

The Impact of Pakistan-China Security Cooperation on South Asia's Security Architecture

Authors: Faheem Ullah¹

Introduction/Importance

The research paper focuses on the historical context of Pakistan-China relations and highlights the changing geo-political, global developments. How it shaped security measures. This mutual security ties further enhance the balance of power in the region. The cooperation have also complicates the regional scenario likewise particularly with India. The study concludes with policy recommendations for Pakistan to navigate these complexities while maintaining a balanced approach to its foreign relations. This study examines the influence of China-Pakistan relations on Pakistan's security strategy, particularly in the context of its rivalry with India. The regional stability in South Asia, Pakistan's position within the broader geopolitical landscape is important factor in the architecture. Further, the study emphasis that Pakistan-china relations not only serve the security interest but also effective in the peace building process. China support for security and economic is important block in the region. The relationship will further safeguard and defend the common mutual challenges in the region.

Keywords: *Geopolitics, Security, Foreign Policy, South-Asia, Peace.*

Introduction

In the introduction portion the paper generally identifies the security corporation between China and Pakistan and its impact on the regional forces, South Asia's security architecture. Both countries are historical friends of each other share common agenda on foreign policy measures. Pakistan and China both have upwards goals which would never be fall, it is because of both are strategically major powers need for each other. Further, the security partnership must be understood in different perspectives because of balance of power in the region. The south Asia's security structure is complex and hegemonic; India is the major contributor on the region big market consisting of huge military spending and arms contributor.

The changing global dynamics in the international politics is driven by many forces, nuclear deterrence or nuclear threat is always a major factor to balance the regional chaos. The realism theory in international relations tells that international system is anarchic in nature. States has primary role in the anarchic system. States posses own security measures to ensure his interest and self commitments. However, the security cooperation between Pakistan and China since the decade from 1970s onward has developed the notion of mutual commitment to each other security. However, major security dialogues have conducted on a regular occasions, security exchanges covers military cooperation between both, high level strategic meetings, intelligence sharing and the collaboration between both defense industries to secure its own security interest in the region. A security alliance between the two has achieved a milestone due to the alliance the shift in Indian foreign policy. India has always in competition with Pakistan to achieve his strategic designs. (Malik, 2016).

The research paper investigates how offensive realism theory applies and driven Pakistan China partnership enhances security cooperation to assist both optimizes their security architecture in South Asia. Further, research paper explore the role of China always helps Pakistan maintain a credible offense against Indian strategic designs. The partnership's ultimate goal is to balance Indian influence and make sure that neither China nor Pakistan is left out of the changing South Asian power structure. Offensive realism theory basically contented that to secure their interest and survival, the survival of state is basically prioritized or ranked on top. The maximizing force power pursues hegemony in South Asia. The theory applies to Pakistan strategic military build ups in the region against the rival India. Further, states having interest which the nature of states military capabilities other assistance in a struggle against hostile states like India. There

¹ Ph.D. Scholar at School of Politics and International Relations International Islamic University Islamabad; faheem_muh@yahoo.com.

is ongoing security competition with the possibility for conflicts. Similarly, countries competing for regional and international predominance include India and Pakistan. Furthermore, offensive realists believe that states that want security must go to war to defend themselves.

Key Areas of Pakistan-China Security Cooperation:

-Military Cooperation: Particularly in the context of South Asia, China and Pakistan's military cooperation is strategically and geopolitically vital for both nations. This bilateral partnership has many wider-ranging effects, especially in terms of lessening India's regional dominance. Background in Geopolitics and Strategy South Asia has complex geopolitical dynamics, with India as dominant military power in the region. Establishing a strategic balance and challenging India's predominance in the region are the objectives of the Pakistan-China military alliance. Pakistan's defense partnership with China, which provides it with access to advanced military technology and fortifies its position against India's military might, is crucial due to the country's long-standing hostilities with India. However, China sees this alliance as a means of preserving its dominance in South Asia by ensuring access to crucial geopolitical corridors such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is vital for its commerce and energy lines. In this sense, China's military support for Pakistan goes beyond traditional defense ties to consider broader strategic considerations such as preserving regional stability, combating terrorism and upholding different defense cooperation agreements. Over the years, China and Pakistan have signed several defense agreements that ensure mutual assistance and collaboration. Further, these mutual agreements include sharing intelligence and conducting joint military exercises to providing Pakistan with essential military technologies. One of the most significant agreements has been transfer of Chinese military technology and equipment to Pakistan including advanced fighter jets and missile system technology (Zhao, T. 2014).

Strategic Infrastructure Projects: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is prominent example of how the strategic relationship between China and Pakistan has changed beyond military collaboration. A representation of the growing economic and geopolitical relations between China and Pakistan, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) seeks to link China's Xinjiang Province in the northwest with Pakistan's Gwadar Port in the southwest. This large-scale infrastructure and development project is seen as a game-changer for the entire area as well as a driver of economic growth in Pakistan. The benefits that both China and Pakistan derive from regional integration, stability, and the defense against different regional threats are shown in their cooperation through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). A vast array of infrastructure projects, such as roadways, railroads, energy production, and industrial zones, are included in the massive CPEC effort. Building a continuous corridor that makes it easier to move commodities between China and the Arabian Sea is the main goal of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). China's reliance on lengthier maritime routes that are susceptible to geopolitical conflicts, especially in the South China Sea, is lessened by the corridor, which connects Xinjiang Province in China to Gwadar Port in Pakistan (Ali, S. 2017)

Diplomatic and Political Support: China-Pakistan ties have historically been characterized by strong political, military, and economic cooperation. Since the 1960s, the two countries have maintained solid partnership based on respect for each territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty. This long-standing alliance has typically avoided public disputes due to its strong national interests, especially of South Asia's geopolitical stability. The political and diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan have not only gotten stronger over time, but they have also played a significant role in shaping the dynamics of the wider region. The relationship has been formed by significant occasions that set stage for the development of bilateral ties such as Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's visit to China. China's support for the independence of Pakistan China has continuously upheld Pakistan territorial integrity sovereignty in both domestic and international forums. Over the years, particularly with regard to the disputed regions of Kashmir, China has consistently resisted any external activities that are against Pakistan's sovereignty. This political support has been essential to preserving Pakistan's stability because China has consistently backed Pakistan's position in a number of UN resolutions and other diplomatic settings. The diplomatic cooperation between the two countries also extends to regional and global politics, where they have frequently matched their positions to counteract external forces. China's support for Pakistan has been particularly crucial in dealing with India, as both countries are worried about Indian regional hegemony (Niazi, 2017).

Implications on South Asia Security Architecture:

For more than 50 years of relations, Pakistan and China have had a thriving partnership that includes economic, military and political collaboration. Even though the two countries have encountered different difficulties throughout the years, their relationship has endured because of their common strategic interests, especially in light of regional and international geopolitics. While Pakistan has battled with long-standing regional problems, particularly with India, and has been at the forefront of the global war on terrorism, China has gradually become a geo-economic regional power, using its economic might to increase its influence. A key component of China and Pakistan's relationship has been their security cooperation. However, especially in defense industry, which has helped to maintain the balance of power in South Asia and thwart India's hegemonic aspirations. The China-Pakistan Partnership's Foundations Over the years, the Sino-Pakistani friendship has grown and remained remarkably consistent. The shared objective of resisting external regional influences especially from India, which both countries view as significant regional force, further enables the alliance to thrive. In this context, Pakistan has benefited greatly from China's military and diplomatic support (Wong, 2018).

One of major pillars of South Asian geopolitics is the relationship between China and Pakistan, which has been characterized by reciprocal assistance and shared objectives in a range of regional and international settings. Since their initial diplomatic meetings both have maintained their strategic partnerships has a significant public controversy while successfully navigating a difficult regional environment. China's rise to prominence as global economic and military power has further solidified its position as a significant player in South Asia. However, with significant implication for Pakistan, China's strategic cooperation, particularly in the areas of nuclear deterrence and regional security dynamics has altered the balance of power in South Asia, especially with respect to India. One of the main aspects of Sino-Pakistani ties is their agreement on nuclear deterrence, which is crucial to maintaining regional security and stability. The concept of deterrence is especially crucial in South Asia, where nuclear weapons have been crucial in preserving strategic stability between India and Pakistan. Both nations' nuclear posture has been a crucial component of their military plans, which has effectively created a balance of power that has, in part, prevented significant conflicts. (Zafar, 2016).

The strategic ties between China and Pakistan, which have persisted for almost 60 years, are a unique example in the contemporary international political landscape. Most of the time, there were no restrictions on the relationship. Nonetheless, the two countries political conciliatory cooperation is proceeding smoothly going. Despite this, the relationship has becoming more prevalent in financial circles of Pakistan. Since the turn of the century, there has been a growing recognition that the two countries are more dependent on one another than ever in the ever-evolving local and global environments. In any case, observing one another's social orders and cultures continues to be mostly ignored topic. Currently, this connection has been strengthened by reciprocal involvement under the protection of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which offers exceptional opportunities for respective cooperation. The region's security dynamic is improved by economic and security links, state level and finally the major provincial collaborations between the two (Hameed, 2017).

China's Influence in South Asia

Growing attention to South Asia and the larger Indian Ocean region has been a defining feature of China's recent transition to a more aggressive foreign policy. With the goal of securing access to vital trade routes and establishing influence throughout Eurasia, China has made forging stronger connections with South Asian nations a top priority. China's strategic interests in the region, as well as its changing relations with these nations, are highlighted in this research, which focuses on eight important South Asian nations: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan. The growing importance of the Indian Ocean, particularly its eastern regions China's regional and international aspirations is also examined in the research (Fook 2018).

Beijing's relations with South Asia began to quickly grow and extend, in accordance with the country's more extensive endeavors to go worldwide. General Secretary Xi Jinping's rising to China's top authority in 2012, and therefore the resulting development of Chinese exercises past its boundaries, including Xi's

unmistakable Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), have sped up the inspiration of latest and aggressive connections with South Asia. The more readily comprehend these patterns United States Institute of Peace gathered senior study group of analyst previous policymakers and resigned ambassadors to require a gander at China's job in South Asia from an assortment of points of view. Throughout, the gathering met multiple times by means of videoconference to seem at how security interest of China in South Asia changes. The meeting further debates, exchange and advancement and social issues meet to shape and be formed by Chinese inclusions in the region (Chan, 2016).

The continuous war between India and Pakistan, two nuclear-armed nations with long-standing historical grievances and territory disputes, keeps South Asia among the most unstable regions in the world. Their antagonism has grown over the years; with both nations creating intricate war plans that have the potential swiftly turn into a nuclear exchange. Because of the conflict's nuclear component situation in South Asia is particularly risky because any error or breakdown in escalation control might have disastrous results. The world heavyweights such as the US and China their Nuclear concerns in South Asia and the pressing need for crisis management protocols to prevent potential catastrophes. The India-Pakistan rivalry has been marked by distrust, animosity, and high instability for more than 70 years. After British India was divided in 1947, two separate countries were formed: India and Pakistan. Since then, their relationship has been tainted by the conflict over Kashmir, many military conflicts and the development of nuclear weapons. The two nations have been on the verge of conflict multiple times since their involvement in the three major conflicts. Both the nations currently possess nuclear weapons and the conflicts like nuclear component adds an unsettling level of complexity. India and Pakistan's dispute is a well-known security conundrum in which both nations are under the umbrella (Sun, 2009).

Finally, China and Pakistan's partnership has grown to be one of South Asia's most important partnerships in terms of both security and the economy. In a region that has historically been tense, especially between India and Pakistan, this cooperation has helped to maintain a balance of power. In addition to providing infrastructure development, China's economic integration of Pakistan through programs like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has also been a tool for regional stability as the country becomes a major economic force in the world. India's increasing influence in the region is balanced by the expanding military and strategic alliance between China and Pakistan, which continues to have a significant influence on the regional security architecture.

The study looked at the notion of offensive realism, which holds that states behave in their own best interests and frequently try to gain more authority and influence in anarchic international systems in order to survive. This collaboration acts as a genuine deterrent to India's burgeoning strategic alliances with global superpowers growing military might in the context of Pakistan-China security cooperation. In order to maintain a strategic edge in the South Asian setting and balance out perceived regional asymmetries, China and Pakistan both embrace this partnership. The deterrence approach is essential to Pakistan and China's security cooperation, according to the study. The credible deterrence is the foundation of their military and strategic alliances, especially in order to counter the Indian threat and preserve regional stability. Given that both nations have nuclear weapons, managing the nuclear deterrent factor and avoiding conflict escalation depend heavily on their collaboration.

The second study question explores the particular elements that have contributed to Pakistan and China's increasing military cooperation. Given India's growing military might both countries have an interest in the regional military advancement. The development of conventional forces, military gear, missile systems and nuclear technology all demonstrate this cooperation.

Results

The study found that the major main forces behind the two nations expanding military cooperation are their common geopolitical goals and security concerns. China has provided Pakistan with modern technologies, missile defense systems, and nuclear help, among other forms of military support. The military cooperation protects Pakistan from potential threats and helps counterbalance India's expanding military might. Both countries benefit strategically from this alliance, which serves as a deterrent to growing threat posed by India's increasing defense investment and military modernization. China has provided Pakistan

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Conclusion

The conclusion of paper reveals Pakistan's relationship with China has remained stable despite both internal and external pressures. Pakistan seeks defense cooperation, diplomatic support to strong foreign policy measures. However, the financial aid from China always has impact on the policy of Pakistan. However, it is needs is not easily met by other countries. Both nations share a mutual distrust of India and the U.S., which strengthens their partnership. However, to reduce dependency, Pakistan foreign policy need to ease tensions with its neighbors, including India, Iran, Afghanistan, and US. If China investments Pakistan fail or lead to controversy, it risks global criticism could harm its long-standing, stable relationship with Pakistan.

China-Pakistan relations have had a profound and lasting impact on Pakistan's foreign policy, reinforcing geopolitics, diplomatic strategies while providing crucial financial supporter. The mutual partnership has been particularly vital for Pakistan. The security corporation between Pakistan and china has boosted the military architecture of Pakistan. While, in countering the regional threats especially from India, Pakistan always stood firm in stand. However, managing the geopolitical positioning amid global power dynamics Pakistan and China support each other. However, dependence on China also carries risks have particularly concerning Pakistan economic condition different vulnerabilities tied China's investments and potential geopolitical pressures. All need to carry in a balance way. The international sanctions and impositions must keep in view for Pakistan. Finally it is the time for take forward steps, Pakistan must carefully manage its ties with China while addressing regional tensions and balancing relations with other key global powers to safeguard its national interests and strategic autonomy.

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