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"The Impact of Pakistan and Iran's Foreign Policies on U.S. Strategic Interests and Global Security"

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Abstract

Pakistan and Iran's overseas actions affect US strategic interests and global security. Pakistan and Iran, two of the region's most powerful powers, use different techniques to attain their goals. Because they are in separate countries, have different histories, and have different national interests. Pakistan, a nuclear power, is strategically placed between South Asia and the Middle East. Pakistan must balance its relationship with the US, growing alliance with China, and constant conflict with India. Pakistan plays all these responsibilities simultaneously. Iran's foreign policy, fuelled by ideological hostility, regional hegemonic ambitions, and proxy warfare, challenges US supremacy in the Middle East. Iran's foreign policy directly challenges the US.

This essay examines how Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy affect US strategic goals and global security. This examination uses Realist Theory to examine power conflicts, security challenges, and balance-of-power dynamics between various entities. Pakistan's counterterrorism and militant group contacts, Iran's nuclear ambitions and proxy activities, and the US' diplomatic, economic, and military responses are important. These are only some focus areas.

The research shows how these foreign policies cause regional instability, make it harder for the US to sustain allies and promote stability, and affect global security. It concludes with various covert techniques the US can use to address these problems. These strategies highlight the necessity of balancing forceful measures with diplomatic engagement, strengthening regional links, and tackling the root causes of instability. This study illuminates the interconnected nature of modern international relations, where regional actions by Pakistan and Iran affect global security and strategic goals.

Introduction

Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy affect South Asian, Middle Eastern, and regional geopolitical situations. Despite their different political systems, historical past, and strategic ambitions, these two nations affect US and global security. Pakistan has been a reliable US ally since the beginning. Since Pakistan borders South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East, this is the main reason. Pakistan has opposed the US. The government's foreign policy balances regional challenges like India and Afghanistan with strategic alliances with global powers. This is done by treating both difficulties concurrently. This is obvious in the nation's foreign policy. Iran is crucial to Middle East security. Iran's hatred of the US and determination to rule the area make this scenario much worse. Iran seeks regional dominance. Instead of nuclear weapons, it opposes Western dominance and supports proxy organisations. All part of its foreign policy. Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy create challenges and opportunities for the US. Pakistan helped the US fight terrorism and the military during the Cold War and the war on terror. Pakistan's collaboration helped them achieve their goals. Islamabad's ties to terrorist groups, expanding ties to China, and convoluted relationship with India have hampered the US' regional aims. The US has prioritised Iran's foreign policy since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. This dispute worried the US. Tehran's support for anti-American proxies, animosity towards US allies including Israel and Saudi Arabia, and desire for nuclear weapons threaten US strategic interests and regional security. This is usually the case. Understanding Pakistan's and Iran's foreign policy requires considering how they affect the US. These policies are linked to regional and global issues like the US-China conflict, Middle East power dynamics, and South Asian security. These factors are linked. Pakistan can help the US fight terrorism and maintain regional security due to its location and ties to China and the Gulf. Iran's animosity towards the US and its ties to Russia and non-state groups threaten US supremacy in the Middle East and global security. Iran's ties to Russia and other non-state groups endanger the world. This essay examines how Pakistan and Iran affect US strategic objectives and global security. Careful consideration is needed because these regulations affect power distribution, terrorism prevention, and regional harmony. This study effort uses the Realist Theory to explain these countries' overseas actions and the US's responses. Motivation comes from state power and

control. Our investigation sought to explain this. This article discusses important themes like how Pakistan and Iran's international actions affect US strategic objectives in those regions. How might these efforts affect global safety over time? How much does the US handle these countries' difficulties to safeguard its interests? To fully grasp global events, one must understand the relationship between the US, Pakistan, and Iran. This is crucial to comprehending the scenario. Their actions affect global power and regional dynamics. These are true whether they are enemies or unfriendly allies. especially because their acts contradict China and Russia's geopolitical ambitions. This study examines state interests, power politics, and strategic manoeuvring in international system evolution. This study analyses regulatory systems in detail.



Research Questions

1. How do Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies affect the US's strategic objectives in South Asia and the Middle East, and how do they affect regional stability and global security?

2. How should the US handle Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies, particularly regarding nuclear proliferation, regional influence, and terrorism?

Theoretical Framework

The Realist Theory of International Relations is used to examine Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies and how they effect US strategic interests and global security. Realism explains power struggles, state-centric conduct, and security challenges in these regimes' interactions with the US. Another good solution is this lens. Realists say the international system is anarchic because governments emphasise survival, power, and national interests over ideology and values. Realists say this attitude is most important in international relations. This model is perfect for assessing Pakistan and Iran's often adversarial actions and their consequences on US interests in their regions and beyond. This methodology is also ideal for policy evaluation.

1. Core Principles of Realism

1.1. Anarchy and Self-Help

The realist theoretical framework starts with the idea that the international system is anarchic, meaning there is no central authority to set rules or restrict state action. This is done by presuming no central authority. To survive, governments prioritise their own security and power under this self-help system. Pakistan self-helps by balancing its foreign policy with the US and China to gain economic, military, and strategic support. Pakistan's decisions represent self-help. Iran seeks regional influence and nuclear capability to protect its sovereignty and deter perceived threats from the US and its allies. Similarly, Iran's foreign policy is driven by nuclear security.

1.2. National Interest and Power Maximization

Realists believe governments should act in their own national interest to gain security and influence. Pakistan-India conflict is key to its foreign policy. This competition drives Pakistan's strategic aims and international relations. Its support for the Taliban in Afghanistan and collaboration with China through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor show its desire to govern South Asia. Iran wants to be the strongest Middle Eastern nation. Hezbollah and the sHouthis are used to undercut US allies and boost its own dominance. Realistically, Pakistan and Iran threaten US strategic interests. Pakistan's balance makes it harder

for the US to influence South Asia. However, Iran's aggressive approach to the US and its Middle East instability threaten the oil market and global security.

2. Security Dilemmas and Regional Instabilities

2.1. Pakistan's Role in South Asia

Pakistan's foreign policy, especially with the US and India, is dangerous. Pakistan supports the Taliban and Lashkar-e-Taiba to counter India's influence in Afghanistan and Kashmir. These actions undercut the US government's anti-terrorism efforts, causing mistrust and competing objectives. Pakistan's nuclear capabilities deter India and raise concerns about nuclear proliferation and instability. Pakistan's nuclear capability complicates security.

2.2. Iran's Role in the Middle East

Iran's adversarial relationship with the US and its regional competitors, Saudi Arabia and Israel, affects its foreign policy like other nations'. Realism-driven security dilemmas include Iran's nuclear technology development. Tehran, unlike the US and its allies, sees its nuclear program as a danger to regional and global stability. Tehran believes its nuclear program is crucial to deter outside assaults. Iran uses Hezbollah and the Houthis to project force without direct conflict, asymmetric warfare. Iran may project force without confrontation with this policy. This stance makes it harder for the US to maintain its security and influence in the region, contributing to Middle East instability.

3. Balance of Power Dynamics

Realist ideology emphasises the balance of power as crucial for stability in an anarchic international order. Realists believe this is the greatest approach to maintain stability. States often form alliances to protect themselves against imagined dangers and preserve their survival. Pakistan has allied with China to counteract US influence, while Iran has allied with Russia and non-state forces. This shows the two institutions' fair power distribution.

3.1. Pakistan's Balancing Act

Pakistan uses its location to maintain a delicate balance between larger powers. Through its cooperation with the US, it has offered economic and military aid, particularly during the Cold War and after September 11, 2001. However, Pakistan's developing alliance with China,

particularly through the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), reflects its realist search for additional power and influence sources. This delicate balancing act causes tension with the US when Pakistan's activities, such as supporting the Taliban, conflict with US strategic goals. This applies especially when Pakistan's policies disagree with the US's.

3.2. Iran's Resistance to U.S. Hegemony

The Iranian government's foreign policy is a direct response to US efforts to retain its Middle East supremacy. Iran is partnering with Russia, Syria, and non-state entities to build a multipolar regional order and counter US hegemony. This is done to challenge US authority. Tehran's actions are reasonably portrayed by realism as a sensible response to encirclement by US-aligned governments like Saudi Arabia and Israel. This power dynamic fuels proxy wars and regional instability. Increased regional instability is possible.

4. Implications for U.S. Strategic Interests

Realists believe the US engages with Pakistan and Iran to retain its global superiority and strategic objectives. US relations with Pakistan and Iran are driven by this purpose. The realist view highlights the transactional aspect of US-Pakistan ties. This view holds that the two countries collaborate to eliminate terrorist outfits. Economic sanctions and military partnerships with Gulf states are part of the US's containment policy against Iran to limit Tehran's influence in the region and avoid a nuclear-armed Iran. Thus, the US' containment strategy reflects its efforts.

4.1. Challenges in South Asia

Pakistan's foreign policy affects US interests in South Asia, particularly Afghanistan and the Indo-Pacific. Because to Pakistan's foreign policy, the US struggles to achieve its regional ambitions. Pakistan's support for terrorist groups threatens the region's long-term stability, despite its vital role in US military operations. Pakistan prioritises its rivalry with India over US goals, according to realist accounts of conflicts. This is because Pakistan's goals conflict with India and the US.

4.2. Challenges in the Middle East

Iran's foreign policy threatens US Middle East strategic interests. Tehran's desire to control the area, support for proxy groups, and enmity towards US allies threaten Saudi Arabia, Israel, and global oil markets. The US' realism response—economic sanctions, military alliances, and

diplomatic isolation of Iran—shows that it aims to resolve these concerns and maintain regional dominance.

5. Relevance of Realism in the Modern Context

Realism is important while understanding Pakistan-Iran-US relations. This is because incentives, political struggles, and security considerations affect how these three countries interact. In volatile times, Pakistan and Iran must prioritise their national interests. They do this with asymmetric strategies, regional influence, and alliances. Realism shows how the US balances power, faces threats, and achieves strategic goals.

This realistic approach might help you grasp how Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies affect US strategic interests and global security. Power politics and state-focused behaviours are crucial to current international relations. This work matters.



Discussion of Three Entities: Pakistan, Iran, and the United States

1. Pakistan: A Balancing Act in a Complex Geopolitical Landscape

Pakistan's foreign policy is affected by many factors. Country's unique position, historical linkages, domestic issues, and regional competition are considerations. Pakistan's overseas actions affect the US's strategic interests and the world's security, particularly in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific.

1.1 Strategic Location and Geopolitical Importance

Pakistan's location at the crossroads of South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East makes it a major role in regional and global geopolitics. International forces trying to exert influence in the region have often turned to Pakistan, which borders Afghanistan, Iran, India, and China. This is because Pakistan borders several of these countries. Its strategic location near the Arabian Sea allows access to major commerce routes and energy corridors.

The US has found Pakistan's location favourable for counterterrorism and military activities, especially during the Cold War and the post-9/11 war on terror. The US benefits from Pakistan's posture. The US transported troops and equipment through Pakistan to conduct Afghanistan operations. Pakistan enabled these actions. However, due to its position, it might become a hotspot for regional warfare, particularly with India, and a battleground for US-China great power tensions.

1.2 Ties with Militant Groups and Counterterrorism

Pakistan's foreign policy has been criticised due to its tense connection with terrorist groups. Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorist groups like the Taliban and LeT has made fighting terrorism harder for the US. This despite Islamabad's critical role in the US's fight against terrorism. Pakistan views these outfits as potential tools to counter India's influence in Afghanistan and Kashmir, given its top security concerns. The US has expressed its anger multiple times because Pakistan is a patron of extremist activities and a partner in fighting terrorism. US displeasure stems from this contradictory posture. This dynamic hinders US strategic goals since Pakistani extremist groups continue to threaten regional and global stability.

1.3 Alignment with China

The Pakistani government's foreign policy is influenced by China-Pakistan economic cooperation, particularly CPEC. **The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)**, a flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has strengthened economic and military ties between China and Pakistan. Pakistan has received significant infrastructure and military aid as a result. Despite strengthening Pakistan's position against India, this alignment makes Pakistan's relationship with the US challenging. China's expanding influence in South Asia may threaten US strategic objectives.

1.4 Relations with the United States

In their history, Pakistan and the US have had moments of strong cooperation and major disagreement. Pakistan was crucial to the Cold War struggle against Soviet hegemony in South Asia. After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Pakistan became essential to US military

operations in Afghanistan. However, relations with the US have deteriorated for several reasons. Pakistan's support for militant organisations, nuclear proliferation, and alignment with China are concerns. Pakistan must maintain a functional relationship with the US to get economic and military aid. Pakistan still struggles to balance this commitment with its internal and regional goals.

2. Iran: A Regional Power with Global Implications

Iran's foreign policy is shaped by its history, ideology, and strategy. The Iranian government does this. Iran has challenged US supremacy in the Middle East since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. This has been the case since. In foreign policy, it has prioritised regional supremacy, resistance to Western involvement, and power projection through proxies and alliances.

2.1 Ideological Opposition to the U.S.

Iran adopted an anti-Western ideology and challenged US hegemony in the Middle East at this time. Iran implemented these strategies during the 1979 Islamic Revolution, making it a key moment in its foreign policy. Iran's support for anti-American parties and regimes, hostility towards US allies like Israel and Saudi Arabia, and public disapproval of US regional policies demonstrate its ideological worldview. Iran uses proxy warfare to counter US influence. Iran's "Axis of Resistance," militias in Iraq and Syria and Hezbollah in Lebanon, uses this technique.

2.2 Nuclear Ambitions

Iran's nuclear program affects the international security framework and Iran-US ties. Tehran claims Iran's nuclear operations are benign, but the US and its allies see them as a danger to regional stability and global non-proliferation rules. Tehran claims its nuclear efforts are peaceful. **The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** has struggled to address this issue, with negotiations followed by increased hostility. Since the US withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 2018, Iran is forced to develop its nuclear weapons and the likelihood of war is rising. After this ruling, sanctions were reinstated, worsening the situation.

2.3 Proxy Warfare and Regional Influence

Iran relies on its proxies and supporters to increase its influence and appear dominant in foreign affairs. Iran backs geopolitical militias in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen. These include Yemen,

Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq. These movements often oppose US alliances. These actions destabilise the area, escalate sectarian strife, and threaten US efforts to maintain peace and stability in the Middle East.

2.4 Relations with Global Powers

Iran's foreign policy focusses on Russia and China to counter US pressure. These ties provide Tehran with economic, military, and diplomatic backing to counter pressure. Iran has been able to persevere and pursue its regional aims despite external threats thanks to these alliances. These links have deepened due of US isolation and sanctions.

3. *United States: Strategic Interests and Challenges*

Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy affect the US's strategic interests in South Asia and the Middle East. These policies affect US strategic goals. The US strives to maintain its superiority, ensure regional peace, and safeguard its economic and security interests as a global powerhouse.

3.1 Counterterrorism and Regional Stability

Counterterrorism and regional security are priorities for the US in its relations with Pakistan and Iran. The US has invested heavily in Pakistan's military aid and counterterrorism operations to defeat extremist groups and prevent nuclear proliferation. These investments are in this country. Iran's financial support for terrorist groups and Middle East instability are being addressed by the US. The US considers these actions a threat to its allies and the public.

3.2 Containment of Iran

Iran faces economic sanctions, military alliances, and diplomatic isolation as part of the US' containment policy. This tactic limits Tehran's influence. This approach includes strong engagement with allies like Saudi Arabia, Israel, and the Gulf states and measures to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons. However, this approach has increased tensions and the potential of violent conflicts, particularly in crucial locations like the Persian Gulf.

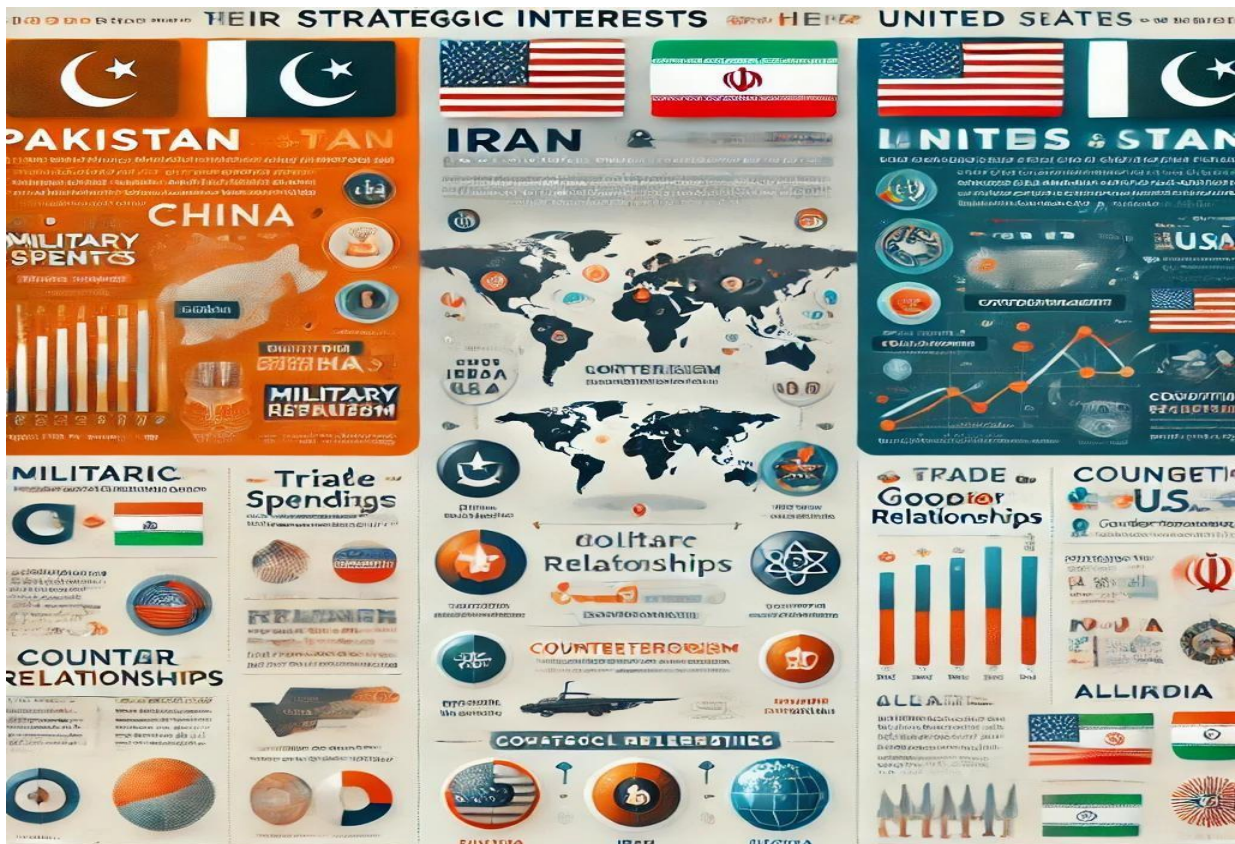
3.3 Balancing Relations with Pakistan

This is especially crucial as Islamabad is strengthening its connections with China. The US faces many problems in maintaining a balanced relationship with Pakistan. The US emphasises Pakistan's strategic location and engagement in the campaign against terrorism, although this

partnership is impeded by several issues. Pakistan's support for extremist groups and rivalry with India are issues. **The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue—also known as the Quad**—shows how the US-India alliance is straining relations. Islamabad fears this collaboration will threaten its Arab status.

3.4 Global Power Dynamics

The US's relations with Pakistan and Iran are also affected by global power dynamics. The countries are Pakistan and Iran. The US strategic conflict with China and Russia affects these ties. Pakistan's alliance with China and Iran's alliances with Russia and China preclude the US from maintaining influence in their regions. Pakistan's connection with China is hazardous. Pakistan has allied with China like Iran has with Russia and China. These dynamics help explain the severity of the US foreign policy challenges by showing how interconnected they are. Activities in one place may affect the US attitude.



Answers to Research Questions

1. How do Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies affect the US's strategic objectives in South Asia and the Middle East, and how do they affect regional stability and global security?

Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy affect regional stability and global security as well as US strategic interests. These nations' geopolitical standing and policy activities create unique problems and opportunities for the US. Their actions directly affect the US government's counterterrorism, nuclear non-proliferation, and power balance in South Asia and the Middle East goals.

1.1. Pakistan's Foreign Policy and U.S. Strategic Interests

Pakistan's strategic location and involvement in regional dynamics explain its leadership in South Asia. Its foreign policy is shaped by its connections with India, Afghanistan, and China. All of these elements match US regional goals.

Facilitating Militant Organisation Formation

Pakistan has long used terrorist groups to achieve its regional goals, particularly in Afghanistan and Kashmir. Afghanistan and Kashmir have experienced this." This tactic has produced substantial conflict with the US. However, Pakistan's support for terrorist groups like the Taliban has strained relations with the US, despite their considerable collaboration throughout the war on terror. Islamabad's safe havens for Taliban commanders have hampered US efforts to pacify Afghanistan. This contributed to the extended instability in Afghanistan, which led to the withdrawal of American soldiers. Because Pakistan is both a counterterrorism partner and an enabler of extremist groups, the US must be cautious and critical of its engagement with Pakistan. This dual function lets Pakistan play both roles concurrently. Their dual role complicates the US's Pakistan policy.

Competition between India and Pakistan

Competition between Pakistan and India drives Pakistan's foreign policy and affects US interests in South Asia. India-Pakistan rivalry affects Pakistan's foreign policy. Islamabad prioritises military operations against India over regional collaboration, which affects its Afghanistan defence policies, alliances, and actions. America regards China's developing Indo-Pacific dominance as a key partner in its Indo-Pacific strategy. India is crucial to this plan. Pakistan has been fighting US-

India cooperation and strengthening ties with China. Pakistan sees this strategic alliance with New Delhi as a direct danger. The triangle dynamic makes it harder for the US to maintain relations with both countries and promote regional stability. Pakistan-India tensions complicate US regional objectives. Because these tensions have persisted for so long. These tensions heighten the risk of a conflict and nuclear escalation.

An agreement with China to sync

Pakistan's growing proximity to China makes it harder for the US to influence South Asian politics. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a cornerstone of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, has strengthened economic and geopolitical ties. These ties are strategic and economic. Pakistan is becoming more dependent on China for economic and military aid due to the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which improves infrastructure and increases dependence. This partnership helps China expand its strategic reach in the Indian Ocean, undermining the US's efforts to maintain free trade lanes. This convergence, which shifts Pakistan's foreign policy goals for the US, makes it hard for the US to challenge China's influence in the region. Because China is influential in the region. As Pakistan improves relations with Beijing, the US must recalibrate its South Asia strategy to protect its strategic interests. This is necessary to safeguard US strategic interests.

1.2. Iran's Foreign Policy and U.S. Strategic Interests

Iran's foreign policy is driven by its ideological hostility towards the US, regional dominance, and asymmetric force projection. All these variables affect Iran's foreign policy. These practices, which raise global security concerns, threaten US interests in the Middle East.

Goals for nuclear power

Iran's nuclear development threatens US strategic interests and undermines global non-proliferation norms. Tehran, Iran's capital, sees nuclear weapons as a means to ensure regional dominance and deter US attacks. Nuclear capacity gives Iran a strategic advantage that can increase its regional influence and prevent its enemies from fighting. This might boost Iran's regional power. However, the US prioritises preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons. It would destabilise the already fragile Middle East and start a regional arms race, forcing other governments to seek US-level capabilities. A double-edged sword. Iran acquiring nuclear weapons would hinder US efforts to maintain regional security and stability. Iran may gain confidence in

its proxy wars if it has nuclear weapons.
Helping Proxy Users Groups

Iranian proxies and sympathisers include militias in Iraq and Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Houthis in Yemen. From the start, this network has supported Iran's foreign policies. These outfits allow Iran to threaten US allies like Saudi Arabia and Israel. By supporting its proxies, Iran may defeat its enemies using asymmetric warfare. This allows Iran to avoid direct combat while destabilising the region. This US approach hampers its efforts to preserve strong Middle East relationships and defend its key partners. Iran's use of proxies prolongs wars, raises sectarian tensions, and hinders international peacebuilding.
Opposition to US dominance.

Since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Iran has been very hostile to the US. Iranian leadership in the "Axis of Resistance." Tehran is using diplomatic, military, and economic means to weaken the US in the Middle East. Tehran's ideological resistance is reflected in these initiatives. The 2020 US killing of General Qassem Soleimani shows the seriousness of the US-Iran conflict. These interactions also suggest the two countries' conflict could escalate. Iran's response to economic sanctions, which has increased military posturing in crucial locations like the Persian Gulf, has strengthened its opposition. This opposition hinders US interests in the region, making it harder to form coalitions, maintain energy market stability, and achieve peace goals.

1.3. Implications for Regional Stability and Global Security

The Iranian and Pakistani governments' foreign policies affect regional and global stability, including:

South Asia is experiencing increased risks and volatility.

Pakistan's support of terrorist groups and longstanding enmity with India increase the likelihood of bloodshed in South Asia. Continuous tensions between these two nuclear-armed states, compounded by unresolved issues like the Kashmir dispute, create a volatile climate in which even minor incidents can escalate into a nuclear conflict. In this context, even trivial accidents can lead to nuclear war. The region's volatility hinders US efforts to promote economic growth and peace. US policymakers must minimise these risks while promoting stability, extremism prevention, and

regional

Middle Eastern Countries: Nuclear Goals and War Spokespersons assist

Iran's proxy wars and nuclear ambitions destabilise the Middle East. This is because Iran wants nuclear weapons. Two main variables cause this. Iran exerts regional influence through its agents. These proxies include Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen. This inflames sectarian tensions and hurts US allies like Saudi Arabia and Israel. In particular, this hurts Saudi Arabia. Iran's nuclear ambitions continue to threaten regional stability and nuclear weapons control. This is because Iran's nuclear ambitions threaten both goals. Iran's efforts have caused volatility, which may threaten world energy supply. Since oil and gas exports are vital, the region is strategically important. The US must battle Iran's influence while seeking diplomatic solutions to Iran's nuclear program and regional conflicts. Only then can the US handle these issues.

US-Used Global Security Challenges International Standards!

Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies threaten US-led world standards, particularly in terrorism response and nuclear proliferation prevention. Pakistan struggles to participate in global anti-terrorism operations due to its ties to extremist groups and its inconsistent counterterrorism efforts. Iran's destabilisation and non-proliferation deal violations damage global security systems. These obstacles make it harder for the US to uphold peace and security norms and preserve international stability. These efforts are complicated by the issues. Handling these difficulties requires international involvement, strategic alliances, and flexible, diplomatic-pressure-balanced policy solutions. The only way to solve them is this.

2. How should the US handle Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies, particularly regarding nuclear proliferation, regional influence, and terrorism?

The US must adopt a complex and diversified strategy to counter Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies. The use of coercive measures and diplomatic efforts must be balanced to leverage alliances and address the root causes of instability in both regions. To achieve this, balance is essential.

2.1. Strategies for Addressing Challenges with Pakistan

Counterterrorism cooperation is growing.

The US must continue to emphasise the importance of Islamabad cutting links with terrorist groups inside and outside Pakistan. The US must do this to continue fighting terrorism with Pakistan. There are effective ways to reward Pakistan's counterterrorism assistance. Such strategies include conditional aid and targeted sanctions. However, Pakistan's legitimate security concerns, particularly its rivalry with India, must be addressed simultaneously. If it addresses these issues, the US may build trust and persuade Pakistan to accept regional and global security strategies. Intelligence sharing, coordinated actions, and capacity-building can improve this connection and reduce extremist organisation dangers.

Economic policy and governance reforms should be encouraged.

Pakistan must invest in economic development and governance changes to reduce its dependence on China and address domestic instability, which often breeds extremism. This will reduce Pakistan's dependence on China. The US can help Pakistan develop by promoting economic ties, aiding educational initiatives, and investing in infrastructure projects that benefit the economy and population. These initiatives allow Pakistan to align its strategic goals with the US and increase its resilience. Promoting openness, accountability, and anti-corruption in Pakistani governance institutions will increase stability and ensure economic assistance is used efficiently. Pakistan can better contribute to regional peace and security if it is strong and reformed. Due of Pakistan's regional geopolitical importance.

To balance relations with Islamabad and India,

To promote stability in South Asia, where tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours threaten regional and global security, the US must balance its growing partnership with India with its ability to maintain functional and constructive ties with Pakistan. This is needed to foster South Asian stability. This delicate balance is essential for South Asian stability. By encouraging New Delhi and Islamabad to discuss difficult issues like Kashmir, tensions can be reduced and the US can gain influence. USA may use this fortunate situation. The US must expand its strategic partnership with India to prevent alienating Pakistan. This is crucial in the fight against China's expansion. The US can reduce tensions and create a stable, cooperative regional order by taking a balanced approach. USA's ability makes this conceivable.

2.2. Strategies for Addressing Challenges with Iran

Restoring Participation in diplomatic matters

The US must prioritise diplomatic efforts to address Iran's nuclear programme and regional actions. Renewal of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) or negotiation of a new agreement that includes Iran's ballistic missile program and proxy activities may reduce tensions and prevent the conflict from escalating. Diplomatic involvement would restore communication and create a more stable regional situation. Platform creation would achieve this. A renewed pact may lay the groundwork for extensive economic and security negotiations, which could enhance US-Iran ties. This would be good.

Enhancing Regional Alliances

The US should strengthen its ties with Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Gulf Cooperation Council members to limit Iran's effects on the area. This is needed to offset Iran's regional impact. These alliances are vital to maintain regional power balance. Joint drills and strategic defence initiatives may increase deterrence against Iran. This could be achieved with these measures. The US and its allies can share intelligence to get insight into Iran's operations. To make matters worse, targeted economic aid can stabilise US-allied governments and strengthen their antagonism to international requests. The US must engage in these ties to establish a unified front that can restrict Iran's regional ambitions.

Investigating Iran's Proxy Networks

Iran's proxy groups are crucial to its Middle East influence. These proxy groups include Hezbollah, Houthis, and Iraqi and Syrian Shia militias. US sanctions, diplomatic isolation, and military actions against these proxies should be part of a multifaceted plan to counter this influence. This policy should be implemented to reduce this influence. Targeting financial and logistical assistance could hamper operations. Supporting moderate local players who reject Iranian proxies can also limit Tehran's influence. Both methods are possible. This proposal would reduce Iran's asymmetrical warfare potential. This would reduce regional instability and protect US and allied interests in the Middle East.

2.3. Broader Strategies for Global Security

Utilising Multilateral Institution Resources

Pakistan and Iran's problems should be addressed by the US and the UN. These conferences can

assist implement sanctions, promote nuclear non-proliferation, and resolve human rights issues in both states. Multilateral groups allow the US to gain global support and justify its activities. This unified effort might increase fines, ensure international standards, and unite people to oppose destabilising forces in South Asia and the Middle East. The US and other nations may share the burden of addressing these difficult issues through multilateral collaboration.

Enhancing Regional Stability

The US must prioritise addressing the root causes of instability in South Asia and the Middle East. This will reduce Pakistan and Iran's instability-causing policies. Iranian and Pakistani policies cause instability. Several causes foster extreme ideology and violence. These include poverty, ineffective government, and ethnic strife. The US encourages good governance, invests in long-term development, and supports inclusive peacebuilding to build secure and resilient societies. These tactics may deter extremist movements and diminish their dependence on violent organisations and proxies. This would make the region safer and wealthier.

Maintaining flexibility throughout strategic planning

While dealing with Pakistan and Iran, the US must be flexible and adaptable to keep up with fast changing events in the US and throughout the world. Long-term success requires balancing hard power (military interventions and economic sanctions) with soft power (humanitarian aid, cultural exchanges, and diplomacy). This flexibility allows the US to respond to new challenges and take advantage of new involvement opportunities, ensuring its success and relevance. The US can also address new concerns due of its flexibility. A tough and comprehensive approach is needed to solve the US's problems and build long-term stability and partnership. This lets the US achieve both goals.

Conclusion

Pakistan and Iran's foreign policy affect US strategic interests and global security. These policies profoundly impact both sectors. These consequences show the complex power dynamics, regional conflicts, and ideological splits in world politics. Despite its political and geographical goals, the US struggles to maintain peace in South Asia, the Middle East, and other regions. Despite these differences, the US seeks peace in these regions. The obstacles they provide prevent the US from

maintaining peace in some regions. However, their slight interplay may help stabilise the system if employed appropriately.

Pakistan is a key US ally and a major threat. This may be hard for America. Pakistan's dual role may be due to its location. Its long history of cooperation with the US throughout the Cold War and after 9/11 underlines its importance in combatting terrorism and sustaining stability. The alignment followed 9/11. Pakistan and the US have several issues. Pakistan's internal problems, reliance on terrorist groups to deal with India, and expanding links with China must be considered. However, US-Pakistan relations are tense. These factors weaken US-Pakistan relations and raise regional security concerns that affect global interests. This matters given nuclear proliferation and the Indo-Pacific strategy. These dynamics cause US-Pakistan tension. The US must reconcile Pakistan's legitimate security concerns with its regional stability violations to cooperate with it. The US needs this to speak with Pakistan. Pakistan is needed for the US to achieve this arduous goal.

However, Iran's foreign policy is driven by its aspirations for regional supremacy and ideological antagonism to the US. Tehran's nuclear goals, proxy funding, and Persian Gulf antagonism show its anti-American sentiment. Tehran's attitude shows it dislikes American dominance. These operations destabilise the Middle East and endanger US allies like Israel and Saudi Arabia. These actions endanger US interests and security. US interests are threatened. Iran's relations with Russia and China complicate geopolitics. This coalition reveals how regional and global power struggles are linked. The problem becomes harder to solve. The US uses sanctions, military deterrence, and diplomacy to curb Iran's nuclear development and regional operations. Together, these strategies work. Both methods are combined to achieve goals. The relationship between Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies and their consequences on US interests shows how Realist Theory continues to influence international relations. Both countries prioritise their national interests to retain their positions in a turbulent international system. This is done through alliances and asymmetries. The US needs a realistic plan that considers the limitations of acting alone and the importance of working with other nations to address these concerns. The US can achieve its strategic goals and lessen Pakistan and Iran's threats by working with international organisations and regional partners and using hard and soft power. Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies show that global security is always changing. These ideas help

understand international security. Pakistan's rivalry with India and growing connections with China show the challenges of keeping regional peace and balancing large powers. Both conflicts are in South Asia. Both scenarios predict future issues. Iran's actions in the Middle East have raised concerns about ideological clashes and proxy war in an oil-dependent area. Because Iran's actions have heightened conflict risks. When combined, these techniques show how modern security issues are related. Operations in one location affect the entire system, demonstrating these factors. Despite difficulties, the US can discuss Pakistan and Iran's foreign policies. Both countries' foreign policies cause these issues. If Islamabad balances India and China, promotes economic and governance reforms in Pakistan, and engages in regional diplomacy, its interests can coincide with the US. This is possible. Diplomatic communication with Iran and a framework to manage its nuclear and regional actions may reduce tensions and stabilise the Middle East. Reason: Iran's nuclear capability. Iran's nuclear status explains this. US leadership in a multipolar world is difficult. Pakistani and Iranian foreign policies present this challenge and test. These issues can be solved by being aware of regional dynamics, committed to long-term projects, and open to global changes. The US can use its connections, advocate for multi-country solutions, and address the root causes of instability to establish a more stable and balanced global order. These methods can help the US achieve this goal. In these situations, the US protects its strategic interests and promotes global security.

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