Abraham Accords

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | International Affairs*

Why in News?

US President Donald Trump recently called on Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey and Jordan to sign the Abraham Accords.

- It is a series of ***joint diplomatic statements*** normalization agreements signed in late **2020** to establish full diplomatic, commercial, and security relations between ***Israel and Arab nations.***
- **The Broker -** The agreements were mediated and brokered by the **United States**.
- **Signatory Nations-**
  - Israel
  - United Arab Emirates (UAE) — First Gulf state to sign.
  - Bahrain
  - Morocco
  - Sudan
  - Kosovo
- **The Name-** The accords are named after the ***biblical patriarch Abraham.***
- He is recognized as a central prophet and shared ancestor in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, symbolizing interfaith reconciliation and shared heritage.
- **Core Objective -** To foster regional peace, economic integration, and direct technological collaboration, while bypassing the historical *pan-Arab consensus* that conditioned normalization on resolving the Palestinian statehood issue.
- These ties were also driven by a common apprehension regarding Iran's regional power and nuclear initiatives, as well as to strengthen relations with the United States.
- **Strategic Significance (West Asia)**

    - **Breaking the Arab Consensus** - For decades, the Arab Peace Initiative maintained that normalization with Israel could only happen after a resolution to the Palestinian conflict.
    - The Accords bypass this condition, prioritizing bilateral state interests.
    - **Containment of Iran -** The Accords reflect a shared strategic interest between Sunni Arab Gulf states and Israel in containing the geopolitical threat of Iran.
    - **New Regional Alignments-** By facilitating security and economic integration, the Accords pave the way for a U.S.-backed Israel-Gulf axis.
- **Recent Discussion –** U.S. President has discussed with countries including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (which is already a member), Qatar, Pakistan, Turkiye, Egypt, Jordan, and Bahrain (also already a member) to join.
- Other Arab countries can potentially sign the agreement, although they may deepen their own defence cooperation after the recent Israeli strikes, rather than relying on external partners

Reference

The Hindu | Abraham Accords

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