links. Develop roads, railways, and energy corridors, including CPEC as regional transit hubs.
- 2) Simplify trade policies: Reduce tariffs, custom duties, and adopt regional trade agreements to encourage economic exchange.
- 3) Strengthen Institutional Capacity: Empowers secretariats, improve funding, and establish mechanisms to ensure timely project implementation.
- 4) Promote People to People contacts: Cultural exchange, tourism and academic collaboration can reduce mistrust and built regional cohesion.

Conclusion:
The failure of regional organizations in South and Central Asia is rooted in political disputes, weak institutions, and lack of economic interdependence. Pakistan through strategic infrastructure development, trade facilitation, and regional diplomacy can play a leading role in strengthening connectivity. By prioritizing pragmatic cooperation over political rivalry, meaningful integration in the region can be achieved.



- Make flowcharts
- Keep length of all answers equal
- Add references
- Answer length should be 5 to 6 pages