

1. "Sister City" concept based engagements can bring positive changes in India-Pakistan relation because of historical and cultural linkages. Analyze the statement in broader context of significance and achievements of various sister cities linkages globally.

Answer:

A sister city relationship is a long-term, cooperative relationship between two cities in different countries through which cultural, educational, business, and technical exchanges take place.

How sister city concept can bring positive change In India Pakistan relations?

- As Pakistan was a part of pre Independent India so cultural & commercial ties were very strong especially across the Border States in Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat and J&K hence there is much scope to revive older ties based on the sister city concept.
- India and Pakistan relations are generally dominated by strategic issues, thus face a frequent ups & downs in relationships. If the people-to-people and business-to-business relations are established using sister city concept, foreign policy is bound to find more certainty and predictability.
- After Independence Lahore bloated while Amritsar stagnated as the new border came up between the two cities and the policies their countries followed changed the fate of both. Amritsar lost its traditional route with Central Asia resulting in a loss for its shawl, textiles and carpets business. This can be revived by reopening of the trade route.
- Mumbai & Karachi are the financial capitals of the two countries, but there is much less trade compared to their potential. The story of London-Shanghai, Tokyo-Berlin & even Mumbai as a sister city can be beneficial to each one for greater economic ties.
- The recent agreement between India and Japan for the Ahmadabad – Kobe sister city is expected to further pave the way for an enhanced economic relationship as well as cultural exchange between these two vibrant cities of India and Japan.
- By developing sister city or even sister province between Sindh & Gujarat. Pakistan can find market for its raw cotton & India's cotton need can be addressed thus they can be mutually beneficial.
- Sister-city relations can be establish in other cities of India & Pakistan Hyderabad, Deccan India and its namesake in the Sindh province of Pakistan, where India can share its expertise in IT & pharmaceutical, and Islamabad-Delhi.

Conclusion: There are successful stories of sister cities across the globe in sister city relationship between Lakeland, Florida, and Chongming and other cities of the world. Thus, the concept of sister city linking may translate to bring best practices across the cities. These smaller ties between local governments may seem small, but they can make big impact through cultural.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. The maritime security domain requires collective multilateral and regional cooperation to combat non traditional threats. Discuss in the context of threats in the Western Indian Ocean and the recent amendments in the Djibouti Code of Conduct.
(150 words)
2. India's space programme was initiated with the vision of utilising outer space for peaceful purposes, however with changing times it has the potential to play a significant role in strengthening security capabilities of India. Discuss with adequate examples.
(150 words)

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