

The Tale of US-Pakistan Relations: An Analysis of Challenges and Prospective... Understanding Unequal Partners with reference to mutual interests

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Abstract

The tale of US-Pakistan relations is that of association between unequal partners. Keeping in mind the end goal to follow towards a discourse on US-Pakistan relations, there is call for understanding different high points and low points of recent years. The exchange on US Pakistan relations needs to contain two imperative portraying parts of Geopolitics and Core-Periphery relations. The part of geopolitics has continually decided the two countries towards one another. On the other hand, Core-Periphery clears up the association among well developed and Third world nations, fundamentally in light of asymmetry. Keeping the issues related to the unending cold war between US and Pakistan relations, this paper seeks to investigate the challenges and prospects on the basis of mutual interests that may lead to the betterment of Pakistan-US relation in the 21st century.

Keywords: Pakistan, US, Relation, 21st Century, Challenges, Prospects

Introduction

US-Pakistan relations may be considered as a relationship between unequal accomplices. Remembering the ultimate objective to pursue towards a talk on US-Pakistan relations, there is call for understanding diverse high focuses and depressed spots of late years. The center of the connection lies in the political background of Cold War years and furthermore territorial governmental issues of South Asia. The relationship has frequently been portrayed as a

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story of misrepresented desires, broken guarantees, and terrible false impressions (Corera, 2006; Fair, 2013; Gilpin, 1981).

In views of Lodhi, (2009) there always exist doubt in Pak-US ties. However, both these countries comprehend well towards the pivotal significance of accomplishing the objective of national interests. Due to the basis of these national interests, the connection between Pakistan-US has been officially considered as a dependable and a predictable one (Hathaway, 2003; Hussain, 2004; Jabeen, 2002). The connection between these two countries, despite sharing certain objectives delineates common dissatisfaction and lack of trust. An important issue while discussing the relation between Pakistan and United States is the role of media and newspaper (Saleem, 2000; Jones, 2002; Kapur, 2002; Litwak, 2007); the way media portrays this relation is a dilemma of this century. There exists both a positive picture of United States in Pakistan which is encircled underneath the positive and acceptable climate. On the contrary a negative portrayal of United States is surrounded underneath the negative air of media and daily papers. Certain causes of this negative portrayal of the relationship between Pakistan-US is the drone attacks on Waziristan. These attacks grow sentimental feelings among common masses and give birth to a negative environment for all Pakistanis. It can be said that Pakistan-USA relationship is on the very edge of dissatisfaction and ambiguity particularly concerning the drone issue.

In the October of 2009, the US passed the famous "Kerry-Lugar-Berman Bill", which welcomed much feedback and debate, even though there has been a demeanor of question in US with respect to cheating of US subsidies in Pakistan (Mehmood, 2009; Mohan, 2002). In case the order of the nation acknowledged certain proviso, the bill involved the endorsement of giving USD 7.5 billion of non-military aid. It is a matter of fact that this bill comprised the doubts of US in the military order of Pakistan. Additionally, this bill among numerous other fundamental focuses, considered Pakistani Taliban more debilitating than Afghan Taliban. In show of disdain toward, US keeps on providing considerable monetary and military help to Pakistan. As stated by Curtis, (2016),

"In Fiscal Year 2015, the US appropriated roughly USD 371 million in security-related aid and USD 468 million in monetary related aid for Pakistan. An extra USD 1 billion was approved for Coalition Support Fund (CSF) repayments (installments for Pakistani military organizations and

activities along the fringe with Afghanistan).”The Pakistan US connection has dependably been questionable especially after 9/11 episode. The likelihood to enhance this connection could be accomplished if the U.S. seeks after to grow a long-haul association with the nonmilitary personnel administration of Pakistan, keeping its military aside. This examination looks to research the effect of new US approach and the job of arrangement producers in conveying improvement to Pakistan US connection in the 21st century since there remains a hole in the current writing with respect to this issue. The present paper aims to identify and explore the impacts of the US shift in policy towards Pakistan-US relation in the 21st century. The paper also aims to investigate the role of policy makers in bringing betterment in Pakistan-US relation.

Discussion

The relation between Pakistan-US has always been a question to be discussed globally. Besides, this relationship went through a huge change as result of the 11 September assault on United States of America. America chose to render retribution from individuals in charge of 9/11 offense by putting all fault on the Al-Qaeda and its pioneer, Osama binLadin. In this way, due to war, a number of people suffered by assaulting on Afghanistan. However, Pakistan had to be a piece of US mollify amid war against fear mongering and was not for any specific nation. As explained by (Sohrab, 2012), United States government still expects Pakistan to support killing Taliban and Al-Qaeda system. With regret, for most recent ten years the American approach is exclusively working for its own security and enthusiasm without showing any concern towards the national interests of Pakistan. Accordingly, the relationship between Pakistan and United States is by all accounts an ambiguous relationship portraying unsettling influence attributable to genuine difficulties (Mohmand, 2012; Rizvi, 2004). Besides, the part played by Media of the two nations is not satisfactory because they have encircled this relationship as their own concurrence. Pakistan-USA relationship was given ideal scope after the incident of 9/11. However, this relationship had a negative scope before 9/11 by American daily papers, Washington Post and New York Times (Siraj, 2006; Schaffer, 2002; Singh, 2003). In addition, before 9/11, Pakistan was depicted as adversary of America; though after 9/11 assault Pakistan was depicted as a companion. Pakistan-US relation has gone

through various tempest however, some way or another, it generally survived. The two nations are poor for each other help and participation (Town, 2001). It is fundamental to influence changes in approaches the two nations to have received. In order to return to the Pakistan-USA relationship, Pakistani individuals are concerned and anxious. Besides, as explained by Iqbal, (2011), for America, to be companion or adversary of Pakistan in the meantime is incomprehensible. In this regard, the major contention is related with regional power. Beg (2011) explains that America ought to acknowledge keeping in mind the end goal to discover elective routes for making Afghanistan, a place that is known for harmony. This notion is further extended by (Nawaz, 2011) who explains that Pakistan and United States have progressed towards becoming mutually dependent in connection mainly to war against fear-based oppression. Some researchers have found different portrayal of Pakistan-US relation in newspapers as well. In this regard, in an experimental investigation, Khan and Safdar, (2010) discovered that Dawn has encircled negative picture of America post 9/11. Around 64percent articles in Fawn reflected negative portrayal of America. In another study Yousaf and Ali, (2012) found that some newspapers presented around, 68.08% of delineating negative position for Pakistan-USA relationship. Thus, other than the actual relation between Pakistan-US which based on national interests, it is uncovered that after the9/11 incident, media has least delicate corner for United States which might be a result ofthe negativity portrayed in American media (Khan, 2008).

After 9/11, the fixture of US help ostensibly intended to help the battle against fear mongering rather upheld the military acquisitions of the Pakistani armed force and just unassuming advancement in counter-psychological oppression tasks. With military guide considerably higher than financial guide, US help has fortified the hand of Pakistan's military in the nation's political economy and neglected to help the non-military personnel government and popularity-based establishments. Besides, changes in the American and Pakistani organizations in 2008 moved guide toward improvement (Zaidi, 2011; Zeb, 2002).

Conclusion

The present paper explored Pakistan-US relations with reference to their mutual interests in the 21st century. The paper utilized a qualitative research design with a descriptive, exploratory and interpretative nature. The

researcher used various articles, books and scholarly opinion as the primary sources to be analyze and interpret the relationship between Pakistan-US in the 21st century. The present paper has academic and practical significance. Academically, the paper is significant for the academic world of international relations to comprehend the causes of complications in the Pakistan-US relation. This study is also significant practically as it would open new doors of knowledge for the teachers, students and learners who are keen to understand Pakistan-US relation in the context of 21st century.

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