

PAKISTAN-CHINA RELATIONS

Reflections of 70 Years of Diplomatic History

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to:

- ✓ My Father Haji Amanullah Khan, MA (Persian), LLB, BA (Hons), who has always been a source of motivation and inspiration for me.
- ✓ To my mother, who has been praying for my health and safety now and always.
- ✓ To my family, who have always supported me in my endeavors for creating excellence and opportunities for others.
- ✓ To my students and particularly the female students who have always motivated me to learn and research more with them.
- ✓ To my team of KIU, who enabled me to create distinctions for our students and youth of Gilgit Baltistan-Pakistan

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List of Acronyms

AJ&K	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BRI	Belt and Road Initiative
CBMs	Confidence Building Measures
CCCCPC	Central Committee of Communist Party of China
CHASHNUP	Chashma Nuclear Power Plant
CNEIC	China Nuclear Energy Industry Corporation
COVID-19	Corona Virus Infection Disease 2019
CPB	Collective Production Brigades
CPC	Communist Party of China
CPEC	China Pakistan Economic Corridor
CPMI	China Pakistan Management Initiative
CPSC	China Pakistan Study Centre
CSC	China Study Centre
CWCU	China World Class University
ECS	Enterprise Contracting System
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gases
GLOFs	Glacial Lakes Outburst Floods
HEC	Higher Education Commission
HEIs	Higher Education Institutes
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ID-CPC	International Department of Communist Party of China

IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPs	Industrial Parks
KIU	Karakoram International University
KKH	Karakoram Highway
MIC25	Made in China 2025
NPT	Non-Proliferation Treaty
NWFZ	Nuclear Weapons Free Zone
OICCI	Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry
PAEC	Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission
QTTA	Qatar Tahriki Taliban Agreement
R&D	Research and Development
RMB	Renminbi (currency of People's Republic of China)
SAFTA	South Asian Free Trade Area
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SOEs	State Owner Enterprises
TVE	Town and Village Enterprises
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Trainings
UN	United Nations
UGC	University Grants Commission
VR	Virtual Reality
WEF	World Economic Forum
WTO	World Trade Organization

Acknowledgments

I visited China twice, in 2015 and 2018 and was inspired by the developments in various parts of the China. Being a Civil Engineer, I always had a keen interest in the CPEC related projects. However, for writing this book, I am thankful to the motivation and support from Lt Gen Muhammad Asghar (Retd) former Rector NUST and Dr. Safdar Ali Shah for supporting to establish China Study Centre. This book will be the first publication of the China Study Centre KIU.

I am also indebted to Dr. Tasawar Rahim Baig, Associate Dean of Faculty of Social Science KIU for his support and encouragement. I am also grateful to Ms. Saadia Beg, Head Department of Politics and International Studies for editing the books. I also feel gratified to Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director China Pakistan Study Centre, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad for reviewing and improving the first draft of the book and make it presentable for publication.

As next step to this publication, the faculty at KIU have been advised to initiate for an edited volume on various dimensions of China and Pakistan in the areas of Education and Research. This proposed edited book may include the themes like Ecosystems, Entrepreneurship, Trade and commerce, Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Food and Agriculture, Regional integration, Media communication and other related topics with special reference to China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Engr. Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah

Foreword

It is, indeed, heartening to see the book titled “Pakistan-China Relations: Reflection of 70 Years of Diplomatic History” authored by Professor Dr. Attaullah Shah, Vice Chancellor Karakoram International University (KIU), Gilgit Baltistan. As 2021 marks the 70 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between two countries, China Study Centre of KIU publishes the book that is a timely tribute to this great partnership. The book encompasses the evolution of seven decades of Pakistan-China relations, China’s successful transformation and its remarkable feat of poverty alleviation. While Pakistan-China friendship thrived in the hearts of the people of two countries often referred to as “Iron brothers”, their friendship is also emanated from mutual trust and respect. The relations between the two countries are not mere diplomatic rhetoric but have over a period of time, evolved into all-time cooperative strategic partnership between the two countries.

It is an undeniable fact that the transformation of China from a world’s poorest nation into one of the world most prosperous country is a marvel that has never been witnessed in the human history. A completely new model of poverty alleviation and economic prosperity set forth and driven by Chinese through Communist Party of China (CPC) is a model for other struggling economies across the world to take lesson from. Dr. Attaullah Shah has correctly referred the “China miracle” in terms of human progress and development. Pakistan being a great friend of China can learn many lessons from Chinese experience especially in the sphere of economy, technology, poverty alleviation and more importantly from Chinese wisdom. There is a room to undertake immense work on Chinese experience and development model.

This gap can only be bridged by undertaking an in-depth research on the accomplishment of China in the last seven decades and how can Pakistan learn to pace up with China.

In my assessment, this book is a great contribution in the literature focusing on China. The first part addresses the 100 years of journey of CPC which is a primary driver of China's rise. The achievements of the party in the past few decades have been manifold. The four major achievements of CPC are: winning the battles for revolution in China, leading people of China to build a stronger China with the principle of self-reliance, pursuing path of reforms and socialist modernization and leading Chinese people to pursue great struggle realizing their dream of greater China. A major takeaway from the second part of the book is that China's development and prosperity would not only be confined to China but in accordance with the vision of Chinese leadership, the dividends would be shared with the region and beyond. President Xi's visionary initiative Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is aimed at promoting high quality development through collective efforts.

The third part essentially focuses on China's progress in the field of Education and Research. In this part one realizes that how advanced quality research and well-planned education system transforms a nation's destiny. This part has an important lesson for Pakistan to develop its research capabilities and bring reforms to its education system in line with the latest trends and requirement of the day and age. The fourth part of the book covers a very important and dynamic subject and that is future of Pakistan-China relations. China has been rapidly progressing in the field of emerging technologies and future relation of Pakistan and China would be important in the context of enhanced technological cooperation.

Dr. Attaullah Shah's book is a fair reflection of the opportunities both the countries have in all-encompassing future cooperation and what challenges lie ahead for the two countries. The book is a "must read" piece of work for academicians, practitioners, scholars, policymakers, students of Pakistan-China relations and those who are critically watching regional and global politics.

I sincerely wish Dr. Attaullah Shah for success in his future work which would help raise awareness and develop understanding on issues central to future of Pakistan.

Dr. Talat Shabbir
January 10, 2022

Preface

This book has been authored mainly to manifest the seven-decades diplomatic relations of China and Pakistan. The relationship between the two brother countries is always cited as *“A Friendship Higher than Himalayas, deeper than ocean, sweeter than honey, and stronger than steel”*. This partnership has a high degree of significance for Pakistan and the entire South Asian region. China and Pakistan have been time tested friends and 70 year diplomatic relations between the two brotherly countries reveal their close understanding and collaboration about the regional and international issues.

This book has been divided into four parts. First part gives a detailed overview of the History of China Pakistan Friendship. The second part provides the major attributes of the Miracle of China, which enabled China to transform from a poverty-stricken low-income group country to middle income group. The third part gives the salient features of Education and Research in China while highlighting the recent advances in high-tech research and innovations. The fourth and last part of the book reflects the future of China and Pakistan relations in the changing global and regional dynamics.

While exploring the above parts of the book, the first chapter illustrates The trade relations between the two regions which existed centuries back, when the goods were transported through the Silk Route from East to West and vice versa. This route remained a historic trade route from 2nd Century BC to 14th Century A.D and covered Asia to Mediterranean, passing through China, India, Persia, Arabia, Greece and Italy, thereby providing a strong connection between the East and West.

The second Chapter highlights the seven decades of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. This relationship is largely motivated by the need for security and economics. In the presence of adversary attitude and expansionist design of India as a natural opponent of Pakistan, after the partition of United India, Pakistan extended warm friendship with the People Republic of China. The emerging geopolitical realities in South Asia and East Asian region were a forerunner of close relations between the two countries. In the latest development in the region reflected in close collaboration between US and India, to contain China, the relations between China and Pakistan are becoming more important.

The third chapter explains the 100-year achievements of the China Communist Party, based on Socialism and China Model. In centenary celebrations of the CPC, President Xi Jinping explained the achievements of CPC in the last 100 years and explained the way forward to make China, a developed middle-class economy.

The second part of the book starts with the fourth chapter, which provides a holistic view of China's miracle and its fundamentals. The reforms and openness policies of China after 1978 by Deng Xiao Ping and its subsequent liberalization and globalization, has turned China into an active global partner in Global Trade. In this context the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of President Xi Jinping is a comprehensive approach for China to become a leading Economic Power.

Chapter five explains the dynamics of BRI with special reference to China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). BRI has been envisioned as a New Silk Route for the economic development of China and the region. The chapter also provides details of CPEC and its Challenges and Opportunities.

Chapter Six provides detailed deliberations on the President Xi philosophy of Economic growth with Socialism in China model. Chinese history can be divided into the early socialist revolution with Chairman Mao Tse Tung as leading with the strong role of Communist Party of China and People Liberation Army. In the 1970s, the economic reforms and openness philosophy of President Deng Ziao Ping, created a neo-liberal way forward for economic

prosperity and during the last four decades, China has moved out from the rampage of extreme poverty to a lower middle class economy. For continuity of the growth rate and expanding trade to all regions of the world, the BRI philosophy of President Xi is highly significant.

In the fourth part, the education and research achievements of China have been highlighted. This starts with Chapter seven, which gives a history of education and research developments in China. The concept of China World Class University (CWCU), adopted by higher education of China has been explained, which aims at making a visible position for China Education and Research Institutes in top 500 Universities.

In Chapter eight, the China Pakistan Knowledge and Research Corridor under CPEC has been highlighted. Various options of collaborations between the two countries have been explained. There is a need that education and research institutes of the two countries strengthen this collaboration for transfer of knowledge and research & technologies.

In Chapter Nine, the aims and objectives of China Study Centre being established at Karakoram International University with support of Higher Education Commission of Pakistan have been explained with the road map to achieve the goals and target of the project.

The last part of the book, Chapter Ten illustrates the China road for Fourth Industrial Revolution (I 4.0), with high focus on innovations and commercialization. The Made In China 2025 (MIC25) is a comprehensive approach of China to develop high tech and high quality products in the global competitive markets, which can be high quality and affordable products and services. The last chapter is comprised of the pictures of my visit to China.

China and Pakistan are time tested friends with shared boundaries, culture and history dating back to the ancient silk route. The two countries have always stood for inclusivity, peaceful co-existence and sustainable growth in the region. While inaugurating, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, President Xi-Jinping, said: " *Friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust*

and mutual support, and we have been devoted friends through both good and hard times. Our friendship is a pacesetter for amicable relations....."

In the wake of regional dynamics, China Pakistan collaboration provides a greater set of opportunities for the region and hence a careful and proactive approach is required to harness these opportunities. Nevertheless, there are many more challenges, which require careful consideration at levels.

The author appreciates the support of the Higher Education Commission for financing this book under the China Study Centre project. Special Thanks to Dr. Tasawwar Rahim Baig, Associate Dean of Faculty of Social Science and Associate Professor of International Relations, Karakoram International University for editing and enriching this book. This book will be providing better understanding between the people of two countries and particularly youth of the region.

Long Live Pak China Friendship

Engr. Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah

1

History of the Silk Route

The Silk Route remained a historic trade route from 2nd Century B.C.E. to 14th Century C.E. and covered Asia to the Mediterranean, passing through China, India, Persia, Arabia, Greece and Italy, thereby providing a strong connection between the East and the West. The name of Silk Route was assigned to it mainly due to the heavy Silk Trade in the region. The expansion of Buddhism and extensive trade of silk and ceramics created a strong connection between the two regions.

The fame of ancient China was mainly owed to the trade of Silk from East to West whereby most of the European countries imported Silk from China. The name of the route is misleading to a great extent and is attributed to a German Scholar Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen, who used this name during the last century. Yet, the Silk Route remained a trade corridor for many other goods like gold and other valuable metals, woolen-linen textiles, ivory precious stones (jade), ceramics etc.¹ The Chinese emperor, Wu-Ti, sent his diplomat Chiang Kien to Europe in 138 BC with a Caravan of 100 men, who returned to China after thirteen years. This expedition played a pivotal role in discovering the Silk Route. He brought the intelligence about the political, economic, geographical and military strength of the Europeans, which highly impressed the Han's Court. He was conferred the title of "The Great Traveler" by the Emperor. Thus, he provided a link between the East and West and can be rightly called the "Father of the Silk Route" ²

1 Haripada Chakraborti, Trade and Commerce of Ancient India, 1966, p. 39.

2 J. Innes Miller, The Spice Trade of the Roman Empire

The Silk Routes were comprised of a large network of markets, thoroughfares and strategically located trading posts, which served for transportation and distribution of goods. Routes extended from the Greco-Roman metropolis of Antioch across the Syrian Desert via Palmyra to Ctesiphon (the Parthian capital) and Seleucia on the Tigris River, a Mesopotamian city in modern-day Iraq. From Seleucia, routes passed eastward over the Zagros Mountains to the cities of Ecbatana (Iran) and Merv (Turkmenistan), from which additional routes traversed to modern-day Afghanistan and eastward into Mongolia and China. Silk Road routes also led to ports on the Persian Gulf, where goods were then transported up the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Routes from these cities also connected to ports along the Mediterranean Sea, from which goods were shipped to cities throughout the Roman Empire and into Europe.³ The ancient route is shown in Fig 1.1.

For more than two thousand years, they not only enhanced the silk, ceramics and spices trades, but also cultivated the exchange of knowledge, culture, technology, and religion between the Orient and Occident thus propelling human civilization forward. The second route was the Maritime Silk Route, which began from the ports of Guangzhou and Quanzhou in South China, passed by countries in Southeast Asia and South Asia and then entered the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, before finally arriving at the east coast of Africa. As main routes of communication which survived as such for more than two thousand years, they not only enhanced the silk, ceramics and spices trades, but also cultivated the exchange of knowledge, culture, technology, and religion between the Orient and Occident thus propelling human civilization forward⁴. These Silk Routes are also depicted in Fig 1.1.a & b

Historically, the Han Dynasty of China is credited with the establishment of the original Silk Routes around (114 BCE), however, the route itself was originally established as the Persian

3 "History.com Editors. Silk Road", HISTORY, November 3, 2017, available at <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-middle-east/silk-road>.

4 Louis C.W. NG /China (Hong Kong), Conservation and Management of Ceramic Archeological Sites along the maritime Silk Route

Royal road during the Achaemenid Empire (500-330 BCE), by Darius the Great. The two empires came into contact with each other around 200 BCE leading to the establishment of trade relations. The northern part of the road was a major artery and it continued from Susa (modern day Iran) to the Mediterranean Sea in Asia Minor, which is the modern day Turkey. Postal stations were also established along the road for communication, for which horses were used by the Empire. The major road was further extended by the Persians, through smaller roads. The Silk route further extended to Mesopotamia and Egypt. The city of Alexandria was established in 339 BC by Alexander the Great. It further extended to the modern day Tajikistan in the Fergana valley of Neb⁵.



Fig. 1.1 a. Silk Routes: An old depiction

5 Shoaib Khan, Power games on the Silk route: a journey from historical to modern era. Eurasian Journal 3(2), July 2021

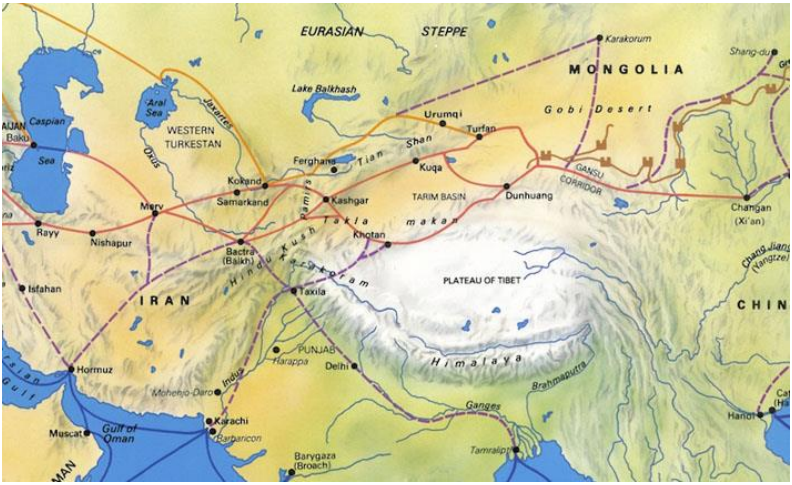


Fig. 1.1 b. Old trade routes

“History.com Editors, Silk Road”, HISTORY, November 3, 2017, available at <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-middle-east/silk-road>

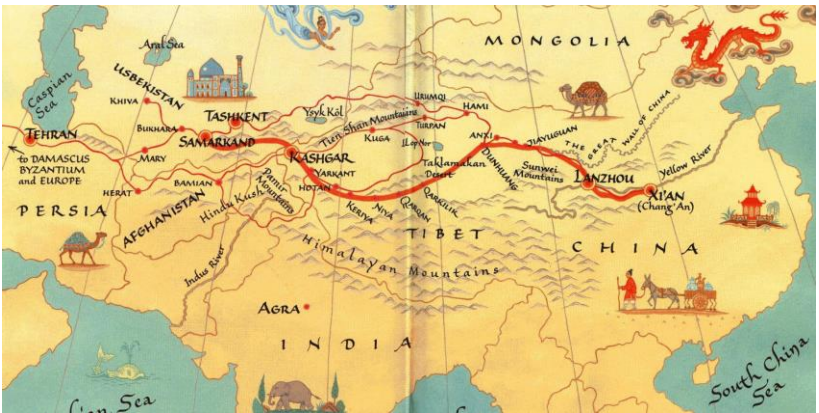


Fig. 1.2 Old Silk Route depiction

“Silk Road, the Ancient Communication Route in the World”, Ghoghnos, September 24, 2019, available at <https://www.ghoghnos.net/blog/city-guide/silk-road-the-ancient-communication-route-in-the-world/>

Due to significance of the Maritime Silk Route, the Pilgrim's Route to Santiago de Compostela was added to the World Heritage List as *Cultural Route* in 1993, which provides a rich variety of cultural heritage. A cultural route offers a dynamic context, within which the study of human history, migration, encounters, conflicts, dialogue, trade and interaction amongst different civilizations. For more than two thousand years, the route provided an interplay and relationship of mutual benefit and mutual trust and as a result, peoples from different regions, races, and cultures peacefully and amicably participated in trading activities.

The Silk Route also provided a corridor for the expansion of religious beliefs. Missionaries from different faiths including Buddhism, Christianity and Islam accompanied the traders for conversion of the people of various regions along the route. The traders from Arabia and Persia, transmitted Islam to China through land and maritime Silk Route. Hence the diversity of Islamic culture including philosophy, science, law, art, music, dance and literature, flourished in China thereafter. Conversely, the Muslim traders brought the knowledge, skills and advanced technologies from China to Muslim and Western world.

The trade development along the Silk Route can be divided into three periods, 3rd, century BC to 7th century AD, 7th century AD to 13th century AD and 13th century AD to 19th century AD. China mainly exported ceramics, tea, ironware Chinese Silk and imported mainly spices. Over the years, however ceramics of China got more popularity in the Western world and specialized kilns and tools were developed in were established in Fujian, Guangdong, Zhejiang and Jiangxi in China. These areas of modern China are still famous for ceramics and textile. The trade of ceramics thus remained the most dominant aspect of maritime Silk Route, as the transportation of fragile ceramics products was more feasible along the marine routes.

According to World Tourism Organization, Silk Route serves as longest tourism route of the world. WTO has developed an interactive map to reflect the tourism sites along the Silk route. Before the emergence of China, three main cultural movements

existed, that enriched the region, i.e. Greek, Indian, Iran (Bianca 2005, p21). These cultural streams intersected in the Northern part of Pakistan. The local people absorbed various current of cultural diversity particularly in the areas of Peshawar, Taxila, Swat and Gilgit. The old Silk route also exists today along the Karakoram Highway (KKH) and can be traversed in the areas of Taxila, Hazara, Kohistan, Besham, Chilas, Gilgit, Hunza and enters China via Khunjerab Pass.

The petroglyphs and inscriptions found in various parts along the Silk Route provides a rich knowledge about the history and cultural diversity along the ancient route. A greater concentration of such art and crafts can be found in the Chilas areas, where the Nomadic tribes, temporarily settled when the river was in high flood and it was difficult to cross it. These petroglyphs describe that the wild animals such ibex and markhor. The human beings are found hunting these animals with arrows, bows and stone. These images were also used for teaching of hunting to the younger people. This was followed by postural community, when the humans tried to raise animals for their survival and hence their settlements became more nomadic⁶. The upper Indus region along the Silk route has been providing opportunities for enriching the cultural diversity of the region as witnessed along the Nile River.

The silk route was initially used for trading of Silk, yet it was a route for trading a variety of other commodities as well. From West to East, the traded goods included Horses, saddles and Riding Tack, The grapevine and grapes, Dogs and other animals, Animal furs and skins, Honey, Fruits, Glassware, Woolen blankets, rugs, carpets, Textiles (such as curtains), Gold and Silver, Camels, Slaves, Weapons and armor. The commodities traded from East to West included Silk, Tea, Dyes, Precious Stones, China (plates, bowls, cups, vases), Porcelain, Spices (such as cinnamon and ginger), Bronze and gold artifact, Medicine, Perfumes, Ivory, Rice, Paper and Gunpowder. The trade of various commodities along various

6 Dr. Naela Aamir and Dr. Aqsa Malik "The Pre-Historic Petroglyphs of Silk Route: Shatial to Khunjerab Pass" *Majallah-e-Tahqiq* Vol.39, Sr.No.111, April - June, 2018.

roads of Silk Routes have been shown in Fig 1.3. There were Caravanserais at every 30-40 km for the stay of travelers and traders. The number of old roadside inns increased to provide protection to the travelers and merchants. Some of these Caravansaries still exist in Iran and other countries and Iran (see Fig 1.4 for Caravanserai of Zeniddin Mehraiz Iran).

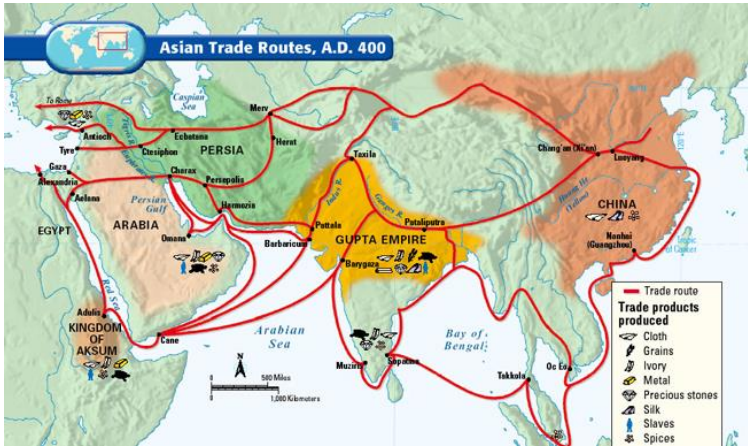


Fig. 1.3 Trading of various commodities along Silk Routes⁶



Fig. 1.4 Caravanserai Zeino-Din Iran⁷

For landlocked countries of Central Asia, Silk Routes provided the only option to connect with the rest of the world. In the olden days, Uzbekistan played an important role and bridge to connect for transport from East to West and South to North. At the same time, due to its high population, Uzbekistan offers a larger internal market for the region. Kazakhstan was the first country of central Asia to propose, New Silk Route in 2007, under the umbrella of Western Europe and Western China (WE-WC) project. This corridor was expected to bring more economic benefits to the region with the construction of modern infrastructure. This project WE-WC was initiated before the start of BRI and to a greater extent, it provided a stimulus to initiate Eurasian Economic Union and BRI. The China newly built Eastbound network, is connecting with the Kazakh oil, Turkmen natural gas, Mongolian iron ore, Siberian timber, and Afghan copper, as well.

Besides a poetic metaphor, the Silk road provides a model for connecting the East and West of the world for trade and creating Merchant Capitalism for China. This is comprised of three layers of movement along the route, exchange of goods, exchange of services and movement of knowledge. These three levels of movements and exchanges are the spirit and rational for the modern BRI as well. In the prehistoric days, goods like silk and paper products, precious stones, jewellery, clothing, gunpowder, animals and animal skins, paper and paper products, and all the necessities that are required for long-distance travel including food, guides, and so on. The modern BRI has to be dominated by the transfer of goods from the East to West for expansion of the Chinese trade and commerce. For movement of services like knowledge about military and defence, ceramic making, postal services as well transfer of technology, the old Silk Route played a pivotal role. The modern BRI is also expected to provide a network of corridors to transfer the development and modern technologies from China to the rest of the

⁷ "Silk Road, the Ancient Communication Route in the World", Ghoghnos, September 24, 2019, available at <https://www.ghoghnos.net/blog/city-guide/silk-road-the-ancient-communication-route-in-the-world/>.

world. Silk route also served an active connection for transfer of knowledge relating to language skills, intercultural exchange rituals shared when people eat together or communication, calculations, religious practices, art, sculpture and design, meditation techniques, and knowledge. This will continue with the modern BRI in different forms of globalized culture and traditions.

The first chapter established the foundation for the book in the background of historical relations of China with the rest of the world, through the Silk Routes. These routes served as strategic corridors for transfer of goods, services and knowledge from East to West, thereby creating the military and intellectual dominance of China over the rest of the world. The diversity of cultures and beliefs along the routes created peace and tranquility as preachers of various religions used these roads to extend their beliefs to other parts. Most of the Silk Route has been vanished and it is more like a metaphor now, yet the modern concept of Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI) of China has its roots from the success of the old Silk Routes and its historical supremacy through trade and merchant capitalism. Chinese being a nation with long history and culture spreading over thousands of years, has been using the grandeur of Silk Routes in the modern day philosophy of Global Trades.

In next chapter, we will learn about the historical perspective of China Pak diplomatic relations spanning over seven decades.

2

Pakistan China Diplomatic Relations

*A famous quote often said about the friendship of two countries:
"A Friendship Higher than Himalayas, deeper than ocean, sweeter than
honey, and stronger than steel"*

President Xi Jinping

'I Feel As If I Am Going to Visit the Home of My Own Brother'

*The Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visited Pakistan in Dec, 2021 and quoted
three famous saying at different occasions:*

"A friend in need is a friend indeed."

"A neighbor is far better than a distant relative."

"A good neighbor is a blessing."

President Xi Jinping told the Pakistan Prime Minister at Diaoyutai State: Guesthouse China: *The friendship between China and Pakistan is "unbreakable and rock-solid" despite changes in the international and regional situation*⁸.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said during the visit of the President of Pakistan in March 2021 for showing solidarity with Chinese nation during COVID-19, *'special friendship between Pakistan and China was choice of the history as it had deep roots in the hearts of people of the two countries'*.

⁸ Read more at: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/pakistan-china-friendship-unbreakable-rock-solid-xi/articleshow/71503447.cms?utm>



File photo of President Dr. Arif Alvi and Chinese President Xi Jinping
March 2020

Pakistan was one of the first countries to recognize China and the two countries established diplomatic ties on May 21st, 1951. This relationship is largely motivated by the need for security and economics. In the presence of adversary attitude and expansionist design of India as a natural opponent after the partition of United India, Pakistan has the only choice to extend warm friendship with the People Republic of China. However, over the years, this relation transformed into stronger and strategic one, based on mutual interest of the two nations. For China, Pakistan is important of their partner for its geostrategic importance as it provides link with maritime route, can strengthen the Chinese anti-India stance and support the peaceful region. The emerging geopolitical realities in South Asia and East Asian region were a harbinger of close relations between the two countries. With Chinese participation in the Korean War, Pakistan's response by not taking any position against China proved to be a rational decision⁹.

9 Allauddi. Hongsong Liu, Raja Qaiser Ahmed 'The Changing Dynamics and New Developments of China-Pakistan Relations"- India Quarterly 76(1) 73-88, 2020

Pakistan always found coherence with the China in the international issues. The chronology of events of Diplomatic relations between the two countries is given below ¹⁰:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>
1951	The two countries establish diplomatic relations
1955	Visit of Vice President Madam Song Ching Ling to Pakistan
1956	Visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan H. S. Suharwerdi to China
1963	Visit of Foreign Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to China
1963	Pakistan and China concludes boundary agreement through peaceful negotiations
1964	Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) starts its flights to Beijing, becoming the first non-communist country airline to fly from Beijing
1965	Agreement on Cultural Cooperation signed
1970	Pakistan facilitates first visit by US President Nixon to China
1976	Agreement on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation signed
1978	The Karakoram Highway, a construction miracle, linking the mountainous Northern Pakistan with Western China officially opens
1983	Pakistan and China sign MoU on Educational Exchanges
1989	The two countries sign an agreement on Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investments
1995	Agreement for Traffic in Transit is signed between the Governments of Pakistan, China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan
1995	Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto visits China as a special guest to attend the 4th Women's Conference in Beijing

10 "PAKISTAN AND CHINA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS", Ministry of Foreign Affairs, available at <https://mofa.gov.pk/pakistan-and-china-diplomatic-relations/>.

1999	The contract to jointly develop and produce JF-17 was signed
2001	Premier Zhu Rongji visits Pakistan on the occasion of 50 years of establishment of Diplomatic Relations
2001	China and Pakistan sign agreement on Tourism Cooperation
2003	Preferential Trade Agreement is signed between the two countries
2005	Bilateral MoU on Cooperation in Information Technology is concluded
2005	Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visits Pakistan
2005	Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Good Neighbourly Relations" is signed between the two countries
2006	Chinese President Hu Jintao pays an official visit to Pakistan
2006	China and Pakistan sign Free Trade Agreement
2008	Pakistan welcomes the Chinese Olympic Torch in Islamabad
2010	Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visits Pakistan
2010	JF-17 inducted in Pakistan Air Force
2013	Premier Li Keqiang visits Pakistan in May and both sides issue a Joint Statement on Deepening Comprehensive Strategic Cooperation
2013	Pakistan and China sign the landmark Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the Long-term Plan on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
2013	Pakistan awards a contract for construction and operation of Gwadar Port to China
2013	Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif visits China and both sides agree to Common Vision for Deepening China-Pakistan Strategic Cooperative Partnership in the New Era
2013	Both countries sign Memorandum of Understanding on the Cooperation of Developing China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Long-term Plan and Action

2014	Both Governments agreed for construction of Orange Line Train 27 km
2015	Chinese President Xi Jinping visits Pakistan. The two sides conclude more than 50 agreements in infrastructure, energy and industrial development
2015	Year 2015 celebrated as Year of Friendly Exchange
2015	Chinese President Xi Jinping undertakes a landmark visit to Pakistan, both countries signed over 50 documents including agreement on CPEC outlining projects worth 46 Million USD.
2016	The two countries 65 th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations
2016	China-Pakistan unveils the Long-term Plan of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)
2017	PM Nawaz Sharif attends Belt and Road Forum

Pakistan and China are considered as “All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership” and Iron Brothers, which has been proved by their mutual cooperation and same stance on various international issues. Pakistan remained part of the Cold war and partner with the SETO and CENTO against the communist nations but it did not affect the relation between the two countries. The Pak India war of 1965, provided a new dimension to these relations and broader partnership agreement were executed by the two countries. In 1962, an agreement was signed between them to resolve the alignment of 400-mile boarder of Pakistan in Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Kashmir with the Xinjiang province of China. The successive visits of Chinese leader Zhou Enlai in 1964 and 1965 and subsequent statement by Chinese foreign ministry in Sep 1965 for support of Pakistan during Pak India war, showed the growing commitment of China to Pakistan. This support was very pivotal for Pakistan as the war inflicted by India was mainly aimed at internal destabilization of the country. The declaration of Chinese leader Zhou Enlai expressing solidarity of his nation for national independence, sovereignty, and national integrity of Pakistan in, proved an important milestone of these relation.

China supported the construction of strategic infrastructure of Pakistan in 1970s, which also provided a direction for the bilateral relations. During this period, China oriented its foreign policy of expansion towards South and South East Asia based on peace and balanced approach towards Pak India disputes, including the dispute of Kashmir. With this reorientation of China foreign policy, Pakistan naturally got significance. The history of bilateral relations between the two countries can be divided into different phases.

In early period, soon after independence of China in 1949, the country mainly involved in its own development and priorities under conservative communist philosophy. Hence in the beginning, the relations mainly remained dormant except some people to people contacts for trade and commerce. Pakistan recognized China is sheer confusion as it was a communism based state, but in the presence of an adversary and expansionist neighbor like India, Pakistan couldn't afford to disengage with the newly established People Republic of China. The ideological differences in the philosophies of Islam and communism also impeded the development of relations in the initials years as both the nations had very little knowledge about each other. The conservative nature of governance of foreign policy of China also restricted the mixing of two nations in the early years. The inclination of Pakistan towards US and invitation of the US President to Pakistan by Pakistani Premier Liaquat Ali Khan also gave some clear signals of foreign policy of Pakistan, more tilted towards Capitalistic bloc. Hence in the initial years, we couldn't see some tangible development in the bilateral relations of the two countries.

The two countries exchanged their envoys during 1951-53 and Major General N.M. Raza from Defense Service was appointed as first Ambassador to China. Though India and China enjoyed warm relations, yet the relations between Pakistan and China were mostly peaceful during this period. The border demarcation between the two countries was still pending. The barter trade between the two countries expanded and Pakistan exported cotton, whereas imported coal and jute. In the Cold war era, the geostrategic location of Pakistan, enhanced its importance of global powers like US, USSR (Now Russian Federation) and China. After invasion of USSR in Afghanistan in 1979, Pakistan became an important player

of the Cold war as a buffer between the two important rivals Russia and US. The defeat of Soviet Union in Afghanistan led to collapse of USSR and Pakistan became an important ally of the United States in the meanwhile. Though, Pakistan remained direct victim of the Afghan War, yet it appeared an important country for the subsequent engagements in the region. Pakistan China bilateral relations during cold war can be analyzed while considering triangular interactions: (1) Pakistan-China-India, (2) Pakistan-China-US (3) Pakistan-China Soviet (4) Pakistan-China-Afghanistan triangle¹¹.



Pakistani Prime Minister Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai after signing the Treaty of Friendship Between China and Pakistan in Beijing in 1956.

Pakistan has been providing strong political support to China at various occasions to move out from isolation as communist country and played active role in connecting China and US by facilitating the visit of US President Nixon to Beijing in 1972. When the foreign minister of US, Henry Kissinger visited Pakistan in 1969

11 Umbreen Javaid, Asifa Jahangir(2015("Pakistan-Cina Strategic Relationship: A Glorious Journey of 55 Year- JRSP, Vol. 52, No. 1,2015

and later he visited Beijing with the support of Pakistan to pave ways for the first ever visit of the US President to China. During this visit, President Nixon reiterated Zhu Inlai, the Chinese premier to give high importance to relations with Pakistan, as an important country of the region.

The dispute over the Himalayan boundary between China and India existed after the independence of China. This dispute was further fueled by the Indian support to the uprising of Tibetans in 1959 and giving asylum to Tibetan Leader Dalai Lama. The Sino-India war broke out in Oct-Nov 1962 over the boundary disputes. The expansionist and confrontationist attitude of India dominated its foreign policy and relations with its neighbors from the beginning. This attitude is even continuing today and India has been pursuing its disputes with Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and other states of the region one way or the other way. Initially China attempted to resolve the border disputes with diplomatic efforts, which were undermined by India. On 20 October 1962, invading disputed territory along the 3,225 kilometer-(2,000-mile-) long Himalayan border in Ladakh and across the McMahon Line. Chinese troops advanced in the Himalayan territories and captured Rezang La in Chushul in the western theatre, as well as Tawang in the eastern theatre. The war ended when China declared a ceasefire on 20 November 1962, and simultaneously announced its withdrawal to its claimed "Line of Actual Control"¹². On the contrary, China resolved boundary issues with Pakistan more amicably in 1963, which was followed by Military Assistance in 1966. The strategic alliance between the two countries was formed in 1972 and economic cooperation started in 1979.

Pakistan always believed in the peaceful use of Nuclear Technologies. The first project based on nuclear energy Karachi Nuclear Project (KANUP) was initiated in 1967 and was commissioned in the period of ZA Bhutto in 1972. Soon Prime Minister Bhutto persuaded the scientists for nuclear research and development activities¹³. India detonated the first nuclear device in 1974, apparently for peaceful use but the Mr. ZA Bhutto reacted

12 Hoffman, Steven A. (1990). *India and the China Crisis*. Berkeley: University of California Press. pp. 101-104. ISBN 978-0520301726.

13 Akhtar Ali, *Pakistan's Nuclear Dilemma*, Economic Research Unit, Karachi, 1984, p. 46.

very strongly to this action. He convened the meeting of the National Assembly and described the Indian action as threat to the regional peace and stability. Subsequently, he strengthened Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission of Pakistan for more focused and intensified research and development in nuclear energy. This was really very important step in the defense history of Pakistan to create deterrence to protect sovereignty of the country. This led to high-tech research in the nuclear field. Pakistan executed agreement with the France for acquisition of Plutonium Enrichment and reprocessing Plant from France in 1978 under the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) certification. However, under the pressure from US, France cancelled the agreement. Pakistan under the PAEC, endeavored to develop its own reactors for Chshama Power Plant at Mianwali and installed the first unit in 1982, which was a hallmark development in the history of the nation to acquire nuclear capacity for energy production. United States, in the meanwhile remained adamant to revert the nuclear technology of Pakistan by either destroying it or impose stringent sanction over Pakistan. The third option with the US was to strengthen the military power of Pakistan, through conventional weapons. The Chashma Nuclear Power Plan (CHASHNUP) was initiated in 1993 in collaboration with the China Nuclear Energy Industry Corporation (CNEIC). The Indian test fire of nuclear weapons on May 11, 1999 astonished the entire world, when the Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, announced it publically. In response to Indian five nuclear explosions, Pakistan tested six explosions on May 28, 2021. This provided nuclear deterrence to Pakistan against the hegemonic designs of India.

Pakistan believes in non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region, yet in the presence of expansionist enemy like India, Pakistan cannot be indifferent to its sovereignty. Pakistan has been proposing various treaties and agreement for curtailing the arms race and proliferation in the region to India but these were not accepted. These include South Asian Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ), proposal for the Mutual Inspections of Nuclear Facilities, Simultaneous Signing of Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), proposal for Five Nation Conference on Nuclear Nonproliferation, Compliance with IAEA Safeguards, Proposal for Nuclear Restraint

Regime in South Asia and Nuclear Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)¹⁴. Unfortunately, India has never been serious to respond positively to these proposals from Pakistan, rather they continued with weaponizing the South Asia. For Pakistan, it was natural to develop its arms and nuclear capacity for creating minimum deterrence. During this period, the support of China for Pakistan's nuclear program for peaceful uses remained very exemplary. US has been pressurizing and discouraging Pakistan and China one way or the other way, to discontinuance with this cooperation. On the other hand, US signed agreement with the India for nuclear technology. These double standards of US towards Nuclear Policy in South Asia, led to arms race in the region, which has been spearheaded by India.

The Kashmir conflict emerged as unresolved part of the partition of Indian subcontinent. The failure of the UN to resolve the issue according to its Resolutions, has created high level of instability and arms race in the region. The dispute remained the major reason for at least three wars between the two archrivals India and Pakistan. In contrary to the spirit of partition, India does not link its control of Kashmir to the Pakistani strong stance of Two-Nation Theory that marked Kashmir a Muslim majority state. Under the Simla Agreement in 1972, both the countries committed to resolve their mutual issues through peaceful negotiations. Pakistan has seriously highlighted and recorded seventy years of human rights violation in Indian-administered Kashmir by killing the innocent people including women and children¹⁵.

China supported Pakistan in its nuclear and missile program as a strong ally and a comprehensive agreement for nuclear cooperation was signed between the two countries. Initially, when China has border issues with India, it openly supported Pakistan's stance on Kashmir. In post Sino-Indian conflicts in 1962, China countered India by strengthening the defense system of Pakistan through mutual cooperation. In the post-Cold War era, China has been more interested in peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute to avoid any nuclear war in the region. Like other powers in the

14 Iftikhar Ali (2010), Pak-China nuclear cooperation and Pakistan's non-proliferation initiatives - Asia Pacific, Research Journal,

15 Cohen, S. P. (2004). The idea of Pakistan. London: Brookings Institution Press.

region, China asserts Kashmir dispute a bilateral issue between the two countries, which may be resolved through peaceful negotiations and under the UN resolutions. The brutal decision of India on 5 August 2019 to end the disputed status of Kashmir and divide the state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) into two Union territories, triggered a new wave of uncertainty and threats to the region peace. In response to this, Pakistan issued a new map showing the entire Kashmir as its part on 4 August 2020. Pakistan also changed the name of disputed territory to “Indian Illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir”. The Chinese government also criticized India’s decision of 5 August 2019 and the creation of the Union territory of Ladakh, which formally includes Aksai Chin.

In 2000, US President Bill Clinton described Kashmir as “the most dangerous place in the world”. Apart from the possibility that Pakistan and China might cooperate politically and militarily on Kashmir in the future, recent developments have added another conflict component to the “world’s most dangerous place”¹⁶. There seems remote possibility that the dispute will be resolved through peaceful means due to hegemonic and expansionist approach of India. In this background, the China’s support to Pakistan in the Kashmir dispute is expected to increase for mutual benefits. The role of US, supporting India in the dispute is also creating China’s backup for Pakistan.

The strategic relationship between Pakistan and China will further intensify in view of the global and regional and global dynamics. According to the Neorealist theory of International Relations, States around the world are affected by the international systems and the relations with other countries is also subject to shared common interests like forming an alliance, security dilemma, maintaining the balance of power and the balance of threat to secure their main objective of ensuring their security etc.¹⁷ The Pak China collaboration initially focused on military and political dimensions but for the last two decades, this partnership has

16 Wagner, Christian; Stanzel, Angela (2020) Redrawing the maps in Kashmir: New geopolitical realities in the conflict between China, India, and Pakistan. (SWP Comment, 52/2020)

17 Minhas Majeed Khan and Mirwais Kasi (2017). Pakistan-China Relations Source: Strategic Studies, Vol. 37, No. 3 (Autumn 2017), pp. 55-74 Published by: Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2307/48537557>

focused more on social, economic and cultural exchange relations. The Pak China cooperation has been now focused on four areas under CPEC, 1) energy projects, 2) transport infrastructure, 3) building of the Gwadar port and 4) industrial cooperation.

Pakistan started negotiations on Free Trade Agreements with China in 2005, which lead to signing of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries, which became effective in 2007¹⁸. In next couple of year, both the counties are willing to increase their bilateral trade by USD 20 Billion from its current level of USD 15 Billion. With the completion of CPEC projects, the partnership between the two countries will become stronger and mutually beneficial. The close relations between a strong Islamic country and Neo-liberalized Communist country, China is always considered as a good example for creating tolerance and peace in the region. With the new relations based on historic ties and shared economic and development interests, the relations between Pakistan and China will strength further, which can also be a catalyst for sustainable peace in the region.

Pakistan's Vision 2025 aims at making Pakistan as one the Asian Tigers, through resource mobilization and capacity building of the human resources. The ultimate destination under this vision is to become one the top ten economies of the world by 2047-The Centennial year of our independence. In first phase of its vision, Pakistan has to revive its growth by strengthening the developmental foundation to become a top 25 global economy. In next phase during 2025-35, Pakistan has to achieve the level of global and regional leadership in the targeted sectors. In third phase, Pakistan has aimed at becoming top 10 global economy by year 2047¹⁹. This is certainly a highly optimistic vision, which requires highly focused approach. This will also require, to establish close link with China, South Asia, Central Asia and

18 "China FTA Network: China-Pakistan FTA," n.d,
<http://fta.mofcom.gov.cn/topic/enpakistan.shtml>

19 Pakistan 2025, Panning Commission, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms One Nation One Vision-Available at <https://www.pc.gov.pk/uploads/vision2025/Pakistan-Vision-2025.pdf>, retrieved on Sep 11,2021.

Middle East regions²⁰, to establish better communication and transportation system to facilitate trade and commerce in the region.

20 Majeed Kamil Hamzah, China-Pakistan Relations for the Next Decade (2020-2030)-
International Journal on Humanities and Social Sciences, (20), 300-322.
<https://doi.org/10.33193/IJoHSS.20.2021.232>

100 years of Communist Party of China

On July 01 2021, Communist Party of China celebrated its centennial achievements. The secretary general of the CPC Central Committee, Chinese President Xi Jinping made a historic speech, which provided the road map for CPC in the next century. The speech comprised of the following major points²¹:

- We have realized the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects. This means that we have brought about a historic resolution to the problem of absolute poverty in China
- The second centenary goal is of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects
- Since the very day of its founding, the Party has made seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation its aspiration and mission
- To realize national rejuvenation, the Party united and led the Chinese people in endeavoring to build a stronger China with a spirit of self-reliance, achieving great success in socialist revolution and construction
- To realize national rejuvenation, the Party united and led the Chinese people in freeing the mind and forging ahead, achieving great success in reform, opening up, and socialist modernization

²¹ "Full Text: Speech by Xi Jinping at a Ceremony Marking the Centenary of the CPC", Xinhua, July, 2021, available at http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2021-07/01/c_1310038244.htm

- To realize national rejuvenation, the Party has united and led the Chinese people in pursuing a great struggle, a great project, a great cause, and a great dream through a spirit of self-confidence, self-reliance, and innovation, achieving great success for socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era
- As we put conscious effort into learning from history to create a bright future, we must bear the following in mind:
 - a. We must uphold the firm leadership of the Party
 - b. We must unite and lead the Chinese people in working ceaselessly for a better life
 - c. We must continue to adapt Marxism to the Chinese context
 - d. We must uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics.
 - e. We must accelerate the modernization of national defense and the armed forces
 - f. We must continue working to promote the building of a human community with a shared future
 - g. We must carry out a great struggle with many contemporary features.
 - h. We must strengthen the great unity of the Chinese people.
 - i. We must continue to advance the great new project of Party building

In concluding statement, President Xi, reaffirmed the stance of Chinese nation for a prosperous future for China as given below:

“Comrades and friends, Today, a hundred years on from its founding, the Communist Party of China is still in its prime, and remains as determined as ever to achieve lasting greatness for the Chinese nation. Looking back on the path we have travelled and forward to the journey that lies ahead, it is certain that with the firm leadership of the Party and the great unity of the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, we will

achieve the goal of building a great modern socialist country in all respects and fulfill the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

Long live our great, glorious, and correct Party!

Long live our great, glorious, and heroic people!"

With the establishment of People Republic of China led by the Chairman of Communist Party of China, Mao Zedong in 1948, China endeavoured to explore to socialist industrialization and modernization and in 1953 a road map was presented to the nation. This started with rejuvenation strategy through “Four modernizations during (1964-2000). This included realizing national industrialization as quickly as possible; systematically performing a technical transformation of the national economy by stages; and developing modernized industry, modernized agriculture, modernized transportation industry, and modernized national defence²². In 1987 Deng Xiaoping adjusted the scheduled deadline to comprehensively realize three step strategies for 2000 to 2050. These included:

- i. Doubling of the GNP by 1990 as compared to 1980 and the provision of ample food and clothing for the people.
- ii. Further double the GNP by end of 20th century, and to raise living standards for China’s population to a level of moderate prosperity.
- iii. To bring per capita GNP reach the level of moderately developed countries by 2050. At this stage, China’s population would enjoy the fruits of prosperity and fully realized modernization. Then, on that basis, China would continue to make further progress.

China is currently working towards the achievement of its “two centenary goals” (2000–2050), while adhering to Xi Jinping’s “two-

22 Constitution of the Communist Party of China (adopted at the 8th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on Sep. 26, 1956). Collection of Constitution of the Communist Party of China (from 1st Party Congress to 18th Party Congress (Central Party School Publishing House, 2013).

stage” strategy of a modern socialist country for a new era (2020–2050). These strategies are aimed at creating socialistic modernization with Chinese character²³.

The International Department of Communist Party of China (ID-CPC) has been closely working with the various countries and regions of the world for outreach of its priorities and philosophies after 2000s. President Xi, has re-centralized the political power in the CPC and extensive collaboration has been made with the world outside.

The new version of CPC has become more pluralistic by overthrowing the shackles imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, thereby becoming more geared towards the development of people. CPC can be credited to unite all ethnic groups of China for socialistic reforms with Chinese character. This model modernized socialism, practiced by China paved ways for liberalization of China, after globalization.

The major character of the CPC is, its staunch belief in the Marxism philosophy as guiding principles. President Xi, emphasized that the ideological work of CPC is very important to make Chinese people prosper and develop China into a modern country. The concepts of Marxism and dynamics of Chineses revolution were blended together to create a collective wisdom. The initial period of Mao Dzetung was mainly concentrated on understanding and practicing the socialism as model for development of China. The reforms and opening up of China to external world policy of Deng Xiaoping, while keeping its socialistic identity intact, made it clear that they wouldn’t follow the Western Capitalistic path. In his speech on the centennial celebrations of CPC, President Xi Jinping made it clear that Marxism will remain the major part of our philosophy in the Chinese context. He explained as follows:

23 Angang Hu *et al* (2021) Understanding Xi Jinping’s Governance- Becoming a Great Modern Socialist Country. Springer Open Access.
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2F978-981-15-9833-3.pdf>

“Marxism is the fundamental guiding ideology upon which our Party and country are founded; it is the very soul of our Party and the banner under which it strives. The Communist Party of China upholds the basic tenets of Marxism and the principle of seeking truth from facts. Based on China’s realities, we have developed keen insights into the trends of the day, seized the initiative in history, and made painstaking explorations. We have thus been able to keep adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and the needs of our times, and to guide the Chinese people in advancing our great social revolution. At the fundamental level, the capability of our Party and the strengths of socialism with Chinese characteristics are attributable to the fact that Marxism works.

On the journey ahead, we must continue to uphold Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development, and fully implement the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. We must continue to adapt the basic tenets of Marxism to China’s specific realities and its fine traditional culture. We will use Marxism to observe, understand, and steer the trends of our times, and continue to develop the Marxism of contemporary China and in the 21st century”.²⁴

The second important attribute of the CPC, is its adherence to the people centered ruling philosophy and value driven Governance. The Marxism is distinguished with its basic ideology that Socialism is mainly aimed at serving the people and proletariat. Socialism as a result will replaced Capitalism and welfare of masses will remain the major agenda of the governments. The initial heart and mission of Communist Party of China is to seek happiness for the Chinese people and seek rejuvenation for the Chinese nation²⁵. Chairman Mao said: “The real impregnable fortress is the masses. It is the millions of people who really support the revolution. This

24 “Full Text of Xi Jinping’s Speech on the CCP’s 100th Anniversary”, Nikkei Asia, available at <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Full-text-of-Xi-Jinping-s-speech-on-the-CCP-s-100th-anniversary>

25 Ning Liu-An Analysis of the Ruling Experience of the Communist Party of China in the Past 70 Years- 4th International Conference on Economy, Judicature, Administration and Humanitarian Projects (JAHIP 2019)

is the real impregnable fortress that can't be broken by any force." Later the second generation leader of China Deng Xiaoping provided the "Three favorable standards for the development of China i.e. i. whether it is conducive to developing the productive forces of the socialist society, ii. whether it is conducive to enhancing the comprehensive national strength of the socialist country, and iii. whether it is conducive to improving the living standards of the people.

The third important attribute of the CPC, is to build the party on strong ideological grounds and develop institutional systems based on party strengths. Hence it has been a strong aspect of the party to improve its performance towards realizing the objectives of the ideology of socialism for the welfare of common masses. In first generation of its birth, the ideological foundation of the party was strengthened. The second generation of Communist Party of China with Comrade Deng Xiaoping as the core attaches importance to the legalized society, values system construction, bring order out of ideological chaos, and promotes efforts to enforce strict Party discipline. For China, it seems that the Communist party will remained as major force for ruling un China and it has the ability to tackle the challenges of people, times and developments. Yet it has to absorb and adjust to the changes of dynamic world and modernized Chinese society in 21st century. For New Era, the party must adhere to the thoughts and approaches of President Xi Jinping based on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics. This will require integration of ideological party building based on and institutional party governance, and always adhere to the anticorruption construction²⁶.

The major points of the President Xi philosophy are derived from his reflections on 5th Jan, 2013, when he was elected as Secretary General of the party. Some of the major points are given as follows:

26 Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era is a Model of Marxist Innovation and Development in the 21st Century [N]. Guangming Daily, 2018-12-28.

- It is Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought that guided the Chinese people out of the darkness of that long night and established a New China. All other isms failed.

- After the collapse of Soviet Union, there were apprehensions about the apparent China collapse, but instead China has become more powerful and the lives of the people of China have improved.

- There have been many perceptions about the changes in the socialism policies in China and people used different terms like “Capital socialism”, “State capitalism” or “bureaucratic capitalism” etc., which are totally wrong. The Socialisms with Chinese characteristics is based on: the absolute leadership of the Communist Party of China, grounding policy in national conditions, putting economic construction at the center, adhering to the “Four Cardinal Principles” and to the program of reform and opening up, liberating and developing productive social forces, building socialist market economy, socialist democratic politics, an advanced socialist culture, a harmonious socialist society, and an ecological socialist civilization.

- Socialism with Chinese characteristics is the dialectical unity of the theoretical logic of scientific socialism and the historical logic of China’s social development.

President Xi Jinping made it clear that if we keep moving with this approach of Socialism with China characteristics, we will be able to build a prosperous, democratic, civilized, modernized, and harmonious socialist country by the centennial anniversary of the founding of New China.²⁷

²⁷ Tanner Greer (2021) Xi Jinping in Translation: China’s Guiding Ideology. Available at <https://www.bunicuta.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/xi-discurs-2013.pdf>

4

Fundamentals of China's Miracle

Before we unveil the dynamics of the China's miracle, I would like to quote the famous poem of great thinker and philosopher Allama Muhammad Iqbal in his book Zarbi-Kaleem with a "Fannon-i- Lateefa (Fine Arts)²⁸:

اے اہل نظر ذوق نظر خوب سے لیکن
جشنے کی حقیقت کو نہ دیکھے وہ نظر کیا

O people with observing eyes, a
taste for observation is a good things,
But what good is observation if it does not see
the inwardness of things?

مقصودِ مہنہ روزِ حیاتِ ابدی ہے
یہ ایک نفس یا دو نفس مثل شہر کیا

The aim of art should be to generate a vital flame that never dies.
What use is a mere momentary spark?

جس سے دل دریا مُستِ لاطم نہ ہیجوتا
اے قطفِ قنیاں وہ صدف کیا وہ لہر کیا

28 "(Zarb-e-Kaleem-128) Funoon-e-Latifa", Iqbal Poetry, available at
<https://iqbalurdu.blogspot.com/2011/04/zarb-e-kaleem-128-funoon-e-latifa.html>

What good, O rain-drop, if you do not agitate
the bosom of the sea,
And are content to be a pearl lodged in a mother-of-pearl's womb?

شاعر کی نوا ہو کہ مُنغنی کا نفس ہو
جس سے حسنِ افسردہ ہو وہ باجوہ کر گیا

What good a breath of morning breeze,
Whether as poet's verse or singer's air,
If it can only make the garden wilt?

بے مجبوزہ دنیا میں اُبھرتی نہیں قومیں
جو ضربِ کلیدی نہیں رکھتے وہ ہنر کیا!

O never without miracles do people rise;
What good is art that does not have
the impact of the rod of Moses?

In last part of the poem, Iqbal has rightly alluded that nations can rise only through doing miracles and for that you have to acquire the requisite strengths. The rise of modern China is not less than a miracle. The China miracle is manifested in the extraordinary performance and decisions of China in the post reforms and opening up era, after the comrade Deng Xiaoping approach. The first generation of Chinese leadership was highly focused on cementing the foundation of Chinese society on the principles of Marxist Socialism and to create public goods, through unity, sacrifices and delivery of services. After Globalization and development of open market economy, the second generation leadership of China, fostered the opening up reforms to improve the socioeconomic conditions of China, by making it an active partner in the global economy, but still adhering to the basic

identity of the Socialist nation. In this chapter we will try to answer three fundamental questions. What is the nature of China's miracle? What are the determinants and dynamics of this miracle and thirdly whether this miracle is sustainable or not?

The reforms and opening up policies of China can be divided in the following stages:

- i. Reform of Rural Areas
- ii. Reform of State-own Enterprises- five stages
 - a. 1st Period: The Initial Stage (1978-1984)
 - b. 2nd Period: Contract Stage (1985-1990)
 - c. 3rd period: Transformation (1991-1993)
 - d. 4th Period: Modern Enterprise System (1994-2002)
 - e. 5th Period: Shareholding system and Diversified Ownership Economy(2002-now)

The China's reforms are strikingly different from the rest of the world in many ways. China started from a very poor economy and downtrodden society after its independence. The nation was mostly based on agriculture economy with very low per capita production and inefficient systems. The poverty in the country was exuberant and common person was living in a very deplorable conditions. The initial years of the country were dominated by centralized ration system for food items and food coupons were issued to individuals to make their both ends meet. These food coupons were distributed amongst the households for certain limited quantities of food rations. One food coupon is shown in Fig 4.1. People have to stand in long queues for collecting ration.



“Food Coupons Issued by the People's Republic of China” available at <http://www.paulnoll.com/China/Money/money-PRC-01R.html>



“Food for 30 years of reform and opening up: No need to queue up to buy food”, China Central Television, available at <http://news.cctv.com/china/20080927/105799.shtml>

In the presence of a strong one party based Government, the politics in China remained forcefully peaceful as there was no opposition to the party politics and governance. This provided a unified concentration to the leaders for improvement of the socioeconomic conditions of the country. In contrary the other transition country of the region, were marred with political instability, poor consensus on the national priority agenda and lack of collective wisdom on the national and international issues.

The historical speech of Deng Xiaoping on “Truth from the Facts” at the end of 1978 turned the tables for reforms in China. In the subsequent Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of Communist Party of China (CCCPCP), which laid

out a tentative program of reform to move away from the planned economy²⁹. During the earlier cultural revolutions, leaders like Deng Xiaoping and Hua Guofeng, greatly suffered for their ideas of the agricultural reforms, which were banished by the first generation leaders of Mao era. Nevertheless, the second generation leaders still adhered to smooth transition and opening to avoid any pitfalls and crisis, while keeping with the identity of a Socialist nation. The reforms started from rural areas with the household responsibility system and township and village enterprises, and some initial steps to open up the economy to foreign trade and investment, which only started to play a significant role in the 1990s³⁰. Initially the reforms were not visible and dominant, however in the mid-1990s, these got momentum. The overall broader reforms strategy emerged in 1993 with the “Decisions of establishment of Socialistic Market” but these reforms were implemented gradually on experimental basis³¹. The major reforms are illustrated as follows:

- 1978: Communiqué of the third Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (CCCPC) plenum of the 11th party congress initiating “four modernizations”
- 1979: “Open door” policy initiated, foreign trade and investment reforms begin. Law on Joint Venture Companies passed
- 1979 Limited official encouragement of household responsibility system 1979 Three specialized banks separated from the People’s Bank (the central bank). 1980 First four special economic zones created
- 1980: “Eating from Separate Kitchens” reforms in intergovernmental fiscal relations 1984 Individual enterprises with less than eight employees officially allowed

29 In Deng Xiaoping’s meeting with Robert McNamara in April 1980, Deng indicated that China would open up, reform, and modernize – and that it was likely to succeed with or without the Bank, but that the success would be smoother and faster with Bank support.

30 Bert Hofman Jinglian Wu (2009)-Explaining China’s Development and Reforms-Commission on Growth and Development. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

31 The Communiqué of the third Central Committee of the Communist Party of China plenum of the 14th party congress.

- 1984: Tax for Profit reforms of SOEs
- 1986: Provisional bankruptcy law passed for SOEs
- 1987: Contract responsibility system introduced in SOEs
- 1989: Tiananmen square events trigger retrenchment policy, halt on reforms
- 1990: Stock exchange started in Shenzhen, Shanghai
- 1992: Deng Xiaoping's "Tour through the South" reignites reforms
- 1993: Decision of the third plenum of the CCCPC of the 14th party congress to establish a "socialist market economy" paved way for fiscal, financial, SOE reforms
- 1994: RMB convertible for current account transactions 1994 Tax-sharing system reforms introduced
- 1994: Policy banks established, commercialization of banking system announced
- 1995: Central Bank Law, Banking Law, Budget Law enacted
- 1997: Comprehensive plan to restructure SOEs adopted, "grab the big, let go of the small"
- 2001: China's accession to WTO
- 2003: 3rd CCCPC plenum of the 16th party congress, decision to "perfect" the socialist market economy
- 2004: Constitution amended to guarantee private property rights
- 2005: Construction Bank, Bank of China initial public offerings
- 2006: 6th CCCPC plenum of the 16th party congress establishes the goal of "Harmonious Society"

Source: Hofman *et al.* 2007³².

The China's approach of gradual transition was owed to many reasons. Firstly, to mend the resistance from the CPC as after the first generation, many political leaders were looking at the reforms agenda through suspicion. Secondly, gradual transition in the political and economic systems is always a proactive and sustainable approach as it provides ample adjustment time for the

32 Hoffmann B and Jinglian W (2009) 'Explaining China's Development and Reforms' working paper is a product of the Commission on Growth and Development-Sponsored by Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and others.

people and society. In this process, even the adversary to the transition can understand the dynamics. Thirdly the experiment based reforms were well suited to the culturally strong Chinese society, where an experiment could be easily abandoned at small scale, in case of failure. The pilot approach in the policy making and its implementation always suits in the transition states.

The first and most important attribute of the reforms was its decentralization and experimentation. In first phase, local Governments were given increased authority in the matters of investment approvals, fiscal resources, and policies. The fiscal reforms were introduced in 1980 under famous phrase "*Eating from separate Kitchen*". Under this rural reforms system, the local governments were empowered to retain greater part of their revenue with minimum tax on flat rate. At the party level, the promotion was linked with the personal growth and achievement of the priority agenda. This first phase of reforms created macroeconomic controls issues with special reference to high inflation rate. This became major agenda of the subsequent reforms. The system was soon replaced with mainstream tax sharing system to curtail inflation and ensure macroeconomics stability. The concept of pragmatic transitional institutes was adopted in the next level of reforms. For example, the Township and Village Enterprises (TVE), born out of the Collective Production Brigades (CPB) was very successful in improvement of productivity and creating employment. This model proved relatively more feasible than the State Owned Enterprise model. With the improvement of private property rights protections, TVEs were converted into private companies with investment from inside and outside the country.

The major reform areas included agricultural sector, trade and investment policies, Financial sector reforms, State Enterprise Reforms and Macroeconomic Policy. China pursued liberalization of the price system, opening up for trade and foreign investment, commercialization of the financial sector, privatization of the economy—all while maintaining a reasonable level of macroeconomic stability. With reforms in agriculture sector by 1982,

almost 90% of the lands were leased and contracted for different tenures from 3-5 years, which resulted into increase in production and cultivation of new crops. The increased use of fertilizers, enhanced mechanization, diversified food basket and change in incentive system led to growth of rural economy. This created green revolution in China and the dividends of the agricultural reforms reached the common masses.

The reforms in trade and investment policies in last 4 decades remained very dominant and China has become one of the favorite countries for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). These reforms were pursued in three steps: i). gradual liberalization of the trade planning system; (ii) gradual reforms in the exchange and payments system; and (iii) opening up to FDI. The Foreign Trade Companies, which earlier monopolized the foreign trade lost its existence and the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) attracted large amounts of FDI. Rationalization of Taxes and tax incentives, boosted the trade and investments in China. This was coupled with the rationalization of exchange rate. Earlier the foreign trade was possible through the Central Bank of China only but after the reforms, the foreign banks were also allowed to setup their branches in the SEZs. By 1986, all domestic banks were allowed for the foreign trade transactions.

The Financial Sector reforms of China also continued at gradual pace which included steady increase in the type and number of banks combined with a gradual relaxation, and then abolition, of most restrictions on lending by those banks. Four specialized banks were established as i). The Agricultural Bank of China specializing in rural finance; (ii) the People's Construction Bank of China, specializing in investment financing; (iii) the Bank of China, specializing in international financial transactions; and (iv) the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, focusing on working capital financing.

For State Enterprise reforms, China gave more rights to the enterprises. Under the Enterprise Contracting System (ECS) adopted in 1983, the residual profit was transferred to the enterprise which created inflation and subsequently Tax for profit

concept was imposed. The managerial rights of the enterprises were further enhanced in 1993 and the Company Law, laid the foundation for corporatization of 100 State Owner Enterprises (SOEs). In 1999, the program for diversified shareholders was introduced, however the success of these initiatives is yet to be seen, as the interference of the Government in the executive level decisions and appointments are still continuing. For macroeconomic stability, the Central Bank role for centralized control over monetary policy was defined in the reforms decisions of 1993. For noninflationary means of financing the deficit, government bonds were created. The interest rate was gradually liberalized and linked with interbank rate in mid 1990s³³.

The success of China's reforms is also linked to their sustainability over long time. The indigenous design of the reforms, well suited to the domestic conditions made it more successful in implementation.

i. *Achieving Great Economic Success*: China witnessed one of the highest growth rate in its history after the reforms. The annual GDP of China increased by 20-30 times, as compared to base year of 1978. The Global Innovation Index rating of China has increased 43rd to 22nd during 2009-2017. The economic status of the countries has raised from low income country in 1978 to upper middle level countries in 2017. The average GDP growth rate of China during 2000-2014, has been 10%, whereas for US, it was 1.8%. This growth rate was even better than the four Asian Tigers (Taiwan, Singapore, Japan and South Korea). The GDP growth rate of China during 1978-2017 is given in following Table ³⁴. As strongest Socialist country of the world, China with high investment in innovation and advanced technology. In 2017, China ranked second in terms of publishing scientific papers and ranked first in the patent applications filed.

The agricultural sector of China contributed significantly to the national growth. Today China produces 18% of the world's cereal

33 Zhili Bai & Juan Liu (2020) China's governance model and system in transition, *Journal of Contemporary East Asia Studies*, 9:1, 65-82

34 World Bank, 2019. *World Bank National Accounts Data: China 1960-2017*.

grains, 29% of the world's meat and 50% of the world's vegetables³⁵. The efficiency of the Chinese agricultural system can be imagined from the fact, that from 9% of the total global cultivated areas, China produces 20% of the global food. China remained the major exporter to Europe, US and Asia. The value addition of manufacturing sector of China was about 35.1% and the gross value added manufacturing stood at 28.9% of the GDP during 2013, as against 12.1% in the United States and 18.7% in Japan. After becoming member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), China rationalized the tariff and non-tariff barriers to international trade. The value of China's merchandise exports increased from \$14 billion in 1979 to \$23 trillion in 2014 with an annual growth of 18.0% from 1990 to 2014, whilst importation of merchandise rose from \$18 billion to about \$2.0 trillion with an annual growth of 16.6% in the same period.

35 United Nations, UNdata, available at <http://data.un.org>

Volume and growth rate of China's GDP during 1978-2017

Year	GDP (current US\$ billion)	Growth rate (annual %)
1978	149.541	11.667
1979	178.281	7.6
1980	191.149	7.807
1981	195.866	5.172
1982	205.090	8.934
1983	230.687	10.835
1984	259.947	15.139
1985	309.488	13.443
1986	300.758	8.94
1987	272.973	11.689
1988	312.354	11.235
1989	347.768	4.186
1990	360.858	3.907
1991	383.373	9.294
1992	426.916	14.216
1993	444.731	13.868
1994	564.325	13.052
1995	734.548	10.949
1996	863.747	9.928
1997	961.604	9.231
1998	1,029	7.838
1999	1,094	7.667
2000	1,211	8.492
2001	1,339	8.34
2002	1,471	9.131
2003	1,660	10.036
2004	1,955	10.111
2005	2,286	11.396
2006	2,752	12.719
2007	3,552	14.231
2008	4,598	9.654
2009	5,110	9.4
2010	6,101	10.636
2011	7,573	9.536
2012	8,561	7.856
2013	9,607	7.758
2014	10,482	7.298
2015	11,065	6.9
2016	11,191	6.7
2017	12,238	6.9

Source: World Bank, 2019. World Bank National Accounts Data:

The China economic miracle can be attributed to many factors but some of the very dominant factors include³⁶:

- i. Quality of leadership (Credible, Competent and Committed 3C's Leadership)
- ii. Urge for sacrifice and commitment in common people to fight poverty and improve their society.
- iii. Learning from their mistakes and not repeating the same.
- iv. Gradual implementation of reforms on experimental basis along the learning curve.
- v. Empowerment of women and mainstreaming them in the national development
- vi. Unyielding commitment and resilience in the people. They have failed the failure and work only for success and creativity.
- vii. Peaceful co-existence and their staunch belief in the peace and mutual respect to create win-win situations for all. Contrarily, US has spent about USD 7 trillion on useless wars in the world.
- viii. Humility and submissiveness in the nature of Chinese, have made them more respectful society with no arrogance and egoism at individual and national levels.

China, has to address the challenges related to Climate Changes, New Technologies, Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI), uncertainties around the global trade & investment and domestic economic structural changes. The China growth story for medium to long term must be sustainable, inclusive, low carbon based and market oriented³⁷.

China's new form of development must focus on all the four types of capitals, i.e.

36 Excerpts from the Speech of Senator Mashahid Hussain at Conference on the 70 year celebrations of Pak China Diplomatic relations, held at Islamabad in July 2021

37 Hepburn C, Stern N, Xie C, Zenghelis D (2020) Strong, sustainable and inclusive growth in a new era for China - Paper 1: Challenges and ways forward. London: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science

wellbeing and wealth: human, social, physical and natural capital. In past, the growth in China has been mainly focused on exploitation of the physical capital. However, in recent year, the importance of other types of capitals have been realized by the planners, as exploitation of these three types of capital will lead to pollutions, degraded physical resources, depletion of forest etc., which in turn will also lead to poor health of human capital. The combined decline of natural and human capital then, undermines the social capital. Thus sustainability must be the main agenda for the future development and growth model of China.

The modern technologies is leading the world to Fourth Industrial Revolution (I 4.0). This involves use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Drone technologies, Cloud Computing, 3D printing, Virtual Reality (VR). Such distortion will create major challenge for the mainstreaming of all segments of society. Hence the major challenge would remain to involve and include the underprivileged and disadvantaged thorough reducing inequalities and promoting social cohesion in the process.

China being a major manufacturer in the global commodity market, has to understand the impact of Climate Change due to global warming owing to Green House Gases (GHG) emissions. The future manufacturing will have high emphasis over Clean and Green Technologies. The investment in renewable and clean energy must be the major impetus of the China future manufacturing policies.

Lastly for sustainable growth, the market oriented reforms have to be strengthened. The innovation and investment is mainly driven by the private sector, therefore market oriented reforms will be required to encourage creativity, innovation and competition.

Belt and Road Initiative of China

For China, the sustained growth is becoming a major challenge, as it is faced with both current and capital accounts surplus. China has endeavored to transform its growth model from investment and export model to consumption and domestic demand based economy. Under the “New Normal” philosophy of President Xi Jinping for high and sustained growth, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was kicked off in 2013 under *China Dream of Grand Rejuvenation*. This is continuation of the Opening up policies of modern China, which will serve as grand strategy for transition during 2013-2050³⁸.

China has highlighted its five reforms priorities under BRI during this period³⁹

- i. Policy coordination
- ii. Unimpeded and uninterrupted global trade
- iii. Facilitating Connectivity
- iv. Financial Integration
- v. Bonds between the people

The BRI is manifested in long term mega investment in the infrastructure development projects to connect the China with international markets in Asia and Europe. The BRI is comprised of overland and maritime routes as given on next page.

38 Hideo Ohashi (2018) The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the context of China’s opening-up policy, *Journal of Contemporary East Asia Studies*, 7:2, 85-103.

39 China National Development and Reform Commission (2015)



Hideo Ohashi (2018) The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the context of China's opening-up policy, *Journal of Contemporary East Asia Studies*, 7:2, 85-103.

For China, Maritime Silk route was always an important connectivity with the rest of the world, however during the Cold War, its importance remained defused one way or the other way. China initially announced the One Belt One Road (OBOR) to provide transport corridors to facilitate access to foreign markets and increase the turnover of goods transported from China to Europe and adjacent regions through Central Asia. The region of Central Asia includes Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and also vast territories of India, Iran, China, Pakistan and Russia. Later in 2015, its name was approved as *Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road* in the meeting of National Development and Reforms Commission in 2015. This projects will connect at least 65 countries of the world, which constitute 70% of the world population. The BRI in its dimension, purpose and objectives goes back to Great Silk Road, connecting East and West. The Silk Route Economic Belt (SREB) is comprised of three important parts:

- The Northern Corridor, or the New Continental Bridge to St. Petersburg and Helsinki through Kazakhstan and Russia with the possibility of extension to Rotterdam;
- The Central corridor through Central Asia, which then branches into several directions: to Western Asia and the Persian Gulf, to Mediterranean countries (Turkey, Italy), and also to Western Europe (the port of Rotterdam);
- The Southern Corridor through the regions of South-East Asia and South Asia to the largest ports of Pakistan and Indonesia allowing easy access both to Indian and Pacific oceans.

The objectives of the BRI and SREB are further highlighted as follows:

- i. Increasing exports for sustained growth of China, by exploring new markets of Central Asia, South Asia and Europe
- ii. Diversification of China's trade routes and reducing dependence on USA
- iii. Access to fuel and Energy resources of Central Asia
- iv. Increase of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Chinese Companies
- v. Smoothing and levelling of economic development of the underprivileged regions of the country.

The old Silk Route was developed about two thousand years back in the Hans Dynasty and the new Silk Route also called as *Belt* is aimed at creating thickly integrated and intertwined trade corridors which will ultimately lead to regional economic integration. Some western analysts declared it like US Marshall Plan but the difference is that it is not based on any foreign aid or Foreign Direct Investment but rather a loan financing by China Infrastructure Development Bank. With the new Silk Route, China desires to become an economic power through a new economic world order. Along the new Silk Route, China wants to achieve five bonds in the region. First close coordination and integration of the

countries along the BRI. Second building required infrastructure such as roads, railways, harbors, bridges etc. Third exchange of knowledge in the modern technologies and emerging fields of Information and communication technologies and material sciences. Fourth to enhance collaboration in the financial sector⁴⁰. Finally, people to people exchange, leading to building common identity along the Silk Route⁴¹.

The BRI is faced with the internal and external security challenges. Internally, the strategic threats to China will surface when it is connected to the Strait of Malacca which connects the China Sea and Burma Sea, through Bay of Bengal. Externally the Belts has to pass through unstable regions such as Afghanistan and Central Asia. The construction of huge physical infrastructure will also create serious environmental challenges. BRI and its extension will lead to creating a multipolar world, thereby reducing the US influence on global strategic decision making.

At least the following six corridors are proposed under BRI:

1. China–Mongolia–Russia economic corridor
2. New Eurasia land bridge economic corridor
3. China–Central Asia West Asia economic corridor
4. China–Pakistan economic corridor
5. Bangladesh–China India–Myanmar economic corridor
6. China–Indochina economic corridor.

The West is considering the policies of China under New Normal as their fight for hegemony in the Central Asia. For developing countries of the region, with limited resources for their infrastructure building and maintenance, BRI will prove a golden opportunity to connect with the international market. Such

40 Chin, H. (2015). The Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, Report by Fung Business Intelligence Centre.

41 Yafei. H. (2015). Connecting the World Through "Belt & Road". China-US Focus.

infrastructure investment by China will stimulate the global trade and growth⁴².

BRI is a very optimistic approach of China for regional and global trade integration but it is faced with multitude of Challenges. The digital growth in the world and exponential development of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), have created significant global economic growth. The Industry 4.0 revolution is using these technologies for effective and efficient manufacturing processes and production. China has developed homemade industrial policy called *Made in China 2025*, to improve hi-tech developments for global market. The concept of Industrial internet adopted by China incorporates the industrial innovations of China in different processes of industry and encourages progress and competitiveness of the real economy to create a new, more comprehensive form of economic growth. This action and roadmap for industrial and trade growth provided eleven guidelines actions for entrepreneurship and investment, which include e-commerce, industrial cooperative, inclusive finance, public service, efficient logistic, efficient transport, green ecology, modern agriculture, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and clear departmental responsibilities (The State Council, 2016)⁴³. The digitalization of BRI has been manifested in the following major developments:

- i. Rapidly rising Digital networking
- ii. Exponential rise of ICT in China

With the BRI digital assistance to the region, China will ultimately govern the BRI countries through technology and infrastructure, however international rules will be required for BRI nations and region. Some of the challenges along the digital BRI, include tensions between cultures, ideologies of philosophy, cyber

42 Yuang, Bernard. 2017. One Belt, One Road: A Golden Opportunity for ASEAN
43 State Council. (2016). 13th five-Year plan for national informatization

terrorism, and cybercrimes, personal security and privacy will be threatened⁴⁴.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor is shrouded with mysteries and myths in Pakistan and world, yet it is considered a *Destiny Changer*. The international border between China and Pakistan is stunning at 4,693 meters above mean sea level at the Khunjarab pass in Karakoram in the North of Pakistan. CPEC, as part of 21st Century Mari-time Silk-road at Sothern Corridors. Various roads, sea and rail routes along CPEC are given in Fig . The route was first proposed by Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang during his visit to Pakistan in 2013. The important projects on CPEC include US\$33 billion worth energy projects like solar, hydroelectric power projects which will inject 10,400 Megawatts electricity in the national grid, hydropower projects and coal. The second important component of CPEC is to improve and strengthen the transportation and communication network between China and Pakistan. This component will cost about \$11 billion. These components also include fiber optic cable from Xingjiang China to Rawalpindi Pakistan , 1240 km long Karachi-Lahore motorway, metro and bus service in six major cities, up gradation of 1300 km long Karakorum Highway, gas/oil pipelines to connect Kashgar to the seaport of Gwadar, 1800 km railway line, commercial sea-lanes, special economic zones (SEZs), dry ports and other infrastructure. An important component of CPEC is Gwadar port which has already been leased out to China for 40 years. The connection of Gwadar port with the road networks and China, would reduce the distance between China and Middle East and Europe by about 4500 nautical miles, as Gwadar is very closely located to International Sea Line Of Communications (SLOCs) and being a deep sea port protected from disasters. It can be used for show-casing and storage of sea resources, shipment, trans-shipment, and manufacturing conveniences for regional and extra-regional key players, as well as for UAE, Gulf States and European nations. During his first visit to

44 Bora LY (2020) Challenge and perspective for Digital Silk Road, Cogent Business & Management, 7:1

Pakistan by President Xi Jinping categorically said⁴⁵: ‘*Friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust and mutual support, and we have been devoted friends through both good and hard times. Our friendship is a pacesetter for amicable relations...*’ A total of 51 agreements were signed between the two countries with an initial investment commitment of \$ 46 billion, which has been raised to \$62 billion at present.

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and China started as early in 1962 and in 2006, Free Trade Agreement was signed between the two countries. The first mega project financed by China in Pakistan was construction of Karakoram Highway back in 1960s. CPEC will bring many opportunities for Pakistan, which are briefly given as follows⁴⁶:

- i. *Employment creation in Pakistan*: There is a general apprehension that the CPEC will generate employment in different sectors from manufacturing to services. It has been reported that about 400,00 jobs have been created on construction project for local skilled and semi skilled human resource by 2018. China is moving from labor intensive industries with high value addition manufacturing and due to high wages in the competitive markets, there are chances for Pakistan to attract FDI in the textile sector, as well as strong clusters in sports goods, surgical instruments and light engineering⁴⁷.

Strengths of CPEC projects for Pakistan and China:

- i. The strategic location of Pakistan for Asian countries and Europe as well it long physical connection with China offer a strength for CPEC. The close proximity of Pakistan to Gulf, middle east and Arabian Sea makes it a uniquely located

45 Ishaan Tharoor, “What China and Pakistan’s special friendship means,” The Washington Post

46 Matthew McCartney (2021) The prospects of the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC): the importance of understanding western China, Contemporary South Asia, 29:3.

47 Hamid, N., and S. Hayat. 2012. “The Opportunities and Pitfalls of Pakistan’s Trade with China and Other Neighbors.” The Lahore Journal of Economics 17 (SE): 271–292

country, where 40% of the Oil and Gas imports and exports take place along its coastal line.

- ii. With large population, 6th in the world and 2nd in the Islamic countries, Pakistan offers a large consumer market. At present about 60% of population is comprised of youth, which can be used as modern IT enabled skilled labor for the economic transformation.
- iii. Due to deep seaport, Gwadar offers large capacity for the ship. The depth of seaport is highest at 18 meters and ships capacity of 120, making it largest in the region as against Qatar and Iran Charbahar seaports.
- iv. Shortening of the trade route with CPEC, will reduce the it to 1/3rd.
- v. Pakistan can get the expertise from China in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), robotics, Renewable Energy, agriculture, biotechnology. This will involve training of youth in these areas.

Some of the threats to the success of CPEC include:

- i. The regional security concerns both in the Southern part of China and Western borders of Afghanistan and Eastern borders with India Pakistan, can pose serious challenges to the success of CPEC. In the evolving situations in Afghanistan after withdrawal of American troops, fall of Afghan Government to Taliban, the future security scenario is becoming more fragile, yet China has recognized Taliban Government in Afghanistan to ensure peace in the region. The new Taliban Government, as outcome of Doha Tahriki Taliban Agreement (DTTA) seems more matured and after accession to powers, they have shown their strong resolve to restore peace in the region and constitute a broad based Government after consultation with all the major parties. At the other hand, American Government doesn't seem to be happy with the failure and surrender of Afghan Government in just few days and escape of former Afghan President Ashraf Ghani for asylum to Middle East. US is

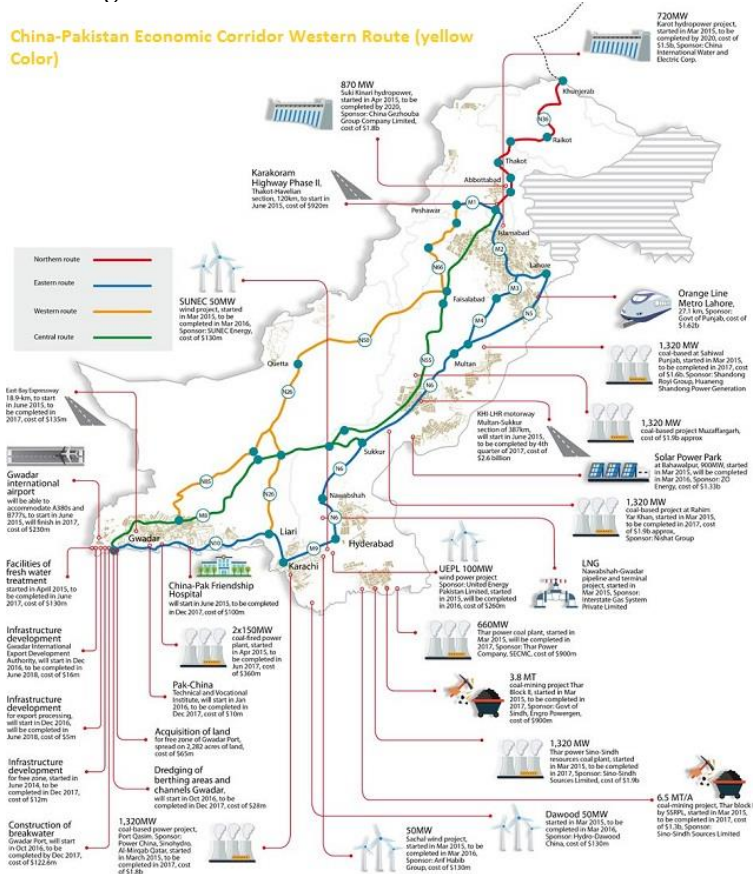
- apparently more perturbed with the increased influence of China in the region after Taliban Government in Afghanistan. At the other hand, Sino-Indian dispute on their territory in Ladakh and subsequent clashes have also exposed the fragile nature of the region. For the success of CPEC and BRI, a sustainable and continued peace shall be required in Asia and particular South Asia, which is home to many regional conflicts
- ii. Towards our Western Border, Iran also seems uncomfortable with the Gwadar seaport, as in terms of depth and capacity, it will be the largest in the region, thus providing more capacity for international trade and commerce in the region. They are developing the Charbahar seaport to counteract the efforts of CPEC, which is hardly 72 km from Gwadar. India has been supporting Iran for such initiatives.
 - iii. Various projects under CPEC are being executed under loans and financing from China. This will create financial dependence of Pakistan on China in long term. There is no clear information about the financing modes for CPEC projects. In some of the reports, it has been revealed optimistically at 64% FDI, 24% concessional loans, 6% commercial loans, and 1% grants⁴⁸. The peak outflow of finances from Pakistan in terms of debts, profits and dividends will reach at the level of \$ 3.5-4.5 billion during 2024-25, which can lead to serious balance of payment issues, if the export rates are not increased by 10-14%. With present international debt trap, Pakistan will further deepen the crisis of debt servicing.

Another challenge to CPEC, can be the deteriorating fragile ecosystem of the region. Pakistan is one of the top countries vulnerable to Climate Change impacts, in terms of floods, slides, torrential rains, could bursts, Glacial Lakes Outburst Floods (GLOFs) and slips etc. The recent episodes of GLOFs in northern part of the country, has further validated these concerns. With high level of transportation, emissions of CO₂,

48 Ahmad, D. 2017. "The China Pakistan Economic Corridor: Review and Analysis." In *The State of the Economy: China Pakistan Economic Corridor Review and Analysis*, 49-64

with the use of fossil fuels, will further deteriorate the ecosystem of the region. At the same time, high increase in the tourism will induce more burden on the natural resources of the region.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Western Route (yellow Color)



Major projects of the CPEC in Pakistan

Source: Khan, Shehryar & Liu, Guijian. (2019). Khan, Shehryar & Liu, Guijian. (2019). Socioeconomic and Public Policy Impacts of China Pakistan Economic Corridor on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Environmental Management and Sustainable Development. 8. 57. 10.5296/emsd.v8i1.13758.

Pakistan enjoys a significant geopolitical importance in the region as it is located near the two emerging economic giants China

and India. With the strengthening trade relations between China and Pakistan through CPEC, the Pak Indian disputes may exacerbate and some of the recent steps taken by India in recent past have endorsed this fact. Some critics also argue that India and US view Gwadar as China's naval base, to strengthen its military presence in the region. This negative propaganda is an attempt to jeopardize the CPEC.

Despite of negative publicity against CPEC, there is no doubt in the fact that CPEC will offer economic, cultural, and regional connectivity prospects for the countries, which will reshape geopolitics of the region and forge new alliances. China global trade has been suffering from many internal and external challenges, such as low domestic consumption, world economic shock, excessive production of infrastructure material and higher costs of labor. The *New Normal* of China international trade is based on reviving the old Silk Roads. The high reliance of China manufacturing on imported crude oil through the Malaccan Strait is becoming a major challenge for its trade growth and expansion. Under CPEC, China would like to mitigate its high dependence on one route. The length of the route will also be reduced from 12000 km to 3000 km via land from Gwadar to Kashghar. At the same time, China is faced with internal security threats from western region of Xinjian province. It is expected that with CPEC, this turbulent region will be provided with economic development and prosperity opportunities, which will ultimately lead to the durable peace in the region and progressively the anti-state sentiments will be resolved. Nevertheless, this unrest is one of the major challenges for CPEC as well.

Pakistan is faced with rampant energy shortfall and it is costing the national economy to the tune of \$1.0 billion every year. It is estimated that by year 2030, the project will deliver additional 25,000 MW. This energy addition will boost the industrial sector of Pakistan, which will ultimately lead to value added exports and GDP growth. For internal security and national integration of Pakistan, CPEC will provide greater opportunities to the underprivileged regions of the country. Investments in the

transportation, energy and Gwadar port, will generate employment and trade opportunities for the people of Baluchistan. The Special Economic Zones and Industrial Parks will be engine for economic growth of the country through rapid industrialization⁴⁹.

For boosting manufacturing sector and value added exports, the concept of Special Economic Zone is as old as 15th century but it got momentum after World War-II, when the first SEZs were established in Ireland and Taiwan. The term Special Economic Zone has been defined in many ways, which includes Free Trade Zones (FTZs), export processing zones (EPZs), Industrial parks (IP), economic and technology development zones (ETDZs), high-tech zones, science and innovation parks, free ports, enterprise zones etc.⁵⁰ The two major benefits of SEZs is to create jobs for the local people and skill upgrading, transfer of high technology and innovation, economic diversity, enhancement of local firm's productivity. The SEZs are established mainly for the four policy objectives⁵¹:

- i. Generating and attracting of foreign direct investment (FDI);
- ii. Employment generation for locals to alleviate large-scale unemployment;
- iii. Support for economic reforms on a large scale;
- iv. Establishment of laboratories to test new policies and strategies for sustainable economic growth.

For success of SEZs, strong support and commitment from Government is required in terms of availability of land and other resources, incentives for investment such tax subsidies and rebates,

49 Mehmood Hussain, Ahmed Bux Jamali (2019)-Geo-Political Dynamics of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: A New Great Game in South Asia- Chinese Political Science Review (2019) 4:303-326

50 Aazar Tamana, United States-Pakistan Relations in the Post-Cold War Era: The Pressler Amendment and Pakistan's National Security Concerns, (Perth: Australian Society for South Asian Studies (ASSAS), 2004)

51 Douglas Zhihua Zeng, "How Do Special Economic Zones and Industrial Cluster Drive China's Rapid Development," in Building Engines for Growth and Competitiveness in China: Experience with Special Economic Zones & Industrial Clusters, ed. Douglas Zhihua Zeng, (World Bank), 2010, 4-5

institutional autonomy, strategic location on the supply chain routes, provision of onsite and offsite infrastructure such roads, utilities and water etc. Under the CPEC project in Pakistan 9 SEZs are being established⁵². These SEZs are being established in view of the local expertise, availability of human and non-human resources, utilities, land and their connectivity with the CPEC and other important major highways.

Table: Details of nine major Special Economic Zones along CPEC in Pakistan:

S. No	Location of SEZs	Province	Brief outline
01	Rashakai Economic Zone, M-1, Nowshera	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	The 1000 acres land-3 phases: 159 Acres-Phase-1, 279 acres in phase-II, 264 acres in Phase III For commercial use, an area of 76 acres has been allocated. Following Industrial potentials: -Garment and Textile Products, - Home Building Materials, General Merchandize, Electronics and Electrical Appliances,- Automobile and Mechanical Equipment

52 CPEC Special Economic Zones, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. Available at <http://cpec.gov.pk/special-economic-zones-projects>

02	Dhabeji Special Economic Zone	Sindh	1530 acres of land to establish Dhabeji Special Economic Zone (DSEZ) in Thatta, will be developed in 3 phases. Following Industrial potentials: Steel-Foundries, Automotive and Auto parts, Chemical & Pharmaceuticals, Consumer Electronics Engineering, Textile & Garments, Warehousing, Building Material FMC
03	Bostan Industrial Zone	Balochistan	Located near district Pishin Baluchistan over the area of 1000 acres. Following industry potentials : Fruit Processing, Agriculture machinery, Pharmaceutical, Motor Bikes Assembly, Chromite, Cooking Oil, Ceramic industries, Ice and Cold storage, Electric Appliance, Halal Food Industry
04	Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Faisalabad	Punjab	3217 acres land has been allocated near M-3. Potential industries: Textile industry, pharmaceuticals,

			information technology, chemicals automotive, service complex.
05	ICT Model Industrial Zone, Islamabad	Islamabad Capital Territory	Proposed over 200-500 acres, with the following potential industries: T & related industries, Steel, Food Processing, Pharmaceutical & Chemicals, Printing and Packaging, Light Manufacturing
06	Industrial Park Pakistan Steel Mills Port Qasim	Sindh	The zone covers the area of 1500 acres Investments are encouraged in the following sectors: Steel, Auto & allied, Foundry and Fabrication, Warehousing & Logistics, Pharma, Chemical, Printing and Packaging, Garments etc.
07	Mirpur Industrial Zone, AJK	AJK	1078 acres of land in Mirpur district of AJK Mix industry is proposed at Mirpur Industrial Zone
08	Mohmand Marble City	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	350 acres of land allocated for Marble city. marble and other minerals including Uranium, dimensional stones, granite, coal,

			marble, manganese ore, limestone.
09	Moqpoondas SEZ Gilgit-Baltistan	GB	Closely located to the KKH/CPEC route, airport and Sost dry port.

Pakistan is regarded as one of the most attractive countries for FDI due to many factors such as geo-strategic location, young and highly skilled workforce with English proficiency, positive economic outlook with sustainable economic growth, friendly investment policy. Government of Pakistan and Board of Investment (BoI), have announced special incentives for these SEZs, which include one-time exemption from all customs duties and taxes on plant and machinery imported into Pakistan except the items listed under Chapter 87 of the Pakistan Customs Tariff. The zone developers also exempted from all kind of taxes for five years.

These SEZs are also faced with many internal and external challenges, such as terrorism, poor governance and large-scale corruption, chaotic law and order situation, difficulties in land acquisition, lack of consensus among federating units, water scarcity, red tapism in the way of zone development, etc. This will always a major challenge for the successive Government to overcome these challenges, through national consensus. In past, lack such mega projects have been jeopardized due internal political frictions. In the geopolitical dynamics, the success of CPEC and SEZs & IPs is critical for the development of the country.

6

Economic Growth of China in President “XI” Era

China has been witnessing, the highest growth rate after openness of its economy in 1978 and as a result China raised from poor developing country to upper middle class country in terms of per capita income. This miracle has been explained in great details in the earlier part of the book, however more detailed information is given in this chapter about the major drivers of the economic growth of China. With an average growth rate of GDP at 10% and moving about 850 million people from the line of poverty. This growth is though slowed down in last couple of years due to declining returns to investment, slowing productivity, and diminishing labor force growth, yet China is endeavoring to explore innovative ways for its economic growth. This will include to find new drivers and paths while dealing with the social and environmental challenges of the previous wave of economic developments⁵³. The recent economic development under President Xi are given in the following Table⁵⁴

As quoted by Napoleon, *Leader are the dealers in hopes*. The leadership style of President Xi can be manifested in the Servant Leaders. This famous style of leadership was introduced by Robert K. Greenleaf in 1970. His famous definition of Servant leader is⁵⁵: “[Servant leadership] begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve *first*. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to

53 Dhar, B. K. (2020). Impact of COVID-19 on Chinese Economy. *Economic Affairs*, 9(3/4), 23-26.

54 World Bank (2020). *The World Bank Report; Country: China*.

55 Leadership theories; Servant-leadership; Greenleaf, Robert K. (1904-1990).

lead. The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant—first to make sure that other people’s highest priority needs are being served. The best test . . . is: do those served grow as persons; do they, *while being served*, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants? *And*, what is the effect on the least privileged in society; will they benefit, or, at least, will they not be further deprived? (p. 15)”

Recent Economic Developments of China Under the Leadership of President Xi Jinping

Indicators of Economic Development	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population (in million)	1,375	1,383	1,390	1,395	1,400
GDP per capita (USD)	7,945	8,134	8,858	9,916	10,212
Economic Growth (GDP, annual variation in %)	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.1
Annual Consumption (variation in %)	7.4	8.6	6.4	9.1	-
Annual Investment (variation in %)	7.0	6.8	5.2	4.9	-
Annual Industrial Production (variation in %)	6.1	6.0	6.6	6.2	5.7
Annual Retail Sales (variation in %)	10.7	10.4	10.3	9.0	8.1
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.6
Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)	-3.4	-3.8	-3.7	-4.1	-
Public Debt (% of GDP)	15.5	16.1	16.2	16.3	-
Annual Money (variation in %)	13.3	11.3	8.1	8.1	8.7
Annual Inflation Rate (CPI, variation in %)	1.4	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.9
Annual Inflation (PPI, variation in %)	-5.2	-1.3	6.3	3.5	-0.3
Policy Interest Rate (%)	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.31	4.15
Annual Stock Market (variation in %)	9.4	-12.3	6.6	-24.6	22.3
Exchange Rate (vs USD)	6.49	6.95	6.51	6.88	6.96
Current Account (% of GDP)	2.8	1.8	1.6	0.4	1.2
Trade Balance (USD billion)	594	510	420	351	422
Exports (USD billion)	2,273	2,098	2,263	2,487	2,499
Imports (USD billion)	1,680	1,588	1,844	2,136	2,077
Annual Exports (variation in %)	-2.9	-7.7	7.9	9.9	0.5
Annual Imports (variation in %)	-14.3	-5.5	16.1	15.8	-2.8
International Reserves (USD)	3,406	3,098	3,236	3,168	3,223
External Debt (% of GDP)	12.7	12.6	14.3	14.2	-

Source: World Bank (2020). The World Bank Report; Country: China.

The achievements of President Xi in the areas of reform, development, stability, internal affairs, diplomacy and national defense, governing the party and the country, are exemplary. Some of his very strong attributes as leader are given as follows:

People oriented and people friendliness: He maintained close contacts and relations with the people at local and central levels. His very close connection with the people in remote areas from different beliefs and ethnicity is always regarded as his great assets. During the COVID-19, pandemic when China was faced with high turbulence and turmoil, he approached people from all regions and religions. He also visited the Muslim community and spent time with them at their mosques, as token of solidarity. For leaders of high degree empathy and social awareness is always a great asset.

Rigidity and Softness Combined: Leaders cannot be either soft or hard all time. The leadership theories range from Traits approaches to situational, Behavior, Transformational, Transactional, Charismatic, Authentic and Adoptive etc. The various styles of leadership like authoritarian, bureaucratic, democratic, participative etc. None of these styles are perfect and leaders may use the most appropriate style or combination of these styles based on the scenario, capacity of the followers and nature of outcome and goals. For leaders, they are often soft in relations but hard on principles. President Xi is very stringent and hard on corruption in terms of punishments, elimination of ugliness from society and rectification of traditional work styles. On the other hand, in the matters of consultation and human respect, he is righteous, straightforward and sincere.

Dare to take responsibility: One of the important attributes of charismatic leaders is to lead from the front and take the responsibility for the results. A famous quote about leader says: He has repeatedly emphasized over the fact that “to be responsible, not to shirk, avoid lie, tell the truth to the organization, be brave to take responsibility”.

Confidence and Calmness: Confidence, perseverance, calmness and determination are some of the important traits of leaders. He worked for more than 20 years as Governor, which developed his confidence and commitment. He has repeatedly called on the whole party to have road self-confidence, theoretical self-confidence, institutional self-confidence, and to show self-confidence everywhere⁵⁶

Steady and Stable: Boldness and steadiness are important for leaders. The direction of the leaders must be accurate, well thought and the driving must be stable. He always thinks deeply into national and international issues, analyzes far reaching impacts of his decisions.

Pragmatic and Flexible: President Xi always tries to understand facts and derive truth from in line with the spirit of Marxism. His

56 Brown, K. (2017). The Powers of Xi Jinping. Asian Affairs, 48(1), 17-26.

pragmatic approach and adjusting himself and his decisions to the ground realities are some of his dominate attributes.

The leadership style of President Xi is linked to long term and sustainable development of China while keeping with its own identity. His thoughts on new era of socialist political economy is described as a new chapter in the 21st Century Marxist political economy⁵⁷.

Success has many fathers and all the development economists are keen to analyze, the high economic growth and success of China. China has been harvesting the benefits of markets, trade, and globalization.

The high investment in China was attracted by skilled and cheap labor and large regional market. China inherited a poor social structure infested with rampant poverty and famine. Hence in its initial phase of developments, China adopted the basic first steps on education, health, and eventually fertility helped set the stage for growth and poverty reduction when later combined with market incentives. Through good negotiations with the investors and opening up policies, China could attract large chunks of FDIs. With these reforms, productivity of the commodity and service sectors increased in China at more than 42% during 1979-1994. Later huge investment in these sectors crated the second wave of economic development after 1994. There are also apprehensions, that this has been a bubble investment as the real commodity production is not high and most of the investment has been made in the real estate sector, which is also susceptible to Domino effect. The open door policies and special economic zones attracted regional investments. The reallocation of labor from agriculture to industry also created, labor productivity. China has been painstakingly and gradually implemented its reforms policies. New and transition institutions existed side by side.

Besides improving productivity and investments, China sold out most of the State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) but the larger SOEs

57 BK Dhar, M.Mutalib-Leadership of Xi Jinping behind Unstoppable Sustainable Economic Growth of China- *International Journal of Organizational Leadership* 9(2020) 39-47

are still a major challenge for China. The Town and Village Enterprises (TVEs) played an important role, which were gradually privatized. China has grown 4.5 times faster than US since 1980. But the developments in China have seriously challenged the environmental sustainability. High concerns of people were raised about the safety and security of Chinese products particularly foods and drugs. Another challenge to China, can be middle income trap, where lack of innovations which is essential for moving up on the industrial ladder.

China's economic growth rate is faced with many challenges which also includes the exports surplus created at 20-42%, which can be attributed to undervaluation of Chinese currency. This has been practiced by many East Asian economies for expansion of the manufacturing sector in 1970s, such as South Korea and Taiwan. On the cultural and social side, Chinese society is dominated by Hans dynasty ethnic population, which can contribute to slower economic growth. Chins is also poor in resource endowment and more innovations for development of skills and technology are required. The China experience of development provides a hope and model for the developing economies of the Asia to develop confidence that development can be possible. However, the developing countries differ in many ways such as in geography, demography, institutions, and allure to foreign investors. Many countries around the world view Chinese economic growth like a bubble which will burst sooner or later due to inherent imperfections in the system, still it will continue to be a major topic of debate by the development economists in times to come⁵⁸.

After fall of Berlin Wall, reunification of Germany and collapse of Soviet Union, a unipolar world order started in the late 1990s and for more than two decades now, US has been ruling over the world. This so called custodianship of US inflicted serious repercussions for America both inside and outside the country. The War Against Terror and many such misadventures by US, shattered the identity

58 Michael P. Todaro, Stephen C. Smith - Economic Development, 11th Edition (The Pearson Series in Economics) -Prentice Hall (2011)

and unity of the US in many ways. In one of his remarkable speech by President Biden at the fall of Afghan Government to Taliban in August 2021, he categorically admitted that such misadventures costed United States to the tune of One Trillion US dollar. He admitted that ending 20-year war at Afghanistan was a correct decision. The China contrarily pursued its trade and economic agenda in a more peaceful manner in the Asia and outside. Some important excerpts from Biden's speech are given as follows⁵⁹:

"I stand squarely behind my decision. After 20 years, I've learned the hard way that there was never a good time to withdraw US forces," Biden said during a speech from the East Room of the White House Monday afternoon. *"That's why we're still there. We were clear-eyed about the risks. We planned for every contingency. But I always promised the American people I would be straight with you. The truth is, this did unfold more quickly than we had anticipated."*

By 2050, the global trade volume of China will be three times larger than US and it will make China as world single power in the new world order. The world trade will be shifted to RMB (Reimbi) instead of USD. In this new world order, China will not be supporting the democratization of the world. As part of overseas propaganda, China has been supporting the Autocratic forms of Governments. This is also important for the survival of Socialist China and its CPC. China has been lending to developing countries more than the World Bank in recent years, which is supporting their economic agenda to transfer to other parts of the world⁶⁰.

The America concerns about China becoming the Global power in next three decades are manifested in their many apprehensions, which may be partly correct. The geo-economics would become more important than the geostrategic. For China, a peaceful world and Asia is becoming inevitable for its sustained economic growth and prosperity of the nation. In recent initiative after declaration of Taliban led Government and emergency situations in Afghanistan,

59 DJ Judd, Allie Malloy and Jasmine Wright CNN Report-Biden admits Afghanistan's collapse 'did unfold more quickly than we had anticipated' dated Aug 16,2021

60 Michael Pillsbury-The Hundred-Year Marathon_ China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower

China has offered USD 31 Million, in the form of food supplied and coronavirus vaccines. In the statement of Foreign office of PR China, declared establishment of the new interim government as "necessary step to restore order" in Afghanistan. A senior official said about US troops withdraw "US had inflicted serious damage on the Afghan people from the very first day of its invasion to the last minute of its withdrawal". At the other hand, Taliban senior officials have announced China as important partner in the reconstruction of their worn torn country⁶¹. In the emerging unpredictable scenario, China can become a strong supporter in the rebuilding of Afghanistan, provided that Afghanistan is not used for export of terrorism to other countries. The relationship of China with Afghanistan will have two dimensions, first the trade based mercantilist and second understanding of no interference in the mutual internal affairs. The situations in Afghanistan after withdrawal of US troops has created an understanding in the Chinese think tanks that US and West are declining. Though theoretically both China and US want to fight terrorism together but in practice, this seems rare as US will not physically engage in such adventures again. The sudden withdrawal of US troops, led to collapse of Ashraf Ghani Government and access of Taliban to the power in Afghanistan.

61 "China Offers \$31m in Emergency Aid to Afghanistan", BBC News, September 9, 2021, available at <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-58496867>



The Taliban's political chief, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi meet in Tianjin in July 2021.
(Ref: Li Ran/Xinhua/Reuters)

In the above context China will assume and follow a careful approach of engagement with Taliban based interim Government to progressively develop confidence on the basis of decisions and results shown thereon. At the same time, China will also not disengage from US as in case of any fatal repetition of Taliban earlier approach based on exporting terrorism as we witnessed in their previous tenure, their China-US collaboration will be used to contain it. Though in the revised version of Taliban after QTTA, this seems less imminent. If things move smooth as expected, peace can be restored in the region, which will ultimately the entire world but particularly China and Pakistan. For Pakistan, a peaceful neighbor with Taliban in power is more than important, whereas for China it is their trade expansion as well extension of their consumer market. In wake of peaceful South Asia, the future of BRI and CPEC seems more secured, which can benefit the entire region. The role of China as custodian of peace in the region will get more involved and entangled.

Journey of China Education and Research

Education in ancient China was classical in nature and only the elites and rulers were educated in the areas of philosophy, religion, politics and history. With the birth of China, education became the priority of the newly born country to fight poverty. The education system in China has been deriving its strength from German, Japanese, Britain and US education systems. Over last 100 years from Qing dynasty to independence of China in 1949 and opening up of the country in 1979, education remained as the top agenda of the country. Education has positive impact on the national growth and productivity. It has been shown that 1% increase in school enrolment, ultimately increases the GDP growth rate by 2-3%⁶². Economic returns of education are manifold, which include increased individual earnings, increased productivity at national level, improved health due to enhanced awareness about various diseases. In this chapter salient features of the Chinese Education and Research systems have been analyzed.

During the period of 1991-2004, positive external returns of education by 10-14% has been reported in China. The increase in education level in urban areas also led to individual growth. Education brought better changes in rural areas to remove the rural urban disparities. The two important factors which impede the objectives of education are its quality and equity. China has been progressively improving these both aspects of education.

62 Sianesi, B.; Reenen, J.V. The returns to education: *Macroeconomics. J. Econ. Surv.* 2003, 17, 157-200.

In the 1970s reforms, China has three major shift in their priorities, orientation towards modernization, orientation towards the Future, and orientation towards the World. The education system of China has five lessons to learn for developing counties.

- i. *Evidence based participatory policy making for education reforms:* China's main success in the modernized age is owed to its broad based consultation with the stakeholders and steady change model. They adopted the international models after indigenization. For developing new educational policies, China adopted the five step approach, which includes conducting surveys from the stakeholders, drafting the policy, consulting the stakeholders for their feedback, experimenting and implementation of the policy in gradual manner in limited scale and expansion the education reforms at larger national scale.
- ii. *Strengthening the teacher education and provision of professional support:* China strengthened the teachers' trainings institutes at all levels. From pedagogy to teaching and learning, delivery, assessment to feedback. Research based approaches for trainings were adopted. Some of the important steps included, work by coordinating school-based research projects, regular visits to schools, interpreting curriculum standards, analyzing classroom teaching, preparing teaching lessons, developing teaching materials and distilling best practices for extension (e.g. through demonstrations)⁶³.
- iii. *Learning from the world:* China's education experts have been closely coordinating with the external world to learn from the innovations and research in education. They have in many cases, benchmarked various education systems of developed countries made strong partnership for internationalization of education.

63 Education in the 21st Century: Five lessons from China- Available at <https://oecdeditoday.com/education-in-the-21st-century-five-lessons-from-china/>

- iv. *Experimentation*: The China's approach for gradual transformation has been one of their major strategy for development and reforms. *Crossing the River by Touching Stones*-this approach proved very successful for transformation of the traditional and predominantly conservative society. They gradually absorbed the results of their experiments in the education systems. The traditional schooling system was abandoned and new school system called *Shiyi Experimental School* was adopted.
- v. *Balancing between Diversity and Unity*: Chinese society is having a diverse culture with very strong identities of the subcultures. The decision making process has to understand this fact. For unity at the national level, education system was harmonized with the international good practices of developed countries but to maintain diversity, it was divided into three levels, national, local and schools based curricula. The national curricula make 80% of the total, whereas the local and school based curricula is given 20% share. This has led to mainly a uniform national curriculum with local and school flavors.

China had dramatic changes and reforms in their education during 1976. China inherited a traditional and static education system. By the end of Imperial era, the literacy rate China was hardly 20% with women literacy at 2-10% in various parts of the country. The education system was mostly bureaucratic in these days with no consultation. The western strides in education prompted with the support of Christian missionaries in 1930s. Until the end of the 19th century western learning remained least priority⁶⁴. In 1985, *The Communist Party of China's Decision on Systematic Reform of Education*, focused on three major aspects i.e. solidified 9 year compulsory education system, an enhanced technical and Vocational Education and Trainings (TVET) system, and a more autonomous higher education system.

64 Susanne Pepper *Radicalism and Education Reforms 20th Century China*-Cambridge University Press

The education policy is generally viewed from multiple flows such as political Flows, Economic Flows, Cultural Flows and International Flows. Statistics at China reveal positive correlation between the GDP growth rate and fiscal investment with the four indicators of education i.e. promotion from junior to senior class, fiscal expenditure on education. The basic education and compulsory 9-year education has been quite effective in economic development of the country. The solid growth of Chinese economy after 1985, also led to increase in investment in education.

In political sphere, education remained one of the major priorities of the Chinese Governments. In past many decades, investment in education has been viewed as major catalyst for the economic development and top agenda. In 2017, the Government policy on *The Supervisory and Assessment Approaches for Quality and Balanced Development of Compulsory Education in Counties*, focused on quality of education, the training of talents and promotion of Socialist Modernization⁶⁵. From the cultural perspective, Chinese history and culture has been made as part of education with some basic guidelines for curriculum review and development. In modern education, the traditional view of teacher as role model with strong professional and ethical integrity, as well as personal development for effective teaching and learning is considered as important ingredient of education. The important attributes of China education reforms are given as follows:

- i. ***Teacher Education (TE)***: Teacher education always prepare Competent Teachers (CT), who are instrumental in Quality Education (QE) and Students Achievements (SA). The students' attributes when linked with the industry needs creates Quality Labor Force (QLF) required for market which contribute in the Economic Growth (EG) of the country and collectively leads to National Achievements and Competitiveness (NAC) in terms

65 Li, J., & Li, J. (2019). Educational Policy Development in China in the 21st Century: A Multi-Flows Approach, *Beijing International Review of Education*, 1(1), 196-220

of GDP growth rate, per capita income, employment etc. This relation has been expressed as follows:

TE → CT → QE/SA → QLF → MD/EG → NAC

Many reforms were made in teacher education during last two decades, which include ' *The Opinions on Fully Deepening the Reform and Construction of Teaching Force in the New Era* (2019) and *The Action Plan for the Revitalization of Teacher Education* (2018–2022). Teachers professionalism has been advocated worldwide since 1960s and China has been following these trends.

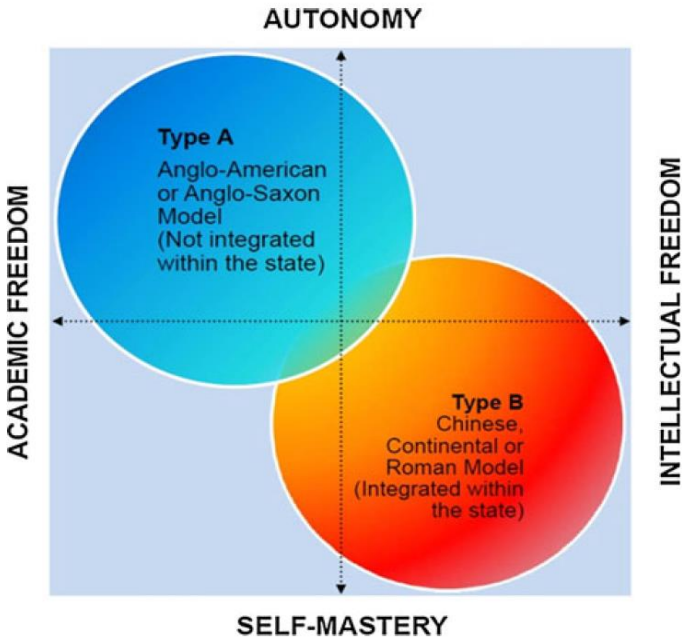
- ii. **Higher Education Policies:** At the advent of 21st century, China has intensified their focus on higher education with an aim to create Knowledge Economy. The higher education in China has been linked to quality, equity, efficiency, and service to the nations. This focus is reflected in six major priorities for higher education:
 - a. *Unprecedented quest for world-class universities (WCUS):* China has been endeavoring to bring good number of their Universities in top 500 Universities of the world. Today out of world 500 Universities, 38 were Chinese Universities in 2019 as per QS ranking.
 - b. *Systematic Marketization:* With the development of University physical, human and financial resource, the University has to be part of the open market to attract good students, faculty and staff. In turn the higher education of China will attract students from all parts of the world.
 - c. *Revolutionary Massification:* The China approach to higher education is based on increasing the number of good standard Universities and students in universities, by ensuring quality, affordability and access to higher education to enroll large number of students.

- d. *Structural Optimization*: University is interplay of human and other resources. The sustainability of the higher education institutes is linked to the combination and optimization of the resources through structural reforms in the governance system of University.
- e. *Institutional Digitalization*: The advent of modern technologies has made education more interesting but complex. With 4th Industrial Revolution (I 4.0) already taken up, the use of modern technologies in teaching and learning, research and innovation, students and faculty services etc. has become more important. The significance of such technologies has further increased in the post Pandemic New Normal.
- f. *All-round internationalization*: Internationalization of higher education in the globalized world is inevitable. Chinese Universities have been offering diverse opportunities of joint research collaboration, split and dual degrees, students and faculty exchange, higher education scholarships to overseas students. The initiatives have led to large of international students pursuing their tertiary education at China. From Pakistan alone, more than 30,000 students are continuing their higher education and research pursuits.

The term Chiniversity has been coined by experts for the China model of University. Besides residing on the global ideals to identify the core values of institutional self-mastery and intellectual freedom, the Chiniversity will focus on other strong attributes such as tendency towards ethics-centered exploration of knowledge and normative application, secular and societal missions of higher education, acceptance of the dominant and directive role of government, a vision of teachers and students as scholar officials or officials in waiting, a hierarchical and meritocratic system, and

institutional and disciplinary diversity⁶⁶. The world Universities can be divided into two major types on the basis of two fundamental dimensions: institutional legal status (autonomy vs. self-mastery), and knowledge exploration and applications (academic freedom vs. intellectual freedom).as shown in Fig 52.

The first type of Universities exists in United States and Europe, where fuller status of legal person and academic freedom is protected by law, having no interference from the Government and market. In second type of Universities, the State control is very dominant and direct. Hence Universities are under modern bureaucratic control. This model is more visible in Asia and East Europe, including Pakistan.



University Model A and B (Adopted from Li, J., & Hayhoe, R; 2012)

66 Li, J., & Hayhoe, R. (2012). Confucianism and higher education. In J. A. Banks (Ed.), Encyclopedia of diversity in education (Vol. 1, pp. 443–446). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

In ancient China, the Universities of Taixue or Guozixue existed in 124 BC, under model B. Similarly, the type A University existed as University of Bologna Italy in 11th Century, in its pure firms. Over the years, the two types of Universities have overlapped each other under the pressure of marketization, globalization and industrialization. The WCU concept of China is closely characterised by its close connection with Government. These Universities have been taking their influences from Japan Model in 1890's, European Model in 1910s, American Model of 1920s and Soviet Model of 1950s. Hence the Chinese Modern Universities have synthesized, the best practices and model into a new model. Institutional identity is seen for personal freedom in research and choice of curriculum but not to detach themselves from the State.

In Chinese model of University, Chinese scholars and leaders have strong socio-political responsibility and conviction that knowledge must be expressed in social action. They are expected to support major State projects. Hence the Chinese Universities are more close to Type A, struggling for more autonomy and intellectual freedom. The CPC controls over University faculty and students, though Universities now generate large resources from students' tuition fee, research and consultancies. The China Government has been providing generous funding to elite institutions for their active participation in the global community for becoming world class institutes. The problem of large number of enrolment is thus given to other institutions. This approach seems rational, as all of the Universities cannot become global leader rather a successive and incremental approach is adopted in line with the Chinese philosophy. For creating excellence in Engineering, Science and Technology, China protected diversity and nurtured alternative types of institutions in the areas of agriculture and polytechnic Universities.

The China World Class University (WCU) model is faced with many challenges and threats. The large number enrolment in Universities as priority of the Government has affected the quality, as the students' teacher ratio increased sharply. The second major challenges are academic misconduct reflected in the false

qualification, publication, research manipulation, lack of commitment, falsification of facts. This is very common problem in developing countries including Pakistan. With the adoption of highly quantitative metrics for the performance evaluation of faculty and institutions in the new world and China, the real teaching and commitment of teachers has been diverted to research publication, impact increase, registration of patents etc. and as result, quality teaching and research remained the least priority. Another challenge to Chinese Universities is highly bureaucratic systems, where the Government officials are given more priority and authority. Under such conditions, the officers and administrative staff enjoy more political and economic benefits, whereas faculty and students remain disadvantaged.

China has developed their blueprint of creating World Class Universities during 2010-20 and still working on it. As a result, few top Chinese Universities may become candidate for WCUs in near future. It will still take a large time for Chinese Universities to reach at the level of the leading US universities. This will require to strengthen the self-mastery, intellectual freedom and freedom from the Government interference in the University administrative and political matters.

NO	University	THE 2021	QS 2021	ARWU 2020
1	Tsinghua University	20	15	29
2	Peking University	23	23	49
3	Fudan University	70	34	100
4	University of Science and Technology of China	87	93	73
5	Zhejiang University	94	53	58
6	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	100	47	63
7	Nanjing University	111	124	101-150

NO	University	THE 2021	QS 2021	ARWU 2020
8	Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech)	251-300	323	301-400
9	Sun Yat-sen University	251-300	263	101-150
10	Beijing Normal University	301-350	279	201-300
11	Huazhong University of Science and Tech	301-350	396	101-150
12	Wuhan University	301-350	246	151-200
13	Central South University	351-400	651-700	101-150
14	East China Normal University	351-400	501-510	401-500
15	Nankai University	351-400	377	201-300
16	Harbin Institute of Technology	401-500	260	101-150
17	Hunan University	401-500	601-650	201-300
18	Shenzhen University	401-500	601-650	201-300
19	South China University of Technology	401-500	462	151-200
20	Tianjin University	401-500	387	151-200

THE: Time Higher Education, ARWR: Shanghai Higher Education Ranking

Sources: Information in this table is based on the latest Times Higher Education *World University Rankings*⁶⁷, *QS World University Rankings*⁶⁸ and *Academic Ranking of World Universities*⁶⁹.

Research Universities and Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) in China: At the 100th year celebrations of Beijing University, a 211 and 985 project was ushered with an aim to pump investment into the elite Chinese institutions for becoming world Class Universities. The 211 project was envisaged to make 112 Universities spearheading in the national economic developments, whereas the 985 project aimed at transforming the 40 top universities of China into World Class Universities⁷⁰. China scientific publications' share increased from 4.4% in 1999 to 10.2% in 2008 with a total number of 204,000 papers. Chinas has become the top third country in Research and Development (R&D) investment at 2% of GDP. China

Rank	Country	Amount	Rank	Country	Amount
1	United States	\$581.6	11	Canada	29.0
2	China	554.3	12	Spain	23.6
3	Japan	171.3	13	Australia	22.6
4	Germany	141.4	14	Turkey	21.7
5	South Korea	98.5	15	Netherlands	21.5
6	France	\$68.4	16	Switzerland	19.1
7	United Kingdom	53.1	17	Sweden	18.1
8	Taiwan	43.3	18	Israel	17.7
9	Russia	41.5	19	Belgium	16.5
10	Italy	36.0	20	Austria	16.0

is second to US in the R&D investment. The top 20 countries in R&D spending are shown below:

Source: CRS analysis of Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation, OECD.Stat database,

https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=MSTI_PUB.

67 Time Higher Education Ranking available at

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/content/world-university-rankings>

68 QS Higher Education Ranking available at <https://www.topuniversities.com/qs-world-university-rankings>

69 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) available at <http://www.shanghairanking.com/>

70 Gerard A. Postiglione (2015)- Research universities for national rejuvenation and global influence: China's search for a balanced model- High Educ (2015) 70:235-250

Though, there is large investment of China in the Research and Development, yet they couldn't produce independent thinkers and scholars due to its more bureaucratic structure. For economic growth, Universities will focus on more innovative and creative thinking to develop new products and services for the global market. In contrary Hong Kong has three universities ranked among Asia's top ten and the world's top 50. This is mainly owed to improved academic culture and governance as well as their major instructional language, internationalization, leadership of administrators, and the qualification of academic profession of research universities in Hong Kong. To become world class research Universities, Peking University and Tsinghua University has delineated a three prong strategy. First: to become a comprehensive, research-oriented, internationalized higher education institution by 2010. Second: To stand in the top 100 universities in the world university rankings by 2020 and third: to achieve its overall world class status by the middle of the twenty-first century. To achieve these goals, the following three strategies have been developed⁷¹:

- i. To improve faculty quality
- ii. To strengthen fundamental sciences
- iii. To encourage interdisciplinary research
- iv. To promote internationalization
- v. To serve the national needs

For making world class University, both the central and provincial authorities closely collaborate for proving their share in investment and financing. Under 985 project, almost 4 billion USD were allocated for 34 Universities, in which 54.9% was allocated by the central Government, whereas the remaining was contributed by local Governments. To promote, science and engineering related education, 637 such institutions were merged to 270 universities

71 Futao Huang-Building the world-class research universities: a case study of China- High Educ (2015) 70:203-215

with special focus on science and engineering education and research.

For making the WCU in China, internationalization has been given high emphasis. This involves attracting world renowned scholars in various fields and promoting joint research collaboration with leading world universities in US and Europe. Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) offers a number of such opportunities for engaging outstanding research scholars to various emerging Universities of China. A total of 492,185 international students were enrolled in Chinese HEIs during 2018. Almost 60% of these students come from Asian countries including South Korea, Thailand, Pakistan and India etc. This increase in number of international students in China is creating many opportunities for china such as National Rejuvenation, expand their global outreach and market influence, enhance their professional impact and managerial efficiency, finally responding to the global diversity. This number has doubled from 2009 when foreign student's enrolment was 238,184 and only 1236 in 1978 at the start of opening up reforms.

At the same time China has been focusing on quality assurance in higher education. For attracting foreign students, Administrative Measures for the Enrolment and Development of International students by Universities and Schools were issued in 2017, which focused on four areas⁷²:

- Development of relevant university regulations
- Rigorous assessments for admissions and scholarships
- Systematic planning of teaching and staff development
- Development of quality control mechanisms.

Subsequently in 2019, Quality Accreditation Rules for International Higher Education were approved which offered first external qualification accreditation and assurance system for

72 "Impact of Rising International Student Numbers in China", University World News, February 5, 2022, available at <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20210521085934537>.

international education. On the basis of latest statistics by Nature, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Peking University and Tsinghua University are amongst the top 15 world top research institutes. Across China, the biotech institutes are investing heavily in the contemporary research and making their space in the top 15 research institutes. This is based on the Nature assembled research index of renowned research institutions⁷³. Among the leading 100 academic institutions in the 2018, 44 comes from the United States and 16 from China, Britain and Japan contribute seven each, with six from Germany, four from Switzerland and three from Canada, according to Nature Index. The global picture of ranking is changing and Chinese higher education and research institutions are making their space in the world ranking. With increased investment in R&D and focused approach of WCU, China is endeavoring to double the number of Chinese Universities in the 100 top Universities of the world within next 5 years.

Table: Top 15 Research Institutes of the world

Ranking	Institution
1	Chinese Academy of Sciences
2	Harvard University
3	Max Planck Society
4	French National Centre for Scientific Research
5	Stanford University
6	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
7	Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers
8	The University of Tokyo

⁷³ Nature Index available at <https://www.natureindex.com/annual-tables/2018/institution/all/all>

Ranking	Institution
9	University of California Berkeley
10	University of Cambridge
11	University of Oxford
12	Peking University
13	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
14	National Institutes of Health
15	Tsinghua University

Source: Nature Index available at
<https://www.natureindex.com/annual-tables/2018/institution/all/all>

The huge investment in higher education and research institutes by China is creating competitive advantage for most of the top ranking Universities, yet more important is academic and intellectual freedom for the faculty and students. China will need more reforms and decentralization of Universities for intellectual grooming and developing conducive environment for innovative and creative thinking and discourse. The autonomy of the HEIs in decision making, appointment of faculty and administrative staff will be required to attract and nurture better people.

China Pakistan Knowledge and Research Corridor

China and Pakistan are time tested friends with shared boundaries, culture and history dating back to the ancient silk route. The two countries have always stood for inclusivity, peaceful co-existence and sustainable growth in the region. While inaugurating, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, President Xi-Jinping, said: " *Friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust and mutual support, and we have been devoted friends through both good and hard times. Our friendship is a pacesetter for amicable relations.....*" The unwavering support of China to Pakistan's stance on Indian Occupied Kashmir, Chinese Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and the enormous allocation of resources to China Pakistan Economic Corridor as part of One Belt One Road (OBOR) Initiative of President Xi, now called Belt and Roads Initiative (BRI) are some of the major dividends of this friendship. To restrain the hegemonic and expansionist designs of the India and Narendra Moodi led BJP Government, the need for this partnership has further intensified in last few years.

These initiatives call for strengthening the regional development strategies through a robust and global trade network. The road networks at regional and global levels are strengthened with three major systems namely Yangtze River Economic Belt, Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The principal and strategic component of this network is CPEC which is part of 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The multibillion USD mega projects under CPEC are destined to usher a new era of

economic prosperity and peace in the region. These mammoth projects in the energy sector, strengthening of physical and telecommunication networks, upgradation and strengthening of Gawadar port and establishment of Export Promotions Zones across Pakistan, are collectively called the “*Destiny Changer*” in the region. The dividends of the first early harvest phase of CPEC have already created trickle-down effects to the masses in Pakistan.

With huge investment of Chinese Government in Research and Development, today more than 100 Chinese Universities are placed in the global best 500 Universities of the world, according to Times Higher Education Ranking (2021), Shanghai Jiao Thong Universities ranking (2020) and US News and World Report (2020). According to QS Ranking, the top 9 Chinese Universities include Tsinghua University, Peking University, Fujian University, University of Science and Tech China, Zhejiang University, Shanghai Jiao Thong University, Nanjing University, Sun Yat Sen University, Wuhan University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Xian Jiao Thong University. The academic and research collaboration between China and Pakistan have witnessed impressive growth in last few decades, in the areas of graduate studies, joint collaborative research, research funding, exchange programs, short term placement of students and faculty, organizing Conferences, Seminars and workshops etc. While looking at the significance of intellectual and knowledge connectivity, alongside the physical routes, Higher Education Commission has timely established the CPEC center at its headquarter. Under the aegis of this initiatives, a consortium of CPEC Universities has been created, which is comprised of more than 50 Universities now. HEC submitted a series of PC-1s for establishing Knowledge and Research Corridor between the two countries. The two important projects, have started its work, China Pakistan Joint Research Centre at Quaid-e- Azam University and Academic Collaboration under CPEC consortium Universities. In the former mega project, three centers will be established with main seat at QUA for earth Sciences, Labs for Cryosphere and Climate Studies at Karakoram

International University Gilgit and Marine Sciences Labs at Marine University Karachi.

The objectives of the project for establishing collaboration amongst the CPEC Consortium Universities include:

- a. Study the geo-strategic and geo-economic dimensions of the Chinese Belt and Road initiative and CPEC to understand their long-term impact on Pakistan.
- b. Develop mechanisms to fully exploit the opportunities arising out of the China's appetite for global talent, and facilitate absorption of their graduates by Pakistani economy.
- c. Support higher education institutions (HEIs) in the development of human resource to implement CPEC Long Term Plan.
- d. Develop capacity of Pakistani universities for providing policy inputs to the government on the challenges emerging in the wake of implementation of CPEC Long Term Plan.
- e. Develop an understanding of Chinese history, culture and governance system that has created the Chinese miracle, while drawing lessons for own development.

The various components of this knowledge and research collaboration are summarized below:

- i. Joint Research:* For implementation of these strategies, HEC has proposed some of the way forward like Joint research on selected themes of joint interest, which can include Climate Adaptation, Sustainable Mountain Development, Food Security, Urban Planning, Water Resource Management, Supply Chain Management, IT Entrepreneurship, Medicinal Plants, Gemstones and Mineral resource management etc.
- ii. Talent Cultivation and Training:* This component mainly focuses on the capacity building of faculty to strengthen the academic and intellectual relations. About 400 faculty

members will be trained under this component both at Pakistan and China

- iii. Post-doctoral research:* Post-doctoral research and trainings provide ample opportunities to faculty for exchange of latest knowledge, research and technologies. About 30 faculty member (15 on each side) will be provided with the opportunities for such research.
- iv. Short Term Trainings:* Due to shortage of qualified PhD faculty in the newly established Universities in Pakistan, it may not be affordable for them to place most of the faculty on PhD studies or Post Doc research. Hence a window of short term placement of 150 faculty and staff for short term trainings of 2-3 weeks will be provided
- v. Dual degree programs between Chinese and Pakistani Universities:* For internationalization of Universities in Pakistan, one option can be joint or dual degree programs. *International Dual/Double Degree program:* Two or more institutions in different countries collaborate on one-degree program. Upon completion, students receive degree certificates issued separately by each of the institutions involved in the program. These programs generally use the terminology 2+2 or 1+2+1. Under the proposed project 10 BS and 20 MS students will be provided with this opportunity to complete their degrees under dual degree programs of Chinese and Pakistani Universities.
- vi. Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Colloquia etc.* In current phase, about 12 International Conferences will be arranged at Pakistan and China to showcase the research in both countries, which will be focused on the challenges faced by the two countries, with special emphasis over CPEC and BRI.
- vii. Establishment of China Study Centers:* At least 6 China Study Centers will be established across Pakistan, one each in 5 provinces including Gilgit Baltistan and AJ&K. These centers will focus on strengthening the Chinese language

teaching, cultural and history studies and act as Think Tank for paving long term understanding about CPEC.

Gilgit Baltistan is a region blessed with unique opportunities by nature. The region has a distinction of being the converging point of three of the mightiest mountain ranges in the world, namely: Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush. These ranges have many of the world's highest peaks and the world's largest concentration of glaciers outside the Polar Region, also called "*Third Pole*". In the Karakoram alone 30 peaks soar over 24,000 feet (7,500 m) and culminate in the 28,250 feet (8,612 m) high K2, second only to Mt. Everest in elevation. Sheer rock walls and ravines, plunging thousands of vertical feet down to the rivers flowing below, mark the unique panorama. These lofty mountains and valleys boast a spectrum of wildlife such as the snow leopard, brown bear, Marco Polo sheep, Himalayan ibex, Astore markhor, golden marmot, woolly flying quirel and other species, some of which are rare or endangered. Substantial deposits of various minerals and semi-precious stones add to the natural wealth of the region. Glacier and snow melts are the source of fresh water in this arid region. Water flows into the valleys in the form of nullahs (streams) and makes human existence possible.

GB being a gateway to CPEC and Karakoram International University, being a pioneer seat of higher learning has been connected to China both physically, historically and traditionally. The flow of services and goods across the two region under regional trade arrangements, provide unmatched opportunities to the people on both sides of the boarder. KIU established its Confucius Centre , years back to impact Chinese Language literacy to the students and youth. All graduates of KIU are bound to learn the two level of Chinese literacy (HESI&II). Every year more than 1000 students are taught Chinese language by native Chinese teachers. A good number of the faculty of KIU also graduated from Chinese top Universities, who have brought, their rich experience to the region for quality education and research to more than 7000 students at KIU. The faculty and students of Pakistani Universities

and general and KIU in particular would need to abreast for harnessing the opportunities provided under CPEC Knowledge and Research Corridor. Drew Faust President Harvard University quoted: “Higher Education is the strongest, sturdiest ladder for socioeconomic mobility”. CPEC knowledge and Research Corridor (CKRC), will enhance the intellectual capacity of the faculty and staff of Pakistani Higher Education Institutes, which will turn the youth force of Pakistan, as growth engine as envisaged by HEC.

Comparative Analysis of Pakistan China Higher Education Systems:

According to Dakar framework adopted by all nations of the world in 2000, education is the right of all (Education for All). Pakistan developed a comprehensive strategy under National Plan for Action to achieve three basic objectives of focusing on early childhood education, universal primary education and adult literacy during 2001-15. China issued *Higher Education Law of the People’s Republic of China* in 1998, which provided a framework for broader collaboration among the higher education institutes across China and abroad.

Higher Education plays crucial role in the socioeconomic development of the country, as provides skilled and qualified human resource for the market. In Pakistan, the gap between the needs of employers and attributes of the graduates in general, has led to unemployment. In a cross sectional study of Pakistani graduates on the basis of Employers’ perceptions, by Grant Thornton for HEC, some of very shocking facts were revealed. The study informed about the following major evidences from the survey⁷⁴:

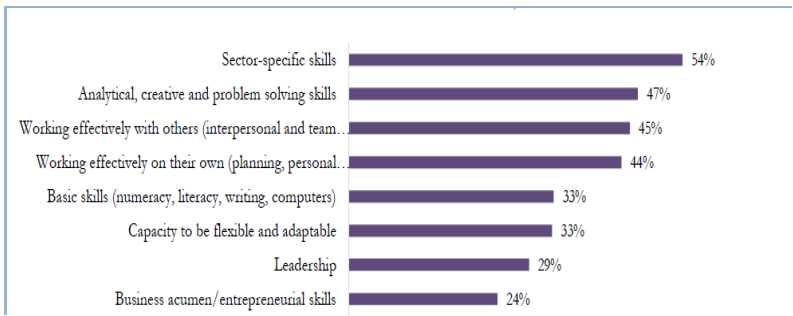
- i. Pakistani HEIs needs to improve their assessment methods, to more practical and hands on assessment, which can

74 Grant Thornton (2016)-Final Report-Employers’ Perception Survey-Submitted to HEC.
Available at
https://hec.gov.pk/english/universities/projects/TESP/Documents/Employers%20Perception%20Survey_May%202016.pdf

- actually test the competence and capacity of the student, in addition to theoretical knowledge.
- ii. This approach will also inculcate the habit of research and inquisitiveness in students, who would focus more on the next phase, which is the application of knowledge.
 - iii. This will also address the issue raised by a majority of employers regarding their lack of satisfaction in some graduate skills that are important for them such as critical thinking, analytical approach, self-initiative and effective interpersonal communication.
 - iv. While **engineering, and information and communication technology are the second and third top most demanded faculties** by our employers, there is **very little development in our universities that cater to the dynamically evolving technological needs of our country**, and as a result employers are resorted to look abroad for their technology needs, as well as for people who have the requisite knowledge and training on latest technologies.
 - v. HEIs in Pakistan should take heed of the fact that a majority of employers, including government and private employers, have foreign qualified people in their work force. The reason attributed to this is the **lack of availability of quality resources in Pakistan, who have practical knowledge and experience in the subject of their specialization**, and also lack overall quality. These are areas that local HEIs need to focus more for being able to adequately meet, local demand of employers.
 - vi. In terms of expectations and satisfaction of employers from graduate skills and competences, **HEIs should focus on the aspects that are most important, but have a low satisfaction with employers, such as critical and analytical thinking, motivation and initiative, effective writing skills and quality consciousness.**
 - vii. Employers have strongly endorsed the use of various means to enhance engagement with HEIs, including; **cooperation on curriculum design and study programs, collaboration on**

research and innovation, recruitment of graduates, work placement opportunities for students, participation in debates/seminars organized by HEIs, structured discussions with course directors or senior management, and cooperation with career services/centers. A proactive and collaborative effort will be required by employers, HEIs and HEC to make progress on these fronts.

They also recommended various skills on the basis of Employers’ perceptions for all graduates. These include sector or discipline specific skills, analytical and creative thinking, interpersonal skills, basic skills of numeracy, literacy and computer, flexibility and adaptability, leadership and basic acumen and entrepreneurial skills. The importance of these skills in order of priority responded by the employers is given below:



Grant Thornton (2016)-Final Report-Employers’ Perception Survey-
Submitted to HEC. Available at

https://hec.gov.pk/english/universities/projects/TESP/Documents/Employers%20Perception%20Survey_May%202016.pdf

In Pakistan, Higher Education Commission (HEC) was established as a transformed form of previous University Grants Commission (UGC) in the early 21st century, with a mandate to provide quality, accessible, equitable and affordable higher education across the country. HEC, could perform very well in the

last two decades in the areas of infrastructure development for HEIs, Capacity building of faculty and staff, standardization of various processes and procedures at HEIs and improvement of their governance. However, after 18th constitutional amendment and transfer of higher education portfolio to provinces, HEC remained subject to many controversies. The recent orders of the Federal Government to annex HEC with Federal Education ministry has proved a great shock to higher education of Pakistan, as the autonomy of the HEIs and HEC both will be severely affected with the new Ordinance. Pakistan, still needs a lot of hard work to make the standards of higher education compatible to the neighboring countries including India, China and Bangladesh.

China has made heavy investment in higher education and 45 Chinese Universities were included in top 300 HEIs in 2018, as per QS ranking. Currently about 30,000 Pakistani Students are pursuing their higher education in Chinese Universities, out of which at least 10% are pursuing their master and doctoral studies. These students are mainly enrolled in Engineering and Medicine but enrolments in other disciplines is also increasing which include Computer Science, Business Administration, Finance, Chemistry, Architecture, international Law, Broadcasting, Journalism and Media studies etc. China has offered scholarship program for undergrad and graduate studies to attract overseas talent of researchers from Asian countries, particular Pakistan and India. The easy adaptability, good communication in English and hardworking attitude of Pakistani students are some of the preferred attributes for their selection under these scholarship programs.

CPEC consortium of Universities was found in 2017, under the auspices of Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) and China Association of Higher Education (CHAHE), with an aim to promote University to University linkages. The following Universities are currently members of the consortium:

People's Republic of China

- (1) Fudan University, Shanghai
- (2) Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

- (3) Nanjing University, Nanjing
- (4) Peking University, Beijing
- (5) Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai
- (6) Shanghai University, Shanghai
- (7) Tsinghua University, Beijing
- (8) University of Science & Technology of China, Hefei
- (9) Zhejiang University, Hangzhou
- (10) Xi'an Jiaotong University
- (11) Harbin Institute of Technology
- (12) Wuhan University
- (13) South-Central University for Nationalities
- (14) Yunnan University
- (15) Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
- (16) Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment
- (17) Xi'an University of Architectural and Technology
- (18) Sias University
- (19) Northwest University.

Pakistan

- (1) Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering & Management Sciences (BUIITEMS), Quetta
- (2) COMSATS University of Information Technology, Islamabad
- (3) Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi
- (4) Sukkur IBA University, Sukkur
- (5) Institute of Management Sciences (IMS), Peshawar
- (6) Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore
- (7) National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences
- (8) National University of Sciences & Technology, Islamabad
- (9) Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad
- (10) University of the Punjab, Lahore
- (11) University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore
- (12) Karakoram International University, Gilgit

- (13) Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro
- (14) University of Engineering & Technology, Peshawar
- (15) NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi
- (16) Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
- (17) University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
- (18) Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water & Marine Sciences, Lasbela
- (19) University of Karachi, Karachi
- (20) University of Balochistan, Quetta
- (21) University of Peshawar, Peshawar
- (22) Azad Jammu & Kashmir University, Muzaffarabad
- (23) International Centre for Chemical & Biological Sciences, Karachi University
- (24) University of Agriculture, Peshawar
- (25) Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam
- (26) Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan
- (27) International Islamic University, Islamabad
- (28) University of Sargodha, Sargodha
- (29) National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad
- (30) Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi
- (31) National University of Technology, Islamabad
- (32) Foundation University, Islamabad
- (33) University of Haripur, Haripur
- (34) Lahore College for Women University, Lahore
- (35) National Defence University, Islamabad
- (36) National University of Medical Sciences, Islamabad

For strengthening bilateral cooperation and collaboration in the areas of socio-economic development, agriculture, industries, infrastructure, energy and people-to-people contacts, the consortium Universities can play a pivotal role. Currently China is sponsoring 100 smart class rooms and establishment of 10 agricultural research centres in various of Pakistan. Chinese Ambassador HE Yao Jing, highlighted that the next stage of CPEC will be more people oriented where academia, students,

Universities and Higher Education and Research Institutes will play a pivotal role to strengthen the collaboration and create trickle-down effect of the CPEC projects of common masses⁷⁵.

The Business Schools of China and Pakistan along the CPEC, started with China Pakistan Management Initiative (CPMI) which is based at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). CPMI has high focus on on high-quality peer-reviewed research articles, concept notes, technical and policy papers, case studies and executive training to support CPEC⁷⁶. Beijing Technology and Business University (BTBU) has established a “Pakistan Study Center of Science & Technology and Economy”. Similarly, Centre of Excellence-CPEC has been established at Planning Commission of Pakistan as a policy think tank to provide policy inputs to federal and provincial Governments of Pakistan. Some of the key areas for research under CPMI include: urban development in Pakistan under CPEC; socio-economic impact of CPEC; trade and industry cooperation; regional connectivity; financing and financial sector integration under CPEC; and, job growth and human resource development⁷⁷. The seven key pillars of cooperation for CPEC Consortium Universities and Business Schools include connectivity (transport and information networks), energy, trade and industrial parks (SEZs), agriculture development and poverty alleviation, tourism, people's livelihood and non-governmental exchanges, and financial cooperation. A holistic perspective of such collaboration has been given in Fig⁷¹.

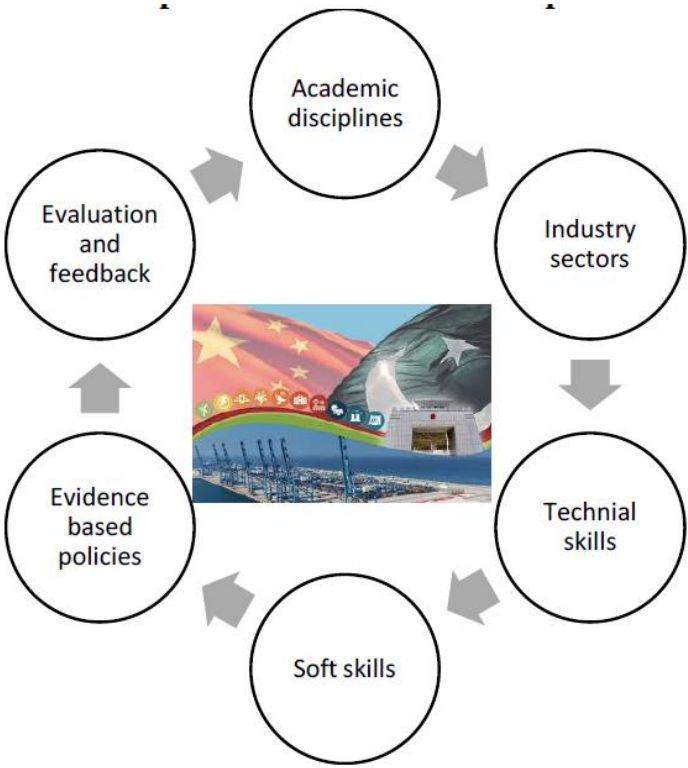
CPEC provides a unique opportunity for the education and research institutions of the countries along the Belts and Roads for collaborative research in the areas such as trade and finance, human resource development with special focus on techno-vocational skills, industrial evaluation, evidence based policies formulation and soft skills etc. Another very important area of collaboration can

75 Xinhua-Asia Pacific- PEC Consortium of Universities pledges to enhance cooperation in business, science, technology between China, Pakistan- Available at http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/18/c_138564830.htm

76 Jawad Syed and Memoona Tariq (2018) Cooperation among Business Schools along the Belt and Road: A CPEC Perspective Working Paper: LUMS/CPMI/2018/05/1 (LUMS)

77 CoE (2017). Centre of Excellence - CPEC. Retrieved from: <https://cpec-centre.pk/about-us/>

be environmental sustainability, as with huge development of infrastructure, industries and transportation systems, the fragile ecosystem of the region will be subject to bigger disaster than we have today.



Major components of Universities Collaboration under CPEC Knowledge and Research Corridor

Gerard A. Postiglione (2015)-Research universities for national rejuvenation and global influence: China’s search for a balanced model- High Educ (2015) 70:235-250

For Pakistan, CPEC will provide three major corridors, physical, intellectual and technological for the development of the region and Pakistani Universities need to prepare for such opportunities.

The soft power to create attraction for a country is comprised of three main State's sources; its culture, political values and its foreign policies. In western countries, this soft power has been linked to democracy and liberalism⁷⁸. The CPEC and its multi-billion investments in Pakistan provide an interesting case study for soft power research⁷⁹

Some of the soft power action of China in Pakistan include, Game Changer Narrative of CPEC, promotion of Chinese Language courses across different Universities of Pakistan, increased film industry cooperation between the two countries and collaboration in higher education.

China has rightly used higher education as soft power to win the hearts and minds of the people of Pakistan. The former ambassador of China to Pakistan HE Yao Jing said: 'the next stage of CPEC would be more people-oriented where students, academia, universities, institutions would be the main players in the China-Pakistan cooperation⁸⁰ (CPEC Consortium of Universities pledges 2019). In recent years for at least two decades, China's international collaboration and higher education and exchange of people from different walks of life remained unprecedented⁸¹. To develop close attraction for the people of Pakistan in the higher education sectors, China has ushered five prong strategy: hosting international students, providing Pakistan's universities with funds and equipment to improve their research and teaching capabilities,

78 Li, E. 2018. "The Rise and Fall of Soft Power. Joseph Nye's Concept Lost Relevance, but China Could Bring It Back." *Foreign Policy*, August 20.
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/08/20/the-rise-and-fall-of-soft-power/>

79 Kuszewska, A., and A. Nitzka-Makowska. 2021. "Multifaceted Aspects of Economic Corridors in the Context of Regional Security: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor as a Stabilizing and Destabilizing Factor." *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs* 8 (2): 218-248. doi:10.1177/23477970211017719.

80 CPEC Consortium of Universities to pave way for economic growth: Minister. 19 November 2019. "Nation." <https://nation.com.pk/19-Nov-2019/cpec-consortium-of-universities-to-pave-way-for-economic-growth-minister>

81 Yang, R. 2015. "China's Soft Power Projection in Higher Education." *International Higher Education* 46: 24-25. doi:10.6017/ihe.2007.46.7938

establishing centers for collaborative research on the CPEC and related themes, launching Confucius Institutes (ICs) and Chinese classes at universities, and building regional academic networks⁸².

The number of Pakistani students has significantly increased from 1000 in 2006 to more than 28000 by 2018 and about 30,000 at present. China stands at the top amongst the countries, who have received Pakistani students for higher studies, though China is regarded as second choice higher education destination by students coming from middle and lower middle class of Pakistan. China is attracting large number of students from the BRI countries and is gradually becoming the preferred higher education destination for them. This is mainly due to large number of scholarships offered by Chinese Universities, subsidized fee structure, more prospects for employment in BRI/CPEC projects and good reputation of the top Chinese Universities, as molarity of Chinese Universities enjoy higher standards than Pakistani Higher Education Institutes (HEI)⁸³. The knowledge and Research Collaboration amongst the BRI countries and particularly Higher Education Institutes of China and Pakistan will grow further to act as soft power to mobilize the people to people contacts and to win the hearts and minds of people. The higher education and research as soft power mediator, to create their strong influence in the region. The success of these endeavors will depend on the understanding of people on both sides and higher education would continue to play the role of catalyst in this direction.

This chapter highlights the importance of knowledge and research integration between the two brotherly countries of Pakistan and China. Various options under CPEC collaboration for knowledge and research have been discussed in this chapter. Higher Education Commission, has embarked upon various

82 Agnieszka Nitza-Makowska (2021): Can the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor help Beijing Win Pakistanis' hearts and minds? Reviewing higher education as an instrument of Chinese soft power in Pakistan, *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, DOI: 10.1080/10286632.2021.1962849

83 Shah A (2021), "CPEC and China Pakistan Knowledge Corridor" *PIVOT Quarterly Magazine of China-Pakistan Study Centre Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad* 3 (2): 9-10

initiatives for strengthening of intellectual and technology connectivity between the two countries, which has been discussed in this chapter, which include collaborative research projects, exchange of students and faculty, joint and split degree programs, trainings of human resource, joint workshops, conferences and seminars. The faculty and students of Pakistani Higher Education Institutes need to gear up for exploiting these opportunities.

In the next chapter, you will learn the objectives and targets envisaged under Establishment of China Study Centers at various HEIs. It is a matter of high honor for us that one such Centre is being established at Karakoram International University Gilgit Baltistan

China Study Centres-Aims and Objectives

There are contrasting differences between the beliefs, cultures and habits of China and Pakistan, yet the historic relations between the two countries linked through the Silk Routes over centuries, enabled both the nations to respect each other and become supporters in thick and thin. GB being a gateway to CPEC and Karakoram International University, being a pioneer seat of higher learning has been connected to China physically, historically and traditionally. The flow of services and goods across the two regions under regional trade arrangements, provide unmatched opportunities to the people on both sides of the boarder. KIU established its Confucius Centre, years back to impart Chinese Language literacy to the students and youth. All graduates of KIU are bound to learn the two level of Chinese literacy (HSKI&II). Every year more than 1000 students are taught Chinese language by native Chinese teachers. A good number of the faculty of KIU also graduated from Chinese top Universities, who have brought, their rich experience to the region for quality education and research to more than 7000 students at KIU. The faculty and students of Pakistani Universities and general and KIU in particular would need to abreast for harnessing the opportunities provided under CPEC Knowledge and Research Corridor. Drew Faust President Harvard University quoted: *“Higher Education is the strongest, sturdiest ladder for socioeconomic mobility”*. CPEC knowledge and Research opportunities will enhance the intellectual capacity of the faculty and staff of Pakistani Higher

Education Institutes and KIU, which will turn the youth force of Pakistan, as growth engine as envisaged by HEC.

Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) has been signed with some universities of China for faculty/ student exchange, research collaboration and outreach and technology transfer. In this direction, currently KIU MoU signed with the following Chinese universities:

1. KIU and Qilu University of Technology, Jinan China
2. KIU and Kunming University of Science and Technology, China
3. KIU and Xinjiang Agriculture University
KIU is actively engaged in forging collaborations and partnerships with various universities in China and more collaborations will be developed in near future.

Different levels of collaborations have been functional between KIU and many universities of China in various domains of research and academics, for instance, for testing of samples for biological properties, material engineering, natural product isolation, Food and nutraceutical analysis, geosciences, plant systematic studies, etc. Some of the high impact articles of collaborative work have already been published in renowned journals. Some notable collaborations are given in Table.

The South and Southeast Asian University Network, also known as SSE ASIAN UN, was established on Dec 10, 2018, at Yunnan University in Kunming, Yunnan's provincial capital. It has 103 universities from South and Southeast Asia. KIU is its member and actively involved in various and research activities since its inception:

- The South and Southeast Asian University Network (S&SE ASIAN UN) Sub-committee of Emerging Engineering Education was established on May 12 at Yunnan University (YNU), with an inaugural meeting and the first computer science education forum held on the same day.

- KIU actively participated in the short video competition on My Story of Fighting against COVID-19 and got second prize

The Faculty members who have earned their doctoral degrees from China (27 faculty members) have studied one year Chinese language or at least studied one or two Chinese spoken courses in China. Some of them have passed Chinese proficiency test of HSK-4. In addition, the Confucius Set at Institute of Professional Development (IPD), KIU has already initiated Chinese language courses. KIU in collaboration with the Confucius Institute aims to further bolster the mutually benefiting ties between China and Pakistan through promotion of the Chinese language and culture.

KIU is one of few universities in Pakistan, where 3 credit hours, a semester long Chinese language course is compulsory part of BS degree curriculum. Each under-grad student is required to complete the Chinese language requirement to complete the degree for HSK-I&II levels. Every year about 1000 graduates and youth of the GB are trained for Chinese language by native Chinese teachers.

KIU has a well-established research center known as Center for Research on CPEC (CRC) at the Faculty of Social Sciences. A number of projects have been undertaken under the umbrella of this dedicated research center. The CRC has arranged the following seminars / workshop related to CPEC:

- i. The Center for Research on CPEC in collaboration with Centre of Excellence on CPEC, Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform organized a one-day National Conference on “CPEC: Opportunities and Challenges for Gilgit-Baltistan” at KIU, Gilgit on November 3, 2017. Speakers from different sectors of the society presented their viewpoint on the opportunities and challenges that will accompany CPEC-related investments. Prominent among the speakers were Dr. Shahid Rashid Executive Director Center for Excellence on CPEC, Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform, Islamabad.
- ii. The Center for Research on CPEC in collaboration with the Department of Youth Affairs, Government of Gilgit-Baltistan

and GB Pride Association---a local NGO organized a three days' workshop entitled "CPEC and Youth: Opportunities for Entrepreneurship on April 10, 2019. Mr. Asim Tiwana, Secretary for Youth Affairs and Human Rights was the chief guest of the opening ceremony while Dr. Kazim Niaz Chief Secretary, Gilgit-Baltistan honored the closing ceremony as the chief guest. Around 70 senior students from various departments of KIU participated in the workshop. They students presented their business ideas, which were appreciated by the audience.

iii. More recently KIU organized 3-day online research colloquium in collaboration with Shandong Academy of Sciences, Jinan China and the researchers from the institute delivered their keynotes, besides more than 50 integrational and national speakers.

1. The following KIU Squad had participated in the "South and Southeast Asia College Students Cultural and Sports Week, 2019" held in Kunming University of Science and Technology, China.

- i. Mr. Irfan Ali (Faculty Business Management) - Contingent Leader
- ii. Khalid Ansari (Student, Department of IR) - Cultural Performer/Drummer
- iii. Kashif Shamsher (Student, Department of Environmental Sciences) Cultural Performer/Singer.
- iv. Sheraz Karim (Student, Department of Computer Sciences) Cultural Performer/Rubab Artist

2. Prof.Engr. Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah Vice Chancellor KIU, as part of the leadership visit of CPEC Consortium Universities to Hangzhou and Ningbo China in China Association for Higher Education (CAHE)

3. A delegation of six students from KIU including two females were sponsored by the Embassy of People's Republic of China in Pakistan to visit Beijing for a week. The students visited several universities in Beijing and interacted with students and faculty.
4. Under the Confucius set at Institute of Professional Development, KIU a group of students who successfully completed HSK 1 & 2, availed a cultural exposure visit to Beijing China.

A number of national and international delegates visited KIU to explore possibilities for collaboration. Details of some of the visits of are given as follows:

- i. A team of researchers from Lanzhou University visited KIU and held meetings to explore possibilities for joint ventures. The Department of Environmental Science has initiated collaborative projects with Lanzhou University.
- ii. A delegation from University of Kashghar visited KIU and had meeting with VC and Director China Study/CPEC Centre. The various areas of joint collaboration were discussed. The delegation from KIU will visit Kashghar University soon.
- iii. A delegation of five doctoral students under the supervision of Professor Hou Yangfang of the Institute of Historical Geography, Fudan University visited KIU in liaison with the Department of International Relations to conduct research on the History of Silk Route.
- iv. A delegation comprising of Vice Chancellor KIU, Dean Faculty of Life Science and Senior Faculty member from Chemistry department will visit Shandong Academy of Sciences) Jinan, China in April/May 2021 soon after the COVID-19 lockdown is relaxed.
- v. Senior Faculty Dr. Manzoor Ali and Registrar Dr. Abdul Hameed Lone visited China on exchange visit.

For the first time in the history of KIU, faculty and student exchange program is set for capacity building, research outreach and technology transfer. In this direction, two PhD students enrolled for PhD program in Biological Sciences at KIU have been selected for Laboratory trainings and research at Qilu University of Technology Jinan. KIU endeavors to create more opportunities to students and faculty exchange to partner universities in China.

- i. The Department of Food Technology and Agriculture is in the process initiating a joint venture with the Chinese counterparts on Development of Bio-pesticides and Intelligent Sprayer to Optimize its Applications in Fruits Orchards of GB.
- ii. The department of Earth Science also undertook research work and held study on Geo-Hazard in collaboration with University of Sichuan China

KIU has a fully functional Confucius Set at the Institute of Professional Development (IPD) that imparts Chinese language trainings to students and professionals from various walks of life. The teaching faculty is the native Chinese faculty from the Confucius Institute. KIU intends to further augment the program by creating linkages with external stakeholders and building partnerships with Chinese and Pakistani counterparts.

In addition, KIU is offering the following courses closely related to CPEC and China:

- i. Department of International Relations (I.R.) teaches two courses: 1) BRI and Regional Integration 2) Area Studies on China.
- ii. Department of Economics offer one course: 1) Globalization and Regional Integration.

Moreover, as referred earlier that the Chinese language is also taught as a compulsory course to students of undergraduate

(B.S.). Chinese native speakers from Confucius Institute teaches this course.

Based on extensive involvement of KIU with Chinese counterparts in the areas of higher education and research, HEC approved “*Establishment of China Study Centre (CSC) at KIU*” as part of 6 study centers being established across the country, under PSDP project “*Academic Collaboration under CPEC Consortium Universities*”. The China Study Centers are being established as mini think tanks to promote academic and research linkages among the Chinese and Pakistani universities. The primary function of these Centers will be to drive collaborative activities to enhance understanding of Chinese system, culture and economic miracle. Details Terms of Reference of CSC, as per HEC guidelines are given as follows:

- a. The Centers will be funded by HEC under the PC-1 for “Academic Collaboration under CPEC Consortium of Universities” for three years. The Universities will plan ahead for their gradual shifting to recurring budget after the conclusion of the project
- b. The Universities will get approval of the academic, administrative and financial mechanism of the Centers from their respective governing bodies and provide suitable furnished accommodation for the Centers, with internet connectivity
- c. Open and maintain separate project accounts.
- d. Organize Chinese language classes for the faculty and students
- e. Organize activities to promote understanding of Chinese system and culture
- f. Undertake translation of Chinese literary pieces to promote understanding of Chinese cultural traditions
- g. Act as a thinks tank / area study centre on China
- h. Promote / coordinate CPEC-focused research
- i. Act as regional hub for planned China Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute

- j. Organize conferences, seminars and workshops in collaboration with Chinese universities

The following targets will be achieved on completion of the project (after three years) to promote better understanding of Chinese history, culture and economic development. Each Center will:

- a. Publish minimum 3 books on China / CPEC
- b. Undertake at least 3 impact studies related to CPEC in collaboration with Chinese Universities
- c. Train not less than 100 staff /students in Chinese language
- d. Translate minimum 100 pages of Chinese literary pieces
- e. Organize exhibitions of Chinese advancements in science and art
- f. Organize cultural activities to showcase Chinese culture

The following human resource will be provided to the Centers and funded by HEC for three years:

- a. Associate Prof. (Director) –Salary: Not exceeding Rs 0.309m per month
- b. 1 x Asst. Prof. (proficient in Chinese language) –Salary: Not exceeding Rs0.184m per month
- c, 1 x Lecturer / Research Associate (Chinese language teacher) –Salary: Not exceeding Rs0.081m per month
- d, 1 x Asst. Librarian –Salary: Not exceeding Rs0.034m per month

Purchase of Library/ Study Material: The following one-time funding will be provided for purchase of library / study material:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| a. Study Material (Books and Magazine) | 2.000 m |
| b. Audio Video Material / Software | 0.500 m |
| c. Multi Media / Projector | 1.500 m |

d. Office Requisites	<u>2.000 m</u>
Total:	6.000 m

Universities will be eligible for funding through other initiatives under the PC-1, such as joint research projects, training and talent cultivation, and joint conferences/seminars/workshops – through competitive selection process. The Centers will submit annual reports of their activities by 30th June every year.

KIU has been actively involved with the various Chinese Higher Education and Research Institutes for last one decade, mainly due to close proximity of the Gilgit Baltistan to China, large number of faculty having graduated from China and importance of the region as gateway to CPEC. For strengthening cultural, educational, research and trade relations with China, CSC can play a pivotal role. An advisory committee has been constituted, headed by the Vice Chancellor KIU and the positions of the project have been advertised. The functioning of the CSC will start soon. This book may be part of the book publication objectives of CSC.

CSC plans to arrange diverse activities during the project period and onwards, which may include Research collaboration, joint research publication, joint authorship of books, issuing of monthly magazine of center, strengthening of faculty, staff and students exchange programs between the two countries. For successful implementation of CPEC projects and transfer its dividends to the masses, it is very important to develop better understanding between the two nations. CSC, as a focal point at KIU, can achieve this goals and the KIU team and leadership have to develop a pragmatic plan realize rather surpass the expectations of the project.

In the changing geostrategic circumstances and regional dynamics after the withdrawal of US troops and accession of Taliban to powers in Afghanistan, the regional stability and peace in south Asia become more challenging. For achieving the long terms objectives of China for creating economic prosperity for all countries of the region and achievement of Pakistan’s vision to become one the Asian Economic Tigers, would need sustainable

peace in the region. The adversary response and attitude of Indian Government and Media after the recent developments in Afghanistan, threats to regional peace are increasing. The strong pledge of China to support Afghanistan for its rebuilding and rehabilitation, is though a positive symbol towards developing diplomatic relations between Afghanistan and China, yet the combined propaganda of US and India to restrict China and create more uncertainties about credibility of the Taliban Government, through media war, is becoming a challenge for the region and both China and Pakistan. In this context, close collaboration between China and Pakistan is imperative.

In this part of the book, the China's approach for creating technology based excellence in the emerging new technologies and subsequent 4th Industrial Revolution, the future direction of Pak China relations in the above cited challenges and details of my visits to China.

China Road for 4th Industrial Revolution

The Chinese approach for global prosperity is based on peace, mutual respect and trust. Some of the dominant factors of Chinese philosophy are already discussed in the earlier part of the book, yet this chapter further explains some to the innovative and creative ideas of China for making a peaceful and sustainable world. The China's history of recovery from an Opium addicted people and poverty stricken country to upper middle class country in last 3-4 decades is not less than a miracle. The China's future outlook is based on creating Win-Win situations for all countries, smaller or larger, North or South, Near or Far. This chapter illustrates the dynamics of 4th Industrial revolution and Chinese approach to handle the associated challenges of I 4.0.

The first industrial revolution happened in United Kingdom with the inventions of Steam Engine. The inventions of steam machineries forced the industrial development in Europe. This increase in productivity led to urbanization, the growth of regional and global market economies, the relevance of democratic governments, and a rising middle class in the western hemisphere⁸⁴.

The second industrial revolution is manifested in the 1860s to 1914 and is reflected in the development standardization, technical complexity, and precision in manufacturing, as well as large-scale technological infrastructure such as electricity grids and new forms of public transportation based on the internal combustion engine.

The third industrial revolution took place after the second World War and bloomed along the double helix of space race and

84 Thomas Philbeck and Nicholas Davis (2019), THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: Journal of International Affairs , Vol. 72, No. 1

development of nuclear power. The post WWII, world was modernized with new technologies and use of computers for complex calculations.

The fourth industrial revolution (I 4.0), involves use of modern information and communication technologies in the design, development and manufacturing processes. These new technologies include Artificial Intelligence (AI), Block Chain, Cloud Computing, Internet of Things, Quantum computing, Virtual and augmented reality, 3D printing and industrial optimization.

The digital China is the combination of two mega events, China economic rise and digitalization of the global economy. At the start of 21st century, massive digital platforms were developed for transactions and businesses in China and companies like Alibaba and Tencent started use of online digital platform for e-commerce. Due to high population and user of internet as well as smart phones, China offered large market for the digital economy to grow faster than the rest of Asian countries. The number of broadcast internet users on China grew from 298 Million in 2008 to 828 Million in 2018. The China ICT industry is contributing 4.8% of its GDP and 2.6% of employment. Mobile payment services such as Alipay and WeChat Pay has become very popular in China. The digital China has implications for social implementation and private IT companies leading this.

In a keynote speech made in the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held in May 2017 in Beijing, President Xi highlighted the country's intentions to "adhere to innovation-driven development; support cooperation in frontier areas such as the digital economy, AI, nanotechnology, and quantum computers; promote big data, cloud computing, and the construction of smart cities; and connect the digital silk road of the 21st century. The digitalization will create a new marketplace for China and other South and South Asian countries. This will lead to *Newly Digitalized Economies* or *Digital Emerging Economies*⁸⁵.

85 Asei Ito (2019) Digital China: A Fourth Industrial Revolution with Chinese Characteristics? Asia-Pacific Review, 26:2, 50-75

The China' has succeeded in moving out of the isolation and becoming one of the most powerful countries, now on way to become the mightiest economic power of the world. The foreign policy of China is closely linked with self-perception. After opening up in the 1970s during Deng Xiaoping period, China is trying to build partnerships and alliances with countries from all parts of the world, with more focus on countries from developing world. China desires to share its experience of economic growth and reforms with the third world countries for their prosperity and affluence. China has already achieved the status of regional power, it is assuming the status of Quasi-Superpower second the new world order⁸⁶.

China foreign policy is based on five principles of Peaceful Coexistence: 1) mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, 2) mutual non-aggression, 3) mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, 4) equality and mutual benefit, and 5) peaceful co-existence. Internally, the ultimate goal of Chinese policies is to strengthen One Party Socialist Government, which required political stability in the country and region. The economic crisis and recession of 2008 less harmed China as compared to US and Europe and as a result, the Chinese foreign policy became more assertive. China mover from low profile approach to striving for achievements approach, which has been more advocated and pursued by the current Chinese leadership of President Xi Jinping.

The new foreign policy of China is focused on achieving modernization, creating a benevolent and peaceful external environment, and taking steps that allow it to develop its domestic economy⁸⁷. The domestic challenges for China include maintaining steady growth rate and economic development as well reducing the socioeconomic inequalities. The future foreign policy of China is expected to be more driven by the domestic dynamics as well. With

86 Breslin, Shaun. 2009. "Understanding China's Regional Rise: Interpretations, Identities and Implications. *International Affairs*.85(4): 817-835.

87 Zhao, Kejin. 2013. *Guiding Principles of China's New Foreign Policy*. Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy.

China, grabbing more economic powers, the antagonism by United States is natural as it feels losing ground in the global politics and economy. The recent withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan and fall of Kabul to Taliban is one of the examples. Nevertheless, for sustainable peace at regional and global levels, cooperation between the two economic powers is inevitable. The Chinese foreign policy under President Xi is thus based on mutual understanding and strategic trust, respecting each other's core interests, mutually beneficial cooperation, and enhancing cooperation and coordination in international affairs and on global issues⁸⁸. With the objectives to strengthen its influence in the developing countries, China has been pursuing its relations actively with the countries in Latin America, Central Asia and Africa. For such countries, the China development model is good lesson to learn and practice. The China foreign policy will continue to be more dynamic and evolving to cater with the regional and global challenges to shape the new World Order.

China joining World Trade Organization was accompanied with skepticism both inside and outside, yet China continued with their commitment to the principles of liberalization and free trade. For advancing their products in the global market, China introduced *Made in China 2025 (MIC25)*. China launched the ambitious plan to become technological leadership by year 2049. China will focus on the core emerging technologies and industries such as robotics, power equipment, AI, alternative energy vehicles, facial recognition and next-generation IT. This progressively will lead the world to 4th Generation Industrial Revolution (I 4.0). For this purpose, China wants to achieve major breakthroughs and create globally competitive companies. More than 530 smart manufacturing industrial parks have been constructed in China to this end. Some of the emerging technologies like Big data, new materials, Industrial Internet and cloud computing have been

88 Xi, Jinping. 2012. Speech at the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and U.S.-China Business Council Luncheon, Washington, D.C., February 15, 2012

focused in these parks. The R&D investment of China is one of the highest in the world and currently it stands at 2.1% of the GDP.

To achieve the MIC25 goals, the China Ministry of Industry and Information Technology has devised the following focal points:

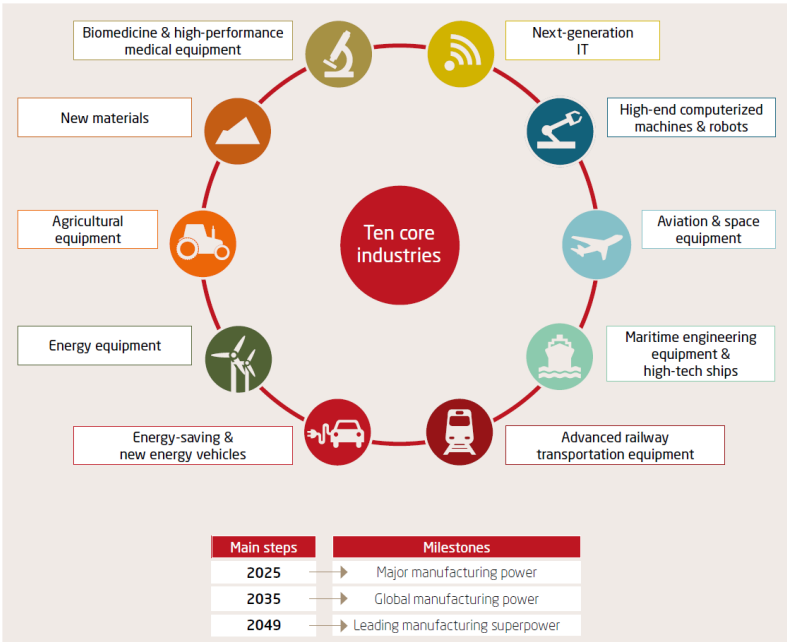
- Establishing local specializations and “MIC25 National Demonstration Zones”
- Industrial Internet, emerging industries, establishing world-class industry clusters
- Innovations in basic general technologies
- Establishing manufacturing innovation centers Fiscal support mechanisms

The manufacturing and industrial sectors of China are still mainly grabbed by the State

Owned Enterprises (SoEs) at 83%. These SoEs are more dominant by the CPC leadership, with high level of interference and influence at the executive level. For more innovative and creative technologies to achieve MIC25, would need to involve private sector from country and abroad.

The concept of MIC25, has already created its impacts on the European Economy. The emerging technologies in the global tech market, will change the competitive advantage of many European countries. This fierce competition to grab the market between China and Europe and US, may erode the profitability of many western countries in the Hi-tech sector. This has also convinced the European countries like Germany to forge partnership with China in R&D in the areas of innovative technologies⁸⁹. Some of the collaborations include Fraunhofer Society, Max Planck Society and the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centers are key actors in research collaboration with China. This cooperation will further increase for developing innovative and emerging technologies in time to come.

⁸⁹ Maz J. Zenglein and Anna Holzmann (2019), *EVOLVING MADE IN CHINA 2025 China's industrial policy in the quest for global tech Leadership*-Mercator Institute of China Studies (Merics).



Ten Core industries set the basis for Made in China 2025 (MIC25)

China has been pursuing the 10 core industries for MIC25 with different intensities, with high focus on manufacturing, Artificial Intelligence (AI), new material and renewal energy etc. In the next generation AI industry, China is working on smart products such as smart connected cars, smart service robots, video image identification system and smart home products. The major bottleneck to this ambitious plan of China is their high reliance on imported hi-tech products. Thus puts China to negative balance of trade in the areas of the high-end spectrum of biotechnology, life science and technology, opto-electronics, electronics, computer-integrated machinery, and aerospace. Hence China has still to do a lot for becoming experts in the new technologies enabling them to develop MIC25.

China has developed top level policy design, and released of final document in Feb 2017, MIC25, has progressed from policy to implementation. There is internal criticism for the MIC25 and

former minister Lou Jiwei, declared the plan as wastage of taxpayers' money⁹⁰. This may become a major internal debate in China and President Xi has to work hard to achieve internal support and confidence than external. Apart from technological and industry specific priorities, China through Ministry of Information Technology has developed the following focus areas in 2018:

- Optimizing capital allocation by developing new financing mechanisms for industrial policy purposes
- Support of local specializations and the establishment of MIC25 National Demonstration Zones
- Industrial Internet, emerging industries and the establishment of world-class industry clusters
- Innovations in basic general technologies applicable within and across industries
- Establishment of manufacturing innovation centres and quality brands
- Fiscal support mechanisms
- More opportunities for foreign investment

The pilot demonstration of the MIC25, have been launched since 2015 in the areas of Green Manufacturing, Smart Manufacturing, Manufacturing and Tech innovation, Manufacturing and internet integration and industrial Champions. Under green manufacturing, green factories, green industrial parks, green supply chain management and green products design has been pushed and by end of 2018, about 1646 industries have been established under this. For Smart manufacturing, Comprehensive standardization, New business application, Sino-German smart manufacturing cooperation have been initiated, with total number of 854 established. In the areas of tech innovations 599 projects on Tech innovation (demonstration enterprises), Manufacturing "mass entrepreneurship & innovation" platforms, Hackerspaces are included. In the area of Manufacturing and internet integration,

90 Lo, Kinling (2019). "Made in China 2025' all talk, no action and a waste of taxpayers' money, says former finance minister Lou Jiwei." South China Morning Post. March 7,2019.

388 projects on Integration management, system Cyber-physical systems (CPSs), Cloud solutions for key products & equipment, E-commerce platforms, Industrial Internet Big Data (industry development & services. Finally, in the area of creating industrial champions, 390 projects have been undertaken by end of 2018.

China can learn from East Asian nation about their journey for transformation including Japan, Taiwan and Korea. This will require focus on the following important aspects⁷⁷:

- Raising awareness among businesses and academia
- Strict investment regulations for acquisition of high-tech companies
- Review process or regulation of high-tech investments in China
- Revision of legislation and prosecution of acts of passing on trade secrets
- Guidelines and industry cooperation on preventing intentional and unintentional knowledge transfer
- Countermeasures preventing knowledge transfer via recruitment (head hunting)
- Technical cooperation in joint research for high-tech not encouraged by government
- Development of incentives to reduce companies' dependence on Chinese market

China has to bring more innovations by engaging private sector and attracting FDI from abroad, to realize, their dream for MIC25. This will require further reforms and transformation in the industrial and finance sectors.

Pak China Relations in the Emerging Scenario

The Government of Pakistan, while realizing the importance of trade and commerce, has rightly shifted from Geostrategic alliances to Geo-economics, as in changing world, the economics are becoming more important for the nations. In the new international horizons and regional dynamics after withdrawal of US led troops from Afghanistan and dramatic fall of Kabul a new version of Taliban called Taliban 2.0 has emerged. Though the reformed and transformed version Taliban under the Doha Agreement seems more responsible and serious to bring sustained peace and broad based Government, yet the volatile and fragile situation in Afghanistan will need more time to consolidate.

In the evolving regional peace situations, the role of China is becoming more important as superpower for cohesion of the region. The BRI of China is further assuming strategic importance for the socioeconomic development of the region. The new scenario appearing in Afghanistan can optimistically reveal a peaceful picture of the region, which will pave ways for the early completion and extension of CPEC in Pakistan and its extension beyond Afghanistan and Central Asia. Pakistan and China can play a very active and positive role in this evolving but volatile situations in the region. For socioeconomic development of the region, sustained peace and economic growth is required. In the adversary and preemptive stances of India and its highly antagonistic character after the fall of Kabul to Taliban, which is treated an apparent failure of their foreign policy, India is like a bad man quarrelling

with his own tools and spare no chance of maligning Pakistan. In such situations, the bilateral relations between Pakistan and China, needs new dimension and strengths. This Chapter illustrates, the new paradigm of Pak China relations and its future in terms of regional integration.

The strategic relations between Pakistan and China can be divided into Cold War Phase and Post-Cold War Phase. The rivalry between China and India provided an opportunity for Pakistan to consolidate its relations with China as per famous proverb *The enemy of my enemy is my friend*.

Both the friendly countries signed an agreement in 1963, which opened new areas of collaboration in the cold war era. Besides the border agreements, two other agreements on air travel and trade. China's support to Pakistan during the Indo Pak wars in 1965 and 1971 by providing military and economic assistance, further cemented this friendship. Construction of Karakoram Highway in 1974, provision of assistance in developing the nuclear technology, support during Afghan war, help in developing ballistic missile program are some of the examples for consolidation of the relations.

The Pakistan US relations remained always subject to distrust and trough & crest. Pakistan always complained of lack of trust from US as the latter always doubted the sincerity of Pakistan as good friend. During visit of United States, Pakistani premier made it clear to US media, that friendship can rest on mutual trust and respect only, no matter if one friend is more resourceful. On the other hand, US expected always more from Pakistan in War Against Terrors, though this has already inflicted heavy human and material losses to Pakistan. The present Government has also made it clear that Pakistan will be no more part of any regional or global conflict. The relations between US and Pakistan, reached its lowest ebb, when Pressler Amendment⁹¹ was invoked in 1980, which enforced stringent sanctions on Pakistan, which led to financial challenges and miseries for Pakistan. In this hour of need, the

91 James Lamont and Farhan Bokhari, "China and Pakistan: An Alliance is Built," Financial Times, June 30, 2011.

financial and military support from China, proved a great deal for the economic survival of Pakistan.

In the post-Cold War and 9/11 era, the unipolar world emerged with US remaining the only dominant superpower. This also created arrogance in American military and political leaders. Pakistan was forced to be an active partner in War Against Terror, initiated by US against the Alqaida and Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan. This war, inflicted heavy losses to Pakistan and region and America spent more than \$ one trillion with no ultimate gain rather sacrificed thousands of their citizens besides hundred thousand people from Pakistan and Afghanistan. This futile war finished with the exit of US army from Afghanistan in July/August 2021. The well needed policy of the present American Government under President Biden, prefer to distant from the War in Afghanistan. Instead of supporting, their partner in War, America supported India to counteract Pakistan. This led to creation a big gap of trust between US and Pakistan. The support of China to Pakistan and other countries of the region in the areas of mutual cooperation, realignment and readjustment of mutual relations under new global dynamics made China, a reliable partner with Pakistan and other developing countries. The salient developments in the post 9/11 regime between Pakistan and China, include signing of *Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Good Neighborly Relations, Cooperation on building Gwadar port under CPEC etc*⁹².

Pak China relations took a new turn at the initiation of BRI by President Xi Jinping, as revival of the historical road and maritime routes to expand the trade from East to West. Pakistan, being a neighbor country to China, become a strategic partner in this Destiny Changers dream of China. Under BRI, the important part of CPEC has been kicked off in 2013. After, initiation of CPEC, the regional geopolitics has taken a new turn. After seven decades of diplomatic relation between Pakistan and China will be subject to many challenges in times to come. The China new approach of

92 M.Munir (2018) Pakistan-China Strategic Interdependence Strategic Studies , Vol. 38, No. 2 (Summer 2018), pp. 21-42

engagement with the world is based on the results driven collaboration. In case Pakistan is not able to deliver different segments under CPEC, China may opt for other partners in the region. For this purpose, security of Chinese Nationals in the CPEC projects is very important and the recent attacks on them can decelerate the development of CPEC projects. Secondly the environmental challenges associated with the CPEC projects, particularly thermal and gas power plants as well as use of fossil fuels will further pollute the region. The high pollution in the Chinese manufacturing concerns is already matter of high criticism. Heavy traffic loads along the CPEC roads may create further pollution and deterioration of road.

China and Pakistan relations have four main features, firstly China and Pakistan are time tested friends and have supported each other at the regional and international levels. Pakistan has been firmly supporting China in the issues of Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang and other issues concerning China's core interests. China has been providing unmatched support to Pakistan for its territorial integrity, independence, sovereignty and providing selfless support in socioeconomic developments. Secondly both the countries are partners on the base of Win-Win Cooperation. Starting from sacrifices rendered by Chinese 40 years back in the construction of Karakoram Highways, Pakistan has become China's second largest trade partner in last 70 years. In first nine months of the current years, the bilateral trade has reached to \$11.5 billion, with 10% increase. Thirdly China and Pakistan are partners with intimate souls, with deeply rooted through hearts. Pakistan always provided valuable assistance to China for connecting with China during its embryonic age. The JF17, jointly developed by the two countries flies over the mighty mountains of Karakorum from China into Pakistan. Both the countries are strongly oriented towards global peace and prosperity.

Some of the fundamental principles to follow the trends and peace in the region, strengthen our connectivity for closer bilateral relations and have shared dream for the socioeconomic development of our countries, where we have a large number of

people still living below the line of poverty. Both the countries must exploit the common opportunities and achieve common development with mutual respect, support and trust. The high level exchanges of leaders must be enhanced. Through Belt and Roads Initiatives, China want to consolidate its connectivity with the South Asian nations and other parts of the Asia and Europe. With more than \$80 Billion pledge by China, towards CPEC this connectivity will be further strengthened with Pakistan as the backbone for the Chinese road of peace, prosperity and harmony in the region. China has shared dream with Pakistan to become Asian Tigers through economic development for socioeconomic development of the region and two countries.

Professor Huang Jing from National University of Singapore (NUS) once said: *Pakistan needs China more than China needs Pakistan*. Pakistan will secure more than \$60 billion tariff in next 20 years after completion of the CPEC, whereas China will secure a reliable and cheaper energy route. Form geostrategic relation to Geopolitical and now Geo-economics, the Pak China relations, will continue to assume the new dimensions on the basis of mutual trust and shared goals.

This strategic partnership has now assumed the role of strong geo-economics in the region. However, like all others partnerships, these are also faced with few challenges. For capitalizing over the opportunities of CPEC and BRI, Pakistan has to bring structural reforms in its governance system as the present bureaucratic decision making process is both cumbersome and lethargic. With more autonomy to provinces under 18th Amendment, the consensus amongst the province and federal government is required for the decision of national economic importance.

The existing capacity with the Pakistani human resource is another challenge as Chinese manpower after endeavoring for four decades, are at different learning curve than Pakistan and hence extensive human resource development will be required. China remains a crucial factor in Pakistan and India rivalry. Pakistan contains and contests the Indian hegemonic attempts to assume the

status of regional power in South Asia⁹³. At the same time China and India have unresolved border disputes, which has further worsened in the recent years. Expanding, Geo-economics relations with China, Pakistan would count on the China's support more than before, in its rivalry with China. With the hasty withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, fall of Kabul to Taliban, a vacuum is created and China will try its level best to fill this gap. Though China has not recognized Taliban Government, yet they have cautiously and optimistically responded to the geostrategic changes in the region. China issued a statement saying that "it respects the right of the Afghan people to independently determine their own destiny" and will develop "friendly and cooperative relations with Afghanistan."⁹⁴ For Afghanistan China can offer the rehabilitation of its devastated infrastructure and national rebuilding. In recent days, China Pakistan has enhanced their collaboration for ensuring lasting peace in Afghanistan and offering suggestions including encouraging all Afghan parties to strengthen solidarity and establish a broad-based and inclusive political structure, and supporting Afghanistan in its fight against terrorism. In wake of the recent developments in the region, the strategic relations between China and Pakistan has become once again more important and crucial.

The global geostrategic and geo-economic dynamics have high impact on the regional collaboration and bilateral relations. Soon after the announcement of BRI by President Xi, US and India formed alliance to contain China in the region. In the emerging regional scenario in Afghanistan, the relation of Pakistan and China will deepen further due to geostrategic importance of Pakistan which Kaplan called as *Revenge of Geography*. The interests of China and Pakistan in the region and particularly Afghanistan are multifarious. The relations between the countries is expanding to geo-economics properties towards focus on successful BRI and

93 Syed Sammer Abbas, "India's Pursuit of Hegemonic Policies Creating Instability in Region," Dawn, October 11, 2016

94 "China Says Respects Choices of Afghan People, Calls for Smooth Transition", Xinhua, August 16, 2021, available at http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-08/16/c_1310130602.htm

CPEC. Besides economic ties, collaboration in the areas, they can expand it to commercial, educational and cultural collaborations.

For success of CPEC and strengthening a holistic collaboration with China, Pakistan needs to develop consensus at political and people levels. In past, the political dichotomies over national and international issues, has brought large losses to the nation. Despite the border conflicts between India and China, we have to keep this in mind that being a large market, China will lose no opportunity to restore economic ties with India, if Pakistan fails to come to the expectations of China. Hence political and public consensus is precursor for this collaboration to succeed. This must be complemented with strong trade policy, focus on local employment and human capital development. Pakistan would need to transform from a security sensitive stage to development state. This will require promotion of merit and transparency, internal reorientation and strengthening of institutions.

The future direction of Pakistan China relations must be focused on the following priorities: ⁹⁵

- i. The education and research collaboration between China and Pakistan. The research must focus on various dimensions of BRI and CPEC, to create evidence based information for policy making. The academic and research exchanges must focus on developing and transferring modern technologies to Pakistan.
- ii. A pool of expert diplomats for BRI countries, particularly China, may be trained and developed. There is a strong need to understand the Chinese governance, economic and political system for close coordination in the areas of mutual interests.
- iii. There is a need to engage the youth of Pakistan in higher education, training and development in Chinese institutions to closely work with their systems and culture.

⁹⁵ Saeed Shfqat and Saba Shahid (2018)-China Pakistan Economic Corridor-Demands, Dividends and Directions- Centre for Public Policy and Governance. Forman Christian College (University) Lahore.

- iv. The Military and strategic programs may be further strengthened for regional stability and creating deterrence against the hegemonic stance of India.
- v. Due to expected high wages in China, the labour intensive industries may be shifted to Pakistan, where the wages are relatively low.
- vi. The Sino-Pak Free Trade Agreement has been signed in 2006, but the balance is more towards China. Both the countries must be provided with the level play fields.
- vii. Besides investment in energy, infrastructure and defence, mineral development Pakistan also needs to attract Chinese investment in agriculture, services, high-end manufacturing, and innovative technologies.
- viii. Culture and Tourism is still unexplored areas on both sides. Pakistan having a large number of Buddhist relics and stupas, need to attract Chinese for religious tourism.
- ix. People to people contact between the two countries may be strengthened through Cultural and Students Exchange programs.

The international relations between Pakistan and China, has become entangled in diverse common interests ranging from strategic to trade, education, culture and economics. With the CPEC as part of BRI philosophy of President Xi, Pakistan has assumed more importance for China in the region. Both the countries have decided to take a number of steps to resolve the trade related challenges to trade in the region. There is a great future of this collaboration for socioeconomic, geopolitical and geo-economics transformation in the region.

Stephan Cohen, a South Asian expert described the China policy of collaboration with Pakistan, as natural outcome of its interests to counter India, as common enemy⁹⁶. Both the countries expressed their severe concerns over the Indian Nuclear adventures and explosion, as an attempt to destabilize the region. China

96 Cohen, Stephen P. (2001). India: Emerging Power. Washington D.C: Brookings Institution.

assisted Pakistan in many ways, to strength its defense deterrence and two mega projects of defense significance namely Heavy Rebuild Factory for manufacturing of Tank T-59 and F-6 Aircrafts factory. Besides, transfer and strengthening of nuclear technology to Pakistan for peaceful use, China also assisted Pakistan in developing the Missile technology under Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCT)⁹⁷. This defense collaboration is still continuing and in the latest developments conventional weapons such JF-17 aircraft,4 JF-17 production facilities, and F-22P 5 frigates with helicopters, K-8 jet trainers,6 T-85 tanks,7 F-7 aircraft have been procured.

Soon after the 9/11 unfortunate event, the South Asia became a hotspot for the military adventures of world powers. The Pak China military relations were further strengthened during this period through joint military operations in 2003, followed by signing of Landmark *Treaty for friendship and cooperation* in 2005. China provided due assistance in the capacity building of Pakistani scientists and military Engineers for developing indigenous defense weapons, as discussed below:

Al-khalid was jointly developed with China as Main Battle Tank (MBT), which is a hybrid tank; made with armament arrangements, subsystems designed through modification and unification of several international means. After close coordination between the scientists and weapons manufacturing experts of the two countries, a locally Al-Khalid was fabricated and launched.⁹⁸ This versatile tank has the combination of Chinese NORINCO Type 90-II MBT and Soviet T-54 series. It was assembled in Pakistan at Heavy Industries Taxila (HIT). This Main Battle Tank was named after renowned Muslim General Khilaid Bin Walid. The Tank has been further improved with modern technologies to offers better defence during Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) battles. Over the last few years, HIT has further improved its loading

97 HIT Al Khalid (MBT 2000) Main Battle Tank (MBT) (2001),
http://www.militaryfactory.com/armor/detail.asp?armor_id=181.

capacity and the modern active threat-protection system and Integrated Battle Management System (IBMS) has been installed⁹⁹.

Another landmark achievement of the China Pakistan military collaboration was combat aircraft JF-17, which is a world class single seat fighter jet. Some of the important attributes of JF-17, include its powerful engines which makes it a cost-effective and multi-role fighter aircraft, with the potential of facing the current and forthcoming air power employment trials ¹⁰⁰ . These characteristics make JF-17 as extremely efficient, reliable, and economical with the advantage of lower cost for maintenance than other existing light fighters. The aircraft was jointly developed by Chengdu Aircraft Industry Corporation (CAC) of China and Pakistan Aeronautical Complex (PAC).

The Civil nuclear program of Pakistan was always based on peace and socioeconomic development of the country. Pak China nuclear collaboration was mainly focused on development the local capacity for establishment of Nuclear Power Plants. For construction of Chahma-1 Power plant, China provided its assistance in early 1990s and it completed in 2000. China has also shown its reiterative support to continue with six more nuclear power ventures. The Chinese Vice Minister for National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) showed their support to further exports to Pakistan for strengthening its defence. There has been substantial resistance from India and western countries but China reiterated its stance that the nuclear deals between Pakistan and China are made under the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and were legal. This provided greater strength to Pakistan in pursuing its peaceful nuclear program. Besides providing assistance in construction of Chashma-III and IV, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) signed a contract with China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC), for the construction of Chashma-V and has also announced its plans to

99 New Super Al Khalid Tank- AK I and II Main Battle Tank," *Pakistan Defence*, December 25, 2011, <http://defence.pk/threads/new-super-al-khalid-tank-ak-i-iimain-battle-tank.148908/>
100 JF-17 Thunder Brings laurels to Pakistan," *News*, June

construct two 1100 MW reactors in Karachi with roughly US\$6.5 billion in assistance¹⁰¹.

The geopolitics of South Asia has taken a new shape and trends, after the initiation of CPEC, many topics like the politics, economy, and security of the region are widely debated. South Asian region will assume centrality in the regional and world affairs in wake of the emerging regional economic integrations through BRI. By year 2050, Asia Pacific will account for 51% global GDP, as per reports of the Asian Development Bank¹⁰².

The US India relation and military alliance has strengthened during the Prime Minister Naraendra Modi and with the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, the strategic collaboration between India and US will further strengthen. On the other hand, Pakistan will reduce its military dependence on the US, and China is taking the place of the US in this regard. These actions of US Government will bring China and Pakistan closer than before¹⁰³. Pakistan has been relying on China, for armaments, financial assistance and also during the pandemic. In the recent geopolitical changes, this relationship between China and Pakistan is becoming more important and significant.

101 Hasan Ehtisham, "Pakistan-China nuclear cooperation," *Express Tribune*, February 10, 2014, <http://tribune.com.pk/story/669571/pakistan-china-nuclearcooperation/>

102 Michael J. Green, "US Defence Policy Issues Pertaining to the Asia-Pacific Theatre," Statement before the Senate Armed Services Committee (Washington, D.C.: Center for Strategic & International Studies, April 14, 2015), https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fspublic/legacy_files/files/attachments/ts150413_Green.pdf.

103 Iqbal, A. 2018. Pakistan reducing dependence on U.S arms.FT reports. Dawn. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1402479>. Accessed 7 July 2019.

My Travels to China

China was considered one of the remotest parts of the world and it still is. I remember that 4-5 decades back, visit to China was a nightmare due to poor infrastructure and highly restrictive and conservative environment under the strong clutches of Communist Party of China and People's Liberation Army. One of my class fellow Mr. Ziaul Haq, who got admission in the then Federal Institute of Modern Languages (Now National University of Modern Languages-NUML), got admission in Chinese language. It was the time that learning Chinese language was thought to be a useless and futile exercise. He was lucky that by the time he completed his language course, the reforms and opening up in China has started its dividends and got the chance to travel to China, work with the diplomatic mission and become one of the top business tycoons in China. People who travelled the old China have stories of the difficult journey with poor roads, pathetic transport systems, bureaucratic attitude of the immigration people and many corrupt practices on the way. Hence travel to China was always thought a risky business.

I travelled to China in the times of modernized China and secondly, I visited the most developed part of South East China Fuzhou, Xiamen, Wuhan, Ningbo, Hangzhou, Shenzhen etc. in my two times to travel to China. This chapter is more of the pictorial view of my travels to China.

This Seminar was sponsored by China Ministry of Commerce for the Engineers and Developers of Pakistan mostly from developing countries of Asia and Africa. The Seminar was having two major objectives: Firstly, to develop people to people contact

and secondly educate the delegates about the City and Town planning in China in its most developed parts in South East. Engr. Mahmood from Ministry of Kashmir Affairs (Kashmir Council), the second Pakistani in the delegation of 15 plus people. Initially it was hosted at King Hotel, at the outskirts of Fuzhou. This was a magnetic hotel with all the modern facilities and large Ball rooms, Seminar rooms, Breakout rooms and lobbies. The rooms were executive with all the modern Jacuzzi etc. I was given First Class with the support of one close friend and this was a really great journey in China Southern Airline, through Urumqi, with a night stay at the hotel provided by airline. Urumqi is one of the closest cities of China towards our North and mostly Muslim population of Xinjiang province. This has been a relatively troubled area of China. The hotel was of medium class and it was nice to have Halal food available there. The hygiene and cleanliness of airport in Urumqi was very poor and below international standards.

Next day, we were taken to Fuzhou, about 6 hours of domestic flight. The quality of travelling and airports in this part of China is really impressive. The orientation session was arranged in the hotel and since we arrived, in the morning, we were taken directly to Seminar after Check in and even without any breakfast. Feeling sleepy, anyhow we attended the first session, where the introduction of Seminar and delegates was given. Ms. Cindy was the focal person for coordination from the Ministry of Commerce PR China and she could speak English very well.



Group picture with Delegates of the Seminar

Hotel King at Guai'ng County Foudhu



Inaugural Session of the Seminar at Fuzhou China-Sep 2015



Xiamen Tea House



Urban Planning Centre Xiamen



Quanzhou- Interphone Industry



Quanzhou Maritime Museum



Islamic Cultural Centre Quanzhou.

The Statue of famous Muslim Traveler Albairuni can be seen in the picture



Asia Trade Hotel Wuhan



Arts and Crafts Centre Wuhan



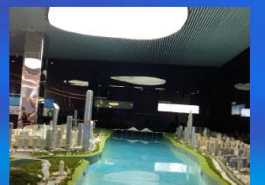
Historical site: 3 Lanes and 7 alleys



Fujian Intl Investment and Industry Forum



Fuzhou Industrial Village



Fuzhou Urban Planning Centre



Fuzhou Temple



Farewell Party of Seminar

Exchange Mechanism Conference of CPEC University Consortium and Ningbo Forum



Alibaba Headquarters-Hangzhou



International Forum on Higher Education at Ningbo-2018



Faculty of Agriculture and Food Technology Fujian University China

Conclusion

Pak China relations are always based on shared destiny and history of thousands years. This relationship has strengthened further over the last seven decades, through diplomatic ties. After reforms of China for openness of its economy and governance structure in 1970s, China has been emerging a new economic and trade power both at regional and global level. Besides, geostrategic relations between China and Pakistan, based on geographic proximities and long term objectives for a peaceful and prosperous co-existence, in the new emerging world order, these relations are transforming to geo-economics dimensions and strengths.

The historic Silk Routes have been playing dominant role in strengthening the relations between the east and West. The remote location of China impedes expansion of their trade to the Western World, due to high cost of transportation. Hence the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of President Xi Jinping has provided the revival of the Maritime Silk Route to a modern physical infrastructure consisting of road, railways networks, ports etc. CPEC is an important part of BRI and the dividends of the mega projects have started to the common people in the form of road and railway infrastructure, construction of power generation projects and modernization of Gwadar ports. More understanding between the two Government and awareness of the people in Pakistan is required about CPEC, as India and US are creating many doubts about the mega projects.

The China approach of modernization is closely linked to the Socialism with China Model, which is based on creating public goods through development and trade. From Deng Xio Peng to

President Xi, the four-decade history of China is filled with experimentation and learning from their mistakes. Their approach for indigenization of international good practices and implementation these on incremental basis, proved an appropriate recipe. For hundred years of China Communist Party is filled with consistent commitment and dedication to transform the poverty stricken country to middle income country and remove about one billion people out of poverty. This is also sometimes called China's miracle, which is based on quality of leadership, sacrifice and commitment for common man, learning from their mistakes, gradual implementation of reforms, women empowerment, peaceful coexistence, humility & submission and finally the unwavering support of the followers to their leaders, through their unyielding commitment. The quality of leadership and followers both make a nation.

The pragmatic leadership of President Xi, has further strengthened China's resolve for achieving the status of Global Economic Power, in the changing global scenario. His leadership style is characterised with focus on people, due diligence, confidence and calmness, steadiness and stability, pragmatism and flexibility etc. These attributes are more close to the Servant Leadership style and his high passion to serve his nation is the precursor of his leadership style. The China's role is also becoming important in the changing regional and global dynamics and it is expected that President Xi has ample leadership strength to provide the way forward to his nation and region.

The achievements of China in Higher Education and Research have been unprecedented in the last two decades and it has moved from an elitist style of education to more Universal and scholastic system. They have followed various models of education and research from Europe and Northern America, while adding their local and regional values and characters to them. The education reforms of China are based on participatory approach for reforms, capacity building of teachers, learning from world, balancing between diversity and Unity. The achievements of China higher education institutes to reach in the world 500 best Universities are

also unmatched during this period. The approach of World Class University (WCU) of China is unique in terms of resource allocation, research productivity, interdisciplinary research, international students, research publication and patents etc. Huge monetary and non-monetary supports have been allocated to realize the vision of WCU, also called Chiniversity.

For CPEC to have a success as a game changer academic and research collaboration in the region is also inevitable. The new soft power approach to attract the hearts of minds of people is now used through academic and people to people linkages, sponsoring conference and workshops, establishing joint research centres and languages centres, initiating joint degree programs etc. For last two decades, China has been actively pursuing the BRI countries for developing such linkages. Pakistan has already been part of China Pakistan Consortium of Universities, University partnership and linkages programs, establishment of research and languages centres across the country. In this context China Study Centre has also been established at Karakoram International University Gilgit. Higher Educations Institutes of Pakistan, need to take due advantage of opportunities provided by China in the areas of higher education and research.

The future of China Pakistan friendship is challenged with various conspiracies both internal and external. The confusion created about the CPEC projects by some of the politicians, lack of awareness with the people and unclear stance of the provincial and Federal Governments, is undermining the significance of the mega projects. Nevertheless, this friendship has become more important in the growing geostrategic and geo-economic conditions in the region. In the revisited version of the friendship and collaboration, the geo-economics has become the major driver of this friendship. With the passion with China to become Global Economic Leaders and Pakistan to become Asian Economic Tiger, both countries would continue to support each other and the following quote would remain the precursor of this friendship: *“A Friendship Higher than Himalayas, deeper than ocean, sweeter than honey, and stronger than steel”*

About the Author

Engr. Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah is a leading researcher, educator and practitioner with 32 year senior/executive level diverse experience in the fields of Academic leadership, Project design & management, teaching and research, public connectivity and high performance team building in higher education across public and private sectors. He has been involved in connectivity with first grade think-tanks and policy makers nationally and internationally to frame dynamic strategies for implementing result driven policies across Pakistan and several other countries.

He has been authoring articles in national, international and local newspapers, both in Urdu and English. He authored around 100 articles in peer reviewed journals and Conference proceedings. At the same time, he could write more than 75 articles in local and national newspapers in diverse areas of academic leadership, Civil Engineering, Quality Education & research, public and regional connectivity, disaster mitigation, Climate Change, Environmental Sustainability and Project Management etc. Besides PhD in Civil Engineering, Dr. Shah, has also done MPhil in Eco, MBA and MS Environmental design, PGD Computer Science. He also authored 5 books in the areas of Project Management, Environmental Sustainability, Disaster Management, Engineering Economic and Civil Engineering. Besides this book in hand, Dr. Shah is currently authoring two more books on Project Procurement & Contract Administration and Professional Ethics in Islamic Perspective.

He is Fellow and Vice Chairman Institution of Engineers Pakistan-Islamabad, Member National Technology Council (NTC), Member Senate Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Life Member of Pakistan Engineering Council. Dr. Shah, Member Asian Council of Science Editors (ACSE), Member

International Association of Engineers (IAENG) Hong Kong, South Asian Institute of Engineers, Fellow The Institution of Engineering and Technology UK. He is also member of editorial boards of international journals of Civil Engineering, Construction Management, Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource management. He is represented in many national and international think tanks relating to his expertise.

His interest in the China studies has been created mainly due to his close interaction with the faculty and researchers at various Universities of PR China. During his visits to China, he developed strong partnerships with the research institution and Universities for joint research and collaboration. He also writes about the modern technologies and their impact on socioeconomic development of the region, with special reference to CPEC and BRI.

The real asset of Dr. Shah, is his diversity spanning over Engineering, Management, Environmental sustainability and Project Management. Formerly he has been Vice Chancellor, City University of Science and IT Peshawar (2014-2018) and Director Projects and Planning at Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad (1999-2014).

He has been actively envisioning and implementing the transformation of quality education and research in the remote areas of Gilgit, Baltistan Pakistan, for last 3 years. He has been involved in the research projects on Climate Changes, Water resource management, Land use changes, Low cost housing, Technology enabled quality higher education and Sustainable Development.

Further details of his work are available at

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Appendix

Details of Faculty and staff of KIU having studies and visits to China

Name of Faculty	Department in KIU	Collaboration with Universities in China	Nature of Collaboration
Engr. Prof. Dr. Attaullah Shah	Vice Chancellor KIU	Kunming University of Sciences and Technology and Chengdu University, Sichuan Province	3 week course on Urban Planning in Developing Countries, sponsored by Ministry of Commerce, PR China.
Dr. Sajjad Ali	Chemistry	State Key Laboratory of Chemistry for Natural Products of Guizhou Medical University, Guizhou, China	For biological testing of plants samples and their secondary metabolites
Dr. Ismail	Chemistry	State Key Laboratory of Chemistry for Natural Products of Guizhou Medical University, Guizhou, China	For biological testing of plants samples and their secondary metabolites
Dr. Qamar Abbas	Biological Sciences	Training organized under the supervision of International Association of Botanical gardens (IABG) Asian Division	Working to develop Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden, Beijing Botanical Garden & South China Botanical Garden

Chinese scholarships won/availed

Five KIU faculty have won Postdoc opportunity from Chinese Universities, while 27 faculty members have availed PhD scholarships from Chinese Government and/or Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The following faculty have won full scholarships for Study in China for PhD and Postdocs in various fields:

Name	Department at KIU	PhD/post Doc from universities in China
Dr. Muhammad Ismail	Chemistry	Talented Young Scientist Program 2019/Hunan University of Chinese Medicine, Changsha, Huanan Province
Dr. Iftikhar Ali	Chemistry	School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Key Laboratory for Applied Technology of Sophisticated Analytical Instruments of Shandong Province, Shandong Analysis and Test Center, Qilu University of Technology (Shandong Academy of Sciences), Jinan 250014, China
Dr. Shaheen Shah	Chemistry	Handling of Chemistry Software's/Dalian University of Technology
Dr. Ejaz Hussain	Chemistry	Chinese academy of sciences Qongqing
Dr. Manzoor Hussain	Chemistry	Dalian University of Technology
Shah Nawaz	Chemistry	Dalian University of Technology, Dalian

Dr. Sajjad Ali	Chemistry	Presidential International Fellowship Initiative 2015-16 Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Talented Young Scientist Program 2019/Hunan University of Chinese Medicine, Changsha, Huanan Province
Dr. Faqeer Muhammad	Economics	PhD (Economics), Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics, Nanchang, China.
Dr. Rizwan Akhtar	Economics	MS in Management, China Agriculture University, Beijing. Ph.D. in progress (Management), Beijing Forestry University, Beijing.
Dr. Sher Zaman	Physics	PhD from Beijing Institute of Technology, Post Doc Soochow University
Dr. Abdul Karim	Physics	PhD from Lanzhou University
Dr. Jafar Aman	Sociology	PhD from Shanghai University, Post doc from Hohai university
Dr. Irfan Ali	Business Management	PhD (Engineering and Management), Kunming University of Sciences and Technology, China.
Dr. Zaigham Ali	Business Management	Dalian University of Technology, China
Dr. Sajjad Haider	Business Management	PhD School of Management, Lanzhou University, China
Dr. Akber Ali	Media & Comm.	PhD international communication, Shanghai University, Shanghai China
Dr. Iqtidar Hussain	Environmental Sciences	IITP, UCAS Beijing

Dr. Shaukat Ali	Environmental Sciences	PhD from the Ocean University of China, Qingdao
Dr. Javed Akhter Qureshi	Earth Sciences	Kunming University of Science and Technology (KUST), Kunming, Yunnan, P.R. China
Dr. Sher Sultan Baig	Earth Sciences	PhD Kunming University of Science and Technology (KUST), Kunming, P.R. China
Dr. Garee Khan	Earth Science	PhD Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography (XIEG), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Beijing, P.R. China
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Dr. Akbar Khan	Biological Sciences	Lanzhou University , Lanzhou, Gansu
Dr. Qamar Abbas	Biological Sciences	Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden & South China Botanical Garden Chinese Academy of Sciences China
Dr. Arshad Ali Shedayi	Biological Sciences	PhD, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences Beijing China
Dr. Zar Nawab Khan	Computer Sciences	PhD, Nanjing University of Science and Technology/ Nanjing
Dr. Sabit Rahim	Computer Sciences	PhD, University of Science and Technology Beijing China
Dr. Gul Jabeen	Computer Sciences	PhD, Tsinghua University Beijing, China
Dr. Noor ul Amin	Mathematics	PhD, Harbin Medical University, Harbin
Dr. AsadUllah	Mathematical Sciences	PhD, University of Science and Technology Beijing, China

Dr. Asif Wali	Agriculture and Food Technology	PhD, School of Food and Biological Engineering, Jiangsu University
Dr. Amjad Ali	Agriculture and Food Technology	PhD, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou China

Faculty members with Masters /PhD / Post-doc qualifications from China

Name	Department at KIU	PhD/Post Doc
Dr. Muhammad Ismail	Chemistry	Postdoc
Dr. Iftikhar Ali	Chemistry	Postdoc
Dr. Shaheen Shah	Chemistry	PhD
Dr. Ejaz Hussain	Chemistry	PhD
Dr. Manzoor Hussain	Chemistry	PhD
Dr. Sajjad Ali	Chemistry	Postdoc
Dr. Faqeer Muhammad	Economics	PhD
Dr. Rizwan Akhtar	Economics	Masters and PhD
Dr. Sher Zaman	Physics	PhD and Postdoc
Dr. Abdul Karim	Physics	PhD
Dr. Jafar Aman	Sociology	PhD and Postdoc under Progress
Dr. Irfan Ali	Business Management	PhD
Dr. Zaigham Ali	Business Management	PhD
Dr. Sajjad Haider	Business Management	PhD

Dr. Akber Ali	Media & Communication	PhD
Dr. Iqtidar Hussain	Environmental Sciences	PhD
Dr. Shaukat Ali	Environmental Sciences	PhD
Dr. Javed Akhter Qureshi	Earth Sciences	PhD
Dr. Sher Sultan Baig	Earth Sciences	PhD
Dr. Garee Khan	Earth Science	PhD
Dr. Masroor Alam	Earth Sciences	PhD
Mr. Asghar khan	Earth Sciences	PhD under progress
Dr. Akbar Khan	Animal Sciences	PhD
Dr. Arshad Ali Shedayi	Department of Biological Sciences	PhD
Dr. Zar Nawab Khan Swati	Computer Sciences	PhD
Dr. Sabit Rahim	Computer Sciences	PhD
Dr. Gul Jabeen	Computer Sciences	PhD
Dr. Noor ul Amin	Mathematical Sciences	PhD
Dr. Asad Ullah	Mathematical Sciences	PhD
Dr. Asif Wali	Agriculture and Food Technology	PhD
Dr. Amjad Ali	Agriculture and Food Technology	PhD