

Pakistan-China Relationship: A Case Study of CPEC and the US Response

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Abstract

This article traces back the history of time-tested Pakistan-China relations and all those aspects of this relationship which requires special attention to understand, describe and analyze the good friendly ties between the two countries. The current signed agreement of CPEC further endorsed the long-standing relationship. The article also deals with a brief history, relation, Geo-strategic, economic, and regional aspects. Many factors either as barriers or promoters have been also discussed. Although, there is a scarcity of source or literature relating to Pak-china relations especially economic ties but still a successful effort might be made to represent Pak-china as a comprehensive and thorough vibrant and thorough study.

Introduction

Pakistan-China relations are well established by now which are an observer to the realities that in face of any sort of risk these two nations have constantly demonstrated as a solitary soul abiding in two bodies. The China, Pakistan financial passage is an exceptionally enormous monetary joint effort between two nations. It is one of the great achievements of the two nations. "The global political and military-strategic significance of the Asian landmass has drastically expanded lately, and it is possible that world undertakings in this century will be fundamentally impacted by developments in Asia" (Springer, 2015).

"Pakistan performed as China's secondary passage amid its long periods of political confinement, the bridge between Mao and Nixon, and being at the forefront in Beijing's battles with the Soviet Union amid the late phase of the Cold War. Presently, Pakistan stands as the crucial part of China's conversion from a territorial capacity to an international one. The nation lies at the core of Beijing's plans a system of posts, pipelines, roads and railways linking the oil and gas fields of the Middle East to mega-cities of East Asia. From the military point of view, the coastline provides a significant staging post for China's take-off as a maritime power, broadening its span from the Indian Ocean to the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea. The infiltration by the secret intelligence agencies of Pakistan's in the deepest international Jihadi system is an indispensable advantage for China as it explores its developing advantages in the Islamic world and tries to interfere with help for the aggressor exercises that posture one of the gravest dangers to China's inner steadiness." (Abid & Ashfaq, 2015).

It is very evident that Pakistan and China have set out upon an unfaltering arrangement of cordial friendship. Apart from that, both countries have framed cultural exchange program, which undoubtedly adds value, and said to be essential for such sort of everlasting friendship between Pakistan and China. There has been a great hope and expectation that the region which has become a security threat after the West's disengagement from Afghanistan can rather shape into a cardinal part of another Silk line by the cooperation of China. China has been Pakistan's political defender; its main arms provider and it require the final resort when other so-called friends abandoned it in the lurch. Finally, all the significant moments in Pakistan's current

history has been marked with frequent visits by its country heads, executives and army chiefs to Beijing, where the arrangements and consultations have so frequently demonstrated to decisively affect the nation's fate."(Andrew Small) the two nations knowing the basic turns in history can comprehend that a friendship without earnestness cannot live for long and disapproving of the significance of geo-vital they can evaluate the value and worth of their friendship.

Early Bilateral Contacts and Diplomatic Linkages

Pakistan and China's everlasting friendship with each other have been durable enough and outstanding in the international community and have a long-lasting impact in the 21-century scenario. The respective and close ties of the two nations began in 1949 with the recognition of the People's Republic of China by Pakistan. The diplomatic affairs between the Pakistan and China commenced from 21 May 1951, with great confidence and collaboration. Amid the period, the two states kept up the pleasant positions and Pakistan engaged with the responsibility with the west. During the Bandung conference the two state leaders, Zhou Enlai and M. Ali had discussed in mutual collaboration for the future solid relations.

After this fruitful talk, both nations' Heads paid states visits to one another, Pakistan's Prime Minister Suhrawardy in October 1956 visited China, whereas, the Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai visited Pakistan in December. An exceptionally changed occurred during 1957 to 1960 in Sino-Pakistan bilateral relations when Islamabad pursued the Western perspective on both internal and external issues. Moreover, when Pakistan voted in favor of China in UN for the rebuilding of authenticity rights in 1961, the occasion opened another pattern of trust between neighboring states. The leaders of China and Pakistan examined the boundary issues in 1962 and in the following year, 1963 consented to an arrangement about Chinese domain Xinjiang and neighboring territories which were under the government of Pakistan (Jinping X. , 2015).

Zhou Enlai- the Prime Minister and president Ayub Khan executed states visits one after the other for fortifying the two-path collaboration 1964. Later on, President Liu Shaoqi also acknowledged for good relations in 1966. Moreover, from 1965 to 1971, Pakistan again remained as a support nation to china's previously mentioned bill of legitimate privileges for refurbishment in the UN (Javaid & Jahangir,2015).

The consistent improvement in the two sides' connection proceeded from 1971. In connection to the previous visits Pakistani president Yahya Khan in 1970 and Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto paid three

visits to Beijing in 1972-1974-1976. CAAC began the flight to Beijing, Karachi and Paris in 1974. In December 1977 Zia-ul-Haq likewise paid a visit to Beijing. In the 1980's President Zia ul Haq and in 1981 head Zhou Ziyang visited each other's nations. In 1982, an agreement for opening the convention Khunjerab Pass between China-Pakistan Borders, was agreed upon. In 1982 President Zia ul Haq again visited. In 1984 and 1985 president Li Xiannian and Prime Minister Junejo visited each other's state. This custom of shared visits proceeded and in 1989 the new Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Li Peng exchange each other nations visits.

The visits from both sides continued from 1990 to 1992 with shared trust and participation, nevertheless, in 1996 president Jiang Zemin paid the most important state visit to Pakistan, which was the indication of future Chins – Pakistan compact financial connection perpetually, this visit opened the extraordinary and great opportunities for both nations in the economic sphere. This first trade memorandum of understanding was marked in 1963. Thereafter, some joint committees were formed regarding technology, economy and trade. With the nations, joint endeavors and great willingness the financial and particularly trade volume expanded at a record level of US 1.8 billion since the 1990s.

During the reign of the then President Pervez Musharraf signed the China-Pakistan joint declaration on in 2003 to reinforce the two-sided collaboration to establish cordial relationships with each other. In addition to that, Mr. Asif Ali Zardari signed several agreements and many visits were acclimated to China for trade, monetary collaboration and for different other purposes. In 2013 the most imperative recorded development and arrangement of every reciprocal tie is the head Li Keqiang visit to Pakistan, which is the revised demonstration of Jiang Zemin 1996 visit and 2003 joint declaration on direction agreement. It was decided in the said agreements that Gawadar port and Kashghar would be given the practical and useful shape of the network.

The Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Nawaz Sharif, in November 2014 visited China consented to nineteen arrangement, MOU and exhibited the harmony and institutional based structure for China Pakistan economic corridor, that will base millions of dollars of investment. The system of streets, pipelines, railroads lines, spans, thruways and vitality produce. Or, in other words 2015 with the principal visit state visit of Chinese president Xi Jinping and marked 51 MOUS and US 46 billion dollars' worth activities between the two nations.

West additionally acknowledges in this association the rising intensity of China and considers Pakistan to be an Islamic nation's leader and both friendships in Asia would be an indication of the world without the west. "Concerning economic ties president Gen Pervez Musharraf gave the example of China Pakistan economic corridor region. The economic corridor further extends from China's Western area to central Asia via Pakistan and Afghanistan and this all is due to the Gawadar port that makes it possible. This channel associates the landlocked Central Asian republics and Afghanistan to the deep water" (Riaz Kataria and Anum Naveed). The numerous aspects of this friendship are so deeply rooted and well established that now it appears so difficult to even think that one country can get developed without the other. It is believed by the global thinkers that China is a great hope for the forthcoming era and has placed it at a significant point in global politics. What's more, Pakistan genial and earnest endeavors additionally cannot be neglected. This commitment of Pakistan is of an incredible sign toward further reinforcement of this conventional and neighborly relationship. One of the solid reasons for minimizing the role of US in this region is the cooperation between Beijing and Islamabad and their strategic interest. These economic ties between the two nations, has passed the indications for the principle local accomplices and contenders. The United States is a severe concern regarding the strong and well-established political and strategic future of the two nations in the area of full economic interaction.

The Promising Economic Cooperation and the US Factor

China's delicate and serene strategy with Pakistan gained the Islamabad faith from supporting each other in the future. Beijing dependably has the delicate corner in its approach to tackling the Islamabad external and internal strains each time and all over the place. Accordingly, the Pakistani government dependably turns into a cornerstone in the troublesome circumstance at global level whenever China required. The two nations have the political, strategic, regional and economic interests with each other and this factor gives a huge soundness to existing and future reciprocal relations. These all designs are depending on China-Pakistan solid monetary ties. Since history is an observer of the way that 'ground-breaking economy and solid common trust can change the fate of countries with a great administration. Pak-China cooperation in accomplishing monetary objectives and confronting 21st-century political key difficulties, these phrases represent the true bonding between the two close friends. In the

previous decades, mutual collaboration for fortifying the reciprocal ties, the two nations showed as great and principle accomplices for a solid position in the region (Kavalski, 2011).

The Pak-China Economic Corridor package of 46 billion worth is believed to change and have great influence on every aspect of the two nations and more importantly the economic zones will further improve the internal crises on both sides. Such economic zones will also provide an opportunity for Pakistan to achieve the international trade benefits and emerge as a stronger Islamic country.

China is likewise pointing at the durable impacts from this Corridor, continuing the trade connection with Central Asia, Middle East, South East Asia, South Asia, Europe and with African nations by means of these Economic Corridor. Although, this Corridor performs well to express its possibilities. The China-Pakistan robust monetary cooperation will show Pakistan as a stable regional power on area and China to accomplish its regionalism approach in Asia by the 21st century. However, the United State of America sees this economic collaboration as a danger for constraining its impact, especially in South Asia. Pakistan in its past has been one of the devoted companions in every circumstance and consequently these circumstances made numerous issues in Pakistan for extended stretches. In any case, Pakistan becoming friend with China, now attempting to discharge the compelling influence of the US, which Western nations acknowledge to that reality, that, whenever the United States does not have an urgent approach for developing China-Pakistan connection then Pakistan will not remain a faithful companion. US keeps on criticizing Pakistan and imposing variety of sanctions to stop funding, nevertheless, China withstands with Pakistan in all the critical moments (Roy,2003).

China and Pakistan science efforts are extremely well to meet the common interests since decades. The economic collaboration has remained the center of cooperation between the two countries in the 21st century. In the global scenario, the economic partnership between China and Pakistan will give the durable impacts for influencing the region and get the principle alluring position at the global level. To be specific the "China-Pakistan monetary cooperation" or, in other words of every single reciprocal connection. This economic corridor will support for Beijing as the best partner by costless and simple access to trade zones, extend its prevalence in the region and acquire the fundamental position in the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf for China's string of pearl strategy. This high-profile project in the long run will give an opportunity of a

lifetime to Pakistani for alleviating poverty, minimize the energy crises and abrogate the territories protest about key rights and CPEC. Pakistan, however, will achieve the international importance by this Economic Corridor through intensification of trade capacity with the leading countries of the world (Daniels, 2013).

The possibility of financial coordinated efforts between China and Pakistan has the political and strategic features for Beijing and Islamabad against leading power. China and Pakistan are the fundamental Eastern and Southern Asian nations with agreeable geo-economic and geopolitical progressive efforts, which developed as regional partners in each circumstance for confronting the difficulties. These huge and firm ties of the two countries considered by West as a great peril and objectionable for United States of America's current and future strategies. The quick progress and development in the economy, military, production, atomic power and regionalization stirred certain gratings by the United States toward China's development internationally (Shan, 2011).

However, due to the economic cooperation between Pakistan and China has triggered concerns of the US regarding the current and future policies in the region. In the present conditions, the implementation of all political, strategic and of every single financial tie between China-Pakistan is the China-Pakistan economic corridor of the 21st century, with 46 billion worth of task. CPEC will interface the Chinese North Western Muslim dominant part region Xinjiang through Kashgar with Pakistani area Balochistan through Gawadar port. Indeed, it is one of the vital parts of China's 'one belt and one road great project. Because, the proposed monetary passage venture is found where the Silk Road financial belt and 21st century Maritime Silk Road meet. CPEC, however, has the quality of reviving both accomplice monetary, political and regional position at the global forum and validates to this century as a heap of advantages and incredible open doors in prevalence in the proposed zone. A strong partnership with China will be a future security for Pakistan from both eastern and western fronts (Tselichtchev, 2011).

Pakistan is additionally important enough for China, shifting from local power to an international one that has been demonstrated by the Chinese effort of development in Pakistan. Additionally, Gawadar Port and the coastal line of Pakistan have been gaining importance for China whereby she can emerge as an incredible naval power, apart from that it will also give access to the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea. Pakistan's war against militants and

terrorists is additionally observed to pave the path for China (Small, 2015). Inversely, with Beijing, the policies of Washington towards Pakistan constantly showed an inconvenience and misuse of Pakistan's territory and for their own interest in the long run. By these distinctive approaches of both extraordinary powers, Islamabad favored the Sino-Pakistan combination for future challenges. However, the author is of the opinion that China will be in a position to fulfill the vacuum and satisfy the regional powers once the America and its partners pull back from Afghanistan. In this situation. China has been the biggest provider of weapon, arms, and ammunition to Pakistan up until now. China has also been a great support to Pakistan whenever, she faces many challenges from any corner, in addition, China also protects Pakistan strategically and diplomatically in the international issues and its discretionary impact has demonstrated instrumental to the destiny of Pakistan on the world stage by a wide margin (Ahmad, 2012).

The United States of America consider the Pak-China economic cooperation as a threat in two ways: First is the China's developing capacity in the field of the economy about which high profile professionals reasoned that such quick speed of economy will surpass the United States economy till 2025-30, likely Japan in 2010. As per the report of 2012 CNN/Fortune Global 500 considered 73 Chinese organizations for its best 5 hundred and 3 were counted for the best 10 businesses around the world. Contrary to that in 2006, China had just 28 organizations of the Global 500 and none was counted for the best, for example, among others, the fundamental Chinese organizations alongside Lenovo is securing the IBM's PC business and Hair, a manufacturer of fringes and freezer with 10% of the world's significant machines in existing marketing (Kucera, 2018).

Pakistan will have the capacity to patch up its principle issues in the nation above all the energy crises and other is the eradication of poverty. Along with it, one of the most important this is to open job opportunities on an urgent basis to decrease the alarming situation prevailing among the youth of Pakistan (Patnaik, 2016). Nonetheless, this is also important to improve the production, agriculture, education, business and medical sectors etc.

This region might be the beginning stage for the United States to lead its hegemony to China. In China-Pakistan relations where West is the resister, another incredible nation has the impact for reinforcing the two nations, advancement approaches or may debilitate the local and political

security. India is a Southern developing nation and has a huge history of shared economic, political and strategical participation with China (Chaziza, 2016). China and India are principle Asiatic nations with the gigantic economy, populace and political power 21st century for changing the global order in their own interests. Both China and India have long lasting issues, which played a vital role in the inference of both nations economic and bilateral relations. These clashes are that of boundary conflicts, however, Pakistan-China situation there lies no precedent like this (Friedman, 2015).

Pak-China Collaboration and Generating Perspectives

Pakistan can be placed at the top position only if she extends the economic capacity, exchange relations with world leading powers and gets the political prosperity at the global level. In this scenario pack-China collaboration can be seen from three viewpoints, first from China's perspective that its extending regionalization approaches in entire Asia, for example, in Pakistan where Beijing's long-haul systems are appended (Denoon, 2015). In this way, China has never been endured from the Western world, especially from the United States that meddles in Pak-China relations. Pakistan has always been willing and expressed its help strategically, financially and politically at the global forum, however, the United States did not offer the required reward that Pakistan expected.

Secondly, the Washington perspective that regularly has the undermining and aggressive mode of conduct to Islamabad and Beijing. Continuously favors India against Pakistan's interests. In this regard, U.S has no delicate corner for the future or any valuable technique for reinforcing Pakistan in worldwide associations than China, which has been always ready and constantly supporting Pakistan is brought under discussion the plans and development of Pakistan at all forums. The US policies to refrain and contain China, selling arms to Taiwan, construction of the naval base in Singapore to accommodate sufficiently large aircraft. The Washington choice to evacuate sanctions against India for its 1998 atomic test and rather upgrade both atomic and defense cooperation and U.S Navy ship visits to Vietnam. On the other hand, Chinese defense believes that while North Korea is the apparent pretext for US and Japanese collaboration on a framework to safeguard against ballistic rocket assaults, the genuine

target is China. American exercises, for example, surveillance mission by the U.S, Navy airship and ship close to China's coast, the U.S warplanes in Central Asia to China's Northwest fringe areas joint military exercise with America's partner South Korea, the vital collaboration with Southeast Asian nations have pestered the Chinese for a long time, yet in 2009-10 the Chinese reactions to these exercises were recognizably tougher they had been in the past. A noteworthy piece of clarification for this acceleration is that the Chinese hope to be treated with more regard now that China is more grounded.

Thirdly, from Islamabad's perspective, that constantly believed China as a trustworthy companion that has always supported Pakistan during all sorts of crises, whereas, the United States of America has demonstrated as an inconvenient partner each time. The outcomes of three perspectives demonstrate that the ties between China-Pakistan are getting closer in coming decades and the United States of America as a resister to every close tie of the two accomplices. China has recently commenced many working development projects. China constantly imparted a sound connection to Pakistan; however, social work began in 1990 in an uneven style. The President of China, Hu Jintao and Pervaiz Musharraf, President of Pakistan accomplished a meeting which met up with solid outcomes (Chaziza, 2016). Articulations for future joint effort were featured an aggregate decree in 2006 fortified the cooperation, in meeting in Islamabad, FTA (free trade agreement) had the primary and essential point of this gathering during the visit of the Chinese president to Islamabad.

President Nixon visited Pakistan in 1972 and the agenda for this visit was set up when Pakistan facilitated to organize a visit of Henry Kissinger to China. China extended her cooperation towards Pakistan to achieve the goals that of critical highways and financed some other Pakistani projects that of roads and to enhance military capacities. Particularly, in 1968, the foundation of Heavy Mechanical Complex which was established in Taxila, and in 1970, setting up an industrial facility in East Pakistan was viewed as the significant supporting tasks by China (Javid and Jahangir, 2015). In the aftermath of the Afghan war, Pakistan severely confronted budgetary issues and the USA disregarded Pakistan, whereas, in interim China approached to encourage Pakistan and take her out of that miserable situation. Pakistan and China were supported by the forces of the US which were merely due to dealing issue on Atomic and rocket program. Nonetheless, China upheld and assisted Pakistan by restricting the weight.

Andrew Small utilized a term of cooperation shadow in 2015 to see the secret of the huge extent of coordinated effort and course of action to ward off the criticism. The two countries are in triumph to keep up the faith consistently upon each other and this strong belief is assuming a key job of solid connection. Based on the previous record, China pays an outstanding consideration of future developments (Javid and Jahangir; 2015).

Conclusion

In the light of above narrated historical facts, it is established that Pak-China time-tested strategic, the political and economic partnership has transformed into a new era. Pakistan-China relations were historically examined by engaging two competing standards of international relations theories i.e. Complex interdependence and realism with realism believe that all the states in the domain of international political systems are rational and their course of actions maximizes their relative interests. With the addition to the above discussion, the study further concludes that economic cooperation, including, trade, infrastructure and energy and Pakistan and China over the years have gradually interdependent to each other. This collaboration was replicated in connections that were built-up between the two nations over the four decades on various networks, both at the public and private level, civil society networks, and commercial and commerce organizations.

The findings further designate that Pakistan- China relations may have broad Geo-economic and Geo-strategic implications in South Asia geo politics where both India and the US is the communal adversary to both countries. China is to compete and encounter them by enhancing its strategic and economic ties with Pakistan despite occupying diverse belief systems and cultures.

CPEC could enhance socioeconomic expansion in Pakistan if utilized efficiently and timely. It can guide the regional players to connect through economic and trade integrations, However, desires for a rapid transformation in the standing and stagnant attitude of Pakistan and India in the line of robust economic and political ties. Further CPEC could be a bridge to settle the political disputes using economic diplomacy. It is, therefore, Pakistan should exploit the recent economic relations with China in the form of CPEC while focusing its national interest coupled with aiming the enhancing its long-term economic goals.

Finally, in the connection of Pak-China Collaboration three perceptions are established, In the first place, from China's perspective that its extending regionalization approaches in entire Asia to encounter US futurist strategic and economic interests in the region. Next, the emerging relations between China and Pakistan has gradually reshaped and soften US foreign policy towards India and supported it as a major contender against China in the region. Lastly, from Pakistan's perspective over the years China has been witnessed as a time-tested friend while US has established as an inconvenient partner each time.

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