

Saudi Arabia: Modern Reform, Enduring Stability

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3 Major Conflicts and their Consequences in Afghanistan

- Soviet Invasion
- Civil War (1992-96)
- Post 9/11 (War on Terror)

Soviet Invasion

- Hafiz Aminullah - the President of Afghanistan
- In favor of western influence and Communism
- Russia invaded in 1979
- Formation of the Mujahideen against Russia
- On 27th December 1979, Amin shot by Russian operatives and Babrak Kamal instated as Head of State
- Russia sends 85000 troops to help Kamal
- Mujahideen resistance proves too much for Soviet Union, withdraws

Foreign Involvement in Afghanistan

- US and Saudi Arabia ally with the communist bloc, sponsor the Mujahideen in Afghanistan
- Pakistan played a vital role in transferring arms and providing training facilities to the Afghan Mujahideen
- Pakistan Army trained Mujahideen in Waziristan

POLITICAL IMPACT

- Pakistan emerged as a dominant power in force in Afghanistan because of military support
- They were able to take control of Kabul
- Najibullah elected president
- Followed a failed policy of reconciliation
- Societal Fragmentation
- Civil War

CONSEQUENCES

- Migration due to destruction
- Land mines
- Militancy
- Refugees and internal refugees

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- Geneva Accord (14th April, 1985): Bilateral Agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan
- Power struggle emerged after Soviet withdrawal between factions
- Peshawar Accord 24th (April 1992): Establishment of Interim Government
- Failure of Peshawar Accord: Difficulty in nomination of leader of state
- Islamabad Accord (March 7, 1993): short lived success
- Presided by Nawaz Sharif, Soviet and Afghan Representatives
- Civil War continues

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POST 9/11 'WAR ON TERROR'

- Demands on Taliban to hand over Osama bin Laden
- US disregard negotiation
- Operation Enduring Freedom launched on 7th October, 2011 in Kandihar
- Security council establishes International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), December 2011
- Bonn Conference
- Hamid Karzai elected head of Afghan Interim Administration
- Re-elected as president of permanent govt., Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- Battles against insurgents spread to North-West areas of Pakistan
- 2nd May, 2011. Osama bin Laden killed in Abbotabad, Pakistan.
- Leaders of NATO member forces endorse exit strategy

POLITICAL CHANGES

- Bonn Conference
- Taliban leads Taliban
- Kabul takeover in December, 2001
- Meeting of former Afghan leaders
- Bonn Agreement
- United Afghan Interim Authority
- Formed as 'Provisional Authority of Afghanistan'
- National Council for Afghanistan
- Formed in November 2002
- Establishing Taliban for allowing Afghanistan to be used as a base to export terrorism
- International ISAF
- Provide security to Afghan Interim Authority
- Mandates to help Afghan establish security in Kabul
- Afghan forces and ISAF in Kandihar province
- Followed by a 'happy path' or grand council of major Afghan leaders
- Islamic government formed under Hamid Karzai
- US forces establish main base in Bagram

POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES

- Constitutional reforms implemented as witnessed in provincial elections
- Development of infrastructure - construction of Ring road
- Room for geological development and hence economic prosperity - mineral resources
- Human Development - focus on increasing education and employment of women

NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

- Dependence on foreign aid as Afghanistan incapable of supporting military force
- Conflict may arise as US supports Northern Alliance and Pakistan supports the Taliban
- Major changes required to make Afghanistan economically self-sufficient - increasing opening up of Afghan borders to allow it to become a commercial transit state
- Link between China, India, Pakistan and Central Asia

CURRENT SITUATION

- Challenge to ensure peace after 3 decades of war
- Stability undermined by Taliban led insurgents
- Afghan government weak and international community fatigued
- Need for political reconciliation with Taliban
- Allowing gradual drawdown of military forces
- Special Partnership agreement between Obama and Karzai
- Next major hurdle to face in elections of 2014
- Recent elections reveal flaws in Afghan democratic institutions
- Involving United States, Afghan and international policy and practice
- Strengthening governance and the role of law
- Building understanding and capacity to conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution for Afghan individuals and institutions

WAY FORWARD?

- 2 main groups, Pashtuns and Uzbeks
- All ethnic groups should come forward on a same page and try reach a consensus
- Regional alliances between Taliban and government and Taliban and Northern Alliance
- Regional countries including Pakistan, Iran, China, India should keep their interests on one side and think of the prosperity and progress of Afghanistan as a whole
- Commitment from other international countries (USA, EU)
- Role of Pakistan
- 6-7 Billion dollars per year for the security forces

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INTRODUCTION

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- Strategic position
- At the centre of the ' Great Game'
- Key Cold War battleground
- Onset of Civil War
- Emergence of the Taliban



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Foreign Involvement in Afghanistan

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CONSEQUENCES

- **Migration due to destruction**
- **Land mines**
- **Militancy**
- **Refugees and internal refugees**

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POLITICAL IMPACT

- **Pashtun emerged as a dominant political force in Afghanistan because of military support**
- **They were able to take control of Kabul**
- **Najibullah elected president**
- **Followed a failed policy of reconciliation**
- **Societal fragmentation**
- **Civil War**

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- **Geneva Accord (14th April, 1988)- Bilateral Agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan**
- **Power struggle emerged after Soviet withdrawal between factions**
- **Peshawar Accord 24th (April 1992)- Establishment of Interim Government**
- **Failure of Peshawar Accord- Difficulty in nomination of leader of state**
- **Islamabad Accord (March 7, 1993)- short lived success**
- **Presided by Nawaz Sharif, Saudi and Afghani Representatives**
- **Civil War continues.**

POLITICAL IMPACT

- Further Fragmentation
- Religious influence increased through Iran and Saudi Arabia
- Pakistan supported the Taliban
- Militant Taliban took control of Kabul
- Mazaar-e-Sharif continued functioning as the Political stronghold of the NA