

Pakistan and World Affairs

Student's Learning Outcomes

After studying this chapter students will be able to:

1. Describe the strategic location and importance of Pakistan.
2. Explain the objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy.
3. Narrate Pakistan's relations with immediate neighbouring states.
4. Explain the genesis and development of Kashmir issue, UN involvement and declaration on Jammu and Kashmir.
5. Highlight Pakistan's relations with the Central Asian countries.
6. Discuss Pakistan's relations with OIC countries.
7. Explain Pakistan's relations with SAARC countries.
8. Describe Pakistan's relations with USA, China, U.K., EU, Russia and Japan.
9. Describe CPEC and its impact on national economy.
10. Discuss Pakistan's contribution towards peace keeping in the world.

Geo-political significance of Pakistan

Pakistan has geographical and political importance all over the world due to its special location. Pakistan's policy makers firmly believe that Pakistan is of unprecedented geographical importance, as all trade routes of Central Asia pass through Pakistan. The defense, military, economic and political importance of the region in which Pakistan is located is significant for the following reasons:

1- Trade Route

Pakistan is connected to China in the north. The Karakoram Highway connects China and Pakistan by land. This highway is built by cutting the rocks of Karakoram chain and it is an important trade highway between China and Pakistan. Pakistan has very friendly relations with China.

2- Land and Sea Routes

Pakistan is close to the oil producing Gulf countries (countries around the Persian Gulf, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar, etc.) and it lies between the Muslim world, which stretches from Morocco in the west to Indonesia in the east. The industrial development of many Western countries depends on oil production of the Gulf countries. This oil is shipped to other countries via the Arabian Sea, and Karachi is a major port in the Arabian Sea. Pakistan provides land and sea services to Afghanistan for trade. Karachi is an international port and airport. It connects Europe to Asia by air and sea. All the countries that want to connect with the Middle East and Central Asia cannot ignore the location of Pakistan.

3- Good relations with different countries

Wakhan is a narrow strip of land of Afghanistan in the north of Pakistan, which separates Pakistan's northern border from Tajikistan. Pakistan has very cordial relations with this Central Asian country. India is located in the east of Pakistan and Muslim countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam to the far east. Pakistan has very good relations with all these countries. Iran is located on the southwestern border of Pakistan. Pakistan is a founding member of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) with Iran and Turkey. As a result of this cooperation, very friendly relations have been established between all the member countries. These countries have signed a number of agreements of mutual interest. Pakistan has very friendly relations with Muslim countries in the Middle East and the Gulf. Pakistan has played an important role in the development of these countries. Countries like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are a second home for Pakistanis.

4-Tourism

Pakistan has ancient civilizations of Indus Valley and Gandhara and they are very important from the point of view of tourism. Similarly, Kagan Valley, Khyber Pass, Swat and Gilgit-Baltistan are very popular resorts for tourists. Pakistan's highest mountain peak is K-2, with a height of about 8611 metres, which is the second highest peak in the world. This is very interesting for mountaineer. Other popular tourist destinations in Pakistan include Taxila, Peshawar, Karachi, Lahore and Murree etc.



Scene of a Tourist Destination of Pakistan

5-Nuclear Power

Pakistan is an important and responsible nuclear power of the world and is highly regarded and respected in the Muslim world. The eyes of Muslim countries are on Pakistan to play a leading role for common development and progress.

6- Kashmir Issue

If the Kashmir core issue between Pakistan and India is resolved, peace will prevail in the entire South Asian region and trade will flourish. Good, political and economic relations between the two countries will help alleviate poverty in the region.

7-China Pakistan's Economic Corridor (CPEC)

Under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project Gwadar port (island) can be developed as a hub of economic activities. This will facilitate trade between Europe, United States and many other countries of the world. Thus, Pakistan will become the center of economic activity.

Objectives of Pakistan's Foreign Policy

The term "Foreign policy" refers to the strategy of a country for relations with



other countries. Every country establishes relations with other countries to protect its national interests. In our present day world, no state can meet all its needs alone. Due to the reason large and small countries of the world has to establish relations with the other Nations. These relations help them to fulfill economic, social, industrial and defense needs. Each country determines its foreign policy priorities on the basis of its objectives and interests. These priorities and objectives determine the path and level of relationship between the countries of the world.

Pakistan's foreign policy, like that of other states, is in line with the priorities of national needs. The people of Pakistan want the protection of their sovereignty, national security, prosperity, protection of Islamic values, protection of cultural values and economic prosperity in the rapidly developing world through the use of their resources and the cooperation of the United Nations. The main objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy are as follows:

(i) Protection of Ideology of Pakistan

Pakistan is the only Islamic country in the world founded on the basis of Islamic ideology. The Muslims of the subcontinent had acquired this homeland so that they could lead their lives according to the commands of the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah. The protection of ideology of Pakistan is just as important as the protection of its geographical boundaries. The protection of Pakistan's ideology has been given a prominent place in foreign policy. Through foreign policy, agreements are made to promote closer cooperation with the Muslim Brotherhood, as well as economic, political and cultural activities. Like domestic policy, the security of Pakistan is of paramount importance in foreign policy.

(ii) National Security

The main purpose of Pakistan's foreign policy is to protect national security. Therefore, it is in the national interest to protect Pakistan's sovereignty and geographical and ideological boundaries. Every step taken against national security should be stopped and Pakistan should be protected. The protection and survival of national security requires unity and stability in the country as well as close cooperation with the outside world. Since the establishment of Pakistan, Iran, China, Saudi Arabia and other friendly countries gave full support to Pakistan on all fronts. This was the result of Pakistan's successful foreign policy. Now, for the protection of Pakistan's borders, internal security and protection of sovereignty, the establishment of cordial relations with the United Nations has a central place in Pakistan's foreign policy.

(iii) Promotion of Culture or Cultural Development

Like other nations of the world Pakistanis love their culture. Pakistani culture is a reflection of Islamic values. Values like tolerance, respect for humanity, bravery, honour, modesty and respect for privacy (چادراورچادوپواری) are special to our culture. Pakistan has persistently pursued a policy to establish friendly and brotherly relations with such countries through which Pakistani culture is not only preserved but also promoted. For this purpose, cultural relations with the brotherly Islamic countries are enhanced and cultural delegations are exchanged between these states. In the Western world, Pakistani clothing, embroidery, embroidered kurtas, shalwars, sheets and other items are especially popular. In this way, cultural relations between the states are strengthened.

(iv) Economic Growth

Promoting economic activity is considered essential for economic growth. Agriculture is the occupation of the majority of the population of Pakistan. For the development of agriculture and the growth of the economy, Pakistan needs to further strengthen its relations with the agriculturally and industrially developed states. In this way, using the experience of developed states, we can strengthen our economy by developing our agriculture and industry. Educational development is essential for

economic development. Only on the basis of technological advancement can agriculture, industry and business be developed. In order to acquire technical and industrial knowledge, industrial and technical sciences can be promoted in their country by establishing relations with the industrialized developed states. These goals can only be achieved through a successful foreign policy.

Pakistan's Relations with the Neighbouring Countries

Pakistan is a peaceful Islamic country with nuclear capability. Pakistan has always sought to maintain friendly relations with its neighbours. The following is an overview of Pakistan's relations with its neighbouring countries:

India

- India is Pakistan's neighbour. The existence of Pakistan has emerged from the subcontinent; therefore, many aspects of Pakistan's history, geography and culture are common with India. The length of the common border between the two countries is about 2163 kilometres.
- According to international norms Pakistan's relations with India should be very close, deep-rooted and stable. But this goal could not be achieved. Since the partition of the Indian subcontinent, many issues have been unresolved between India and Pakistan. India has always been pushing Pakistan back to wall. But with the grace of Allah Almighty and the determination of the Pakistani nation and armed forces, this country has always been always safe protected.
- History of Pakistan India relations is more a history of conflicts and clash. The first war was fought in 1948 on the Kashmir front. In this war, the Pakistani people, tribal warriors and the armed forces bravely faced the Indian armed forces. They not only successfully defended the motherland but also liberated a significant area of Azad Jammu and Kashmir from Indian occupation. Tribal warriors played a leading role in this conflict. They reached in the vicinity of Srinagar.
- Indian Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru took the dispute to United Nations, where Security Council passed a resolution for ceasefire. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru admitted in the Security Council that he would give Kashmiris right to self-determination. But later, India did not keep its promise. On the night of September 6, 1965, war broke out between Pakistan and India on the Lahore, Kasur and Sialkot fronts. The Pakistani army bravely responded to the Indian attack and pushed the enemy back.
- In December 1971, war once again broke out between India and Pakistan. In this war, India was out with a different strategy. They had the support of a segment of local population (organized, equipped and trained by India) of East Pakistan. As result of this war Pakistan lost its Eastern part (East Pakistan). East Pakistan emerged on the world map on December 16, 1971 under the name of

Bangladesh.

- Besides wars India created many other Problems for Pakistan. The scene soured relations between the two neighbours. India created water problem for Pakistan by stopping water of rivers flowing down to Pakistan. India refused to give Pakistan's share in the common assets of pre-partition days. Questions were raised on the issue of affiliation of states. Furthermore, India raised disputes in respect of borders and boundaries. Leadership of India has never shown readiness to resolve these disputes.
- A number of confidence-building issues were discussed between the two countries, including trade, bus service, exchange of delegations and the Kartarpur corridor. The people of both countries also want that resources are spent on war to be spent on solving the problems of the people. Without settling Kashmir issue permanent peace and good relations based on mutual understanding are not possible between the two countries.
- According to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ), Kashmir is the lifeblood of Pakistan, so a just solution to the Kashmir issue is essential for the establishment of cordial relations between the two states.

Iran

- Iran is Pakistan's Islamic brother neighbouring country. Iran was the first country to recognize Pakistan after its formation. From the very beginning, Pakistan and Iran have enjoyed cordial and strong relations. The two brotherly countries have always expressed good feelings for each other and cooperated with each other internationally. A number of cooperation agreements have been signed between the two brotherly countries. Initially, Iran offered assistance to meet Pakistan's economic needs.
- The "Regional Cooperation for Development Cooperation" (RCD) agreement between Pakistan, Iran and Turkey brought the three states closer together. During the reign of General Ayub Khan, through this agreement, the three brotherly countries were cooperating a lot with each other. This cooperation was of an economic, military and political nature. During the war days oil supply was of particular importance due to the heavy costs of war. Iran has been generous in this hour of need. At the international level, too, Iran has been supporting Pakistan's position.
- During the rule of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's era, Pakistan and Iran got closer to each other. Iran not only provided concessions on existing loans, but it also provided more loans to Pakistan. This act helped Pakistan in lessening the ill effects of the 1971 Indo-Pak war, and doing restoration activity. Religious and cultural cooperation between Pakistan and Iran has helped both the nations to get closer to one another.

Do you know?

The official religion of the Islamic Republic of Iran is Islam. National language is Persian; its currency is Iranian Riyal. The capital of Iran is Tehran. It is one of the oldest civilizations of the world. Thanks to vast oil reserves of Iran, that assign it has an important place in international politics.

- Millions of pilgrims from Pakistan pay visit to holy places in Iran. Pakistan and Iran are very active members of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation. Although this organization is not very active in solving the problems of the Muslim Ummah, it still helps in solving many small problems. Pakistan and Iran are also members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). Thus, the Central Asian states, Pakistan and Iran, work closely together.
- After the American invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq, America has repeatedly expressed its aggressive intentions against Iran. Pakistan has always discouraged these American intentions and has openly declared its support for Iran. These two brotherly countries can play a more useful role for each other and for the United Nations. So, it is important for both the countries to increase cooperation in financial, geographical, industrial and human resources. Cooperation in these areas will accelerate growth process of both the states.

Afghanistan

- After the formation of Pakistan, Afghanistan recognized Pakistan in 1948 and thus began diplomatic relations. Afghanistan has a long common border with Pakistan. The two countries have strong ties of religion, history and culture. The history of people-to-people relations between the two states spans centuries, so the two countries have close and deep ties. At the governmental level, there have been many ups and downs in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations.
- During the Russian invasion of Afghanistan, Pakistan sided with the Afghan people. Millions of Afghan refugees from Afghanistan fled to Pakistan. Pakistan sheltered them on purely humanitarian grounds and offered a practical example of mutual assistance. Pakistan openly condemned the Russian aggression and made every effort to restore Afghanistan's independent Islamic identity. The Afghan people defended their homeland with the cooperation of the United States and Pakistan and thus ended the Russian occupation. After the Taliban era began, Pak-Afghan relations improved significantly.
- Before the establishment of Pakistan, when the subcontinent was under British occupation, the British were always worried that Russia's power would not extend to the northwestern border or the government of Afghanistan should not create chaos in the North West Frontier Province (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). To get rid of these dangers, the Viceroy of India wrote a letter to the Governor of Afghanistan, Amir Abdul Rehman Khan, and at his invitation,

Indian Foreign Minister Mortimer Durand visited Kabul in September 1893.



South Asia Map

- In November 1893, a 100-year agreement was reached between the two governments. This resulted in the demarcation of the border, called the Durand Line. It is approximately 2611 km long. After the formation of Pakistan, the government of Pakistan maintained this agreement, but Afghanistan is deviating from it. As a result, relations between the two countries are strained. The border between Pakistan and Afghanistan is still called the "Durand Line".
- Afghanistan is a landlocked country. It has no sea, so its maritime trade is through Pakistan. Although Afghanistan lacks oil and other means of transportation, it is geographically located between Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. It has racial, religious and cultural ties to all three regions. Afghanistan is very important for Central Asian countries because they have to use Pakistani ports through Afghanistan.
- The United States invaded Afghanistan after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States. It overthrew the Taliban government in Afghanistan. Top Afghan and Pakistani officials have visited each other's countries several times. Now the Taliban have come in power again. Better relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan can be expected in the future.

China

- Pak-China friendship can be considered an example in international relations. There exists a clear cultural difference between the two states. However national interests and openness of mind and heart have brought the two states very close to each other. After the establishment of China in 1949, Pakistan recognized it as an independent and sovereign country.
- Pak-China relations have been cordial and constructive from the very beginning. The length of the common border between the two countries is about 599 km. China has played an important role in the building and development of Pakistan. In the wars between Pakistan and India, China sided with Pakistan generously and boldly. In this way, the support of a great power raised the spirits of Pakistanis
- China faced global challenges in its early days. During this period, Pakistan sided with China. Pakistan also generously supported China in gaining membership in international organizations, while the United States and European states were openly opposed to communist China. Pakistan was also an ally of the United States, but despite this, Pakistan maintained friendship with China.

Do you know?

The People's Republic of China is the world's largest country by population. Every year on October 1, the China people celebrate their Independence Day with full national enthusiasm and dignity. The name of the currency of China is Yuan.

- China has played a very active and effective role in Pakistan's industrial and economic development. China has a special role to play in Pakistan's nation building. China has rendered great service in respect of tank and aircraft manufacturing in Pakistan. By virtue of cooperation Pakistan's armaments industry has made a rapid progress. In addition, China is also fully supporting Pakistan's various defense projects.
- The Karakoram Highway is a great symbol of Pak-China friendship. It is also known as the Silk Route. The two countries trade and travel with each other through this road.
- At present, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is very important. In every era, Pakistan and China have taken steps to strengthen their relationship.



A Beautiful Scene of Karakoram Highway

Kashmir Issue

- Pakistan and India both claim to stand on Jammu and Kashmir issue is fair and

just. At the time of Partition of subcontinent, Jammu and Kashmir was a state under British Raj. When subcontinent was being divided, the areas with Muslim majority were given to Pakistan and the areas with Hindu majority were given to India. The majority of the population in Kashmir was Muslim but the ruler was a Hindu Dogra. Hindu Raja wanted the state of Kashmir to be annexed to India. Muslim leadership of the time rejected this thesis. Even today Muslims are in majority. Pakistan's claim is based on the principle of independence, that Muslim majority areas should be part of Pakistan. India thinks it was ruled by the Hindu Raja, who wanted to join India, so it is part of India.

- At the time of establishment of Pakistan, Muslims of the state of Jammu and Kashmir wanted Kashmir to be included in Pakistan. But the Hindu ruler of the state wanted to join India. He signed an agreement with Indian government to join India. The agreement was against the wishes of the people of state as well as the agreed principle of independence. After the agreement India entered its army in Kashmir. Thus, Kashmir came under Indian control. The Kashmiri Muslims raised the banner of jihad and liberated about one third of the Kashmir from Indian forces.

United Nations intervention and its Resolution on Jammu and Kashmir

- When the Indian forces failed in taking the area from the control of the Kashmiri Mujahedeen, India took the issue to the Security Council. India took the position that Kashmir had formally annexed by India, so the area is part of India. India further claimed that Pakistan had invaded Kashmir, which meant an attack on India.
- Pakistan challenges legitimacy of Indian claim on Kashmir and its accession to India. Pakistan presented the case of Kashmir before the world. He stressed that the people of Kashmir should have the right to decide the future of Kashmir not by the Raja of the state.
- The Security Council passed a resolution in 1949 which called for ceasefire in Kashmir. The ceasefire came into effect after this resolution. In its declaration, the Security Council acknowledged Pakistan's position that the future of Kashmir would be decided by the will of the people of the state. A Plebiscite will be held under the supervision of the United Nations for this purpose.
- Pakistan and India both accepted the resolution of the Security Council. In accordance with the first part of the Security Council resolution, war in Kashmir ended on the stipulated time. To prevent ceasefire violations, the United Nations has appointed observers to monitor the ceasefire line.

India's refusal to Hold Plebiscite

- After initial success arranging cease fire in Kashmir, it was expected that the UN would hold a plebiscite in Kashmir under its supervision. The United Nations made some efforts in this direction but no progress was made by India in this

regard. India started creating difficulties in the way of free referendum in Kashmir.

- India knew that the people of Kashmir would vote in favour of joining Pakistan, so it started appointing its own people to all positions to strengthen its grip on Kashmir. India deployed a large number of troops there. In order to control the situation, India flatly refused to hold a referendum, declaring Kashmir its integral part.

Arrival of UN Envoy in Subcontinent

- The Security Council made several attempts to implement the resolution adopted in 1949 in order to persuade India to hold a referendum in Kashmir according to promise.
- To this end, in 1957, the United Nations sent a representative to India and Pakistan to review the Kashmir issue. On his part Pakistan gave full assurance of its cooperation to the envoy. But India refused to cooperate on the issue. Even today India is not ready to implement resolution of the Security Council. India has forgotten the promise it made to the Security Council and the people of Kashmir.



A Scene of UN Security Council Session on Kashmir Issue

Current Situation

- The Kashmir issue is a long-standing dispute between Pakistan and India. There have been several wars between Pakistan and India over Kashmir. In addition, there is an exchange of fire on the border of Occupied Kashmir and Azad Kashmir, which is called the Line of Control. Because of this, most of the urban population has been targeted.
- The unsettled Kashmir issue pending since long is a flash point. It is a serious

threat to regional and world peace. A solution to this issue is essential for maintaining world peace.

Pakistan's Relations with Central Asian Countries

- After the dissolution of Soviet Union in 1991, Central Asian Muslim countries Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan came in to being.
- Pakistan established relations with these countries and expanded its external relations. These relations further improved with the establishment of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). Pakistan's relations with these countries are not only based on religion, but also on mutual interests. In the present day world, it is beneficial for these countries to cooperate with each other.
- These countries do not have access to sea as they are land locked. Access to sea is very important to carry international trade. Pakistan has been providing these countries access to sea. These states are rich in oil and mineral wealth which are requirements of Pakistan. Coal, Oil and natural gas are extracted from many countries of the region.
- Major portion of the population of the region is engaged in the agriculture sector. Therefore, they live in valleys and oasis. Agriculture is source of provision of food, it provides raw material to the garments and leather industries. International fame is linked with the colourful carpets and rugs of the region. There is great expectation that Pakistan's relations with these countries shall grow overtime.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Pakistan

- Pakistan has played an important role in the sessions of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for the unity, harmony and cooperation among Islamic countries. Pakistan has always supported the movements favouring Muslims, and has raised voice in their favour at United Nations.
- In 1969, when the Israelis set fire to the Al-Aqsa Masjid, it sent a wave of anger among the Muslims around the world. After that, representatives of Muslim countries gathered in Rabat (Morocco). In this meeting, Pakistan proposed the formation of a permanent Organization called the Islamic Conference, which was supported by all Islamic countries. Thus, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) was established in 1969. Its headquarter is at Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). Now its new name is Organization of Islamic Cooperation.
- In 1969, when the first meeting of the OIC was held in Rabat, Morocco, Pakistan played an active role in its



Office of OIC in Jeddah
(Saudi Arabia)

proceedings. The second Islamic Summit was held in 1974 in Lahore. The conference was hosted by Pakistan.

- Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Shah Faisal, Muammar Gaddafi, Hafiz-al-Assad, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan and Anwar Sadat played a key role in organizing the meeting of OIC. In the historic city of Lahore leaders and representatives of 40 countries were present. Delegations from the World Muslim Congress, the Palestine Liberation Movement (PLO) and the Arab League also attended the conference.
- The government and people of Pakistan fulfilled their responsibilities with great passion. Pakistan moved a resolution in favour of independence and sovereignty of Palestine, which was passed unanimously.
- Pakistan has attended all the meetings of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation since 1969. It has played a significant role for the unity of the Islamic world and resolving the problems of Muslim world.
- The entire Islamic community acknowledges the Pakistan's services for the success of the OIC, the unity of the Muslim Ummah and establishing special relations with Islamic countries.

Relations between Pakistan and the countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Pakistan's Relations with Saudi Arabia

- Since its establishment Pakistan has close ties with Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia has also always supported Pakistan. Shah Faisal used to call Pakistan his second home. Saudi Arabia has always supported Pakistan's position in international politics. The Faisal Masjid in Islamabad is a manifestation of the Pakistani people's relationship with Saudi Arabia.
- Saudi Arabia has always supported Pakistan's stance on Kashmir issue and raised voice for the Kashmiri Muslims to self-determination. Both the countries share a common view on all international issues. Even today, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have brotherly relations.

Pakistan's Relations with Indonesia and Malaysia

- Pakistan also has close fraternal relations with Indonesia and Malaysia. Indonesia and Malaysia are Islamic countries in Southeast Asia. Indonesia is the world's largest Islamic country by population. These countries cooperate with each other in fields of defense and culture etc.
- Pakistan has signed preferential trade agreements with these countries. After the agreement volume of bilateral trade has crossed 3 billion dollars. It is clear indication that these countries are not only a longtime friend, but also Pakistan's partners in development.

Pakistan's Relations with Iran

- Pakistan has brotherly relations with Iran. Iran was the first country who

recognized Pakistan. Brotherly relations between Iran and Pakistan are centuries old. They are based on historical, religious and cultural values. The two countries share a border of about 909 km, which has kept the two countries in good neighbourly relations.

- Pakistan supported the Iranian Islamic Revolution in 1979. Iran's full support for Pakistan's position on Kashmir has also helped bring the two countries closer. The security and development of Pakistan and Iran are interlinked.
- The two countries are jointly working on ways to control terrorism and the energy crisis. Iran also interested in developing trade relations with China and Central Asian countries through China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Pakistan's Relations with Turkey

- Turkey and Pakistan have deep, eternal and unique relationship. These relations are an asset and pride for both the nations. There is no precedent in the world today for such relationship. Both the countries are bosom friends.
- Turkey is a country in the world where Pakistan and its people enjoy so much respect and esteem. It is a country where people feel proud of their being a Pakistani citizen.
- Turkey, Pakistan and Iran jointly established the RCD in 1964, but ended its activities in 1979. The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was established in 1985.
- When there was a severe earthquake in Pakistan in 2005, the Turks generously donated for the earthquake victims. Turkish doctors, nurses, medical staff and aid organizations tirelessly helped the victims of earthquake, without caring for their comfort.
- On the Kashmir issue, Turkey has given unwavering support to Pakistan. No other country can rival Turkey in this matter.

Pakistan's Relations with Libya, Egypt and Syria

- Pakistan always desired brotherly relations with Libya, Egypt, and Syria. During the Pakistan and India war 1971, Libya, Egypt and Syria were extremely sympathetic towards Pakistan. These countries provided financial, moral and political support to Pakistan. This further increased the emotional attachment between Pakistan and the people of these countries.
- These countries provided financial support to Pakistan to make its defense strong. These countries provided investment so that "Fortress of Islam" Pakistan could become a strong country. Leaders of these countries participated in the 1974 Islamic Summit in Lahore and expressed their love for Pakistanis. These countries also supported Pakistan in the United Nations on many occasions.
- Pakistan stood with these brethren countries during Arab-Israel war. These countries have always supported Pakistan's position on the Kashmir issue as well. Cooperation between Pakistan and these Muslim countries in the fields of agriculture, industry and defense is regular feature of their policy.

Pakistan's Relations with Palestine

- In 1948, a state called Israel was established in the land of Palestine with the support of Western Powers. This was a matter of concern for the Palestinians, but Israel began to expand its boundaries. Muslim countries, especially the Arab countries of the area became active. They started efforts to protect the rights of Palestinians.
- Many wars were fought between Arabs and Israel to liberate the occupied territories. Arab countries could not succeed due to lack of unity among them. Thus, main areas of Palestine including Jerusalem came under Israeli control and the Palestinian issue took a serious turn. Efforts are still being made by the United Nations, the Islamic world and the major powers of world to establish an independent Palestinian state.
- Pakistan has always raised voice for the rights of Palestinian Muslims at every international forum and drew the attention of the international community to this issue. Pakistan has always made efforts to solve this problem.
- Pakistan has not tendered recognition to Israel up-till now. Pakistan has always contributed huge amounts of money in the United Nation's fund for Palestine. In the wars between the Arab countries and Israel, Pakistan provided all possible political and moral support to the Arabs.
- Pakistan played a key role in getting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) a member of OIC. Pakistan has good relations with the present Palestinian state. Pakistan fully supports the position of the Palestinians.

Pakistan and other Muslim Countries

- Pakistan wants closer ties with the entire Islamic world. In the present era, Pakistan has adopted a neutral policy instead of supporting any bloc in world politics.
- Pakistan has established its bilateral relations with Islamic countries in such a way that they are not against any third Islamic country. Pakistan has good trade and cultural relations with Jordan, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Nigeria, Iraq, United Arab Emirates (UEA), Oman and Lebanon etc.
- Pakistan principally supports all the freedom movements by the Muslims throughout the world. Pakistan is committed to provide all possible help in strengthening defense of Islamic countries. Pakistan has always played a positive role in the efforts to unite the Islamic world.

Do you know?

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) consists of 10 Asian countries: Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The ECO headquarter is in Tehran, the capital of Iran. Basic objective of this organization is to promote economic cooperation and exchange goods and services on the pattern of European Union.

Pakistan's Relations with SAARC Countries

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) came into being in 1985. The organization has eight members, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives, Bhutan and Afghanistan. The SAARC has set following objectives:

- (i) Understanding each other's problems and taking steps to build mutual confidence.
 - (ii) Improve and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia. Develop better understanding and promote cooperation in the Economic, cultural, technological and scientific fields among the member countries.
 - (iii) Take a common position on the international issues of mutual interest. Explore ways to increase cooperation with other regional and international organizations.
- Pakistan's relations with SAARC countries are discussed below:

Pakistan and India

- India is located in the East of Pakistan. Its capital is Delhi. India has opted for parliamentary system. Several efforts have been made to develop good relations and enhance cooperation between the two countries within the framework of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Pakistan has always expressed its wish to resolve its differences with India through dialogue.
- Pak India relations have always been a story of ups and downs. Due to this, the bilateral relations could not produce any significant result. Pakistan has always invited India to come to the negotiation table resolve the unsettled issues between the two countries but India has always ignored it.
- In 1988, on the sidelines of the SAARC Conference, Pakistan and Indian Prime Ministers had the opportunity to meet and sign an agreement. Under the agreement, the two countries agreed not to attack each other's nuclear facilities.
- Under the SAARC Organization, relations between Pakistan and India have improved to some extent after 1990. Mutual trade and transportation between the two countries increased. However these relations could not go beyond a certain limit.
- During the SAARC Conference (Islamabad) in January 2004, talks were held between the President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of India. A number of agreements were made between the two countries. Both leaders declared that dialogue process shall continue to resolve the unsettled issues between the two countries.
- Kashmir issue is the basic cause of contention between Pakistan and India. It is not in the interest of India to come to fair and just solution of Kashmir issue. On the other hand, Pakistan still stands by its just position that the Kashmir issue be resolved in accordance with the United Nation's resolutions and the opinion of the oppressed Kashmiris.

- SAARC member countries have always played an effective role in resolving the all issues including Kashmir and water issues between Pakistan and India. India has always been an obstacle, thus the Kashmir issue is still unresolved. This issue is a major hindrance to the improvement of relations between the two countries.

Pakistan and Bangladesh

- The first SAARC Summit was held in 1985 and the seventh SAARC Summit was held in 1993 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Many steps were taken in these meetings to promote trade between the SAARC countries.
- In 1993, Pakistan and Bangladesh signed a "Tractor agreement", under which Pakistan provided Tractors to Bangladesh.
- 13th SAARC summit was held in Dhaka in 2005. Khaleda Zia prime minister of Bangladesh was elected chairperson for the next year. In this meeting, Pakistan called for resolving all the contentious issues between the SAARC partners. Pakistan also called for a solution to the Kashmir issue for regional cooperation and development.
- We have good relations with Bangladesh but there have been ups and downs in this relationship. These relationships are improving over time. Pakistan and Bangladesh also have trade relations. Volume of trade between both the countries is increasing.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka

- Trade relations between Pakistan and Sri Lanka are very durable. Both the countries regularly arrange sports and cricket competitions, as a gesture of good will. Sixth SAARC Summit was held in 1991 in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka. Delegates considered various proposals to control the growing trend of violence and terrorism in Asia.
- In this summit Pakistan's Prime Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif called for lasting peace in the region, adherence to the United Nation's Charter and control over nuclear weapons.
- In 1998, 10th SAARC Summit was held in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka. In this session, a meeting was held between the Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on the basis of which Vajpayee visited Lahore. Leaders of SAARC countries called for poverty eradication and promotion of mutual cooperation.
- Pakistan Sri Lanka relations are very warm. Moreover trade relations between the two countries are very strong and expanding. Pakistan provided military and information technology equipment to Sri Lanka in the civil war against the Tamil Tigers.
- In early 2016, the Prime Minister of Pakistan visited Sri Lanka. During the visit, the two countries signed a number of agreements and memoranda of understanding in the fields of defense, security, counter-terrorism, trade and

science and technology etc.

- Pakistan and Sri Lanka have very friendly relations. The two countries respect each other's integrity and sovereignty. They have same views regarding peace and prosperity in Asia.

Pakistan and Nepal

- In the background of SAARC, trade relations between Pakistan and Nepal are very encouraging. Exchange of visits of various delegations between the two countries is a regular feature of their policy. The agreement to set up a joint economic commission of Pakistan and Nepal was reached in 1983. The two countries have made significant progress in exchanging information in the fields of trade, agriculture, tourism and energy etc.
- The two countries share a common position on a number of regional and global issues. Pakistan seeks to enhance its friendly relations with Nepal and pursues new avenues for trade and economic sectors. The two countries are currently cooperating in trade, agriculture, education, energy, information technology and other fields.
- The close and friendly relations between Pakistan and Nepal can be transformed into economic and trade cooperation. Bilateral trade between the two countries can be increased by taking solid steps.

Pakistan and Republic of Maldives

- The Republic of Maldives is a small country. Its beautiful location at the confluence of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea is of great importance. It has India on one side and Sri Lanka on the other. The love of the rulers and people of the Republic of Maldives for Pakistan and their common stance on regional and global issues is appreciable.
- The relations of the Republic of Maldives with Pakistan have always been ideal. In 1990, the Fifth SAARC Summit was held in Male, the capital of the Maldives. The President of Maldives, Mammon Abdul Qayyum, hosted the event. The Pakistani delegation was led by Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif.
- The leaders emphasized on the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the prevention of smuggling. Fishing is major occupation of the people of the Maldives. From here snails and oysters shells are collected and export to other countries.
- In 2015, Maldivian President Abdullah Yameen Abdul Qayyum visited Pakistan. On this occasion many agreements were signed between the two countries



A Beautiful Scene of Islands of Maldives

which covered prevention of drug trafficking, sports, health, trade and education.

Do you know?

The Republic of Maldives is a country consisting of islands. There are about 200 islands with human populations. The capital of the Maldives is Male where 80% of the country's population lives.

- In the current era, the Maldives can benefit from Pakistan's changing investment-friendly policies, economic conditions and Pak-Maldives friendship. The two countries can move forward with goodwill towards each other in economic, social and other fields.

Pakistan and Bhutan

- Pakistan has close relations with Bhutan. Thimphu is capital of Bhutan. This main city is on the banks of the river Thimphu.
- Sheep and goat rearing is an important occupation of the people here. Women embroider at homes. There are also plenty of marmalades factories. The official language of Bhutan is Dzongkha. Buddhism is the religion of the majority population.
- Exchange of views through Delegations continues between the two countries. In 2004, Bhutan participated in the SAARC Conference in Islamabad. In the same year, the Prime Minister of Pakistan Shaukat Aziz paid an official visit to Bhutan with his delegation and discussed issues of mutual interest. Bhutan has always played an important role in SAARC activities.
- In March 2011, the Prime Minister of Bhutan visited Pakistan and discussed bilateral relations with the Prime Minister of Pakistan Yousuf Raza Gilani. During this time, various memoranda were signed on economic development, investment, trade, education and culture.
- Pakistan's main exports to Bhutan include cotton bales, textiles, sports and leather goods etc. Pakistan's major imports from Bhutan include jute, rubber, seed oil and various chemicals etc.

Pakistan and Afghanistan

- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) made Afghanistan a member in 2007. Under the banner of this organization, Pakistan and Afghanistan have played an important role in promoting peace, stability, harmony and development of the region.
- Both countries believe in the values like sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, national independence and not to use force. They are in favour of finding a peaceful solution to all problems.
- Both the countries believe in the values like sovereign equality, respect, security,

solidarity and independence. Both countries are in favour of finding a peaceful solution to all issues through dialogue.

- Afghanistan has valued Pakistan's efforts to resolve the Kashmir issue. Through SAARC, economic and trade relations between the two countries have improved. Cooperation between the two countries has enhanced by holding social, cultural and sports events.
- Political relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan affect trade between the two countries. Pakistan has agreements with Afghanistan in a number of areas, including trade, economic development and cooperation.

Pakistan's Relations with World Powers

Pakistan has a special place in world politics by virtue of its geographical and political importance. Therefore, Pakistan's role in world politics has always been active. Over time, Pakistan's importance in world politics has increased. Pakistan's relations with the major powers are described below:

United States of America

- The basis of Pakistan-US relations is national security and protection of national interests. Pak-US relations began at the time, when US President Truman invited Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan to visit the United States. The invitation was accepted by Liaquat Ali Khan. In his speeches during the United States visit in 1950, Liaquat Ali Khan stated the objectives of the establishment of Pakistan as well as the development needs of Pakistan. His tour of America was successful. The United States provided military and economic assistance to Pakistan which helped in the construction and development of Pakistan.
- In 1954, Pakistan joined a defense agreement SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) with the United States and its allies. In 1955, Pakistan became a member of Baghdad pact working under the US umbrella. This agreement was later called CENTO (Central Treaty Organization).
- After these agreements US started immediate military and economic aid to Pakistan. This aid helped Pakistan to boost its defense capabilities. US stopped providing aid to Pakistan during the 1965 Pakistan and India war. In this difficult time China, Iran and Saudi Arabia helped Pakistan. Pakistan's relations with the United States improved in 1968, which continued until 1970.
- When India invaded Pakistan in 1971, the United States distanced itself from Pakistan. On the other hand, Russia sided with India. When Russia invaded Afghanistan, millions of refugees came to Pakistan. On this occasion, the United States and the Western powers joined hands with Pakistan to help Afghan people. As a result, Russia had to withdraw from Afghanistan after a tiresome war.
- America invaded Afghanistan after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in

New York. In this war, Pakistan sided with the United States. Over time, Pakistan-US relations improved.

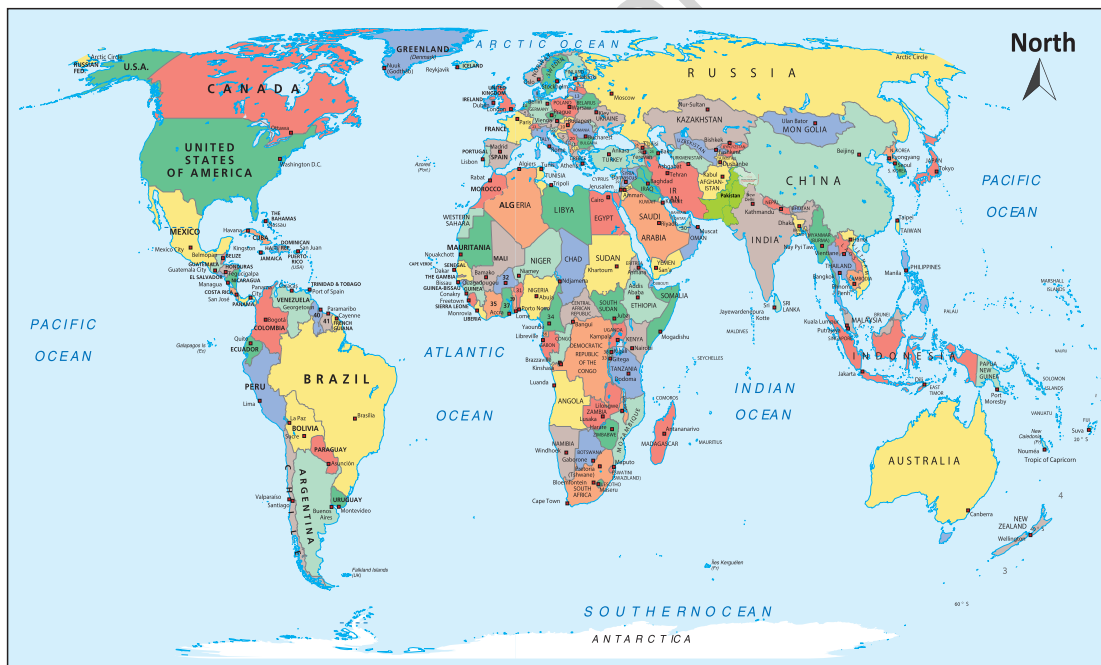
Russia

- Geographically, Russia is close to Pakistan, but due to Pakistan's participation in defense agreements under the American leadership Russia remained away from Pakistan. Russians established relations with India, which improved with the passage of time.
- Russia played a significant role in the construction and development of India, which did not improve relations between Pakistan and Russia. Deputy prime minister of Russia visited Pakistan in 1956. He offered economic and industrial help to Pakistan.
- After the Pakistan and India war of 1965, Russia arranged a meeting, an agreement between India and Pakistan at Tashkent (Capital of Uzbekistan). In this way Russia helped in the return of prisoners of war and the evacuation of territory occupied by India. However Russians continued to support India.
- In the Pakistan and India war of 1971, India had the support of Russia, while the United States did not support Pakistan. Thus, Pakistan did not succeed on the East Pakistan front and Bangladesh came into being.
- During the Zulfikar Ali Bhutto era, Pakistan's relations with Russia improved. During the same period, a steel mill was set up in Karachi with the help of Russia, which played an important role in Pakistan's economy.
- Pak-Russia relations became strain due to Pakistan's relations with the United States. After Russia's occupation of Afghanistan, relations between Pakistan and Russia deteriorated further. Pakistan openly opposed the Russian occupation and helped the Afghan people with the cooperation of the United States and Western countries.
- Russia failed in the Afghan war. After the Afghan war Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) degenerated. Pakistan established ties with former Russian republics Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, etc. under the banner of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (ECO). Russia's role in world politics was reduced. Thus, America's dominance was established.
- In the current situation, relations between Pakistan and Russia are improving significantly. Pak-Russia joint military exercises give hope of good relations in coming days.

Great Britain

- Relations between Britain and Pakistan go back to the time of British rule and Pakistan movement. It can be said that the relations existed before the formation of Pakistan and continue after the partition of subcontinent. Pakistan always sought to maintain good relations with the United Kingdom.

- After the Second World War, Britain was not able to play an active role in the construction and development of Pakistan. However, the United Kingdom provided financial and military assistance to Pakistan under the cover of Commonwealth.
- The volume of Pakistan's trade with Britain did not increase much. However, the United Kingdom further developed relations with India.
- There were also differences with the United Kingdom over the issue of Pakistan's nuclear programme. The United Kingdom continued to oppose Pakistan's nuclear program, but Pakistan continued to pursue it in its national interest.
- Relations between Pakistan and UK are growing in the recent years. Both the countries have made the several agreements for the promotion of education, development of the social sector, improvement of economic structure, increase in investment, tackling the problem of poverty, energy crisis, protection of citizens and their security and the challenges of growing extremism in society.



World Map

Japan

- Japan has always played an active role in the national development of Pakistan. During the World War II America made an extreme effort to destroy Japan by dropping atomic bombs on Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Despite the failure of the war, the Japanese nation has worked hard to make progress. It currently has the world's strongest economic power. Japan's industrial development has put it at the top of the world at the moment.
- Pakistan and Japan established diplomatic relations in 1952. Prime Ministers of

Japan and Pakistan visited each other's countries in 1957, and signed agreements to promote economic and industrial cooperation.

- Japan has provided significant assistance to Pakistan regarding industrial development. Japan takes the lead as supplier loan and other assistance. Japan has been helping Pakistan in its industrial needs like manufacturer of electrical equipment, industrial machinery, cars, trucks, motorcycles, chemicals and chemical machinery and heavy industry. Thus the volume of trade between Japan and Pakistan increased.
- To overcome the backwardness of Balochistan, Japan has provided machinery and equipment for the University of Engineering and Technology Khuzdar. The country has set up Diesel fired power generation unit at Pasni to Supply electricity to Gudu, Sibbi and Quetta. Japan has helped Pakistan in search of underground water and provision of safe drinking water.
- Japan has played a key role in Pakistan's economic development. In this regard, Japan has provided more assistance to Pakistan than any other country. Japan has provided excessive support to Pakistan with nearly no strings.
- An official agency of Japan "Japan International Cooperation Agency"(JICA) Is helping out Pakistan in important areas like education, health, exploration and provision of drinking water and drainage, environment, irrigation and agriculture, transportation, energy and disaster management etc.

European Union

- European Union is an organization of European countries. The Union emerged from an agreement between European countries on the notion of one Europe. Relations between Pakistan and the European Union were established in 1976. Pakistan's economy is linked to strong trade relations with the European Union and many other trade agreements with it.
- It is time to protect Pakistan's interests in European Union countries and further develop relations with them. It may be noted that Pakistan also signed individual economic agreements with France, Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom and Sweden.
- Pakistan has signed agreements with France to buy defense related equipment, but the transfer of technology has not been possible. Therefore, self-reliance could not be achieved. Pakistan has also signed a number of economic and defense agreements with Germany, but their volume is small.
- Pakistan imports Swedish ball bearings and other industrial equipment, but trade with Sweden is nearly one-sided. A mobile phone Company "Telenor" from Norway is working in Pakistan.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

- China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project is a huge trade project. It aims to

deliver oil and gas from southwestern Pakistan to northwestern China's Xinjiang via Gwadar port, railways and motorways in a short time. The Economic Corridor is very important in the relations between the two countries.

- The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a project of great importance for Pakistan and the economy of the countries of entire region. This project will play an important role in promoting development and prosperity by interconnecting different regions. The importance of this project is further enhanced by the peace and reconstruction process in Afghanistan. As a result of peace in Afghanistan, trade from Gwadar port will increase.
- It is expected to have a positive impact on Pakistan's economy. In view of future needs, the sectors of energy, roads, railways, industry and tourism will be developed under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Business activities in the country will accelerate, the economy will stabilize, jobs will be created and poverty will be reduced. China's experience will be used for development in various sectors of the country's economy.



A Scene of Motorway to be Built Under CPEC

Pakistan's Contribution towards Peace Keeping in the World

- Pakistan is a member of the United Nations. The United Nations was established on October 24, 1945. Pakistan became a member of the United Nations on September 30, 1947 and has performed its duties as a responsible member.
- Pakistan plays its global role in adhering to the UN Charter. Pakistan recognized the role of the Security Council and the United Nations in Pakistan's wars with India, but India ignored them.
- The Security Council passed a resolution in 1949 calling for a plebiscite in Kashmir. Kashmiris should be given the right to decide their fate, but India ignored the Security Council resolutions. Pakistan is a responsible member of the United Nations. Whenever United Nations asked Pakistan to provide peacekeeping force, Pakistan cooperated with UN and provided the services of

its troops for peace operations.

- Pakistani forces have served as peacekeepers in the Gulf States, Bosnia, Sudan, Congo and other parts of the world. In African countries where conditions are extremely unfavourable, Pakistani forces have played a very effective role in bringing peace. In recognition of these services, Pakistan has been appointed several times to chair various UN committees.
- Pakistan has also been a non-permanent member of the Security Council. Pakistan has a Permanent Representative to the United Nations, which represents Pakistan in taking a principled stand on important issues.
- Pakistan has played a special role in the United Nations on the Palestinian issue. Pakistan has drawn the attention of the United Nations to the atrocities against the Palestinians. Pakistan has made great efforts to resolve the Palestinian issue and establish a free and independent state for Palestinian Muslims. The United States and European states are Israel's allies, so the United Nations has not succeeded in resolving the issue. Although all member states have the same status at the United Nations, but the United States and European states have special powers at the United Nations. It is the need of time that the entire world powers play their positive role in establishing lasting peace in the world.

Do you know?

Five major powers of the world (Permanent Members of Security Council) United States, Britain, France, Russia and China are empowered to reject any resolution presented before Security council. This right is called veto or veto power.

- Pakistan's role in bringing peace to the world is not limited to political matters and the peacekeeping force, but has also played a significant role in other UN welfare agencies. Many Pakistanis work for UN agencies. There are also many Pakistanis stationed at the UN Secretariat. They are performing their duties.

Exercise

1. Tick the correct option out of the four options given under each question.

(i) United Nations came into being on:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| (a) October 24, 1944 | (b) April 14, 1945 |
| (c) October 24, 1945 | (d) Nov 24, 1946 |

(ii) OIC was founded in 1969 in city:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Tehran | (b) Lahore |
| (c) Jeddah | (d) Rabat |

(iii) Peoples Republic of China Came in to being on:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) 1947 | (b) 1949 |
| (c) 1951 | (d) 1953 |

(iv) Pakistan got membership which organization on Sep 30, 1947:

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| (a) OIC | (b) ECO |
| (c) UN | (d) SAARC |

(v) First country to recognize Pakistan was:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| (a) Iran | (b) China |
| (c) Afghanistan | (d) America |

2. Give brief Answer to the Following Questions:

- (i) What is meant by foreign Policy?
- (ii) Write names of central Asian Republics?
- (iii) State importance of Gwadar port in three lines.
- (iv) What is Palestine problem?
- (v) Why land and Sea routes of Pakistan are important?

3. Give detailed answer to the following questions.

- (i) State the main objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy?
- (ii) Discuss importance of Kashmir issue in Pak-India relations?
- (iii) Describe Pakistan's relations with Turkey?
- (iv) What role has China played in the construction and development of Pakistan?
- (v) Describe Pakistan-US relations?

Activity for the Students

Make charts with flags of Muslim states and hang them in the classroom.

Instructions for teachers

Inform the students about the China Pakistan Economic Corridor project (CPEC).