



Post Conference Report

National Conference on China-Pakistan Relations

14th December, 2021

Organized by

***Department of Area Study(China)
National University of Modern Languages,
Islamabad***

NATIONAL CONF ON PAKISTAN- CHINA RELATIONS**SEMINAR HALL CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE****14 DECEMBER 2021 (TUESDAY)**

Sr.	Date	Time	Activity	Remarks
1	14 Dec 2021	1050	All students to be seated in seminar hall	
2	“	1100	Arrival of Faculty and Speakers	Stage Secretary opening of the conference
3		1105	Recitation from Holy Quran	
4	“	1115	Welcome Address Dr. Waseem Ishaque	Dir. Area Study
5		1140	Address by Dr Zhang Wei	Dir. Confucius
6		1200	Speech by Dr. Imran Ashraf, NDU	Guest speaker
7		1225	Speech by Shamas Uz Zaman 3rd Semester	Student in Chinese language
8	“	1235	Speech by Umair 5 th Semester	Student
9	“	1245	Speech by Zainab 2 nd Semester	Student
10	“	1300	Closing Remarks by Dr. Moaaz Awan	
11	“	1315	Conference ends	Light refreshment for faculty and participant students

Historically Pakistan - China relations started much before the present day borders between the two brotherly nation states. On the religion aspects, it is widely believed that Buddhism and Islam came to China through Karakorum pass of present day Pakistan about thousand years ago. Similarly, from Chinese side, the first recorded contacts with South Asia began in era of Han Dynasty. Chinese monk Faxian was the first overseas student, who studied at Taxila University some 1500 years ago. It can be concluded that the relations between China and Pakistan have been embedded in the pages of history as the ancient neighboring civilizations. In the backdrop of this historical construct and moving forward towards founding of Pakistan and PRC, the friendship spans over seven decades and is imbued with exceptional degree of trust and commonality of interests. It has matured into a comprehensive strategic partnership at multiple levels, especially in the fields of diplomacy, defense and economy to name a few. After the founding of PRC, Pakistan was out of very first countries that recognized it and remained firm in the commitment of furthering relations irrespective of prevailing international order, which at that time was not very conducive for China.

Pakistan-China relations have endured the test of times and are growing stronger with every passing day. China has always supported Pakistan in every dimension i.e. foreign policy, economic assistance and defense collaboration etc. to name a few. China has a special place in the heart of Pakistani society and obvious foreign policy orientation. This exemplary relationship has grown with spectacular success over last seven decades. From Pakistan's perspective, the relationship with China is considered as one of the core National Interests. Pakistan was one of the first few countries, who recognized the founding of People's Republic of China (PRC). Ever since the diplomatic relations started in 1951- both countries have enjoyed respect, support and mutual trust, therefore, the friendship is flourishing with every passing day. We are truly good neighbors, trusted partners, close friends and dear brothers.

As you are aware that we are holding this conference which is first of its kind for the department of Area Study China, therefore, I am moved by your enthusiasm and participation. We will organize such functions quite often in future as I feel that this exposure will go a long way in your personality development and intellectual stimulation. I appreciate the organizing team and support staff, who made this conference a possibility, through untiring efforts, and also I am grateful to our guests, who have added colors with their presence today.

Dr. Waseem Ishaque

Inaugural Session
National Conference on Pakistan-China Relations

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Waseem Ishaque, Director Area Study (China)

Dr. Zhang Wei, Vice president Confucius Institute. Islamabad

Dr. Imran Ashraf, Assistant Professor I.R (NDI). Islamabad

In his inaugural speech, Brig. (R) Dr. Waseem Ishaque, Director Area Studies (China) appreciated the organizing team and support staff and promised to make sure that such events will be organized frequently in near future. In his address he stated that that despite changes in the governments and the leadership in both countries in last over six decades, the advancement of relationship with China have been carried forward as esteemed national priority by Pakistan and reciprocated by China. Premier Wen Jia Bao who has been crowned with unprecendented and smart maneuverability and power plants, highways, investment in telecom sector etc. are just a few icons symbolizing this friendship.

During 1965 and 1971 war, China extended full support to Pakistan. During other crises, especially during heightened military escalation periods with India or the phases of sanctions and isolation, China was always there to help and support Pakistan irrespective of the international and regional environment of the time. Pakistan remained actively engaged in hectic diplomacy for grant of UN membership to PRC after the revolution. In the same efforts, in 1971 Pakistan initiated a resolution which passed with huge majority and China was recognized as member of UN. Pakistan also played a pivotal role in establishing diplomatic ties between China and USA. In September 1971, Pakistan was prime mover in organizing the secret visit of Secretary of State Mr. Henry Kissinger to China which indeed helped in formal commencement of diplomatic relations between China and USA. This successful diplomacy subsequently led to the landmark visit of President Nixon to China in February 1972.

Pakistan-China relations have endured the test of times and are growing stronger with every passing day. China has a special place in the heart of Pakistani society and obvious foreign policy orientation. Pakistan was one of the first few countries, who recognized the founding of People's Republic of China (PRC). Ever since the diplomatic relations started in 1951- both countries have enjoyed respect, support and mutual trust.

President Hu Jintao, described the relations as “higher than the Himalayas, deeper than the Ocean and sweeter than honey”.

Speaker

Dr. Zhang Wei, Vice president Confucius Institute. Islamabad

Address Speech

The vice president of Confucius Institute Dr. Zhang Wei while addressing to the audience he mentioned that the key word of relation between Pakistan & China is friendship, therefore the objective of the research should also focus on how to prolong, to strengthen, and to enrich the iron brotherhood. We can study this topic from different point of views, such as historical, cultural, economic, and political.

What I hope to introduce is Confucius Institute. As an important project of China, the task is offer help on language learning, but the real purpose is to continue friendship through heart to heart communication.

Confucius was a teacher, thinker and a philosopher. In China, instead of religion, philosophers have been the most influential on people's mind. The key word of Confucius moral is Peace and Harmony, and the way to achieve that, is through mutual respect and through communication. So as I understand, the mission of Confucius Institute is to offer whatever we can to help languages and cultures learning, academic exchanges and all kinds of communication. Our vision is to contribute our efforts to prolong the long -lasting iron friendship of Pakistan and China, and through which, to achieve world peace, harmony and progress.

He further added that there is a famous saying that international relation is based on the benefits, this might be true in most of cases, but China-Pakistan relation is special case, there are things more important than benefits. A Chinese proverb says that good neighbor is more valuable than remote relatives. Pakistan is the first choice of partnership in the Belt and Road Initial, which is also a new type of world order that china hopes to establish. Therefore, China is ready to do whatever to promote the friendship cooperation between both nations.

Session II

Pak-China Relations, Multi-polarity, Neologism of CPEC

Speaker

Dr. Imran Ashraf, Assistant Professor I.R (NDU, Islamabad)

Keynote Speech

“Dr. Muhammad Imran Ashraf is an Assistant Professor in the department of IR at NDU, Islamabad. He is a leading voice on Foreign Policy of Great Powers & Foreign Policy of Pakistan, Political Economy, Cyber Security, Artificial Intelligence, Media Studies, Constitutional Development, and Government & Politics. He has secured an offer for Post-Doctoral Fellowship at University Western Australia under HEC Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. He is on Advisory Board of national and international Think Tanks i.e. CGSS and China Big Idea.”

Dr. Imran Ashraf begin by highlighting the importance of CPEC by stating that CPEC is the grand manifestation of the deep-rooted ties between China and Pakistan. Much larger than its bilateral benefits, CPEC is indeed a corridor of peace & prosperity, not only for the people of Pakistan & China but also for the region and beyond. It will bind all these nations together and bring about an economic transformation through enhanced connectivity. For sustainability of this project, transparency and good management are extremely important. Socio-economic justice resulting from the balanced development will also increase people's stakes in national unity and cohesion. For our enduring progress and prosperity, this sense of coherence will be our greatest asset. The New 2030 SDGs and Goals of Pakistan's Vision 2030 have demographic, social, economic and legal Implications, therefore in-order to achieve set targets; Pakistan needs at least one flagship project that can serve in aforementioned dimensions. In the backdrop CPEC can be adopted as a classic model.

Broad contours of CPEC; the flagship project of Belt and Road initiative deals with: I. Surveillance system for cities ii. Free visa for Chinese nationals iii. Agriculture iv. Industry v. Fiber optics vi. Tourism, vii. Recreation viii. Finance and Risk.

CPEC has been configured in 5 Zones, 4 Phases and 51 Projects and is affecting Pakistan in every domain including economic, demographic and social implications. It is going to be an amalgamation of internal, regional and trans-regional connectivity and merger. The legal aspects of CPEC will also be considered to protect Pakistan's interests in the future. In his address he also mentioned CPEC projects for Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and KPK.

Centrality of CPEC+ in BRI's Golden Ring of Connectivity: The BRI-led Eurasian and African integration processes are one of the defining characteristics of contemporary multipolar world, and the Golden Ring could eventually become the centerpiece of these efforts with the expansion of BRI's Flagship project CPEC-the spinal cord of the emerging Multipolar World Order. It is the starting point for other Eurasian and Eastern Hemispheric connectivity initiatives that complement the shared vision partner countries. Northern, Western and Southern branch corridors can be built off of the original CPEC core to strengthen integration with the nations of Central Asia, West Asia (Mideast) and Africa. CPEC+ is the key to achieving regional integration goals because on one hand, the establishment of rail network between Gwadar and Chabahar and its link up to Europe and Central Asia through Iran has potential to usher major economic development in the region. On the other hand, construction of Railway track on Pakistani territory to China, linking the two ports will lead towards economic development in South Asian region. The Golden Ring countries are Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Russia and China. These are five anchor states of this connectivity vision could be linked to one another and the states between them (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, and the Central Asian Republics) through a multitude of rail and other transport corridors built by China. The CPEC-centric Golden Ring would therefore strengthen stability in the geostrategic Heartland of Eurasia.

W-CPEC+: One of the key components of the W-CPEC+ overland trade route is traveling through the Islamic Republic of Iran to Islamabad and Beijing's partners in Turkey. This could be paired with a parallel maritime corridor connecting CPEC's terminal point of Gwadar with the Gulf Kingdoms.

N-CPEC+: The groundbreaking of Russia-Pakistan Trade Corridor (RPTC) via Afghanistan, Central Asia and Azerbaijan shapes N-CPEC+ that has great potential to contribute to making Moscow a greater stakeholder in this CPEC-centric strategic quintet Golden Ring. Russia is unequivocal to be the part of neologism with the expansion of W-CPEC+ onwards via Azerbaijan by following the path proposed by the North-South Transport Corridor (NSTC) in which Iran and India are already interested.

S-CPEC+: CPEC provides China with reliable non-Malacca access to the Indian Ocean, which in turn connects China with the Mideast, European and African marketplaces without having to worry about any possible trade disruptions through the Malacca Strait. Gwadar becomes sister cities with East Africa's main ports like Djibouti and Mombasa as part of S-CPEC+.

Speakers:**Muhammad Umair Khan (Bs. Area Study China)****Zainab Rehman (Bs. Area Study China)****Shamas u Zaman (Bs. Area Study China)****Muhammad Umair khan****Pak-China Friendship**

“Muhammad Umair khan is 5th semester student of Bs. Area studies (China), an avid reader and have keen interest in Pak-China relations”

He began his speech by highlighting the ancient roots of Sino-Pak relations by stating that Pakistan and China have forged a unique and ironclad friendly relation since ancient times. The Silk Road became a bridge of friendship linking our two ancient civilizations. Indus Valley residents and residents of Yellow River valley were trading Silk, Spices and Sea Shells. A recently discovered ancient civilization San Xing dui in China also give us the clue of trade link established even beyond 2000 years ago. In the Han Dynasty, Zhang Qian, a Chinese government official who was appointed by the emperor Han Wu Di, visited the Indus Valley. Faxian, the master monk in the Eastern Jin Dynasty, in 402 AD visited the areas of Gandhara, Peshawar and Taxila in today's Pakistan. He met with many Buddhist monks and brought many Buddhist scriptures as gift from here. Xuan Zang, the great monk in the Tang Dynasty visited the Taxila region of Pakistan. His visit was described by a Ming Dynasty writer in his novel "Journey to the West" which is read by almost every Chinese child. In 1951, it was just the renewal of friendship which existed for thousands of years. This friendship was renewed by the both nations by carving in the Himalayas for 27 years with the blood of 810 Pakistanis and 82 Chinese nationals in the form of Karakorum highway.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, China and Pakistan have forged an all - weather strategic and economic partnership. Despite changes in the domestic and international environment, we have always extended sympathy to and genuinely supported each other on issues crucial to our respective core interests. This friendship can be seen at the time when Pakistan acted as a gateway for China in order to get recognition by the world in 1971. It can also be seen during cold war era when the whole world was divided into two blocks but the romance of two countries was going on. CPEC has helped bring \$25.4 billion direct investment to Pakistan in accumulative terms and created almost 75,000 jobs in Pakistan. China has been Pakistan's largest trading partner

for six consecutive years and its largest source of investment for seven consecutive years. In face of the sudden outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, China and Pakistan have been working together to overcome difficulties and further upgraded the ironclad friendship.

In the current times, when Pakistan is struggling with a severe economic crisis, we need to speed up the CPEC as it's an avenue for development. As well as, it is the way to economic prosperity and wellbeing of the country. I would like to end my speech with the remarks that the bridge of friendship built by our forefathers over the gigantic Himalayas is a bridge between the hearts of two nations.

Zainab Rehman

Pak-China Friendship

“An avid reader and lover of Chinese culture; Zainab is an undergraduate student at the department of area studies (China) at NUML”

She began her speech by speaking that The all-weather friendship, which has withstood the test of time. This friendship exists not just between governments but between our people as well who whole heartedly support this relationship. We share a unique bond, in that we have strong diplomatic ties despite not having a common language, culture and even political system. Our countries have successfully established an ever-flourishing relationship, which started from strategic diplomatic ties and blossomed into an ‘Iron Brotherhood’.

Pakistan and China are so different yet so similar in so many ways. People on either side of the border have a strong sense of filial responsibility, both exhibit religious tolerance and oriental culture unites us. Besides all this we have a common interest within the region which makes us strategic allies. These considerable similarities in culture and mindset further endorse long lasting friendship between both the neighbors. Pakistanis consider Mandarin as the language of the 21st century and with emergence of Chinese scholarships and jobs, schools are increasingly incorporating compulsory Mandarin classes. Universities in China have started to establish Urdu departments and are sending students to Pakistan to further enhance their Urdu writing and speaking skills. It highlights the beauty of diversity by connecting both countries on a deeper level.

At last she concluded by saying that, it is through language that we express the attributes of culture. We also use language to point out how unique our cultures are. All this means that learning and teaching another language is essential for international communication and greater global cooperation.

Shamas U Zaman

中巴友谊

"Shamas u Zaman is also undergraduate student of Bs. Area Study China. He has deep interest in Chinese Culture."



如果你用一个人听得懂的语言与他交流，他会记在脑子里；如果你用他自己的语言与他交流，他会记在心里。

风雨无阻、永远同行。中巴两国珍贵的友谊，已经共同走过了70个年头，未来还会有无数个70年在等着我们一起走过。中国是巴基斯坦真正值得信赖的朋友。这种友谊不仅存在于政府之间，也存在于我们全体热烈支持两国友谊的人民之间。中国和巴基斯坦是一家人！

今天我既开心又自豪，因为我可以用中文来表达我的想法。从刚开始的知道中巴友谊，到慢慢的认识中国朋友，再到后来去中国学习，还有现在用中文来表达我的想法，这些记忆和经历都让我无比激动。我热爱中国文化，喜欢汉语的魅力，所以我每天都会坚持学习汉语。每天上课学习汉语，下课和中国朋友们说汉语，自己一个人的时候自言自语的说汉语，汉语已经成为我日常生活中的一部分。

虽然我的汉语水平不高，但是因为内心的这份热爱，我每天都会坚持听、说、读、写。我努力让自己的汉语变得更好，那样我和中国朋友们可以无障碍的交流沟通，了解更多的中国的文化，以后为两国的友谊贡献一份力量。

中巴友谊比山高、比海深、比蜜甜、比钢硬”！中巴友谊万岁！

谢谢大家！

Picture Gallery









