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How to Develop Pak-China Relations in the Post Pak-India Conflict: How China Can Help Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

A multifaceted strategy, including favored economic cooperation, diplomatic and political cooperation, defense and strategic partnership focus, technical collaboration, and territorial integration is necessary to improve Pakistan-China relations in the wake of the Pak-India conflict. India is a growing Asian force that is pro-Western, which could pose security and economic problems for China as well as Pakistan. Pakistan faces new competitive dynamics as a result of India's defense expansion and technological developments, but its weak economy makes it more difficult for it to establish a balance of power with India. In the meantime, Pakistan's economic and security environment, as well as regional stability, are significantly impacted by the Pak-India conflict. In this regard, bolstering Pakistan-China ties might be extremely important for advancing Pakistan's security and development goals. Examining how to improve relations between China and Pakistan in the wake of the conflict between India and Pakistan is the primary goal of this research project. And how can China assist Pakistan?

Keywords: Strategic Partnership, CPEC, Security Cooperation, China and Pakistan.

Introduction

The People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have a long and cordial relationship. Two-sided relationships are still indicated by the close attractiveness of perceptions and shared interests. Pakistan was one of the first nations to recognize the PRC in 1950, marking the start of the two-way relationship (Khan & Ilmas, 2024). The two nations worked hard to maintain a close and caring friendship during the 1962 Sino-Indian War. Pakistan has received military and financial assistance from the PRC, and the two countries view one another as important strategic partners. China is Pakistan's third-largest economic partner and its biggest supplier of munitions. Beijing also supported the nuclear program in Islamabad. Because of worries that Pakistan was developing a nuclear weapon, the Pressler Amendment of the 1990s halted all US military assistance (Mehmood, 1994). Beijing has since exploded into financial and military collaboration. Beijing was assisted by Islamabad in reestablishing official ties with the West. They facilitated Nixon's visit to China in 1972 (Khan & Ilmas, 2024). China and Pakistan have collaborated on extensive financial and military projects. China, on the other hand, has consistently stood behind Pakistan in international fora whenever it encountered difficulties.

Pakistan has mostly utilized Chinese technology in the ongoing Pak-India conflict, such as J-10C fighter jets fitted with PL-15 missiles (Arthur, 2025). Beyond-visual-range battles were made possible by Pakistan's considerable aerial advantage thanks to these jets. The improved JF-17 Block III Thunder jets were equipped with hypersonic missiles, especially the CM-401 missile, which can defeat sophisticated radar and missile defense systems and has a range of 290–400 km. With its sophisticated radar and targeting suite, the HQ-9 system, one of the Advanced Air Defense Systems, enabled layered defensive coverage of strategic cities and military installations. Pakistan benefited from China's real-time satellite help, which improved its operational capability and battlefield awareness. Pakistan increased the efficacy of its military operations by using AI-powered devices for tracking and targeting. Precision strikes against Indian forward logistics objectives were among the several military operations in which JF-17 Fighter Jets were instrumental. Drones, possibly provided by China, were also used by Pakistan for fighting and investigation. Pakistan's operational performance during the conflict was greatly enhanced by these technologies, which were incorporated into a unified military ecosystem (Arthur, 2025).

But Chinese collaboration in trade, technology, security, and diplomacy can also benefit China and Pakistan by advancing their respective political and economic strategic objectives.

This study examined how China may support Pakistan and how the relationship between China and Pakistan has improved after the conflict between India and Pakistan. The article's first section examined Pakistan-China relations from a historical standpoint; its second section explored how relations between the two countries improved following the conflict between India and Pakistan; and its last section went into detail about how China may support Pakistan.

Pak-China relations in Historical Perspective:

In the 1950s, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan granted recognition to the People's Republic of China (PRC), becoming the third non-Communist state and the first Muslim to do so. In May 1951, they established diplomatic ties (Khan & Ilmas, 2024). They have had a friendship that has stood the test of time since diplomatic connections were established, and they now have the best neighborhood relations in the world. Since both states have historically co-operated the best, the following stages provide a brief summary of Pakistan's and China's historical backgrounds.

The development of trade links between China and Pakistan before the formalization of diplomatic relations. Pakistan sought to export cotton and jute and required coal to power its businesses. It was known as the "Coal for Cotton barter deal" when China supplied coal in return for cotton at that pivotal moment (Javaid & Jahangir, 2015).

Crisis and Cooperation between Pakistan and China (1961-1970)

Ayub Khan implemented a new policy during his rule and sought to maintain cordial ties with the US, the Soviet Union, and China—the three major countries. The boundary dispute between China and Pakistan caused several difficulties and problems for the bilateral relations at the start of the era. The conflict between China and India strengthened ties between the two nations. Following the Indo-China War, Pakistan denounced India's actions. Later, in March 1963, a border agreement resolved the Pakistan-China dispute. In order to fortify Pakistan's economic ties, China also provided \$50 million in interest-free economic assistance in 1963. This border agreement, China provided Pakistan 5180 square kilometers, and Pakistan received 1942 square kilometers in return. America and India both criticized this pact. The \$3 million loan for the development of Dacca Airport was postponed by the United States. Then, Pakistan received financial support from China. An agreement on air transport was also concluded in

that year between China and Pakistan. That agreement allowed both Pakistani and PRC airlines to operate in each other's nations (Javaid & Jahangir, 2015).

The PRC supported Pakistan against India militarily, economically, and politically during the 1965 war. China also denounced India and backed Pakistan's position on Kashmir. The Soviet Union did not take part in that conflict, and both countries were subject to sanctions from the US. Pakistan received various forms of aid from China, and the conflict turned into a tragic experience that influenced the cordial ties between the two countries. China gave Pakistan \$250 million worth of armaments in 1966, including anti-aircraft guns, T-9 tanks, and F-6 fighters (Jetly, 2012). After realizing China's significance, Pakistan inked a trade pact with China and granted it Most Favorite Nation status. The Heavy Mechanical Complex (HMC) in Taxila received 15 million Rupees in economic aid from China. Pakistan responded by endorsing China's UN membership and the one-China policy (Javaid & Jahangir, 2015). The Karakorum highway project was jointly initiated by China and Pakistan toward the end of the 1960s.

Recognition of China in World Politics and Strategic Cooperation (1971- 1990)

The most significant period of Pakistan-China relations occurred in the 1970s. In order to build ties between the US and China, Pakistan was essential. In this sense, Pakistan was totally in favor of her best friend, China, and with Pakistan's help, US National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger made a covert trip to China (Xie, 2009).

In May 1972, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the prime minister of Pakistan, traveled to China and met with his counterpart. Pakistan received 100 T-54 and T-59 tanks and MiG-19 jets from China (Jetly, 2012). Additionally, China authorized \$300 million in military and economic assistance for Pakistan. China blocked the newly independent state of Bangladesh's application to join the UN in August 1972. Later, China gave Pakistan 300 F-6 combat aircraft, 25 navy vessels, and 500 T-59 tanks, while Pakistan received \$600 million in military and economic assistance. With China's help, Pakistan also built an air force maintenance facility close to Kamra and a tank repair facility at Taxila (Javaid & Jahangir, 2015).

In 1974, Pakistan and China inked a defense cooperation and production treaty. During this time, Pakistan-China relations grew stronger and more dependable. Conversely, Islamabad emerged as the focal point of US-China collaboration. Pakistan became the US's front-line partner in the American War against the Soviet army after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan at the end of the century. The Washington, Beijing, and Islamabad axis were established to undermine the Soviet intervention as a result of the Soviet assault of Kabul. China viewed the invasion as a major danger to Asian peace and security and denounced the Soviet Union's action.

Political Crisis in Pakistan and Pakistan Nuclear Explosion (1990-2000)

China was the sole country to back Pakistan as the United States placed sanctions on the country because of its nuclear development. China gave Pakistan all the help and support it needed, including financial assistance. These days, Pakistan's missile technology is also manufactured with assistance from the People's Republic of China.

In retaliation to the nuclear explosion in India, Pakistan conducted a nuclear test in May 1998. China helped Pakistan become a nuclear state and completely backed its nuclear program. China did not, however, veto UN Security Council resolution 1172 (Rakisits, 2012). In essence, the resolution denounced India's and Pakistan's nuclear tests.

Golden Age to Strengthen Economic, Military, Strategic Cooperation and Bilateral Comradeship (2001-2008)

In every area, but particularly in the strategic, economic, and defense domains, relations between Pakistan and China have flourished in the twenty-first century. Compared to other

regimes, General Pervez Musharraf's military government grew more cooperative. The 50th anniversary of the friendship between China and Pakistan was honored in 2001 with considerable enthusiasm and fervor in both nations. Beijing and Islamabad were visited by Chinese and Pakistani authorities. The gift of the Gwadar Deep Sea Port to China was one of the most significant actions made during this time. In May 2001, Zhu Rongji, the Premier of China, traveled to Pakistan. Under the tenet of reciprocal benefit for accomplishing shared objectives, he urged the two sides to expand collaboration in infrastructure, information technology, agriculture, and other areas (Fazal-ur-Rahman, 2002). Beijing and Islamabad signed one Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and six agreements during this visit. The six agreements comprised Economic and Technical Cooperation, Tourism Cooperation, Lease Agreement on Saindak Project, Supply of Train Engines, Supply of Passenger Coaches to Pakistan Railways, White Oil Pipeline and an MOU between Pakistan Telecommunications and China's ZTE.

Chinese Premier Wu Bangguo traveled to Pakistan in 2002 to see the deep-sea port's groundbreaking ceremony at Gwadar. Eighty percent of the funding for the first phase of the Gwadar project came from China. The project cost roughly \$248 million in total (Fani, 2009). China committed to give the Pakistan Navy four frigates in 2005 (Jetly, 2012). Additionally, in 2005, the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Good Neighborly Relations was signed. The China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement was signed in November of the 2006 fiscal year by the Chinese president while in Islamabad, and it became operative in July of 2007 (Rakisits, 2012). The first delivery of the China-Pakistan joint venture multirole fighter aircraft, the JF-17 Thunder, was made public in 2007. With China's help, the first phase of Gwadar Deep Seaport was finished and opened in 2007 (Jetly, 2012). About \$248 million was spent on the first phase, with China covering 80% of the expenses (Jetly, 2012). Additionally, China contributed \$200 million to build the Coastal Highway, which will connect Karachi and Gwadar (Jetly, 2012). Compared to earlier eras, the bilateral ties have grown more solid and dependable under President Pervez Musharraf. In 2007, an extradition treaty was also concluded between China and Pakistan (Mazari, 2013).

Economic and Strategic Cooperation

After the United States, China is Pakistan's second-largest trading partner and its second-greatest hope (Riedel & Singh, 2010). The first and second free trade agreements between China and Pakistan were concluded in 2006 and 2009, respectively (Malik, 2013). The first country in South Asia to have a free trade deal with China is Pakistan. Singapore's PSA International operated the Gwadar deep-sea port until 2013, when it was turned over to a Chinese state-run enterprise. The Orange Line rail project and another significant project, the Metro Bus in Lahore, were signed by Beijing and Islamabad in May 2014 (Javaid & Javaid, 2016). The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is one of the most significant projects that the Chinese president signed during his visit to Pakistan in April 2015, along with 51 MOUs and 11 other projects (Ahmar, 2015). In the next two or three years, it is anticipated that trade relations will have increased by an additional 12% yearly, reaching \$25 billion. Chinese traders were responsible for the large exports, and trade contacts were strengthened day by day. In 2008, Pakistan exported \$915.5 million to China and imported roughly \$3774.1 million from China. During the 2014–15 fiscal year, the PRC imported \$2509 million from Pakistan and exported 14573 million to Pakistan.

Counter Terrorism and Military Cooperation

Pakistan and China have a long history of defense and military cooperation. Since the 1960s, military cooperation has been established, and its dependability has grown steadily. Rajshree Jetly, a research scholar in South Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore, claims that between 1978 and 2008, China sold Pakistan military hardware valued at almost \$7 billion. China agreed to deliver Pakistan J-10 advanced fighter fighters in November 2009; the agreement was valued at approximately \$1.4 billion (Riedel & Singh, 2010). Pakistan received 50 JF-17s from China. Additionally, in August 2011, China launched a communication satellite for Pakistan (Mazari, 2013). Since 2004, China and Pakistan have held biannual combined military drills to combat terrorism. To improve military collaboration, communication, and intelligence sharing in the fight against terrorism, China and Pakistan signed three Memorandums of Understanding in 2011 (Mazari, 2013). Beijing and Islamabad are collaborating on a number of programs aimed at enhancing Pakistan's defense capabilities. These projects include the production of the Al Khalid tank, the Babar cruise missile, the airborne warning and control system, the JF-17 Thunder, and the K-8 Karakoram advanced training aircraft. Pakistan's reliance on American-made F-16 aircraft has decreased thanks to the JF-17 aircraft (Mazari, 2013).

Energy and Infrastructure Cooperation

Pakistan and China signed a number of MOUs in 2009, however the building of the Bunji Dam in Gilgit-Baltistan was one of the most significant MOUs pertaining to energy. 7000 megawatts of power may be produced by this dam (Dawn, 2009). China authorized a \$6.5 million financing in 2014 for the development of a nuclear power facility in Karachi. China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) provided funding for two 1100 megawatt reactors in this project (Khan & Ahmad, 2015). On its own, this project has the potential to produce more electricity than all of the other projects in Pakistan. Another most important initiative for energy and infrastructure cooperation is CPEC. One of the main initiatives of the Chinese OBOR agenda is the CPEC (Abid & Ashfaq, 2015). CPEC was initially projected to cost \$46 billion, however later estimates put that figure at \$52 billion (Memon).

Cultural Exchange Programs

Because of their cordial and enduring relationship, China and Pakistan have launched a number of cultural exchange initiatives. Since their initial bilateral cultural exchange agreement in 1965, China and Pakistan have inked over nine agreements and memorandums of understanding. Cultural delegations from both states are presenting various cultural events in both states (Hussain, 2012). MOUs were inked in 2008 between China and Pakistan to open Pak-China University campuses in both countries (Kataria & Naveed, 2014). That year, Tsinghua University in China opened the Pakistan Culture and Communication Center. The Pakistan Study Center was founded at Fudan University later in 2009.

China's Premier Wen Jiabao and Pakistani Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani opened the Pak China Center in Islamabad in 2010. Jiabao declared during the occasion that China would treat 2000 Pakistanis under contract annually at no cost (The Express Tribune, December 18, 2010). The Sindh government said in 2011 that Chinese language instruction will be required at the school level. Additionally, China launched a number of scholarship initiatives for academics and students from Pakistan. According to Siddique (2014), there were roughly 8,000 Chinese students and 15,000 Chinese technicians in Pakistan in 2013. Another significant catalyst is the founding of the Pak-China Institute in Islamabad, where over 3,000 students are studying Chinese (Siddique, 2014). Under the direction of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, the Pakistani government also sent several students to China as part of a cultural exchange initiative.

Pak-China Relations Going from Strength to Strength

Building relations between China and Pakistan necessitates a multifaceted strategy that emphasizes regional integration, strategic alliances, and economic cooperation. There are a few important tactics that can be used to better improve these relationships.

Economic Cooperation**Enhance Trade and Investment**

China is Pakistan's largest trading partner and its primary import provider. According to China Customs, the total amount of bilateral goods trade between China and Pakistan in 2024 was US\$23.1 billion, an increase of 11.1 percent from the previous year. As a result, China's exports to Pakistan rose 17% year over year to US\$20.2 billion, while Pakistan's imports decreased 18.2% to US\$2.8 billion. In 2024, China's largest exports to Pakistan were electrical machinery and equipment, valued at an estimated US\$5.6 billion. About 27% of these were phone sets, including smartphones, and 35% were semiconductor devices. China also exported nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, and mechanical appliances valued at US\$2.4 billion and iron and steel goods valued at US\$1.3 billion (Arshad et. al. 2015).

The China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA), which became operative in July 2007, is one of the key cornerstones of the two nations' economic relations. It has enhanced trade relations and encouraged mutual economic progress. The deal was broken up into phases, the first of which focused on product trade and investment. After realizing the need for more comprehensive cooperation, the countries began discussions on trade in services in 2007. As a result, the Agreement on Trade in Services was put into effect in 2009 (Huld, March 24, 2025).

The CPFTA's Early Harvest Program (EHP) was introduced on January 1, 2006. For some products, it granted Pakistan preferential access to Chinese markets, including zero-duty entry for commodities like industrial alcohol, sports equipment, marble, leather goods, cotton textiles, bed linens, mangoes, and other fruits and vegetables. In return, China received markets for fruits, vegetables, machinery, chemicals, and other raw materials utilized in sectors like as pharmaceuticals and engineering (Huld, March 24, 2025).

When a protocol to update and modify the CPFTA was agreed in December 2019, the second phase of the agreement got underway. Under this protocol, the proportion of tariff lines with zero-tariff products was to gradually increase from 35% to 75%. Additionally, both countries agreed to reduce tariffs by 20% on products that account for 5% of their respective tariff lines. The goal of these adjustments is to further boost trade flows and deepen economic integration. In the second phase of the CPFTA, which took effect on January 1, 2020, China eliminated duties on significant Pakistani exports, such as cotton yarn, leather, apparel, aquatic products, and nuts. In response, Pakistan reduced taxes on Chinese exports, which included electrical machinery, furniture, textiles, phosphate fertilizers, glass products, and auto and motorbike parts. (Huld, March 24, 2025).

The US\$62 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the centerpiece project of the Belt and Road Initiative, has fundamentally altered bilateral trade and investment. Building on this foundation, both countries can look into other areas of cooperation, such boosting trade in services, enhancing customs coordination, and promoting investment in important sectors like agriculture, information technology, and renewable energy. By simplifying trade processes, lowering tariffs, and enhancing transportation infrastructure, China and Pakistan may expand bilateral commerce and create new economic opportunities (Hussain, 2021).

To get the most out of CPEC, Pakistan may leverage its strategic location, wealth of natural resources, and highly skilled labor force to attract Chinese investment across a range of industries. This may entail combined industrial ventures, collaborative research and

development projects, and investments in Pakistan's Special Economic Zones (SEZs). These programs will strengthen economic relations between the two countries, increase trade and investment opportunities, and accelerate growth.

Industrial Cooperation

Rising of poverty in Pakistan is because of the lacking of industries, energy and skillful individual. The industrialists have control over the international politics and they have poor to change fates of other economically weak countries. Recently, the policy of the professional and labor exchange between Pakistan and China is a mile stone which could bring economic prosperity in Pakistan and China as well (Tong, 2014). Such a policy of exchange would support Pakistan's industries through acquiring of new technologies and skills will ready to compete in the global markets. Sharing of expertise and knowledge about technologies, production and manufacturing, quality and quantities of products, might boost up the economic situation of Pakistan.

Furthermore, collaboration in the field of construction, infrastructure, agriculture, textile and so on between Pakistan and China is can bring the economic growth in Pakistan. Training of the Chinese professional can make the labor more efficient and skillful. However all of these, subject to better relations and cooperation between the countries. Strong relations can change the better pay off for both and comparatively more beneficent for Pakistan (Tong, 2014).

Strategic Partnerships

Defense and Security Consultation Mechanism

Another factor which can help Pakistan and improve relations between China and Pakistan is the cooperation on insecurity in the region. The problem of insecurity and terrorism in Pakistan and Afghanistan may extend to the whole region which can affect the economic situation and reduce the level of commerce and industries in the region. So such threatens from terrorists' groups can creates the issue for the regional economy (Rashid, 2012).

So military to military relation, joint military drill further strengthen relations and improve the strategy against terrorism. Further. Sharing of the intelligence reports and sharing of information and joint operation against can save the strategic partnership of both the countries. By this way both can booster their defense system, and bitterly manage operation against militant groups.

Additionally, sharing of modern warfare technologies, and support in the zone of cyber security, advance radar system and other defensive technologies and including artificial intelligence have better off for both countries. By this way both states would be capable to overcome the issue of insecurity and further can address the problems of insecurity (Ahmed et. al. 2015).

Regional Integration

CPEC Expansion

China Pakistan Economic Corridor is a game changer for Pakistan, being part of the BRI, CPEC is a huge project. This project created a regional connectivity, all neighbours in South Asia, including Afghanistan, Iran and other Central Asian countries are inter connected through CPEC. Such a huge project by the China enhanced a mutual trade and commerce, transportation and infrastructures and more than that fostered energy centres in Pakistan. This initiatives from China improved socio-economic growth not only in Pakistan but also in the region (Hussain, 2021). Establishing of connectivity network and enhancement of economic and industrial zone in the region, CPEC also provides the development to Pakistan where the 1K MW Quaid-e-Azam Solar Park in Bahawalpur and the 1,320 MW Sahiwal Coal-Fired Power Plant are two examples of finished coal, wind, solar, and hydropower facilities. More than that

Gwadar Coal-Fired Power Project of 300 MW production and the 1,124 MW Kohala Hydropower Project are parts of the CPEC (Hussain, 2021).

By building substantial road and rail infrastructure, CPEC has greatly increased connectivity in the transportation sector. The Orange Line Metro Train in Lahore and the Multan-Sukkur segment of the Peshawar-Karachi Motorway are examples of completed projects. Transportation and trade will be further streamlined by on-going improvements like the Main Line-1 (ML-1) railway renovation and the building of new roads like the Peshawar, D.I. Khan Motorway (Rizvi, 2016).

The centre of CPEC is the strategically important port city of Gwadar. The construction of the Gwadar Port and Free Zone, the Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan, and the New Gwadar International Airport are just a few of the significant projects that have been finished. Future plans call for the construction of desalination facilities, fish landing jetties, and environmental sanitation systems in an effort to establish Gwadar as a significant industrial and commercial centre (Hussain, 2021).

By improving connectivity and economic cooperation between China, Pakistan, and neighbouring nations, CPEC has revolutionized regional integration. Both nations can give infrastructure development, like as energy systems, industrial zones, and transportation networks, top priority in order to further develop and extend CPEC (Rizvi, 2016). This would enhance economic development, increase imports and exports, and open new door of cooperation between China and Pakistan. Due to CPEC, new markets would be build, economic opportunities might be increase, employment will be raised and poverty would be decreased, and economic growth would be extend to Afghanistan, Iran and other regional states (Hussain, 2021).

Medical and Educational Corridors

Like mutual trade and cooperation between China and Pakistan could improve economic situation, as establishment of medical and educational commencement between the two can improve the socio-economic and living standards of individual on both side. Exchange of medicines, medical equipment, medical education and medical visit open the corridor for the better healthcare, easiness for the patients, awarding of professional degrees and more than that open the door of practices and exchange of medial information. Other than medical education, by cultural exchange the graduates and under-graduates can get the opportunity of modern labs and educational institutions, which can provide cross mutual learning, skill development and receive information about new ideas. In this way the Chinese government offered thousands of scholarship for the Pakistanis students while in contrary HEC of Pakistan offered cultural exchange scholarships for the Chinese students in graduate and under-graduate studies (Shamsi, et.al. 2019). This is a best way which can provide a better relation between Pakistan and China.

Opening borders in terms of medical and education can fostered a better relation and as a result best health care and production of intellectuals on both side of the border. By this way both can jointly address the subaltern issues and can solve it easily.

How China Can Help Pakistan?

Diplomatic Support

Since establishing diplomatic ties on May 21, 1951, China and Pakistan have grown to be close allies through economic, political, and strategic collaboration. There were few exchanges at first, but by the middle of the 1950s, there were more high-level meetings, which improved bilateral relations.

China and Pakistan increased their defence, commerce, and infrastructure cooperation throughout the 1980s and 1990s, and Pakistan backed China on a number of global problems. Both countries further strengthened their cooperation in 1996 when they formed a "Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership." Through economic cooperation, particularly under the CPEC, their partnership grew stronger in the twenty-first century. The expansion of Pakistan's trade, energy, and infrastructure has been greatly aided by CPEC (Hussain, 2021).

The connection has been strengthened by frequent high-level visits and bilateral agreements, with on-going collaboration in economic development, regional security, and defence. China continues to be one of Pakistan's most important economic partners and investors, making the two countries' relationship vital to South Asia's regional dynamics (Zaoh, et. al., 2023).

Additionally, China offers Pakistan significant diplomatic support in international forum, such as the UN. China can protect Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity by using its permanent position on the UN Security Council to veto measures that could be detrimental to Pakistan's interests. This assistance helps Pakistan deal more confidently with difficult geopolitical issues and is especially helpful when it comes to foreign pressure or criticism. With help of China, Pakistan can efficiently raise national interest on international level (Zaoh, et. al., 2023).

Counter-Terrorism

Terrorism created security risks in Pakistan, more than 80000 Pashtuns were killed, millions of them internally displaced (IDPs), markets and houses were demolished (Ali, 2010). The terrorist's activities no limited to Pakistan and Afghanistan but it is also a potential threat for the region. Both the countries China and Pakistan have zero tolerance against terrorism and guaranteed to strongly bind their bilateral and international cooperation. In this matter, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari visited China in February 4–8, 2025, Pakistan firmly claimed to more strengthen security and quick step up to eliminate those who against Chinese interest in the region. While in response China promised to help Pakistan against terrorism and would Pakistan capable to eradicate the evil of terrorism (Ahmad, et al., 2025; Ahmad, et. al., 2024).

Joint military trainings and exercises are the important part of the cooperative relations. In Nov. and December, 2024, as joint drill of the Pakistan army and the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Western Theatre Command has been joined the exercise of the counterterrorism, which is known as "Warrior-8". In order to eliminate the evil of terrorism the following drills have been concluded like, live-fire exercises, group training, integrated planning, and command operations (Ahmad, et al., 2025; Ahmad, et. al., 2024). The Lieut. General Shahid the commander of Pakistan's 10th Army Corps and the China's ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, both have participated in the live training of corps at Tilla training range in Pakistan on December, 2024. The joint drill of both the armies were successful and were praised, it was need of the time to have a practical action from both side against terrorists activities. Many of the Chinese projects in Pakistan, especially CPEC is under threats because of the terrorists threatening, previously projects has been hit by the militant (Ahmad, et al., 2025).

These joint activities against terrorism and the policy of counter terrorism is a positive step for strengthen relations. By this way both the countries can break the back of terrorism and joint actions against terrorism is more successful against terrorism instead of separate efforts. Such an efforts from both side innovate a peaceful environment to improve economic situation and strengthen bilateral trade. Additionally, mutual cooperation strengthen can build foundation of the strategic alliance and improve mutual trust. Furthermore, by the mutual understating and cooperation can fortified the all-weather strategic collaborative partnership (Ahmad, et al., 2025).

Conclusion:

Enhancing Pak-China relation is more important in the post Pak-India war era to backed regional political and economic prosperity. With an emphasis on regional bonding, strategic alliances, and economic integration, this research paper has evaluated various approaches to improve bilateral relationship.

In the post Pak-India war, CPEC a major project of the BRI of China, can performed a key role in the regional integration. A CPEC a game changer for the Pakistan's economy, of the countries can extend commerce and trade, draw an investment, and build up regional connectivity. This can bring sustainable economic growth which further led industrial collaboration and bring peace and prosperity.

Strengthen of Pak-China relations is a crucial strategic alliance against insecurity and terrorism in the region. Enhancing of military to military relations and holding of combine training and drilling, exchanging of intelligence and are fatal for the insecurity and terrorism. Strengthen of defence system is based on deep relations between the two countries which can solve the problem of war and conflicts.

Although, Pakistan is economically poor country and faced huge amount of IMF loan, so Pakistan can take economic support from China while keeping deep relations, so strategically Pakistan must focus on collaboration with China, while on the other side China is facing border issues with India, so, China strategically must prefer strong relations with Pakistan. For both countries long-term cooperation and collaboration are mandatory to get the strategic interest. Additionally, long term relation with cooperation support needs respect of sovereignty, import and export on equality basis, cultural exchange program, so all of these measures raise living standard and provides better economic growth. China diplomatic support for Pakistan in the UN is evident of the good neighbour. These are the initiatives which bring economic stability.

Although, friendship of both the country is deeper than ocean and higher than mountains, there friendship is time tested and all weather partners. In the strong relationship Pakistan can get more benefits in terms economic growth, solving security issues and can get better technology. Not only this, geo-political issues may solve and remain in touch in international politics.

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