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PAKISTAN STUDIES HISTORY AND CULTURE (YEARLY)

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Misinterpretation of questions can cost candidates precious marks. Make sure you fully understand what the examiners want before answering!

About **COMMENT ANSWER**

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 period	2010 to 2025
 contents	June & November, Paper 1, Worked Solutions
 form	Year By Year
 compiled for	O Levels
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‘O’ Level Pakistan Studies ‘History and Culture’ 2059 (Yearly)

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Classification

Revised Syllabus

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CLASSIFICATION

2015 - 2025

Section 1

East India Co. & British Rule

J 2015/Q1	J 2015/Q2(a)	N 2015/Q2(a)	J 2016/Q2(b)
N 2016/Q2(b)	J 2017/Q1(a, b, c)	J 2017/Q2(b)	N 2017/Q2(a, b)
N 2017/Q3(a, c)	J 2018/Q2(a)	J 2019/Q1	J 2019/Q2(b)
J 2019/Q3(a)	N 2019/Q2(c)	J 2020/Q1(a, b, c)	J 2020/Q2(a, b)
N 2020/Q1(a, b, c)	N 2021/Q2(a)	N 2022/Q2(b)	J 2023/Q1
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Three Islamic Reformers

N 2015/Q2(b)	J 2016/Q2(c)	N 2017/Q2(c)	N 2018/Q2(b)
J 2019/Q2(c)	N 2020/Q2(b)	J 2021/Q2(c)	J 2022/Q2(a, b)
N 2024/Q2(c)			

Decline of Mughal Power

N 2015/Q2(c)	J 2017/Q2(a, c)	N 2017/Q3(b)	N 2018/Q2(c)
J 2019/Q2(a)	N 2019/Q2(b)	J 2020/Q2(c)	N 2020/Q2(a)
J 2021/Q2(a)	N 2021/Q1	N 2023/Q2(b)	J 2024/Q2(c)
J 2025/Q2(b)			

War of Independence 1857

J 2016/Q2(a)	N 2016/Q2(a)	J 2017/Q1(d)	N 2017/Q2(a)
J 2018/Q2(c)	N 2018/Q2(a)	J 2019/Q3(b)	J 2020/Q1(d)
N 2020/Q1(d)	J 2021/Q3(c)	J 2022/Q2(c)	N 2022/Q2(a)
N 2023/Q2(c)	J 2024/Q1(d)	N 2024/Q2(a)	

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

J 2015/Q2(c)	N 2016/Q2(c)	J 2018/Q2(b)	J 2019/Q3(c)
N 2019/Q2(a)	N 2020/Q2(c)	N 2021/Q2(b)	J 2022/Q3(a)
N 2022/Q2(c)	N 2023/Q2(a)	J 2024/Q2(a, b)	

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J 2015/Q2(b)	N 2018/Q5(b)	J 2021/Q2(b)	N 2024/Q2(b)
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Section 2

Partition of Bengal (1905 – 1911)

N 2015/Q3(c)	J 2016/Q3(b)	N 2016/Q3(c)	J 2018/Q3(a, b)
N 2018/Q3(b)	N 2019/Q3(c)	J 2020/Q3(c)	J 2021/Q1(b)
J 2021/Q3(b)	J 2022/Q3(c)	N 2022/Q3(a)	J 2023/Q2(a, c)
N 2023/Q3(b)	J 2024/Q3(b)	N 2024/Q3(c)	

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J 2015/Q3(a)	N 2016/Q3(b)	J 2017/Q3(c)	J 2019/Q4(c)
J 2020/Q3(b)	N 2020/Q3(a)	N 2021/Q2(c)	N 2022/Q4(b)
N 2023/Q1	N 2024/Q3(b)	N 2024/Q4(a)	

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N 2015/Q3(b)	J 2016/Q3(a, c)	N 2016/Q3(a)	N 2018/Q1
J 2020/Q3(a)	J 2021/Q1(a, c, d)	N 2021/Q3(a, b)	J 2022/Q4(a)
N 2022/Q3(c)	N 2023/Q3(a)	N 2024/Q3(a)	N 2024/Q4(b)
J 2025/Q3(b)			

Constitutional Reforms & Pakistan Movement (1927 – 1940)

J 2015/Q3(b, c)	N 2015/Q3(a)	N 2016/Q1	N 2016/Q4(b, c)
J 2017/Q3(a, b)	N 2017/Q1	J 2018/Q3(c)	N 2018/Q3(c)
J 2019/Q4(a, b)	N 2019/Q1	N 2019/Q3(a, b)	N 2019/Q4(c)
J 2020/Q4(b, c)	N 2020/Q3(b)	J 2021/Q3(a)	J 2022/Q3(b)
N 2022/Q3(b)	N 2022/Q4(a, c)	J 2023/Q2(b)	J 2023/Q3
J 2024/Q3(c)	N 2024/Q4(c)	J 2025/Q1(d)	J 2025/Q3(a, c)

Struggle for Creation of Pakistan (1940 – 1947)

N 2015/Q1	N 2016/Q4(a)	N 2017/Q4(a, b)	J 2018/Q4(a, c)
N 2018/Q3(a)	N 2019/Q4(a, b)	J 2020/Q4(a)	N 2020/Q3(c)
J 2021/Q4(b)	N 2021/Q4(a)	J 2022/Q1	N 2023/Q3(c)
J 2024/Q3(a)	J 2025/Q1(a, b)		

Section 3

Problems of Partition

J 2016/Q4(c)	N 2017/Q5(b)	N 2018/Q4(a)	N 2021/Q3(c)
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Constitution Making (1947 – 1973)

N 2015/Q4(c)	J 2016/Q4(a)	N 2016/Q5(b)	N 2019/Q5(c)
J 2022/Q5(a)	J 2023/Q5(a)	N 2023/Q5(c)	J 2024/Q4(a)

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J 2015/Q4(c)	J 2015/Q5(a)	N 2015/Q4(b)	N 2015/Q5(a, c)
N 2016/Q5(c)	J 2017/Q5(a, b, c)	N 2017/Q4(c)	N 2017/Q5(c)
J 2018/Q4(b)	J 2018/Q5(a)	N 2018/Q5(c)	N 2019/Q5(a, b)
N 2020/Q4(a, c)	J 2021/Q5(c)	N 2021/Q4(c)	J 2022/Q4(b)
N 2022/Q5(c)	J 2023/Q4(a)	J 2023/Q5(b)	N 2023/Q4(b)
N 2023/Q5(a)	J 2024/Q4(c)	J 2024/Q5(b)	N 2024/Q5(c)
J 2025/Q4(c)	J 2025/Q5(b)		

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N 2015/Q4(a)	J 2016/Q1	J 2022/Q5(c)	N 2023/Q4(c)
J 2024/Q4(b)	J 2025/Q4(a)		

Ayub Khan

J 2015/Q4(b)	J 2016/Q4(b)	J 2017/Q4(a)	J 2019/Q5(c)
J 2020/Q5(a)	N 2020/Q5(b)	J 2021/Q4(c)	N 2022/Q1
J 2025/Q5(c)			

Zia-ul-Haq

J 2015/Q4(a)	J 2016/Q5(b)	J 2018/Q1	N 2018/Q5(a)
J 2019/Q5(a)	J 2021/Q5(a)	N 2021/Q5(a, c)	J 2023/Q4(b)
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Z.A.Bhutto

J 2015/Q5(c)	J 2016/Q5(a)	J 2017/Q4(b)	N 2018/Q4(c)
N 2020/Q5(a)	J 2021/Q4(a)	N 2021/Q5(b)	J 2022/Q4(c)
N 2023/Q5(b)	N 2024/Q1		

Benazir Bhutto

N 2015/Q5(b)	N 2017/Q5(a)	J 2018/Q5(c)	J 2020/Q5(b)
N 2020/Q5(c)	N 2022/Q5(b)	N 2023/Q4(a)	

Nawaz Sharif & Pervez Musharraf

J 2015/Q5(b)	J 2016/Q5(c)	N 2016/Q5(a)	J 2020/Q5(c)
J 2022/Q5(b)	J 2023/Q5(c)	J 2024/Q5(a)	

June **2024** Paper **1**

Section A

Answer the following question

This question is about the East India Company.

Question 1

Study the sources carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

SOURCE A

Mir Qasim, Nawab of Bengal from 1760 to 1763, was concerned about British corruption and the loss of tax revenue in Bengal. He set about increasing Bengal's tax revenue by first reducing the amount of rent-free land and then by increasing the rate of land tax. He also warned that anyone who refused to pay would be evicted. As a result, for the first time since the Battle of Plassey in 1757, state revenue increased remarkably and the Nawab could pay his army and officials on time.

Adapted from an article in Banglapedia about Mir Qasim

SOURCE B



A representation of the meeting between the East India Company and Shah Alam II to discuss trading rights in the subcontinent. Painted by Benjamin West, a British-American artist, in c.1818.

- (a) According to Source A, Mir Qasim increased the tax revenue for Bengal. Identify **three** ways in which he did this. [3]
- (b) What message did Source B intend to give about the **relationship** between the East India Company and Shah Alam II? [5]
- (c) Explain why the East India Company became involved in the subcontinent. [7]
- (d) 'Political factors, such as the Doctrine of Lapse, were more significant than economic factors in causing the War of Independence in 1857.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

[Total: 25]

Suggested Answer:

- (a) He reduced the amount of rent-free land. Then he increased the rate of land tax. He issued a warning of eviction to those refusing to pay the tax.
- (b) The source shows the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam-II sitting on the royal throne. This shows his authority and status. A British official, leading a team of delegates, is presenting a document to the King in a formal way. This means it is an official meeting as many people are standing alert on either side of the Emperor. The meeting is aimed at reaching some trade agreement between the EIC and the Mughal Emperor. The British representative looks confident as the EIC had become powerful by that time. As a result of the fresh agreement the EIC would get the Diwanirights/tax collection from the Mughals.
- (c) British were attracted to the Indian wealth and resources. With the discovery of sea route to India by the Portuguese traveler Vasco Da Gama, reports began to reach about Indian riches and resources to England. India became known as the "golden sparrow" because of its fabulous wealth and resources such as cotton, silk, jute, indigo, jewellery and even the addictive drug opium. British needed these to feed their factory industry as they would soon be the fastest industrializing nation not only in Europe but also in the world. Therefore, they began to conquer various Indian territories while introducing their own system of administration in these areas. British also began to think about expanding their influence and trade to the Far East and South East Asia. For this they needed a strategic port in South Asia (Indian sub-continent) as the Indian peninsula was located at international crossroads, and surrounded by a warm water sea where multiple ports could operate throughout the year. Strategic ports, such as the Bombay (now Mumbai), 1875 and Calcutta (now Kolkata), 1893 were founded by the British in a planned way. These greatly helped the British expand their trade in multiple directions from India as well as develop their naval force.

Also, British wanted to oust other European colonial powers such as the Dutch, Portuguese and French from India in order to enjoy monopoly of trade in India. The Dutch had driven the Portuguese and the British out of South East Asia in the 17th century. Therefore, the British had to turn towards South Asia where the Indo-Pak subcontinent proved to be a much better option for them. Establishing themselves cleverly, they began to replace other European nations in India. With the availability of more destructive weapons and using their clever non-military tactics, they were able to accomplish this mission rather successfully.

- (d) Political factors played the key role in the War of Independence. The Doctrine of Lapse was enforced in 1852 by Lord Dalhousie. Under this, any state whose ruler didn't have a son was annexed by the EIC. States of Nana Sahib Peshwa (Kanpur) and Rani of Jhansi were ruthlessly annexed. Nana Sahib had an adopted son, and his pension was stopped by the British. Therefore, he rebelled against the British. Similarly, Rani of Jhansi also had an adopted son, but still her state was annexed on the excuse of poor governance. She was given a pension of Rs. 60,000 in 1854 but she decided to rebel.

Many states were annexed by force or on weak pretexts such as Sindh and Bengal. After entering Delhi in 1803, the EIC shifted the Mughal royal family from the Red Fort to Qutub Sahib. This too promoted anger among Indians. Similarly, the British had promised to treat the last Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar and his family in a fair way. However, the royal family was treated in a highly insulting way, and the Emperor was exiled to Rangoon, Burma/ Myanmar. Moreover, there was negligible share of Indians in the Civil Services. Such steps promoted frustration and anger among Indians. When Persian and Hindi were replaced by English, several Indians considered this act as a kind of forcible westernization of India.

Economic factors also contributed to the war. British policy of exploitation of Indian wealth and resources was being observed by a majority of Indians. In the beginning the British traders conducted trade in a way that benefited Indians, too. However, while gaining control of Indian states, they introduced new trading laws and revenue reforms that were aimed at exploiting Indian resources and wealth. They imposed heavy taxes on Indian peasants and small land-owners to fill their treasury. British soldiers were given better salaries than the Indian sepoys. This promoted a sense of deprivation among the sepoys who were bulk of the British army. Therefore, Mangal Pandey, a sepoy, initiated the war by disobeying his British officers, and this became the starting point of the war.

Lord Warren Hastings introduced the concept of putting the tax collectors up for auction. This tempted many locals to acquire the post by paying heavy money to the Company. Once the ambitious candidates got the desired position, they would use all tactics to extort taxes from the Indians. This resulted in poverty and starvation among Indians that whipped up anger and resentment against the British with the passage of time. Moreover, exploitation of local raw materials and wealth for the British factories in England was also noticed with great concern by the Indians. As factory-made better cotton began to replace the local hand processed cotton, millions of hand weavers of cotton were rendered jobless and suffered from starvation and died.

Political factors were undoubtedly the main reason for the War of Independence. Indians initially considered the British as traders only, but with time their views changed when the British started annexing various Indian territories and ruling them.

Section B*Answer any two questions.***Question 2**

- (a) Describe the publication 'The Loyal Muhammadans of India'. [4]
- (b) Explain why the Indian National Congress was formed in 1885. [7]
- (c) 'The Mughal Empire ended because its military power declined.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [14]

*[Total: 25]***Suggested Answer:**

- (a) In 1860, Sir Syed wrote a pamphlet titled as 'Loyal Muhammadans of India'. In this he defended the loyalty of Muslims towards the British. He pointed towards those Muslims who had stood by the British in the 1857 War of Independence. The purpose of this writing was to re-establish friendly relations between the Muslims and the British.

- (b) The Indian National Congress (INC) was founded to create political awareness among the Indians. After failing to achieve independence from the British in 1857, the Indian political thinkers decided to resist the British rule by adopting some political strategy. They had learned the hard lesson that militarily they could not match the mighty British power. Therefore, it was wise to struggle for independence along political lines. They had to minimize the British anger towards the Indians after the tragic events of the 1857 War of Independence, and for this it was vital to adopt a friendly attitude towards them.

Main reason for the failure in 1857 was a visible disunity among various religious and regional groups. The Hindu-Muslim divide was quite visible during the War of Independence. Therefore, the educated elite of the Indians, especially the Hindu community, decided to provide a single platform to all the Indian communities to sit together and plan for the future of India. All the Indian communities had to learn the hard lesson of their cultural and ethnic differences for the common cause of presenting various demands regarding their rights to the British. For this, an all Indian political party was the best option to promote the Indian nationalism.

The nationalistic ideas had started gaining popularity since the 1860s. In 1866, Rajnarayan Basu and his two colleagues founded a society to promote nationalism. A year later, the annual Hindu Mela, a cultural and political festival, was started in Bengal. Then a political party, Poona Sarvajanik Sabha in this regard was formed in 1870. As a continuation of this, the INC was founded by Sir A.O. Hume and Sir Henry Cotton in 1885. It was aimed at representing all Indians, and convey their concerns to the British. Gradually it became the most important political party of India to present various Indian demands.

- (c) The Mughal military strength gradually declined especially after the death of Aurangzeb. The Mughals failed to modernise their army, and develop modern weapons and an advanced navy. In the 18th century, many provinces had broken away from the central Mughal authority and declared autonomy after Aurangzeb's death in 1707. The army sent against the autonomous rulers usually failed, and this caused huge losses. The Persians and Afghans invaded India to further weaken the Mughal empire militarily. The Persian ruler Nadir Shah Durrani invaded and sacked Delhi in 1738-39. The invasion was primarily a looting raid as Nadir Shah took

away wealth, gold, jewellery, the majestic Peacock Throne and the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond. Then, the Afghan fighter Ahmed Shah Abdali attacked various parts of the empire between 1747 and 1767 that were under the Maratha rule. His attacks, too, were aimed at plundering the Indian wealth like Nadir Shah. These invasions greatly weakened the military power of the Mughals.

However, some other factors also contributed to the decline of the Mughal rule. The Mughals did not have a written law of succession. On the death of an emperor, the princes got engaged in conspiracies, intrigues and making loyal groups that always led to regicidal wars of succession. Success of a candidate often depended on the support he could get from the military and ministers. Thus, the army was divided, and the state resources were wasted on mutual fights instead of public welfare and defence of the empire. Aurangzeb had divided the whole empire between his three sons in order to prevent a war of succession. However, the three princes began to fight, and eventually, Prince Muazzam established himself as Emperor. After a few years, his four sons too ended up fighting with each other. Such infighting resulted in a gradual weakening of military.

Rise of the Marathas, and arrival of the British also contributed to the Mughal decline. The Maratha Empire was founded by the ferocious Marathan commander Shivaji in the 1670s. They defeated the Mughal army in 1737 outside Delhi. Aurangzeb spent about 25 years in the Deccan desperately trying to eliminate the Marathas. On his return, he found the state treasury almost empty and he had to impose heavy taxes. This made him unpopular and weakened his position. The British East India Company (EIC) reached India in 1600 AD. The British had primarily come for trade in India. However, the money earned from the trade was spent on keeping their own armies, and building strong forts. Being the first beneficiary of the Industrial Revolution, they had more advanced weapons. Moreover, they were gifted with a strong sense of success. The Mughals had failed to excel in science and technology. In addition to it, the British exploited both these weaknesses of the Mughals, and were able to expand their influence over various Indian territories.

Aurangzeb's religious policies, and his weak successors also contributed to the process of decline. He imposed the tax Jiziya on the non-Muslims that had earlier been abolished by Akbar. He also demolished a number of Hindu temples, and treated the Sikhs very harshly. He banned painting, music, drinking, gambling and dance that had been part of the Indian culture and society. He also tried to ban the Hindu custom of Suttee, burning widow alive on the cremation of her husband. Consequently, he lost the support of the Hindu majority. His weak successors were fond of an extravagant and luxurious lifestyle. These weak successors failed to manage the state affairs. The state was usually run by greedy and selfish courtiers who had neither capability nor sincerity in the administration of a huge empire that became victim of negligence.

Military weakness was the main reason of the Mughal decline because the huge empire became vulnerable to the opportunist and imperialist powers, mainly the British. The British gradually filled up the huge political vacuum created by a series of weak rulers. Using both military and non-military tactics, they accelerated the process of decline of the Mughal rule.

November **2024** Paper **1**

Section A

Answer the following question

This question is about Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Question 1

Study the sources carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

SOURCE A

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was a skilful politician. His strength was said to be foreign policy because of his vast knowledge of world history and awareness of the different problems of many countries. This enabled him to develop strategies that brought enormous benefits for Pakistan. Dr Henry Kissinger (US Secretary of State 1973–1977) described Zulfikar Ali Bhutto as a man of extraordinary ability, capable of making strong relationships with any country that was able to help Pakistan.

Adapted from an article in the Dawn newspaper, April 2009

SOURCE B



Zulfikar Ali Bhutto speaks to the nation about Pakistan's foreign policy in 1971

- (a) According to Source A, foreign policy was a strength of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Identify **three** reasons why. [3]
- (b) What does Source B tell us about how Zulfikar Ali Bhutto wanted to govern Pakistan? [5]
- (c) Explain why Zulfikar Ali Bhutto came to power in 1971. [7]
- (c) 'Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's health reforms were more significant than his constitutional reforms for the people of Pakistan between 1971 and 1977.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

[Total: 25]

Suggested Answer:

- (a) This is because Bhutto had vast knowledge of world history. This enabled him to develop strategies that brought enormous benefits for Pakistan. He was capable of making strong relationships with any country.
- (b) The source shows Bhutto addressing the nation by radio and television microphones. This reflects Bhutto's desire to communicate with the people of Pakistan in an open way, and deliver his message to the masses on large scale. He is wearing a black suit with a tie, and looks confident. From this we infer Bhutto's plan of conveying a message of his liberal and democratic nature to the world, especially the Western countries. Bhutto served as a successful Foreign Minister under Ayub Khan though as PM he failed to have friendly relations with the USA and the UK.
- (c) Z.A. Bhutto can be claimed to have come to power by default. General Yahya remained the executive head of state till 20th December 1971, only for four days after the creation of Bangladesh. Bhutto's PPP/Pakistan People's Party had emerged as the largest political party after securing 81 out of 138 seats in elections of 1970 that were held for the united Pakistan. Therefore, after the separation of East Pakistan, Bhutto had no political rival to compete him in what was called Pakistan. So, he decided to take control of Pakistan as its executive head. General Yahya was advised by the top brass of military on 19 December 1971 to leave his post of the President and the CMLA/Chief Martial Law Administrator. He accepted the advice because of the prevailing public sentiment regarding his role in the tragic event of East Pakistan. After Yahya's resignation, Bhutto was the only choice to fill the vacant posts. Acting wisely, Bhutto assumed the post of the President as well as the civilian CMLA, and continued the Martial Law and a state of emergency. He had to do this due to the absence of any constitutional framework to replace the Martial Law.

Moreover, Bhutto had emerged as the most popular leader after developing differences with General Ayub Khan after the signing of the Tashkent Accord in 1966. Only a year later, he had gained enough popularity to form his political party the PPP. His personality charisma and his appealing slogans like 'Bread, Clothing and Shelter' had made him a strong crowd-puller. Common man of Pakistan had started pinning great expectations with Bhutto and his party manifesto. Thus, Bhutto got full power to implement his various reforms top of which was framing a new constitution.

- (d) Bhutto wanted to provide health care to all, and to improve life expectancy of the people. Profits earned from the nationalised industrial units were directed towards social welfare projects. Accordingly, several BHU's (Basic Health Units) and RHC's (Rural Health Centres) were set up. A BHU was a smaller healthcare set up for every 20,000 people. An RHC was a relatively larger unit that was designed for every 60,000 people of rural areas. New medical colleges and hospitals were set up with teaching hospitals attached to them. Fresh medical graduates were required to work in rural areas for 1-2 years. Thus, a greater number of doctors were available to the ordinary people in rural and urban areas. Under the new drug policy, brand names of drugs were abolished, so that medicines were available at cheaper prices to the poor patients. This, however, resulted in declining the earning of chemists and many pharmaceutical companies closed their business in Pakistan.

Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's constitutional reforms were very successful. There was no constitution since March 1969. Bhutto headed the 4th Constituent Assembly of Pakistan that comprised the members of the National Assembly elected in 1970. He assigned the task of constitution making to a committee of 25 members of the National Assembly/Constituent Assembly. The committee completed its task in about 16 months and the new constitution was implemented on 14th August, 1973.

The 1973 constitution introduced the parliamentary form of government with the PM as the executive head while the President only a figure head of state. For the first time, a bicameral parliament was introduced. The National Assembly, the lower house, had members in proportion to the population of each province. It was elected for five years. The Senate, upper house of the Parliament, had equal number of seats from each province, giving protection to the smaller provinces. Senators were required to be highly educated, and half of them were retired after two years. A Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) was established that could advise the government to make laws according to the Quran and Sunnah. It was an advisory body, and did not have legislative/law making powers.

In the wake of a very strong anti-Qadiyani movement, the definition of 'Muslim' was changed in 1974. Under this, a Muslim was one who believed in one Allah and Hazrat Muhammad as the last messenger of Allah. The word 'last' was missing in the previous two constitutions. The Constitution was criticized by the opposition because the focal point of political power lay with the party leadership. Bhutto remained chairman of PPP till the end of his rule, and became autocratic and authoritarian with time. Bhutto made it almost impossible for the opposition to initiate a 'No Confidence Motion' against him. So, when political matters worsened, all blame was put on him.

It seems Bhutto's health reforms were more significant because a greater number of new medical colleges coupled with an equal number of new teaching hospitals were opened. This resulted in access of more people of urban areas to an advanced medical treatment. The BHUs and RHCs provided primary healthcare to the rural areas that had been deprived of such basic needs for decades.

Section B*Answer any two questions***Question 2**

- (a) Describe what happened at the Battle of Kanpur. [4]
- (b) Explain why Urdu was chosen as the national language of the new state of Pakistan in 1947. [7]
- (c) Assess the contributions of religious thinkers to the spread of Islam across the subcontinent between 1700 and 1850. Explain your answer. [14]

*[Total: 25]***Suggested Answer:**

- (a) In November-December 1857, the rebels led by Nana Sahib Peshwa, captured Kanpur, near Lucknow and held it out for three weeks. They killed the British officers and slaughtered 300 women and children while taking several as captives. The British sent reinforcements and recaptured the city. Nana Sahib escaped but the captured rebels were given horrible punishments by the British.

- (b) One of the reasons of choosing Urdu as the national language was its long history of affiliation with the Muslim community of India. It grew tremendously during the period of the Sultanate of Delhi (1206-1526) when poets like Amir Khusrau and Wali Dakani composed Urdu poetry. Later, during the Mughal period (1526-1857) it was promoted by the Mughal kings and eventually it became the court language. During this period, poets like Mir Taqi Mir, Ghalib, Momin and Bahadur Shah Zafar greatly enriched Urdu poetry.

Urdu has a rich literary background with voluminous writings both in prose and poetry. Three great poets, Mir, Ghalib and Iqbal composed world class poetry while during the 19th century Urdu prose also began to flourish with the first Urdu novels written by Sharar and Mirza Hadi Ruswa which became very popular. At the same time Urdu religious stock also grew when translations of and commentaries on the Quran were written in addition to translation of the Hadith literature and the Islamic law. Sir Syed's Aligarh Movement also contributed to the development of Urdu.

Pakistan has a culturally diversified landscape with four major regional languages with several other small languages. In such a country one common language/lingua franca was thought to be a source of promoting a sense of belonging to one nation. Urdu was already the most popular language in several parts of Pakistan. So, Urdu could serve as a uniting force between several cultural communities living in Pakistan. Therefore, Jinnah declared it the national language of Pakistan in 1947.

- (c) Shah Wali Ullah was a great scholar and reformer. He belonged to a scholarly family. He was educated at Madrasa-i-Rahimiya that was founded by his father. He was worried about the declining Mughal rule and the deteriorating socio-economic and political conditions of Indian Muslims. He analyzed the reasons for the poor condition of the Muslims. He was worried about the Muslims who had started forgetting the teachings of the Quran and Sunnah, and were divided into various sects. He spent many years in Arabia and returned with a clear vision to revive Islam in India. He translated the Holy Quran into the court language Persian so that many Muslims could understand and follow its teachings. He wrote several books in Persian

and Arabic. His most remarkable book is Hujjat Ullah al Baligha that contains guidance for individual and communal matters of Muslims including ethics. In another book Izala tul Khafa'an Khilafa tul Khulafa (Removal of Ambiguity about the Caliphate of the early Caliphs) he wrote the biographies of the four successors of the Prophet in a way acceptable to Sunni and Shi'a Muslims. In order to eliminate the Marathan threat to the Mughal rule he invited Ahmad Shah Abdali from Afghanistan who defeated the Marathas in the third battle of Panipat, 1761. His mission was continued by his four scholarly sons and several followers.

Syed Ahmed Shaheed Barelvi was disturbed by the fast process of decline of the Mughal Empire and the growing influence of non-Muslim forces. He believed that, under a policy, Muslims were being kept weaker than the Hindus and Sikhs. Being inspired by the teaching and sons of SWU, he decided to wage Jihad (armed struggle), to liberate Indian Muslims from the non-Muslim rule. He was especially worried about the Punjabi Muslims who led a miserable life under the Sikh ruler Ranjit Singh. They were subjected to several humiliations and were denied religious liberty. Azan was banned and the Badshahi Mosque, Lahore was used as a stable by the Sikh forces. After returning from Arabia, SASB raised a huge army of volunteer Mujahideen, and shifted to the NWF/KPK where he was supported by the Pathan tribes against Sikhs. Under his Jihad movement he defeated the Sikh forces in various battles till 1830. Finally, due to the betrayal of the Pathan chiefs, and sectarian divide in his army he was defeated and killed along with Shah Isma'il, a grandson of Shah Wali Ullah, by the Sikhs in the battle of Balakot in 1831. He gave courage to the Indian Muslims by inculcating the idea of physical struggle for their survival. Jihad movement was continued till the 1860s. It is considered to be the forerunner of the Pakistan Movement as both were aimed at liberating the Muslim majority areas from the non-Muslim rule.

Haji Shari'at Ullah was a reformer from East Bengal. He was very much worried about the pitiable condition of Bengali Muslims. They suffered a lot under the British rule and the powerful Hindu Zamindars. He believed that the main reason of the poor condition of Bengali Muslims was their negligence of religious obligations or Faraiz. He launched his Faraizi movement that was aimed at urging the Muslims to perform their Faraiz. He declared Bengal as Dar-ul-Harb (land under enemy rule) and also believed in the need of Jihad. Noticed by the local authorities, he had to go back to his native town where he died in 1840. His movement was continued by his son Mohsin-ud-Din popularly known as Dadu Mian.

It may be concluded that the work of SWU was most important because unlike Barelvi and Shariat Ullah, his mission was not restricted to selected parts of India. Moreover, he left behind him a living legacy in the form of his books including the translated versions of the Quran and a great number of his followers. These followers included Barelvi, and his own grandsons Shah Ismail Shaheed who assisted Barelvi in the Jihad Movement.

Question 3

- (a) Describe the work of the Hunter Committee. [4]
- (b) Explain why the Hijrat could not support the Khilafat Movement. [7]
- (c) 'The partition of Bengal in 1905 was the main reason for the formation of the Muslim League in 1906.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [14]

[Total: 25]