Assignment Pakstudies

QNO 1; MAIN ISSUE OF KASHMIE

## History of the conflict in Jammu and Kashmir

Ever since the division of the sub-continent in 1947, the foundations were laid for the long-standing conflict in and around the regions of Jammu and Kashmir that persists today. India and Pakistan have fought three wars over territory there, and each state continues to assert claims over its entire area. China also holds a large portion of the contested territories. Tensions and unresolved grievances around these historic disputes continue to feed wider regional instability and undermine efforts for demilitarisation in the region. Despite a highly militarised standoff persisting between India and Pakistan and an erratic bilateral dialogue process at the official level, civil society in India, Pakistan and on either side of the LoC in Kashmir has continued to actively promote engagement across divides. Historic measures since 2004 to re-establish some links across the LoC have been enthusiastically supported by the public right across Kashmir. These openings offer hope for greater collaboration and peacebuilding across the LoC.

Kashmir: Why India and Pakistan fight over it ; Kashmir is an ethnically diverse Himalayan region, covering around 86,000 sq miles (138 sq km), and famed for the beauty of its lakes, meadows and snow-capped mountains.

Even before India and Pakistan won their independence from Britain in August 1947, the area was hotly contested.

Under the plan provided by the Indian Independence Act, Kashmir was free to accede to either partition India or Pakistan.

The maharaja (local), Hari Singh, initially wanted Kashmir to become independent - but in October 1947 chose to join India, in return for its help against an invasion of tribesmen from Pakistan ruler.

* [**Kashmir profile - Timeline**](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-16069078)

A war erupted and India approached the United Nations asking it to intervene. The United Nations recommended holding a plebiscite to settle the question of whether the state would join India or Pakistan. However the two countries could not agree to a deal to demilitarise the region before the referendum could be held.

# QNO 4 ; Pakistan: A democracy of dictatorships 1947 - Pakistan is created following British India's Partition; divided into two sections, East Pakistan and West Pakistan; 500,000 killed in subsequent riots. 1951 - Pakistan founder Muhammed Ali Jinnah's (R) successor Liaquat Ali Khan is assassinated.1956 - Constitution proclaims Pakistan an Islamic republic. 1958 - Martial law declared and General Ayub Khan takes over; he becomes President in 1960. 1969 - General Yahya Khan (R) succeeds after Khan resigns; under him, East Pakistan secedes as Bangladesh in 1971. 1986 - Bhutto's daughter Benazir returns from exile to lead PPP in fresh elections one year after ban on political parties is lifted. 1990 - Benazir (R) dismissed as PM on charges of incompetence and corruption; Nawaz Sharif takes over.1993 - President Ishaq Khan and Sharif both resign under pressure from military; general election brings Benazir back to power; Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari becomes President, who dismisses her government in 1996. 1997 - Sharif returns as PM after his Pakistan Muslim League party wins elections; Benazir and hubby Asif Ali Zardari handed jail sentences over corruption in 1999, stay out of country. 1999 - General Pervez Musharraf seizes power in coup; next year, Sharif is sentenced to life imprisonment over his actions to prevent the 1999 coup Benazir Bhutto's funeral in 2007.

QNO 3;DEMOCRACY OF PAKISTAN

Pakistan is sixth most populous country in the world, created on the basis of popular will of people in 1947 with the vision to have a liberal, moderate and democratic parliamentary federation. Soon after independence, Pakistan adopted British legacy constitutional framework and introduced the parliamentary democracy, following much from the Government of India Act 1935 – the last constitution of British India.However, Pakistan being a postcolonial state, the democratic experience was underpinned by the steel frame of bureaucracy and political stability and institutionalized democratic set up remained a distant dream. The country has a checkered history with a few interludes of democratic rule during the sixty eight years of its existence.

The first Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan was adopted in 1956 which was abrogated just two years later by the martial law. During the first eleven years, eight successively governments were formed and sooner collapsed. Unfortunately, the inconsistent democratic history continued till 2008, alternating between elected governments and long spells of military dictators since its inception. Pakistan has travelled a long distance towards its march on the path of democracy. The parliamentary democracy collapsed four times primarily due to mismanagement, disproportionate development of institutional matrix and the mounting political ambitions of the military generals. The military dictators have always sabotaged political development and mainstream political parties; and have advocated religious, ethnic and tribal politics to legitimize their regimes by rigged referendum. Over the years, the support to religious and ethnic groups has led to underground nurseries for breeding of extremism and terrorism. During military regime there was considerable economic development and prosperity, however, Pakistan democratic institutions were crushed and country had to endure two wars with India.

# QNO 2; Women empowerment

**Women in Pakistan** make up 48.76% of the population according to the 2017 census of Pakistan.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan#cite_note-3) Women in Pakistan have played an important role throughout Pakistan's history[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan%22%20%5Cl%20%22cite_note-4) and they are allowed to vote in elections since 1956.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan#cite_note-5) In Pakistan, women have held high offices including that of the [Prime Minister](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Prime_Ministers_of_Pakistan), [Speaker of the National Assembly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speaker_of_the_National_Assembly_of_Pakistan), [Leader of the Opposition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leader_of_the_Opposition_%28Pakistan%29), as well as [federal ministers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabinet_of_Pakistan), judges,[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan#cite_note-6) and [serving commissioned posts in the armed forces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_the_Pakistan_Armed_Forces). [Major General](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_General) [Shahida Malik](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shahida_Malik%22%20%5Co%20%22Shahida%20Malik), attaining the highest military post for a woman.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan%22%20%5Cl%20%22cite_note-O%27Connor2010-7)[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_Pakistan#cite_note-Sjoberg2014-8)

The status of women in Pakistan differ considerably across classes, regions and the rural/urban divide due to the uneven socioeconomic Pakistan development and the impact of tribal and feudal social formations on lives of women in. Gender Concerns International reports that the overall women's rights in Pakistan has improved with increasing number of women are educated and literate. *“No nation can rise to the height of glory unless your women are side by side with you; we are victims of evil customs. It is a crime against humanity that our women are shut up within the four walls of the houses as prisoners. There is no sanction anywhere for the deplorable condition in which our women have to live.”* – Muhammad Ali Jinnah, 1944Women empowerment refers broadly to the expansion of freedom of choice and action to shape one’s life. It implies control over resources and decisions. An empowered woman will be one who is self confident, who critically analyses her environment and who exercises control over decisions that affect her life. The idea of empowerment manifests itself at all levels of societal interaction. It is found in giving a voice to the weak and marginalized. It requires having an access to the needed tools and materials for the expansion of capacities. Women empowerment has five components: women sense of self worth; their right to have and determine choices; their right to have access to opportunities and resources; their right to have the power to control their own lives, both within and outside the home; and their ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order nationally and internationally.