Iran and India: Ancient Civilisations & New Horizons

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1. Global Context

- The world is in a **period of transition** and a **crisis of the Western-led international order**.
- Western dominance, led by the U.S., is weakening:
    - Violations of international law, trade wars, misuse of sanctions, manipulation of global media, and destruction of environment have eroded trust.
- The **Global South** is asserting independence, building resilience through local models, science, technology, and defence.

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2. Civilisational Strength of Iran & India

- Both are among the **world's oldest civilisations** with deep cultural, spiritual, and intellectual traditions.
- Shared values: peace, respect for nature, spirituality, self-reliance, and resistance to domination.
- **India's history**: anti-colonial struggle, leadership in the **Non-Aligned Movement**, defence of Global South rights.
- **Iran's history**: nationalisation of oil industry, **Islamic Revolution**, resistance to Western dominance.
- Both have preserved **independence and identity** despite external pressures.

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3. Challenges Faced

- **Iran**: endured economic sanctions, terrorism, cognitive warfare, and constant foreign interference but never surrendered sovereignty.
- **India**: faced unjustified external pressure and hostile measures but safeguarded its autonomy.
- Both resisted dominance of powerful Western nations.

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4. Opportunities for Cooperation

- Now is the time for **ancient civilisations to lead the Global South** in building a just and humane order.
- Areas of cooperation:
    - **South-South partnerships** (e.g., BRICS).
    - **International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)** – linking Eurasia, Caucasus, India, Africa.
    - Defence of human rights, spirituality, and environmental values.
    - Rejecting Western coercion in favour of **participatory, independent global governance**.

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5. Palestine Issue

- Central concern of the Global South.
- Iran and Global South see Palestine as a **struggle against occupation and expansionism**.
- Western hypocrisy evident: preach human rights but support **Zionist expansion and instability** in West Asia.
- Iran and India stress **justice, sovereignty, and rights of oppressed peoples**.

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6. The U.S. Factor

- U.S. consistently intervenes in West Asia under the **pretext of fighting terrorism** but often pursues its own interests.
- History of **destabilising interventions** in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Yemen.
- Iran has firmly opposed U.S. interventions.
- U.S. power seen as **declining**, giving way to **emerging multipolarity**.

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7. Future Outlook

- India & Iran can play a **transformative role** in shaping a new multipolar order.
- Their partnership can:
    - Challenge Western dominance.

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    - Promote **independence, mutual respect, spiritual values, and cooperation**.
    - Build a **world order based not on domination, but on participation, human dignity, and justice**.
- Ancient civilisations are becoming **torchbearers of the new world order**.

Conclusion:
India and Iran, as **ancient civilisations with modern resilience**, have the potential to lead the Global South towards a **multipolar, participatory, and just world order**. Their cooperation in BRICS, INSTC, and regional diplomacy could redefine geopolitics, balancing Western influence with a civilisational model rooted in justice, sovereignty, and respect for humanity.

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