

ISSUE 1 | 1st January 2019

# PIVOT

Quarterly Magazine of China-Pakistan Study Centre  
Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad

## Celebrating Decades of Pakistan-China Friendship



Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad



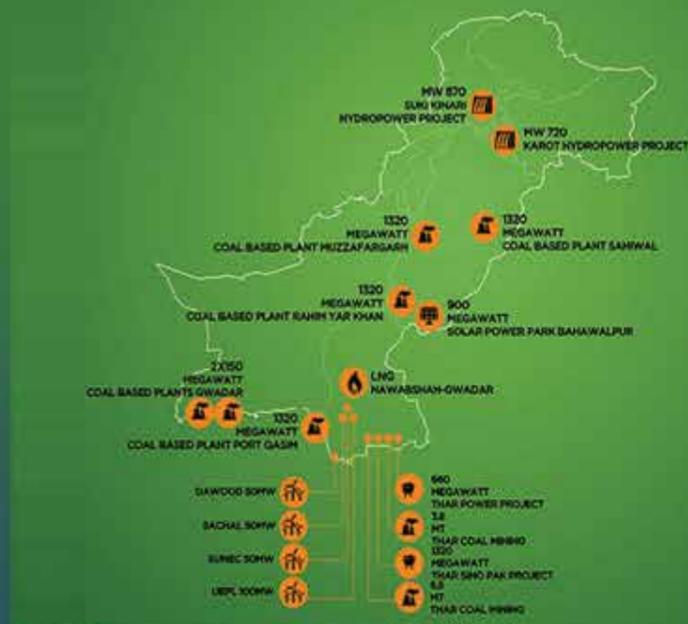
China-Pakistan Study Centre



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## Key Energy Projects

CPEC is a fusion of multiple developments in the global, regional, bilateral and domestic contexts. The main drivers of this change are technology, trade liberalization, free capital movements, advances in communication and transportation, infrastructure and creation of cross-border supply chains.



- EAST WAY EXPRESSWAY 35.9
- GWADAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
- FRESH WATER TREATMENT FACILITY
- GWADAR INTERNATIONAL EXPORT DEV AUTHORITY
- GWADAR FREE ZONE
- GWADAR EXPORT PROCESSING INFRASTRUCTURE
- BREAKWATER CONSTRUCTION GWADAR PORT
- CHINA PAK FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL
- COAL PLANTS X 2 150 MEGAWATTS
- PAK CHINA TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE
- LAND ACQUISITION FREE ZONE
- BERTHING AREAS AND CHANNELS DREDGING
- BUSINESS COMPLEX GWADAR PORT
- PAK CHINA FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL GWADAR
- SAWAR DAM
- SHADIKOR DAM
- GWADAR UNIVERSITY

Located in southwest Pakistan, is endowed with excellent conditions based on its location and deep water port development. The port operation capacity is being enhanced to enable it to provide multi-functions such as docking, storage, reloading, shipping services, multi-modal transport, transportation management and neighboring – port facility

## Road Network under CPEC

CPEC is a fusion of multiple developments in the global, regional, bilateral and domestic contexts. The main drivers of this change are technology, trade liberalization, free capital movements, advances in communication and transportation, infrastructure and creation of cross-border supply chains.



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## Chief Editor's Note

In the wake of shifts and realignments in global political, strategic and economic landscape – much of what manifests itself in the region around us - Pakistan finds itself in a peculiarly important situation. Arising challenges and ensuing opportunities, therefore, add new dynamic to Pakistan's foreign relations. In this context, Pakistan's bilateral relations with China have assumed added significance. Bilateral relations have attained new heights in recent years, with expansion of cooperation in a host of areas, notably, energy, infrastructure and defense fields. With the advent of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the foundations of relationship built on mutual trust, equality and shared destiny have been further cemented, predicated on mutuality of benefit and reciprocity.



With a view to elucidate exemplary nature of Pakistan-China's relationship, its various regional and global dimensions, and to enhance mutual understanding at the peoples level, the China-Pakistan Study Centre at the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad has decided to publish this magazine 'PIVOT'. The aim of the magazine is to project the all-weather, time-tested strategic partnership, which has been supported by successive governments in both countries, and which also manifests aspirations of the people of both countries. The magazine shall cover the entire gamut of the relationship, including politics, economy, culture and areas that could be of significance for Pakistan and China.

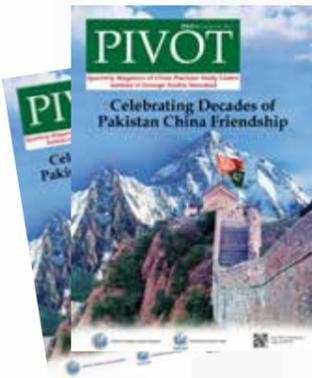
In the world of media and scholastics, it is imperative to seek a deeper understanding of issues impacting politics, diplomacy, economy and people to people contacts. The magazine would aim to fill the knowledge vacuum in a rapidly transforming world. We present to the readers, with a great sense of pride and excitement, the first edition of the PIVOT. We sincerely hope that the readers would find value in its contents. Any suggestions to improve the content would be most welcome. Happy reading!

Talat  
Dr. Talat Shabbir

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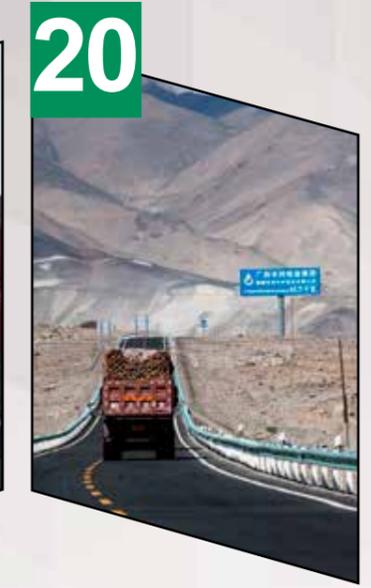
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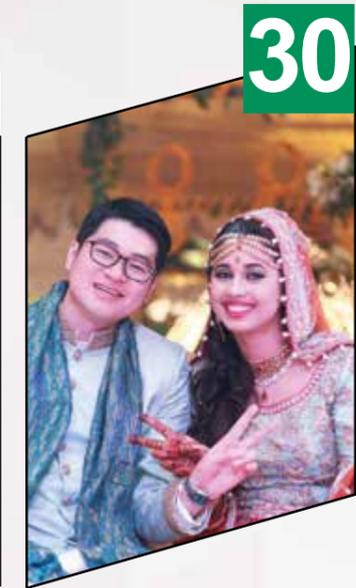
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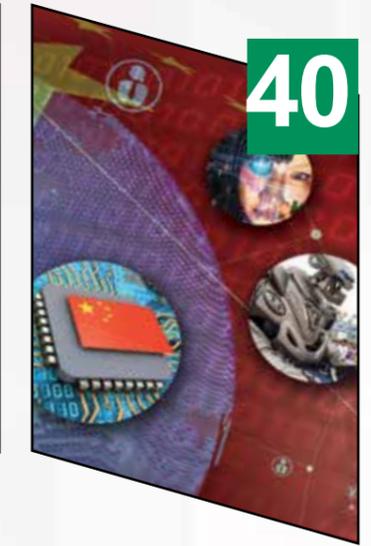
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**T**he world is undergoing an extraordinary politico-economic transformation. Multiple centres of power and new alignments are emerging. South Asia too is witnessing continuing instability. In this climate of global and regional flux, the steady and close relationship between Pakistan and China is a positive factor for political stability of the region and its economic integration.

The sterling success that China has achieved in economic development serves as an inspiration for developing states. Under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, China is pursuing a vision of shared prosperity. In Pakistan,

we take great pride in time-tested all-weather strategic cooperative partnership with China. The recent visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan and the talks he held with Chinese leaders has enthused a new spirit of tangible cooperation between the two countries.

From politics and diplomacy to economy and defence, the two countries are finding newer, impactful and progressive ways to ensuring prosperity of their people, meeting the present and future challenges, and grasping the mutually beneficial opportunities for economic development. The CPEC under President Xi's signature Belt and Road Initiative reflects the collective desire of both countries to usher the region into an era of shared prosperity.

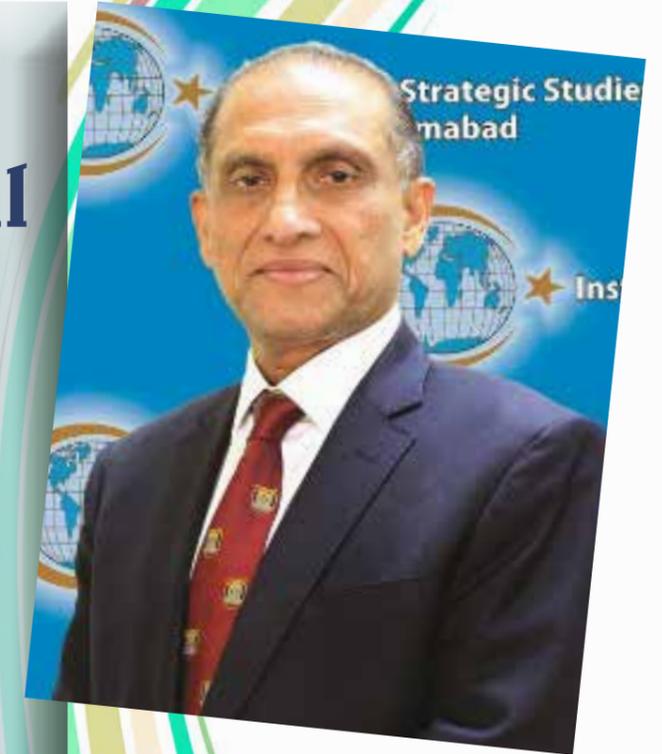
I am delighted at the launch of a new magazine 'PIVOT' by the China-Pakistan Study Centre of the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad. This and other such works would help build comprehensive understanding of this important bilateral relationship and its potential to serve the people of China, Pakistan, and the region. I am confident that this magazine would be a valuable resource for learning about the richness and promise of China-Pakistan relations, which is based on the unshakeable foundation of mutual trust.

## Note from the Director General

**R**elationship with China has been an integral component of Pakistan's foreign policy ever since the two established diplomatic relations in 1951. Bilateral political relations have remained ever strong, and are now yielding in-depth practical cooperation in multiple domains. The two countries share mutual understandings, and have always supported each other's core interests. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has opened up this relationship to yet new vistas.

China and Pakistan's growing multi-faceted cooperation calls for continuous dialogue, evidence-based research, and advocacy of the significance of this vital relationship. The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad takes great pride in making its own contribution to the strengthening of bilateral ties between Pakistan and China. A re-vitalized China-Pakistan Study Centre at Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad has embarked on a comprehensive program of activities to reflect our strong commitment to facilitate diplomatic and academic exchanges between the two countries.

The dynamic nature of this relationship warrants a publication that showcases the progress made in multiple areas from politics and diplomacy to business and people-to-people exchanges. To this end, I am delighted that China-Pakistan Study Centre has launched a dedicated quarterly magazine 'PIVOT', for shining light on the positive facets of Pakistan-China relationship. Showcasing this relationship in correct perspective and countering disinformation is imperative in today's complex strategic environment. I commend the efforts made by China-Pakistan Study Centre team under the leadership of the Centre's Director, Dr. Talat Shabbir, for publishing an impressive inaugural edition of the magazine and serving the cause of this valued relationship for China and Pakistan.



# China's Vision of Pakistan

By H.E. Yao Jing

On behalf of the Embassy of People's Republic of China in Pakistan, I would like to express my warm congratulations to the launching of the quarterly magazine 'PIVOT' by China-Pakistan Study Centre of the Institute of Strategic Studies. I believe that this is a new effort by ISSI in promoting mutual understanding and strengthening its intellectual support to our bilateral relations.

For common Chinese people, Pakistan is a dear brother that is so close to their hearts. Our friendship is dated back to as early as 2,000 years ago, when we were connected by the ancient Silk Road. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, our relations have

withstood the test of time, the changes in international and domestic situation and grown from strength to strength. The two countries have understood each other, respected each other, supported each other, despite of the differences in our culture, political and social system, etc. It is our pride to see that our bilateral relations have been the example of the state-to-state relations for decades. In April 2015, President Xi Jinping paid a historic state visit to Pakistan and promoted bilateral relations to an all-weather strategic partnership, which opened a brand-new chapter in China-Pakistan relations.

Now, to better understand China's vision on Pakistan, it is needed not only to look at it through the historical lens but also through the

lens of evolving international situation and the overall foreign diplomacy of China.

**“China would like to align the development strategies of both countries and support the national development of Pakistan. It would like to have more cooperation in policy coordination, experience sharing on governance, poverty alleviation and so on, and work together to achieve the great dreams of the two countries”**

The world has come to a crossroad. The international situation is undergoing drastic changes. Globalization is marching ahead with more and more reservation from certain countries.

**“CPEC will be expanded to industrial cooperation and attention will be given to agriculture, education and other sectors closely related to people's livelihood, bringing more tangible benefits to the two peoples and promote the development of CPEC in a more sustainable way”**

The majority of international community is eager for win-win cooperation while the mindset of cold war is resurging. China has proposed to foster a new type of international relations and build a community with a shared future for mankind, as the two main goals of China's diplomacy in the future, because China believes the future of mankind lies in peace, development and cooperation. In this context, China-Pakistan relations can contribute a lot to the practice of these goals.

China and Pakistan should take the lead in building a community for common growth. The Chinese people are working hard to realize the “Chinese dream” of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Similarly, the Pakistani government

has worked for “Naya Pakistan”. China believes a stable and strong Pakistan is in the interest of China. China would like to align the development strategies of both countries and support the national development of Pakistan. It would like to have more cooperation in policy coordination, experience sharing on governance, poverty alleviation and so on, and work together to achieve the great dreams of the two countries.

China and Pakistan should take the lead in building a community for the advancement of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). As an important pioneering project of the BRI, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has pressed ahead with remarkable results. Up to date, 22 projects are under construction or completed with a total investment of over US\$19 billion under the framework of CPEC, creating 70,000 direct job opportunities for local people. In the next step, the CPEC will be expanded to industrial cooperation and attention will be given to agriculture, education and other sectors closely related to people's livelihood, bringing more tangible benefits to the two peoples and promote the development of CPEC in a more sustainable way.

China and Pakistan should take the lead in building a community of closer cooperation for fulfilling its global and regional responsibilities. China welcomes Pakistan's participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as a full member. In order to better safeguard the interests of sovereignty, security and development of China and Pakistan, the two countries shall continue to uphold the five principles of peaceful existence,

strengthen coordination and communication on multilateral platforms such as the UN and SCO, work for a new form of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation, and an open and inclusive global trading system. We should also carry out in-depth coordination on issues such as Afghanistan, promoting regional connectivity, combating terrorism, and jointly work for a favorable neighboring environment.

**“China-Pakistan relationship will keep a good momentum of growth, and make a new exemplary contribution in the practice of building a community with a shared future for mankind”**

In a nutshell, the vision of China on Pakistan is the vision of our common development and interest. Earlier in November, Prime Minister Imran Khan of Pakistan successfully paid his first official visit to China. The two leaders have good discussions about our bilateral relations. It was agreed to further strengthen China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership to forge a closer community of shared future. I am firmly convinced that under our joint efforts, China-Pakistan relationship will keep a good momentum of growth, and make a new exemplary contribution in the practice of building a community with a shared future for mankind ■



The writer is Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Pakistan

# HOW I SEE THE RISE OF CHINA

By Amb Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

**M**y first brush with the world of China came through the reading of a fascinating account of China of the fifties and sixties by a senior Pakistani diplomat, Sultan Muhammad Khan. In November 1953, when Mr. Khan first travelled to China to join the Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing, it took him 36 hours; a journey that required flying to Hong Kong and then taking a train to Beijing. Halfway, he had to disembark at Wuhan, take a ferry across the Yangtse river and board another train. During his voyage through the Chinese countryside, he observed that the land was cultivated by hardworking Chinese peasants, with a glaring absence of any signs of mechanization. Everything was being done manually. There was a striking uniformity in other areas of society also. Grey was the predominant colour of houses,

both on walls and roof tiles, and the Chinese went about dressed in blue cotton padded jackets and trousers. In fact, the entire city of Beijing was connected only by "hutungs" - narrow unpaved streets. The city streets mostly consisted of bamboo houses and Soviet style apartment blocks, with parking lots and alleys peppered with bicycles. Even on the diplomatic front, there were about a dozen embassies from Communist countries that lived a quarantined life of their own. Diplomats were officially allowed freedom of movement only within the municipal limits of Beijing. This was the China of 1953, only five years after Mao Zedong had successfully led the Chinese Communist Party's struggle.

Decades later in 2017, when the China of yesteryears had completely transformed and I was serving as the Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States, I came across and read an entirely different account

of China. This was a book by Graham Allison titled "Destined for War", in which he talks about the capitalist pivot, which propelled China's GDP from \$300 billion in 1980 to a whopping \$11 trillion in 2015, making it the world's second largest economy. Citing World Bank and other sources, Allison writes that in 1980, China's trade with the international community amounted to less than \$40 billion and only 35 years later in 2015, it had risen to \$4 trillion. Perhaps a look at the statistics in construction and development best demonstrate this unprecedented transformation: By 2005, China was building the square foot equivalent of today's Rome every two weeks. Between 2011 and 2013, China both produced and used more cement than the United States did in the entire twentieth century. In 2011, a Chinese firm built a 30-storey skyscraper in just 15 days. Three years later, another construction firm built a 57-storey

skyscraper in 19 days. In a matter of 15 years, China had built the equivalent of Europe's entire housing stock.

What made such a dramatic change possible in the life of a nation? Was it the leadership and governance? Was it a culture of resilience in its people? Or perhaps a result of a Confucian emphasis on hard work and dedication? Perhaps all of these. I remained curious to find out.

In 2013, I got the first opportunity to visit China, when as Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, I was invited to Beijing for talks with my Chinese counterpart. It took us only five hours by a direct PIA flight from Islamabad to Beijing. Compare to the 36 hours it took Sultan Muhammad Khan when he travelled to Beijing for his diplomatic assignment in 1953. On arrival to Beijing, I went straight for the bilateral talks, and immediately found the Chinese diplomats exhibiting a high quality of intellect and discipline that was expected of a rising power. I was shown the newly opened Spokesperson room, with modern fittings and language interpretation, which would match any first-rate facility of such kind. We stayed in a fairly modern hotel, with restaurants offering a large variety of Chinese cuisine. We also travelled to Shanghai by bullet train, crisscrossing the Chinese countryside at speeds of 300 kilometers per hour. I noted that of the four small water bottles placed on the deck before me and my wife, only one of them moved an inch during this nearly a 1000-kilometer journey. At the railway station, we were greeted by the station master, who from his get-up and mannerism, appeared to be unextraordinary, but once he began explaining to me the enormous scale of the

movement of trains in the Shanghai station under his watch, he was anything but ordinary. I continued to wonder throughout the briefing he gave to us as to what filled these people with such a deep sense of responsibility and missionary zeal to accomplish the tasks assigned to them.

China's march to modernization is at the heart of new China. The Chinese learnt well from the secret of the economic rise of the West and Japan, and seized the moment and shifted gears to what made it the largest manufacturing industry in human history. This approach created jobs, generated wealth, and empowered ordinary Chinese people. Hundreds of millions of the Chinese people have now been lifted out of poverty.

**“ CHINA'S MARCH TO MODERNIZATION IS AT THE HEART OF NEW CHINA. CHINA LEARNT WELL FROM THE SECRET OF THE ECONOMIC RISE OF THE WEST AND JAPAN, AND SEIZED THE MOMENT AND SHIFTED GEARS TO WHAT MADE IT THE LARGEST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN HUMAN HISTORY ”**

The direction is clear. China wants to be a modern society and for this to happen, it has made the necessary changes. Ideology was de-emphasized. Economy became the top priority. And it embraced globalization whole heartedly.

President Xi has not only continued to steer China on the path of modernization, but perhaps his deepest contribution to Chinese growth is in the foreign policy realm. China is now pursuing a proactive diplomacy to create what it calls an open-door world economy and a global partnership network. It is seeking a new concept of Asian security and is moving from being a developing country to being a regional power and a global power.

Now that China has become a major power and is asserting its role as a leader of globalization, what does the future hold for it? How is the world adjusting to the steep rise of China on the world stage? These and many other questions are being asked and answered in thousands of academic programs in world universities to better understand China of today and tomorrow.

The United States has recently adopted a National Security Strategy, which regards China and Russia as its competitors. Even the word rival is sometimes used for China. It is now clear that major power competition is intensifying. Will this lead to a new balance of power to ensure stability of Asia and the world? Or will this end up in another Cold War that would increase the risks of conflict? The book Destined for War invokes Thucydides trap to postulate that the rise of China could instill concerns in the prevailing power - the United States - and both could end up at war, just like the Greek city states of Athens and Sparta did nearly two and a half millennia ago. It is also felt that if the major power competition is not handled prudently, the consequences could be disastrous. The saner voices are already advising that the advent of China requires a new balance, especially in Asia. Dr. Henry Kissinger, speaking before the US Senate Armed Services Committee in January

2018, advised that the concept of major power relations must include both a military and diplomacy element. I would go a step further. We need more diplomacy today than ever. Limited diplomacy or constrained engagement could result in making the world a far more dangerous place than what we have ever seen in history. President Trump has spoken of building US's 'unmatched power' as a means of defense and deterrence. There is a risk in this approach. If the major power competition culminates in any conflict, that could be disastrous for not only the parties concerned but the entire world given the technological developments in armament and weaponry.

**CHINA IS NOW PURSUING A PROACTIVE DIPLOMACY TO CREATE WHAT IT CALLS AN OPEN-DOOR WORLD ECONOMY AND A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK. IT IS SEEKING A NEW CONCEPT OF ASIAN SECURITY AND IS MOVING FROM BEING A DEVELOPING COUNTRY TO BEING A REGIONAL POWER AND A GLOBAL POWER**

It is heartening to see that Chinese approach towards global governance tends to seek understanding and harmony over confrontation. What I understand from the policy pronouncements of the Chinese leaders and their diplomatic practice is that China would like to follow an approach centered around UN Charter

principles of respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-intervention, and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. The focus is on development as the shared high priority and equal partnership. In practical terms, it is important that China adheres to these principles and maintains this approach.

With the United States increasingly pivoting its policies towards Asia, and to what it now likes to call Indo-Pacific region, the growing US-India partnership is largely being perceived as China containment policy. After the announcement of the present US Administration's security and defense strategies, there is a growing discussion on how the US and China would balance power in Asia. It would be in the larger interest of the US and China, and indeed the world, that the leadership of both countries exhibit prudence and wisdom. The world cannot afford major power conflict, which would not only obstruct China's path to progress and prosperity but also severely undermine the world peace.

China must also continue on the path of inclusive development, which is good for the people of China and for the people of the world. The Belt and Road Initiative is clearly an attempt to connect the Eurasian landmass for mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and several other institutions are appropriate initiatives to make globalization work for everyone.

For Pakistan, China has always been a steady friend. A friend that has consistently shown respect for our sovereignty and territorial integrity. Pakistan too has treated China as its true friend and

supported it in its core causes. The two are now engaged in a major connectivity project, called China Pakistan Economic Corridor that would bring the peoples of the two countries closer for common good. I have seen this camaraderie throughout my career in the foreign service of Pakistan. I remember that when I was serving as the Third Secretary in our embassy in Qatar in the early eighties, the Chinese diplomats felt most comfortable in Pakistani homes. Ever since, wherever I have served, it has always been a pleasure to interact closely with my Chinese counterparts.

**PAKISTAN BELIEVES THAT THE RISE OF CHINA AND ITS CLOSE PARTNERSHIP WITH PAKISTAN POSES NO THREAT TO ANYONE. IN FACT, IT IS A SOURCE OF STRENGTH FOR THE ENTIRE REGION**

Pakistan believes that the rise of China and its close partnership with Pakistan poses no threat to anyone. In fact, it is a source of strength for the entire region. After all, the connectivity would benefit all stakeholders. It is heartening to see that the people of China and Pakistan continue to accord special place to each other. From the time when Sultan Muhammad Khan noted in his book the affectionate bonding between the Chinese and Pakistani leadership of the fifties and sixties, to the recent times, the friendship and understanding continues to be evergreen ■



The writer, former Foreign Secretary and Pakistan's Ambassador to the US, is Director General of Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad



### China Observes 69th National Day

China observed 69th National Day on Monday 1 October, 2018. The National day holiday gave an immense boost to tourism in China and about 122 million tourists travelled around the country on the first day of the National Holiday.

### Prime Minister Imran Khan meets President Xi Jinping

PM Imran Khan met with President Xi Jinping on his first visit to China since assuming office. The Prime Minister arrived in Beijing on a four-day official visit at the invitation of the Chinese leadership.



### China observes 2018 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week

2018 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week was observed. In the opening ceremony, Premier Li Keqiang called on the audience for commitment to entrepreneurship and innovation.

### Foreign Minister represents Pakistan at SCO Heads of government Council Meeting

Foreign Minister, Shah Mehmood Qureshi represented Pakistan at the 17th Heads of Government Council Meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 11-12 October, 2018. In his keynote address, the Foreign Minister appreciated the forward-looking outcomes of Qingdao Summit for moving the SCO in meeting the challenges that confront the region.



### 8th meeting of Joint Cooperation Committee held in Beijing

Pakistan and China finalized a memorandum of understanding on industrial cooperation and established a cooperative framework for socio-economic development. The meeting was co-chaired by the Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms and Vice Chairman of National Development and Reforms Commissions of China.

# China is a great country which will rise further and make its mark in world history

President Azad Jammu & Kashmir, **Sardar Masood Khan**

By PIVOT Team

**PIVOT:** Your first posting as a career diplomat was to Beijing, how was your experience?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** It was a thrilling experience. I was able to see a foreign country for the first time. Beijing, even at that time (in 1982), was majestic, as its urban landscape was dominated by traditional buildings dating back to the monarchical period or modern apartment buildings influenced by the modern Communist architecture.

**BEING A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, CHINA HAS CONSISTENTLY HIGHLIGHTED PAKISTAN'S OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO COUNTER TERRORISM AND PROMOTE REGIONAL SECURITY, AS WELL AS UPHELD PAKISTAN'S LEGITIMATE POSITIONS ON COUNTER-TERRORISM**

The city was simple, neat and clean. Before the posting in the Embassy, I learnt Chinese at the Beijing Language Institute (BLI), in Wu Dao Kao, which has now become the Beijing Language and Culture University. After completing my studies at the BLI, I graduated with a diploma



in interpretation. Professionally, my posting in Beijing gave me rich diplomatic experience. I learned the ropes of the diplomatic craft at the Embassy by working with the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other ministries of the Chinese government, the Chinese Communist Party, and the media. It also gave me early exposure to the diplomatic community in Beijing, which was closely knit at that time.

**PIVOT:** How important has been China's support to Pakistan at the United Nations?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** China's support to Pakistan has always been important. China has always supported Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and

independence. Being a permanent member of the UN Security Council, it has consistently highlighted Pakistan's outstanding contribution to counter terrorism and promote regional security, as well as upheld Pakistan's legitimate positions on counter-terrorism. It is a two way street. Pakistan too has also strongly supported China in the United Nations and other international forums on a range of issues that are vital for China's national interest. These include South China Sea, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, and human rights - all related to China's sovereignty, directly or indirectly. On the reform of the UN Security Council, both countries support each other's principled positions to make this body more representative and forward looking.

**PIVOT:** How do you see future of Pakistan-China relations given your long diplomatic experience in China?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** The future of Pakistan-China relations is very bright. There are many reasons for that. First, the foundation of Pakistan-China relations is very strong. Today at the grassroots level, Pakistan and China are perceived and called "iron brothers". But in addition to the warm sentiment at the popular level, Pakistan-China relations have developed strong strategic, economic and cultural roots. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has given a fresh impetus to Pakistan-China cooperation and made it a force multiplier for regional connectivity. Second, Pakistan and China are both working for peace, security and stability in the region and beyond. And for that purpose they are fighting terrorism and violent extremism and using regional forums, such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to foster harmony and shape a

community of common destiny. This kind of interface would also directly contribute to Pakistan's economic prowess and prosperity.

**PIVOT:** How can Pakistan capitalize its relation with China as China positions itself to be a major power in the world?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** I remember a conversation years ago with a senior Chinese Communist Party leader at its International Liaison Department. He said that to attain progress, Pakistan can learn from the Chinese experience but it need not imitate Chinese model which is based on the principle of 'socialism with Chinese characteristics'.

**PAKISTAN CAN DEVELOP ITS OWN INDIGENOUS MODEL, EMULATE GOOD PRACTICES ABROAD AND DEVELOP A HEALTHY BLEND THAT SERVES THE BEST INTERESTS OF ITS PEOPLE**

Pakistan can develop its own indigenous model, emulate good practices abroad and develop a

healthy blend that serves the best interests of its people. This counsel is as relevant today as it was at that time. No doubt China, already the second largest global economy, is emerging as a strategic power. Pakistan's close ties with China give Islamabad a special privilege and leverage. This opens up many opportunities for Pakistan in the areas of economic development, commerce, education, science and technology.

One such big avenue is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. But to get more benefits from our proximity and affinity with China, Pakistan must try to fully understand the dynamics and trajectories of China's economic development and its geo-strategic role in the global order. Pakistan is ideally placed, but it has to attain social and political stability to fully tap the potential of its relations with China.

**PIVOT:** Do you think the bilateral relations will strengthen under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** Pakistan-China relations are all weather and time tested. Since the early 1960s, Pakistan-China relations



have moved from strength to strength. With every passing decade, Pakistan-China ties have moved to new heights. In the fresh cycle also, the relations will grow stronger and deeper in all dimensions. The recent meetings of the Prime Minister of Pakistan with President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang have given a new roadmap for the long-term cooperation, which will make the bilateral ties of the two countries stronger and more comprehensive.



**PIVOT:** How do you see Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as a new development model initiated by China? Do you think it has potential to turn into a global model?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** The BRI is a new model for transnational connectivity. It advocates cooperation instead of mutually destructive competition. It has already become a success story as it invests massively in infrastructure development, energy projects, industry, telecommunications, IT and agriculture, among others, in more than 70 countries of Asia, Africa and Europe.

Other continents are also taking keen interest in the BRI. The BRI is thus fast becoming a global wave, a new normal, a global common and soon it may have a universal footprint. But for that it is necessary to take detractors on board who have misgivings, mostly misplaced, about this transcontinental initiative.

**PIVOT:** How significant is CPEC for Pakistan?

**Masood Khan:** The CPEC is a game changer and a catalyst for transforming Pakistan's economy. It gives Pakistan a regional platform for economic networking and linkages amongst countries of East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, and South-West Asia. For the first time it provides an opportunity for optimally leveraging Pakistan's strategic location and economic geography. That said, Pakistani planners ought not to use the CPEC as a substitute for Pakistan's overall economic agenda which is much, much bigger and which should continue to incorporate human development in all undertakings.

**PIVOT:** Do you think CPEC has potential to bring economic prosperity as we expect from it?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** The CPEC will usher in a period of prosperity in Pakistan. No doubt about that. The CPEC will upgrade Pakistan's infrastructure. This in turn will accelerate Pakistan's economic growth. But the onus is on Pakistan to realize the full potential of the CPEC. That task starts with the completion of the early harvest projects of the CPEC on time, with precision and high quality guaranteed. In order to gain full dividends of CPEC, Pakistan will also have to ensure

sustainability and diversification of the projects started.

**PIVOT:** What challenges do you think Pakistan is likely to face in realizing CPEC dream?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** Pakistan has to continue to maintain national consensus on the CPEC, ensure security for the projects being completed within the framework of CPEC and brush off criticism aimed at undermining this initiative. In the initial phase, the control of the CPEC projects should remain with Pakistan and China.

**THE BRI IS A NEW MODEL FOR TRANSNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY. IT ADVOCATES COOPERATION INSTEAD OF MUTUALLY DESTRUCTIVE COMPETITION**

Once the basic infrastructure is built, doors could be opened for third country participation, especially in the industrial zones (or special economic zones).

**PIVOT:** How people-to-people contact can be expanded to deepen the relationship between Pakistan and China?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** People-to-people contacts are very important to promote Pakistan-China friendship. Exchanges of parliamentarians, politicians, civil society activists, scholars, scientists, media-persons, artistes, and literary figures enhance understanding between the two nations. People-to-people contacts have always been part of Pakistan-China relations, but now they have been embedded in the CPEC's extended plans up to 2030. Such exchanges will make the relationship organic and wholesome; and not keep the bilateral ties only at the transactional level.

**PIVOT:** How do you think Gwadar port can play a key-role in enhancing regional integration?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** The first purpose of the Gwadar Port is to stimulate Pakistan's economic development. We must not forget that. Once the port is fully operational, it will serve and service multiple neighbourhoods and thus synergize regional economic and commercial activity. Our region is expecting an unprecedented economic boom and it will need not only Gwadar but many new ports along Pakistan's coastline. In that context, Gwadar will act as a fulcrum.

**PIVOT:** How far CPEC projects have potential to promote economic prosperity in Azad Jammu & Kashmir?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** Azad Kashmir has already been integrated into the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Four projects - comprising two hydropower projects at Karot (720 MW) and Kohala (1124 MW), a special economic zone at Mirpur and an expressway connecting Mansehra with Mirpur - have been approved.

The first two projects are being completed and the last two are in the planning stage. These and other projects, which will be added in the future, will play a decisive role in pushing Azad Kashmir towards faster economic development and higher levels of prosperity.

**PIVOT:** What do you think which areas needs to be improved and what concerns should be addressed particularly in CPEC?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** First, despite objections,

stay the course. Second, enhance transparency without compromising the core goals of the CPEC. Third, at the official level, communicate more effectively to the national and global audiences about the benign objectives of the CPEC.

Fourth, keep the project's orientation geo-economic instead of geo-strategic. Fifth, involve the traditional media and social media portals for enhancing understanding of the CPEC. Sixth, encourage the universities and think tanks to take the lead in creating greater awareness and understanding about the CPEC. Seventh, prepare your schools, colleges and universities, including business schools, to produce graduates and professionals for serving in the market that would be shaped by CPEC.

**PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PART OF PAKISTAN-CHINA RELATIONS, BUT NOW THEY HAVE BEEN EMBEDDED IN THE CPEC'S EXTENDED PLANS UP TO 2030**

Eighth, reorientate your industry and trading enterprises to the new, emerging market trends being brought forth by the implementation of CPEC projects.

**PIVOT:** What do you think are opportunities and challenges with regards to Pakistan-China relations?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** There are more opportunities than challenges. The first task is to continue to consolidate and expand the ideal ties that exist between the two countries. At the same time, the bonhomie at the official level should be made to



trickle down more substantively at the level of the people. For that it is necessary to invest in cultural diplomacy. Pakistan-China relationship is already under fire. While we inform others about the essence of their relationship, without being defensive or offensive, it is prudent not to confront other nations or alienate allies or those who have been allies in the past. As Pakistan grows stronger, it will have to transact with all these nations. There is no need to adopt a reclusive or exclusivist agenda.

In this regard, Pakistan could take a leaf out of China's diplomacy which, while having deep differences with the Western countries on a range of issues, maintains channels of communication and structured dialogue open and in fact has created mutual dependencies that ultimately lead to win-win cooperation.

**PIVOT:** What should be Pakistan's vision of China?

**Sardar Masood Khan:** China is a great country which will rise further and make its mark in world history. For Pakistan, it is a trusted friend, a supportive neighbour and a strategic partner ■

# Prime Minister Imran Khan in China

By Bao Jing Jing

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan had a four days official visit to China from November 2, 2018 at the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang. Imran Khan met with the President of China Xi Jinping and also held talk with the Premier Li Keqiang. Xi welcomed PM Imran Khan for paying an official visit to China and attending the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) and said that China-Pakistan all-weather strategic partnership has always been continuing regardless of the changes in international situation or domestic affairs of the two countries. President Xi reiterated that 'China-Pakistan cooperation not only benefits both peoples but also contributes to regional and world peace, stability and development'.

President Xi appreciated Prime Minister Imran Khan for stressing that he would view the relations with China as a political cornerstone in Pakistan's foreign policy and would steadfastly promote the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He also stressed that China always views relations with Pakistan as a priority of diplomacy and supports Pakistan in safeguarding national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. He also expressed support for Pakistan's new government in implementing its policies and promoting national development and expressed a hope to work with Pakistan to strengthen the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and build a closer community with a shared future between the two countries.

Proposing closer pragmatic cooperation and promotion in trade and investment, Xi called for consolidating the early results of CPEC and expanding CPEC to areas such as industrial parks and people's livelihood. He also said the two sides should boost people-to-people exchanges, strengthen anti-terrorism cooperation and increase coordination and communication on multilateral platforms such as the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Prime Minister Imran Khan said that Pakistan admired China's development achievements and hoped to learn from China's experience in development,

poverty alleviation and anti-corruption. Prime Minister Imran Khan reiterated, that Pakistan-China friendship is deeply rooted in the mind of Pakistani people and Pakistan is devoted to furthering the relations with China and the construction of CPEC, so as to benefit the economic and social development of Pakistan.

*Pakistan admires China's development achievements and hopes to learn from China's experience in development, poverty alleviation and anti-corruption*

*Prime Minister Imran Khan*

During the four days visit Imran Khan attended the first CIIE in Shanghai. The CIIE is the first import expo held at the national level in China. This is indeed an innovation in the history of global trade. The CIIE is hosted by China with the support of the WTO and other international organizations, as well as a large number of participating countries. A total of 172 countries, regions and International Organizations from five continents showcased their development achievements at the CIIE. More than 3,600 companies from different countries held discussions and sought common development with over 400,000 purchasers from China and overseas. Pakistan was one of the 12 'Guest of Honor' countries at this import expo. The event was attended by Imran Khan along with 75 other entrepreneurs. Prime Minister Khan addressed the opening ceremony as the keynote speaker. Apart from this, Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing coordinated and organized the Pakistan Trade and Investment Conference 2018 which attracted hundreds of Chinese enterprises from different sectors. During the CIIE, 15 MOUs (Memorandum of Understanding) were signed between China and Pakistan ■



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# Belt and Road Initiative: China's Inclusive Growth Model

By Ume Farwa & Arhama Siddiq

China has emerged as a catalyst of South-South Cooperation (SSC) due to its positive economic engagement with Asia and Africa. SSC as a concept was first coined by Argentine economist Raul Prebisch, in his report to the first United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). He argued in support of increased South-South trade, including through preferential regional and intra-regional trading arrangements among groupings of developing countries as part of a new trade policy for development. Later, the United Nations established the Unit for South-South Cooperation to promote South-South trade and collaboration within its agencies thereby consolidating the term SSC. It is now commonly used by policymakers and academics to describe the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries, also known as countries of the Global South. The resurgence has not only

brought SSC on the world stage again but it has also brightened the possibilities and potentialities of the rise of the South. These developments have sparked a debate whether developing countries would be able to attain self-reliance or suffer another setback. President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) provided a platform for the developing countries to shared progress and development.

BRI has the support of international, regional and sub-regional institutions which removes the long standing barrier of financing the projects of advancing SSC. For instance, the UN backed this trans-national corridor project in the UNSC Resolution 2344 which calls on all the countries 'to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation through regional development initiatives such as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiative'.

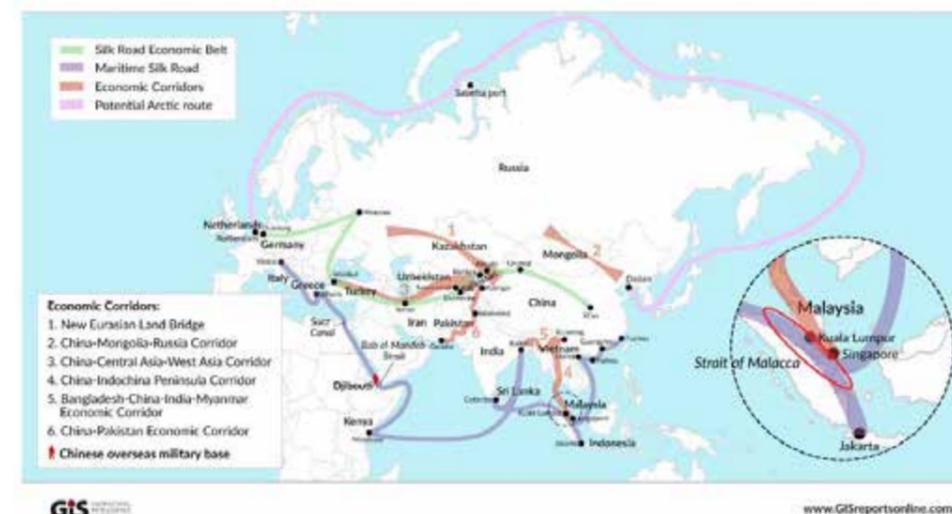
International Monetary Fund and the Silk Road Fund are also financing the BRI initiative.

BRI has six corridors: New Eurasian Land Bridge; China-Mongolia-Russia; Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Corridor; China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC); China-Indochina Peninsula Economic Corridor; and China-Central Asia West-Asia Economic Corridor. It stretches over three continents - Asia, Africa and Europe - and is now extending to Latin American and Caribbean Countries. BRI's flagship project, CPEC is developing fast and has become a case study to assess the prospects of BRI as a project of SSC.

the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road'. The publication bears far-reaching implications on the conceptual framework and a platform for the South. It is an affirmation of staying away from any act similar to the traditional intrusiveness of the North.

BRI encourages developing countries to follow their own models of development vis-à-vis pattern of economic engagement that reduces dependence of developing countries altogether. It also advocates the use of dialogue to shelve differences and further cooperation instead of aggressive measures.

The BRI: China's Eurasian ambitions



**UN backed this trans-national corridor project in the UNSC Resolution 2344 which calls on all the countries 'to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation through regional development initiatives such as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiative'**

Such an ambitious project needs a well thought-out policy roadmap to connect with other developing countries. Therefore, China's National Development and Reforms Commission and Ministry of Foreign Affairs engineered the blueprint of BRI, 'Visions and Actions on Jointly Building

As per the document, BRI will be implemented according to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. The document accepts the decisive role of the market in resource allocation and the primary role of enterprises while letting the governments perform their due functions. It states that BRI will follow the market operation and pledges to abide by rules of the market and the international norms, which imply no drastic implications for the post-World War II world order.

When it comes to infrastructure and development, Asia appears to be an under-developed region. According to the Asia Development Bank report, Asia has US\$8 trillion funding gap in infrastructure development. Another report maintains that the region is in dire need of US\$1.4 trillion investment in infrastructure per annum, between 2017 and 2030, in order to maintain its growth momentum. China, in such critical time, decided to use its

signature economic success and infrastructure construction, not only to help other Asian countries but to deal excess capacity problems and to speed up development in its western provinces also.

**“The factors which impeded the progress of SSC can be broadly classified into two categories, the one which stemmed from the lack of interest of and shortcomings of the South, and the other which resulted from not serving the rich countries of the North”**

The factors which impeded the progress of SSC can be broadly classified into two categories, the one which stemmed from the lack of interest of and shortcomings of the South, and the other which resulted from not serving the rich countries of the North. Although these two factors are intertwined, it is generally believed that if the South works for addressing its own shortcomings and challenges, a great deal of progress can be achieved towards advancing SSC. On the part of the South, the lack of effective actions which could yield to tangible outcomes has been a major stumbling block.

Being an investment-grant-loan model, BRI promises economic equality, suitability to each country's investment needs and economic environment, inclusive applicability and, above all, the consensus of all the stakeholders. Indeed, it is opening new vistas of cooperation among developing countries. Assistant Director of the United Nations Office of SSC, Adam Roger, acknowledging China's efforts in advancing cooperation among the developing countries of the world stated that 'China had been an important partner of South for many years and its BRI initiative was very well received at the headquarters in New York. China provided support to SSC and the initiative of BRI is but one example'.

Four broad measures need to be taken to make substantive advances in BRI i.e. establishment of a conceptual model; cooperation of participating countries; commitment to the progress of developing countries and institutional cooperation and ample financing

and institutional support at multiple, regional and sub-regional level.

As a policy initiative, BRI has the potential to rekindle national commitments of developing countries and spark increased economic integration. Although the cooperation among developing countries has been a recurring theme in the global discourse but it neither resulted in self-reliance of the South nor it could yield the political and economic liberation of the South. The major obstacles in its way have been the North's overarching control over the international system and the South's incapacities to address its own shortcomings. The renewed economic cooperation among developing countries seems to be undoing the strictures imposed on them before, be it by default or by design. In this milieu, China's ascendancy as an economic power to and its massive investment in Asia and Africa has set the stage to analyze Beijing's policies and projects inculcating SSC.

**“Four broad measures need to be taken to make substantive advances in BRI i.e. establishment of a conceptual model; cooperation of participating countries; commitment to the progress of developing countries and institutional cooperation and ample financing and institutional support at multiple, regional and sub-regional level”**

In the implementation of CPEC, Beijing adhered to the five principles of peace and shunned the traditional intrusiveness of the North. It generated hope and avenues for altering the economic landscape in Pakistan and brightened the prospects of BRI to a great extent. If the spirit of “win-win cooperation” thrives, BRI would continue to brighten the prospects of SSC ■



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# Chinese Dumplings

By Arhama Siddiqa

Dumplings are among some of the tastiest and heartiest of foods. From Italian *ravioli*, to Polish *piroshki*, to the Sub-continental *parathas*, the humble dumpling too is loved by eaters around the world. Truly a universal food, one would be hard pressed to find a cultural cuisine that does not include dumplings in some form, be it stuffed or boiled. In Russia they are called *Pelmeni* and in Turkey they are known as *Manti*. Meanwhile the Italians boast of a sweet version known as *Canederli*.

Dumplings have a history of more than 1,800 years. Originally, they were used for cure by Zhang Zhongjing, one of the most famous practitioners of traditional medicine in Ancient China.

Initially, dumplings were only a local snack food in north China. But gradually, they spread not only in the rest of

China but also to the rest of the world. They have also adopted a celebratory significance in contemporary Chinese society. These dumplings are a New Year's tradition and it is believed that you cannot welcome the new year without this traditional item.

Ideally they are shaped like half moons, but can be made in any shape. The small, precise shape of Chinese dumpling is intended to imitate the look of gold or silver ingots (good-luck coins). These pouches often contain meat, seafood, and veggies, but again there is no one-way to make these dumplings. They can be both sweet and savory in nature.

Sometimes it is said that the fillings signify what a person hopes to gain from eating them, such as: Beef/ chicken dumplings are thought to encourage economic growth and fish dumplings could mean a surplus of wealth for the diner. The recipe below uses chicken as a filling. They can easily be made at home and are an ideal appetizer for any occasion be it a simple family get together or a grandiose celebration such as Eid.



## Recipe:

### Ingredients:

Dough Wrappers\*: 2 cup flour, 1/4tsp salt, 1/2 cup oil  
Knead with water as required. Cut into either round circles or squares.

Filling: 500 gm Chicken, Salt (as needed), 1 TSP Black Pepper Powder, 2 TBSP Soy Sauce, 1 Green Chili, 50 gm Green Onions, 50 gm Green Coriander, Olive Oil (as needed)

### Method:

First of all, take a bowl, add boiled chicken, salt, black pepper powder, Soy Sauce, BBQ Sauce, Green Chili, Green Onion, Green Coriander & mix them well.

Take a dough wrapper, add a teaspoon of filling and pinch it shut in any shape you prefer. Brush the sides of the dough wrapper with egg beforehand.

In a deep frying pan, add a dash of oil and place the dumplings, after 10 minutes (be careful that the bottom of the dumplings don't burn) add in a bit of water in the pan and place the lid. Keep checking occasionally until the dumplings are fully steamed.

\*Wonton wrappers are also available in Asian stores but dough at home can easily be made as well ■



The writer tweets @arhama\_siddiqa and maintains a food website www.chakhoos.com



# Evolving Pakistan China Relationship: An Assessment

By Dr. Muhammad Khan

Pakistan was the first Islamic country, the second Commonwealth and the third non-communist country that recognized the newly established People's Republic of China on January 4, 1950. Diplomatic relations were established in 1951, with the first Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan arriving in September, and Pakistan's first Ambassador to China reaching Peking in November of the same year. Pakistan's firm support for the restoration of China's seat in the UNSC as a permanent member in 1961, the signing of the Boundary Agreement in 1963, and Pakistan's role as facilitator in bringing about a rapprochement between China and the U.S. in the early 1970s, is milestone that marked the history of bilateral ties. Cooperation between the two countries became multi-faceted, involving the political, economic, defense arenas. China Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC) has further cemented the bilateral relationship between both the countries.

By virtue of its geographical location, Pakistan is considered as the pivot of history. Traditionally this piece of land has been used as a linkage between Central, West, South, and East Asia and ties the surrounding regions into a web while acting as the hub. It provides a natural link between the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) states to connect the Eurasian heartland with the Arabian Sea and South Asia and offers the shortest overland route to facilitate intra- and inter-regional trade and energy exchanges. With the increase in means of communication and diversification of transportation routes, it is impossible for the surrounding countries and interested actors to ignore Pakistan. Gwadar and CPEC have further boosted the geopolitical

significance of Pakistan for all regional countries.

Pakistan is ideally suited to cater for the energy needs of the surrounding states, particularly the emerging economic giants, China and India. It lies in close proximity to the hydrocarbon rich Central Asian Republics (CARs) and the oil rich Middle Eastern countries. The CARs possess over 403.9 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves. The Middle East region (excluding North African countries) is home to 101.3 thousand million tons of proven oil reserves. Not only does it act as the quickest overland route for the transfer of hydrocarbon resources to China's Xinjiang province, but also provides China the shortest natural pathway to the warm waters of the Arabian Sea and to the strategic shipping lanes, through which Gulf oil is shipped all over the world.

Compared to the Pakistan-China relationship, the Pakistan-U.S

relations may be defined either by periods of mutual benefit, or stretches of cold cooperation marked by tension. Particularly in recent years, the indifference of the relationship has only served to push Pakistan closer to China and further away from the U.S. due to growing Pakistani disillusionment with the latter. The Pakistani public sentiment is a prime example of changing tides: while American presence on Pakistani soil is seen as an intrusive, the Chinese presence is largely welcomed and seen as constructive and beneficial for Pakistan.

**“ The strategic nature of Pakistan-China relationship, which essentially emanates from the national interests of both countries are generally attributed as, ‘community of common destiny’. This is not merely a symbolic phrase, but, truly unites the destinies of both nations in terms of strategic orientation, political positioning and economic ambitions ”**

Islamabad and Beijing have traditionally been in close cooperation in the fields of defense and defense production. The spectrum of defense cooperation covers supply of conventional military arms and equipment, the establishment of defense factories, joint manufacturing of fighter aircraft, joint exercises of armed forces, training of personnel, defense and security talks, and counter-terrorism operations. India absorbs this cooperation with a measure of apprehension. A

widespread belief in India holds that Pakistan-China defence cooperation is deliberately aimed at preventing India from asserting itself regionally and from competing with China at the international level by keeping it mired in concerns along its western border. Some Indian analysts hold that China's increasing naval presence in the Indian Ocean will put at risk the geographic advantages India has traditionally held in region.

Development and operationalization of Gwadar Port has long been viewed as a key location with tremendous potential to become a major regional commercial and transshipment hub. The current trade route for Chinese exports is from Shanghai to Dubai, via the Indian Ocean. If this trade can be re-routed to travel from Urumqi to Gwadar via Khunjerab, it would reduce 5000 miles in distance and several days in transit time for Chinese consumer goods being exported to the world market.

Pakistan's geographical location makes it well fitted to serve as an energy passageway to transport oil and gas from the energy rich states in Central Asia and the Middle East to the fast-developing economies of Asia. Of most direct and pressing relevance to China is the route via Gwadar. Gwadar's geographical location is of significant military, economic, as well as strategic value. It is 72 km away from Iran, and lies at about 400 km from the Strait of Hormuz, the crucial chokepoint point through which the countries of the Gulf region transport 17 million barrels of crude oil to the world every day.

Gwadar also facilitates China in diversifying the existing routes of oil imports and is part of the steps it is undertaking to protect existing and newly emerging energy routes. Most of its crucial oil imports that fuel its burgeoning economy travel from the Middle East, Sudan and Angola, and across the Indian Ocean. Crude oil

can be shipped over land to Gwadar from the Gulf and beyond directly to Xinjiang through CPEC. This would not only reduce freight costs but would also significantly lessen supply time.

The enduring strength of relations between Pakistan and China has had the effect of creating an entirely new paradigm according to which concerned states must now calibrate their perceptions, responses and policy decisions. Previously held assumptions about the region and the dynamics that defined it have undergone a change and now incorporate Pakistan-China ties into the regional calculus. Indeed, over the years, the traditional friendship of China and Pakistan has reached to new heights and the friendship gets deeper and stronger.

**“ The enduring strength of relations between Pakistan and China has had the effect of creating an entirely new paradigm according to which concerned states must now calibrate their perceptions, responses and policy decision ”**

The strategic nature of Pakistan-China relationship, which essentially emanates from the national interests of both countries are generally attributed as, ‘community of common destiny’. This is not merely a symbolic phrase, but, truly unites the destinies of both nations in terms of strategic orientation, political positioning and economic ambitions ■



The writer is professor of politics and international relations at Islamic International University, Islamabad

## Pakistan-China Optical Fibre Cable Project

# Opportunities and Challenges

By Dr. Abdul Rauf



**W**e are living in an age where Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has become an integral part of our lives. People constantly stay connected and can access information instantly. It has a deep impact on our societies and has single-handedly transformed this world into a real global village where international boundaries have become almost non-existent. Communication nowadays is not only much more efficient but also much cheaper. Technology is constantly as well as rapidly evolving and if we are unable to move simultaneously, we will be left far behind. ICT has

become a necessity in every field, including our social and private lives. ICT is based on connectivity and connectivity needs some medium to transfer information. Although a large number of communication channels or media like coaxial cables, satellite links, microwave transmission, wireless are available, when economy, capacity (bandwidth), low latency and reliability are considered, there is no match for Optical Fibre Cable (OFC). Moreover, OFC offers certain other technological advantages so it is mainly used for global connectivity like voice telephony, Internet and TV broadcast.

Realising the importance of improved connectivity for ICT

services, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Pakistan and China in April 2007 for the laying of an OFC link between Pakistan and China. The project work was inaugurated by then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on 19 May 2016. 820 km long OFC between Rawalpindi and Khunjerab Pass, on Pakistan-China border, was completed in the record time of two years and was inaugurated on 13 July 2018. The total cost of the project was US \$44 million out of which 85% was provided as a loan at an interest rate of 2% per annum by Exim Bank of China.

The OFC was completed by Special Communication Organisation (SCO) and Huawei. There are twenty six microwave transmission nodes to

provide backup communication support in case of OFC failure. On the Pakistani side, the cable will be connected from Rawalpindi to major national and international destinations through PTCL network. Whereas on the Chinese side, the cable will be connected to the Chinese OFC network from the city Tashkurgan Tajik, which is at a distance of 135 km from Pakistan-China border.

Although Pakistan is currently connected to the rest of the world through six submarine cables, these cables are connected to Pakistan through spurs and from just one landing site, Karachi. Consequently, any fault on this site can completely disrupt international connectivity to Pakistan. A single landing site also raises security concerns.

The existing international connectivity for Pakistan through submarine cables has been developed by a consortium that has Indian companies either as partners or shareholders, thus becoming a threat for possible surveillance of communication. This threat poses a security risk for Pakistan as some incoming and outbound traffic lands in India before being routed to its destinations.

Pakistan-China OFC provides alternative international connectivity to Pakistan. The

extension of this OFC from Rawalpindi to Gwadar and establishment of a new submarine cable landing station at Gwadar will enhance security of Pakistan's international connectivity.

An alternate route for international connectivity through China will bring resilience and reliability to Pakistan's international connectivity as we have seen serious disruptions in the past due to faults in the submarine cables. The OFC will improve overall communication infrastructure, Internet penetration and speed, especially in the far-flung areas of Gilgit-Baltistan and Balochistan where the current communication infrastructure is not in good shape. As the OFC will be laid all along the CPEC route, this will be in-loop with our existing OFC connectivity. The cost of communication services including Internet will also decrease. As the CPEC projects progress, there will be an increase in the voice and data traffic between the two countries as economic activities rely on effective and reliable communication. This increased demand can be addressed by this OFC link. This link has another advantage for the two countries in terms of security as this link will allow direct routing of traffic without involving the US, Europe or India. Security of CPEC route demands surveillance of the route, fleet management system and

other associated services. All this needs high capacity and reliable communication link along the CPEC route, which will be provided by this fibre. Thus Pakistan-China OFC will play a pivotal role in the security of CPEC route, development of ICT infrastructure as well as safety of other CPEC projects along the route.

**The extension of this OFC from Rawalpindi to Gwadar and establishment of a new submarine cable landing station at Gwadar will enhance security of Pakistan's international connectivity**

The fibre link will also connect Pakistan with central Asian states enhancing our commercial, business and trade linkages in the process due to availability of cheap, reliable and efficient communication linkage. Additionally, the OFC link will encourage tourism in the region and the enhanced bandwidth available through OFC will allow terrestrial broadcast of digital HD television - Digital Television Terrestrial Multimedia Broadcasting.

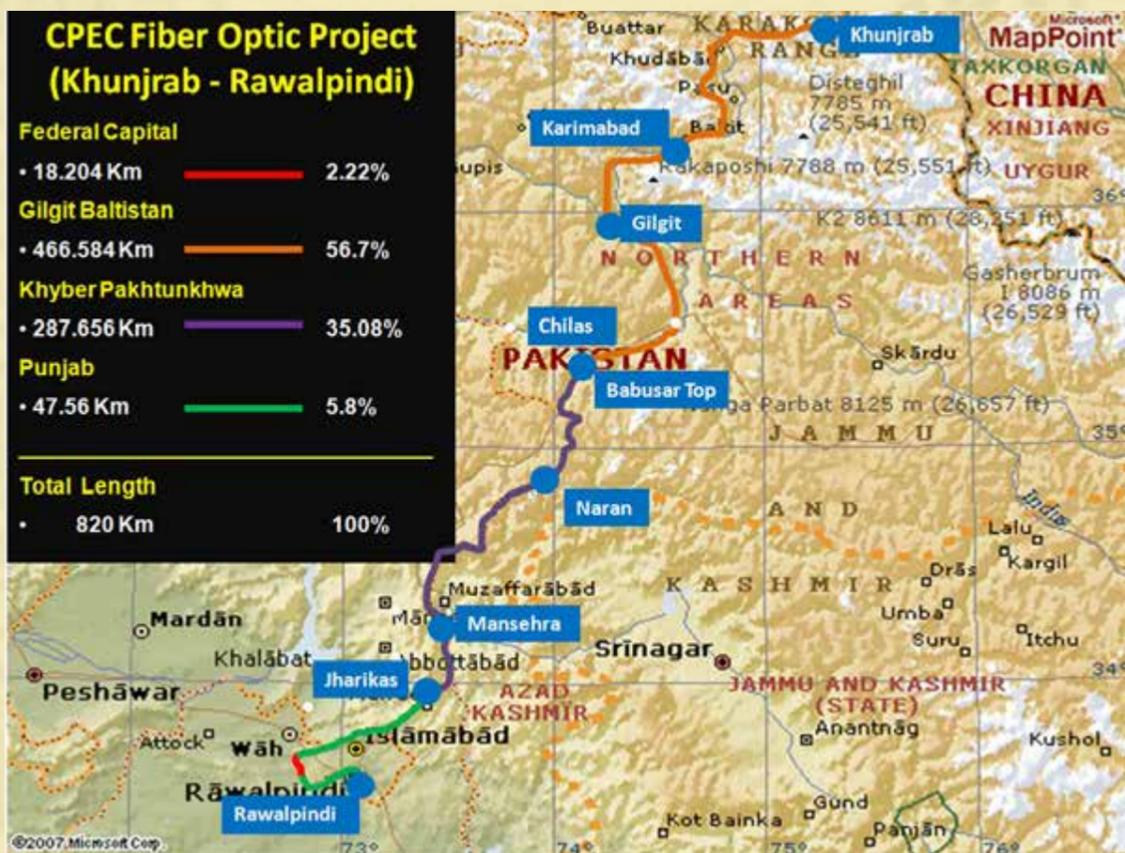
Both Pakistan and China will equally benefit from this link. China has a limited number of submarine landing stations and international gateway exchanges, which may result in huge gap for the future growth of internet traffic.

The capacity issue is going to be more problematic for the western provinces. Concurrently, there are serious security concerns as China's telecom services to Africa

Table showing Pakistan's existing international connectivity through submarine cables

Submarine Cable	Design Capacity
TWA1 (Transworld Associates 1)	1.28 Tbps
SEA-ME-WE-3 (South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 3)	480 Gbps with two fibre pairs
SEA-ME-WE-4 (South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 4)	1.28 Tbps
SEA-ME-WE-5 (South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 5)	24 Tbps
I-ME-WE (India-Middle East-Western Europe)	3.86 Tbps
AAE-1 (Asia-Africa-Europe 1)	40 Tbps

Pakistan-China OFC (Phase-I) Rawalpindi – Khunjerab Alignment



are routed through Europe. This OFC link will allow Chinese telecom carriers to provide fast, reliable and direct terrestrial access to Pakistan's neighbours Iran and Afghanistan. Alternate access to Africa, Europe and rest of the world will also be available through Pakistan's submarine cables. This OFC will establish a link between Pakistan and Trans-Asia Europe cable in China, which will provide alternative routes for international connectivity to both Pakistan and China. Moreover, this cable can also provide shorter and cost-effective connectivity to landlocked central Asian states. The installation of 820 km long OFC from Rawalpindi to Pakistan-China border, through one of the most difficult terrains in the world, at an altitude of 4,880 m in two years (May 2016 - July 2018) shows the commitment of SCO and Pakistan.

**The real benefits will be achieved if Pakistan-China OFC link brings down the tariff, for Pakistan-China voice and data services in particular, and for ICT services in the region in general**

Maintenance of the fibre year-round through the difficult terrain of Gilgit-Baltistan and through the harsh winter will be challenging. The real success of the project

will depend on phase-II, which will be extension of this fibre from Rawalpindi to Gwadar and its linkage with submarine cables through a new submarine cable landing site at Gwadar. Phase II of the project shall be completed as soon as possible but is currently halted due to some regulation-related issues. From a user perspective, the real benefits will be achieved if Pakistan-China OFC link brings down the tariff, for Pakistan-China voice and data services in particular, and for ICT services in the region in general. And the next challenge is to place an effective business model to utilise the fibre to its full capacity and earn revenue with minimum rates ■



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# China's Economy: What Everyone Needs to Know

By Ali Haider Saleem



Authors: Arthur R. Kroeber  
 Publisher: Oxford University Press 2016  
 Pages: 337

China's economic growth in the recent decades has been exceptional. Since 1979, millions of Chinese have been lifted out from poverty. The economic planning and reforms undertaken by the government has not only improved the economic wellbeing of Chinese citizens but it has gradually turned it into an economic superpower. China is well on course to become world's largest economy in the next few years. It is already the leading global trading nation and with the progression of Belt and Road Initiative, it is further advancing its global expansion. This comprehensive study covers China's economic progress and impact on world's economy.

The book covers various aspects of the Chinese economy, including agriculture, urbanisation, demographics, labour, energy, environment, industry, financial system, government's role and future challenges. In the author's own words, this book is an 'effort to explain how China's economy got to where it is today, where it might be headed in the coming years, and what China's rise means for the rest of the world'. In the opening chapter, the author discusses that how, despite being a centralized state formally, it is very much decentralized in practice. He points towards the high level of discretion and autonomy enjoyed by the local governments.

'When you multiply any problem by China's population, it is a very big problem. But when you divide it by China's population, it becomes very small'. This quote is attributed to Premier Wen Jiabao and the author explains that this quote illuminates the main goal of Chinese economy which is mobilization of resources. Each year between, 2000-2010, China had to create over 20 million new jobs and build 8

million new urban housing units just to meet the basic employment and shelter needs of its population.

State-led industrial development and gradual transformation of the centrally planned economy into a more market-oriented one form the basis of Chinese economic strategy since Deng Xiaoping's era. At the time China embarked on its transformation plan, agriculture was the highest contributing sector of the economy and reforms began with privatization of farming in the late 70s. The author observes that agricultural reforms had far reaching benefits. Higher incomes provided greater opportunities for investment and demand for industrial sector's equipment increased. Moreover, greater savings capacity of farmers boosted the availability of funds for lending to nascent manufacturers.

Later on, it was the rapid expansion and growth in the manufacturing sector which triggered China's economic rise. In 2014, China became the leading manufacturing nation in the world. The author suggests that China has probably returned to the position it enjoyed prior to the industrial revolution in Europe.

As China's engagement with the rest of the world continues to grow, it is imperative for countries who are seeking to benefit from their relationship with China to enhance their understanding of China. This book offers lessons in history, economics and diplomacy that could be worthwhile to replicate ■

The writer is Research Associate at the China-Pakistan Study Centre, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad



# Long Term Effects of CPEC

## Nazish weds Zakir

On a lighter note

Interview By Sam Dada



I met a young couple a few days back, full of life and confident but at the same time very mature. The guy was Chinese and the beautiful girl was our very own Pakistani. The couple tied the knot and are now living happily with their baby Zayan.

I got a chance to ask some questions about this transactional change in their lives and here is the summary of this beautiful couple's interview.

**Sam Dada:** Tell us how it happened and most importantly how did your parents, your family react?

**Nazish:** Zakir and I knew each other from school and our families were acquainted with one another. When people meet me and Zakir for the first time, they assume that he is new to Pakistan from mainland China but as soon as they hear him speak in Urdu, one can see the look of both shock and delight on their faces. His family came from China around 32 years ago for business and settled

right in the heart of Pakistan i.e. Lahore. Their family is one of the very first few families that started settling in different parts of Pakistan. And in recent times, thanks to CPEC, there has been a greater outpour of Chinese people in the country and thus, a lot of cultural exchange. What's funny is that when Zakir and I got married and our wedding photographer uploaded a picture of us on their Facebook page, we became a viral overnight with the caption 'Long term effects of CPEC'. Our families had quite a laugh about it. When people look at us, I believe that they must have many questions and must be assuming a lot of things about our lives. This is because sometimes we get to hear very strange theories



about how we got into marriage. Once, a person met us on a plane told us when he saw our wedding pictures on Facebook, he thought that I must have been in a Medical school in China and that is how my husband and I must have met. It could make for an interesting story, but that was not the case. Most of all, what people wonder is how our families reacted and agreed to our match in the first place. My parents have raised us, their three daughters, to be strong and independent women and therefore, have always valued our choices and opinions. That does not mean that they were very easy going. No. They were strict when needed but also warm and understanding towards us. So when I told them about Zakir and his family and background, naturally my parents were quite concerned and nervous as they wondered whether I would be able to settle in to a whole new culture and whether both families would get along. Same was the case on Zakir's side as his family was also anxious at the idea of a Pakistani girl becoming a part of their family because although they had been living in Pakistan all this time, the idea of a foreigner becoming a part of the family can be a quite daunting one. However, once a meeting was set and our families met and then all the

anxieties on both sides faded and the rest is history.

**Sam Dada:** Tell us about your wedding preparations and how did you blend in the theme of Chinese with Pakistani culture? How did you manage it?

**Nazish:** The wedding preparations began and just six months later, Zakir and I tied the knot at Badshahi Masjid with the blessings of Allah, our family and friends. We also had other functions such as the Mehndi, Barat and Walima.



My mother in law was super excited for the Mehndi as she loves watching Mehndi dances and on her son's Mehndi, she did not only enjoy watching but danced along with everyone as well. It was a super festive night. Then came the Barat where everyone, from family to guests, seemed a lot more relaxed compared to the stress and all the hype of the other night and looked forward to the special wedding rituals with the bride and groom. My sisters and friends made sure that they did everything from *Doodh Pilai* to *Joota Chupai* which were the highlights of the evening. And as the night came to a close, we all shared our laughter and tears of happiness. And then finally came the Walima. That day will always have a special place in my heart. Because this was not just a regular Walima function. My in laws had special wishes to celebrate our

Walima in a traditional Chinese fashion. So, from the décor, to the wedding outfits and jewelry, they made sure that everything would be traditional. My mother in law specially went to China to get my wedding outfit, jewelry and accessories for the event. My parents and family were more than excited for the event as they did not know what to expect only to be extremely delighted at how everything turned out. I still remember, after hair and makeup, I felt completely like a Chinese bride and loved how the whole look was put together. Our Walima was a more intimate event where all our family and friends were there to celebrate with us. We had our cake cutting ceremony as well as the Tea ceremony which is a very special ritual that signifies showing respect to one's elders. In a wedding, such an act is to show respect and gratitude to parents for all the years of love and care.

**Sam Dada:** Tell us about your parents and your relationship with in-laws, are they open enough to discuss everything about their culture or they are still hesitant?

**Nazish:** Both the families including my husband's parents, my parent's family members, friends and everyone enjoyed a lot. Both the families have a strong bond and great

understanding to share joy and diversity in culture. I cherish this different yet beautiful and enchanting fairy-tale of my life.

**Sam Dada:** With the new addition of your beautiful baby there must be a lot of pressure on you, how do you plan to raise him? Also, do you think you have any cultural barriers to raise the child?



**Nazish:** Fast forwarding my life to the present, my husband and I along with our little baby boy, Zayan, reside with my in laws. Some might wonder how hard it must be to settle in to a new culture, I say, that marriage brings with itself its own set of challenges no matter what the cultural backgrounds of two people might be. And like many women, I was also nervous to become part of a new family. But, fortunately, my husband and in laws made this transition a very happy and smooth one for me and I could not be more thankful for becoming a part of such a caring and understanding household ■



Sam dada is a fashion brand coordinator and is a well reputed fashion designer who has showcased across Asia, Europe and USA

# CPEC

## A Dream Come True

By Najam Rafique



**A**s a young man in my teens, I had always planned to ride the train from Quetta in Pakistan's Balochistan province to Zahedan in Iran, and onwards to Istanbul, Turkey, experiencing on the way the lure and romance that surrounds the rich historical and cultural legacies of the regions from the Indus to the Bosphorus. The plan of an overland adventure never materialized, partly because of the question of my education, and partly because the train service became annoyingly irregular. My hopes dashed of fraternizing and bonding with the people with whom I share so much ranging from history to faith, to language, to art, dress and cuisine. My hopes went up again when Pakistan and Turkey began container operations in a tripartite agreement with Iran in 2009 under the auspices of Economic Cooperation Organization. But that too remained a dream.

Today, in 2018, I am obsessed by yet another dream that is unfolding into a reality right before my eyes. Yes, that's right; I am talking about the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, also known by its acronym CPEC. As part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), CPEC is one of the six corridors envisaged by the Chinese under President Xi Jinping for the regional connectivity that aspires to bring together three billion people across the continents of Asia, Africa and Europe through a network of roads, railways and pipelines. The BRI is a new version of the old Silk Road, but on an industrial scale, that would provide connectivity between the regions that could possibly serve as an integrating platform to transform lives and living standards through increased trade, investments and financial flows. On a more optimistic note, it might also serve as a catalyst for the conflicts that infest these regions.

In what can be a game changer for Pakistan, CPEC is cited as a flagship project of BRI and a success story out of all the six corridors by the Chinese themselves. The confidence is not groundless. Of the 39 'early harvest' projects envisaged under the first phase of CPEC, many projects have been completed or are near completion.

**“The BRI is a new version of the old Silk Road, but on an industrial scale, that would provide connectivity between the regions that could possibly serve as an integrating platform to transform lives and living standards through increased trade, investments and financial flows”**

Having had the taste of the 'low hanging fruit', both Pakistan and China are now looking to move into the second phase of the CPEC project including construction of Special Economic Zones and transfer of technology. During the recent visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan to Beijing, both countries have now agreed to enhance their cooperation in a wide range of areas encompassing trade and economy, science and technology, agriculture, poverty alleviation, innovation, drug trafficking and establishment of joint research center on earth sciences. The long-term plan for CPEC has also been released and is now a public document.

While the contract for CPEC was signed in February 2013 by former president Asif Zardari, the project was formally launched in April 2015 by the PML (N) government of Nawaz Sharif. The project aims at construction of a network of roads, rail and pipelines in Pakistan that would reduce the distance from Shanghai to China's western regions of Xinjiang from 4500 km to just 2,800 km from Gwadar Port at the mouth of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, to Kashgar.

Based entirely on investments, loans and grants by the Chinese government, the initial portfolio of CPEC projects was \$47.96 billion, spread out between energy and infrastructure projects: \$34.18 billion for energy projects (IPP financing mode), \$4.18 billion concessional loan for transport and infrastructure projects, \$8.21 billion loan for rail network, and \$48 million grant for other projects, including Gwadar City Master Plan. As of 2018, the total cost for CPEC projects has gone up to between \$62 billion, and it is expected that the total Chinese contributions and investment could go up to \$100 billion by 2030.

The CPEC project is based on a four-pronged approach: Construction of infrastructure and special economic zones (SEZs); setting up energy projects; development of Gwadar Port; and setting up of fibre optics connection across the Karakoram between Pakistan and China's western regions. Despite all the controversies surrounding the project in the media, Pakistan and China have successfully completed phase one of the CPEC project.

**“The CPEC project is based on a four-pronged approach: Construction of infrastructure and special economic zones (SEZs); setting up energy projects; development of Gwadar Port; and setting up of fibre optics connection across the Karakoram between Pakistan and China's western regions”**

Of the three planned road alignments between Gwadar and Kashgar: eastern, central and western, the most critically important and difficult task of the construction of several sections along the western route through the underdeveloped provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan have been completed and opened to public.

17 priority energy projects which have begun operation include several power plants which have helped to relieve electricity shortages in major industrial cities. Port Qasim, the Neelum-Jhelum Hydropower Plant and the Sahiwal Coal Power Project are examples of intensive construction and completion.

Gwadar Master City Plan is in full swing and construction of 4 berths at the Gwadar Port has been completed, and China has already started shipping through Gwadar. China's state-owned shipping and logistics services supplier company dispatched its first ever commercial shipment to UAE in March 2018. While there are plans to construct 9 more berths and increase the depth of the port, the long term CPEC plan calls for a total of 100 berths to be built by 2045.

**In a world that is rapidly being transformed by visions of geo-economic inter-dependence, regional and cross continental connectivity, CPEC is swiftly emerging as a pivot that can help shrink distances and transform economic connectivity and regional cooperation**

CPEC alone will not be the solution to all of Pakistan's problems, or for that matter those in other immediate regions. The vision of CPEC not only points to a transformed future for Pakistan, but a vehicle that can be used to help move towards a much sought peace and prosperity at home and in the surrounding and broader regions through a surge of trade, investments and financial flows, increased people to people contacts, enhanced competitiveness of the economies, better living standards and reduced regional disparities.

In a world that is rapidly being transformed by visions of geo-economic inter-dependence, regional and cross continental connectivity, CPEC is swiftly emerging as a pivot that can help shrink distances and transform economic connectivity and regional cooperation that can have far-reaching positive implications not only for Pakistan and China, but also for the regions of South, Central and West Asia and beyond.

Many of the CPEC projects are now open for third party investments, especially as Pakistan and China now move into the second phase of the project with the construction of nine industrial zones.

As a close ally to Pakistan, Turkey has also to benefit from CPEC considering the fact that Turkey is a founding member of the China-proposed Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Turkey itself has also expressed a desire to become a part of the CPEC project. With all the necessary ingredients already in place to plug into the CPEC infrastructure and other projects, Turkey and Iran, are already connected by a vital rail and road link that needs to be upgraded and revived. Most importantly, Turkey's location as a bridge between Asia and Europe would serve to strengthen the vision of CPEC for greater inter and intra-regional connectivity. A broader ECO collaboration on CPEC would perhaps be a perfect forum to revive this integration.

As I said, my dream of an overland journey to the shores of Anatolia has been revived by this project and its success. I know for sure that given a break from the insidious games of geopolitics, CPEC would provide me an opportunity I had missed as a young man. I now plan to take the train through the unfolding history to experience history and cultures that have been my legacy, on my retirement ■



The writer is Director Research at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad

# Significance of Reading Books

By Abid Hussain

Whenever you read a good book, somewhere in the world a door opens to allow in more light' says Vera Nazarian, the writer of fantasy and science fiction. Importance of reading in religion and in our society, is signified by the word 'Iqra' referred to in the Holy Quran. 'Iqra', that meant 'Read', was the first word revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). The Quran highly valued source of knowledge and the Holy Scripture guides mankind to seek knowledge far and wide. Reading is also a great source of research when we are seeking to have clarity to our preconceived ideas or worldview.



Fusselman quite rightly said that 'today a reader, tomorrow a leader' and history has demonstrated that great leaders have been once great readers. For instance, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Nelson Mandela were both passionate readers during their struggles. It is also worth mentioning that the great earners were also great learners. As Tremper said, 'if you read to learn, you're bound to earn'.

Without any doubt, books are best companions that stay with us throughout our lives, since the

ideas they impart leave lasting imprint on us. Only the well-read individual would be open to ideas and change. In fact, it is essential that we read books containing ideas that we differ with ours, and that is the way we would learn something different and innovative. Book reading teaches us to argue by understanding the opposite views.



Reading good books can bring numerous advantages. Reading books positively improves our opinions about other people and their preferences and worldview. Reading can also help us in introspection, empathy and comparative analysis as we look at our own self from an outsider's perspective. Secondly, reading often takes us into the worlds where we experience catharsis, so reading can be quite therapeutic. Most importantly, books enable us to express ourselves eloquently as we acquire the vocabulary that helps us communicate complex emotions and ideas by putting them into words.

Books can truly expand our capacity to absorb, understand and reflect. Joseph Brodsky, a person who valued reading and understood the importance of books in our lives says 'there are worse crimes than burning books, one of them is not reading them.' It is therefore imperative to realize the true value of reading good books, if we wish to transform our lives ■



The writer is Library Officer at Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad





# China and Global Order

By Tooba Khurshid Gardezi

**T**he world appears to make a transition from 'unipolar moment' of United States to a multipolar sphere.

This transition from Uni-polarity to Multi-polarity has also brought new and huge challenges to mankind. Today the world's big powers are looking for a new balance and new alignments and in this context, change in Sino-US relations today is also not a simple change in bilateral relations, but in essence, the changes reflect the modifications in the relationship between China and the modern international system. Therefore, one of the first questions is - how has the world order formed today? The international order that people called 'post-war order' was established by the West under the leadership of the United States. In terms of institutions, the international order is represented by a number of international organizations including the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Health Organization. Within these institutions, leadership positions have long been occupied or regulated by Western countries;

the agendas of these international organizations have also been generally conceived and decided by the West.

After forty years of reform and opening up by China, the relationship between China and the world has undergone tremendous changes. What drives the change is China's reforms and externalities, especially external openness. On opening up, China has gone through three stages: The first stage 'Economic Liberalization' started in 1978 when China's economic volume was negligible in the entire world economy and its GDP per capita was \$156. In order to progress, China took the initiative and opened to foreign investment, referred to as 'open door' policy. In its opening up policy China deliberately unbalanced its domestic growth and shifted the resources along the coasts. Interestingly, first to enter China was not Western capital, but overseas Chinese capital, including Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. Western capital only entered the Chinese market in the 1990s. It is noteworthy that at this stage, China actually pursued a 'unilateral openness' policy, regardless of whether other countries

are open to China or not, China opened its doors to these countries.

The second stage was 'integration', which occurred during the process of China's admission to the World Trade Organization, in the late 1990s. In order to join the World Trade Organization, China made great efforts to carry out large-scale reforms of various internal laws, systems and policies to comply with international norms.

The third stage was 'going out', which is a process since the beginning of this century. Joining the World Trade Organization can be said to be the starting point for China's massive 'going out' policy. This 'Going out' policy can be divided into two stages. The first is the 'going out' of 'Chinese manufactured goods'. After joining the World Trade Organization, China soon became a manufacturing factory in the world and the products made in China started coming to all corners of the world, essentially in the West. Second is the 'going out' of 'capital.' In just a few decades, China quickly turned from an economy with a high capital shortage to an economy with surplus capital.

'Going out' began to change the

nature of the relationship between China and the international community. When China 'went out', the geopolitics of the world was dominated by the West. Therefore, China had to move to areas where the interests of the West were weak but the risks were extremely high. In line with its open policy, the relationship between China and the international community, especially international organizations generally went through three stages.

During the first stage of 'joining' China chose to 'connect with the international community'. Under the guidance of this strategic choice, China actively participated in existing international organizations. Subsequently, the international system that we call the 'global village' became inseparable from China's choice.

The second stage is 'reform'. For developing countries like China, this international order has not been just and fair. The distribution of power within international organizations that embodied the international order was also unfair. Therefore, China has been calling for the democratization and fairness and justice of the international order. After joining these organizations, China has always been committed to carry out internal reforms. In the past 20 years, the emerging economies of developing countries have increasingly become important in the global economy, but this was not reflected in the distribution of power within international organizations. Thus, China's call for reform has also received support from developing countries. China's position in various international organizations has gradually increased. However, the rise in China's status also means an increase in its responsibilities. Today, China is taking on more and more responsibility in the international order.

The third stage is 'innovation supplement'. Innovation supplement

is a new trend in recent years. Maintaining and improving the current system is still not enough to cope with emerging challenges. For example, with globalization, countries around the world are not becoming fair, but the opposite. The income gap between developed and developing countries, rich and poor countries, the South and the North is growing, and the world is becoming unfair. As the world's second largest economy and the largest trading nation, China is also responsible for developing and improving the existing international system.

**China not only increased internal reform and opening up, but also took the banner of 'free trade' and led economic globalization when the West prevailed in trade protectionism and economic nationalism**

In recent years, China established organizations such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the BRICS Bank, and launched the Belt and Road economic initiative, which aim to promote regional and global economic development and lead a new wave of globalization. However, China has repeatedly stressed that China is not doing this to replace existing regional and international organizations, but as a supplement to make the new order stronger.

On this basis, China has further proposed the concept of building a 'community with shared future of mankind'. This is a natural result of the interaction between China and the international order. Had there been no integration between China and the world order, there would have been no such model. Under the guidance of this concept, China not only increased internal reform and opening up, but also took the banner of 'free trade' and led economic globalization when the West prevailed

in trade protectionism and economic nationalism.

In today's new geopolitical landscape, the United States mainly deals with China and Russia. President Donald Trump while setting out the National Security Strategy accepted that United States is 'engaged in a new era of competition with China and Russia'. Also, US National Security Strategy Report of 2017 listed China and Russia as "the greatest threats." Former Presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton regarded China as a strategic partner rather than a strategic competitor. For both China and the United States, it is dilemma to acknowledge losing or winning the competition specially the trade war.

China, with its staggering growth rate, innovation, social reforms and economic ambitions is now the world's second largest economy. Thus, the changes in Sino-US relations reflect the changes in the status of the two countries in the international system. The competition or conflict between China and the United States has international dimension and the future of Sino-US relations shall determine the future of the world system. It is imperative to understand that rise of China does not necessarily mean violent power struggle rather it is a world's re-orientation; it is not a hegemonic transition, it is different from the past power transitions. In the international political milieu, the countries should focus on how to strengthen cooperation in a multi-polar world, meet challenges, achieve freedom of trade and promote common prosperity. The conflagration between big powers will be counter-productive for the mankind. Competition and conflict will only give birth to crisis and inequalities whereas mankind deserve the better ■



The writer is doctoral candidate at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

# Sports and Culture in Pakistan-China Relations

By Hassam Ahmed Siddiqi

Cultural and sports ties play a significant role in strengthening the bilateral relations between any two states. While Pakistan and China have extended their cooperation in numerous areas, cultural exchanges and conducting of sports also hold importance towards people to people interaction between both the states. These exchanges may include cultural visits, film and drama festivals, joint ventures in different sports and equipping players of both the sides with the modern day training and coaching.

Pakistan and China both have reciprocated the cultural and sports initiatives, but Chinese influx in Pakistan becomes a main reason of a cultural merger within the Pakistani society. Two Chinese players were inducted in Peshawar Zalmi cricket team in 2017 Pakistan super league which was widely appreciated. Similarly, Managing Director of CPEC Culture Communication Center China, visited Pakistan in 2017 and held meeting with different governmental and developmental sector officials with an aim to promote the cultural and sports cooperation between the two states. Such an initiative at the Government level would prove to be valuable for the people of both the countries. Culture is a vital element of national ethos, providing the opportunity for the expression of the nation's political and historical diversity and development of national culture, values and identity is symbol of national character.

Though cultural cooperation domain has been expanded between Pakistan and China in last few years, but there is still a lot more to do in order to explore between the two nations. There is an immense potential of tourism in Pakistan. Northern areas of Pakistan are heaven for tourists and mountain lovers. Swat region of Pakistan holds immense beauty and is known as the Switzerland of

the East. Similarly, Islamabad ranks amongst one of the most beautiful capitals of the world. Lahore has its own historical and traditional value having enormous attraction for the tourists with Badshahi Mosque and Shahi Qilla and various other historical sites as attractions. Peshawar is famed for its hospitality and cuisine. Likewise, Karachi is known as city of lights and is a semblance of a modern city. In short, Pakistan has a rich culture and traditions that have potentials to fascinate the visiting tourists.

**Cultural Agreement for 2018-2022 was signed between Pakistan's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and China's Ministry of Culture and tourism which holds substantial potential for bridging language and cultural barriers between the masses of Pakistan and China**

Furthermore, media industry of Pakistan may also work in partnership with the Chinese media with focus on promoting art and culture, drama and films. An Urdu dubbed Chinese drama was put on-air by the state television of Pakistan and was a welcome development. Pakistan and China also announced to jointly produce a movie on eve of Silk Road International film festival. Chinese can also be provided time slots on the private radio channels as a large number of Chinese population has shifted to various cities of Pakistan.

First cultural agreement between Pakistan and China was signed in 1965. Most recently, another agreement has been signed to intensify the exchanges between the two countries. An executive program of the Cultural Agreement for 2018-2022 was signed between Pakistan's Ministry of Information and

Broadcasting and China's Ministry of Culture and tourism. This agreement holds substantial potential for bridging language and cultural barriers between the masses of Pakistan and China. It is now up to both the governments to implement and materialize projects of this agreement. It is also imperative to mobilize masses if we wish to boost the cultural cooperation between people of both the countries.

With regards to sports, many avenues could be explored by Pakistan and China. Pakistani coaches can train Chinese nationals in Cricket and Hockey and more Chinese players can be given the opportunity in the cricket league of Pakistan. International exposure to the local players of both the states along with certain benefits of modern day training and coaching will certainly help players to improve their sporting skills. An important component would be cooperation between both the states to motivate and promote woman in different sports. It has always been challenging for woman in Pakistan to pursue their career in sports due to cultural barriers. Women may be encouraged to come forward and prove their abilities in all formats of sports like all the other areas.

Sports and Culture are the most important component of Pakistan-China relations. Pakistan needs to promote its unique and distinctive cultural identity. There is need to find common grounds of cultural merger while keeping identities intact. Cooperation and partnership in the realm of culture will help masses of both the countries understand each other better. That could be undertaken by promoting films, dramas, and tourism potentials of Pakistan and China. Likewise, sports cooperation between the two countries should also be promoted to bring people closer. Sports can help advance the cause of people to people exchanges ■



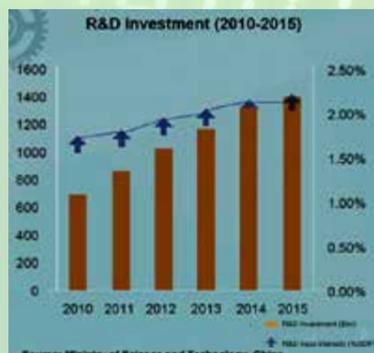
The writer is a PhD candidate of International Relations at National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad.

# China's PROGRESS in Technology: Opportunity for Collaboration

By Eeman Malik

With China's swift progress in development, there has naturally been a simultaneous stride in Science and Technology. This progress is far from being a by-product of the growth. Indeed, it is a conscious and concerted effort of Xi Jinping, who at a conference comprising personnel from the country's top think tanks, declared that 'the central government's commitment is aimed at making China a leading power in science and technology by the middle of the century'. As expected, the aforementioned commitment has led to many innovations and achievements and it would benefit

us a lot by understanding them and learning from them. In fact, China has already lent Pakistan a hand in technology advancement efforts as part of the CPEC deal, awareness of which will further help understand the collaboration between the two countries.



As far as China's scientific development is concerned, there has been a lot of recent activity. According to the 13th Five-Year Plan of the Republic, investment in research and development is expected to reach 2.5 percent of GDP by 2020, the spending becoming second after the US, and contribution of scientific and technological advances towards economic growth is around 60 percent. Moreover, China's Ministry of Science and Technology released a National Strategy of Innovation-Driven Development which outlined three-step goals: to develop China into an innovation-oriented country by 2020, to place

China among top innovation-oriented countries by 2030, and to turn China into a technological innovation powerhouse by 2025.

What are the recent innovations? To list a few, a laboratory in Shanghai succeeded in cloning macaque monkeys. The news made world headlines not just because of the impressive feat but because of the implications for humans. Furthermore, Researchers at Sun Yat-sen University announced the first use of high-precision gene-editing in a human embryo to examine the viability of the technique to edit a disease-causing gene variant. Additionally, in January, Chinese researchers announced that they had sent data securely encrypted using the rules of quantum mechanics via satellite. Most importantly, Chinese space agency plans to launch a lunar space mission to deliver a satellite that will guide a rocket in 2019 to the far side of the moon, bearing a robotic lander vehicle. The satellite link is essential for relaying data from the rover back to Earth. It is part of a campaign aimed at a manned moon mission in the 2030s.

The myth spread by western countries that China cannot create but can only imitate and that the progress is a result of stolen intellectual property and forced technological transfers has been proven false. The reality is that China has an innovative research environment in not only Beijing, Shanghai, Hefei, Shenzhen but many other cities that make up China's extensive research network. Presently, there are around 100 parks throughout the country, with thousands of technology enterprises. Additionally, the United States National Science Foundation reported that the number of scientific publications from China in 2016 outnumbered those from the US for the first time: 426,000 versus 409,000.

Talking of collaboration with Pakistan, there has been much hype, which has caused a lot of confusion in discerning fact from fiction. In reality, many projects have been proposed but not approved yet and therefore remain tentative. The Construction of Pakistan-China International Science, Technology, Commercial & Logistic Park of 10,000 kanals, that would involve Chinese companies collaborating with COMSATS, has been discussed. The two countries also pledged to establish the "China-Pakistan Joint Marine Research Center" and "China-Pakistan Joint Cotton Bio-Tech Laboratory".

**China's Ministry of Science and Technology released a National Strategy of Innovation-Driven Development which outlined three-step goals: to develop China into an innovation-oriented country by 2020, to place China among top innovation-oriented countries by 2030, and to turn China into a technological innovation powerhouse by 2025**

Furthermore, both countries agreed to promote the 2012-2020 Space Cooperation Outline between the China National Space Administration and the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO). With the launch of the Pakistan Remote Sensing Satellite this year, the two sides agreed to

strengthen bilateral cooperation in space technology applications. They agreed to cooperate in the field of manned space travel, and the China Manned Space Engineering Office and SUPARCO will sign a framework agreement on cooperation.

Pakistan and China have been engaged in Science and Technology cooperation since 1976, when the two nations signed an agreement on this sector. Dr. Li Jing Feng, from the Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences, has said that China asked its state-owned companies to invest in Pakistan and transfer technology to Pakistan under CPEC. To achieve that objective, China has been training Pakistani workers in cutting-edge technologies regularly and there are around 28,000 young Pakistanis in Chinese universities studying science and technology. There have also been talks of benefitting from China's ambitious China-South Asian Countries Science and Technology Partnership Programme in order to enhance our economic cooperation through technology transfer. Interestingly, many Pakistan-China software companies have been able to establish joint ventures of investment especially in renewable energy.

In a nutshell, it is clear that China is not merely building upon western innovations. Evidently, China is carving out a unique position on the global stage in terms of scientific advancement and wants to take Pakistan along. Admittedly, China still has a long way to go but will surely catch up rapidly as a result of the increasing rate of GDP spending on Science and Technology. Pakistan is certainly bound to benefit greatly if it keeps collaborating as much as possible, encouraging investment as well as student exchanges and promoting cooperation in the field of science and technology ■



The writer is Associate Editor of PIVOT at China-Pakistan Study Centre, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad

**In-house meeting with four-member Media Delegation from the UK** - October 19, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised an in-house meeting on October 19, 2018, with a four-member Media Delegation from the UK. The delegation included: Mr. Jonathan Steel, Foreign Correspondent, The Guardian; Mr. Peter Osborne, Chief Political Commentator, Daily Mail; Mr. Kim Sengupta, Defence and Security Correspondent, The Independent; and Ms. Amanda Coakley, freelance journalist.

**In-house meeting with 6-member Media Delegation from Turkey** - October 29, 2018

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised an in-house meeting on October 29, 2018, with a six-member Media Delegation from Turkey. The delegation included: Mr. Birol Tekince, Coordinator, Turkish Defense Review; Mr. Mustafa Kaya, MD, Ulusal Kanal; Ms. Nur Ozkan Erbay, Ankara Bureau Chief, Daily Sabah; Mr. Emre Kizilkaya, Managing Editor, Hurriyet Daily News; Mr. Aslan Balci, Member Management Board, Think Tank South Asia Strategic Research Center; and Mr. Mustafa Kinkcioglu, Politics Editor, Daily Sabah.



**Visit by 48th PN Staff Course** - November 8, 2018



A delegation of 48th Pakistan Navy Staff Course led by Rear Admiral Naveed Ahmed Rizvi visited the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General ISSI, briefed participants on evolving regional and global situation.

**In-house meeting with a 2-member media delegation from Egypt** - December 3, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised an in-house meeting on December 3, 2018, with a 2-member media delegation from Egypt. The delegation included Mr. El Sayed Hany, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Daily Al Gomhuria and Dr. Hanna Abdul Fattah, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Urdu, Al-Azhar University.

**In-house meeting with a 6-member Chinese delegation from the Councilor's Office of the State Council** - December 6, 2018

China-Pakistan Study Centre at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised an in-house meeting on December 6, 2018, with a 5-member Chinese delegation from the Councilor's Office of the State Council (COSC). The members of the delegation included: Mr. Zhang Yantong, Vice Chairman of the COSC; Mr. Zhang Ying, Chairman of the Counsellors' Office of Yunnan Province; Mr. Li Yang, Division Chief of Department of International Exchanges and Cooperation of the COSC; Mr. He Maochun and Mr. Xiabin.

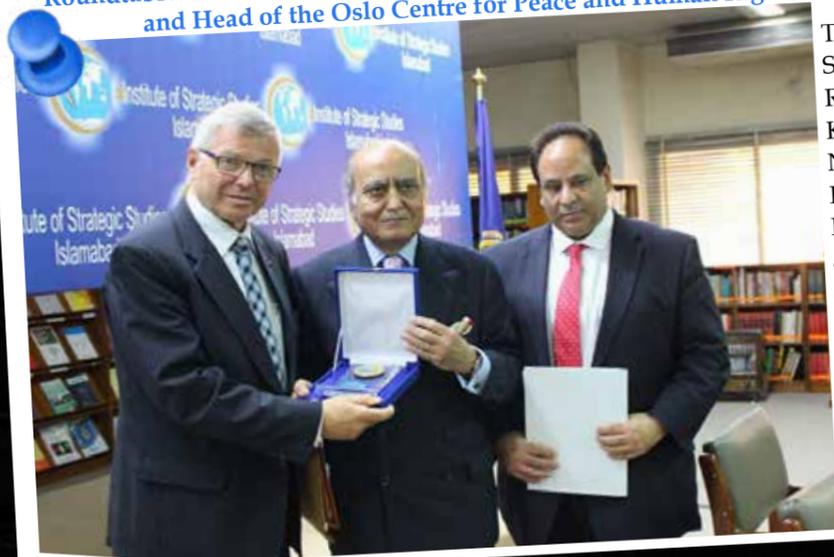


**Public Talk on Human Rights Violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir** - December 10, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised a Public Talk on "Human Rights Violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir", under its Distinguished Lecture Series. The event coincided with the celebrations marking International Human Rights Day which signifies the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the UN General Assembly in 1948. Event was graced by Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, Federal Minister for Human Rights as Chief Guest. Other speakers included; Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi, Convener All Parties Hurriyat Conference; Ms. Tahira Abdullah, Human Rights Activist and Sardar Amjad Yousaf Khan, Executive Director, Kashmir Institute of International Relations.

**Roundtable Discussion with Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik, former Norwegian Prime Minister and Head of the Oslo Centre for Peace and Human Rights** - November 26, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised a Roundtable Discussion with Mr. Kjell Magne Bondevik, former Norwegian Prime Minister and Head of the Oslo Centre for Peace and Human Rights. The agenda for the session was based on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and human rights violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir. Participants included ambassadors, journalists and policy makers.

**Kazakhstan-Pakistan Relations: Priorities of Kazakh Foreign Policy** - November 30, 2018

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised a Public Talk on "Kazakhstan-Pakistan Relations: Priorities of Kazakh Foreign Policy." The distinguished speaker on the occasion was H.E. Mr. Barlybay Sadykov, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The talk was held under the Ambassador's Platform Series forum.



**Pakistan, Central Asia and CPEC: A Vision for Improved Connectivity** - November 13, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad hosted a seminar titled "Pakistan, Central Asia and CPEC: A Vision for Improved Connectivity" on November 13, 2018. Foreign Secretary Ms. Tehmina Janjua was the Chief Guest at the occasion, while other keynote speakers included: H.E. Mr. Yao Jing, Ambassador of People's Republic of China, H.E. Mr. Barlybay Sadykov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Mr. Beishembiev, Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan, H.E. Mr. Sherali Jononov, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr. Atadjan Movlamov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Republic of Turkmenistan, and H.E. Mr. Furqat Sidiqov, Ambassador of Republic of Uzbekistan.

Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan, H.E. Mr. Sherali Jononov, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr. Atadjan Movlamov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Republic of Turkmenistan, and H.E. Mr. Furqat Sidiqov, Ambassador of Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Infrastructure Development of CPEC** - November 22, 2018



China-Pakistan Study Centre at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised a public talk on "Infrastructure Development of CPEC." The distinguished speaker on the occasion was Lt. Gen. Muhammad Afzal, Engineer-in-Chief, GHQ. The talk was held under the Distinguished Lecture Series forum.

**Implementation of TAPI Pipeline** - December 06, 2018

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised a Public Talk on "Implementation of The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India Pipeline." The distinguished speaker on the occasion was Mr. Muhammetmyrat Amanov, CEO and Chairman, Board of TAPI Pipeline company Ltd. The talk was held under the Distinguished Lecture Series forum.



**In-house meeting with 10-member Media Delegation from Nepal** - November 26, 2018



The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad organised an in-house meeting on November 26, 2018 with a ten-member media delegation from Nepal. The members of the delegation included: Dr. Buddhi Narayan Shrestha, Ex-DG Survey, Border Expert; Mr. Laxman Humagain, GM Janta TV; Mr. Sharach Chandra Bandhari, RSS Foreign Correspondent; Mr. Jhapindra Raj Bista, Chief Editor, National Mirror; Mr. Tapta Bahadur Malla, Chief Editor Kuesnews.com; Mr. Rajan Karki, Chief Editor, Gorkha Express; Mr. Teknath Neupane, Chairperson/Editor-in-Chief, Mediamissionsnews.com; Mr. Sushil Babu Aryal, News Chief, News 24; Mr. Nanda Lal Tiwari, correspondent Rising Nepal and Mr. Nimkant Panday, Editor-in-Chief Swaviman Nepal Magazine Janadharana National Weekly.

Chairperson/Editor-in-Chief, Mediamissionsnews.com; Mr. Sushil Babu Aryal, News Chief, News 24; Mr. Nanda Lal Tiwari, correspondent Rising Nepal and Mr. Nimkant Panday, Editor-in-Chief Swaviman Nepal Magazine Janadharana National Weekly.



# Shahi Tukray

By Arhama Siddiqa

Another universal dish with counterparts all over the world. Shahi Tukda is a dessert that pre-dates the Mughal era. In essence, it is the subcontinent counterpart of the English bread pudding and is as popular today in Pakistan and India as it was then.

Interestingly, in the 13th century England, bread pudding was known as "poor man's pudding," as it was a popular dish with the lower classes. Contrary to this, in Mughal time, instead of throwing away leftover bread, the Mughal 'Khansamas' came up with an ingenious idea of using it by cooking the loaf in ghee and top it with a creamy and delicious delight of condensed milk and fragrant flavours of saffron and cardamom. Decorated with a chunk of nuts like almonds pistachios, cashews and decorated with silver or gold varq, the dessert was said to be one of the favourites of the royal family. Its name translates to 'a slice of kingliness' which explains the regality attached. Shahi Tukra is now a staple across all sorts of festivities especially Eid celebrations.

## Recipe:

### Ingredients:

- 6 bread slices cut into triangles
- Oil for frying
- 2/3 cardamom
- 75 ml milk
- 1 handful crushed almonds
- 1 handful crushed pistachios
- 1 cup sugar
- Cream for garnishing

### Method:

Fry (Don't deep fry) bread slices and arrange in the serving dish

Bring milk, sugar, cardamom seeds to boil and wait till milk thickens a bit

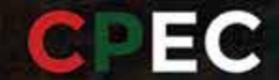
Now slowly add the milk mixture over the slices of bread and let the bread soak in the liquid

Garnish with cream and nuts and refrigerate for at least 6 hours ■



The writer tweets @arhama\_siddiqa and maintains a food website www.chakhoos.com

## FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT ENHANCED IN PAKISTAN BECAUSE OF



CHINA  
\$631.7  
Million



MALAYSIA  
\$107  
Million



FRANCE  
\$64  
Million

Source: www.behance.net



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