

The UNO seems irrelevant in the 21st century:

32/100

A- Introduction ✓

B- The UNO and its ambit

is or is not

you have to take a stance }

C- How the UNO seems irrelevant in the 21st century

1- The Gaza-Israel Conflict ✓

i- Worst Humanitarian crisis ✓

ii- Gaza: An open air prison ✓

2- The Russia-Ukraine War ✓

i- The Security Dilemma of Moscow ✓

ii- The NATO expansion ✓

iii- Crimean annexation. ✓ 2014

3- No concrete steps regarding Climate Action

i- USA: The largest carbon footprint followed by China. ✓

ii- Kyoto protocol - Non-ratification by the USA. ✓

iii- Donald Trump: "Climate change is a myth". ✓

iv- Antonio Guterres: Stress on concerted global efforts ✓

4- Failure to ensure health for all: COVID-19 pandemic

i- Rich states aggrandized vaccines at the cost of dying third world citizens ✓

ii- The increased gulf between the Global North and South ✓

5- Unable to Maintain Equality for All

i- The Global North dominates over its decisions - Sanctions ✓

ii- Article 2 - Equality for All. ✓
of UN charter

iii- Israel - Jewish lobby snatching rights of Jordan over Jerusalem administration. ✓

iv- Condemning xenophobia, anti-semitism but not Islamophobia to that extent. ✓

6- The UNSC: A playing field only for veto-powers

- i- Vets of Permanent Five.
- ii- USA vetoed anti-Israel resolutions.

7- Illegal Annexation of Kashmir by India

- i- Atrocities in the illegally occupied Kashmir by India
- ii- Revocation of Article 35-A and 370.

8- Chinese led Saudi-Iran Rapprochement.

- i- China brought the two rivals into bonhomie
- ii- End to decades long proxy is a silver lining in the cloud.

D- Way Forward to Ensure UN relevance

1- Increasing the number of Permanent members.

2- Ensuring that the UN Resolutions are implemented in the true letter and spirit.

3- Upholding Climate Justice.

4- Mitigating the Global-North and the Global-South Gap.

:- Conclusion.

The head-throbbing thunders of bomb-shellings; the heart-pounding sounds of fighter jets and the atrocious blood-shed of the innocent civilians in Palestine could not jolt the higher echelons to the extent that they take ample measures in

halting the brutal and violent war. The United Nations organization, the propagator of equal human rights all over the globe, is the brainchild of the League of the Nations. It was created in 1945 with 51 founding members. It consists of different organs that take up different tasks for ensuring well-being of the world in the domains of security, climate, dispute resolutions and finance predominantly along with ensuring justice and equality. In the 21st century, the organization of the United Nations seems irrelevant in stopping ferocious encounters; propagating peace; maintaining equality of all states; engaging states for climate action as well as cooperation. However, its importance cannot be denied as it is a primary organ for upholding peace and security all across the globe and must be strengthened to utilize its potential to the fullest in ensuring a peaceful as well as secured world.

The United Nations (UN) was crafted in 1945 at the end of the Second World War with the aim of establishing peace in every ~~nook and~~ ^{globe} corner of the world and save the globe from the destructive impacts of any upcoming conflict by averting it through its platform. It was established on the basis of idealists and liberal perspective of strengthening international organizations and ensuring interdependence of the states to make the deadly wars less likely. It comprises six organs namely the United Nations General Assembly, Security Council, the Secretariat, the Economic and Social Organization, the Trusteeship Council and the International Court of Justice.

It has 193 member states and two observer states namely Palestine and the Vatican City. The United Nations General Assembly conference happens yearly in September where all the states are free to raise their points. The Security Council has 15 members out of which 5 are permanent members having veto power - The United States of America, The United Kingdom, China, Russia and France. Further, the ICJ is for disseminating justice in matters brought to it.

The UN seems irrelevant in the 21st century as it failed to halt the atrocious Gaza-Israel conflict despite multiple dissenting voices and protests all over the world. Hamas - the freedom fighters organization - attacked Israel on Oct 7th, 2022 and since then the brutalities of Israel have found no ends. This conflict has become the worst humanitarian crisis of the century and also the most violent of the Arab-Israel wars and has culminated in the casualties of almost 26000 including the innocent civilians with a predominant population of women and children among the martyrs. It is the brutal violation of the human rights and Israel has also violated the International law by attacking the refugee camps and hospitals of Gaza. Gaza has also been regarded as an "open Air Prison". The UNO couldn't stop this atrocity.

Further, Russia and Ukraine - the offshoots of the former Soviet Union with shared ethnicities and culture - where the former took the responsibility of the security of the later in the light of trilateral agreement in which Ukraine shifted its nuclear equipments to Russia, have been engaged in war with each other. This war started from the

security dilemma of Russia which arose as a result of Ukraine's willingness to join European Union which would have brought NATO forces on the borders of Moscow, the notion unacceptable to the Russian empire. Although, the global response was a bit different than that in the Gaza-Israel conflict in a way that sanctions were imposed on Russia yet the UN lost its relevance in its failure to stop the blood-shed since 22nd February 2022; also, the Crimean annexation made its pertinence irrelevant.

Moreover, the United Nations also seemed irrelevant in mobilizing the states in taking adequate measures to mitigate the menace of evergrowing disaster of climate change. The USA, the global hegemon, is contributing the largest carbon footprint to the ecological footprint and China, the second-largest contributor to it yet, the USA does not agree to lowering its carbon emissions. Also, China has still been regarded as the developing economy category so the ^{strict} reduction of emissions criteria is not applied onto it and it is adding to the carbon emission unhalting. Further, the USA has not ratified the Kyoto protocol to date which indicates the plight of hapless UN in mobilizing the biggest contributor in rectifying the Climate Action. Donald Trump said "Climate change is a myth". Antonio Guterres, the Secretary General of the UN has also stressed on the concerted efforts to save the only inhabitable Earth.

Similarly, the UN also does not seem pertinent in ensuring health for all and adopting the notion of health on equity basis, as it could not observe uniformity in dispensing

vaccines to the population world wide in the deadly pandemic of COVID-19. The World Health Organization invented vaccines on the basis of research but the rich states aggrandized them at the cost of dying third world economies and their citizens. The inability of the Global South to gain a chunk of vaccine for immunizing its population led to immense casualties. This stark reality not only proved the irrelevance of the UNO but also indicated intensifying gulf between the Global North and the Global South.

In addition to that, the United Nations could not uphold its Article 2, equality for all in true letter and spirit where the Global North overrides its decisions for example, imposing sanctions over the states where Israel received military aids and Russia had sanctions imposed upon it. Similarly, the influential Jewish lobby, despite snatching the right of Jordan over its administration of Jerusalem and violating the UN resolution upon it, still enables the Israeli administration to control Jerusalem. Also, the UN showed prejudice in condemning xenophobia, anti-Semitism but not Islamophobia to that extent. Therefore, the sole propagator of equality of human rights could not uphold its unbiased attitude in this domain making it less pertinent.

Moreover, the United Security Council of the United Nations, the important organs to take security related decision is overpowered by the wills of the Permanent Five - the USA, the UK, China, France and Russia - which not only

secure their interests but also of their duties. A total of nine votes out of total fifteen votes are needed to pass any resolution, including the five votes of the permanent members which use their unbridled power to maximize their own interests. For example, all the resolutions moved against the brutalities of Israel in the United Nations were vetoed by the United States of America resultantly the brutalities of Tel Aviv are going on unrestrained.

Similarly, the United Nations witnessed, the illegal annexation of Kashmir → a sovereign territory → into the Indian territory by the Modi government, silently. The endless atrocities to silence the freedom fighters and the ones having objections over the decision were reported by the International media. It went against the United Nations Resolutions that upheld the right of referendum and self-determination of the Kashmiri people. The revocation of Article 370 and 35-A that resulted in not ^{efforts} only ⁱⁿ changing the demographic characteristics of the region but also letting the non-inhabitants to buy and sell the lands over there.

Finally, the recent Saudi-Iran rapprochement, that was highly sought since decades to end the Middle East crisis, became the pearl in the Chinese crown where Beijing succeeded in bringing the two rivals on the negotiation table and amicably draft the terms of bonhomie. This Chinese led friendliness agreement proved the irrelevance of the UNO and importance of China in shaping the global politics. This rapprochement is projected

to bring an end to proxies fueled by Iran and Saudi Arabia and establish peace in the Middle East along with mitigating the sectarian crisis and decreased Shia-Sunni clashes.

The United Nations is a primary organ and this platform can be utilized in upholding peace and security in the world by increasing the number of permanent members of the UNSC. For example, the G4 nations want to join it as permanent members. Also, a method should be devised where a resolution of prime importance even if vetoed by one or two permanent five still stays relevant and is passed to ensure a peaceful globe. Additionally, it must be made sure that the UN resolutions are implemented in true letter and spirit and obliged by all the states, and the violators are punished and boycotted by all states.

Furthermore, the UN platform needs to be strengthened to propagate efforts for climate justice so that the sanctity of the suffocating atmosphere of the Earth can be maintained and the climate prone states are given adequate funds through this forum so that they can adopt climate mitigation and adaptation measures and counter the increasing carbon foot print of the rich and developed nations. Also, efforts must be made to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in order to mitigate the gap of the Global North and the Global South where all can enjoy equity and equality.

in the 21st century

The UN does not seem that relevant in preventing states from war; spreading peace; balancing Global North-South states and bringing them together for mitigation of climate change. Nevertheless, it is a preliminary organ for maintaining stability and security all around the globe and must be empowered to harness its full potential for achieving a serene and safe world. Although the atrocious wars are undermining the humanity yet the violent counters in other domains of the world have not ensued in war. The world must exert its influence through this global forum to stop the ferocious encounters; uphold morality; spread peace and prosperity so that attention can be diverted to humanitarian assistance, food and water security, world free of diseases and wars and climate friendly environment. For that purpose, the destructive endeavour of war must end as

John F. Kennedy rightly said:

"Mankind must put an end to war before it puts an end to mankind."

→ This should have been your start.