

**Assignment** : Final.

**COURSE TITLE:** Pakistan studies.

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Question 01:

**Definition of Constitution**

The constitution is a basic document, which sets out the framework for governance and exercise of power. It defines the powers of the institutions and sets out the relationship that exists between different state institutions. It describes the powers within which these institutions have to work and what would be the nature of the relationship of the individual with the state. A constitution is a set of fundamental principles or established patterns according to which a state or other organization is ruled. The term constitution comes through French from the Latin word constitutio, used for regulations and orders. Culture, society, civilization, history, religion, traditions and political system are the sources of constitution making.

**Constitution of Pakistan**

Constitution of Pakistan is the supreme law of Pakistan. There have been several documents known as the Constitution of Pakistan. The Constitution of 1973 is the existing constitution, which provides for a parliamentary system with a President as head of state and popularly elected Prime Minister as head of government. Pakistan has a bicameral legislature that consists of the Senate (upper house) and the National Assembly(lower house). It was drafted by the government of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and, following additions by the opposition parties, was approved by the legislative assembly on April 10, 1973. It was Pakistan's first ever constitution by consensus unlike two earlier constitutions, the constitution of 1956 and the constitution of 1962.

Constitution of 1973:

 **Background**

Abrogation of the 1962 Constitution on March 25, 1969 led to second martial law in the country. Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto became first civilian chief martial law administrator of Pakistan on 20th December, 1971. After assuming power the most important task for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was to frame a new constitution. He was in favor of presidential form of government as this would give him more power but due to conflicting opinions within the Pakistan People’s Party he had to settle for parliamentary system. National Assembly approved an Interim Constitution, which was enforced on April 21, 1972.

**Constitution Making**

Constitutional Committee comprised National Assembly (NA) members from all parties was set up in April 1972. Law Minister was the Chairman of this Committee. All parties agreed on the future political system in October 1972. The Committee reported on December 31, 1972. After long deliberations and compromises the final draft was approved unanimously on April 10, 1973. Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto amassed a lot of power in the 1973 constitution and gave only nominal authority to the head of the state. The new constitution was approved on 14th August, 1973. This constitution remained enforced from 1973 to 1977 and suspended from 1977 to 1985. Later in 1985 this constitution was enforced again with a major amendment called 8th amendment, also termed as the mini-constitution. Later, Zia introduced 58-2-B and made president more powerful giving him power to dissolve the national assembly.

The Constitution functioned since then with two gaps. It remained operational during following periods:

* • 1973-77: Operational
* • 1977-1985: Suspended
* • 1985-1999: Operational after changes
* • 1999-2002 : Suspended
* • 2002 onwards Operational after changes

**Salient Features of 1973 Constitution**

All the Islamic provisions of the previous constitutions were included in the Constitution of 1973. Some more Islamic provisions were also added, which are as under.

**Parliamentary System:**

Parliamentary form of government was introduced. It was a parliamentary constitution having powerful Prime Minister (PM) as head of government with a very weak President. President must act on the advice of PM. All of his orders were to be countersigned by PM. Prime Minister need to be elected by the NA. PM exercised all executive authority. PM was answerable to the National Assembly (NA).

**Role of President:**

Role of President was reduced to a mere symbolic figure. In 1985, powers of the President were increased through the 8th constitutional amendment. He had power to dissolve the NA. He had the powers of appointment of caretaker PM. He could give his consent to bills passed by the parliament or returns these.

According to the Constitution of 1973 the President must be at least 45 years of age. He must be Muslim and Qualified to become member of the NA. He is elected by the Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies for 5 years. President was to act on the advice of the Prime Minister.

**Bicameralism:**

Bicameralism was introduced in the country including Upper and Lower houses.

o **The Senate**

Upper House called Senate. In this house equal representation was given to Provinces. Seats were reserved for the tribal areas, women and technocrats. Its original strength was 63, which was later raised to 87 and then 100, while the latest number is 104. Senate was to be elected through indirect election. It’s a permanent House as half of its members are elected after three years.

**National Assembly**

Lower House called National Assembly is elected on population basis. Its Original strength was 210 but now it is 342. NA is elected for five years. National Assembly member are elected through direct elections. Voting age for the franchise is lowered from 21 to 18.

National Assembly is more powerful than the Senate. Budget is presented before national assembly (NA). Cabinet was to be answerable to National Assembly.

Prime Minister was to be elected by the national assembly. Parliament under 1973 constitution is a powerful legislative body. It enjoys all legislative powers. It has control of the executive through questions, resolutions, parliamentary committees etc.

**Fedralism:**

Federal form of government was introduced. Federation of Pakistan has four provinces and federally administered areas. Two lists are given in the constitution: Federal list and Concurrent list. Residuary powers belong to provinces.

**Provincial structure:**

The President on the advice of the PM appointed provincial Governors. Elected Chief Minister exercises executive powers. Parliamentary system was introduced in the provinces.

Size of the provincial assembly varied depending on the size of population and number of constituencies. Governor rule to prevail in case of breakdown of provincial government. Provinces to depend on centre for finance. Residuary powers were to rest with the provinces. Centre was given emergency powers. Sufficient provincial autonomy was ensured in the constitution.

**Principles Of Policy:**

Islamic provisions are provided in Principles of Policy. Foreign policy principles are also given under this heading.

**Fundamental Rights**

Fundamental Rights are secured in the constitution and are implemented through the highest court. Supreme Court designated as the highest court in the country.

**Islamic Provision:**

Title of the state is Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The objectives resolution was the preamble in the initial constitution but through article 2-A of 8th amendment it was inserted in the constitution in 1985. Islam was declared the State Religion of Pakistan. Ahmadis were declared non-Muslims. Definition of Muslim was included by an amendment. Principles of Policy also carried some Islamic clauses.

Council for Islamic Ideology is established under the constitution. i. e. Federal Shariat Court was added in 1981. Council of Islamic ideology was established.

❖ **National Language**

Urdu was declared National Language; however, English may be used for official purposes until arrangements would be made for its replacement by Urdu. Provincial Assembly may prescribe measures for teaching, promotion and use of a provincial language in addition to the national language. Provincial assemblies were allowed to prescribe measures for the promotion of provincial languages.

**National Security Council**

National Security Council was added in 2002 in advisory capacity.

**Judiaciary:**

An independent judiciary was given under the constitution. Supreme Court of Pakistan was the highest court. One High Court was established in each province and one in Azad Kashmir. A chain of lower courts was there under the high courts. One high court was established in each province including Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Question 2:

What is Culture?

 Definitions of Culture

Culture is a notoriously difficult term to define.

In 1952, the American anthropologists, Kroeber and Kluckhohn, critically reviewed concepts and definitions of culture, and compiled a list of 164 different definitions. Apte (1994: 2001), writing in the ten-volume Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics, summarizedthe problem as follows: ‘Despite a century of efforts to define culture adequately, there was in the early 1990s no agreement among anthropologists regarding its nature.’

**Types of Culture**

Studying culture is a big job. Social scientists, like anthropologists and sociologists, study culture to understand patterns of human behavior. While there are unlimited ways that people can express their culture, social scientists have developed two fundamental categories to define things produced by a society. First is **material culture**. Material culture is physical things that are created by a society.

In America, we have a strong material culture based on production of certain items, like cars. America is proud of its car culture. We make cars; we drive cars; we use cars as symbols of our place in society, wealth, or feelings about the environment. Cars, plus the other things that we physically create as Americans, define our material culture. Now, material culture does not mean that it is an object that is bought and sold; it can also be something we all make. For instance, macaroni art is a common thing we all did as children. It is something that is common enough to unite us and therefore part of our material culture.

The other category is **nonmaterial culture**, or the intangible things produced by a culture. In other words, the parts of culture you cannot touch, feel, taste, or hold. Common examples include social roles, ethics, beliefs, or even language. As a culture, Americans believe in equality. But you cannot hold equality, or make it out of macaroni noodles. Equality is something that does not actually exist; it is an idea that a culture produces about the treatment of people. This is nonmaterial culture, and it is just as big of an influence on our lives as material culture is.

Question 3:

Economic Instability:

## INTRODUCTION

It’s no secret that the current economic crisis is having a major effect on the myriad financial decisions that individuals and families are facing. This is especially true in terms of health care usage.[1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2700637/#b1-ptj34_1p024) The situation has posed tremendous difficulties for working and retired people, forcing many to forgo some basic needs, such as food and housing. Those who are fortunate to be financially stable enough to continue to afford basic necessities are now being forced to choose between health care and other basic needs, and people who were once financially secure are feeling the strain from increasing health care costs and decreasing economic security.[2](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2700637/#b2-ptj34_1p024) Cost has prompted a perceptible shift in our traditional societal view of the priceless nature of life toward a view that now requires us to attach a value to life, often in the form of a price tag. This dilemma is particularly troublesome for patients with chronic illnesses, whose medical costs account for a substantial portion of annual health care spending in the U.S.

**Causes:**

The major challenges in achieving economic development are:

**Energy crisis**: The constant leading power cut-off challenge has troubled the economy. Since the year 2000 this curse has wreaked havoc on the overall economy. As admitted by Federal Minister for Water and Power Khawaja Muhammad Asif during a National Assembly session a few days ago that the power shortfall has exceeded up to 5,000MW. Until energy lingering crisis is not resolved the determined economic development is a far-off dream.

**Terrorism:** It is a huge stumbling-block for economic generation in Pakistan. Since 2002 we are a war-torn country. The State Bank of Pakistan report (2016) says that war on terrorism has cost $118 billion. According to Global Terrorism Index (2016), out of 163 countries, Pakistan stands 4th worst hit. This has long been a reason for Pakistan’s negative international image which has limited the foreign investment in the country.

**Wealth Concentration:** In Pakistan wealth is concentered among a few rich families. The rest of the population is dependent on them. Due to wealth concentration, around 35 percent people spend their lives under poverty line. According to Multidimensional Poverty Index (2016) 39 percent population of Pakistan lives in poverty, which means that 4 out of 10 people in Pakistan live in poverty.

**Corruption:** Since 1947, the ongoing corruption has steadily planted its roots. In current circumstances, it has become a highly political debate as even the prime ministers of the country are accused of it. The corruption has proven to be a menace for institutions. According to corruption perception index (CPI 2016) out of 175 countries Pakistan stands at 116.

**Youth unemployment:** We are blessed in having about 63 percent of youth population. Half of them are unemployed. According to Asian Development Bank (ADB) 50.7 percent of the population aged 15 years and above is employed. Of it, the female ratio is very less. The rest are struggling for survival. On an average, Pakistan needs to create 20 million job annually for young people alone.

**Lack in quality education:** Education is a key component for economic progress. Unfortunately, our current literacy is 60 percent, least in South Asian countries. About 25 million children in are out of school. More importantly, on grass root level, thousands of schools are lacking very basic facilities such of sanitation, water, electricity, boundary walls etc.

**Poor health facilities:** The public hospitals depict bleak pictures where we find lack of proper medicines, beds, equipment and etc. Due to absence of basic health facilities, 170 women die from pregnancy for every 100,000 births. For every 1,000 babies born, 66 die before their first birthday. In addition, approximately 44 percent children in Pakistan are stunted. Every day, due to malnutrition and poverty children are dying in Thar.

**Tax evasion:** Regressive tax system collects about 90 percent tax revenue from common men. Big corporations, landlords, businessmen, politicians do not pay their due share of taxes. They earn lot but pay less tax; on the other hand poor earn less but are taxed more. Each year billion rupees are evaded through tax havens established in foreign counties. The incidences of tax evasion have hampered Pakistan’s economic progress.

**Lack of good governance:** We lag good governance and pro-poor fiscal policies.

Question 4:

 **Geo-Strategic Importance of Pakistan (A)**

**Introduction**

Pakistan (the only Muslim country that has the nuclear capability) is located in a region which has a great political, economic, and strategic location. It has been the hub of activities of great powers for the past few decades. It has witnessed intervention of three great powers i.e. Britain, USA, and USSR.CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) is the game changer for Pakistan. Both countries (Pakistan and China) are keen to enhance the trade activities, improving infrastructure, development of dams, and stability of economy by investment in different sectors.

**Geographical Location of Pakistan**

In the Southern Asia, Pakistan lies between 24 and 36.75 northern latitude and between 61 and 7505 eastern longitude. Total area of Pakistan is 7,96000 sq.km. Pakistan shares bordered with Afghanistan, China, India, and Iran.

**Afghanistan:**

Pakistan is bordered by Afghanistan to the west. These two neighbor countries are separated by the Durand line that covers 2250 km of lengths. A narrow strip of Afghanistan knows as Wakhan separates Tajikistan from Pakistan that covers about 20 km to 40 km lengths.

➢ **China** Pakistan is bordered by China to the north and shares 400 km long border.

➢ **India** Pakistan is bordered by India to the east and shares the 1650 km international border lengths.

➢ **Iran** Pakistan is bordered by Iran to the southwest.

➢ **Arabian Sea:** Arabian Sea is situated in the south of Pakistan, and 700 km is the length of Arabian Sea coastline with Pakistan.

**Strategic Significance**

Following are the major strategic significance of the geo-strategic importance of Pakistan.

* Gateway to central Asia-oil and energy game
* • Significance as a transit economy
* • Significance as an important in the chain of Muslim countries
* • Only Muslim country having nuclear capability

 **Strategic Significance**

The major strategic significance of the geo-strategic importance of Pakistan are discussed below.

➢ **Proximity of Great Powers**

Pakistan is located at the junction of great powers i-e Russia and China. So, in this context Pakistan has higher significance. Any alliance among world powers enhances its significance and these world powers cannot ignore importance of Pakistan. This factor has been utilized by Pakistan after 9/11. Pakistan’s importance has been increased after 9/11 incident. Security and business are two main US interests in the region while Pakistan is playing a front-line role in the war against terrorism. Apart from this US interest in the region to contain the growing China, nuclear Iran, and Afghanistan and to benefit from the market of India. US is also interested in Afghanistan from business perspective as it wants to control resources of Afghanistan and want to use it for personal advantage.

Iran’s nuclear program, India’s geopolitical muscles (strategic deal with US) to gain hegemony and to counter the rise of China, which has the potential to change unipolar world into a bi-polar or multi-polar one.

Amidst these issues, Pakistan is directly or indirectly involved. The US policy makers have repeatedly accepted that war against terrorism could never be won without the help of Pakistan. The US has time and time again reiterated that Pakistan should play its due role to bring the Afghan Taliban to the negotiation table with the Afghan government.

➢ **Gateway to Central Asia - (Oil and Energy)**

The quest for oil and energy resources in the Central Asia is the center stage of new Great Game. After the collapse of the USSR, the new quest started which is manifested by the politics of oil. Pakistan is located very close to the oil rich Middle Eastern countries. The belt starts from Iran and extends to Saudi Arabia.

In the energy starved world, Pakistan is located in the hub of energy rich countries i.e., Iran and Afghanistan: both are energy abundant while India and China need energy for economic growth. Thus, Pakistan is a bridge between energy rich and energy starved countries. China finds way to Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea through Karakoram highway (CPEC about to be completed)

➢ **Significance as a Transit Economy**

The potential to develop transit economy on account of its strategic location. The land locked Afghanistan is currently in the phase of reconstruction and finds its ways through Pakistan to connect to the world for trade. The nearest port in China is about 4500 km away from Sinkiang, however, Gwadar is 2500 km away. It offers Central Asian countries the shortest route of 2600 km as compared to Iran 4500 km or Turkey 5000 km. Gwadar port with its deep waters attracts the trade ships of China, CAR and south East Asian countries. The coastal belt of Baluchistan can provide outlet to China’s western provinces to have access to middles eastern markets with the development of coastal highways and motorways.

➢ **Important Link in the Chain of Muslim Countries**

Pakistan occupies a central location in the Map of the Muslim World. Towards west of Iran, China extends to North Africa. Thus, it can actively participate in the activities of Muslim world’s economic development, transport of resources etc.

➢ **Only Muslim Country with Nuclear Capability**

Pakistan is the only Muslim country having nuclear capability which has great influence on the political, socio-economic activities in the region and the maintenance of status quo.

**Conclusion / Analysis**

Geo strategic means the importance of a country or a region as by virtue of its geographical location. While history has been unkind to Pakistan, its geography has been its greatest potential. Pakistan is a junction of South Asia, west Asia and central Asia; a bridge between resource efficient countries to resource deficient countries.

The world is facing energy crises and terrorism. Pakistan is a route for transportation and a front-line state against terrorism. Moreover, Pakistan has been traditionally ally of emerging economic giant; China. So as a result of any significant change in world politics, Pakistan’s geo-strategic significance would further

Question 5:

Introduction

Pakistan and Iran share deep linguistic, his-toric and cultural ties. These ties are visible in modern day Pakistan with classic Persian poetry on many contemporary buildings. Their amica-ble relations date back to the 1947 partition of the subcontinent. Moreover, Iran was the first country to recognize the newly established state of Pakistan. The countries soon developed a strong relationship and signed an official trea-ty of friendship in 1950. During the long era of the Cold War, they remained allies and shared a harmonious strategic outlook during the Shah’s era. Furthermore, Pakistan was the first state to recognize the Islamic Revolution in Iran. During the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s, despite enormous pressure on Pakistan to support Iraq, Pakistan explicitly expressed its support to Iran. However, the warmth in bilateral relations has been tested on several accounts such as the civil war in Afghanistan, sectarian tension, US influ-ence on Pakistan, sanctions on Iran, and Paki-stan’s ties with Saudi Arabia.In recent times, both countries are making serious efforts to overcome persistent irritants for stronger bilateral relations. Both sides are committed to exploring areas of mutual eco-nomic interests including trade and gas pipeline projects. Iran, being rich in its natural resources of oil and gas, is crucial for an energy deficient country such as Pakistan.Pakistan has a population of 209 million with a per capita income of $1,560. It is a developing economy with a GDP of $313 billion and an esti-mated real growth rate of 5.83%. The agriculture sector of Pakistan’s economy covers one-fifth of output and provides two-fifths of employment. The industrial sector accounts for only 19% of its output, while the services sector contributes 56.3%. Textiles and apparel account for more than 50 percent of Pakistan’s exports. The coun-try faces a serious challenge of trade deficit with exports around $21 billion and imports $48.51 billion. Moreover, given demographic challeng-es, Pakistan’s latest challenges include; the balance of payment deficit, development of the en-ergy sector, and increase in foreign investment to reach the optimal economic growth required for the employment of the increasing urban population, particularly those under twenty-five (CIA, 2018).This paper attempts to explore the magni-tude and diversity of the relationship between Pakistan and Iran during the last seventy years. The next section attempts to analyze non-eco-nomic relations between the two neighboring countries. In the third section, an attempt is made to explore economic relations and trade potential among the two countries and finally, the study concludes with an analysis.