

EXAM-DAY · 90-MIN REVISION CARD

Contemporary South Asia

Print this · Fold it · Carry to the exam-hall gate · Revise once · Then walk in.

FORMULAS & KEY RESULTS

South Asia = India + Pakistan + Bangladesh + Nepal + Sri Lanka + Bhutan + Maldives (+ Afghanistan post-2007 in SAARC)

India-Pak wars: 1947-48 (Kashmir) → 1965 (Tashkent 1966) → 1971 (Shimla 1972, Bangladesh born) → Kargil 1999

Nuclear tests: India & Pakistan both, May 1998

Shimla 1972 = bilateralism; Lahore 1999 = peace gesture; Kargil 1999 broke it

SAARC: 1985, Dhaka, 7 founding + Afghanistan 2007 = 8 members

SAFTA: signed 2004, in force 1 Jan 2006

Indus Waters Treaty 1960 (World Bank mediated) — survived 3 wars

Ganga Water Treaty 1996 (India-Bangladesh, 30-yr)

India-Sri Lanka FTA: 1998

Bangladesh: 16 Dec 1971 (Mujibur Rahman, Liberation War)

Nepal: monarchy → 1990 multi-party → 2008 federal republic

Bhutan: constitutional monarchy 2008

Maldives: republic 1968; key concern — sea-level rise

Sri Lanka: Tamil-Sinhala conflict, LTTE 1976-2009 (crushed May 2009), IPKF 1987-90

Gujral Doctrine (1996-97): non-reciprocity toward smaller South Asian neighbours

TOP 5 PYQ PATTERNS

1 Examine India-Pakistan conflicts/wars since 1947

6 marks · 88% of years
Chronological table — war + year + cause + outcome treaty

2 Critically evaluate SAARC / role of SAARC

6 marks · 72% of years
Balanced — list 3 achievements + 3 limitations + final verdict 'limited success'

3 Assess democracy in Pakistan / Nepal / Bangladesh

6 marks · 65% of years
Phase-wise (military/democratic alternation) with named leaders

4 Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka and India's role

4 marks · 55% of years
Cause (Sinhala-only 1956) → LTTE → IPKF 1987 → 2009 end

5 Define / explain Gujral Doctrine

2 marks · 35% of years
Non-reciprocity toward smaller neighbours + 5 principles + I.K. Gujral 1996-97

90-MIN REVISION FLOW

0-15 min

Skim notes deck cover → summary; lock the South Asia map + 8 SAARC members

15-35 min

Memorise India-Pak timeline (5 conflicts + 4 treaties); recite war + year + treaty aloud

35-55 min

Drill SAARC achievements vs limitations (3+3); attempt the 6-mark topper template from memory

55-75 min

Country-mini-cards: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal — one paragraph each on democratic trajectory

75-90 min

Attempt 10 random MCQs from drill set; review every wrong answer's explanation

Confidence, not anxiety. You've practised this all year. Trust your steps. Don't change strategy on exam morning.
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