



## For Better Understanding on

## China-Pakistan and CPEC

# Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

May 01-15, 2025

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#### May 01, 2025

#### **Jang News**

#### گوادر کے 99طلباء کو چینی قونصلر اسکالرشپ پروگرام سے نواز دیا گیا

چینی قونصلر اسکالرشپ '' گوادر (این این آئی)پاک چین تعلیمی تعاون میں اضافہ، گوادر کے 99طلباء کو سر نواز دیا گیا، چینی قونصل جنرل کراچی یانگ یونڈونگ نر اس تقریب کو مستحق طلباء کو مختلف ''پروگرام شعبوں میں معیاری تعلیم کی سہولت فراہم کرنے میں ایک اہم سنگ میل قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ آنے والے مہینوں میں اس طرح کے مزید منصوبے شروع کیے جائیں گےگوادر پرو کے مطابق تقریب سے آن لائن گفتگو کرتے ہوئے قونصلر جنرل نے چینی حکومت کی جانب سے گوادر میں سولر پینل کی تقسیم، خوراک کے پروگراموں، روزگار کے اقدامات اور تعلیمی و صحت کے فروغ کے پروگراموں کی صورت میں اٹھائے گئے اقدامات پر روشنی ڈالی۔ یہ اسکالرشپ ڈی فار میسی، بی بی اے، سوشیالوجی، فائن آرٹس، ایم بی بی ایس، ایم فل، بی ای ڈی، ایل ایل ہے، ببلک ایڈمنسٹریشن، سول انجینئرنگ، ریڈیالوجی، فشریز، بولیٹیکل سائنس، بوٹنی، بائیو کیمسٹری اور مینجمنٹ سائنس کے شعبوں میں 30 لڑکیوں اور 39 لڑکو کو دی گئی۔ ان طالب علموں کا تعلق گوادر بونبور سٹی، باک جائنا ٹیکنیکل اینڈ ووکیشنل انسٹی ٹیوٹ اور دیگر یونیورسٹیوں سے ہے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/888895

#### **K2** Daily





https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/01-05-2025/page3

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2025-05-01

#### May 02, 2025

#### **K2** Daily





https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP ICT&Page=Baqia&Date=2025-05-02

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Front\_Page&Date=2025-05-02

May 03, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### China expresses support to Pakistan's stance on Pahalgam incident

ISLAMABAD – Vice President of the Center for China and Globalization (CCG) and former advisor to the Chinese President, Dr. Victor Gao, has called for a complete, transparent and impartial investigation into the Pahalgam attack.

"Stopping any form of aggression is the need of the hour," Dr. Gao remarked.

He said that China will stand with Pakistan against any aggression and is committed at all levels to defending Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The defense experts said that China's clear stance underscored the necessity of investigating the Pahalgam false flag operation.

Several other countries have already called for a fair, transparent, and impartial investigation, rather than engaging in blame games, they said.

The international community's demand for an investigation into the Pahalgam false flag operation validates Pakistan's stance, they said.

On April 26, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan was open to participating in a "neutral, transparent and credible" investigation into the Pahalgam attack, amid rising tensions with India.

He said that the nation stands firmly with armed forces to defend every inch of its territory, amid escalating tensions with India.

Speaking at the passing out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul, Shehbaz reiterated that the armed forces remain fully capable and prepared to defend the country's sovereignty against any misadventure.

"Peace is our preference but must not be mistaken for weakness," he said. "We will never compromise on the dignity and security of our nation."

Addressing concerns over India's recent suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty following the Pahalgam attack, Shehbaz warned that any attempt to block or divert Pakistan's share of water would provoke a full-force response.

He described water as Pakistan's lifeline and a vital national interest.

https://pakobserver.net/china-expresses-support-to-pakistans-stance-on-pahalgam-incident/

#### The News

## Don't underestimate China's commitment to defending Pakistan's sovereignty: Chinese scholar

Zebunnisa Burki

KARACHI: A TV 'reporter' circles a tree, crouches beside a hollow in the trunk, and solemnly announces how such a cavity could be used as a "natural hideout" by 'aatankwadis' (aka terrorists). But the reporter is just a symptom of a wider, more dangerous trend: Indian TV news' hyper-nationalist, paranoia-fueled coverage following the recent Pahalgam attacks.

What followed Pahalgam has been a flurry of breathless headlines, speculative reporting, doctored visuals and jingoistic debates, turning tragedy into theatre. Newsrooms across India seem to be in a race to outdo each other in sensationalism.

Take the interview aired by CNN-News18 a few days back featuring Dr Victor Gao, vice president of the Center for China and Globalization and a former adviser to the Chinese leadership. Asked about the Pahalgam attack, Gao urged both India and Pakistan to exercise restraint. But his repeated emphasis on China's unwavering support for Pakistan — "China and Pakistan are iron-clad, all-weather allies... China will always come to Pakistan's help" -- seemed to trigger visible discomfort from the host. What followed was a tense exchange in

which another panelist, Brahma Chellaney, alleged thousands of Chinese troops were stationed in Gilgit-Baltistan, calling the China-Pakistan partnership a threat from "two nuclear revisionist powers". Unfazed, Gao responded: "Don't ever underestimate China's commitment to defending Pakistan's sovereignty." The host pivoted again, this time accusing China of funding Pakistan with arms.

Meanwhile, Republic TV went into overdrive -- as is its ethos. Its panels speculated on a China-Pakistan-Turkey axis, with former diplomat Deepak Vohra alleging that Turkey was eyeing Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and China was manipulating Pakistan as a regional pawn.

On India Today, the news ticker and an anchor screamed unverified claims about the Azad Kashmir government allegedly urging citizens near the Line of Control to stock up on essentials — for two months. ABP TV added drama to its bulletins by looping footage of Army Chief Gen Asim Munir meeting troops, layered with breathless commentary about Pakistan's 'panic' over Indian Air Force drills along the Ganga Expressway.

India TV took the cake for imaginative reach: the channel claimed Hamas fighters had "reached Pakistan" and aired some footage of masked men on bikes, suggesting it was shot in Bahawalpur. It also showed a panel discussion in which a Pakistani meme was earnestly debated as if it were an official policy position.

Even fiction found a seat at the table. Zee News broadcast images of weapons allegedly recovered from the Pahalgam site — which were later identified as props from a training exercise. In another instance, channels prematurely aired names and confessions of the alleged attackers, only for it to emerge later that the video cited was from an entirely different event. According to a newly published report by the Fake News Watchdog (FNW), 'The FNW Pahalgam Incident Report 2025', the Indian media ecosystem has been flooded with misinformation in the days following the attack. The report debunks several viral clips, including one purporting to show Pakistani terrorists entering Pahalgam — footage traced back to a different region and an earlier time. Republic TV and Times Now were specifically called out for naming militant groups without official confirmation and for attributing statements and confessions that never occurred. Indian channels have also floated the idea that India might approach the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the IMF to economically punish Pakistan, again without credible sourcing or confirmation from government officials.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1307775-don-t-underestimate-china-s-commitment-to-defending-pakistan-s-sovereignty-chinese-scholar

#### May 05, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### President expresses gratitude to China over consistent support to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD – President Asif Ali Zardari has expressed concern over the recent irresponsible and aggressive rhetoric by the Indian Government, saying that such actions threaten regional peace and stability.

He was talking to Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong who called on him in Islamabad.

The Chinese Ambassador reaffirmed the enduring and time-tested friendship between China and Pakistan, describing the relationship as one of ironclad brothers who have always supported each other in challenging times. He thanked President for sharing Pakistan's perspective, and emphasized that China would always support Pakistan to achieve the common desire of both countries to secure peace and stability in South Asia.

The President conveyed his deep appreciation and gratitude to the Chinese Government for its consistent support to Pakistan.

On Saturday, Ambassador Jiang Zaidong of China called on Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and they exchanged views on the evolving regional situation.

Both sides have agreed to maintain close communication and coordination, according to a press release issued by the Foreign Office.

During the meeting, they also reaffirmed the all-weather strategic partnership between Pakistan and China.

The meeting comes amid ongoing tensions with India after the neighbouring country took "irresponsible" measures against Pakistan following the Pahalamg incident where in 28 tourists were killed in an attack in occupied Kashmir. Earlier, Ishaq Dar received a call from Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal bin Farhan. They expressed satisfaction at the current status of bilateral relations and discussed the regional developments. Ishaq Dar briefed the Saudi Foreign Minister on decisions taken by National Security Committee in the wake of unilateral measures announced by India.

He rejected India's baseless allegations, and cautioned against further escalatory moves.

The deputy foreign minister reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to respond firmly to any aggression.

The two sides agreed to continue consultations and coordination on the evolving regional situation.

https://pakobserver.net/president-expresses-gratitude-to-china-over-consistent-support-to-pakistan/

#### The News

#### China-Pakistan ironclad brotherhood: a slogan or commitment

Shakeel Ahmad Ramay

Victor Gao's unambiguous statement on an Indian channel that China will help Pakistan protect its sovereignty against any country leaves no room for doubt regarding ironclad brotherhood and strategic partnership between Pakistan and China. This statement reinforces my belief Pakistan-China relationship cannot be comprehended through traditional international relations tools. It is a unique relationship that has stood the test of time.

Regardless of the situation, China and Pakistan have consistently stood by each other. History is replete with examples showing how China and Pakistan demonstrated they are ironclad brothers through their actions. They have always been strongly committed to protecting each other's sovereignty and vital interests.

As a big country and brother, China remains considerate of Pakistan's needs and assists Islamabad in ensuring its sovereignty, particularly economic and defence sovereignty. Moreover, China consistently supported Pakistan during challenging times. Numerous examples from bilateral relationships can strengthen this argument. Let's begin with security.

Since establishing the relationship, China and Pakistan have forged a robust security and defense partnership. Cooperation in security and defence field is dynamic and diverse. The Communist Party of China (CPC) has assigned top priority to security and defense cooperation with Pakistan. The CPC has consistently guided and advised People's Liberation Army to cultivate a strong partnership with Armed Forces of Pakistan. Under the guidance of top leadership, both forces have played a prominent role in strengthening these ties, embodying the spirit of brotherhood, mutual trust, and respect. Armed forces from both sides have developed a relationship capable of facing any challenge with grace and strength.

However, the directives of Communist Party of China (CPC) to PLA and defense machinery to assist Pakistan in modernising its defense capabilities by adhering to principle of self-sufficiency are the most distinguished characteristics of this relationship. Thus, from day one, the spirit of self-sufficiency has guided the collaboration.

There are many examples of such cooperation, but Heavy Mechanical Complex Taxila (HMCT), Al-Khalid Tank, Pakistan Aeronautical Complex, Pakistan Ordnance Factories and several maritime projects for the navy, established with Chinese assistance, are the most prominent. These programmes and production facilities have significantly helped Pakistan become self-sufficient in arms production rather than an exporter.

Besides, China is closely collaborating with Pakistan to enhance Pakistan Air Force's capabilities and capacities to achieve self-sufficiency in this field. The joint venture to produce JF-17 jet is the most prominent example, which is significantly changing Pakistan's air force and defense industry dynamics. The JF-17 is a modern fighter jet that has improved Pakistan's ability to protect its airspace. It has reduced Pakistan's dependence on Western countries, which have often sought to exploit Pakistan and compelled it to accept numerous

conditions. At times, they refuse to supply jets after receiving payment (F-16). Moreover, the JF-17 has also emerged as a valuable source of foreign exchange earnings for Pakistan.

Recently, Pakistan has received orders from various countries. China has also supplied Pakistan with modern J-10 fighter jets to further bolster Pakistan Air Force. Now, both countries are discussing further upgrades to Pakistan Air Force's capabilities by enhancing collaboration in various fields, including fifth-generation stealth fighter jets.

On the economic front, China has consistently stepped in to assist Pakistan during its most challenging times, with CPEC serving as a prime example. CPEC was launched when Pakistan faced numerous issues, including terrorism, frequent loadshedding, declining FDI, increasing debt and diminishing economic and livelihood opportunities. Loadshedding was widespread, causing industries to shut down or relocate outside Pakistan, resulting in job losses for many.

This situation incited public agitation. Besides, the loadshedding inflicted substantial financial and economic losses on the country. According to Pakistan's Vision 2025, the nation was losing \$ 4-5 billion annually. The impact on households was even more severe, directly affecting people's livelihoods. It is also crucial to note these figures do not account for health-related costs, with many experts suggesting a rise in mental health issues in Pakistan following the energy crisis.

Pakistan was engaged in the war on terror as a frontline ally of US and Western countries. The war significantly impacted Pakistan in terms of human lives and its economy. It was estimated Pakistan lost 60,000 precious lives by 2013.

The economic cost exceeded \$100 billion, which was beyond Pakistan's capacity to bear. The war on terror deteriorated the road infrastructure as Pakistan permitted NATO, US and its allies to utilise the country as a supply route. Pakistan required \$1.2 billion to rehabilitate its deteriorated transport infrastructure. Unfortunately, while they exploited the transport infrastructure, they did not contribute to its maintenance.

Social problems, such as food insecurity and poverty, further complicated the situation. It was estimated around 39 percent of Pakistan's population was living below poverty line, but independent sources contested this. More than 58.8pc of Pakistan's population was food insecure. The primary reasons for high poverty and food insecurity were lack of livelihood opportunities and absence of peace due to shrinking FDI and energy crisis.

Pakistan was running from pole to pole to find any investment opportunities. No one was willing to invest in Pakistan. The so-called allies in the war on terror turned a blind eye to Pakistan's needs. They even refused to provide verbal support to attract investment. Instead, they began introducing sanctions, deploying institutions to tighten the situation, and the FATF was one of them. They also launched malicious campaigns to portray Pakistan as one of the most dangerous countries in the world, with Western media and think tanks at the forefront of this effort. This created a negative image of Pakistan and discouraged investors from investing there. They applied various pressures on Pakistan to force it to kneel down.

In this desperate situation, China stepped in to assist Pakistan. As a time-tested friend and iron brother, China refused to heed any propaganda and began collaborating with Pakistan. It signed China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to support Pakistan on multiple levels.

Pakistan is struggling to capitalise on the potential benefits of CPEC fully. The primary reason for this failure is Pakistan could not differentiate between bilateral relations and economic rationales. Pakistan did not apply economic rationales to execute its economic plans. Moreover, inefficiencies in the system, bureaucratic hurdles, and the attitudes of the ruling elite further complicated the situation.

We can draw following conclusions from the above discussion:

China-Pakistan ironclad brotherhood is a commitment, not a slogan. China always helped Pakistan in difficult times, such as 1965 and 1971 wars and vice versa. China has never tried to create dependency; rather, it always helps Pakistan achieve self-sufficiency. CPEC and defence cooperation are prime examples.

The Pakistan-China relationship cannot be compared to Pakistan's relationship with any other country. The debate of balancing Pakistan-China relationship with any other country (Western, Muslim Countries, etc.) has no logic, because no one has shown, even verbally, intentions to support Pakistan in all weathers. China has done so practically. Thus, the debate must stop here.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1308419-china-pakistan-ironclad-brotherhood-a-slogan-or-commitment

#### May 07, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### Golden ten years of Xi Jinping's visit and Pakistan's sacrifices

M Abdullah Hamid Gul

THE historic ten years of Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Pakistan on 20-21 April 2015 have been completed.

This visit has been a significant milestone in Pakistan's development and has been memorable in many ways, providing a new dimension to diplomatic, economic, defence and strategic cooperation.

Both countries established the world's first "All-weather strategic cooperative partnership" during this period.

This was President Xi's first visit to Pakistan, during which 51 agreements were signed and the foundation for the great revolutionary project, CPEC, was laid.

Undoubtedly, the Belt and Road Initiative is a successful project of the 21st century.

President Xi Jinping's visit has practically made the relations between the two countries possible and today both are benefiting from the results of the economic corridor.

Pakistan has constructed 18,000 kilometres of roads under the CPEC project.

During the visit, President Xi Jinping was awarded a Friendship Award based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

He delivered a historic speech for 40 minutes at a joint session of Parliament.

On the occasion of the golden tenth anniversary of the Chinese President's visit to Pakistan, Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zhidong paid tribute to the unbreakable friendship of the two "Iron Brothers" and mentioned that in the past decade, China has emerged as Pakistan's largest trading partner.

CPEC has turned from a dream into a reality.

Various power projects, including the upgrade of the Gwadar port, thermal, hydropower, wind and solar energy, have helped alleviate power shortages in Pakistan.

The Orange Line Metro has been launched and the Khunjerab Pass remains open throughout the year.

After the completion of the K2 and K3 nuclear power plants, they have been put into operation and construction of the C5 nuclear power plant has begun.

Our central banks have extended currency swap agreements and the RMB clearing bank has started operations in Pakistan.

Together, we have conducted high-quality joint military exercises to confront security challenges, which included the "Warrior" series for the army, "Shaheen" for the air force and "Sea Guardian" for the navy.

China's tri-service honorary troops and the August 1 aerobatics team participated in the Pakistan Day parade, while VT-4 main battle tanks, J-10CE fighter jets and AP 054 frigates have been incorporated into the Pakistani armed forces.

During the world's worst pandemic, coronavirus, both countries worked together to protect their people.

In the worst floods of the century in Pakistan, China provided \$260 million in aid.

Both governments signed a memorandum of understanding to jointly promote cooperation on the Global Security Initiative (GSI).

There is no doubt that over the past decade, President Xi Jinping has played a vital role in enhancing Pakistan-China relations.

Indeed, China and Pakistan are two significantly different nations with distinct religions, customs, habits, cultures, languages and cuisines, yet President Xi Jinping has made us "Iron Brothers."

In fact, we need to learn from China's political structure on how the resilient Chinese not only manage to navigate difficulties, but how their unmatched determination and perseverance have allowed them to establish dominance over the global superpower, the United States, in every field.

The greatest feature of China is that they have become one nation, while we are still searching for our unity.

It is important to remember that we were also an Asian economic tiger until 1974.

Looking back through the pages of history, Pakistan was a role model for China when the Chinese President's one-hour visit to the PICO Industries in Lahore extended to eight hours.

He was astounded by the development of engineering in Pakistan.

When my father, General Hamid Gul (may Allah have mercy on him) and I visited Shanghai, we were mesmerized by its lights and splendour.

During a dinner invitation from the Mayor of Shanghai, my father asked him about the secret of their development.

He replied in excellent Urdu that when he studied in Karachi, he was inspired by its wide roads, lights and business expansions, thinking that one day his country would achieve such progress.

Unfortunately, we have strayed from the right path.

The issue is that our total trade with the United States is \$6.2 billion, subject to its "do more" demands.

When will trade with Iran become our top priority?

Iranian President Ahmadinejad once told me during a meeting that my heart weeps tears of blood because I cannot trade with Pakistan.

Our first trade with Pakistan will be \$15 billion and will occur under a barter system.

Imagine, if the dollars remain within the country, I can confidently say that they will drop by 100 rupees.

For this, we need to break free from being an American colony.

The time has come to focus on trade with China, encouraging it to establish industries in Pakistan and provide 50 percent of employment opportunities to Pakistanis.

Only then will it be possible to generate 2.3 million jobs.

The China Window's role is to establish concentration centres for guiding traders.

The establishment of the China Trade House in Pakistan is urgently needed.

To increase trade with China, the government, the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Interior must take effective measures, especially since trade with China exceeds \$100 billion despite tensions with India.

We must also determine our own path.

In the present context, China and Iran are very important for us.

We need to secure our borders while stabilizing our economy.

In 2006, US Colonel Peter Ralph presented "bloody maps" titled "Borders Blood" in the American Defense Journal, the world's largest defense magazine.

According to his analysis, a conspiracy is underway to create a free Balochistan by connecting Iraq, Libya and now Balochistan in Pakistan with Balochistan in Iran.

This is the true agenda of imperialist powers, which is being fulfilled by igniting terrorism in Balochistan.

Sarah Adams, head of US counterintelligence, confessed during a three-hour briefing that the CIA had established a cell to create Pashtunistan.

The question is, why did the US leave \$8 billion worth of weapons in Afghanistan?

Today, Pakistan's largest security issue is CPEC, which is targeted by global imperialism.

For this purpose, the Special Security Division (SSD), which includes 27 battalions, equivalent to a corps, has been established.

The world's fifth-largest terrorist organization, BLA, is involved in terrorist activities against Gwadar, with its leadership based in Geneva and no one is willing to take action against them.

Let me be clear: the US is certainly not our friend.

On the other hand, China also needs to understand all matters in its context, as we are paying the price with our blood.

The United States stands with its allies, providing them with military, diplomatic and political support, as exemplified by the Ukraine war.

Is China standing in the same way with Pakistan?

It is time to acknowledge Pakistan's sacrifices!

https://pakobserver.net/golden-ten-years-of-xi-jinpings-visit-and-pakistans-sacrifices/

### BRI, Emerging Global Power Chessboard and Global South: The Western Semantics & New Dimensions

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

Rapidly evolving socio-economic, geopolitical and geo-strategic dynamics have encouraged Chinese policymakers to pursue a high-quality Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

This involves advancing both flagship mega projects and "small and beautiful" public welfare initiatives, resulting in notable cooperative outcomes that align with the interests of BRI partner countries.

Rising global protectionism, unilateralism, decoupling and the ongoing tariff war have deeply disrupted global trade systems, economic frameworks, industrial production and supply chains.

These challenges prompt Chinese policymakers to prepare a holistic and comprehensive approach for the sustainable, stable and strategic expansion of BRI during 2025 and beyond.

In this context, China's emerging technological sectors—particularly new energy vehicles and the digital economy—should become central pillars of BRI cooperation.

These areas, which reflect China's industrial comparative advantages and "new quality productive forces," should promote technological exchange, enhance local capacity-building and deliver mutually beneficial results.

China is expected to ensure the smooth operation of the China-Europe freight trains and accelerate the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor's development.

These efforts aim to counter U.S.attempts to monopolize strategic connecting hubs and corridors globally, positioning BRI as a dependable logistics backbone.

To that end, the Chinese government plans to promote the orderly growth of outbound investment while strengthening overseas legal, financial and logistical services.

The international cooperation layout across industrial and supply chains will be improved under the BRI framework to support a more stable and interconnected global economic system.

A new focus will be placed on "small and beautiful" public wellbeing projects that emphasize inclusive development and bring real benefits to communities in BRI countries.

This people-centric approach underpins China's soft-power projection through development diplomacy.

With many countries in the Global South urgently needing access to modern technologies, small but innovative Chinese private companies are well-positioned to seize expansion opportunities within BRI nations.

By forming industrial consortia during overseas expansion, these companies can boost their global competitiveness, address legal and financial challenges collaboratively and establish local technical training platforms.

Prioritizing smooth and efficient logistics will remain a key strategic goal of BRI in 2025.

China aims to enhance trade and connectivity through the advancement of China-Europe freight trains and other corridors, which will help insulate supply chains from geopolitical pressures and global uncertainties.

The ongoing tariff war has weakened global governance and rule-based international norms.

In response, Chinese policymakers are expected to enhance legal and financial support systems to protect Chinese investments and operations in partner countries.

Amid these developments, the expanded BRICS bloc and the broader Global South are emerging as a stabilizing force against unilateralism and protectionism.

These countries are fostering alternative avenues for global cooperation rooted in mutual respect and shared development goals.

During a recent visit to Malaysia, President Xi Jinping proposed a three-point framework for strengthening China-Malaysia strategic ties.

This includes enhanced strategic independence, deeper cooperation in diplomacy and defense via a "2+2" dialogue mechanism and the advancement of synergized development, particularly aligning with Malaysia's Ekonomi MADANI initiative.

China and Malaysia are also working to deepen cooperation in cutting-edge fields such as digital economy, green and blue economies, artificial intelligence and integrated development across industrial, data and talent chains.

Key areas include expanding rail-sea intermodal transport, enhancing the "Two Countries, Twin Parks" initiative and upgrading Malaysia's ports to serve as major nodes in the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor.

Civilizational exchange is also emphasized through efforts to promote Confucian-Islamic dialogue, supporting cultural connectivity at bilateral and regional levels.

Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar has reiterated ASEAN's collective stance against unilateral tariffs and expressed appreciation for China's role in fostering regional peace and stability.

As the ASEAN chair and coordinator of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, Malaysia is encouraged to further strengthen regional integration and multilateralism through deepened ASEAN-China cooperation.

The signing of over 30 cooperation documents between China and Malaysia reflects the tangible progress made across diverse sectors—ranging from AI, digital economy and railways to agriculture, panda conservation and mutual visa exemptions—further solidifying bilateral and trans-regional links under BRI.

The completion of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) by 2027 is anticipated to significantly boost connectivity between Malaysia's east and west coasts and unlock the potential of industrial hubs like the Kuantan Industrial Park.

The high-quality phase of BRI development is expected to inject new momentum into the "Two Countries, Twin Parks" project, supported by China's leadership in digital and green transitions.

Potential partnerships in renewable energy technologies, such as consultations with CATL and the establishment of Huawei's ASEAN hub in Malaysia, will aid in Malaysia's sustainable development goals.

Allegations that BRI contributes to China's overcapacity are part of Western geopolitical rhetoric aimed at undermining the global competitiveness of affordable Chinese technologies like EVs and solar panels.

These claims dismiss the foundational principles of international trade and the global division of labor.

Similarly, the so-called "Debt Trap Theory" has been discredited across global narratives, despite being repeatedly propagated by Western think tanks, pseudo-intellectuals, paid economists and partisan journalists, including some in Pakistan.

Such narratives lack empirical support and misrepresent the genuine development impact of BRI projects.

With protectionist trends on the rise, emerging markets and the Global South are now vital engines of global growth, contributing over 50% to global GDP expansion.

This shift signals the formation of a multipolar global governance system in which the BRI plays a critical role in fostering self-reliance, social development and inclusive economic growth.

Multilateral blocs such as ASEAN, BRICS and the African Union have emerged as key fortresses of regional integration, offering a collective counterbalance to trade fragmentation.

South-South cooperation, diversification of supply chains and digital economy advancements are driving forces behind this realignment.

China's global initiatives—including those on development, security and civilization—combined with BRI and CPEC, will continue to serve as transformative instruments in shaping the future global order.

The country's diplomacy, development strategy and people-centric policies reflect a comprehensive vision for shared prosperity.

In this evolving landscape, Chinese policymakers are urged to focus more deeply on the digital economy, green transition, cross-border e-commerce, industrial upgrading, AI, hydrogen energy, hybrid agriculture, green finance, climate cooperation and sustained financial investment.

Most importantly, "small and beautiful" projects should remain a key component of BRI, reflecting a balance between strategic ambition and grassroots impact.

https://pakobserver.net/bri-emerging-global-power-chessboard-and-global-south-the-western-semantics-new-dimensions/

#### May 08, 2025

#### **Jang News**



https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/08-05-2025/page8

https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/08-05-2025/page3

#### May 10, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### Pakistan and China: A model strategic friendship

M Abdullah Hamid Gul

THE iron brothers, China and Pakistan, have completed 75 years of their friendship, which is as high as the Himalayas, as sweet as honey, and as deep as the seas.

Indeed, this unparalleled and timeless friendship, spanning half a century, will remain intact for centuries to come.

Diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan were formally established on May 21, 1951.

History is a witness that the foundation of Pakistan-China friendship was laid even before the establishment of Pakistan and the emergence of modern China.

Although China boasts a five-thousand-year-old history, its colonial and imperial system ended just two years after Pakistan's creation.

Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had foreseen that once Pakistan emerged, the Communist Party of China would succeed in its objectives, initiating a strategic bond.

In line with this vision, he sent a delegation of the All-India Muslim League to Chairman Mao Zedong.

Over the past 75 years, this relationship has remained unshaken, immune to regional and global pressures.

Even during difficult times, such as when the world urged Pakistan to distance itself from China, the bond held firm.

A notable example is the Korean War: Pakistan, then a member of Western alliances like SEATO and CENTO, was asked by the U.S.to send troops to Korea.

Despite being reliant on Western loans, Pakistan withstood the pressure because the Quaid had a clear strategy—our national and economic interests were firmly tied to China from the beginning.

At that time, China was a struggling nation, yet Pakistan chose principle over expediency.

While Pakistan's relations with the U.S.have seen ups and downs, the Pakistan-China relationship has remained exceptional.

There is no parallel in diplomatic history to this unbroken, enduring alliance—one rooted in shared vision, unwavering trust, and a strategic foundation laid at the inception of both nations' modern journeys.

Today, some claim that Pakistan has not maintained balance in its relationship with China.

But if that were true, would Wah Cantonment, Taxila, and Kamra exist as they do today?

Would the Chashma Nuclear Power Plant—now advancing toward its fifth generation—have been possible?

Would Pakistan possess JF-17s, submarines, ships, and J-10C fighter aircraft?

Our political, military, and national institutions are aligned on China, and the younger generation must not remain confused about this.

On the Kashmir issue, who stands with us?

In the war against terrorism, who supports us at the UN Security Council?

China's philosophy is one of partnership, and our relationship is not just an alliance—it is a strategic cooperation.

This began with the 1963 border agreement and evolved into the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

CPEC is not a single deal nor merely a dream signed into reality by President Xi Jinping in 2015—it is a deep strategic vision.

Chairman Mao in 1949 called Pakistan "our northwestern window," outlining this vision early on.

From Khunjerab to Gwadar, China has given us infrastructure, ports, and industrial zones.

Yet, what have we done?

Instead of realizing its full economic potential, we have reduced CPEC to real estate ventures.

This misdirection must be corrected to honour the strategic depth of this enduring partnership.

The strategic significance of Balochistan cannot be overlooked.

The United States, Western powers, and India have long targeted its resources, making it a focus of global imperialism.

Interestingly, Chinese literature mentions no "Phase 2 of CPEC"—the project truly began with the groundbreaking of the Karakoram Highway.

Why did we sacrifice from Aramchi to Abbottabad?

What was the ultimate aim?

The 2021 inauguration of Gwadar Port marked the completion of two major phases of the corridor, with the third transforming the Karakoram Highway into an all-weather route.

Though finalized in 2006, CPEC's formal launch, planned during President Hu Jintao's 2008 visit, was postponed due to terrorism from 2005 to 2012.

As terrorism resurfaced, 2013 saw its revival.

Originally named the "Pakistan-China Energy Corridor," it was later renamed "Economic Corridor.

"Unlike typical five- or ten-year plans, CPEC aligns with China's century-spanning vision."

From its founding, China aimed to eliminate extreme poverty by 2021 and rise geopolitically by 2049.

Once so impoverished that people merely asked if one had eaten, China now holds \$18 trillion in reserves and stands as a global force.

The People's Republic's continuous progress offers a striking example of what long-term, visionary planning can achieve—something Pakistan must also emulate to realize the true potential of CPEC.

The Chinese believe that no nation can attain development, freedom, and autonomy until the last individual in the farthest village of its state benefits from prosperity.

It is the Chinese people about whom Allama Iqbal remarked in 1936, "The heavy-sleeping Chinese are beginning to awaken; the springs of the Himalayas are beginning to bubble.

"This was the time when the Communist Party was conducting its Long March for rights and freedom.

In truth, the competition between the United States and China for superpower status is a clash of cultures and governance systems.

To encompass the present and future of the People's Republic of China, it is essential to conduct research with knowledge and understanding.

It has long been said that China would fail within its system; however, when the Soviet Union collapsed, it became clear that Chinese communism is different from that of Russia.

The paths of Russia and China had diverged as early as 1954.

The Soviet Union sought a uniform system worldwide, centred in Moscow, whereas China's distinctiveness lies in socialism.

China has conveyed to the world that every country and state should adopt a system that aligns with its nation and character.

Their second aim is to elevate the nation and people to the top geo-strategically and politically by the year 2049.

Xi Jinping has been given the mandate to fulfil these objectives.

Prior to him, Mao Zedong governed for 27 years.

To be truthful, today we too need the spirit of struggle, the passion, and the drive for progress that the People's Republic of China exemplifies.

https://pakobserver.net/pakistan-and-china-a-model-strategic-friendship/

#### The Nation

#### China urges India, Pakistan to 'return to track of political settlement'

China on Saturday strongly urged both India and Pakistan to act in larger interest of peace and stability and return to the track of political settlement through peaceful means.

"China is closely following the ongoing situation between India and Pakistan and is deeply concerned about the escalation," a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said following the continued escalation between the two countries.

"We strongly urge both sides to act in the larger interest of peace and stability, exercise calm and restraint, return to the track of political settlement through peaceful means, and refrain from any action that could further escalate tension," the spokesperson added.

He said that this will be important for the fundamental interest of both India and Pakistan, and for a stable and peaceful region. This is also what the international community hopes to see.

China is willing to continue to play a constructive role to this end, he added.

https://www.nation.com.pk/10-May-2025/china-urges-india-pakistan-to-return-to-track-of-political-settlement

#### **CPEC** progress review meeting discusses key initiatives

Peshawar - Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal chaired a progress review meeting of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on Sunday. The meeting included officials from the Ministry of Communications, Economic Affairs Division, Board of Investment, National Electric Power Regulatory Authority, National Highways Authority, Quetta Electric Supply Company, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, and Gwadar Development Authority. Officials from all provincial governments participated online.

The meeting covered a range of key issues, including the formation of agricultural technology working groups, preparations for the 5th JWG Meeting in Pakistan, and plans for the forthcoming Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting in June.

Other discussions included the distribution of agricultural equipment, the operationalization of Gwadar's desalination plant, and the installation of 15,000 solar power units in Balochistan.

Minister Iqbal was briefed on the agricultural machinery assistance from China, valued at 12 billion rupees, and instructed provincial departments to distribute the machinery within 10 days. He also stressed the importance of agricultural mechanisation to boost productivity.

The installation of solar systems in Balochistan was also reviewed, with officials confirming that work was ongoing in 29 districts and seven districts were completed.

The minister emphasised the urgency of completing the installations in all districts to address energy shortages and climate concerns.

Additionally, Iqbal directed authorities to expedite the transmission line to Gwadar's South Free Zone to enable the operationalisation of the desalination plant.

https://www.nation.com.pk/12-May-2025/cpec-progress-review-meeting-discusses-key-initiatives

#### May 11, 2025

#### **Express Tribune**

#### How Pakistan became China's air power showroom

Zeeshan Ahmad

KARACHI: Between the night of May 6 and 7, Pakistan and India were locked in the fiercest air battle of the 21st century. As many as 125 fighter jets took the sky, the numbers advantage tilted heavily in India's favour.

When the dust settled and the fog of war lifted, Pakistan's claim of downing five Indian Air Force jets — including three of its prized Rafale fighters — sent shockwaves through global military circles. The fact that the French-made 4.5th-generation Rafale was shot down in combat for the first time since it took to the skies was newsworthy in itself. But what stood out even more than the kills Pakistan claimed was the technology it reportedly used to achieve them: Chinese-made fighter jets, missiles, radar, and electronic warfare systems.

Since the aerial engagement, analysts and defence industry sources — both Western and Chinese — have spoken to various news outlets about why the live deployment of such advanced weapons, potentially usable in future great power conflicts, will be scrutinised in meticulous detail.

"I think this brings us back to a type of aerial combat we haven't seen in a long time," Newsweek quoted Walter Ladwig, Associate Fellow at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), as saying. "Fighter jets had taken a backseat, but now we're witnessing a clash between states deploying their frontline weapons. This is what state-on-state war looks like."

"Air warfare communities in China, the US, and several European countries will be extremely eager to extract as much ground truth as possible — tactics, techniques, procedures, what equipment was used, what worked and what didn't," Douglas Barrie, senior fellow for military aerospace at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, told Reuters.

As open-source evidence mounted that Pakistan's newly acquired J-10CE fighter jet had downed a Rafale, shares of the Chinese aviation firm Chengdu soared more than 40 per cent in just two days.

"The Rafale is a very modern aircraft and a top-line fighter in the Indian arsenal," Ladwig told Newsweek. "India's acquisition of it was a cornerstone of its air force modernisation."

The likelihood that it was downed by a state-of-the-art Chinese fighter came as a "pleasant surprise" for Beijing, noted Yun Sun, a Chinese military specialist at the Stimson Center in Washington DC, in article by the Financial Times. "There's no better advertisement than a real combat situation... the result is quite striking," he was quoted as saying.

According to the Financial Times piece, defence attachés from China's Western rivals were already "impatient" for India to share radar and electronic signatures from the J-10CE in combat mode, so that their own aerial defence systems can be trained accordingly.

"This is the most important global aspect — this is the first time Chinese military equipment has been tested against top-tier Western systems," said Sushant Singh, a lecturer at Yale University's South Asian Studies programme, in remarks to the Financial Times. "However this ends, the final reckoning will have implications for Taiwan and for how Western defence firms respond to China's combination of low-cost and high-tech capabilities."

Speaking to The Telegraph, Hu Xijin, former editor of China's state-owned Global Times, stated that the battle demonstrated "China's level of military manufacturing has completely surpassed that of Russia and France," adding that Taiwan should now be "even more scared."

For China, the skirmish tested not only the aircraft but also the systems it employs — like the active electronically scanned array (AESA) radar system it is equipped with and the PL-15 beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missiles it can be armed with.

Aurangzeb Ahmed, Pakistan's Deputy Chief of Air Operations, confirmed that variants of the PL-15 missile were used in the engagement. The hour-long aerial battle, he boasted, "would be studied in classrooms," adding, "We knocked some sense into these guys."

Robert Tollast, a researcher at RUSI, told the Financial Times that the use of the PL-15 missile could be "highly significant."

"If confirmed, we've now seen a Chinese-made AESA paired with a beyond-visual-range missile used in combat," Tollast said. Western nations and Russia have tested their own AESAs for decades, but details from just this single skirmish — such as how many missiles were fired per hit — "could be tremendously useful for China in evaluating the capabilities of its systems," he added.

Chinese military analysts have long viewed the PL-15 as a top-tier BVR missile. "But if a hit is confirmed, this becomes a public demonstration of Chinese aerospace prowess," Fabian Hoffmann, a missile researcher and non-resident fellow at the Center for European Policy Analysis, told The Telegraph.

"This is another signal that, in a Taiwan conflict, we shouldn't assume Chinese tech would perform like Russia's in Ukraine," he noted.

The PL-15 is guided mid-flight by an AESA radar located on the launch platform or a separate vehicle. Near the target, its own onboard AESA radar activates, locking on and homing in with high precision. A dual-pulse motor gives it an additional burst of speed around 10 kilometres from impact.

"These are very fast weapons," Hoffmann was quoted as saying. "They essentially have a 'no-escape zone'. The shift from external to onboard radar also lets the launching jet disengage and avoid counterfire. There's survivability for the launch platform, and lethality for the missile itself."

According to Rick Joe, an expert on China's military advancements, the Pakistan-India aerial engagement — regardless of the actual kill tally — has significantly boosted the profile of China's tactical air capabilities, both among the general public and former sceptics. "For those who have been seriously tracking China's defence sector, the fact that the J-10C and PL-15 are performing as advertised should come as no surprise," he told The Express Tribune.

According to estimates by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute and the International Institute for Strategic Studies, approximately 81 percept of Pakistan's military equipment originates from China, including more than half of its 400-strong air force fleet. The military hardware China supplies has evolved along with its own defence industry, Andrew Small, a Pakistan-China relations expert at the German Marshall Fund, told Financial Times.

Apart from cooperation on nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, much of what China used to supply was low-end like tanks, artillery and small arms, Small noted. "Now, Pakistan is becoming a showcase for some of China's newer capabilities."

India, meanwhile, has become the world's largest weapons importer, shifting from a dependency on Russian arms to purchasing from the US, France and Israel, which now account for nearly half of its recent acquisitions.

"The big advantage the Pakistanis have is that their primary weapons supplier is China," The Telegraph quoted Walter Ladwig as saying in a different piece. "India may have a larger defence budget and modernisation programme on paper, but Beijing delivers." He pointed out that China has rapidly supplied Pakistan with armour, the jointly developed JF-17 fighter jet, and missile systems.

India's primary suppliers — Russia and France, providing 36 and 33 percept of imports respectively — have been slower to meet orders. "India's air force is still flying antiquated MiGs," Ladwig added.

Currently, Pakistan is the only country besides China operating the J-10C fighter. The Pakistan Air Force ordered 36 export-model J-10CE aircraft and 250 PL-15E missiles in 2020. The first six were delivered in 2022, and 20 are now in active service. Egypt is among nations that have expressed interest in the J-10C, while Uzbekistan is reportedly weighing it against the Rafale for its air force modernisation.

Nonetheless, defence analysts urge caution when interpreting the results of this technological faceoff as pilot error or rules of engagement may have contributed to the Rafale's reported losses.

Speaking to The Express Tribune, Dr James Patton Rogers — Executive Director of the Brooks Tech Policy Institute at Cornell and an expert on drone warfare, disruptive technologies, and international security — echoed that caution.

"If you read Chinese media, you'd think they're now global leaders in fighter jet manufacturing after one alleged shootdown," he said. "But we need to see Rafales in full operational deployment to accurately assess how vulnerable they really are to Chinese aircraft."

"The claims we're seeing go beyond traditional dogfights," emphasised Dr Rogers. "We should be more concerned about China's electronic warfare capabilities... The J-10 seems capable of disrupting radar communication systems, impairing the Rafales' situational awareness and forcing them to land — or crash," he said.

That, he believed, was most likely to raise red flags in France, the US and rest of the West regarding just how sophisticated these jets have become.

"If the J-10s are now supposedly outperforming the F-16s, we may be witnessing a new benchmark of China's military capability."

Asked whether this could shift arms buyers toward China, Dr Rogers responded: "For some countries that were leaning that way anyway, this is the justification that they needed to push them over the edge politically and to make that case... about why to go with Chinese goods over others."

"If you can make the case that Chinese weapons are militarily superior, it takes lot of the other politics out of it and it's easier to justify in this increasingly contested great power world we live in today," he explained.

"I wouldn't be surprised if it has boosted the profile of Chinese arms, in particular J-10C and PL-15," added Rick Joe. "Whether those nations will actually purchase PRC arms is another matter because procurement is a reflection of politics, cost, tech transfer, etc," he stressed.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2545190/how-pakistan-became-chinas-air-power-showroom

#### May 12, 2025

#### **Jang News**



https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/12-05-2025/page3

https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/12-05-2025/page7



https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/12-05-2025/page3

https://e.jang.com.pk/pindi/12-05-2025/page7

May 13, 2025

#### **Express Tribune**

#### China welcomes ceasefire between Pakistan, India

BEIJING: China has welcomed the ceasefire between India and Pakistan and expressed its willingness to play a constructive role in maintaining peace and stability in the region, according Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian. "China has noted the reports. The ceasefire between India and Pakistan serves the fundamental and long-term interests of both countries, contributes to regional peace and stability, and reflects the common aspirations of the international community. China supports and welcomes this," Lin said during a regular briefing on Monday. He said that India and Pakistan are, and will always remain, neighburs as is China to both countries. "Since the onset of tensions, China has maintained close communication with relevant parties and has consistently called on both countries to remain calm, exercise restraint, and avoid further escalation," he added. Lin further said that on the night of May 10, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held telephone conversations with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar as well as India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval to promote de-escalation and the realization of a full and lasting ceasefire. Both sides responded positively, he said. China hopes that India and Pakistan will consolidate and continue the ceasefire momentum, avoid further conflict, properly handle differences through dialogue and negotiation and return to the path of political settlement, he added. The spokesperson said that China stands ready to continue keeping communication with India and Pakistan and play a constructive role in realizing full and lasting ceasefire and keeping the region peaceful and stable.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2545508/china-welcomes-ceasefire-between-pakistan-india

#### **The News**

#### Made in China? Oh yes

Hissan Ur Rehman

It is no longer just cheaper cousin of Western fighters but fierce contender in its own right For decades, 'Made in China' has been the punchline of jokes, a shorthand for anything cheap, disposable or low on quality. Whether it's a phone charger that gives out in a week or plastic toys that break by evening, we've all had our moments of scepticism.

But what happens when that same label is stamped on a high-speed, combat-ready fighter jet that just gave a world-class aircraft a serious run for its money?

In a twist that few saw coming, the Pakistan Air Force's Chinese-built J-10C – a recent addition to its fleet – proved itself more than just an affordable alternative. It stood its ground against India's much-celebrated Rafale jets from France, not just in cost but in capability, agility, and effectiveness. And yes, in recent border skirmishes, PAF's J-10C jets, armed with Chinese PL-15E missiles and home-grown confidence, reportedly managed to down enemy Rafales – a moment that had defence analysts from New Delhi to Washington doing double takes.

Let's rewind for a second. The Rafale is no ordinary machine. It's a multi-role, twin-engine beast of European engineering – the kind of jet nations buy when they want to make a statement. India's 2016 deal for 36 Rafale jets was worth approximately \$8.7 billion, translating to around \$240 million per jet when factoring in training, weapons, and support. On the other hand, the J-10C, considered the backbone of China's air superiority fleet, is priced at roughly \$30–40 million per unit. Who knew 'affordable' could also mean 'ace in the sky'?

The J-10C, manufactured by Chengdu Aircraft Corporation, is equipped with Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar, thrust-vectoring engines, and advanced electronic warfare systems. It is no longer just a cheaper cousin of Western fighters but a fierce contender in its own right.

But this isn't just about jets. It's about the changing perception of Chinese technology, especially in defence. For years, critics dismissed Chinese gear as 'copycat engineering'. But real-world results are shifting that. According to SIPRI, China exported over \$17.3 billion worth of arms between 2018 and 2022, making it the world's fourth largest arms exporter. And Pakistan, with over 100 JF-17s and now a growing fleet of J-10Cs, is one of its closest strategic partners.

And here's where the irony gets thick: the same people who scoff at a Chinese jet are often using Chinese tech every single day. Their smartphones? Assembled in Shenzhen. Their laptops? Components made in Guangzhou. Their cars, their appliances, their solar panels? All touched by Chinese supply chains. And yet, somehow, we draw the line at fighter jets – until now.

The J-10C doesn't just represent a technical milestone. It marks a shift in the military-industrial balance of power. It gives Pakistan strategic leverage, autonomy, and pride. And

perhaps just as importantly, it forces the world – including India – to reconsider the idea that high price always equals high performance.

So next time someone laughs off a product because it's 'Made in China', remind them that those same factories just helped build a fighter jet that not only challenged but possibly outgunned one of the most expensive warplanes in South Asia. And to the doubters, we say: it's not the label on the machine, it's the skill in the cockpit – and PAF pilots have proven, once again, that they're no joke.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1310946-made-in-china-oh-yes

#### May 14, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **CPEC's Resurgence Post-Defence Triumph**

MS Swati

In a significant turn of events, Pakistan's resilient defence forces have once again demonstrated their unwavering resolve by delivering a powerful blow to Indian hostility.

The recent humiliation suffered by India has not only reaffirmed Pakistan's military supremacy in the region but has also reignited strategic momentum for one of the country's most transformative ventures—the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

With threats repelled and security reaffirmed, the corridor is set to gain renewed pace, pushing forward a wave of economic integration, infrastructure development and regional connectivity.

CPEC, a flagship component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has long been viewed as a game-changer for Pakistan.

Spanning roads, railways, pipelines and industrial zones from Gwadar to Kashgar, this multibillion-dollar project is not only an economic catalyst but a geopolitical stabilizer.

Yet, since its inception, India has consistently opposed CPEC, falsely claiming territorial violations and attempting to sabotage its implementation, both diplomatically and covertly.

Recent actions by Indian intelligence networks in Balochistan, particularly through their patronage of separatist elements, reveal a disturbing pattern aimed at destabilizing Pakistan and derailing CPEC's success.

However, Pakistan's latest defence response marks a decisive shift in the regional balance.

Indian provocations, once again met with firm resistance, culminated in a humiliating setback for New Delhi—exposing the limits of its military ambitions and the emptiness of its strategic posturing.

More importantly, the resolute defence mounted by Pakistan has dismantled the aura of Indian deterrence, strengthening domestic and international confidence in the safety and sustainability of CPEC.

This renewed confidence is not merely symbolic.

The Chinese leadership has closely monitored developments in South Asia and Beijing's strategic planners place immense value on stability when assessing long-term investment.

By foiling Indian designs, Pakistan has sent a clear message: CPEC is not only protected but actively defended.

Chinese stakeholders, reassured by the effectiveness of Pakistan's security apparatus, are now more inclined to accelerate stalled projects and reinvigorate investment portfolios that had slowed due to earlier uncertainties.

Moreover, the Pakistani State has undertaken significant reforms to boost CPEC's prospects.

Institutional coordination has improved, bottlenecks have been addressed and a centralized framework for fast-tracking development has been adopted.

With the military playing a vital role in ensuring ground-level security and the government pushing for administrative facilitation, the stage is now set for a second wave of CPEC growth—especially in the vital sectors of energy, logistics and digital infrastructure.

The development of Gwadar Port is a key indicator of this momentum.

Previously marred by delays and political neglect, Gwadar is now poised for a rapid transformation.

Enhanced maritime security, road connectivity with the national grid and upcoming free-trade zones are placing the port city on the international map.

The defeat of India's hybrid war strategy in Balochistan has enabled this progress to occur without the constant threat of disruption.

Gwadar is finally transitioning from a dream to a reality, opening the door for Pakistan to become a central node in regional commerce.

India's miscalculations have thus produced unintended consequences.

While New Delhi aimed to intimidate and obstruct, it has instead catalyzed a strategic push from Islamabad.

Instead of weakening Pakistan, India's aggression has unified it—politically, militarily and economically.

The lesson for hostile actors is now crystal clear: interference will not be tolerated and Pakistan's vision for economic sovereignty will proceed regardless of external opposition.

Internationally, this message resonates strongly.

Observers in Central Asia, the Middle East and even Europe are reassessing the potential of Pakistan as a secure trade corridor linking East and West.

With Afghanistan gradually stabilizing and Iran showing interest in regional integration, the prospects for extending CPEC beyond bilateral cooperation into multilateral frameworks are becoming increasingly tangible.

Additionally, the technological dimension of CPEC is gaining traction.

Pakistan and China are jointly exploring avenues for high-speed fiber optics, e-commerce infrastructure and satellite collaboration.

These advancements will not only benefit Pakistan's digital economy but also deepen Sino-Pakistani strategic ties in the realm of cybersecurity and AI—areas where Indian interference is far less effective.

Youth empowerment and job creation also stand to benefit.

As special economic zones (SEZs) begin full operations, local industries will receive a boost and employment opportunities will expand.

Already, thousands of Pakistani engineers and workers have found livelihoods through CPEC-linked projects.

With the new surge in development, this figure is set to rise dramatically, offering hope and prosperity to millions.

The government must now seize this moment of strategic clarity.

Policy stability, transparency in contracts and efficient inter-provincial coordination are vital to ensure that CPEC's potential is fully realized.

Lessons must be drawn from past missteps—particularly in project delays and communication gaps.

A public engagement campaign highlighting CPEC's benefits can also strengthen national ownership and reduce space for external propaganda.

Pakistan's diplomatic corps has a crucial role to play.

The recent defence success should be leveraged to counter India's baseless narrative in international forums.

It must be emphasized that Pakistan, unlike India, seeks peace and development through cooperation—not coercion.

By foregrounding CPEC as a peace-oriented initiative that brings mutual benefits to multiple nations, Pakistan cannot only defend its interests but also project itself as a responsible regional power.

In sum, the humiliating defeat suffered by India has reshuffled regional dynamics in Pakistan's favour.

No longer under threat, CPEC can now flourish in an environment of renewed confidence and strategic clarity.

Pakistan has proved its resolve—militarily and diplomatically—and now stands at the threshold of a transformative era. The path ahead requires vigilance, unity and vision. But for the first time in years, the winds are with us.

https://pakobserver.net/cpecs-resurgence-post-defence-triumph/

#### CPEC, GSI and Pakistan's Economic Security

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

The most recently launched armed forces' operation namely "Bunyan Marsoos" (The Iran Wall) against Indian "naked" aggression, "hegemonic" designs and "India-Israel" military alliance has successfully broken its so-called military myth and might by preserving the path of development, humanity, sovereignty and territorial integrity through dissuasion and defensive strategies.

CPEC and Pak-China friendship remained enacted because of better military planning and war gaming of defence forces of Pakistan.

CPEC stands for "human development", "economic security" and social dignity having direct "correlation" to political stability paving the way for "greater" socio-economic prosperity, sustainability and trans-regional connectivity.

Indian Operation Sindoor was intentionally launched to "sabotage" CPEC Phase-II, Pakistan's economic prosperity, water resources, infrastructure development and social development in the country by directly attacking "Neelum-Jhelum Hydrogen Dam", cities, schools, bridges, airports, human installations and even holy places of minorities trying to create divide in Pakistan's multicultural & multiethnic fabrics.

The Indian drone's operation, dispatching more than 80 Israeli Kamikazi and Harop UAVs towards many cities and human installations could not achieve any operational, tactical or strategic objectives and was successfully shot down by Pakistan's air system, armed forces and PAF in a well-coordinated system.

Interestingly, Indian military offensive military operation has once again raised the "strategic" importance of "Xi's Global Security Initiative (GSI)" which has entered into its third year maintaining peaceful and joint mechanism/international cooperation for economic, human, social, ecological and non-state actors' deadly activities against the states around the globe.

Indeed, the GSI is the "antidote" to external aggression spreading social harmony and maintaining human ethnic spectrum through a just, open, transparent and people's friendly socio-economic policies, plans and projects and CPEC is also the "front-line" recipient of the same Xi's initiative.

The Global Security Initiative (GSI), through its continuous fostering and implementation, has emerged as a "new normal" for regional integration and global socio-economic connectivity by addressing and removing obstacles to development—of which CPEC remains a leading example.

Aiming to tackle global challenges such as terrorism, climate change and cybersecurity, the GSI promotes joint planning, mutual benefit and a shift from zero-sum security concepts toward shared stability and sustainability, especially under frameworks like the BRI and CPEC.

Over the past three years, the GSI has functioned as a vital public good—endorsed by over 120 countries—earning broad support and proving its contemporary relevance and practical value in advancing peace, human development and mega projects like the BRI and CPEC.

Since its inception, Chinese President Xi Jinping has emphasized the need for countries to adapt to a rapidly changing international landscape with solidarity and a win-win approach to address complex security challenges.

However, India's actions as a so-called "regional bully" and "self-claimed" policeman—through clandestine operations, relentless espionage, and its confirmed support for terrorist groups like BLA, TTP, MB, and FS—have severely obstructed the smooth operationalization of Gwadar Air and Sea Ports and delayed the completion of CPEC Phases I and II.

These hostile activities have targeted Chinese nationals, investors, and planners involved in various CPEC projects.

In response, Pakistan's Operation Bunyan Marsoos has delivered a significant blow to the strategic doctrines of RAW Chief Ravi Sinha, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and the broader "Gang of Four," reinforcing national security and safeguarding CPEC's trajectory.

Moreover, the GSI aims to eliminate the root causes of international conflicts, improve global security governance, encourage joint international efforts to bring more stability and certainty to a volatile and changing era, and promote durable peace and development in the world and Indian attack was "blatant effort" to start "New Mahabharata Epic" in the modern world of logic, wisdom and peaceful co-existence.

Thus GSI and Pak-Sino friendship having iron-clad brotherhood is the ultimate answer/" counter punch" to Indian "belligerence" imposing "New Normal in South Asia".

It is indeed a "moral victory" for the GSI, which upholds global development, human security, and just international governance.

This also marks a "grand success" of the steadfast Pak-China commitment to resolving challenges through dialogue, diplomacy, and development.

Moreover, India's willingness to initiate composite negotiations in a third country reflects the visible decline of its belligerent posture, while continuing to sideline Pakistan's legitimate concerns regarding Kashmir's Article 370-A, the Indus Water Treaty, and cross-border terrorism.

Evidently, the GSI focuses on sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The role assumed by China in bridging the gap between Saudi Arabia and Iran, facilitating reconciliation among 14 Palestinian political factions, and maintaining constructive neutrality on the Russia-Ukraine conflict clearly demonstrates the real power, scope, and utility of the GSI.

Interestingly, China consistently plays an unselfish, active role in brokering peace in the Middle East, unlike some countries that ignore human lives for selfish interests, and has

emerged as a key force in promoting global peace, progress and prosperity through the BRI and CPEC.

It also collaborates with various parties in non-traditional security areas such as counterterrorism, biosecurity and food security.

In the face of ongoing hotspot issues, China shares global responsibility for food and energy security and leads effective efforts against global warming by innovating, investing in, and integrating green technologies—implementing the largest development projects of the 21st century in the form of the BRI and CPEC.

In summary, as CPEC stands for smart economy, smart technologies and smart living, and given India's recent antagonism toward Pakistan, it is high time for Pakistani policymakers to seek greater investments, knowledge, expertise and human resources from China.

Strengthening cooperation in digitalization, artificial intelligence, robotics, quantum and humanized technologies will safeguard Pakistan's economic stability under CPEC Phase-II.

Further collaboration should also span science, space, 6G, electronic and modern warfare, satellite jamming, robotic combat, nuclear-powered drones, cybersecurity, hybrid agriculture and human development to effectively counter external threats to the nation's socio-economic prosperity and infrastructure.

Strategically, Pak-China cooperation must deepen in stealth aircraft, unmanned submarines, supersonic missiles and space technologies to deter any future hostility targeting BRI and CPEC.

Xi Jinping's Global Security Initiative (GSI) supports global peace and sustainability, just as Pak-China friendship ensures regional balance across South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East.

China's technological superiority—reflected in the downing of Rafales, disabling SU-400s, satellite jamming and cyber disruption—reaffirms its strength, as The Telegraph noted: "Pakistan Air Force: The Undisputed King of Skies.

"Operation Bunyan Marsoos embodies GSI principles, projecting Pakistan's self-reliance, deterrence and the will to protect its sovereignty and ensure CPEC Phase-II success.

https://pakobserver.net/cpec-gsi-and-pakistans-economic-security/

#### May 15, 2025

#### **K2** Daily



https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Editorial&Date=2025-05-15

#### Chinese Newspapers

May 03, 2025

#### **People's Daily**

## Bandung spirit still alive: Pakistani experts laud China's role in Global South solidarity

ISLAMABAD, May 1 (Xinhua) -- The spirit of the 1955 Bandung Conference continues to shape international cooperation among developing nations, Pakistani experts have said, underscoring China's pivotal role in promoting South-South solidarity, peaceful coexistence, and equitable global development.

These views were expressed on Wednesday during a seminar titled "The Bandung Spirit (1955-2025): Seven Decades of Solidarity, Sovereignty, and South-South Cooperation,"

organized by the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), a think tank in the Pakistani capital.

Mushahid Hussain Sayed, chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute and chief guest at the event, hailed the 1955 Bandung Conference as a landmark in post-colonial diplomacy and a catalyst for unity among Asian and African nations.

"Bandung marked the birth of a new global consciousness," said Sayed.

Highlighting contemporary manifestations of the Bandung legacy, Sayed pointed to China's flagship initiatives, such as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and other multilateral platforms as evidence of China's continued leadership in fostering inclusive global development.

Speaking on the occasion, Sohail Mahmood, former foreign secretary of Pakistan and director general of the ISSI, recalled Pakistan's active role in the original 1955 Bandung Conference, emphasizing that its core principles -- sovereignty, solidarity, and non-interference -- remain central to Pakistan's foreign policy to this day.

"Strategic partnerships, particularly with China, reflect Pakistan's unwavering adherence to the Bandung vision," he said.

Other speakers, including Zamir Akram, Pakistan's former permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, and Mohammad Nafees Zakaria, executive director of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South, underlined the Bandung Conference's lasting contribution to the emergence of a multipolar world order.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0503/c90000-20310249.html

May 07, 2025

#### **People's Daily**

## China urges India, Pakistan to refrain from taking actions that may further complicate situation

BEIJING, May 7 (Xinhua) -- China urges both India and Pakistan to remain calm, exercise restraint and refrain from taking actions that may further complicate the situation, a foreign ministry spokesperson said Wednesday.

In reply to a media query concerning India's military strikes on targets in Pakistan early Wednesday, which met strong response from Pakistan, the spokesperson said India's military operation is regrettable and China is concerned about the ongoing situation. India and Pakistan are and will always be each other's neighbors, and they are both China's neighbors, said the spokesperson, noting that China opposes all forms of terrorism. "We urge both sides to act in the larger interest of peace and stability, remain calm, exercise restraint and refrain from taking actions that may further complicate the situation," the spokesperson said.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0507/c90000-20311364.html

#### May 08, 2025

#### **China Daily**

#### China and multilateralism: A new era for global security

Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

Upon announcing that President Xi Jinping will pay a state visit to Russia and attend the celebrations marking the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War in Moscow, a spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said the two founding members of the United Nations and permanent members of the UN Security Council should shoulder special and important responsibility in safeguarding the international system with the UN at its core.

In a world facing increasing uncertainties, the spokesperson said the two countries will further strengthen their close coordination in multilateral platforms, rally the Global South, shape global governance in the right direction, unequivocally oppose unilateralism, jointly promote an equal and orderly multipolar world and a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization.

Eighty years ago, rising powers such as the United States, the United Kingdom and France established multilateral rules for the world to follow.

However, the same rules are abused today as a superpower often brushes UN principles aside while threatening others with military force and economic means such as high tariffs.

Safeguarding the basic role of the UN through the greater BRICS cooperation was also emphasized by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during a meeting of BRICS members and partner countries.

As a shrinking superpower throws high-handed tantrums, BRICS countries should stand firm and serve as the main force in safeguarding global fairness and justice in the face of hegemonism.

China has upheld not only mutually beneficial cooperation, but also international rules for all in a new era of multilateral interconnection. China's vision of economic globalization, international cooperation through shared prosperity and global initiatives proposed by President Xi all point to a new world of shared future centering on people's benefits in line with a UN-based order.

A community with a shared future for mankind demands joint contribution and shared responsibility, not least in common and comprehensive security and development for all.

It is a bitter reality that the US' unilateral trade war and tariffs weaponized as a means to pressure other economies, especially China, not only shatter current UN principles of mutual respect and global trade order, but also erode the basic concepts of international cooperation and turn all business means into convenient gangster-styled sticks.

It is easy to recognize that China's responses to the unfair tariffs go far beyond safeguarding its own interests. China is playing its role as a responsible major country in embracing global

cooperation and joint protection against sabotaging widely accepted international rules and customs. It is only natural for other BRICS members to express their serious concerns about "reciprocal tariffs" disrupting global supply chains and heightening uncertainties in the international landscape.

It is promising that BRICS foreign ministers agreed with multilateralism-based solutions adhering to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and safeguarding the central role of the UN in the international system. China and Russia, in particular, are expected to emphasize their roles in multilateralism and counter selfish motives of pushing others into battles while profiteering from arms sales and economic turbulences.

Obviously, China supports all efforts aimed at the peaceful settlement of the Ukraine crisis by addressing the NATO-related root cause of the crisis, reaching a fair, lasting and binding peace agreement acceptable to all parties concerned along with promoting a comprehensive ceasefire in Gaza and alleviating the humanitarian disaster.

It is necessary for all the big powers, especially the US, to abandon containment mindset and embrace the China-proposed Global Security Initiative that upholds common security, mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, lasting peace, foundation of fairness and justice, as well as dialogue over confrontation, diplomacy over confrontation, partnership over alliance and win-win cooperation over zero-sum rivalry.

As core members of BRICS, China and Russia are also expected to be the true champions of multiculturalism, economic globalization, international cooperation and constructive engagement.

Further, it could be the first and foremost duty of the BRICS countries to promote an objective and impartial stance in international disputes, resolve differences through dialogue and negotiation, support UN agencies in fulfilling their duties, and create conditions for fair settlement of land and trade conflicts.

Traditional Western powers including the US, instead of exploiting their financial and technological prowess to turn others' wealth into ones' own, should keep an open mind for lasting benefits in shared development through open, cooperative and multilateral mechanisms.

Supporting universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization should be their responsibility for world economy and inner drive for lasting prosperity.

Together, China, Russia and other BRICS members can provide more public good for the Global South and beyond.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202505/08/WS681c0479a310a04af22be051.html

#### May 11, 2025

#### **China Daily**

#### Air Force rebuffs Pakistan supplies claim

The People's Liberation Army Air Force denied on Sunday it had used a Xi'an Y-20 military transportation aircraft to take supplies to Pakistan. After seeing a large amount of information on the internet about a "Y-20 transporting relief supplies to Pakistan", the Air Force said in a statement such claims were untrue.

The Air Force also posted several screenshots of photos and words that shared the incorrect information, with each stamped with the red word "rumor".

"The internet is not beyond the law! Those who produce and spread military-related rumors will be held legally responsible!" it added.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202505/11/WS6820bb25a310a04af22bea3e.html

#### Peace of paramount importance for region: China Daily editorial

Pakistani people celebrate after the ceasefire between Pakistan and India, in Multan, Pakistan on May 10, 2025. [Photo/Xinhua]

India and Pakistan announced on Saturday that they had agreed to a ceasefire, with immediate effect, following four days of military strikes on each other.

The ceasefire serves to prevent further escalation of the conflict between the two archrivals in South Asia, that was started by India launching air strikes on Pakistani targets on Wednesday to avenge the killing of 26 people by terrorists in Pahalgam, Indian-controlled Kashmir, last month.

Tremendous amounts of diplomatic efforts, including by China, Saudi Arabia and Turkiye, helped broker the truce. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had telephone conversations respectively with Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Saturday.

Given the important role China plays in the region, particularly its close relations with Pakistan, which quickly gained the upper hand in the conflict after India's first wave of attacks, it is fair to say Beijing played a key role in helping to calm the situation.

As Wang told Doval, with the world undergoing both transformation and upheaval, the hard-won peace and stability in Asia should be cherished.

Considering the heavy price they have paid, separately and jointly, for the peace and stability of the region, it should be a consensus of India and Pakistan that it would be foolish to allow the conflict triggered by a terrorist attack to escalate into a full-blown war.

India's suffering from the Pahalgam attacks and New Delhi's domestic pressure are both understandable. China is also a victim of terrorist attacks in the region with its engineers and workers working for local projects being targeted. That's why Beijing has strongly

condemned the terrorist attacks in Pahalgam and reiterated its staunch opposition to terrorism in any form.

Terrorism is a common enemy of humanity and a challenge to the world, including the countries and regions where the terrorists come from. It thus entails solidarity, cooperation and mutual assistance to fight terrorism by eliminating not only the terrorists but also the space and conditions that allow terrorism to take root in a region, for instance, by addressing poverty and the widening development gaps.

A war will not resolve the terrorism issue. China supports Pakistan in safeguarding its national sovereignty, while expressing confidence that Pakistan will respond to the current situation calmly, and make decisions in line with its long-term interests.

It is thus heartening to see that New Delhi has come back to its senses. With both sides accusing the other of ceasefire violations, it is important that India and Pakistan now work together to bring the resolution of the issue to the right track of dialogue and consultation, which meets the common aspiration of the international community.

Wang has emphasized China's support for the ceasefire and stressed the need for both sides to adhere to it to prevent further conflict, according to readouts from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The ceasefire halts the worst fighting in decades between the nuclear-armed neighbors, and both New Delhi and Islamabad know it's in neither India's nor Pakistan's interest for the conflict to continue, so it is to be hoped that constructive diplomacy will enable the two sides to appease public ire and draw a line under their current frictions.

Moving on from that, the two sides should look to seize the opportunity of talks to try and work toward resolving their long-standing differences, to prevent conflict being sparked again in the future, as there is no guarantee that the sparks of animosity will not create an inferno if they erupt again.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202505/11/WS682090b2a310a04af22bea30.html

May 12, 2025

#### **China Daily**

#### University welcomes first batch of Pakistani trainees

Qin Feng in Xi'an and Peng Chao

Northwest A&F University has welcomed its first batch of several hundred trainees under a Sino-Pakistan agricultural program that will send a total of 1,000 Pakistani agriculture graduates to China for advanced training, the university said.

A commitment to Pakistan's Initiative for Capacity Building of 1,000 Agriculture Graduates in China was made between the countries during Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China in June.

The trainees will travel to Shaanxi province in three batches for three months of training at NWAFU and Yangling Vocational and Technical College, Shaanxi authorities said. The first batch of 292 trainees attended the program's opening ceremony at NWAFU on April 18.

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said in a video speech at the opening ceremony that China and Pakistan, as large agricultural countries, have strong complementary advantages and vast potential for deepening cooperation in advancing agricultural modernization.

He emphasized that agricultural cooperation is pivotal in advancing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, adding that China will take concrete measures to enhance cooperation with Pakistan in the sector.

Bilal Mahmood Chaudhary, minister and deputy chief of mission at the Pakistani embassy in China, expressed his gratitude for China's efforts in organizing the program. He noted that the combination of China's advanced agricultural technologies with Pakistan's land and labor resources will yield mutual benefits and shared success.

NWAFU president Wu Pute said the program adopts an innovative model combining theoretical instruction, practical operation, research guidance and cultural exchange.

The curriculum, tailored to Pakistan's agricultural needs, covers areas including livestock breeding and genomics, seed production and processing technology, and livestock disease monitoring and prevention, he said.

In addition to theoretical learning, the participants will conduct research under the guidance of Chinese experts, gain hands-on experience through laboratory work and field practice, and engage in various cultural exchange activities.

"Amid the growing global challenges of climate change and food security, it is crucial to strengthen international agricultural cooperation," Wu said, adding that NWAFU will use this program as an opportunity to work with Pakistani partners to explore new pathways and approaches for agricultural development, contributing to global agricultural sustainability.

Muhammad Humayun, a trainee representative, said he was honored and grateful to be part of the initiative, which is aimed at equipping young agriculture professionals with the skills and exposure needed to address the challenges faced by his country's agriculture sector.

"Our group includes students from every corner of Pakistan," he said. "We are especially inspired by the opportunity to learn from China's successes in agricultural modernization, value addition and rural development."

He said this training program represents more than just an academic exchange — it is a symbol of friendship and collaboration between Pakistan and China.

"As students, we are here not only to gain knowledge, but to build bridges of mutual understanding, cultural exchange and shared progress," he added.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202505/12/WS68214b4fa310a04af22beb35.html