# International Relations · GS - II

**The conflict in Yemen has implications beyond its national borders, affecting regional security, international trade and civilian infrastructure. Examine the geopolitical significance of the Houthi movement and suggest measures to promote stability in the region. (150 words, 10 marks)**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
| Daily Practice 11/10/2026 | GS - II | International Relations |

| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 10 | ~150 words |

## Answer Hint

**Discuss Yemen’s strategic location, Houthi-Saudi rivalry, Red Sea security, maritime trade, civilian safety, regional power competition and diplomatic efforts for de-escalation.**

## Model Answer

The conflict in Yemen has evolved into a major regional security concern because of the country's strategic location near the Red Sea and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.

Geopolitical significance: The Houthi movement, also known as Ansar Allah, controls significant territory in Yemen and has engaged in conflict with Yemen's internationally recognised government and Saudi Arabia. Its attacks and threats involving Saudi airports and regional shipping routes can disrupt aviation, maritime trade and energy transportation. The conflict also reflects wider regional rivalries and raises concerns about civilian safety.

The reported exemption of Mecca and Medina airports from Houthi threats highlights the intersection of military strategy, religious significance and regional diplomacy.

Way Forward: Diplomatic negotiations, renewed ceasefire efforts, protection of civilian infrastructure and humanitarian access are essential. Regional states and international organisations should support political dialogue, reduce military escalation and uphold international humanitarian law.

Conclusion: Sustainable stability in Yemen requires an inclusive political settlement and regional cooperation rather than a prolonged cycle of retaliation.

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