

China Pakistan Economic Corridor: Importance of Gwadar, Prospects and Challenges

By

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Abstract:

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor; importance of Gwadar, its prospect and challenges is the silent economical competition in the 21st century, the rising of China and its geopolitical implication String of Pearl and One Belt One Road (OBOR) is making upheaval among Gulf countries and it is effacing the importance of other well organized seaports likewise Dubai and Chabahar. The strengthening importance of Gwadar is beneficial not only for China-Pakistan but also advantageous to the East Asian, CARs, South Asian, Middle East and African region. The CPEC will be linking the multilateral trade, Import-Export, merchandise and promote the multilateral relationship among the nation. The CPEC would be maintain the excess of Chines market in the international bargaining, this would be make robust economy for the China in 21st century by which China would like to retain global economic affairs and perhaps she would like to hold the subsequent world order till 2050. In contrast, the Indo-American strategic partnership perceives this mega project as threat to co-existence among the South Asian regional politics; because U.S. is perceived Chines malicious involvement in South Asia is metamorphous to U.S. Predominance over the South Asian regional affairs. Consequently, U.S is encouraging the Indian conspirators' efforts against the CPEC through different antics suppose; flaming insurgencies movements in Pakistan, fabricating violent extremist in Afghanistan, opening the Chabahar port, alluring Iran and destabilizing the environment to coming China at Gwadar.

Keywords: OBOR, CPEC, Multinational business, China US hegemonic design

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Introduction:

The geographic location of Pakistan makes her important. Pakistan's proximity with the resource rich Central Asian states and Afghanistan causes her political and strategic importance.

On the one hand, she shares a borderline with China and carries friendly ties; on the other, she shares a long line with India that has been hostile. Such regional scenario has, thereby, turned the region into conflict rather than cooperation. The unfriendly behavior between India and Pakistan makes the latter to search and click security options rather than the opposite. This is not the case in relations with China. The fact that both share a common foe, they have maintained good ties. As China acknowledges Pakistan's importance, she has a good deal of hope and willingness in utilizing it. The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is hall mark of the prospects. It will provide China the shortest way for trade and oil and other requirements. CPEC is part of the One Belt One Road which is the sign of future China's supremacy. As she has already surfaced America with an economy, the corridor is important globally as well.

So far, China has focused on its economic development more than equalizing the American power. America is thought to be ahead in technology, but China is really becoming a potential threat. China is also in alliance with Pakistan against India. Pakistan was one of the earliest states to give acceptance to the Chinese state. But, since the Sino-Indian War, the cooperation has spread even to perceive India a common foe. Both the allies have also led into military ties with multiple projects, thereby. This has caused China to invest in Pakistan and enter in ties beneficial for both the sides as Saindak, The CPEC and other projects witness. Though all the programs are important, the CPEC has surfaced each and grabbed the attention of whole the globe. The CPEC is important for Pakistan in the sense that it will economically help Pakistan to be self-sufficient. As Pakistan's economy is in hard, the mega project will bring a large amount of investment which has been off due to terrorism and extremism. The CPEC is also important due to the fact that it will also cause progress on the unite level. As the rout will provide all the provinces an opportunity to get a share of the scheme, the very under developed areas like Balochistan might be well off unlike the past; however, it is to still observed how much we utilize for the good of all.

The CPEC is a good opportunity for Pakistan to get the fruits of its important geographic position. If China needs an easy way for the Middle East, Pakistan needs to stand and take a breath. The project contains many sub-projects as roads, highways, energy schemes, and so on that are important for the infrastructure as well. Finally, Pakistan

can utilize the opportunity in a good way if efficient. Especially, for Balochistan, it is a fate changing opportunity that will create jobs and markets. The project can really be a game changer.

The Pakistan China economic corridor can bring economic activities for Pakistan. Pakistan needs to exploit the dependence of Chinese on Pakistan strategic location. Consequently, the elected democratic government of 2013 is working to pursue and add economic dimensions to the decades old and time tested friendship. The proposed Gwadar to Kashghar motorway is also the extension of same ideas. The Gwadar route is a historical route used for trade. The viability of this corridor being used for trade mainly depends on how efficiently both China and Pakistan can develop the route, as well as, secure safe conditions for the movement of transporting items. The trade route can bring paradigm change in the economic conditions of Pakistan. To put rightly, the plan can change the whole game of the province of Baluchistan, in terms of generating new employment opportunities, bringing prosperity to the trade lane areas, develop the certain backward areas and increase trade with other countries (Robert Kaplan 2015).

China Pakistan Economic Corridor and Gwadar and Its Prospects:

1. Infrastructure Benefits of Gwadar:

China-Pakistan relationship is hardened, after Beijing declared about the investment into Gwadar port through launch the CPEC project, even though the Gwadar have vital significance for the strategic point of view because it is linking other oceans and three major regions such as Middle East, Central Asian and South Asia; for that purpose, China officials seems that Gwadar port will be an advantageous prospect for the future rather than it would be evidence to many-sided dealing throughout the world. From now, Pakistan administration has strong-minded that Gwadar port has to handover to China for 40-year agreement; in this favor, the complete maneuver of the Gwadar port grips by China on 15-April-2015.

Chinese authorities is assessing that the Gwadar have strategic importance which is linking the entire Asia region, and by which Chinese would be get access to other ports like Dubai, Iran, Oman, Yemen and even Saudi Arabia, which will be link the China by One belt & one road. Whereas the geo-economic importance also beneficial for Pakistan to boost its economy and some extend to compete with the major powers market in 21st century and associate with the process of globalization.

2. Gwadar Geo-Economic Importance:

The region shapes such a shape in which some Chinese and the states of the Central Asia are at the top while when it comes, we have Pakistan and her deep waters. In other words, the shape is really of importance and can be the gateway of whole the region (Former President of Pakistan Pervaz Musharraf, 2002: twenty second March). Geographical surroundings are taken into account together of the necessary factors influencing the event of human society. The foremost vital part of the surroundings is that the ocean, that occupies virtually three-quarters of the surface of earth.

The human society and its activities are largely affected by geography. Around three-fourth of this is occupied by oceans and seas which make them inalienable. City foundation is handling sixty-eight inasmuch as Port Qasim takes greatness concerning thirty 2nd on the briny borne trade. The projected rise in volume career with the aid of the year 2015 is ninety certain pile tons. It may additionally extend shipping endeavor phenomenally at the present ports. Ocean ports provide a necessary link in accordance with a villager together with the skin world.

Gwadar is important for China in two ways: economic and military. It can be a good source to secure and promote the Chinese interests in case America makes any disturbance in other areas such as the straits of Malaka. On the other way, Gwader will be a point to keep an eye on India and her activities in the region. Any American or Indian attempts in the Indian waters will be monitored from the same port. China will also be able to secure routs energy needs supplied from the Middle East.

With the event over Gwadar port, every trade after or beyond CARs is specific in imitation of undertake the shortest oversea at that place route via Gwadar then consequently the vocation benefits regarding West Pakistan place soloist expected according to multiply.

External Challenges to CPEC:

China then Pakistan bear been endeavoring in conformity with perfect theirs league China- Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. The task is indispensable because of both states sustainable monetary growth. Moreover, deep Eurasian, Central or West Asian countries had also expressed their wish in conformity with partake of the project. The recent membership, certainly, beautify the working efficiency concerning the project. These developments intensify that the assignment carries potent in accordance with revolutionize the local bargain and positively contribute in the global trade.

CPEC project is abject potent according to radically change the socio-economic landscape on Pakistan. The economic stability is quintessential because of politic stability. The pecuniary or politic durability now not solely decorate the interior or external protection on the state, but also germinate greater opportunities for the bonanza concerning the citizens. Simultaneously, the CPEC would make contributions constructively into the slow calm upward thrust over China. It would supply Chinaman retailer's shortest yet invulnerable route in imitation of West Asia. China will additionally be brought comfort beside the Malacca scheme imbroglio. Neither the pecuniary longevity concerning Pakistan is proper in conformity with its provincial competitors, nor China's appearance as much is a global power passable in conformity with deep states.

Gwadar in Regional Challenges India's Posture and Objections:

The CPEC is not only vital for the core interests of China but also Pakistan. This will deep-rooted impacts on other countries as well. Some of them have even launched campaigns-especially by regional rivals- sabotage the corridor various means. Some sentiments have been spreads about the nature of the project as to be actually of a colonial legacy. China will be the next colonizer especially of waters of the state.

The campaign is based on the assumptions that the rout will pass through a conflicted area. China had to concern India and because She is part of the problem, no decision can be made without taking her concerns into account. She also claims Pakistan's involvement in the security problems in the region and that the project is a neglect of all the activities. Simply, every attempt whether it is diplomatic or military has been made to sabotage the route. During all the debate, some basic facts are neglected. China and Pakistan have no remaining issues between each other and have also got trans-border ties. India has no claim over the territory as she holds it forcefully and contains no legitimate control.

1. USA Reluctance with the CPEC:

China and America already fight for the contested region of the South China Sea. America supports all the regional allies against China and wants to make red line around her. The American support to India is part of the course and possibly India carries American consultation in sabotaging the project. A possible way could be to have proxies in operation in the important areas of Pakistan which host the project. The United States yoke Jamaat-ul-Ahrar concerning the terror list between

July 2016, such used to be a faction on the Pakistani Taliban who claimed duty because of a failed car bombing in Manhattan, that career instituted to them throw abroad on their hideouts between square areas in the direction of Baluchistan, who is idiosyncratic in accordance with CPEC. The U.S also old a whisper strike in accordance with target Mullah Mansour regarding the Afghan Taliban whilst journeying Baluchistan, that is believed in conformity with hold been a strategy to sabotage the CPEC through contributing to the degradation concerning safety between the provinces.

Research Questions:

1. How far the Chinese and Pakistan government ready to face the constraints muddling on the future of the China Pakistan economic Corridor?
2. How Could the Chinese dependence on Pakistan for its energy-flow and the development of western parts, exploited by Pakistan to address its domestic inequalities?
3. To what extent the Gwadar to Kashghar project is applicable in providing opportunities to Pakistan?
4. What would be the impact of the project on the relations between Pakistan and other states?

Research Methodology:

The work secondary and qualitative which uses the inductive method. The hypothesis is that investment and economic projects add into development. The empirical regularities cloaked in the qualitative techniques of in depth analysis and data richness. Mostly, the secondary sources have been used and the research is a descriptive one. The work studies the importance of Pakistan and its usefulness to China. The research aims at the economic gains that Pakistan will make out of the project.

Literature Review:

As the project is still in progress and not fully revealed, a small amount of work has been done. Still one can find analyses and some study regarding the topic. It has a potential to provide Pakistan an alternate transit route, foreign investment and also exploration of the rich natural resources. It is a shortest possible route between China and the Middle Eastern countries and Africa. Pakistan is a global chessboard of regional and international actors due to its strategic location and the

geographical proximity. Many writers are hopeful and much present mixed response on this opportunity for Pakistan. Some are totally against that this is not that significant as is projected, China is weary of Pakistani situation.

The book *Gwadar on the Global Chessboard* written by Brig (R) Nadir Mir is an internationally recognized book, as he was among the pioneers of the Project of Gwadar port. He has written a good account of the area by witnessing and having first-hand knowledge about the area which will be providing colossal opportunities to Pakistan. He conceives the idea from the time of Z.A Bhutto that this was after 1971 war that Gwadar came into consideration. He analyses that India factor was an important part of the exploration of Gwadar port. The realization of the fact that Pakistan is solely dependent on the Port bin Qasim leads to the idea of having an alternative port. But due to difficult circumstances and the Afghan war, this could not materialize. Vijay Shankar agrees to the point presented by Nadir Mir, that this trade corridor will reduce Chinese cost of trade. It will also be beneficial for Pakistan in terms of providing it new opportunities for development. Both China and Pakistan will be able to advance their least developed provinces, but Shankar does not see the Pakistan-China relation in sole pragmatism. He sees it in the lens of realpolitik that is of pragmatism along with self-interest.

Shabbir Ahmad, an assistant professor in Punjab University, in one of his articles emphasized on the trade corridor as a brilliant opportunity for both Pakistan and China. He is an expert on comparative politics and South Asia and explained the diverse opportunities for both countries to enhance their economic cooperation, as well as utilize the strategic location and earn gains from it.

Mathias Hart pence, graduate of McGill University Canada, puts too pragmatic picture of the intentions of U.S. and China towards Pakistan, that both of them want to see a prosperous and independent Pakistan. He writes that Pakistan-China economic relations started after 1990. The strategic and military partnership rose with the rise of Chinese economy. China bore fruits of early reforms, while Pakistan due to its hostile internal and external environment, could not do so. The trade option through Pakistani land route will provide significant benefits to China in terms of timing. The trade through the said corridor might increase the GDP of China to about 2% annually. Selig S. Harrison, a senior scholar and an expert of East and South Asian affairs at Woodrow Wilson International Institute clearly writes against the sovereignty of state of Pakistan by declaring that U.S. must counter Chinese ambitions in the Indian Ocean by supporting the insurgency in Baluchistan. This would create an anarchy in the region and China will not be able to benefit from the Gwadar port.

Dr. Mathieu Dutchatel, a senior researcher, analyst and an expert on Chinese foreign policy heading a project of SIPRI in Beijing argues that Chinese investment in the Baluchistan project in this era is meaningless as China is a market economy and it requires returns on its investments. According to Mathieu it was useful in Musharraf's period when there was comparatively better security situation, now the concerns are greater than the gains from the project. He also argues that Pakistan has nothing else than a strong geographical position. And that after starting the project since 2006- 7 only 72 vessels have been passed from the port, and the second construction project has been halted due to all these concerns.

The "Malacca Dilemma" first coined by 'Hu at', who said that China is under a crisis of securing safer energy routes, as Chinese growing market economy dependent on oil imports bitterly needs safer routes. He said that, 'break or crack' the dilemma by finding new energy routes. Marc in an article writes that these alternate routes are through Myanmar and Pakistan. Almost one by third of the transportation occurs through Strait of Malacca and rest by Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Malacca has become a busy and unsafe route, more economically burdensome as compared to the alternate routes for China.

Rosheen Kabraji in her article 'The China-Pakistan alliance: Rhetoric and Limitations' focuses on the relation between the two countries as strategic and military to military ties. China would like to be a predominant influence over Pakistan. The internal stability in the Xinjiang province is dependent on the cooperation of Pakistan in countering terrorism. The Xinjiang province is the largest political subdivision of China and one-sixth of its territory, it also produces largest gas and second largest oil but contrary to natural resources it is the poorest and under developed part of china with a troubled Muslim majority. They are accused to be having connections with the Taliban. At this point China has some reservations about them. The Gwadar to Kashghar trade corridor will provide an opportunity to China for developing its largest oil producing part. It would further enhance and open up the province for foreign investment and progress.

Robert D. Kaplan, in his book "Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power" highlights the importance of Gwadar, for all actors pursuing for global dominance in the Indian Ocean. The quest for dominance cannot be fulfilled without having control or access to the Gwadar port. He argues that unless and until the situation in the Baluchistan is not stabilized it would not be applicable for China to use it as a trade corridor. The Baloch rivalry is not of today, Kaplan dates it back to the day one from the time of Khan of Kalat. He stresses that the miseries of Baluchistan are the joint mechanism of both the civilian and military regimes.

Suggestion and Recommendations:

The political controversy amongst a range of political parties is but any other mission in conformity with win because of the clean functioning concerning the CPEC into Pakistan. The discontentment is mostly because of path selection, dividends and allocations over resources for initiatives beneath the CPEC. Although the ruling regime thru the APCs (All Party Conferences) has tried after all the grievances of the provinces more often than not over KPK or Balochistan, yet that looks the difficulty has no longer been resolved. The political differences over the CPEC among quite a number of political events are awful rooted among the records concerning political economy regarding therefore the grievances of all the stake holder should be addressed and the division about resources has constantly been politicized for political gains should be avoided. The smaller provinces have concerns upon the policies over the federate regime where the resources which includes the federative budget are allotted about the bases of population alternatively than the backwardness this should also be looked in to have consensus on the issue.

Conclusion:

CPEC should cheer up socio-economic development of Pakistan if materialized timely. It does pave the pathway because local economic or trade connectivity and integration between the vicinity regarding South, Central yet East Asia but as wants an exchange into the existing mind-set regarding India and Pakistan towards more monetary yet vocation relations. The regional economic integration via CPEC ought to stand a harbinger after get to the bottom of the political variations via monetary cooperation. The states over South Asia, Central Asia or East Asia need greater native pecuniary connection to make the 21st century the Asian centenary putting aside the perennial political troubles in conformity with begin a recent beginning. The CPEC as like a flagship over OBOR may stand a catalyst according to begin partial career then pecuniary integration. However, incomplete main threats should impede the CPEC in conformity with remain transformed in a reality, namely the worsening safety situation within Afghanistan then its spill upon in conformity with Pakistan, political discussion into Pakistan regarding the decision about routes in more than a few provinces over Pakistan or the have confidence shortage amongst definitive regional states.

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