



CHINA STUDY CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR



Annual Report 2020-21

By:

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director, China Study Center

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INTRODUCTION

The China Study Centre is focusing on issues considered important both for Pakistan and China. The wide range of research activities of the Centre include but not limited to Chinese society, economy, political system, history, culture, civilization, Pak-China relations, Pak-China joint Projects, China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), One Belt One Road, (OBOR), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), regional integration and cultural cooperation. The Relations between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the People's Republic of China are higher than Himalaya, deeper than Arabian Sea, stronger than steel, and sweeter than honey. The China Study Centre (Cell) at the University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan was inaugurated on 17th October 2016 when H. E., Sun Weidong, the Ambassador of China to Pakistan visited the university. On the occasion, the Ambassador said that China advocates the principle of peaceful co-existence and respects the political system of every country and that the time-tested Pak- China relations are based on common interest and respect for each other's sovereignty. The dream of establishing China Study Centre (CSC) at the University of Peshawar was materialized with the financial and professional assistance from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China at Islamabad. The CSC strives to strengthen institutional linkages with Chinese universities and think tanks. Under the Linkages Development Programme, it is focusing to augment institutional interaction with Chinese counterparts in areas of mutual interests. Through initiating scientific research, the China Study Centre adds momentum to friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and to pass on the 'torch of friendship' to students, faculty, researchers, intelligentsia, and the coming generations.

VISION AND MISSION

The China Study Centre (CSC) endeavors to enrich understanding between China and Pakistan through research, learning, institutional linkages, and people to people contacts. To pave the way for shaping a better future for the people of Pakistan generally and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa particularly, the CSC seeks to make the University of Peshawar a rich source of knowledge on China. To deepen local understanding of Chinese society, economy, culture, language, political system and vice versa. The CSC aims at achieving continuous progress through research and dissemination of information about China and Pakistan in a manner that is in tune with the expectations of the peoples of two friendly countries. To launch joint research projects through institutional collaboration and achieve the objectives of the centre. The CSC will draw from the cultural, intellectual, and economic resources of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan to enrich and strengthen its programs and will strive for excellence in study,

creative expression, and service to the country. The CSC strives to become an excellent centre in research, learning and service in the region on China by producing research as per highest international standard. To equip research scholars with analytical thinking, innovative research methodologies, effective verbal and written communication that is critical for their pursuing careers in Pak-China Studies in an increasingly globalized marketplace. It will strive to develop academic collaboration with similar institutions and reinforce enriching interaction between China and Pakistan.

OBJECTIVES

Main Objectives of the Centre are to:

- Promote research on Pak-China relations;
- Stimulate the study of Chinese language, history, culture, and civilization;
- Foster people to people contacts and strengthen regional integration;
- Explore more avenues of cooperation between the two countries;
- Make University of Peshawar a reservoir of information on China;
- High light the benefits of China and Pakistan Joint Projects like CPEC, OBOR for Pakistan, in general, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in particular.

The above objectives will be achieved through organizing research, holding national and International conferences, arranging Chinese cultural events, educational exchanges, publishing books, Journal, papers, newsletter, documentaries, linkages development, faculty, staff, and students exchange programmes.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



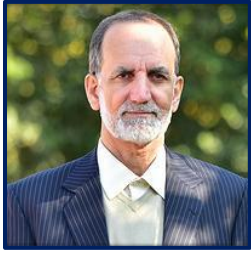
Pakistan and China relations are based on solid foundations. Pak-China cooperation has increased with passage of time in all fields including knowledge industry. The collaboration in higher education strengthened in the wake of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). CPEC which is a mega project of BRI further galvanized academic cooperation in the institutions of higher learning between the two countries.

The University of Peshawar, which is the oldest and most established university of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is playing an important role in educating the youth of the province and the region at large. The establishment of China Study Centre at the University of Peshawar with the financial and technical support of the Embassy of the People Republic of China, Islamabad will boost mutual understanding between the people of the two countries. The China Study Centre is a Research Centre which will conduct research on different aspects of China- Pakistan relations, and related dynamics. The centre will educate people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan on Chinese culture, economy, political system, science and technology, and society. On the other hand, it will disseminate information to Chinese people about Pakistan, its people, culture, socio-economic and political developments.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idress

Vice-Chancellor,
University of Peshawar

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



I am proud to be the pioneer Director/Coordinator of the China Study Centre, University of Peshawar, which formally came into being on 17th October 2016 when Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan His Excellency Sun Weidong visited the University of Peshawar to inaugurate the Centre. In fact, the growing collaboration of between Pakistan and China was necessitating the establishment of such a Centre at the University level in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province specially. Its establishment was felt to be need of the time.

The Centre will serve as a think tank, a reservoir of information and a research centre that will arrange talks among experts, disseminate knowledge and foster research on matters of mutual interests between Pakistan and China. Among the initiative to be taken in this direction, my priority will be to further enhance the existing academic collaboration between the two countries.

The worthy Vice-Chancellor supported me in every respect and very kindly agreed to join me in the visit to Northwest University, Xian, China in early June 2017. The visit proved successful more than our expectations. The Northwest University, China agreed to establish Confucius Institute in the University of Peshawar. Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the University of Peshawar and the Chinese Institutions of higher learning, there will take place exchange visits of scholars, faculty and students that will further boost understanding in terms of bringing the people of the two countries closer.

The Centre will soon launch a program of holding national and international conferences to discuss matters of common interests of the two countries and particularly in the context of emerging scenario at the regional and global level. Bringing out a quality research journal also include in our future framework. It will be a multi-disciplinary journal to focus on diverse issues so as to explore avenues of cooperation between Pakistan and China. A quarterly newsletter will also be published to give coverage to the activities of the Centre.

The Centre will arrange talks by imminent scholars on contemporary issues in Pak-China relations such as China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), One Belt One Road (OBOR). The Centre plans to commence Chinese language (Mandarin) classes in response to the growing demand for the same. In view of the support extended by the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in general, and the University of Peshawar, in particular, the Centre will hopefully become a significant milestone in enhancing academic collaboration between Pakistan and China. Long Live Pak-China Friendship.

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director, China Study Center
University of Peshawar

THE CULTURAL COUNSELLOR, CHINA EMBASSY ISLAMABAD VISITED UOP

A Chinese delegation from China Embassy Islamabad visited University of Peshawar (UOP) on 26th February 2020. The delegation was comprised of H. E. Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counselor & Director, China Cultural Center in Pakistan, Mr. Pan Yuqi, First Secretary and others. The meeting was held in the committee room beside the Vice Chancellor office. The visit of the Chinese delegation was coordinated by Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar.



Prof Dr Muhammad Asif Khan, the Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar welcomed the Chinese officials and appreciated the support of China Embassy Islamabad for its cooperation and support to the University of Peshawar. Last year the China Embassy gave two million rupees to the deserving students of UOP which were distributed among forty most deserving students. The cultural Counsellor announced that this year the amount is increased and the University will be given one hundred scholarships which will be distributed among the deserving students of UOP particularly among the students from Afghanistan and Pakistan. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar explained steps taken for the establishment of Confucius Institute at the UOP, the cultural Counsellor appreciated that and assured support in the respect.



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Asif Khan asked the Chinese officials to extend their support to the establishment of Centre of Excellence in Mathematical Sciences at the university, a Centre of Earth Sciences, cooperation in archaeology, silk road studies and museums. On the occasion

Prof Dr. Johar Ali, Pro Vice Chancellor of UOP asked the delegation for cooperation in capacity building particularly short training of faculty and administrative cadre of the University. H. E. Zhang Heqing listened patiently and assured that these points of cooperation will be discussed with H.E. The Ambassador and support and cooperation will be further strengthened keeping in view these suggestions. The vice Chancellor gave a shield of uop to the leader of the delegation and the cultural counsellor also gave a gift to the Vice Chancellor. Prof Dr. Zahid Director, China Study Center gave annual report 2019 to the leader of the delegation i.e., Mr Zhang Heqing. He appreciated the performance of the China Study Center and hoped that it will continue its efforts to promote understanding between the two peoples. Later, the Chinese officials visited SSAQ Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology where its curator Dr. Zakirullah Jan delivered a presentation on the unique aspects of the museum and the Cultural Counsellor expressed his support for promoting joint projects between the museum and its Chinese counterparts. On the second stretch of their visit, the delegates visited Centralized Resource Laboratory where they were briefed about the equipments and working of the laboratory. Afterwards the delegation left for Peshawar Museum.



SHOW OF SOLIDARITY WITH CHINA AGAINST NOVEL CORONA-VIRUS



The novel corona-virus epidemic has wreaked havoc in many countries particularly China. China Study Center, University of Peshawar has organized a large gathering of students and faculty to show solidarity with China in its fight against novel corona-virus on 4th March 2020. China is a developed country scientifically and technologically and contained corona virus in a very organized way. The developing world can learn much from this Chinese experience. Wuhan is the capital of Hubei province in Central China, located at the confluence of Yangtze and Han rivers. Wuhan is affected very much by the novel corona-virus.

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center on the occasion said that Pakistan and China relations are very cordial and China has helped Pakistan in difficult times. At this juncture China has mobilized its forces to quarantine and eradicate novel corona-virus and being all weathers friend of China, Pakistan is openly and solidly supporting China against this disease which is transforming from an epidemic into a pandemic. The students and faculty of the University of Peshawar express support and sympathy with the victims and their families and

stand by China. Professor Anwar further stated that life is precious and precautionary measures need to be strictly adopted. It is the responsibility of each and every Pakistani particularly students and teachers to contribute to the institutional and governmental efforts to protect Pakistani nation from the novel corona-virus. He thanked the students and teachers for their participation in this show of solidarity in such a large number.

GZU CHINA DONATED MASKS AND GLOVES TO UOP, PAKISTAN

Guizhou University (GZU) China and University of Peshawar, Pakistan are collaborating in the field of higher education. Recently Guizhou University donated masks, gloves, and face masks to UOP. Prof Dr. Muhammad Asif Khan, Vice

Chancellor University of Peshawar thanked Prof. Dr.. Song Baoan, academician at the Chinese Academy of Sciences & President of Guizhou University for the donation and support to UOP against COVID-19. The President of Guizhou University has also sent a letter few weeks ago to Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar for cooperation and the establishment of the Confucius Institute at University of Peshawar in partnership with GZU.



Established in 1902, GZU successively was

listed to one of China's "211 Project" universities and National "Double First-Class" Initiative to develop world-class disciplines. As a focal person Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Centre hoped that in near future the academic cooperation between the two high ranking Universities will further strengthen and discussed with Prof Dr. Hong Yun, Director External Affairs Office, different avenues of collaboration between GZU and UOP.

FIGHTING COVID-19: MEASURES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Prof Dr. Mohammad Abid, Dean, Faculty of Numerical Sciences, UOP, Prof. Dr. Noor Jehan, Director, Center for Disaster Preparedness and Management, UOP, Prof Dr. Sumera Afzal Director, Center for Biotechnology and Microbiology, UOP actively participated and discussed important issues related to dealing with COVID in Pakistan. Dr. Fawad delivered a PPT on COVID pandemic in Pakistan. Irfanullah Khan, Director, IT, UOP provided technical support to the conference. Ms Yang Xiao, XJTU coordinated with Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar for smooth organization of the teleconference.

In the closing remarks Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar said that Pakistan and China relations are very strong and Pakistani people are thankful to China for its sincere and solid support to Pakistan against COVID-19. He hoped that the collaboration between the two Universities will continue in future. Dr. LEI Yanjun, in her closing remarks said that XJTU and UOP will collaborate with each other comprehensively and as soon as the situation become normal this cooperation will be taken to a new and higher stage. She thanked UOP for responding to her call and jointly organizing such a successful teleconference on the COVID-19 pandemic



WEBINAR: PAKISTAN- CHINA COOPERATION AGAINST COVID-19

A Webinar on “Pakistan-China cooperation Against COVID-19” was organized by China Study Center, University of Peshawar on 28th July 2020 at 11am to 12.30 pm via Google Meet. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar in his introduction to the webinar said that Pakistan and china cooperated with one another on many global and regional issues. The two countries have developed comprehensive and productive relationship in defense field and rewarding and enriching relationship in the economic field. With the outbreak of COVID Pakistan and China joined hands against this disease which wreak havoc in the world. When the COVID threatened public health the two countries wholeheartedly supported each other. Today this webinar highlighted the cooperation between the two countries to strengthen public health security. In the webinar experts today explored different aspects of cooperation against COVID.

WEBINAR

Pakistan-China Cooperation Against Covid-19

11am-12:30pm *Organized By China Study Center* Tuesday 28 July 2020

SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker
H.E. Naghmah Hashmi
Pakistan Ambassador (r) to China

via Google Meet



Prof Dr. M. Asif Khan,
VC, UOP



Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director CSC, UOP



Hasan Daud Butt
CEO KPBIT



Farhat Asif
President, IPDS



Dr. Liaqat Ali
Ministry of P&D



Dr. Fazal Rahman,
Director, PICS



M. Ahsan Achakzai
Director, BUITEMS



Dr. Talat Shabir
Director CPSC



Brig (r)
Mahmood Shah



Prof Dr. M. Abid,
Dean, UOP

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II University of Peshawar

[/chinastudycentre](https://www.facebook.com/chinastudycentre) csc@uop.edu.pk [+92-333-9183724](tel:+923339183724)

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Asif in his welcome address said that all the sectors of society have been affected by COVID-19 especially education. Higher education is one the most affected sector by this pandemic not only in Pakistan but in the rest of the world too. China was the first nation to face the pandemic of COVID-19. He welcomed all the distinguished speakers.

Pakistan Ambassador to China H.E. Naghman Hashmi in her keynote address said the furnace of COVID-19 further strengthened Pakistan and China friendship. This all-weather friendship has come out stronger and more shining during the COVID pandemic. China has successfully controlled the pandemic. It got a unique experience. She said that COVID-19 was a test of China leadership, governance and service to people. China leadership, governance and service level highlighted the success of Chinese system and experience. China succeeded to address the challenge. China gave a wonderful road map with a clear vision against COVID-19. She discussed in detail how China supported Pakistan against COVID. She said that the visit of the president of Pakistan to China during COVID was big public diplomacy success. She explained why Pakistani students were told to remain in China when the pandemic broke out there. It was due to better coordination between Pakistan and China that COVID-19 did not transfer to Pakistan from China.

Brig (r) Mehmood Shah in his speech on COVID-19 said that the disease spread in Pakistan rapidly and due to weak economy it was difficult for Pakistan to tackle the issue effectively nevertheless it contained the disease and in this connection Chinese experience against COVID-19 helped a lot. He particularly appreciated the role of doctors, paramedics, police and armed forces.

Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director China Pakistan Study Centre, ISSI talked about the pandemic in detail and said that China play a major role in this pandemic around the world and added that this disease is a common challenge to the world.

WEBINAR: THE UNFOLDING SITUATION IN KASHMIR AFTER 5TH AUGUST 2019

China Study Centre, University of Peshawar has organized a webinar on, “the unfolding situation in Kashmir after 5th August 2019” on 4th August 2020. Many renowned experts analyzed the issue from different angles. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center in his welcome address said that the BJP Government in India has unleashed a policy of extremism and expansionism to establish Hindutva and its abrogation of article 370/35A regarding Kashmir is galvanizing extremism and hegemonism in the region. This brinkmanship of the current Indian Government has threatened regional peace and stability. The purpose of this webinar is to analyze the implications of the abrogation of article 370/35A for Kashmir and the region at large. He welcomed the distinguished speakers.

WEBINAR
THE UNFOLDING SITUATION IN KASHMIR AFTER 5TH AUGUST 2019
*Organized by China Study Centre
University Of Peshawar*

Date: August , 4th 2020
Time: 11am- 12:30pm

Welcome address
Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director, CSC UOP

Keynote Speaker
H.E. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhary
Director General, ISSI

Speakers

Rahimullah Yusufzai
The News, Pakistan

Hasan Daud Butt
CEO, KPBIT

Prof Dr Razia Sultana
Vice-Chancellor SBBWU

Prof Dr Nazir Hussain
Dean, FSS QAU Islamabad

Prof Dr Muhammad Khan
IIU Islamabad

Prof Dr Muhammad Ijaz Butt
Principal Govt College
Township, Lahore

via Google Meet

Google Meet Link: <https://meet.google.com/ded-dzzf-jto>

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad, in his keynote address thanked China Study Centre, University of Peshawar for organizing the webinar on such an important issue. He said that India has colonized Kashmir and has broken the promise of self-determination to the people of Kashmir it made almost 70 years ago. India has the sinister design to bring demographic change in Kashmir and to turn Muslim majority into a minority and in this connection it is borrowing a leaf from Israeli book what it did in Palestine. PM Modi is extending Hindutva to every nook and corner of India and to Kashmir also. It wants to create Hindu Rashtra where all minorities will be second rate citizens. US-India Nexus

emboldened India to establish regional hegemony and becomes a regional police-man. China is not an expansionist country nevertheless India ambition to become regional police-man has run into a clash with China. Recently what happened in Galwan valley and Indian attempt to fortify that area to build settlement there in order to reach Gilgit-Baltistan through another way created acrimony for China. Internationally a blatant violation of International Law has taken place. India is trying to change the status of disputed territory which is explicitly prohibited by the UN Resolutions. India is violating every provision of International Humanitarian Law. The people of Pakistan have no choice but to stand with the people of Kashmir. Pakistan has always diplomatically, morally and politically supported the people of Kashmir. International community is taking notice of the Indian atrocities against the people of Kashmir, UN, US, European Union, Turkey, Iran and Malaysia are expressing their frustration against what India is doing to the people of Kashmir. Another important development is opposition within India against BJP Government nefarious designs because the biggest damage MP Modi is doing is to India itself. Gone are the days when India could project its pluralistic, democratic credentials. Even when the world is not able to stem the hands of PM Modi we should continue to raise our voice because one day our combined effects of Pakistani, International and Indian voices will strengthen sanity to prevail. The people of Kashmir should be accorded the right of self-determination. We should speak for them and should do whatever we can for the just cause to end Indian annexation and occupation of Kashmir.

Rahimullah Yusufzai, Internationally renowned Journalist in his speech highlighted that Kashmir issue is very important but it is not resolved due to Indian actions in the last seventy two years. India is a big market despite that International community is raising voice about Indian atrocities against Kashmiri people. Pakistan should continue its effort to resolve the Kashmir conflict. India is creating problems for Pakistan in Baluchistan in former tribal areas and in Karachi. Recently China defeated India in Galvan valley and Ladakh

CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR CELEBRATES 71ST CHINESE INDEPENDENCE DAY

The China Study Center, University of Peshawar with the Collaboration of Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) and Pakistan Development Foundation (PDF) organized a tree plantation ceremony as part of Pakistan and China Friendship Tree plantation drive to celebrate the 71st independence day of China.

Speaking at the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center spoke in detail about the all-weather Pakistan and China Friendship especially focused on cooperation between the two countries in the realm of higher education. Under CPEC in the last couple of years Chinese and Pakistani universities have launched many joint projects and programs. Many Pakistani research students in China under the guidance of their supervisors are publishing research papers in high impact factor journals. In 2018 China Embassy Islamabad donated Rs 2 million equipments to University of Peshawar through China Study Center. In 2019 China Embassy Islamabad gave Rs. 2 million scholarships to the deserving students of University of Peshawar through China Study Center. In 2020 China Embassy Islamabad gave Rs. 7 million scholarships through China Study Center for the deserving students of University of Peshawar. 80% of the scholarships will be given to Afghan students of the University, he added. He reiterated that this hand in hand march of China and Pakistan to a shared future will bring benefits to both societies. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Abid Vice-Chancellor University of Peshawar was the chief guest of the event but due to an emergency meeting he couldn't participate

Secretary General Pak-China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter, Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani added that UOP is lucky to have a China Study Centre and appreciated the efforts of its Director for promoting China Study Center. He discussed how Pakistan and China Friendship Association came into existence and elaborated his efforts for promotion of China and Pakistan relationship. "We started the Pakistan and China Friendship Tree Plantation campaign on August 24th to express the strength of Pakistan and China relationship and we have planned to plant the Pakistan and China Friendship Tree at every city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

We are happy to have full support of China Study Center, University of Peshawar in this regard,” Chairman Pakistan Development Foundation (PDF) Mr. Bilal Sethi of PDF added.

Chairman Department of Electronics Prof. Falak Naz Khalil was also present on the occasion and in his speech praised Prof Zahid Anwar for strengthening Chinese studies in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and stated that his department will continue cooperation with China Study Center for organizing such events. Chairman of Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Prof. Dr. Fazal Ur Rehman, Dr. Nadir Ali, Dr. Noor, internees at China Study Center and many students of different departments attended the ceremony. In the end organizers of the event thanked the participants for their participation



EXPLORING CHINA & INDIA RELATIONS IN GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND BILATERAL PERSPECTIVES IN 2020

China Study Center, University of Peshawar has organized a Webinar on “Exploring China and India Relations in Global, Regional and bilateral Perspectives in 2020” on 20th October 2020 at 11 am at the Conference hall in the Center. Many renowned scholars delivered speeches/presentations on the theme. The webinar started with the recitation of few verses of the Holy Quran.

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study center, University of Peshawar welcomed the renowned scholars and other distinguished guests. He threw light on the purpose of the webinar and said that China and India are two important countries in the Asian continent and the two most populous states in the world as well. There is need to objectively analyze the nature of relationship between China and India. He further highlighted that unprecedented changes are taking place global and regionally and this is high time to discuss this important relationship in the context of BRI, CPEC, Trade War, Indo-Pacific Initiative, QUAD, SCO and BRICS.

Dr. Talat Shabir, Director, China Pakistan Study Center, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad in his speech comprehensively dealt with broader theme of China India Relations. He was of the view that the current global political system is led by the USA and in this situation both China and USA is pursuing their respective interests. There are convergences and divergences between China and India. The important divergences between China and India are border dispute, CPEC, the rising influence of China in the region and the unfolding Indo Pacific Strategy. India is opposing BRI and CPEC. India expects support from USA to counter BRI and CPEC. China is aware of USA attempts to contain China. USA considers India important for containing China globally and regionally. China is following the policy of win-win and economic development. China and India should launch a dialogue to resolve their disputes.

Dr. Ghulam Ali, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Sichuan University of Science and Engineering in his speech pointed out that a huge wisdom will be required to contain the conflict between China and India in the long run and India under PM Modi in this point in time lacks that wisdom.

Mr. Hasan Daud Butt, CEO, KPBIT in his presentation underlined that we live in unprecedented time and that in 2019 trade between China and India was around \$90 billion. The industrial setup in India has not taken the shape the way they wanted especially under Modi regime. COVID-19 showed the vulnerability of India where its economy is sliding down with much faster pace and that its inspiration and aspiration to become a military or economic power is also going down by the same speed. On the other hand Chinese economy is rising in the post COVID era. He further highlighted that it would be momentous mistake by India to escalate the situation in Himalaya.



Exploring China-India Relations in Global, Regional & Bilateral Perspectives in 2020





Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director China Study Center
University of Peshawar

Organized By

China StudyCenter

University Of Peshawar

Date: 20/10/2020 Time: 11am -01pm

 **Meeting ID: 897 2164 8358**



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Abid
Vice Chancellor
University of Peshawar

Speakers

						
Dr. Talat Shabir Director CPSC, ISSI	Dr. Ghulam Ali Sichuan university of Science & Engineering	Dr. Minhas Majeed IR, UOP	Farhat Asif President, IPDS	Prof. Dr. Manzoor Afridi Chairman Department of IR and Politics IIUI	Sayed Ali Nawaz Gilani, General Secretary, CPFA Pakistan	Hassan Daud Butt CEO KPBIT

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University Of Peshawar

✉ csc@uop.edu.pk ☎ **091-5852247** 📘 [chinastudycentre](https://chinastudycentre.com) 🌐 www.cscp.edu.pk

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Regional Dialogue on “The Role of Parliament in Enhancing Investment, Trade, and People to People Exchange under CPEC”



CPEC Parliamentary Committee, KP Board of Investment and Trade (KPBIT) and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Pakistan organized a dialogue on November 13, 2020 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Peshawar, under the Theme: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Regional Dialogue on “The Role of Parliament on Enhancing Investment, Trade and people to people Exchange under CPEC. The conference started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Hasan Daud Butt, CEO, KPBIT delivered introductory remarks and discussed the development of different CPEC projects in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The honorable Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mehmood Khan in his speech spoke about Rashakai Special Economic Zone; different CPEC projects related to trade, investment and tourism and furthermore highlighted the efforts made by the provincial government to make Khyber Pakhtunkhwa a business hub. The chief minister elaborated that due to the efforts of the provincial government, three mega projects of motorways and two projects of energy have been included in CPEC portfolio. The CPEC mega project once completed would not only bring thousands acres of barren land under cultivation but would also be instrumental towards green revolution in the region. Efforts were on to include other important projects in the CPEC. The construction of mega road projects like Swat Motorway Phase-II, DI Khan Motorway and Dir

Expressway would be ensured at all costs, once completed, these projects would connect different parts of province, he said.

Mr. Asad Qaiser, Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan who presided over the inaugural session of the dialogue also addressed the conference and termed the CPEC as a game-changer project for the province. He urged upon the politicians, elected public representatives and bureaucracy to play their vital role to get the maximum benefits of this golden opportunity and put this province on the track of prosperity and development. He said that timely completion of CPEC related projects in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) would open new avenues of prosperity and economic stability all over the country. He invited Afghanistan to participate in CPEC projects, due to which, Peshawar will be able to get access to Central Asian Countries. In order to promote business activities in the long run connectivity of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asian Countries is indispensable.



Arbab Sher Ali, Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on CPEC in his speech highlight the significance of CPEC for the economic development of Pakistan and the role of people's

representatives in enhancing trade, investment and people to people contacts. After the inaugural session the dialogue was divided into three sessions in different halls which started at the same time. One session was about trade, the other dealt with investment and the third session was focused on tourism. The session on investment was presided over by Mr Abdul Karim Tordher, Special Assistant to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) on Industries and Commerce. He discussed in details the measures adopted by the provincial government for industrialization of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Javed Iqbal Khattak, CEO, KPEZDMC in his speech highlighted the steps taken to materialize different special economic zones in KP under CPEC especially RSEZ.

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar in his speech said that in a democratic parliament decisions are taken for the welfare of its people. This dialogue organized by CPEC parliamentary Committee is a true service to people and worth appreciation. South and Central Asian Regions require economic integration for prosperity and without an



iota of doubt BRI and CPEC will economically integrate China, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asian States. Better coordination between federal and provincial governments and business community will galvanize speedy completion of Rashakai Special Economic Zone (RSEZ), Hattar SEZ, Mohmand Marble City, Peshawar to Kabul Motorway and other such CPEC projects. He further stated that the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have suffered a lot in the war against terrorism and they deserve, particularly its young people to be given opportunities to get higher education under CPEC and utilize their potential for the development of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Pakistan.



Minister for Finance, Taimur Jhagra, MNA Ms Mehnaz Akbar, Advisor to CM for Energy & Power, Mr Himayatullah Khan, Additional Chief Secretary, Mr Shakeel Qadir, Afghan Consul General, Najib Ullah Ahmedzai and Country Director Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Pakistan, Dr. Jochen Hippler also addressed the Dialogue and shed light on investment, trade and people-to-people exchange under CPEC.

CHINESE ONE MONTH BASIC COURSE AT CHINA STUDY CENTER, UOP



China Study Center, University of Peshawar has successfully completed one month basic Chinese language course on 16th December 2020. It was started on 16th November 2020. Many males and females students got admission in the basic Chinese language course. Dr. Nazish Manzoor, who has completed HSK level four from China was the course instructor and taught the basic course keeping in view the parameters of HSK level one. After successful completion of the course students showed their keen interest in HSK level two and liked Chinese language and culture.

CPEC: INDUSTRIALIZATION & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PAKISTAN



China Study Center, University of Peshawar has organized a Webinar titled ‘CPEC Phase II: Industrialization and Employment Opportunities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan’ on 30th December 2020. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar Director China Study Center University of Peshawar in his welcome address said that China launched Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013 which is a Mammoth project of regional economic connectivity and prosperity. BRI is 21st century Silk Road. Belt and Road Initiative has six economic corridors, one among those important economic corridors is called China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). CPEC is a collection of Pakistan and China joint projects in the sectors of energy, infrastructure and telecommunications. CPEC was started in 2015 and will complete in 2030. 32 early harvest projects of CPEC have been completed. Over 85000 Pakistani have got employment in CPEC projects. More than 28000 Pakistani students are now studying in China. In 2020 the second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor has started. The second phase of CPEC will be focused on industrialization. It will galvanize economic and employment opportunities in Pakistan. Though COVID has devastated global economy nevertheless the resilient humanity will bounce back. Today distinguished scholars will analyze the measures adopted for

completion of CPEC projects in phase II. Gwadar deep port provides warm water access to Russia Central Asia, Afghanistan and China. Rashakai Special Economic zone will bring revolution in industrial development in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Khattar, and Mohmand marble city and Peshawar to Kabul motorway will enhance regional integration and economic development.

Hasan Daud Butt, CEO, KPBIT in his presentation said that the CPEC has entered crucial second phase in which cooperation in industrial development and agriculture sector improvement is vital and it has the potential to transform Pakistan's economy and make it a regional trade hub. The industrial cooperation which commenced in 2016 has gone through various stages and today Rashakai, Faisalabad and Dhabheji Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are all set for development.

Sayed Mustafa Hayder, Executive Director, Pakistan China Institute said that materializing special economic zone should be a provincial led effort, after 18th amendment the provinces are fully empowered. When foreign companies come for investment they are not clear where to go so better coordination is required and One Window Operation facility should be provided to those who want to invest. China is relocating its industries. The initiative of attracting investment should remain with KP Government, KPEZDMC and KPBIT.

Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director China-Pakistan Study Centre at Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad in his speech emphasized the need of ensuring employment opportunities in the province and learning from Chinese experience. He suggested that efforts must be made to encourage private sector investment in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) while regulatory procedures should also be streamlined.

Javed Iqbal Khattak CEO, KPEZDMC said that as CPEC is a flagship project of Belt and Road Initiative so is Rashakai Special Economic Zone (RSEZ) a flagship project of CPEC Special Economic Zones. RSEZ is spread over one thousand acres areas. We have received 1700 applications from different investors which is a very encouraging development for us. RSEZ will boost economic recovery and exports of this region. We are opening Jaluzai, Nowshehra, Ghazi, Chitral for investment. From RSEZ 2 to 3 lacs people in the province will get employment.

Dr. Liaqat Ali Shah from Ministry of Planning in his speech said that economic transformation is taking place in China. China will relocate some its industries like cement, steel etc. We are marketing our SEZs. Pakistan can get benefit from this transformation. We have identified 52 products where we are globally competitive.

Ms Farhat Asif , President IPDS in her presentation said that we should focus more on materializing the existing SEZs.138 countries have joined BRI. BRI and CPEC are connecting Pakistan to GVC (Global value Chain). We need political stability to develop our economy.

Dr. Manzoor Afridi, head of Politics and IR, IIUI said that SEZs played pivotal role in the economic development of China. Pakistan has 9 SEZs under CPEC which are established to follow the Chinese successful experience. KP can provide good environment to Chinese investors. He said that according to Chief Minister Mahmood Khan, RSEZ will provide 2 lac jobs.

THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON HIGHER EDUCATION, CHINA



The 2020 Higher Education International Forum Annual Meeting co-hosted by the China Higher Education and Zhengzhou University, was held in Zhengzhou, China on November 21st 2020,. The theme of this forum was “Accelerating Modernization of University Governance Systems & Capacity Building” Mr. Du Yubo President China Association for Higher Education (CAHE) gave a keynote report entitled “Adapt to the needs of the new development pattern and promote the high-quality development of higher education”

In addition to the main forum, three parallel forums, namely “University Presidents Forum”, “Scholars Forum” and “Doctoral Candidates Forum”, were held for the first time. Mr. Muhammad Suleman Mahsud Education Specialist of the Pakistani Embassy in China also delivered a speech. 58 other experts and scholars outside China attended the conference via video.

Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar, Pakistan, in his speech focused on the “Modernization of Universities Governance System and Capacity in Pakistan”. In his speech Prof Zahid Anwar said that CAHE (China Association of Higher Education and HEC (Higher Education Commission of Pakistan) and CPEC Consortium of Universities with its headquarters in Fudan University Shanghai have taken solid steps to strengthen collaboration between Chinese and Pakistani Universities. As a result of those joint and sincere efforts now the largest number of Pakistani students are getting higher education in the high ranking Universities of China. He said that important features of a modernized good governing educational institution are efficient use of technology, digitization of file system, system of accountability, collaboration among Universities for joint research, training and exchange of faculty and students. A 21st Century University functions and focuses on the quality of teaching and research. For quality teaching



and research, highly qualified faculty is required, a faculty that share knowledge and encourage critical thinking among students, a faculty that equip students to shoulder their responsibilities in practical life. He further added that in a conducive environment and win-win approach International collaboration in higher education will galvanize development and together Universities can do more to prepare their young generations for a shared and mutually enriching future. His speech was appreciated by CAHE and other forum participants. More than 100 experts and scholars in the field of higher education gave reports, with a total of 105 sessions and more than 1,200 people attended the conference.

ACADEMIC COLLABORATION UNDER CPEC CONSORTIUM OF UNIVERSITIES



An online meeting under the auspices of Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) was held (1430 to 1700 Hours) on 15th January 2021 through Microsoft Teams platform. The meeting started with the opening remarks by Lt. Gen. (r) Muhammad Asghar, Consultant CPEC, Member (Operations and Technology) HEC on

collaboration between Chinese and Pakistani Universities under the umbrella of CPEC Consortium of China & Pakistan Universities. Then Dr. Safdar Ali Shah, Director General CPEC Cell at HEC, gave his presentation on Joint Research, Talent Cultivation and Training, Post-doc Trainings, Study Abroad (for six months) Short Trainings in China, Dual/ Joint Degree Programs, Conferences/Seminars/Workshops, Establishment of Six China Study Centers and many other important points related to the collaboration between China and Pakistan Universities. A large number of Vice Chancellors, Directors China Study Centers, and field

experts have given their suggestions for strengthening cooperation between the Universities of the two countries. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar in his speech suggested that China should be included in the HEC list of industrially advanced countries so that PhD theses of scholars should be sent for evaluation to China also this will strengthen ties among Universities, scholars and faculty of the two countries. And HEC should provide an accepted model format of MOU for Pakistani Universities so that precious time of Universities is not wasted in getting NOC from many ministries and institutions. Lt. Gen. (r) Muhammad Asghar appreciated the idea that will facilitate collaboration between China and Pakistani Universities. In the end Lt. Gen. (r) Muhammad Asghar thanked all the participants for their suggestions and participation in the meeting.

EXPLORING ACADEMIC COLLABORATION WITH CHINESE UNIVERSITIES UNDER CPEC

China Study Center, University of Peshawar has organized a webinar on, “Exploring Academic Collaboration with Chinese Universities under CPEC” on 26th January 2020 at the CSC Conference Hall of the China Study Centre, University of Peshawar. A large number of area experts participated in the webinar. The webinar was started with the recitation of the Holy Quran followed by national anthem.



Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar (UOP) in his opening remarks said that under CPEC the Universities of Pakistan and China are collaboration with one another.

A Consortium of Universities between China and Pakistan came into existence under CPEC in August 2017 which is strengthening the academic cooperation between the universities of the two countries. The purpose of the webinar is to explore avenues of cooperation and organize activities in that domain. We have invited Prof Dr. Safdar Ali Shah, DG CPEC at HEC who will discuss the extent of current cooperation in higher education between China and Pakistan.



Prof Dr. Muhammad Idress, Vice-Chancellor University of Peshawar, on behalf of the University welcomed the Vice-Chancellors, faculty members, scientists, scholars and other distinguished participants of the webinar on, “Exploring Academic Collaboration with Chinese universities under CPEC”. He further stated that the overall aim of this webinar is to establish professional linkages with Chinese Universities under CPEC and to share ideas and problems and find their solutions. Pakistan and China Relations are based on solid foundation. Pakistan and China Corporation has increased with the passage of time in all fields including knowledge industry. The collaboration in Higher Education strengthened in the wake of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and CPEC, which is a mega project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will further galvanize academic corporation among the institutions of higher learning between the two countries. University of Peshawar which is the oldest and the most established University of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is playing an important role in educating the youth of this province and the region at large. The establishment of China Study Center at the University of Peshawar with the financial and technical support of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad will boost mutual understanding between the people of the two countries about the culture, socio-economic and political development. University of Peshawar as fully dedicated to its mission to produce scholars well-versed in quality education and equipped with modern research techniques. There is a pressing need to provide an opportunity to students, researchers and scientists to share their ideas with their Chinese counterparts. I believe that this webinar will provide a forum to share research and academic activities and will also help to promote scientific culture and mutually productive relations among the individuals for further strengthen collaboration. University of Peshawar will work as a bridge to further strengthen the existing people to people understanding and friendship between Pakistan and China. I believe that this webinar organized by China Study Center university of Peshawar is a worth appreciation effort and I wish China Study Center success in its endeavors to achieve all its objectives. I hope this webinar will meaningfully unite Pakistan-China academic researchers and other stakeholders to join hands for the bright future of Pakistan.



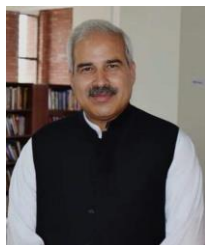
Prof Dr. Safdar Ali Shah, DG, CPEC Cell, HEC, discussed “Academic Collaboration under CPEC Consortium of Universities”. He said that CPEC Consortium of Universities was established at Islamabad in August 2017 as CPEC Consortium of Business Schools under the auspices of China Association

of Higher Education and Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. Three exchange mechanism meetings (Annual Conferences) have been held so far. The third meeting at Islamabad was attended by 45 universities including 30 Presidents of University. The membership of the Consortium has increased from 19 in 2017 to 55 in 2020 (including 36 Pakistani and 19 Chinese Universities). The 4th Exchange Mechanism meeting which was scheduled in 2020 had been postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic. In 1919 the member universities carried out 117 visits to China and received 67 delegations from China, signed 61 and conducted 44 trainings, member universities won 206 scholarships, 17210 persons learnt Chinese language, members universities won 16 research grants and organized 120 China focused events. Zhejiang University and Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi jointly won a research project worth RMB 400m. A significant development is the establishment of China Pakistan joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences. Another proposal is from CAHE to establish a China Pakistan Higher Education Research Institute. He also discussed another mega project of Rs 500 million which will be focused on joint research, talent cultivation and training, conferences, workshops seminars and establishment of China Study Centers in Pakistan and further strengthening of the existing Centers like that of China Study Center, University of Peshawar. Then he discussed the implementation of these proposals. Regarding joint research Dr. Safdar Ali Shah said that this is 500 million rupees initiative and will be launched as Pakistan China Research Partnership. R & D Division of Higher Education Commission will issue a call for joint research proposals under an existing mechanism of Global Challenge Fund. Research projects worth 50 to 200 million rupees will be awarded to joint research teams. Under Talent Cultivation and Training is comprised of several components 1. Study Abroad, which is an exchange program where 60 Pakistani and 120 Chinese candidates will be given opportunities for 6 month study in a China / Pakistani University 2. under Post Doc Training the project will support 15 Pakistani and 15 Chinese Post Doc scholars for research / training in China / Pakistan. 3. Short Term Trainings: HEC will fund short trainings (1-2 weeks) of 150 Pakistani faculty and staff in China likewise 20

Chinese resource persons will be invited to Pakistan to conduct short trainings for faculty / staff.4. Dual Joint Degree Programs with Chinese Universities: this initiative will be launched on experimental basis to explore its efficacy for expansion. The project will support 10 BS and 20 MS students for dual joint degree programs in China. Regarding conferences / workshops/ seminars Dr. Safdar Ali Shah said that as many as 12 conferences/ workshops/ seminars will be organized in the next three years to devise strategies and action plans to issue the objectives of the Consortium and develop curricula for new program. Thematic areas are given in the working paper already circulated to member universities. Regarding China Study Centers he said that a total of six Centers are planned to be established in four provinces, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir will have one Center each and will be provided a total up 22.8 15 million rupees to cover the human resources related cost and another 6 million rupees for library and study material. The Centers will organize Chinese language classes for the faculty and students they will organize activities to promote understanding of Chinese system and culture, they will undertake translations of Chinese literary classics to promote understanding of Chinese cultural traditions and will act as a Think Tank /Area Study Centre on China.



Prof Dr. Razia Sultana Vice-Chancellor SBBWU in her presentation (delivered by Dr. Irum) said that the Universities of the two countries can strengthen collaboration through Chinese Government scholarship, University scholarship and exchange programs, the establishment of well-equipped laboratories under CPEC for mutual benefit, joint research in applied sciences and funds for research and business and training Centers for women empowerment. Furthermore collaboration can be strengthened through MOUs, conferences, trainings and Post Doctorate and project partnership. There are some barriers in collaboration for instance language barriers, cultural differences and lack of adequate information so through mutual efforts these challenges can be transformed into opportunities.



Prof Dr. Ifthihar Ahmad Vice-Chancellor, Gomal University in his speech said that strengthening of people to people contacts will strengthen collaboration between the Universities of the two countries. Gomal University is the second oldest University of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and has a vast tract of land and

Chinese support in agricultural field will be mutually beneficial. Gomal University is located at the crossroad of CPEC and D I Khan where Gomal University is located, connects erstwhile FATA with settled districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Gomal University welcomes collaboration with Chinese counterparts in different fields. In the end of his speech the Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the organizers of the webinar and assured support in such future endeavors.



Prof Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Sargodha University in his speech said that is a privilege to be at the China Study Centre at University of Peshawar for the webinar. I and Professor Zahid Anwar have been to China together in connection to a trilateral (Afghanistan, China and Pakistan) dialogue. China also is emerging as important interlocutor in the restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

Sargodha University has 25000 students and 1200 faculty members and has many sub-campuses. It has a robust department of oriental studies especially good for Persian, Arabic, Urdu and Punjabi. Under CPEC there are enormous opportunities for both private and public sector universities to collaborate with relevant Chinese Think Tanks, Research Institutions and Universities. We have a Pakistan Institute of China Studies established with the support of HEC. We have Confucius Institute at Sargodha University. Sargodha is citrus production area and there are many opportunities of cooperation with Chinese counterparts in agricultural research. In agriculture we forged collaboration with South China Agricultural University and Chinese Research Council in Beijing. We have signed an MOU with Henan Normal University. We are jointly doing research on citrus. CPEC will become game changer when special economic zones will start working and CPEC projects give tangible results. We should identify and prioritize areas where our respective Universities have comparative edge. We should also pay attention to bridge the cultural, civilizational and systemic differences. CPEC is an opportunity and let us get advantage of this opportunity by creating a Win-Win situation.



Prof Dr. Gulzaman Vice-Chancellor University of Malakand thanked the organizers for holding the webinar. He said University of Malakand was established in 2001 and currently it has 31 departments including Chinese language Department. We can collaborate with one another in research

publications, exchange of scientific literature, faculty, student and staff exchange, short trainings, hoteling, tourism, visits to archaeological sites, software engineering, small and medium enterprises. We should make a mechanism to hold such meetings for collaboration with Chinese Universities.



Prof. Dr. Johar Ali Vice-Chancellor of Khushal Khan Khattak University in his message said that China Study Centre University of Peshawar has done a good job by organizing this webinar. He assured the organizers that Khushal Khan Khattak University at Karak welcome collaboration and look forward to joint research projects, cooperation in online teaching and short trainings with Chinese Universities.



Prof. Dr. Mansoor Akbar Kundi Vice-Chancellor BZU in his message said that BZU is one of the biggest and high ranking Universities of Pakistan. It welcomes the recent joint initiative of CAHE and HEC for strengthening collaboration between Chinese and Pakistani Universities under CPEC. It will fully cooperate in this respect so that students and faculty of BZU fully exploit these opportunities in the realm of higher education.



After the question answer session, in the end Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abid in his vote thanks message thanked all the participants for joining the webinar.

WEBINAR
Exploring Academic Collaboration in Higher Education with Chinese Universities Under CPEC
 Organized By **China Study Center**
University Of Peshawar
 Date: 26-01-2021 - Time: 10:00 AM-01:00 PM
 Zoom ID: 856 3407 9322 || Passcode: csc26

Welcome Address
 Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees
 Vice Chancellor, UOP

Keynote Speaker
 Prof. Dr. Sajdar Ali Shah
 DG, CPEC, HEC

Opening Remarks
 Prof. Dr. Zahid Armar
 Director, CSC, UOP

Vote of Thanks
 Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad
 Vice Chancellor, UOS

Prof. Dr. Johar Ali
 Vice Chancellor, KKKUK

Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana
 Vice Chancellor, SBBWU

Prof. Dr. Mansoor Akbar Kundi
 Vice Chancellor, BZU

Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad
 Vice Chancellor, GU

Prof. Dr. Sardar Khan
 Vice Chancellor, KUST

Prof. Dr. Gul Zaman
 Vice Chancellor, UOM

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abid
 Pro-Vice-Chancellor, UOP

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Peshawar || email: csc@csc.edu.pk || 091-5852247
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PROF DR. ZAHID ANWAR, DIRECTOR CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR PARTICIPATED IN THE BKU 4TH SENATE MEETING ON 17TH DECEMBER 2020

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study center, University of Peshawar, has participated as a member in the 4th meeting of the Senate Bacha Khan University (BKU), Charsadda on 17th December 2020. The meeting was held at Governor House Peshawar under strict adherence to SOPs devised against the COVID pandemic. Mr Shah Farman, Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa /Chancellor Bacha Khan University chaired the meeting. Mr Sultan Muhammad, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Prof Dr. Bashir Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Bacha Khan University, Mr. Justice (r) Miftahuddin, Prof Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Secretary General Paistan Academy of Sciences, Mr. Ifthihar Hussain, Registrar BKU, Many senior bureaucrats/Secretaries and faculty participated in the meeting. Many items on the agenda were approved including the annual budget. The Honorable Chancellor stressed that efforts should be made to ensure transparency and prudent use of funds. The Vice-Chancellor thanked all the participants for their sparing time to attend the said meeting.



COLLABORATION IN CHINA STUDIES

On 26th of January 2021 a webinar was organized by China Study Center, University of Peshawar on “Exploring collaboration with Chinese Universities”. In the webinar beside other Vice Chancellors, Prof Dr. Gulzaman, Vice Chancellor University of Malakand also delivered a speech and proposed a mechanism to further strengthen collaboration



in that regard. As a follow up, a team from University of Malakand visited China Study Center, University of Peshawar to discuss collaboration between China Study Center, University of Peshawar (CSC, UOP) and ORIC/Department of China Studies, University of Malakand. The following officers/faculty

visited the CSC, UOP: Mr. Muhammad Shahid Khan Director ORIC, UOM, Dr. Zahid Khan Focal Person/Management Sciences, Mr. Mohammad Aurangzeb, Manager University Industrial Linkages, ORIC and Mr. Maqsood Mazhar, Manager Research Operations, ORIC. The following points were discussed in the meeting: Orientation on the role and responsibilities of China study Center, University of Peshawar. Collaboration and support in establishing a China language Center/Area study Center in University of Malakand. Collaboration mechanism with Chinese universities under CPEC. MOU between University of Malakand & University of Peshawar. Joint programs and events. joint international/ national conferences. other areas of mutual cooperation. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center assured support to UoM and thanked the members of the team from UoM for their visit to CSC, UOP and particularly appreciated Prof Dr. Gulzaman, Vice Chancellor, University of Malakand for keen interest in promoting China Studies in Malakand region

CEO, BRI CONSULTANT PVT, LTD VISITED CHINA STUDY CENTER, UOP

Ms Farhat Asif, President, IPDS and Asif Noor, CEO, Belt & Road Consultant Pvt. Ltd and Sayed Ali Nawaz Gilani, General Secretary, Pakistan China Friendship Association, Khyber Chapter visited China Study Center, University of Peshawar on 25th January 2021.

China Study Center, UOP and Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies have already signed MOU and have jointly organized many events. During the meeting an agenda of joint programs and events were discussed. It was decided that in summer 2021 if the second wave of COVID



subsidies and situation turns for the better an International Conference on important projects of BRI / CPEC will be organized at Baragali, the summer campus of University of Peshawar. On the occasion Sayed Ali Nawaz Gilani appreciated the idea and a strategy was devised to make it a success. The distinguished guests appreciated the efforts of China Study Center for promotion of Pak-China ties. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar thanked the honorable guests for their visit to the Center.

COLLABORATION UNDER CPEC BETWEEN CSC & CIT, ISLAMABAD

Mr. Ammar Jaffri, Director General, Center of Information Technology (CIT), Islamabad and former Additional DG, FIA visited China Study Center, University of Peshawar on February 4th, 2021. He was accompanied by his team of



experts, which included Dr. Arshad Ali. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar Director China Study Center,



University of Peshawar held a meeting with Mr. Jaffri and explored avenues of cooperation between the two institutions. During the meeting draft of MOU, Digital Corridor, BRI and CPEC were thoroughly discussed. Mr. Ammar Jaffri appreciated the efforts of China

Study Center for promotion of China Studies in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan. He officially invited Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar for “International Silk Road Summit” which will be held from 17th to 23rd of March 2021 at PC Malam Jabba, Swat, Pakistan. Director China Study Center thanked Mr. Jaffri and his team for sparing time to visit China Study Center University of Peshawar.

ACADEMIC COLLABORATION UNDER CPEC BETWEEN CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR AND SWABI UNIVERSITY



China Study Center, University of Peshawar (CSC, UOP) is focussing on linkages development and academic collaboration under CPEC with Chinese Universities as well as Universities within Pakistan especially Universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In this connection a delegation from Swabi University which included Dr. Ruidar Ali Shah, Director, ORIC and Dr. Sajid Hussain, Assistant Professor of Political Science visited China Study Center, UOP on 15th February 2021. A meeting at China Study Center was held in which Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center explained many aspects of China Pakistan Universities collaboration under CPEC. Regarding cooperation between the two institutions a draft of MOU between University of Swabi and University of Peshawar, organization of joint events related to China, CPEC, BRI, joint research projects and HEC recently advertised initiative on `CPEC: China-Pakistan Universities Consortium` were thoroughly discussed. The honourable colleagues from University of Swabi praised the efforts of Director of China Study Center for collaboration in higher education. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar

assured support of China Study Center to the delegation for promoting cooperation with Chinese Universities in higher education under CPEC. It was agreed upon that Director China Study Center will be soon invited to deliver a presentation on Pakistan China Universities Collaboration to the students and faculty of University of Swabi. Prof Anwar thanked the delegates for their visit to CSC, UOP to strengthen cooperation between University of Swabi and University of Peshawar.

CSC, UOP & KUST ACADEMIC COLLABORATION UNDER CPEC

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar visited Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST) and held a meeting with Prof. Dr. Sardar Khan, Vice-Chancellor KUST on 22nd February 2021. Prof Dr. Sardar Khan has



done his PhD in Environmental Sciences from China. During the meeting academic collaboration in promoting China Studies, Establishment of China Study Center at

KUST, BRI, CPEC and Cooperation in higher education under BRI & CPEC between the two institutions were discussed. Prof. Anwar thanked the worthy Vice-Chancellor for sparing time to discuss these important issues. The honorable Vice-Chancellor hoped for further strengthening of the Cooperation and thanked the Director China Study Center for his visit to KUST

CPEC PHASE II AND THE ROLE OF ACADEMIA

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a win win model and a hope for a prosperous and peaceful region. CPEC early harvest projects, by and large have been completed. Moreover, the CPEC has entered into Phase II that will further galvanize industrialization. CPEC is also closely connected to promotion of



education. In this connection the role of academia is very important. To objectively analyze this aspect the City University of Science and Information Technology (CUSIT) Peshawar Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Pakistan, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment and Trade (KP-BOIT) have jointly organized an online session on “CPEC Phase II and the Role of Academia” on Thursday 28th January 2021 at 12:00 pm. Dr. Muhammad Zahid of City University coordinated the event very well. Ambassador ® Masood Khalid was the keynote speaker. Dr. Zainul Abiddin (HEC) and Dr. Iram Khalid (PSD, Punjab University), Mr Hasan Daud Butt CEO (KPBIT) also included among the guest speakers. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University in his speech said that CPEC has strengthened cooperation between China and Pakistan in higher education. A consortium of Universities with headquarters at Fudan University, Shanghai was established in 2017 due to the earnest efforts of HEC and CAHE and a Knowledge Corridor is established due to which now almost 30 thousands Pakistani students are studying in China. He termed the recent HEC initiative, “the SPEC-Collaborative Research Grant (CPEC-CRG)” under “Academic Collaboration under CPEC Consortium of Universities” a great leap forward for solid collaboration between the Universities of the two countries. This initiative will pave the way for high quality research on critical issues which our society is confronting. He said that CPEC has many opportunities of cooperation for Universities, faculty and students of both countries.

COMMUNITY WITH A SHARED FUTURE FOR MANKIND



Pakistan Research Center for a community with shared future, Communication University, Beijing China , Center for Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad and Area Study Centre, University of Peshawar have jointly organized a round-table discussion on, “ Community with Shared Future for Mankind” on 16th March 2021 at ASC, UOP.

Prof Dr. Deqiang JI, Vice-Dean, Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University Beijing delivered his speech online from China. In the opening remarks of the discussion Professor Deqiang JI stated that the global community is facing unprecedented crises and it is high time to build a consensus among the comity of nations to cope with those big challenges. He praised the Initiative of building a community with shared future and hoped that the initiative will enable the global community to address the pandemics like COVID-19 and other challenges successfully in a win-win spirit. He also highlighted that the international Academic Network including the Pakistan Research Center for a community with a shared future of mankind Communication University



China and other Research Centers will work closely to give exposure to this idea to a bigger International audience. Prof Dr. Shabir Ahmad Khan, Director Area Study Centre in his speech explained his perception of a community with a shared future of mankind. He emphasized that now many countries are partnering with China as it has a clear aim of prosperity.

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar in his presentation focused on President Xi Jinping's concept of a community with a shared future for mankind and said that it is based on win-win cooperation, cultural diversity, economic connectivity, mutual understanding and respect. He further stated that collective efforts are required to successfully tackle the global challenges. China is bringing a paradigm shift in International politics based on win-win cooperation rather than zero-sum game. China's win-win model of economic development in the 21st Century is against none and all inclusive. BRI is based on win win model that's why more than 138 countries have joined BRI. CPEC is also based on that win-win model. To reduce violence, alleviate poverty and augment understanding every member of the comity of nations should accommodate others' interests while pursuing one's own and promote common development while striving for one's own. The world needs protection and healing from transnational threats like COVID-19 and that makes global collaboration a necessity.



Dr. Abdul Hamid (Qurtaba University), Dr. Muhammad Ali Dinakhel (ASC), Dr. Muhammad Shafi (ASC) Dr. Zarmina Baluch (ICUP) also delivered speeches to highlight the significance of the initiative of a community with shared future. A large number of students and faculty participated in the discussion. All appreciated Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram, Executive Director, (CGSS) and his team for coordinating the event very well.

THE RISE OF ASIA IN GLOBAL HISTORY & PERSPECTIVE: THE NON-ALIGNMENT IN A MULTI-POLAR WORLD AND GLOBAL FUTURE

An International online Conference on, “THE RISE OF ASIA IN GLOBAL HISTORY & PERSPECTIVE:: 60 YEARS AFTER THE BELGRADE WHAT THE NON-ALIGNMENT IN A MULTI-POLAR WORLD AND GLOBAL FUTURE? “ by



GRIC, University of Le Havre, France on February 10-12, 2021. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar presented his paper on, “PAKISTAN’S INSTRUMENTAL ROLE IN NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT”. Prof Anwar said that non Aligned Movement (NAM) came into existence when the world was divided into two political blocs. It provided space to developing countries for exposure. The NAM was founded in 1961 on the foundation of the 10 principles devised in Bandung

conference in 1955. These principles inspired developing nations to struggle for politico-economic independence. The NAM stood against colonialism, racial discrimination, hegemony, occupation, interference, exploitation, foreign aggression, imperialism, domination and bloc

politics. The afro-Asian societies faced all these problems in one way or the other. NAM became voice of the economically underdeveloped and marginalized Global South. It stood for South-South Cooperation and considered economic underdevelopment and social injustices threat to peace and security. NAM supports sustainable development and MDGs. It considers debt burden, globalization,, lack of democratic decision-making in global political and economic order, unfair trade practices, decline in foreign aid and donor conditionality obstacles in the development of NAM members. NAM stands for cultural diversity and universality of human rights. Pakistan played an active role in NAM since its very inception and became its member in 1979 in its Havana Summit. The Bandung Conference brought Pakistan and China near each other and provided basis for the all-weather friendship between the two countries. Pakistan fully supported the NAM on peaceful settlement of disputes, nuclear issue, expansion of UN Security Council, terrorism, self-determination and economic issues. To find its due niche NAM members require forging closer trade links and galvanizing cooperation among them. The NAM members are rich in natural and human resources, skills, talent, skills and also have the necessary technological base and an unparalleled market of their own. Harnessing their own resources and capitalizing on their overall potential will help a lot these developing countries and members of the NAM. South Asia is an important region of Asia nevertheless, it is victim of poverty and violence due to unresolved disputes and unaddressed historical grievances. NAM stands for cherished principles agreed upon in Bandung Conference and irrespective of the fact whether the world is bipolar or unipolar or multipolar the NAM struggle for its achieving its goals will be a worth appreciation effort. This very important and successful event was organized by Prof Dr. Darwis KHUDORI and his team. Prof Khudori is currently Directeur, Master Echanges avec l'Asie, Université Le Havre Normandie, France

DIRECTOR, CHINA STUDY CENTER, UOP PARTICIPATED IN THE OPENING CEREMONY OF BUSINESS FACILITATION CELL AT KP-BOIT

The provincial industries department on 31ST March, 2021 launched an investment and business facilitation cell for investors. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, CEO, KP Board of Investment Hassan Daud Butt highlighted the key features of the cell and



termed it as a milestone in the economic development of the province.

Special Assistant to Chief Minister for Industries, Abdul Karim Khan (MPA, PK-45, Swabi III) in his address said that the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is serious in addressing the problems of the investors. He elaborated the measures taken by the Government including the new industrial policy which will facilitate investors and galvanize industrial

development in the province.

In his online speech the finance minister, Taimur Jhagra said that the provincial government was taking measures to make Khyber Pakhtunkhwa an ideal investment destination for investors. Adviser to the chief minister on information technology Ziaullah Bangash said that a Government online business portal had also been set up to let



the investors have direct access to the federal and provincial departments. The World Bank Group. Country Director, Najy Benhassine, addressed the occasion via video link and greeted

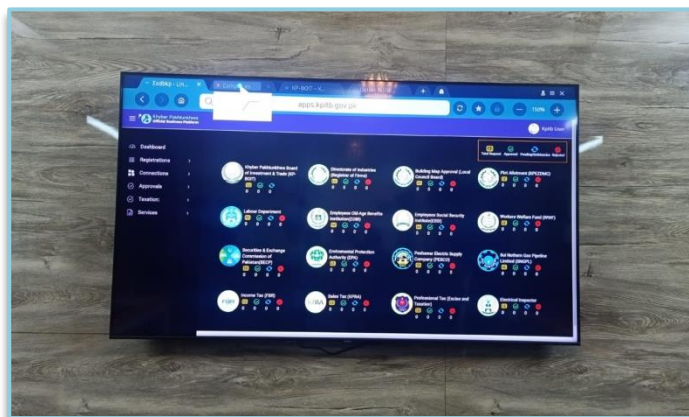
KP-BOIT on setting up the cell and hoped that the right steps at the right time would encourage the investors and facilitate business activities in the province. He said that the bank would support the KP government in all stages of the initiative.



Javed Marwat, Secretary, Department of Industries in his speech hoped that the representatives of industrialists and traders will benefit from the facilitation cell and underlined that gone are the days when terrorism wreaked havoc on the province, now the situation has become conducive for industrial development through investment. Being a political scientist, Mr Javed Marwat knew the regional ground realities

and served as Political Agent in several FATA agencies during military operations there.

On the occasion at KP-BOIT venue Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar met Abdul Karim, Special Assistant to Chief Minister for Industries, Javed Marwat, Secretary Industries and Hassan Daud Butt, CEO KPBOIT. Despite the lethal third wave of COVID a large number of industrialists, members of



chamber of commerce, academicians, government officials and other stakeholders participated in the ceremony with strict adherence to SOPs against COVID

CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION AMONG SBBWU INTERNEES AT CHINA STUDY CENTER



China Study Center, University of Peshawar and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, are collaborating with one another since long. Academic collaboration is an important component in the MOU between the University of Peshawar and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar. Like last year this year (2020-2021), the Department of Political Science, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, sent four female internees (BS 8th-semester students) to complete their research report in the China Study Center, University of Peshawar under the guidance of Prof.Dr.Zahid Anwar Director, China Study Center.

1. Jaweria Qamar completed her research on “A Confucian Perspective on Democracy and Governance in Contemporary China”
2. Khushbakht Hamayun conducted research on “Sino-US Contemporary Trade Relations and its Implications for Pakistan”.
3. Salma Sabir in her research focused on ” President Xi Jinping’s Foreign Policy Fundamentals”

4. Saliha Kalsoom completed her research report on “Contemporary Developments in Sino-Indian Relations”.



A certificate distribution ceremony was held at the conference hall of the China Study Center, University of Peshawar on 9th April 2021 at 11 am. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar Director China Study Center who was the Chief Guest distributed the certificates among the interneers. On the occasion in his speech Prof.Dr..Zahid

Anwar said that China Study Center is striving to enhance knowledge about the culture, society, political system, economy, scientific and technological developments in China. He thanked Prof.Dr..Razia Sultana, Vice-chancellor Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, and Dr.Sadaf Bashir, Head of the Department of Political Science for sending their students for guidance and research to the Center and hoped that the cooperation between the two institutions will continue for the benefit of students and faculty.



SBBWU & CSC, UOP COLLABORATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER CPEC



China Study Center, University of Peshawar and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University are strengthening collaboration in higher education including China Studies. The worthy Vice-Chancellor of SBBWU invited, Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar to SBBWU during the celebration of



International Women Day SBBWU on 11th March 2021. Prof Dr. Shaheen Sardar, Rector, National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE-HEC) was the Chief Guest. The Rector, NAHE in her keynote speech inspired the young students of the University. Professor Shaheen Sardar was a faculty member at Law College,

University of Peshawar in 1980s. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar also visited SBBWU as external Examiner on 5th March 2021 to conduct viva of Ms. Zoheen Afzal, MPhil scholar, Department of Political Science and as member of the GSC to help in correction of MPhil/PhD Research Proposals of the Department. A meeting between Prof Dr. Razia Sultana, Vice-Chancellor, SBB Women University Peshawar and Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar was held in P C Peshawar on 25th March 2021. In the meeting which was coordinated by Henna Karamat, Assistant Professor of English, SBBWU and the joint research opportunities under China Pakistan Universities Consortium were discussed. Prof Anwar thanked the honorable Vice-Chancellor for her support and cooperation.



DISTINGUISHED LECTURES SERIES

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER: HASSAN DAUD BUTT, CEO, KP-BOIT

TOPIC: THE EVOLUTION OF PAKISTAN-CHINA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN 70 YEARS

Distinguished Lecture On
The Evolution of Pakistan-China Diplomatic Relations in 70 Years
By
Mr. Hassan Daud Butt
Organized by
China Study Center, University of Peshawar
16 - 04 - 2021, 10 a.m
Zoom ID: 835 4302 1886
3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Pakistan | www.cscp.edu.pk | 091-5852247
LIVE on Facebook

Introduction: A Lecture with the title “*The Evolution of Pakistan-China Diplomatic Relations in 70 years*” was delivered online by Hassan Daud Butt (CEO, KP-BOIT) on April 16, 2021. The event was organized by the China Study Center, University of Peshawar. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar welcomed the distinguished Speaker, research scholars and other honourable guests.

About the speaker: Hassan Daud Butt, served as a Diplomat in Embassy of Pakistan, Beijing, China (2009-2013) and Hanoi, Vietnam. He is a recipient of Chinese Commemorative Medal by Chinese Ministry of Defense for improving Pak China relations, letter of Commendation as member of the team for preparing Long Term Plan of CPEC. He remained a Project Director China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Projects, (Oct 2016 – Sep 2019). He was the Committee member for articulating CPEC Long Term Plan and Gwadar Smart Port City Master Plan. He is currently serving as a CEO of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment & Trade (KP-BOIT) is also the Focal Person for Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) initiative of the Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa Government and is Chairman of Committee for formulating Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Industrial Policy and New Merged Districts Incentive Policy. He has authored many research papers and is a Member of the Advisory Board of SASSI University's Center for Asia Pacific and Security Studies (CAPSS), China Pak Study Centre (CPSC) Advisory Board at Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI). He has oftentimes contributed as an expert to the China related academic activities of the China Study Center, University of Peshawar.

Lecture: The online lecture began with the recitation of the holy Quran. In his lecture Hassan Daud Butt appreciated China Study Center, University of Peshawar for its efforts to strengthening Pakistan and China Relations and stated that Pakistan and China's Relations are based on mutual trust and no other countries have experienced a better bilateral relationship than that existing between China and Pakistan. Since 1951 when the bilateral and diplomatic relations were established, there was no turning back. Starting from the visit of Vice President of China Madam Song Ching Ling to Pakistan marked the first high-level visit from the Chinese side. He talked about the visits of President XI Jinping to Pakistan, the visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy and Prime Minister Imran Khan and more recently during pandemic the visit of the President of Pakistan to China. All the leaders and stakeholders from China and Pakistan have contributed towards the development of this brotherhood which is reached a new height and has been termed as sweeter than honey and higher than mountains and this is only because of mutual trust and commitment of taking this friendship forward. he added, He stated that the current generation is contributing and strengthening this relationship and the next generation should also understand the vitality of these relations and should actively contribute towards this relationship. Pakistan has always played an active role in bringing China and the West closer. He was of the view that besides our leaders, Ambassadors of the two countries have played a vital role in bringing Pakistan and China closer. And despite diversity of societies and cultures Pakistan still considers China as a closest friend & partner and China considered Pakistan as an iron brother and maintaining a close relationship with China is a central part of foreign policy.

Today for Pakistan, the CPEC initiative is forming its economic model through cooperation in infrastructure development, energy, science and technology, agriculture, and more importantly

social-economic development. Today the world is witnessing pandemic and economic challenges and Pakistan and China contributing and supporting each other in combating the pandemic. Pakistan on the other hand through joint efforts is learning from China's development and poverty alleviation.

Conclusion: The speech was followed by question & answer session and the honourable speaker answered different questions related to the diplomatic relations between the two countries. In the end, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar thanked Mr. Hassan Daud Butt for his time and for highlighting different aspects of the Pakistan and China relationship and the audience participating in the online lecture in such a large number.



ONLINE LECTURE ON “CITATION MANAGEMENT THROUGH A SOFTWARE”.

The poster is for an online lecture titled "Citation Management Through a Software". It features a central logo of the China Study Center (CSC) at the University of Peshawar. To the left is a portrait of Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director of the CSC. To the right is a portrait of Dr. Salman Jan, QEC of the University of Peshawar. The text indicates the lecture is organized by the China Study Center, University of Peshawar, on 06/MAY/2021 at 10:00AM. A QR code and Zoom ID (843 4235 8713) are provided for access. The bottom of the poster lists the location as 3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, UOP, and provides contact information: 091-5852247, cscp.edu.pk, and csc@cscp.edu.pk.

Online Lecture
"Citation Management Through a Software"

ORGANIZED BY
CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR

DATE: 06/MAY/2021 | TIME: 10:00AM

PROF. DR. ZAHID ANWAR
Director, China Study Center

SPEAKER: DR. SALMAN JAN
QEC, University Of Peshawar

zoom ID: 843 4235 8713

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, UOP | 091-5852247 | cscp.edu.pk | csc@cscp.edu.pk

SPEAKER: Dr. Salman Jan, Assistant Registrar (Quality Enhancement)

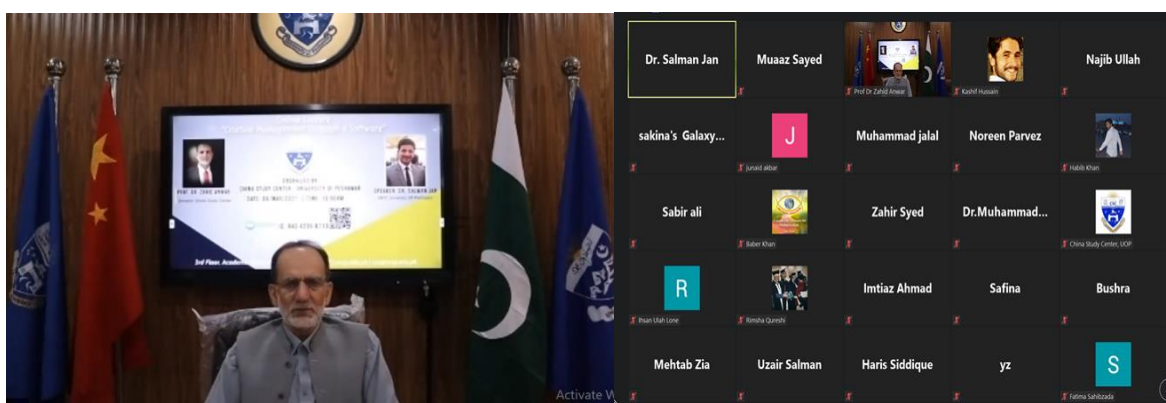
About the Speaker:

Dr. Salman Jan did BSc in Computer Science from University of Peshawar, MSc in Computer Science from University of Peshawar, and he completed his Ph.D. from University of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. His focus remains on computer security, and blockchain deep analysis. China Study Center, University of Peshawar on 6th May 2021 organized an online lecture on “*Citation management through a software*”. Dr. Salman Jan was invited to the online lecture. He delivered an online presentation to the audience, scholars, and students of University of Peshawar.

Lecture: Dr. Salman Jan divided his presentation into different parts. He discussed the rationale of Citation and said that the main purpose of citation is to provide valid reference materials; to acknowledge references material of others; to enable readers to locate the sources for further information; to avoid committing plagiarism in research work. Moreover, he argued about google scholar and discussed how a researcher can access google scholar and other research sites. He talks about the different features of google scholar. He emphasized using google scholar

where scholars can easily access research-oriented stuff and can read published research work. In his view, one of the good qualities of google scholar is that scholars can get alerts of publication of their own interest. He meticulously discussed how to access google scholar and can cite articles in different citation styles. Furthermore, Dr. Salman Jan talked about the Mendeley software. He shows how to download Mendeley software online and can register with Mendeley. He said Mendeley basically provides a digital environment to the readers and researcher which can be used for citation. With Mendeley, a researcher can create and manage citations of books, articles and can import citations from many databases. Extract metadata from imported PDFs. By using Mendeley it is easy to find relevant papers and reading material. Also, it helps in highlighting and annotating papers and sharing notes with others. The technique of how to cite a book, article, journals, newspapers, dissertations, and other source material with Mendeley was explained by Dr. Salman Jan in detail. Also, he illustrates the use of different citation styles in Mendeley.

Conclusion: In the end, the researcher and students from different backgrounds asked questions about the Mendeley software and citation. Dr. Salman Jan answered their question the session. Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar thanked Dr. Salman Jan for the informative online presentation and thanked the large number of audiences for attending the online lecture and asking very pertinent questions



DISTINGUISHED LECTURE NO 2

SPEAKER: Dr. Talat Shabbir,
Director China Pakistan Study
Centre, Institute of Strategic
Studies Islamabad

China Study Center, University of
Peshawar invited Dr. Talat Shabbir a
well-known scholar on China to deliver a
lecture to students, faculty, research
scholars and a large number of viewers

from different strata of society. The topic of the distinguished lecture was “CREATING SHARED FUTURES, PAKISTAN-CHINA: A JOURNEY OF TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP.” *Pakistan China relations: A journey to a shared future.*” Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar welcomed the distinguished Speaker and other honorable participants.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Talat Shabbir did Ph.D. in International Relations from Quaid e Azam University Islamabad, MPhil in International Relations from the University of Karachi, MA in International Relations from Balochistan University and, MA in Political Science from University of Punjab. His research interests are Pakistan- China relations, Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He was a visiting scholar at George Washington University USA, and He is a faculty member of the Institute of Strategic Studies Research and Analysis (ISSRA), National Defense University besides, he is an editor of PIVOT, a magazine from the Institute of strategic studies. Dr. Talat Shabbir is a regular contributor to National newspapers and many TV channels. Dr. Talat Shabbir is the author of the book “Creating Shared Futures, Pakistan-China: A Journey of Trust and Friendship”. Currently, he is working as a Director China Pakistan Study



Centre at Institute of strategic studies Islamabad. Dr. Talat Shabbir is a prolific writer and poet and has published several books.

Distinguished Lecture

Distinguished Lecture
On
CREATING SHARED FUTURE
Pakistan-China: A Journey of Trust and Friendship
By
Dr. Talat Shabbir
Director, China Pakistan Study Center, ISSI
Organized by
China Study Center, University of Peshawar
30-04-2021, 10:30 am
Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director, CSC, UOP
Dr. Talat Shabbir,
Director, CPSC,
ISSI
LIVE on
3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Pakistan | www.cscp.edu.pk | 091-5852247

The lecture was formally started with the Recitation of the Holy Quran. Dr. Talat Shabbir thanked Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar for inviting him to the online lecture. In his lecture he stated that China's history is very old, and it is an ancient civilization. Pakistan also has a rich history and an ancient civilization. Pakistan and China Relations formally started in 1949. Pakistan and China have different ideology, culture, and language yet both have a strong relationship. There is a measure of reliability that brings the two countries close. Pakistan has been in collaboration with China since the beginning of their diplomatic ties in the 1950s.

China and Pakistan begin to interact with each other in an interesting time, it was the time when the Second World War was over and people in the world were grappling with various economic disasters. Alliances were made by the countries, namely East and West block. West was headed by the United State of America and East was led by the Soviet Union. After the World War, many events shaped the policies and behavior of Pakistan. The series of developments which strengthened Pakistan China Relations were Deng Xiaoping Reforms after 1978, the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the catastrophe of 9/11. These events impacted Pakistan China relationship profoundly.

From 1949 to the 1960s several important events and challenges shaped the policies of China and Pakistan. In Pakistan 1965 and 1971 wars against India, Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, and Pakistan role to combat Soviet Occupation of Afghanistan, 9/11 and the global war against terrorism deeply embedded Pakistan. Similarly in 1949 Chinese Communist Party (CPC) took over China then there was a Great Leap Forward, Cultural Revolution, 1978 reforms and Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and China's economic rise in 1978 these events shaped China's economy and behavior. The border dispute between India and China was responsible for setting a base for strong friendship between Pakistan and China. After the Pakistan-India war in 1971, China made efforts to take its relationship with Pakistan to next level by building strategic and economic infrastructure in Pakistan, which was the indication of a long-lasting camaraderie and partnership between the two countries. The events of 9/11 in the USA have impacted the global order and alliance system nevertheless in this tough time Pakistan and China remained close to one another. When the Soviet Union was disintegrated China begins to speed up its development and began to expand its political and economic influences around the globe. It was a very important time for China to initiate policies that put China, where it is today. If we talk about regional politics India was one of the threats to China and Pakistan relations. The containment of India's aggressive behavior and expansionist policies were one of the priorities of China and Pakistan policy.

Today Belt and Road Initiative BRI is the Biggest largest ambitious move by China which engaged 3/4th of the world's economies and its ambitious Belt and Road is a nostalgic Silk route revival and China would wish to go ahead with all its resources and vigor. Today for China the most important is the regional events and for China, India, Afghanistan, and Iran are important countries. Because of these countries' China can expand its impact. The withdrawal of the US and its allies from Afghanistan will give way to China to spend in the advancement of Afghanistan. Peace in Afghanistan is essential for China as it can increase its control on Central Asia through Afghanistan. We have examined China's neutral Policy in Afghanistan after 9/11. Due to its nonintervention and impartial strategy, many Afghan fictions have a good relationship with China. China's behavior to a great extent is rational and very calculated. China always tried to avoid confrontational strategies.

After the 9/11 incident, the shift of policies and emergence of new world order happened. Today we can see multi-polarity around the world. And most of the countries are trying to influence global politics. Multi-polarity is good for Pakistan because Pakistan will have the option to engage with many countries.

He further added that China-US trade war has a bad impact on the developing countries and it also badly effects the relations between the two big powers. In the competition between China and the US, China will prevail due to its shrewd approaches and patience. BRI and CPEC have the potential to bringing peace to the region. Talat Shabbir was of the view that BRI and CPEC can turn out to be a reason for integrating a region. Today the West is thinking about introducing a plan like BRI so that they can capitalize and enlarge its authority in the globe. For developing countries that will have a virtuous effect because that engagement opportunity with several countries will increase and it will bring peace.

Pakistan and China have strong defense, strategic economic relations. Today Pakistan has all-inclusive all-encompassing relations with China. Pakistan should learn from Chinese wisdom especially Artificial intelligence, Big Data, Smart Applications, Cloud Computing, Thermal, Drone technology. He emphasized that besides China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Pakistan should also pay attention to strengthening with China knowledge corridor, it is high time to focus on extensive exchanges of knowledge, faculty and students exchange. These exchanges will help Pakistan to create a knowledge-based economy.

Today China under its Belt and Road Initiative BRI is investing and expanding its influence around the globe. Around 70 economies around the world have joined the China BRI project. BRI is an economic venture for China. And it will move the world to a shared destiny. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) the flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in solidifying Pakistan-China relations in recent years. CPEC is a Pakistan megaproject, and the Chinese side is investing a huge amount in Pakistan. Dr. Talat Shabbir was of the view that Pakistan and China are joining hands to address future challenges to ensure peace and prosperity in the region. Both countries should work hand in glove to tackle post-pandemic challenges.

Conclusion: The speech was followed by question & answer session and the honorable speaker answered different questions related to the diplomatic relations between the two countries. In the end, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar thanked Dr. Talat Shabbir for his time and for highlighting different aspects of Pakistan and China relations and the audience participating in the online lecture in such a large number.



UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR AND SHENGXIANGLIN INTERNATIONAL (ST FULIN GROUP) CHINA JOINT FIGHT AGAINST COVID AND COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND CULTURAL PROMOTION

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar held an online meeting with Ms Echo CEO of St. Fulin Group, China on collaboration in higher education and fight against COVID. Ms Echo donated more than 2000 face masks for the employees of University of Peshawar. Officers of the St. Fulin Group (Shengxianglin International) Mr. Amjad Hasan Qureshi, Muhammad Dawood (GCCIP) and others visited China Study



Center, University of Peshawar on May 20, 2021 and then held a meeting with Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees Vice-Chancellor University of Peshawar and donated the face masks against COVID to University of Peshawar. The honorable Vice Chancellor thanked the Chinese Group

of Companies for the donation of Masks. The two sides hoped for further cooperation in higher education and cultural promotion.



In the meeting collaboration between the two institutions in education and culture was thoroughly discussed: The following areas of cooperation between China Study Center, University of Peshawar and Suzhou University, China and Shengxianglin International [St. Fulin (STG)] were highlighted.

particularly

1. Chinese language program/scholarships
2. China Pakistan Live Stream and internet celebrity Practice Base. It will be conducted by the Chinese University, Shengxianglin International and University of Peshawar
3. Gandarah Joint Study and Research Project: It will be conducted by Suzhou University and University of Peshawar and then STG will publish the research achievements together in Pakistan and China. In the proposed JV research project 2 professors and 4 research students from Suzhou University China and 2 professors and 4 research students from University of Peshawar Pakistan will conduct the research on a particular cultural theme /Gandhara etc and the research will be then jointly published.



INTERNATIONAL ONLINE ROUNDTABLE: “PAKISTAN AND CHINA: 70 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS”

Online Round-Table

Pakistan-China 70 Years of Diplomatic Relations

WELCOME ADDRESS
Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abid,
Pro VC, UOP

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Mr. Mudassir Tipu,
DG China, MOFA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Prof. Dr. Long Ruijun,
LNZ, China

Speakers

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar,
Director, CSC, UOP

Mustafa Hyder Sayed,
Executive Director, PCI
Islamabad

Prof. Dr. Khalid Ahmad,
ISA, Sukkur, Sindh

M. Ahsan Achakzai,
Director, BUIEMS,
Balochistan

Dr. Karam Elahi,
Additional Collector,
Customs, FBR, Pakistan

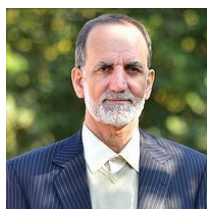
Sayed Ali Nawaz Gilani,
General Secretary KP
CPFA Pakistan

Date: 21 May 2021 Time: 10:30AM

Zoom ID: 812 8720 7243

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, UOP | 091-5852247 | cscp.edu.pk | csc@cscp.edu.pk

INTRODUCTION: China Study Center, University of Peshawar organized an online round-table on Pakistan and China 70 years of diplomatic relations at China Study Center, University of Peshawar on 21st May 2021 at 10.30 am. The event started with recitation of the Holy Quran followed by National anthem of Pakistan and then China.



Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar, Welcomed all the participants, scholars and Academia from China and Pakistan. He discussed the objectives of the online roundtable and stated that Pakistan and China friendship is all weather, it is an iron brotherhood and stronger than steel. From Bandung Conference to CPEC it is a long story of friendship and mutual support and cooperation. With every passing moment this friendship strengthened in the field of Defense, economy, Science and Technology, culture and a convergence of interests developed between the two countries on global and regional issues.



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abid (Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar)

Welcome Address: Prof Dr. Mohammad Abid in his speech welcomed all the participants. He said that today is very important day exactly seventy years ago on 21st May Pakistan and China established diplomatic relations. He added that KKH (Karakorum Highway) is a symbol of a long friendship between Pakistan and China. It took around 20 years to complete and too many workers and engineers on both sides laid their lives for the completion of this wonder of the world. That was a major project between the two countries and then Pakistan and China open KKH for tourists from both sides in 1986. He shared that when he was a child he used to listen to Radio Beijing Urdu service and stated that when he was doing his PhD from Cranfield University UK Pakistani students used to celebrate Pakistan Independence Day on 14th August every year and used to invite Chinese students in the University. Prof Abid added that one of the good qualities of China is noninterference policy in the internal affairs of other countries. Pakistan and China's friendship is not only at government level but at people's level also. He stated that I visited China in 1993 by KKH and I recorded those memories in the form of an Urdu travelogue China Via Khunjarab (چین براستہ خنجراب). For the second time I visited China in 2017 and 2018 respectively and this time I found China very different and much developed. It was a great feeling to see China's advancement and development in the past 28 years. Pakistan China relations under CPEC have become stronger than before. He thanked Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar for organizing a webinar on such an important theme i. e. 70th Anniversary of China-Pakistan Diplomatic Relations.



Mr. Mudassir Tipu (Director General, China Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan)

Today is a very auspicious moment when we are celebrating the seventy years of the establishment of diplomatic ties between two time-tested and two strongest partners. I am grateful to China Study Center, University of Peshawar for holding this webinar and I hope China Study Center, University of Peshawar will

enhance awareness of this relation through this webinar. Pakistan China relationship is called an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

He stated that during my school and university time I never comprehended the strength of this phrase “taller than mountains, sweeter than honey and deeper than oceans”. But when I served in Beijing for three years and in Chengdu for about two years and served in China for about 10 years, I have seen from my very close personal experience that how vital this relationship is. Successive generations of leaders in both countries over the last seventy years and their tireless efforts made this relationship much stronger and much wider. And when I was a diplomat in many Countries, they always asked me, what is the secret? why there is such a remarkable convergence of views between China and Pakistan? In my personal experience, I think it is history, collective struggle, we are both from Asia, understand each other very well and understand each other psychologically, philosophically in terms of our own narratives.

China has supported Pakistan on all its core issues and Pakistan has supported China on all its core issues at the UN and all International Forums. Recently the cooperation in vaccine and in fighting against COVID-19 has been remarkable. Our President honorable Dr. Arif Alvi went to China in the midst of battling COVID-19. That was the expression of solidarity of Pakistan to the people of China and since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Pakistan China has tremendously helped Pakistan. More recently in provision of vaccines (Sinovac, Sinopharm, Cansino Vaccine) China has been extremely gracious, China realized that this the moment Pakistani nation, Pakistani People and Pakistani government really need the help of Chinese government. China has constraints, I know the centenary of CPC is coming, China has to inoculate its own population but China realized that Pakistan is its iron brother, we have been friends in every weal and woe so despite constraints for the last two months, China has been providing us vaccines, China has gifted us vaccine and now Pakistan is going to commercially procure vaccine from China. And yesterday H. E Prime Minister Imran Khan and H.E. Premier Li Qiang conversed and during the conversation political reaffirmation of the two countries was reiterated. Both leaders defined and agreed that this is very important relationship. Today in Pakistan we are extremely busy and we celebrating a whole host of activities related to 21st May and I must tell you that we are engaged all provinces including Gilgit Baltistan, and Azad Jammu, and Kashmir government

requesting them to celebrate activities around the year related to the 70 years of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China. These activities are very important because we want the people to understand that this relationship is really Central. We are both Pakistan and China are anchor of peace and stability in the region and in the emerging regional scenario; it is all the more important that both countries support each other and solidify each other.

CPEC is a transformation project and it is changing the landscape of Pakistan. If we compare Pakistan 10 years before and today you will see that there has been a massive infrastructure development and Pakistan has faced serious issue of energy shortages but that has been largely resolved due to CPEC. We are entering the second phase of CPEC and its core focus is on industrialization, and socio-economic development. And once we move forward in the second phase we will see dividends of CPEC. When we are battling a covid-19 despite the battle against serious pandemic Pakistan China cooperation even on CPEC has been remarkable. We have tried to make sure that the steady progress of CPEC Continuous.

28,000 Pakistani students are studying in China and they are a great asset to China and Pakistan and I think their learning curve is going to deepen, they will bring their own experience and this will help Pakistan's economy. There is also sister to sister relationship between China and Pakistan (Islamabad = Beijing, Lahore = Xi'an, Karachi = Shanghai, Peshawar = Urumqi). We want deeper engagement. China is like a continent, it has 1.3 billion people. Across its different regions of China both the people of Pakistan and China want to have greater understanding. Today this seminar organized by China Study Center, University of Peshawar is a testimony that how significant this historic milestone is. Today Chinese Embassy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs are holding a ceremony and the honorable President of Pakistan is going to participate in the ceremony. Similarly, Pakistan Embassy in Beijing is also holding a ceremony to celebrate Pakistan China 70 years of friendship. Pakistan Ambassador to China is playing a leading role to organize different activities in China. And round the year we have a number of activities to celebrate this 70th anniversary.

He thanked Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar for the invitation to the seminar as a keynote speaker and said that it is a very auspicious moment in Pakistan and China relations. He said that he is glad that University of Peshawar (UOP) and the University in Gansu (LZU) have signed an MOU and also

hoped that UOP will sign more MOUs with Chinese Universities and ended his speech with a hope that the UOP and its students will benefit from the technological advancement of China.



Prof. Dr. Ruijun Long. (Lanzhou University, China)

Ladies and gentlemen it is my great honor to be invited by the China Study Center, University of Peshawar as a keynote speaker in this online roundtable which is organized to celebrate China and Pakistan 70 years of diplomatic relations. China and Pakistan are two great Nations and come together for the past 70 years, their mutual support and assistance have played a key role in international and regional affairs. The brotherly relationship between China and Pakistan had become a model in international relations. Today under the Belt and Road initiative and CPEC framework, China and Pakistan Cooperation will achieve more success in future.

Gansu where my University (LZU) is based located in the Geographic center of China. Gansu climate and the landform are very similar to the Northern Pakistan. Gansu has a great advantage in mountain Agriculture, potato Industries, livestock Industries, agriculture machinery, food processing, and clean energy. Under the Belt and Road Initiative and CPEC framework, the Gansu provincial Science and Technology Department is very active in cooperation with Pakistan in the field mentioned above. In recent years the Gansu province has contributed more than 30 million yuan to support the Gansu-Pakistan projects in the fields of cold water fish, solar energy, agriculture machinery etc. We have also jointly established Cold Water Fish Laboratory in the GB and Biomass Energy Laboratory in Islamabad.

Lanzhou University is one of the best universities in west part of China has expertise in chemistry, geoscience and many other fields. LZU has long term cooperation with Pakistani partners. He Said that in 2001 he sent his PhD student to the Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Pakistan to do research there for six months. I and my colleagues visited Pakistan many times and made efforts for cooperation between universities and institutes of Pakistan and China and attended meetings for linkages development between Pakistan and China.

As a director of the Scientific Research and Technology Department of Lanzhou University, I also boost to establish a Biomass Laboratory in PARC, Pakistan. During my work with ICIMOD (2016-2019), I was also employed as Ambassador of International Science and Technology Cooperation of Gansu Province. While i had the honor to work with many Pakistani colleagues and also had visited many times to Hindu Kush Karakorum Pamir landscape, PARC, KP and GB. In July 2019 I travelled for two weeks in Chitral and GB to meet many herders, and farmers to learn what we can do some development work together. And during that time, I also led to conduct two scientific expeditions of LZU in northern Pakistan and Tajikistan. I played the role of a matchmakers to coordinate joint efforts and enhance cooperation. Prof Ruijun Long said that he has supervised 4 Pakistani students. Currently, Lanzhou University has more than 100 students and many scientific cooperation projects under BRI and CPEC are going. Under the BRI and CPEC framework, the University of Peshawar and Lanzhou University as well as other scientific research institutes in Gansu can explore more scientific cooperative opportunities personnel exchange, research cooperation and others to make more contributions to promote CPEC sustainable development..



Sayed Mustafa Hyder (Executive Director, Pakistan China Institute, Islamabad)

Firstly Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar thanks for organizing this online conference on the 21st May to celebrate this unique partnership between Pakistan and China. I would like to pay my special tribute to H. E. Mudassir Tipu Director General (China) MFA of Pakistan who has played a leading role in bringing Pakistan and China closer not only on the Government to Government level but in his support at civil society organizations, think tanks and public intellectuals and the youth. I would like to talk about three things; what the way forward is for Pakistan and China relations, what we can do now and understanding China and the shared challenges Pakistan and China face. All parties in Pakistan have consensus on friendship with China. Our civilian and military leadership is very clear when it comes to China policy. So the foundation of

Today we are celebrating the 70 years of Pakistan and China relations. It is important to now look at the next decade what the next decade of our bilateral relationship and what can we do to optimize this relationship. It's very important to have self-reflection introspection and Pakistan

has still not optimized and utilized the opportunity that China is bringing to Pakistan. we have received many investment projects in terms of roads and energy that were part of CPEC and has done wonders for Pakistan but being such a close partner of China Pakistan has not taken full advantage of China's experience.

He said that Pakistan did not take advantage of three things the first one is Poverty alleviation we have a population of 200 million people official 65% of our population is under the age of 35. After covid over 60% of Pakistan's population under the poverty line we have a very big problem of poverty and unemployment. The miracle of poverty alleviation is next door in our western neighbor china. It is right here in front of us that how much China has completely transformed its population and lifted hundreds of millions of people out of poverty within a generation after the reform and opening up and to achieve complete eradication of poverty which was the last year-end of 2020. Under the framework of CPEC since we have now a socio-economic joint working group, there has to be a targeted poverty alleviation campaign like was done in China and the Ehsaas program in Pakistan in collaboration with the leading group on poverty alleviation of the State Council of China, there should be high-level collaboration in poverty alleviation in Pakistan. Again we are very fortunate that China our neighbor and our partner, has been guiding us throughout so there is no reason for Pakistan not to undertake this very big comprehensive program to alleviate poverty.

Secondly, in China one of the key policies which propelled China in economic growth and transformed China's economic landscape were the special economic zones (SEZs), in Fujian, Shenzhen later there was an industrial park in Suzhou. How they did it and what did they do right also they had some special economic zone which did not take off very well in China and we can learn from that like in Gansu in Henan, some of the SEZs did not take up but the one which did they transformed Mainland China. We have two measure SEZs in CPEC third one in Dhabeji in Sindh Two major ones the Rashakai Special Economic Zone in KP province and the second is the Allama Iqbal Industrial Park in Faisalabad. This is a very big opportunity for Pakistan to Lure Chinese manufactures who are willing to relocate because of the lower cost of production in other countries. Now China has a higher cost of production their labor take big salaries where the cost of production in China 15 years ago is no longer in China so many Chinese companies

are relocating but we must understand that the decision to choose a country to relocate is not based on friendship is not based on brotherhood it's based on economics and based on which country is going to offer better incentives. We have to understand that Pakistan China friendship led us so far beyond that it has to be economics.

I have gone to Cambodia and this is constructive feedback am giving because I am the biggest proponent of Pakistan China relations but we have to move forward Pakistan has to now engage in a way that takes full advantage of China. China is willing to help us giving us everything.

I'll tell you Chinese companies go to Cambodia within 2 months they get all the permissions electricity, land, gas, NOC, approval and they establish a manufacturing unit.

Bangladesh which is our neighboring country which was part of Pakistan now they have a 7 % economic growth rate before COVID-19 like this Chinese investment is matured. In Pakistan, we are still striving to have a one window solution. CPEC authority is doing a great job we have a making a lot of effort but still there is no one window solution because my analysis is practical and not just based on reading articles, I meet the Chinese CEOs who are doing the CPEC projects. They have sometimes tax issue, exemption on import machinery not given, for instance Century Steel which wanted relocate to Rashakai. The Chinese company wanted to import machinery and it faced problem related to tax exemption. Right now there is no uniform policy in Rushkai giving tax exemption is based on adhocism. We have to make sure that what our policies are in our CPEC SEZs they are competitive and they are unmatched because investors will choose their destination based on policies on how incentivized they are and how attractive they are.

Thirdly market access and the biggest problem for Pakistan's economy is that we import more than we export. Balance of trade deficit with the world not only with China, we have a balance of trade deficit with everyone, we have a balance of payments issue we don't have enough foreign exchange in Pakistan because we don't export that much the latest figures that we exported to China is \$1.87 billion and India exported \$20 billion. Why we are unable to export more. Now Pakistan has been given 401 Pakistani products for which there is an established market in China and 1436 products amongst that priority product section 2 of the Free Trade Agreement II that

Pakistan signed with China in December 2019. 1436 products some of which are exported by Pakistan, Tariff on 603 products have been lowered and those tariffs are much more lowered for Pakistan than compared to Japan, South Korea, US, Australia, and Germany.

The key products that we are inclined to export to China is cotton, non-cotton fiber, women and kids garments, vegetable and edible oil, machinery and mechanical appliances, processed food, and fruit. There is no reason that Pakistan does not exponentially increase its exports to China because the Chinese market is the biggest in the world. By 2027 will be the biggest economy in the world. It is right next door, the freight cost is not much. If we are exporting and generating employment half of the problem of our economy will be solved. We need better coordination. Our business community in Sialkot, Faisalabad, Karachi and KP need to export and materialize the market access provided by China. Last year China has given to us products list which they will import without tariff barrier. So, these are three things poverty alleviation, special economic zones, and market access/ exports. When we celebrate this anniversary today we need to understand China and Prof Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar is doing a great job by having such conversation on regular basis. We need to understand the Chinese system, the communist party of China, the history of China, how China has come into being, What was role CPC also what the role of Deng Xiaoping and his reforms: What is socialism in Chinese characteristics, and the important role President Xi Jinping leadership in contemporary China and what is the US-China big power competition and what that means for Pakistan, what is the Chinese culture and its evolution we have to understand this in Pakistan

We have not studied Chinese culture and history that much and the best way to do it is to visit China and study in China and the honorable Director General Mudassir Tipu says that 28000 Pakistani students are studying in China. We need to increase that because most of the students in Pakistan want to go to the West; UK, US etc which is fine they have great universities, but it is important that you also discover the Chinese universities Peking University, Tsinghua University, Renmin University, Beijing University of communication and other universities in different provinces, they are excellent, they are doing a great job and they have exchange programs in many countries, It's very important to study in China, learn the Chinese language

and then only then we will understand China better which is a prerequisite for doing business with China and engaging China, we have to understand who we are dealing with. Thank you very much.



Prof. Dr. Khalid Ahamd (IBA, Sukkar, Sindh)

Today is a really great day for diplomatic relations which were started back in 1951 between Pakistan and China. Today marks 70 years of successful diplomatic relations. Since the beginning, Pakistan and China have been very close friends. Both have faced various challenges but they have always capitalized on their strengths and they have ignored their weaknesses. Pakistan was the first Muslim country that recognized China after its independence in 1949.

The two countries started diplomatic relations in 1951. There were continuous and uninterrupted visits by the premiers of the two countries, relations strengthened not only on diplomatic front but in socio-economic field as well especially after 2001 when both countries started to operate in terms of trade economy and people to people interaction so now there are hundreds of people who are working in Pakistan from China and several thousands of people and students who are now in China. That's a very big sign that the relationship has developed over time and in the future, they will further strengthen.

On front many important events happened in the 1970s when Pakistan helped in the normalization of relations between China and the United States and the president of the US at that time, Richard Nixon visited China. One of the major reasons that we have been very close is that we are neighbors too. And it is the philosophy of Chinese and the Pakistani people that we value our neighbors. The Karakoram Highway is a sign of friendship that developed between China and Pakistan. China and Pakistan have become closer and they will strengthen their relationship economically and socially besides strong and diplomatic relations and we have been cooperating in all fronts, even in the pandemic which affected the rest of the world. Pakistan has cooperated and it shall not stop working on CPEC project which is the sign of a good relationship in the long term.

China is one of the few countries where Pakistani feel at home despite many cultural differences. I belong to Sukkar IBA which was initially included in those 10 universities from Pakistan who was the part of the consortium and there were 10 top universities from China which were part of the consortium and we have visited a few times since the consortium was established. Sukkar IBA has signed many MOUs with Chinese Universities. . Sukkar IBA is one of the first universities in Pakistan which started its exchange program with Chinese Universities in 2013. It was an independent exchange program that we started. Now we have exchange programs in many universities in China. We have joint degree programs with Shanghai University and North China Electric University. We have been given special treatment by few universities under the project in which they granted us several fully-funded Master's and Ph.D. scholarships.

I have been working with field Professors from Xi'an Jiaotong University on certain projects. We also have a research project opportunity which was the initiative of the Consortium and initiated by Higher Education Commission Pakistan. We have several agreements so what I see is growing cooperation in higher education between Pakistan and China. This development will add more to the diplomatic and social relations and will integrate both countries socially and economically.



Muhammad Ahsan Achakzai (Former Director CPEC, BUITEMS, Balochistan)

He discussed about the Pakistan-China relations and focused on the 70 years of the Pakistan-China diplomatic relationship. The bilateral relationship, a time-tested and correctly termed as higher than mountains and deeper than oceans.

Our friendship hardly finds a parallel in the modern International relations as it is based on mutual respect, mutual advantages and equality. Pakistan China relations have undoubtedly emerged as a very strong friendship which serves as an exceptional example for the peace-loving nations of the world. Our relationship has displayed durability which has adjusted itself according to the changing regional international scenarios whether it was the disintegration of the Soviet Union, development of Central Asian Republics, East and South Asia as these are just

a few scenarios where China along with Pakistan has played a positive role and contributed to maintaining global and regional peace.

China today is an economic powerhouse and soon it will lead other countries by a significant margin. Moreover, China's development in the last two decades is exemplary. China has amazingly shown sustainable urban development. China has amazingly developed human resources and work ethics. The sincerity with which they are working is amazing. Similarly, China offers unprecedented expertise in agriculture Science, and Technology and I believe that Pakistan has to get maximum benefit out of this great potential.

Pakistan has its strengths, first and foremost is the young population. Pakistan has approximately a hundred Millions youth, energetic human resource, which can be put to good use. This will not benefit only Pakistan but will strengthen the global and regional economies, and peace in the region. Pakistan has a good reputation in the Muslim countries and enjoys immense support from Turkey, Gulf countries and Muslim countries in Africa and these are the markets where China surely is interested economically, and Pakistan can play a constructive and positive role. Similarly, Pakistan has a strategic location that connects China and Central Asian republics with the rest of the world significantly reducing logistics costs and time that will improve efficiency of International trade which will eventually improve the value of money for the customers. What is the way forward? CPEC is already here but Pakistan is not benefiting to the optimum from the opportunity of CPEC. We have seen development in the infrastructure, roads, energy sector but still, we need to take maximum benefit in the human resource development sector. That is how China developed and improved to alleviate poverty in China. More importantly, I would conclude my discussion by saying that our relationship has remained dynamic, and it has to be dynamic in the future also especially due to the fast-changing global scenario whether it be political-economic or security situation of the world I just got a few examples like the growing economic relationship of US and India, the security situation in the Middle East and the return of NATO forces from Afghanistan. All these factors will affect Pakistan and regional countries in one way or the other and during these difficult times Pakistan and Chinese diplomats have done a wonderful job in the last 70 years and I believe they will continue doing this great job.

Pakistan is located in a sensitive region when it comes to international players who have tried again and again to hamper Pakistan relationship with China. Our joint efforts and diplomatic relations have to overcome all these difficulties and hurdles and we have to continue the good work we are already doing like 28000 of Pakistani students going to China, China Pakistan Universities Consortium.



Dr. Karam Ilahi (Additional Collector Custom, FBR Pakistan)

In his speech, Karam Elahi (Ph.D.) focused on two dimensions of the theme, one political economy and second on Pakistan-China trade relations. After a brief reference to the regional trade through the historical Silk Route, the speaker said that Pak-China friendship started with the treaty of friendship signed in 1956, followed by the peaceful settlement of border issue between Pakistan and China in 1963, the construction of KKH, and other important events like the visits of high dignitaries from the two countries. The two countries also have deep ties in defense cooperation and trade agreements. Today China is Pakistan's largest trading partner in terms of imports, while in terms of exports China is Pakistan's second largest partner after the USA. However, the question of the trade balance and the terms of trade have been the subject of critical discussion.

Pakistan and China's partnership is coming at a very crucial juncture in the Global political power landscape. After the end of Cold War, the author of "The Clash of civilizations" predicted that there will be new potential power to reckon with i.e., China. China is emerging as a new world leader, and it is not a knee-jerk emergence but a long process in which China evolved in a sustained manner over the years. It has developed its own ideals, its own institutions, and also a model of social-economic development. Probably the West thought that with the domination of its liberal and new liberal capitalist world order, history has come to an end. But Chinese have proved it wrong. China has come up with an alternate model not only in terms of poverty alleviation but also in terms of regional connectivity and creating a win-win situation for the countries of the region and also the world.

We are witnessing the emergence of a new world order this time to be dominated by the East rather than the West which had been a dominant civilization since the Industrial Revolution. This emerging world order is different in many ways from the prevailing dominant Western world order. It is different in the sense that it basically hinges on a win-win situation for all the

stakeholders and inter-state partnership and cooperation rather than on domination and hegemony. Also, regional, and global connectivity is characterizing this new world led by China. This is also characterized by fast-track socio-economic development. It is based on the concept of coexistence and accommodation rather than conflict and domination. With the bulk of the world population living in this part of the world (viz. China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh) this region can become the pivot of the new world as predicted by Henry Kissinger in his *World Order*.

Coming to this trade regime dimension we have to recognize that national leaders and key state institutions have been very crucial in the policy paradigm that has been witnessed in China's rise and in Pakistan's response to the emerging economic and political landscape. The two key ministries in Pakistan and China that are critical in this emerging landscape are the Ministries of Commerce and Customs administrations of the two countries. Of course there are other agencies and departments as well, but these two are the lead agencies in many ways. On the political leadership side, China has an edge just as it has an edge in terms of trade and industrial growth but Pakistan has also shown amazing political consistency in terms of support to the bilateral trade regime and friendship.

If you look at the vital statistics of trade between Pakistan and China you will see that despite the potential and importance of Pak-China trade, Pakistan has not able to fully reap the opportunities and capitalize on the trade potential. Pakistan has four trade missions in China. Nowhere else Pakistan has so many trade missions. In terms of investment, China is leading the investment in Pakistan with \$844 million in last financial year (2020), higher than any other country. Pakistan imports the most from China, both in terms of quantity and value. 26 % of Pakistan imports actually come from China. China is the second-largest export destination for Pakistani products, constituting 9% of Pakistan's total exports. Trade deficit and surplus has been a key issue. We have a robust trade regime with China but the problem on Pakistan side is that it is mostly tilted in favor of China especially after the CPFTA 1. The way CPFTA-1 was negotiated and the concessions that Pakistan actually asked for and the Chinese side granted, Pakistan did not adequately utilize those concessions. China on the other hand utilized most of the tariff line concessions that they had secured in the agreement. The result was that Pakistan continued to suffer from a trade deficit with China. If we look at the trade statistics of Pakistan, with countries

that are generally perceived to be Pakistan-friendly (e.g. China, Malaysia, KSA), Pakistan is consistently running a trade deficit with them. We export less to these countries and import more from these countries. On the contrary, with countries that are generally perceived to have less cordial relations with Pakistan (Afghanistan, Bangladesh and USA) we have surplus trade. Pakistan exports more to Bangladesh and import less from Bangladesh and the same is the case with Afghanistan and the USA. So, it is quite intriguing and for the policy makers it is a point worth consideration as to why it is happening. There are many systemic reasons, some grounded in local industrial and trade regime environment, and some related to security environment.

One reason why this CPFTA 1 led to a widening gap between imports and exports in Pakistan trade deficit with China was that China had signed trade agreements with other countries especially ASEAN member countries and resultantly the margin of preference for Pakistan got eroded. for example, rice is a top export item of Pakistan but it still attracts 64% tariff in China despite being very cheap but compared to that the import of rice from ASEAN countries is subject to just 35% tariff despite its high price. So, these factors contribute to the yawning trade deficit of Pakistan with China.

This led to the need for revisiting the whole trade paradigm and Pakistan entered into a strategic trade framework dialogue with China. After protracted negotiations, China finally came forward with quite generous concessions this time. China has an import market of around \$2 trillion. CPFTA II that will continue from 2019 to 2024 enables Pakistan to have larger access to that market. 313 priority items of Pakistani exports are have been granted zero tariff. Now Pakistan has equal treatment at par with the ASEAN member countries in the various tariff lines of export items. This will also give Pakistan a competitive advantage. The balance of payment safeguards are now also there. Previously we have thought that some of the imports from China actually flooded our markets. We needed to take care that our local industry is not exposed too much to such unbridled imports from China. Under CPFTA-II, there are balance of payment safeguards and protection of the local industry.

Another serious issue with the CPFTA 1 was that there was no agreement on the exchange of data. There was over invoicing at the export stage and under invoicing at the import stage, that was causing a lot of loss of revenue and foreign exchange loss to Pakistan. This time in CPFTA II there is a provision whereby the two countries will exchange trade data. This will help in

busting organized crimes of fiscal fraud. China will liberalize its import regime for 90% of Pakistan export items while Pakistan will only reciprocate with 67% of imports from China. That again means that Pakistan has been given equitable treatment. With the result of CPFTA II, it is expected that Pakistan's exports will reach up to \$12 billion. We all know that Pakistan has traditionally been suffering trade deficit of around \$24 to \$26 billion, so this will be a huge jump that will hopefully bridge the gap that has remained consistent between imports and exports. The results of the new trade agreement are now visible. For example, last year Pakistan exported goods worth 1.5\$ billion to China while this year Pak exports to China have gone up to almost \$2 billion. This is a healthy development, and we hope that both sides will take it further.

Some of the lingering issues in Pakistan-China trade include, for example, excessive Sanitary & Phytosanitary (SPS) & Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) measures. In the trade taking place on Khunjarab-Tashkurgan route Pakistan transporters, exporters and importers complain of large consignments being stuck up due to procedural delays. Some of Pakistani export products are subjected to a lot of SPS requirements. By the time certification is done the products, like cherries and mangoes, are no fit for human consumption. There are certain items like paper and paper board and rice that are still subject to very high tariff vis-a-vis other competitors of Pakistan in the Chinese market. That actually erodes Pakistan margin of preference. In the next round of talks, Pakistan will have to take care of these things.

Other issues are basically systemic within Pakistan. We have poor infrastructure. Our regulatory regime is not very conducive. As some speakers talked about it that how easily investors in Cambodia and Bangladesh get approval for investment and other ventures within no time. But in Pakistan it takes a lot of time; the procedure is cumbersome and there are questions of integrity also. And then the industrial productivity in Pakistan is also an area of concern. Pakistan has to improve its machinery, invest more on R&D, address the skill deficit, and take care of the input cost. The product diversification and sophistication are other issues. The products of Pakistan lack the required level of sophistication and cannot compete in the international markets and the standards compliance of the products is also an area of concern as are issues of branding, quality certification and SPS requirements. China, on the other hand, has a wonderful infrastructure and the advantage of economies of scale. In cement industry, for example, and China has better

competitive advantage vis-à-vis Pakistani cement. Since China is now relocating its industries, Pakistani industrialists must take advantage of this opportunity.

Pakistan Customs and Chinese Customs have enjoyed very good relations. They have gone for a number of measures to boost trade between the two countries. They are also interacting with one another on issues related to drugs, smuggling control and facilitation of legitimate trade. There is also the concept of green channel. China wanted green channel for its agricultural exports and Pakistan Customs acceded to that on the basis of reciprocity.

There has been the up-gradation of KKH, and China has been very generous in giving support in all these sectors to Pakistan. Pakistan has also taken serious measures to address the systemic problems that curtail its trade promotion. For example, the operationalization of transit trade under TIR convention about a couple of years ago is a huge development. Moreover, with the help from China, there is now fast-track internet connectivity from Sust right up to Gwadar port. The up-gradation of Gwadar port and Sust dry port, and construction of check-posts along the entire CPEC route are all going to contribute to trade facilitation between the two countries. The Directorate General of CPEC transit trade has also been envisaged and will be operational soon. The border management initiative is yet another step that will help curb smuggling and boost lawful trade. The reforms and automation of FBR for the Custom clearance system and the trade facilitation through automation and business process re-engineering are also landmark initiatives. The provision of single window mechanism through Pakistan Single Window, the 9 Special Economic Zones under CPEC and 22 other such zones will revolutionize the whole trade and investment regime in Pakistan.



Sayed Ali Nawaz Gillani (General Secretary KP, CPFA Pakistan)

Pakistan and China started their relations 70 years ago. Pakistan-China relations are increasing and developing. China's development is an example for the rest of the world the credit goes to the Chinese leadership and their consistent policies and we need to learn from the experience of China. Pakistan-China relations after CPEC are further strengthening and reaching new Heights. And after the very good slogans of higher than Mountains and deeper than oceans and sweeter than honey, they are iron brothers

and are working jointly. To get benefits from Chinese development the commercial, import & export procedures should be made further investors` friendly.

The present world is very much competitive, and everyone is going to have one window operation to get the advantages and to get benefited from the Chinese policies we have to improve our system likewise. We have to develop a mechanism in all government and semi-government departments. China is developing despite the COVID-19 and China's tackling of COVID-19 was very impressive, it is because its Policies were consistent. No doubt, we have very good friendly relations; we are improving and working to strengthen it further. It is time to think how we can get benefits from Chinese economic development and social prosperity? In the end of his speech Ali Nawaz Gilani thanked Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar for the invitation to the online round table.

Conclusion: After the speeches question/answer session started in which many participants asked questions related to the 70 years of the diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China. In the end of the online roundtable Director, China Study Center thanked all the distinguished speakers for their invaluable input and the audience from Pakistan and China for their participation in such a large number.

WEBINAR: 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF PAKISTAN & CHINA'S "STRONGER THAN STEEL FRIENDSHIP" ORGANIZED BY CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

7th Anniversary of Pakistan China, "Stronger than Steel Friendship"
Organized By **China Study Center, University of Peshawar**

INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

Date: 10th June, 2021
Time: 11am (PST)

Zoom ID: 872 8302 8557

Welcome Address
Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees
Vice-Chancellor, UOP

Chief Guest Address
Mr. Anwar Zeb Khan
Minister, Govt of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Keynote Speaker
H.E. Zhang Heqing
Cultural Counselor, China Embassy

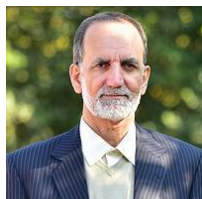
Speakers

- Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Director CSC, UOP
- Prof. Dr. Zhang Jiadong
Director, CSAS Fudan Uni
- Khalid Rahman
Chairman, IPS
- Prof Dr M. Ijaz Butt
Principal Govt College
Township, Lahore
- Farhat Asif
President IPDS
- Vote of Thanks
Prof Dr. M. Abid
Pro VC, UOP

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Peshawar | 091-5852247 | csc@uop.edu.pk

INTRODUCTION

China Study Center, University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan has organized a webinar on, 70th Anniversary of Pakistan & China's "Stronger than Steel Friendship" on 10th June, 2021 at 11 am at the conference hall of the Center. A large number of experts, diplomats, journalists, scholars, faculty and students participated in the webinar. The Director of the Center explained the objectives of the webinar.



Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center & Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Peshawar:

Distinguished speakers and honorable participants welcome to this international webinar. We are particularly thankful to H.E. Anwar Zeb Khan, Minister, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, H. E. Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counselor, China Embassy Islamabad, Prof Dr. Zhang Jiadong from Fudan University China, Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Khalid Rehman Chairman Institute

of Policy Studies, Islamabad, Prof Dr. Muhammad Ijaz Butt, Principal Government College Township Lahore, Madam Farhat Asif, President Institute of Peace and Diplomatic studies Islamabad and last but not least, Prof Dr. Mohammad Abid, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar.

This event is organized to celebrate 70th anniversary of Pakistan and China diplomatic relations. The purpose of this webinar is to learn and to know about the contributions and sacrifices given by the two nations for strengthening their relations. Pakistan and China have many commonalities on global and regional issues and this webinar is an attempt to explore and strengthen collaboration and convergence on global and regional issues between Pakistan and China. The story of bilateral relations between China and Pakistan is interesting and enriching and today this webinar is a humble effort to contribute to the collective endeavors to transform this stronger than Steel relationship into a joint march towards a shared and prosperous future.

Pakistan and China cooperation in defense field is very solid and impressive, Pakistan and China cooperation in economic field was augmented by Karakoram Highway KKH, Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Pakistan and China cooperation particularly in public health security and fight against Pandemic (COVID-19) is still paying dividend. This Cooperation has saved Pakistan from a catastrophe, as we all know that Pakistan's eastern neighbor has faced huge difficulties to successfully cope with the pandemic of COVID-19. On the other hand, the robust cooperation between China and Pakistan helped Pakistan considerably to tackle this pandemic successfully. It is hoped that today the distinguished speakers in this webinar will not only tread the trodden paths of cooperation but will also explore new avenues of collaboration between the two friendly countries.



Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar:

H.E. Anwar Zeb khan, Minister, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, H. E. Zhang Heqing Cultural Counselor, China Embassy Pakistan, Prof Dr. Muhammad Abid Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar (and newly appointed Dean

Faculty of Social Sciences), distinguished speakers, participants and honorable Chinese scholars, Assalmualikum!

On behalf of University of Peshawar, I would like to welcome you all to this international webinar on 70th anniversary of Pakistan-China friendship organized by China Study Center, University of Peshawar. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment the diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established on 21st May 1951. The friendship between the two counties is grown from strength to strength and maintained upward trajectory from last seven decades. The leadership of both the countries is committed to taking this relationship forward. Pakistan-China relations often narrated as higher than mountains, deeper than oceans, and sweeter than honey. China and Pakistan ties have developed into outstanding model of relations. The all-weather strong relations are based on mutual trust, respect and good well. Both the countries have signed various agreements on economic, defense, diplomatic and strategic spheres. With every passing moment this mighty brotherhood becomes stronger. Pakistan and China relations are based on solid foundation. Pakistan-China cooperation increases with the passage of time in all fields including the knowledge industry. The collaboration in higher education has strengthened in the wake of Belt and Road Initiative and CPEC. CPEC is launched by the Chinese president in 2015, which is a mega project of BRI that further galvanized academic cooperation in the institutions of higher learning between the two countries. We all know that CPEC is the flagship project in which China is investing more than \$ 62 billion in Pakistan and set to become high quality demonstration project that further accelerate economic integration and regional connectivity. Both the countries have given importance to diplomatic relations to increase people to people cooperation. China appreciates Pakistani's efforts to expand Chinese language and Confucius institutions in Pakistan. Most recently at the outbreak of COVID-19 in China the President of Pakistan H. E. Dr. Arif Alvi travelled all the way from Islamabad to Beijing in March last year to express solidarity with the people and government of China. Similarly, when the pandemic reached to Pakistan, China also assisted Pakistan generously and we are thankful to China for gifting us diagnostic kits, equipment's and vaccine that have helped save lives of thousands of our people.

University of Peshawar is the oldest and most established university of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and it is playing an important role in educating the youth not only of the province but the region at large as well. The establishment of China Study Center, at University of Peshawar with the financial support of the embassy of People's Republic of China, Islamabad has boosted mutual understanding between the people of the two countries about culture, socio economic and political development. University of Peshawar has signed agreements with several Chinese universities, and we hope that with the passage of time collaboration between University of Peshawar and Chinese universities will further strengthen in higher education. Pakistan and China have enjoyed close and friendly relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations and over the years this relationship has blossomed in all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. Pakistan considers China one of its closest friend and partner. China also considers Pakistan its iron brother. I hope this webinar organized by China Study Center, University of Peshawar is a worth appreciation effort and I hope the cooperation between Pakistan and China will continue in future and both the countries will work for progress and development of their people. Thank you all. Long live Pakistan-China friendship.



H.E. Anwar Zeb Khan, Minister Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan: English translation.

Hello and Ni Hao

Welcome to His Excellency (H. E.) Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counselor, China Embassy Islamabad, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, I am thankful to Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study, University of Peshawar for inviting me as a Chief Guest at the International Webinar on Pakistan and China 70 years of diplomatic relations. Pakistan's relations with China are very friendly and both consider themselves as best friends. The friendship between Pakistan and China is deeper than Indian Ocean, sweeter than honey and higher than the Himalaya. Pakistan-China friendship played a key role in the peace and development of the region. Pakistan and China cooperate with each other on many global issues. Pakistan is very happy that its friend, China has become a global economic power and this success of China made Pakistani nation proud. For the economic growth both Pakistan and China are working together in many joint projects. In this regard Pakistan and China are working

closely with several other countries under Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) which is very important for the economic integration and prosperity of the region.

The work on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is going on smoothly, which is very important for Pakistan's economic development. CPEC will provide development opportunities to the backward areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Due to CPEC Khyber Pakhtunkhwa especially the erstwhile tribal areas which are now part of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will economically develop. Rashakai Special Economic Zone and Mohmand Marble City will provide jobs opportunity to hundreds of thousands of people. China is also investing extensively in numerous infrastructure projects across Pakistan. The people and the government of Pakistan consider China as a great friend and over time this friendship will become stronger.

This relationship was built on the foundation of successive accomplishments and is getting stronger with each passing day and year. Every government in Pakistan tries to strengthen its relations with China and the current Government of Pakistan Tehreek-e- Insaf under the leadership of Prime Minister; Imran Khan gives special importance to Pakistan relations with China. The leadership of the two countries is committed to taking this relationship to new heights. I hope that today experts in this online conference will share their wisdom on different aspects of Pakistan and China Relations will be published and shared with the policy-makers to further strengthen this friendship in future. Long Live Pakistan-China Friendship



H.E. Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counselor, China Embassy Islamabad:

Respected Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar, honorable Minister Anwar Zeb khan, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, and Dean Faculty of Social Science, University of Peshawar, other distinguished speakers and Guests, ladies and gentlemen Assalam-o-Alaikum.

It is my great pleasure and honor to attend this significant international webinar on the 70th anniversary of Pakistan and China Stronger than Steel Friendship. On behalf of Chinese Embassy in Pakistan and His Excellency Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, I would like to thank University of Peshawar for the invitation to deliver a Keynote speech in this

international webinar. I would take this opportunity to thank the University of Peshawar for its constructive efforts in promoting China Pakistan friendship in the field of education and culture. Also, I would like to thank China Study Center University of Peshawar for promoting this kind of exchanges and for holding other such events.

As everyone knows this year marks the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. Both sides have held various celebrations early this year. 70 years ago, on May 21st, 1951, the People's Republic of China formally established diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Thus opened a new chapter of bilateral relations between the two countries and Pakistan is the very first country in the Muslim world to recognize the new China. Over 7 decades under the leadership of the two countries the friendly relationship between China and Pakistan has grown stronger and stronger and has become a rock-solid no matter how the International and domestic situations changed. China and Pakistan have always stood together supported each other and move forward hand in hand.

In April 2015 President Xi Jinping paid a historic visit to Pakistan. Both sides upgraded the bilateral relations to all weather strategic cooperative partnership, which is highly praised by the honorable Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees in his address by calling it higher than mountains, deeper than sea, sweeter than honey and stronger than Steel. Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan highly values Pakistan-China relationship. He has paid three visits to China ever since he took office and held four meetings with President Xi Jinping. China and Pakistan always make each other the priority in developing their foreign relations. It has become across region, across party and across class consensus in Pakistan to maintain friendly relations with China.

China Pakistan relationship is not only valuable strategic assets of both sides but also an exemplary model of state-to-state relations with different social system, history and culture. As President XI Jinping put it, China Pakistan relationship should be a model of good neighborly friendship, a pillar to safeguard regional peace and stability and benchmark for International cooperation on Belt and Road Initiative.

Past 70 years' experience has proved that China Pakistan relationship and cooperation is not only in the fundamental interest of the two countries but also conducive to regional and global peace, stability, and development. China and Pakistan are committed to building a more just democratic and reasonable multipolar International order. The two countries have similar position to maintain the authority of multilateral system, safeguard the fairness of international relations, maintain peace and strategic stability, promote the development of human civilization, and ensure that all countries enjoy equal development environment. Under the guidance of the greatest leaders of the two countries the friendly and pragmatic cooperation between China and Pakistan has made fruitful achievements in recent years. As the pilot project of the Belt and Road Initiative, CPEC has become important platform for all-round cooperation between the two countries. CPEC has expanded to key areas of Gawadar port, energy, transportation, infrastructure, agriculture, industry, science and technology, education and social livelihood and cover almost all aspects of Pakistan's development. Meanwhile, the two countries have continuously deepened and expanded cooperation in the field of military, security, culture, education, tourism, youth, sports so on and so forth, which further enhanced the foundation of the bilateral relations.

70 years journey of China-Pakistan relations has withstood the challenges and difficulties encountered all the way along. Time has forged ironclad friendship. Pakistan is affectionately called as Iron brother in China. After the outbreak of COVID-19 since early last year the Chinese and Pakistani governments, armies and peoples have helped each other by every means. Pakistan donated medical equipment's to China and President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi visited China to support China. China has also been helping Pakistan to fight the pandemic to the best of his capacity. In the face of this century pandemic, China and Pakistan hand in hand, shoulder by shoulder jointly fighting against COVID-19. This has beautifully illustrated the spirit that a friend in need is a friend indeed. Pakistan and China are true friends and good brothers sharing weal and woe, setting a good example of International Corporation addressing the pandemic.

This year 2021 has a special significance both for China and Pakistan. For China, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC) for Pakistan is

realizing new Pakistan vision which is called *Naya Pakistan*. The CPC has evolved from a small party to around 50 members to the largest ruling party with more than 91 million members.

The CPC has also led the Chinese people and a great force of rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on the progress of human civilization which has scored a great historical victory in fight against extreme poverty and lifted 770 million people out of poverty. China now is the world second largest economy. Last year China made its 14th 5-year plan for national economy and social development; under 15-year long term plan goes by the year 2035.

We highly appreciate *Naya Pakistan* vision, and we really appreciate experience and deepening exchanges with Pakistan on governance much with the development strategies and push forward to realize each of our vision. In the context of changes in the world in a century Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind educating to build a world lasting peace, common security, shared prosperity and inclusiveness and wellness.

This vision is China solution to the challenges and problems which is facing the world on the way to build a community of shared future for mankind. The significance of China-Pakistan relations is becoming more prominent. We are committed to working with Pakistan to effectively implement the consensus of the leaders of the two countries, carry forward the great traditions of China-Pakistan relations, deepen strategic, mutual trust and pragmatic cooperation and jointly work for high quality development of the CPEC. We are confident that our joint efforts will inject new impetus in China Pakistan friendship and make new demonstration to building a community with shared future for mankind.

China and Pakistan linked by mountains and rivers have been joined traditional common neighborhood relationship. The friendly exchanges between our peoples are far more than 70 years as early as 2000 years ago the ancient Silk Road has linked the exchanges and cooperation between the two countries. We sincerely hope that China Pakistan will continuously hold up the torch of friendship and carry forward forever overcoming the difficulties and challenges which may emerge and make concerted efforts to build China Pakistan community of shared future in the new era and jointly paint a more beautiful future for both Nations. To conclude I wish this webinar a complete success.



Mr. Khalid Rahman, Chairman Institute of Policy Studies (IPS): A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed:

Thank you, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, for providing me this opportunity to speak on this very important theme. I am honored to share that my interactions with Chinese friends, spread over around three decades have provided me a number of opportunities to discuss various issues that are beneficial to the two countries and their relationship. I have good memories of visiting Fudan University also and these were revived while listening to our good friend prof Dr. Zhang Jiadong. I also recall my several visits to Peshawar University along with our Chinese friends who were IPS guests in Islamabad. These visits culminated in establishing a kind of relationship between Peshawar University and some of its departments with Chinese institutions, which I regard as an honor for me. It was a pleasure to listen to the earlier speakers particularly Minister of Government of Khybar Pakhtunkhwa as well as the Honorable Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar and the guests from the Chinese Embassy specially H.E Zhang Heqing. Let me begin by going back to 1951 and have a look at the context and the background in which the two countries established their diplomatic relationship. It was, as we all know May 21st, 1951, when Pakistan and China established diplomatic relations. I believe few people could have imagined that this, apparently, a customary move would lay the foundation for extraordinary bilateral ties which is today called, quite rightly, an exemplary bilateral relationship in the global affairs. The move was however significant for a number of reasons, but I would like to emphasize two factors: in the global context, it was a time when the world was divided into communist and anti-communist and Pakistan was one of the first non-communist countries to establish the diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China; in the regional context, it was a time when the foundation of friendship between India and China was laid. The significance of relations, with this background in view, is quite obvious.

What followed was the frequent contacts and increasing trust between the successive leaders of the two countries. Importantly the process continued in spite of fast changing regional and global situations. Moreover, the relations were not limited to customary diplomatic affairs. Despite following different governance systems, the affinity and trust between the two countries only became deeper and deeper.

Today we can say without any doubt that apart from benefiting the two sides this deep-rooted relationship has also helped, maintain regional balance and as a consequence regional peace and stability.

Meanwhile, as we all know China has made extra ordinary progress, especially during the past four decades. Today the Chinese economy is the biggest in the world in terms of purchasing power parity. The country is now a hub of manufacturing and services, and set to become a financial hub sooner rather than later. With this development and progress, China can rightfully be regarded as the growth engine of the world. On the domestic front, China is moving towards striking the right balance in regional development, and has lifted more than 700 million people out of absolute poverty.

On the other hand, China today not only symbolizes fast and inclusive economic growth, but it also plays a vital role in international relations and setting trends in global affairs. I hope I will not be exaggerating, if I say that, most Pakistanis look at China's growth with hope and pride. We realize as Pakistanis that our growth is suffered significantly due to several internal and external factors. Consequently, we also recognize that the equation between our two countries has also changed to an extent. Yet, the beauty of relationship is that it hasn't altered the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation. And, let me stress that it is this spirit of mutual respect and trust that brings hope and pride for Pakistanis in this relationship. An important indicator in this regard in my view is CPEC. We know that CPEC is apparently a bilateral project, yet the special significance of the CPEC is that it serves as the backbone as well as a flagship project of BRI. We also know that BRI is a huge initiative. It is an initiative, which aims to improve regional connectivity and infrastructure. It is something that has the potential of transforming the global economic and political landscape. So, it is natural to be proud that Pakistan is playing a special role in making BRI a success. Let me also emphasize that the history of connectivity between Pakistan and China goes back thousands of years, but even in recent history, the CPEC is not the first step to improve connectivity between the two sides. The foundation of this connectivity, in recent history was laid much earlier. You may recall that an air corridor was established with the first Pakistan International Airlines flight started way back in 1964. This air corridor was followed by land corridor with Karakorum highway in 1978. Later we saw the initiation of sea corridor by

building the Gwadar port, which created new shipping and logistic opportunities for the two sides at the beginning of this century. More recently, the laying down of fiber optic has added the cyber dimension to this already established air, land and sea linkages. I would say it is these linkages that laid the foundation for today's Mega projects. I would also like to highlight here that CPEC was agreed upon in 2013 and was formally launched in 2015. Until now only the first phase of this mega project has been completed. Nevertheless, Pakistan is already enjoying its benefits. Projects worth \$ 25 billion out of a total of \$ 65 billion have already been added to Pakistan's infrastructure and economy. We also see, the completion of several energy projects has largely reduced the power shortage in Pakistan. Similarly, I feel, the construction of several highways have made transportation easier. Another highlight is that the operations at the Gwadar Port have started, and the foundations of at least three economic zones have been laid. Also, according to official data I would say 70,000 to 80,000 new jobs have been created, whereas people-to-people contact is on the rise which was one of the deficit areas in our bilateral relations. Let me add here, another significant feature of Sino-Pakistan relations that it covers nearly all the important aspects of life. I feel the economic aspect has been in the spotlight due to CPEC, which is understandable in the given context, the cooperation between the two countries in political, strategic and security related affairs is also on the same trajectory. When it comes to endorsing each other, in matters related to their respective core interests, both sides have supported each other. Similarly, cooperation in the technological, academic and cultural fields has also been increasing. And probably one of the most important hallmarks of the relationship and which, in my view is a constant, is the enhancement of each other's potential, particularly in high-tech and defense. Before I conclude, I would like to highlight another important dimension of the solidly founded relationship, which many of us either ignore or avoid discussing. I think, given the diversity in their societies and cultures, and of course in their governance system, it is not correct to assume the two countries never have any differences. They do, but their mutual trust and respect do not allow these differences to turn into disputes or a matter of public debate. Summing up I would say, while relations have given Islamabad a sense of security, stability and solidarity, Beijing has found a true friend in Islamabad that has unwaveringly stood by it and done all it could do to

help boost China's role in global affairs. The China-Pakistan relationship is based on shared ethos and instilled with humanity, modesty and sharing. There is no doubt that apart from cooperation and harmony, values have also played a major role in this success. The principle of mutual respect practiced by the two sides can ensure durable peace, prosperity and development among countries if they continue to adhere in the true spirit. And my last point is related to hybrid war which is so common these days. The current exemplary relationship is an outcome of the contributions of three to four generations of leadership and people in the two countries; it is time in this age of increasing globalization and hybrid war that the spirit of mutual respect and mutual trust, which is one of the targets of our adversaries in the global and regional arena, is genuinely transferred to the new generations of the two countries.



Prof. ZHANG Jiadong, Director of Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University.

To Build a Deeper and Solider China-Pakistan Relationship:

Hello everyone, I am Zhang Jiadong from the Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University. First of all, I am very grateful to Vice chancellor Prof Idrees of University of Peshawar, for this conference's happening, and to Prof. Zahid Anwar, Director of China Study Center, for the invitation to give me this opportunity to participate in this important conference. Secondly, I am also very grateful for the wonderful speeches of the previous speakers, which allowed me to learn a lot. As we know, the world is undergoing a grand change. China-Pakistan relations also have the necessity and opportunity for adjustment and development.

Generally, the relationship between countries is based on national interests, power, and security needs, whether cooperation, competition or conflict depends on the countries' perception on what they need. The relationship between friendly countries is based on the relationship of interest, coupled with the psychological bond. This is the traditional China-Pakistan relationship. At present, China-Pakistan relations, under the impetus of a series of major initiatives and projects such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, are moving towards a new height of a China-Pakistan Community with a Shared Future. Therefore, the China-Pakistan relationship is unique, with three levels of connotation:

The first is the sharing of national interest. Pursuing the maximization of self-interest is the common mission of all sovereign countries. China and Pakistan are no exception. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan, especially since the 1960s, China and Pakistan have established close bilateral relations based on their own national interests and national security needs. In 2020, the bilateral trade volume between China and Pakistan is 17.49 billion U.S. dollars, although it has decreased compared with previous years. However, compared with the generally declining trade volume during the pandemic, the performance of bilateral trade between China and Pakistan is not bad.

The second is psychological bond. The Chinese call Pakistan as the Pakistani Iron-brother (巴铁), and the Pakistanis also regard the Chinese as their all-weather friends. Even when I visited the US, I could still feel the friendship of a Pakistani taxi driver towards Chinese people. The relationship between the local governments of China and Pakistan has also become closer. At present, 16 pairs of sister cities have been established between the two countries. Shanghai, where Fudan University is located, established sister city relations with Karachi as early as 1984. Both cities have conducted pragmatic and effective exchanges and cooperation in areas such as urban planning and garbage disposal.

The third is the commonality of future. Since President Xi Jinping put forward the concept of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind, China's diplomacy has taken a new direction. The world is huge, and we must start from the surrounding countries. In an increasingly complex and volatile international environment, a closer Sino-Pakistani relationship will become even more important to both countries.

China Pakistan relationship is a form of relationship that does not seem to have a strong alliance system, but is more sustainable and more advanced than the alliance. The friendship between China and Pakistan did not start with the armed conflict on the Sino-Indian border in 1962. In 1961, Pakistan voted for the People's Republic of China in the United Nations General Assembly. China-Pakistan relations have embarked on a track of sustainable, stable and reliable

development. It can be said that for the two countries, the China-Pakistan relationship is the most stable pair of bilateral relations.

The alliance system since World War II is often based on national interests, values, and cultural traditions. It still belongs to the category of traditional diplomacy. Once the direction of national interests is adjusted and the political system changes, the alliance system may change. Comparing to this, China-Pakistan relations are based on national interests, but they are higher than national interests. They have a solid foundation of public opinion and people to people bonds, so they are more sustainable than alliance relations. China-Pakistan relations also transcend the traditional political system and religious and cultural boundaries, so they are more advanced than the alliance system.

To further advance China-Pakistan relations and make them a model of bilateral relations that are different from alliance relations, China and Pakistan still have a lot of work to do. First, it is necessary to further strengthen bilateral economic and trade relations. Both countries should have a closer cooperation in trade and in the division and cooperation of labor along the industrial chain. At present, it is more important to further implement the relevant projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and push the infrastructure cooperation stage of CEPC to industrial cooperation stage, so that CPEC can produce more economic interest and be more sustainable, and benefit more enterprises and people of the two countries.

The second is to further strengthen the humanities relationship between China and Pakistan. At present, there are still some factors that hinder people-to-people and cultural exchanges in China and Pakistan, and the two countries should work hard to avoid these interferences. A good bilateral relationship must be built on the basis of people to people exchanges. In addition, China and Pakistan should also strengthen cooperation in media communication to create a better environment for a good humanistic relationship.

The third is to strengthen the cooperation in the financial and investment fields. China and Pakistan have signed several financial and investment cooperation agreements. Some of them have already been implemented. But in this area, the two countries still have great potential for

cooperation. A closer financial and currency relationship will make a qualitative leap in China-Pakistan economic and trade relations.

Fourth, China and Pakistan should further strengthen the engagement, exchanges and cooperation between relevant government departments at the work level. China and Pakistan have common interests in many areas, but there will also be inconsistent steps in some areas. This requires the direct connection and coordination between the working levels of two governments, turning the friendly relations into working-level coordination, cooperation and even joint actions.

Shortly, I think that China and Pakistan should continue to maintain a low-profile, pragmatic and stable strategic partnership. It is necessary to strengthen practical and effective cooperation among the economic and trade, investment, finance, humanities, communication, and government work levels, without having to pursue upgrade of strategic and political relations. This relationship can not only provide both sides with a stable and sustainable strategic expectation, but also provide sufficient space and flexibility for the two countries' foreign policies. This will benefit bilateral relationship eventually.



Prof Dr. Ijaz Butt, Principal Government College Township, Lahore

Prof Dr. Mohammed Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Mr. Anwar Zeb Khan Minister, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and H. E. Consul General China Embassy Islamabad, honorable guests, my presentation is on, Pakistan China border settlement a major CBM in their relations.

Pakistan shares a common border with the People's Republic of China, almost 600 km long and that border had never been properly defined in history even during the British India. It had never been defined properly and was a customary border. As far as India-China relations are concerned, the border dispute resulted into a major war between the two countries in 1962, which made the two giants hostile to each other.

Pakistan and China friendship is exemplary, its higher than Himalayas, deeper than the Pacific Ocean, I firmly believe if there would have been any misunderstanding, miscalculation between

the two countries on this issue of border settlement the subsequent events in their relations might have not been the same. General N. A. M. Raza, Pakistan Ambassador to China played an important role in taking the initiative to discuss and settle the border dispute between the two countries.

Pakistan and China started negotiations and at that time Pakistan foreign minister was Mr. Manzoor Qadir who also made a visit to China to discuss border settlement. When it became open that Pakistan is negotiating its border settlement with China, India started propaganda against Pakistan. But the fact is that this negotiation process was done and ultimately an agreement and settlement was done between the two countries and the proper agreement was signed on 2nd March 1963. At that time Pakistan foreign minister was Mr. Z.A Bhutto.

China virtually ceded 750 square Miles of territory to Pakistan in the surrounding Hunza valley which was virtually in Chinese control, and its troops were patrolling right from the day when Pakistan came into being. China relinquished its claim on Hunza valley, K2 peak and also relinquished its claim on all the areas in the surrounding of Hunza valley as a goodwill gesture. It is mere Indian propaganda that Pakistan ceded territory of Kashmir to India. Pakistan has given a vital support to China during its war with India in 1962. China recognized this good gesture of Pakistan during this bloody war and subsequently they were very accommodative towards Pakistan on this issue of border settlement.

I believe that this was a milestone in their relations because both countries have shown flexibility, goodwill towards each other and settled this issue amicably, which is the world's most difficult border, which was virtually demarcated by applying all the latest techniques which were available at that time. All Ariel support was taken by the surveyor General of Pakistan and all modern equipment were used to demarcate the border. So, after this border settlement which we believe China signed with Pakistan accommodating Pakistani concern ceding territory which was in its actual control. That was the development which subsequently laid the foundation of exemplary friendship between the two countries because after the 1963 border settlement between the two countries, their ties strengthened day by day and it touched a new height in 1965 when China openly and fully supported Pakistan in its war with India.

I believe that this border settlement was the real CBM in their relationship. If China would have not shown this sort of goodwill gesture and would have not shown this flexibility, if Pakistan would have not shown its goodwill gesture during the border settlement negotiations, the relations might have not been so friendly. It was indeed a very significant development in their relations that they demarcated their 600 km long border with the satisfaction of both the countries. Leadership on both sides played vital role in the amicable solution of the border issue. Chinese leadership especially Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai, and Pakistani leadership particularly President Ayub Khan, Manzoor Qadir, N. A. M. Raza paved the way for a very cordial relationship in the years to come.



Farhat Asif, President Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies (IPDS):

Thank you so much Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar for hosting this important forum on how over the past seven decades we were able to build this strong like steel relationship which has faced a lot of challenges but at the same time grow stronger as a result. I am so honored to share the stage with Mr. Khalid Rehman, Culture Counselor of China, Prof Dr. Muhammad Idress, Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar and Minister Mr Anwar Zeb khan, Government of Khybar Pakhtunkhwa. We were discussing over the past hour that how the relations have been built over the time period and many aspects have been discussed so far, I would like to discuss about the significance of the relation which has been missing during the course of this discussion. How were the people to people ties over the past 70 years? This is not just one day, one year, it has been done for the past seven decades. While being a student of Chinese foreign policy, public diplomacy practitioner for the past 15 years at Institute of peace and diplomatic studies, we have been conducting research and publications and a lot of efforts had been made so far in order to build the relationship on people to people ties between Pakistan and China. On June 3rd and earlier we have signed an MOU with Public Diplomacy Centre in Uzbekistan of Shanghai cooperation organization and Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar were there yesterday we have been hosting the conversation how we can build the relationship between Uzbekistan and Pakistan with SCO. And then on June 3rd we fortunate enough to have signed the MOU and agreement of cooperation and partnership from Pakistan with one of the commissions based in Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China on how people to people ties can be developed with good neighborliness. On June 3rd this important initiative has

been done by the leaders. The event was held in Wuhan and I would really like to share that important Wuhan initiative that has been outlined and shared widely, is about how people to people ties are so significant between the two countries and as we are discussing about Pakistan and China these are so significant for building the ties between both countries. Over the years we have seen it is not just when the CPEC happen. It is the instruction of the relationship that we have seen people travel from Pakistan to China we have always saw China as a land of knowledge, but we can travel and seek knowledge of course, guided by our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who said seek knowledge even if you have to travel as far as to China.

When we see that over the past many years, we can see collaboration among universities we have seen collaboration among the institutions and quite recently after the emergence of CPEC contribution towards and the socio-economic, industrial, agriculture cooperation has been happening. The cooperation is deep rooted that is not just limited to scholars` level, but to agricultural, industrials, entrepreneur, youth, and students` levels as well. Taking the opportunity, I would like to encourage the students to think deeper about how China has been able to revolutionize and fight the poverty, how China had been able to revolutionize the economic base of the country`s system.

Taking the opportunity, I would like to congratulate on 1st July 100th anniversary of Communist Party of China, (CPC). we can see that how a political party (CPC) has given political base, structure, and stability to a country and how it has given the stability and how the people centric approach of a country has given the dividend. Economically the country has developed and has become one of the world largest and fastest growing economies. And how the country has strategically put forward the planes on regular basis and how the five years planes and has been implemented? How the milestones and goals have been set by the country and when we look at those studies and specially I would like to encourage all the students who are sitting around here with us in this forum to study about that, it`s significant for us to understand especially when we at home are facing so many challenges.

Similarly, I encourage the young scholars also to join the WeChat, which is a significant learning and a communication platform of China. So if you are a researcher and want to understand Chinese foreign policy, and want to understand about people living there you better join those digital platforms. Thank you so much Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar for providing me the opportunity

and I would like to encourage young scholars to study and research and seek knowledge and learn from Chinese experiences. If we look at the history, almost 50 years ago the country has been facing a lot of challenges but now it is a technologically advanced country, it is an economic titan, it has launched Belt and Road Initiative and off course sharing the dividend with the region around. Thank you so much for providing the opportunity and I hope that this forum will continue contributing towards building the partnership between both Pakistan and China.



**Prof Dr. Muhammad Abid Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar,
Vote of Thanks:**

Assalam-u-Alaikum and Ni Hao.

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar thank you very much for organizing such a wonderful webinar to remind us and our research students about the seventy years of friendship between China and Pakistan and I am very thankful to all the speakers Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Mr. Anwar Zeb khan, Minister of Government of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, H.E Zhang Heqing ,cultural Counselor, China embassy, Prof Zhang Jiadong from Fudan university China, Mr Khalid Rahman, Chairman, IPS Islamabad, Prof Dr. Ijaz Butt, Government collage township, Lahore Pakistan, and Madam Farhat Asif for delivering their valuable speeches. Of course, I don't intend to repeat whatever the experts have already said. As far as my personal experience is concerned from very childhood we are listening and hearing about Pakistan China friendship. When I was in school, I used to listen radio Peking, Urdu service at that time. Later on, when I was in Britain for my Ph.D. degree. So the western students and my fellow students' used to call China a sleeping giant because at that time the Soviet Union and the United States were two big powers of course they were thinking when the sleeping giant will awake, it will shake the world, so what I remember, when I was abroad, I saw Chinese friends, so they were very warm, and we used to exchange views of friendship. When I visited China, our Chinese friends called us iron brothers. All these things indicate that in these seventy years our relationship has transformed into stronger than steel as the topic of this webinar has very rightly depicted. When I visited China for the first time in 1993, I wrote a travel book in Urdu as well and when I visited China again in 2017, 2018, I found a very big difference between China of 1993 and China of 2017 and 2018. We are happy when we see our friend, China has become

prosperous. My own field of specialization is artificial intelligence, computer science and normally I tell my students that China has planned to be a leader in artificial intelligence by 2030 and in our field of specialization there are many opportunities of joint research. Ladies and gentlemen and all the participants from China and from Pakistan thank you for sparing time and joining this webinar on 70th anniversary of Pakistan-China's "Stronger than Steel Friendship"

CPEC:REGIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT



PTV NEWS organized experts discussion on, "CPEC:Regional Peace and Development" on 14th June 2021 at 4 pm. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar, Prof Dr. Shabir Ahmad Khan, Director, Area Study Center and Dr. Rahmanullah participated in the discussion in which the experts thoroughly discussed BRI, CPEC: challenges and opportunities, regional economic integration between Central and South

Asia, Afghanistan crisis and its peaceful solution. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar said that BRI and CPEC are based on Chinese win-win model, Gwadar deep sea port provides access to Russia, Central Asia and China to warm water of Indian Ocean. The regional economic integration projects of BRI, CPEC, TAPI, CASA1000 and many others are making Pakistan a hub of regional economic integration and the successful completion of these projects will stabilize the region and help in alleviation of poverty and ignorance in the region. Mr Bakht Zaman, the anchor managed the questions/answers very well.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROMOTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION-I

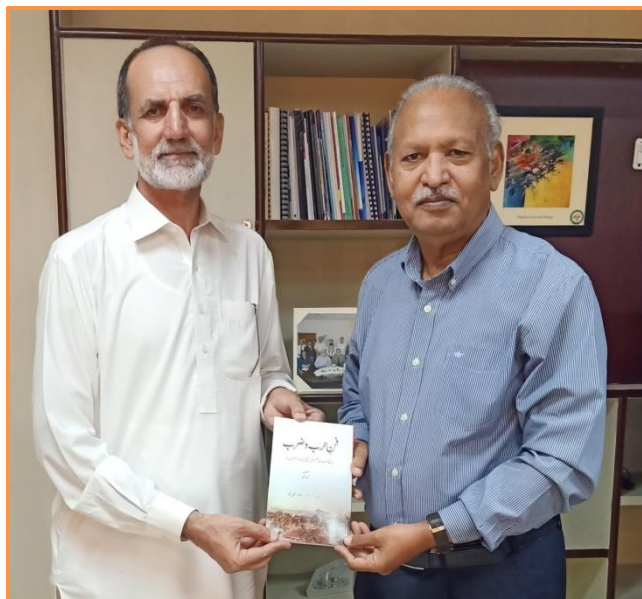


Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar participated as Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) nominee in the senate meetings of Swabi University, Women University Swabi and University of Malakand which were held in the governor house Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on 23rd June 2021. Mr. Kamran Khan Bangash Provincial Minister for Higher Education, Archives & Libraries and Information &

Press Releases Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chaired the senate meetings of Swabi University and Women University of Swabi. Prof Dr. Mukarram Shah, Vice-Chancellor of the two Universities presented its annual budgets. Then the senate meeting of the University of Malakand started at 02:00PM on the same day and was chaired by Mr. Dawood Khan, Secretary Higher Education , Archives & Libraries to Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The annual budget of University of Malakand was presented by Prof Dr. Gul Zaman, Vice chancellor of the University. The annual budgets were thoroughly discussed and passed by their respective senates.

MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL-CPEC-HEC

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar travelled to Islamabad and held a meeting with Dr. Safdar Ali Shah, Director General CPEC- Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) today on 25th June 2021. A tough competition took place among the Universities of Pakistan for HEC-CPEC funding for the establishment and strengthening of China Study Centers.



Keeping in view the performance of China Study Centers of all Universities throughout Pakistan only 6 Universities won the competition for funding including China Study Center, University of Peshawar. The funding will be provided for purchase of study material and hiring of core staff for the center for three years. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar thanked the DG-CPEC at HEC for the trust and support and assured Dr. Safdar Ali Shah that the funding will be utilized for achieving the targets given in the guidelines in given time.

Dr. Safdar Ali Shah while talking about promoting tourism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa highlighted the significance of archaeological sites in the province for tourists from China and other countries and then the Director China Study Center apprised him about the measures taken in the wake of the trilateral protocol recently signed among Afghanistan, China and Pakistan and the MOU signed between Northwest University, Xian, China and University of Peshawar in 2017 for strengthening cooperation in cultural heritage protection and preservation. Students and faculty exchange, joint research projects and online lectures will be arranged under the agreement. The Director General-CPEC, HEC praised the aforementioned efforts of the Center. On the occasion, Dr. Safdar Ali Shah gave his book (*Fun-i-Zarb-o-Harb*) Urdu translation of a Chinese classic book, “The Art of War” by Sun Tzu published by Pakistan Book foundation. Prof Zahid Anwar appreciated the selfless efforts of Lt. Gen ® Muhammad Asghar and Dr. Safdar Ali for promoting Pakistan-China academic collaboration under CPEC.

MEETING WITH CHINESE AMBASSADOR

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center University of Peshawar participated in a conference on, "Pakistan-China at 70: A Vision for the Future" on 8th July organized by Pakistan China Institute (PCI) at Sheesh Mehal Hall, Serena Hotel, Islamabad.



The conference featured four panelists including H. E. Nong Rong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Federal Minister, Syed Fakhar Imam, Qasim Suri, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, and Senator Mushahid Hussain, Chairman, the Senate defense Committee. A special keynote

address was delivered via video by Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister of People's Republic of China Wang Yi who said that no matter how the world or the region changes, China will always stand firmly with Pakistan. Ambassador Nong Rong thanked the political leaders of Pakistan for sending congratulatory letters to CPC on its 100 years and said that CPEC has now moved from infrastructure, energy, and development to agriculture, industry, IT, science and technology. Senator Mushahid Hussain in his speech attributed China's phenomenal success to three factors, namely, quality of leadership that is clean, competent and committed, ability to accept mistakes and do a course correction whenever necessary, and peaceful foreign policy, because China has not invaded or occupied any country nor indulged in military adventurism. Mr. Mustafa Hyder Sayed Executive Director PCI moderated the proceeding of the conference. During the conference Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar also met H.E. Nong Rong, China Ambassador to Pakistan and invited him to visit China Study Center, University of Peshawar.

TELECONFERENCE BETWEEN UOP, PAKISTAN AND NWU, CHINA FOR ACADEMIC COOPERATION

An online teleconference was held on July 26, 2021 between International Affairs Office, Northwest University, China and China Study Center, University of Peshawar. From

Northwest University, China, Prof REN Huilian (Director of International affairs Office), Prof WANG Jianxin (Director Pakistan Study Centre), Ms. ZHANG Zhaohui (International Affairs Office), Ms WANG Lifan (Secretary of External Affairs, School of Cultural Heritage), Mr. LI



Tao (Project Coordinator of BRI Institute) participated in the online meeting. From Pakistan Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees (Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar) and Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar (Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar) participated the meeting along with other colleagues participated in the said conference. The following areas of cooperation were discussed.

- 1) Northwest University, China and University of Peshawar agreed to cooperate and collaborate in the field of teaching Chinese language, Archeology, short trainings, students and faculty exchange.
- 2) CSC, UOP were offered to send 3-5 faculty members for learning Chinese Language at NWU, China.

3) Prof Wang Jianxin suggested a joint project on the comparative study of Indus and Chinese civilizations.

4) Both parties agreed on cooperation in Cultural heritage, protection, conservation, restoration and preservation.

5) Northwest University, China will establish Center for Central Asia and Silk Road Study at NWU. Northwest invited CSC, UOP to become a part Center for Central Asia and Silk Road Studies.

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, China Study Center & Dean Faculty of Social Sciences in his speech hoped that this meeting will pave way for further collaboration. Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, offered Chinese Students to come to University of Peshawar for study and further added that both Universities will enhance cooperation in the field of higher education. In the end the worthy Vice-Chancellor thanked the Chinese academicians and officials for participating in the teleconference for academic cooperation

MOU BETWEEN UOP & CGSS

A memorandum of understanding (MoU.) between University of Peshawar (UOP) & Centre for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS) was signed in University of Peshawar on 28th July 2021. Prof. Dr.



Muhammad Idrees, Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar and Major General ® Hafiz Masroor Ahmed, Vice President CGSS have signed the MoU. Both parties will jointly organize Seminars and Conferences. A series of forums and roundtable meetings on issues of common

concern will be jointly conducted by the two parties. Both the institutions will work and explore

opportunities to involve the academia in the multilateral fields. Both institutions agree to carry joint research in the areas of mutual interest to formulate and suggest a comprehensive policy regarding the issue for implementation / workable plan. CGSS using its platform will promote China Study Centre (CSC) at national & international level and CSC

will promote CGSS through its platforms. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar Director, China Study Center was the focal person from University of Peshawar and Mr Khalid Taimor Executive Director was the focal person from CGSS side. On the occasion Prof Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar said that UOP

is the oldest University in KP and located in Peshawar which is a regional hub and welcomed any joint initiative for national cause especially in higher education. Major General ® Hafiz Masroor Ahmad, Vice President CGSS said that CGSS and UOP have many avenues of cooperation

particularly joint research on issues of national importance and keeping in view the geostrategic location of Peshawar, China Study Center, University of Peshawar can also play an important role in different drives related to regional connectivity. During the meeting, Mr Khalid Taimoor, the Executive Director of CGSS threw light on future plan of collaboration between the two prestigious institutions



PAKISTAN, CPEC AND THE CHANGING GLOBAL AND REGIONAL FLUX

Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, & Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Peshawar delivered a presentation on “PAKISTAN, CPEC AND THE CHANGING GLOBAL AND REGIONAL FLUX” to the training officers at Provincial Services Academy, University Town, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan on 30th July 2021. The two hours lecture was divided into two sessions i.e., lecture and question answer. Prof Anwar in his lecture stated that Pakistan and China relations are based on 5 principles of peaceful co-existence and the 70 years hard work of the two nations culminated in tremendous trust and confidence between the



Prof Dr Zahid Anwar is receiving a souvenir at Provincial Service Academy

two countries. They have become all-weather friends and iron brothers. BRI is the 21st Century Silk Road which is based on win-win model for the benefit of all participants. The pedestal of BRI is for convergence of interests among different regions and states in each region. It is against none and perfectly in tune with President Xi Jinping politico-economic worldview. To explain that worldview Prof Anwar quoted President Xi Jinping who said, “World affairs should be handled through extensive consultations and the future of the world should be decided by all countries working together. We must not let the rules set by one or few countries be imposed on others or allow unilateralism pursued by certain countries to set the pace for the whole world. What we need in today’s world is justice, not hegemony. Big countries should behave in a manner befitting their status and with a greater sense of responsibility”. The learned speaker also discussed BRI and B3W in comparative perspective and highlighted that CPEC is a flagship project of the BRI and referred to internal and external challenges to CPEC including developments in Baluchistan and Northern Areas but added that come what may, the two

countries are determined and leaving no stone unturned to complete CPEC in time. He said that BRI and CPEC are necessary for regional peace, stability and prosperity and turned the attention of audience to Rashakai SEZ, Mohmand Marble City, Hattar and Gadun Amazai industrial zones development besides, Peshawar to Kabul Motorway and said that these projects will bring a silent economic revolution in less developed areas particularly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa , Pakistan. The first session was followed by a long question answer session and was attended by a large number of training officers particularly of provincial Information Department.

THE UNFOLDING SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

The PTV Peshawar (Current Affairs Department) has organized a panel discussion on the unfolding political situation in Afghanistan, which was hosted by Bakht Zaman

Yusufzai and the

panelists were Prof Dr.

Zahid Anwar, director,

China Study Center &

dean Faculty of Social

sciences, University of

Peshawar, brig ®

Mahmood Shah and

Lahaz Ali. Mr

Mahmood Shah in his



comments said that Afghanistan is passing through a critical time and Taliban have changed their strategy they have captured areas near the Amu River along Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

borders. Lahaz Ali said that media can play very important and constructive role regarding the emerging crisis in Afghanistan and highlighted the spoiler's role of India. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar in his comments said that Pakistan has a long border with Afghanistan and has adopted a pragmatic policy about the crisis in Afghanistan; it cannot close its eyes from the development in Afghanistan. China's BRI and CPEC is a short cut to peace and stability in Afghanistan. Pakistan and China are cooperating with one another for peaceful resolution of the issue on the other side of the Durand Line. Prof Anwar said that years back he has travelled many times by road from Peshawar to Jalalabad, Kabul, Maidan Shaher, Bamyan, Baghlan, Mazar e Shareef, Maimana, Badghis, Herat, Farah, Neemroz, Kandahar, Gazni, Kabul, Jalalabad and back to Peshawar and met ministers, governors and many common people of Afghanistan belonging to different ethnic groups they all considered Pakistan, a neighbor, friend and brotherly Muslim country and were thankful to Pakistan for hosting millions of Afghan refugees since the 1970s. He said that Afghans have the capability to resolve their issues; the international community should focus on amicable Afghan led Afghan owned resolution of the imbroglio there. He hoped that the people of Afghanistan will have stable and prosperous Afghanistan without human and material losses after the NATO complete withdrawal. China has launched BRI and CPEC and India can play a constructive role by joining economic integration projects like CPEC in the region. In the end the host thanked all the panelists for joining the discussion on such an important theme.

ONLINE WORKSHOP ON: POST-MERGER FATA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

POST MERGER FATA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Organized By **CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR**

◆ ID: 894 9979 7669 ◆ Date: 26-08-2021 ◆ Time: 11:00AM PST

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences & Director China Study Center, UOP

Sajad Rasool
Faculty, Lakki Marwat, University

Dr. Hamida
Faculty SBBW University

Keynote Speaker
Prof. Dr. S. Hussain Shaheed Soherwordi
Chairman IR, Department, UOP

3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Peshawar | csc@cscp.edu.pk | ☎091-5852247 | [/chinastudycentre](https://www.facebook.com/chinastudycentre)

China Study Center, University of Peshawar organized an online workshop on “Post Merger FATA: Opportunities and Challenges” on 26th August 2021, at 11 am at the conference hall of the Center. A large number of students, researchers, and Scholars joined the workshop. Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, and Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Peshawar welcomed all the speakers and audience to the online workshop. Sajad Rasool from Lakki Marwat University, and Dr. Hamida from Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar delivered their speeches and shared their collected data on the theme under focus. .



Sajad Rasool: Government writ was strengthened as a result of Operation Zarb e Azb in 2015 and then the rehabilitation of the TDPs started at the end of 2015. Once the writ of the government was established it was easy now for

the government to bring these areas into mainstream. Constitutionally these tribal areas were directly controlled by the federal government of Pakistan. Article 246 and 247 of the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan was related to FATA affairs. On May 24, 2018, Pakistan National Assembly approved the 25th Amendment in the 1973 Constitution. The recent merger of FATA into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has the potential to bring political, economic, social, and cultural changes to the region of FATA as well as many opportunities for the residents of the region. Recently I have visited Mir Ali, Miranshah, and Razmak a month earlier. The infrastructure is developed. The roads are repaired. I saw schools, colleges and playground where children were playing football. Normal economic activities have resumed. Big markets were built by the government and people were shopping there. There was rush in the Mirali and Miranshah bazars and many visitors like me were buying things there. According to the Assistant Commissioner of Bannu and Tourism Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa nearly 100,000 people visited Razmak on the occasions of Eid this year which is an encouraging situation for the people of Waziristan.



Dr. Hamida: The long-awaited proposal of FATA merger was finalized through 25th amendment. I have been to Khyber, Mohmand and other areas of the merged districts and collected data for the proposed academic research. The following steps helped the local people to a great extent: The second year ADP increased, and new departments were introduced which increased economic opportunities. Health cards were introduced, student finance schemes, extension of regular court system, introduction of police, shohada packages, forest regulations, tourism department, Border markets, special Act passed for mine and minerals, sports stadium, cadet college, generation of revenue sources, army public schools and agricultural development.



Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar in his speech stated that the former FATA (merged districts) are passing through a transitional stage. The government has taken solid steps and adopted measures to uplift social and economic problems. Many projects related to health; education, roads, infrastructure, and poverty eradication have been launched. After the merger and overall changes in the regional situation, there are prospects for the development of the post-merger FATA.

We should also keep in mind the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is covering the whole country from Torkham to Karachi. CPEC is helping in the agriculture and industrial sector. Mohmand Marble City is a project under CPEC. And it is said the more than 18 thousand people will get the jobs in this project. It will galvanize industrial development in the post-merger FATA.

Furthermore, he mentioned that the speeches give us a very optimistic picture of the emerging situation, and we hope that with the passage of time concerted efforts with a systematic approach to the issues of the area will take place. The people of the merged FATA were at the forefront in the war against terrorism. They were in the line of fire, and they suffered a lot and were victims for the last 20 years. It is hoped that the people of the area will take a sigh of relief and their trauma will be healed by Government through different economic uplift projects.

The area is rich both in terms of natural resources as well as human resources. By focusing on capacity building, human resource development and exploitation of the natural resources and investment in the area, industrial and agriculture development it is very likely that the area will develop, and the problems of the area will be addressed.

At the end Professor Dr. Zahid Anwar thanked the audience for participating in the workshop

WEBINAR: ISLAMIC EMIRATE OF AFGHANISTAN IN 2021: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR PAKISTAN

WEBINAR
**ISLAMIC EMIRATE OF AFGHANISTAN IN 2021:
OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES FOR PAKISTAN**

Organized By
China Study Center, University Of Peshawar

SPEAKERS

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, &
Director China Study Center, UOP

Keynote Speaker
Brig (r) Mahmood Shah

Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram
Executive Director,
CGSS, Islamabad

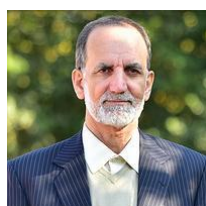
Prof. Dr. S. Hussain Shaheed
Sohewordi
Chairman IR, Department UOP

Dr Raza Rahiman Khan
Qad
Independent Academician

Dr Manzoor Afridi
Chairman Dept. of IR & Politics IIUI

14 Sept 2021 | 11.00-01.00 PM **Zoom ID: 898 5090 4381**
3rd Floor, Academic Block-II, University of Peshawar | 091-5852247 | csc@uop.edu.pk

INTRODUCTION:



Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar (Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Director China Study Center, UoP). Distinguish Guests and Honorable participants today the webinar on “Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan in 2021: Opportunities and Challenges for Pakistan” is organized by China Study Center, University of

Peshawar. We have invited distinguished scholars, experts on the region to speak on this theme. Ladies and gentlemen, Afghanistan is an important country, a country that connects South, Central East and West Asia. So far its political history is concerned since Sour Revolution in April 1978 politically it is instable. Sour revolution was followed by Soviet invasion in 1979 and then after Geneva Accord Soviet troops left Afghanistan. Despite the Soviet withdrawal Afghanistan remained politically instable. In 1990 there was a civil war that culminated in the NATO invasion of Afghanistan. But NATO occupation of Afghanistan did not restore peace. After NATO withdrawal now a Paradigm shift took place in Afghanistan. Due to political instability in Afghanistan the neighboring countries also suffered to a great extent. Pakistan has a long border with Afghanistan and the sufferings of Pakistan were far greater than other neighbors of Afghanistan. In the last 20 years due to political instability in Afghanistan, Pakistan lost it's 80000 citizens and economic losses exceeded \$150 billion. Now the new situation requires

attention of experts so that to for proper understanding of the ground reality. In Afghanistan Taliban regained control and this time they are stronger than before. Ladies and gentlemen when in Afghanistan Taliban first got control of Kabul, I went there in December 1997. And again visited Afghanistan in July 2001 by road I traveled from Peshawar to Jalalabad to Kabul to Mazar e Sharif to Herat to Kandahar and then to Ghazni and saw many cities of Afghanistan. I visited Afghanistan as an academic researcher and interviewed Governors, Ministers and other high officials. Now Afghanistan is facing many challenges both internal and external. Humanitarian crisis is unfolding and a large number of educated Afghans have left the country. Afghanistan is facing shortage of food, fuel and medicine. More than 72% of Afghans are living below the poverty line. The war and peace in Afghanistan is affecting the political environment of the whole region. To explore the impact of current developments in Afghanistan on Pakistan we have invited experts to share their views in this Webinar.



Brig (r) Mahmood Shah

Distinguish Audience it is my pleasure to talk about the situation in our neighborhood i.e., Afghanistan. We will discuss the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan 2021: Opportunities and Challenges for Pakistan. Everything that happens in Afghanistan has direct effects on Pakistan. Therefore, we have to be every time really studying Afghanistan very minutely and seeing whatever is happening there. The US withdrawal from Afghanistan is a huge event. It will have implications for the history to come. Studying it and whatever opportunity this present situation offer to Pakistan is very important. The problem in Afghanistan is basically a political problem it is not a military problem. And when the US came and invaded Afghanistan before invasion, we advised them that it is not a military problem, and you cannot solve anything by attacking Afghanistan, but they insisted, and they attacked. And after that they were able to capture the whole Afghanistan, we told them to sit now and apply political formulas in order to stabilize Afghanistan. They used to say that nation building is not our job I do not know how the whole situation was being interpreted as nation building by them. Whereas we said that it really needs a political solution that is all the stakeholders who were there on ground need to sit and then talk about Afghanistan and then help them in getting to rebuild Afghanistan. But somehow, they were not very attentive. And they continued their sort of

things around in Afghanistan and they did not concentrate on the basic issue of Afghanistan. We have seen historically Afghanistan is a graveyard of empires and the very superpower of today had come to Afghanistan that included Britain, Russia and now this time the United States of America. We therefore were not taken by surprise when finally; US announced that they will withdraw from Afghanistan. We firmly believe that if they had not decided to withdraw from Afghanistan today and if they extend their stay for 5 or 10 more years, the final result would have been the same. And we told them there is no good weather and good day when to withdraw from Afghanistan. And they finally reached to this conclusion.

Now when US was in Afghanistan it definitely had other objectives than simply occupation of Afghanistan. Those objectives included keeping an eye on Russia, China, and Pakistan's nuclear program. They thought that Russia is progressing; Pakistan has become a nuclear power and progressing. Unfortunately, the withdrawal process was not headed well. The decision was basically correct, but the management wasn't and there were some problems in withdrawing. When US troops were in Afghanistan, its soil was used against Pakistan in various ways. They wanted to start a sort of insurgency in Baluchistan like BLA and other organizations. It coincided with the Americans dreams or their wish that CPEC should not succeed. A large number of CPEC projects were located in Baluchistan, therefore, the efforts by India against Pakistan were either assisted or ignored by the US where we all were an allies, but they were acting against an ally i.e., Pakistan. So, with the withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan the threats from the Western border have also disappeared. And I think this is a great achievement which we were managing in anyway. Off course it is a great opportunity for Pakistan now that the threats from western border have been removed and we can concentrate on our eastern border and defensively we feel much better. Because we were prepared for two borders but now, we have to concentrate on one border. And the demand of Pakistan is that Afghanistan soil should not be used against Pakistan. Afghanistan's soil was also used against China, therefore, there was a demand from Chinese also that Afghanistan's soil should not be used against China. And these are two firm promises that the Taliban have made with the government of Pakistan and Government of China

Beside threats the second opportunity is increase of trade in the region. CPEC can be extended backward to Afghanistan and to Central Asian Republics. Now more countries can join the CPEC, and more trade will happen. This is the basic purpose of CPEC and Pakistan has offered a trade corridor to the regional countries which are landlocked and can use the Gwadar port which can increase trade in this region. Another opportunity is that peace will prevail in the region. The money spent on maintaining peace, the money spent on armed forces and security forces those will decrease. And I think everybody will be happy.

The purpose of India in Afghanistan is not maintenance of peace its purpose is its own agenda in the region and that agenda is negative. The amount of propaganda that India is doing against Pakistan or against Taliban in Afghanistan shows that how much they are hurt, and have invested in a wrong project. Everybody knows that Afghans cannot be forced into a culture which is not their own. We say it is a political problem. The culture of Afghans is that you cannot take out Islam from their way of life. It is embedded in their culture. The countries like Soviet Union tried and they brought communist ideology and for landing it in Afghanistan they used the term Afghan nationalism. The Soviets tried to impose communist system in Afghanistan in the name of Afghan nationalism. That was not possible and there was a huge response against the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan. And then again, the West wanted to have influence in Afghanistan and still they want to have but that is not the issue. You cannot tackle with the Afghan nationalism; you are sort of tackling with Islamic nature of Afghanistan. Afghanistan is basically a tribal society the court system is based on Islamic principles. You cannot take out Islam out of their blood. And those people who were talking about the women liberty and other so many things are not possible in Afghanistan. Even today they may try it they will damage the culture of Afghanistan further.

Two weeks ago, American CIA Director came to India, and they had a long meeting with the National Security advisor of India Ajit Kumar Doval. What all they discuss you could only imagine. You saw Pakistan called for a coordination conference of Soviet Intelligence chief, Tajikistan Intelligence chief and others to coordinate for regional peace particularly developments regarding Afghanistan..

The big challenge is constitution of inclusive government in Afghanistan. . The Taliban have announced they will have an inclusive government. That inclusive government means that you have to give representation to all ethnic groups of Afghanistan in the government. Afghanistan is a multi-ethnic state with the Pashtun as a dominating population that is about 50 % whereas Tajik are about 19%, Uzbek 11% and other minorities 1 %, 2% and 3 %. If all of them are given share in the government only then a stable government can be formed. Historically it always has been either the Pashtoon dominating the government or some others like Tajik have been ruling. In the last American occupation period, it was the Tajiks which is a minority dominated the government in the country. President Ashraf Ghani was there only by name Pashtun were in the government but all the decisions were taken by the Tajik minority. And it will strengthen peace in Afghanistan if Taliban include the minorities and they will lose nothing by having them in the government according to their share. Until that happen it will remain a challenge. The relation between Afghanistan and Tajikistan remains strained. Tajikistan is a state among the Central Asian Republics. Its population is about 9 million where is the population of Tajiks in Afghanistan is 10 million. There have more Tajiks in Afghanistan than in Tajikistan. The second thing is that they are ethnically neither Turkic nor Pashtun, whereas the Uzbeks are of Turkic origin. That is the differences between the two ethnicities. And they are the one who claims that they are the predecessors of Mughal in India. They were the one who have the capital in Bukhara and Samarkand. These places are now located in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan is claiming them so that is the issue between these two countries. With Afghanistan they have issues.

Now leadership of Taliban is very educated. If you cannot come with the required solution of the first challenge that you are facing then extremism will remain a question. All neighbors of Afghanistan and other stakeholders would like that Afghanistan constitute a broad based government. India will take an advantage of any misunderstanding or negative development in Afghanistan and Tajikistan relations. This challenge that I am talking about I mean inclusive government in Afghanistan can lead to peace and stability in the whole region.

The second challenge if the world decides to stop humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. Afghanistan is a poor country with a lot of problems and a lot of poverty. I think Prof Zahid said 72% people living below poverty line in Afghanistan and 92% of people living on \$2 a day. I think we should

tell the world to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan so that Afghan people do not suffer in this process. Humanitarian aid will be another challenge Afghanistan will be facing.

Now at this point for the first-time world superpower has been turned away and there are speculations that this is the end of American superpower status that may be too early to say so. The new development gave an edge to the Islamic countries an edge in the world affairs. And we should not lose this edge by failing to rise to this situation. So, the propaganda against Islam must be eradicated. Finally, there are enormous possibilities of trade and region prosperity in this poor portion of the world. So therefore, we all should avail this opportunity and I think we can build on that. Inclusive government in Afghanistan will be a moderate government. The moderation will come when you have all sorts of people in the government. But if you are exclusive in one corner there are chances you can become extremist with your ideologies. And I think there is nothing wrong being a Muslim we have a system given by Prophet (PBUH) which is more than enough for this world. Islam is a religion of nature which answers all the questions. I think that would bring me to the end of my speech I am sure I am being able to convey my point of view. Thank you very much.



Mr. Khalid Taimur Akram. (Executive Director CGSS, Islamabad)

Thank you very much Sir and first of all I must say that Brig ® Mahmood Shah had brought very important points and historical perspective of the complete Afghan situation. It was thrilled to hear a speech I would not go in the details which Brig ® Mahmood Shah has already covered I would just start from February 2020 once this withdrawal agreement was signed between the Trump Government and Taliban and the events thereafter, and then I will talk about the challenges and opportunities for Pakistan. We had been seeing in last one year that there was a change in the US government and Trump government had gone in January 2021. We saw President Joe Biden coming in and there were many policies of President Trump which president Joe Biden did not agree with but yes the US establishment and the CIA and the state department were of the view to at least continue with this, that the American forces and NATO forces must withdraw from the Afghanistan as per the agreement and as per the plans. The first loophole which was created was with the change of the

administration in the US. The new administration did not follow up as it was supposed to and at the end we saw a hasty withdrawal.

I have been talking to various International Media outlets in last couple of weeks and everybody ask one question that why did the Afghan army on which the US had invested so much why did it collapsed. Let me also tell the audience the reason of collapse of the Afghan army. Basically, any Army of the world the standing army is always made on some ideology, on something and the Afghan army which was supported by the United States since last 20 years the main incentive for the soldiers and officers for serving in the army was the US dollars and money. So that was why Afghan Army once saw that they were always dependent on the US Army and once they saw that their source of dependence is going to vanish soon so they either decided to run away or they decided to keep quiet, or they decided to set at their homes, and everything was collapsed in Afghanistan and finally we saw Ashraf Ghani ran away from Afghanistan. Let me also here share with you my personal experience of 15th and 16th July 2021, I was in Tashkent with Prime Minister Imran Khan, once the agreement of the Central and South Asia connectivity was being signed and over there the former President Ashraf Ghani in front of the foreign ministers of almost thirty eight countries started accusing Pakistan of sending 10000 terrorists to Afghanistan and those two days were quite uncomfortable for us because after every 10 to 15 minutes some Afghan delegate would get up and started blaming Pakistan and we could sense their anxiety. We could sense that President Ashraf Ghani and his team has started feeling that they no longer hold power in Afghanistan and their time is about to end. So, they started blaming Pakistan for everything but then the world saw that it was not Pakistan. It was the wrong policies of the West and it was the wrong policies of the USA, which ultimately ended up in the fall of Kabul and the way President Ashraf Ghani ran away everything was crystal clear in front of the world.

Now coming over to the present Taliban movement Brig (r) Mehmood Shah was absolutely right that these Taliban are not Taliban of the 1990s. These Taliban have two tiers. The first tier is of the old people and the second tier is of those youngsters who are very well educated who can speak English, who know the world politics and social media and who guide their elders. We have seen that the Taliban movement in last 2-3 months was quite united because all the fractions were united on one thing that they have to free their land. We saw the Uzbek Taliban

closing the Uzbek Afghan border. We saw the Tajik Taliban closing the Tajik Afghan border. We saw the Pashtun Taliban closing Pakistan Afghan border and ultimately the Fall of Kabul had happened. All the ethnic groups were fighting for one thing that was for freedom. The west is also propagating that Taliban have occupied Afghanistan they have not occupied Afghanistan actually they are Afghan, and they are living in their own land, and they got freedom from the occupation forces. So now what happens after the common enemy is gone so now it is the responsibility of Taliban to make a united Government in which all the ethnic groups should be given representation. Zahibullah Mujahid, the Taliban spokesperson has repeatedly said that they are in the process of consultation and very soon they are going to include other ethnic minorities in the government.

Now coming over to the challenges and opportunities for Pakistan, fortunately or unfortunately Pakistan has again come into the world limelight and Pakistan again has been forced to adopt a role of moderator. The Foreign Ministry of our Government very successfully told the world that look we have got nothing to do with the affairs of Afghanistan. But yes since somebody has to moderate somebody has to make everybody set together so we are ready to do that. We have seen foreign minister calling a meeting of all the foreign ministers of the region countries we have seen repeated visits of the European foreign ministers to Islamabad. We have seen Pakistan helping many foreign countries in the evacuation of their citizens and we have seen that Pakistan is giving humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and lots of things are happening so the challenges as Brig ® Mahmood Shah rightly pointed out they start from political, and they end up at the humanitarian grounds. So, the political challenge right now is that the Taliban government should be recognized by the world which is not happening and the more delay it causes the more problem there will be in Afghanistan. Because right now Afghanistan has no currency right now all their foreign assets are sealed, right now, they are not taken as a legitimate government. Pakistan has been trying to tell the world that look now they are in power and we have to accept them and there are countries which are playing a very important role and we have recently seen the Qatar foreign minister visiting Afghanistan. Yesterday there was flight of PIA to Afghanistan, but this is not enough. The World must find out a way and the world must give the legitimate role to Taliban and it is very pre mature to say that Taliban will not abide by their promises So let's give them a certain time let's make them accountable and let them come up

with a plan whatever the West or whatever the world wants from them and as per the United Nation Charter any group of people holding 85% or more land are the legitimate rulers of the country. So as per the United Nations charter either today or tomorrow we have to accept Taliban as the legitimate ruler but yes whatever political compulsions or whatever the political red lines are being drawn for them those are already conveyed to them that their land should not be used against any other country. Just recently we saw Anti Pakistan demonstration carried out by Indian agents in Afghanistan and we also saw that immediately Taliban took action against all those who carried out such kind of demonstration. So, in this political process since India is absolutely out of this political process, so it is likely that they may cause some kind of false flag operation within Afghanistan or outside Afghanistan and blame Taliban to tell the world that they are not legitimate people. The second is humanitarian issue. Right now, Afghanistan is facing severe crises of food, petrol, diesel, Medicine and other things. Although China, Pakistan, Qatar and some other Arab countries are providing them with these things, but this cannot continue for long, the Afghan economy must be allowed to regenerate, the Afghan banks should be allowed to work and international community must give them their due share of the trade not the aid.

Third challenge which Pakistan is also facing, and neighboring countries are also facing is the influx of refugees or any kind of influx of the terrorists from Afghanistan's side towards neighboring countries to that the Afghan Taliban have remained very positive, and they have been ensuring their neighboring countries that they won't allow any kind of terrorist to move from Afghanistan to the other countries. But yet Pakistan is also shown lot of concern on the jailbreak which happened during the early days of the Taliban takeover. Jail breaks in which news was there that members of TTP, ISIS and Daesh fled from the jail. Pakistan and other countries are worried about that, and this is a big challenge not only today but for days to come.

There is another challenge and it is Western expectation. The west is not ready to give any sort of breathing time to Taliban and the West is continuously pressuring on women rights and on human rights. Although Taliban has been given very solid statements on the human rights and we saw even the footage that the women are going to Universities but the west is not yet satisfied. Every day they are asking for more. So Taliban come up with some kind of answer for

them and the Western expectations which are increasing with every passing day the West should also realize one thing that they have to give time to Taliban they have just come to power on 15th of August so let's not put them under so much pressure let's have some deadlines for them but at least legitimize their rules so that they can actually rule the country and they can show their worth that they are working and ruling the country and let's not make them accountable every hour. Right now, what is happening that every hour the West is making them accountable for every hour which I think is wrong.

Last point another challenges is the Indian agenda, we have seen in last 20 years that India had been using Afghanistan's soil against Pakistan, although CPEC was launched in 2013 but even before that Afghanistan's soil was extensively used against Pakistan and Pakistan remained apprehensive about that and Pakistan had been telling the Afghan government time and again to stop the Indian usage of Afghan soil and still although India has closed all its consulates and all their embassy staff had gone back but still they have their agents they have their people they have invested and they have invested a lot of money on their agents in Afghanistan and they would use those agents not only against Pakistan but within Afghanistan against Taliban. Also, they can be used to create a distrust between Afghan Taliban and the rest of the world.

Now coming over to the opportunities, on 16th July 2021 we saw a historic agreement signed between South Asia and Central Asia in which Pakistan was a major signatory and we became a strategic partner of Uzbekistan and Central-South Corridor concept was signed. This concept can only materialize if the Afghan situation gets stabilized which we can see that if it's stabilized it will be very beneficial for the Central Asian countries and for Pakistan also. Just in May 2021 Pakistan Afghanistan and Uzbekistan signed the agreement for railway line which will start from Tashkent to Mazar e Shaarif to Kabul to Peshawar and subsequently it will link with Pakistan Railway upto Gwadar. So this is a very big opportunity for Pakistan it is a very big opportunity for Central Asia and for Afghanistan, also because Afghanistan's trade will increase and it will get a lot of revenue in terms of the transit trade between Central Asia and Pakistan. Because Central Asia would get an access to the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, and everything will pass through Afghanistan, and I am sure the Afghan trade would not only increase but Afghanistan will get a lot of money as transit trade fees and other regimes.

Lastly, I would just talk on one thing that Pakistan has been playing a very supportive and very positive role in last couple of weeks and we must not only acknowledge Pakistan's efforts in this connection but we must tell the world that how responsible we have been acting and we must not let our enemies to portray Pakistan negatively. So, it becomes the duty of all the Scholars and all the people who interact with media to project what our country has been doing. Pakistan should be portrayed as a state of responsible which is playing a very constructive role in a very responsible way. Thank you very much.



Prof Dr Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy , Chairman, Department of IR, UOP)

Thank you so much for giving me opportunity to speak on a current subject that we are quite concerned about that is change of regime in Afghanistan. Pakistan was again and again stating and finally the world has seen that it is in fact political solution that Afghanistan deserves rather than a military solution. There are many mistakes and blunders that Dr Ashraf Ghani committed. Taliban need to learn from that. Dr Ashraf Ghani was relying more on extraterritorial States, United States, India, and Europe. He was least interested in the neighboring countries, Pakistan, Central Asian republics, China, Iran, and that is one of the biggest reasons of his fall. Let me say this again that United States does not have any appetite for coming back to Afghanistan and to fix it again. Taliban have learned lessons. Look they are having very good ties with Iran, they are having exchange of delegation with China, they are in contact with Pakistan, they are in contact with neighboring countries, and they don't have any such contact with the world at large. They want to keep the neighboring countries happy at the moment. They are more focused towards neighboring powers including Russia. They are very pragmatic, very practical as compared to Dr Ashraf Ghani or Hamid Karzai regime in the past. Ladies and gentlemen, I must say let's have a cool-headed analysis. We need to understand that Afghanistan is very easy to be occupied but very difficult to govern. This is not the era of absolute complete sovereignty. It is the time when we say that you are foreign policy is reflected by your domestic policy. You need to be very particular about your domestic policies. You need to be very careful about the needs of the people. You need to be very careful about individual liberty. Whatever happens in Afghanistan never stays in Afghanistan. It has always a spell over effect on its neighboring countries. And then Pakistan which is sharing 2340 km long boarder off

course Pakistan has to face the spell over effect of Afghanistan. So therefore, Pakistan has to learn a lot from numerous falls of Kabul. Numerous time Kabul has fallen, and many regimes have come. Two points I have to say right now with this fall of Kabul. One is that we need to stop saying broad-based inclusive government which everyone is again and again saying, and I am opposing that. This should not happen. Taliban had been fighting with all other in Afghanistan for the last 20, 21 years. If all-inclusive government takes place, different groups will get close to each other groups, the groups will stain their hands in blood of each other. It is not that easy to have inclusive government. It is not that easy to accommodate each other. So, once it is difficult, they will get close to each other halfheartedly and this halfhearted approach will lash back. Those who are not Taliban they will get into the government, and they will really attack on their roots. They will really make them fail and it will really be a trouble for the Taliban.

Second thing Taliban are ideological group they feel unrest and inconsistent with other people because the other group is not ideologically so I believe it will be the failure of the government if all inclusive government takes place. Everyone is condemning and criticizing this interim government that Taliban had declared. I am till now absolutely fine with this argument that there should not be a broad-based government. If it takes place, it will be temporary, it will be very brief, and Taliban will be the ultimate sufferer.

My second point that I want to bring over here is about the Afghan army. What are Taliban going to do with Afghan army that is no more there on the scene? We must accept whatever the weak army it was, but it was an army, it was trained, it had the title of national army once upon a time. The total documented number is one hundred seventy thousand people. Americans say that they were thirty thousand, but actually they were one hundred and seventy thousand people. If these one hundred seventy thousand people are disbanded and if Taliban disown them, they will be the one who will get together somewhere and will get together and then they will attack the Taliban government in future. See after six months, after a year, two years but they will be the one because we know that they are the trained people. We need to learn from history and as Lenin said that I learnt from history that we do not learn from history. This thing had happened in 1857, war of independence when Gora Sahib occupied India and they disbanded Mughal

Army and the Mughal army got together under Jhansi Ki Rani Laxmi bai under general Bakht Khan. It was Mughal army which really attacked on the Gora Sahib army. Gora Sahib says it was mutiny and we say it was war of independence in 1857.

Secondly the USA came to Iraq they defeated Saddam Hussein and that Saddam Hussein army they disbanded and the same army after a year got together in shape Zainab Brigade, in shape of army under Muqtada al-Sadr and they really taught America a lesson. So, in terms of the process my very strong recommendation to the present regime will be not to disband Afghan Army. Just remove their one attachment with America put another badge on their shoulders like Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and incorporate them. Give them an ideological training they had physical training. Just an ideological and missionary training is needed. And then they will be the guardians of the country. Of course army is not only run on training not only on ideology but every soldier has to run his own kitchen as well. And for that matter 170,000 people go unemployed in the twinkling of an eye they will definitely be bearing some backlash. Taliban need to reduce as much tension and challenges to their authority as possible. And that is possible when they will not disband the former Afghan national army rather, embrace them. I believe that the way Pakistan is proceeding and supporting Muslim brothers in Afghanistan is the need of the time we know that the government has changed there, you know that Americans have left. On humanitarian grounds if Afghanistan is left and is not recognized and is not supported, we probably will see a humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan, before it happens I believe International community has to wake up early and it needs to support them. Thank You so much.



Dr Raza Rehman Khan Qazi (Independent Academician)

Thank you very much respected Professor Zahid Anwar, keynote speaker Brig (r) Mahmood Shah and other honorable speakers and participants. Thanks for giving me this opportunity to share my thoughts on regarding the development in Afghanistan. On August 15 changes occurred in Afghanistan. Now Taliban are controlling the entire Afghanistan. This situation has created a lot of opportunities for Pakistan and there are also some challenges so I would start with the opportunities. Pakistan has always been getting affected from the events and the issues that have taken place in Afghanistan. A stable Afghanistan is very much in the interest of stable Pakistan. So this has been an official narrative

of Pakistan but this has been a very important reality regarding Pakistan Afghanistan relationship. This is a very important opportunity for Pakistan. Pakistan would no longer face the dilemma of war on two fronts. We know that Pakistan is a country that unfortunately has on its Eastern side India that has been arch rival and that has been on the lookout for any opportunity to unmake Pakistan and on the other hand there is Afghanistan where governments most of the time were not so friendly towards Pakistan. The Taliban have already declared Pakistan as their second home. Their families have been living in Pakistan since they migrated to Pakistan in the 1980s as refugees. They got their education in Pakistan. Now the Taliban has very openly said that Afghan soil will not be used against any third country. This is a very positive development. Once a broad-based government or even a Taliban dominated government in Afghanistan is established there would be a lot of economic opportunities and these economic opportunities would increase manifold. Now according to different estimates at present moment the bilateral trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan has come down to almost \$500 million but the potential for their trade according to different estimates is around \$15 billion and it has huge potential so once Taliban are in power there would be a lot of opportunities for Pakistani Businessmen and traders to capitalize upon the economic opportunities just provided by the new development in Afghanistan. There would be a lot of increase in bilateral trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

With more interaction between Pakistan and Afghanistan the process of assimilation and acculturation will take place. A Large number of educated and skilled Afghan young men and women during the regime change have left Afghanistan; they have gone to the western countries or other countries now there is a vacuum. Pakistani educated and skilled persons can fill that vacuum. Even during the last 20 years many Pakistani skilled and educated people have gone to Afghanistan and have contributed in the reconstruction and rebuilding of Afghanistan. Now what is the biggest economic opportunity for Pakistan is the extension of the CPEC when the Chinese came up with the idea of the BRI and as a part of the BRI the CPEC so way back in 2013 the Chinese foreign ministry announced that it will be glad if Afghanistan become part of that But you know that Indian lobby has been very active in Afghanistan and it has been resisting all efforts from Pakistan and China to make Afghanistan part of CPEC initiative. Now Taliban are showing the readiness and willingness to become part of the CPEC and this would be a great

opportunity for Pakistani Businessmen and traders and also for China. It is a big effort by the Chinese state to integrate 60 countries, Eurasian countries as a part of BRI and it is only through CPEC extension to Afghanistan that the full potential of the CPEC can be realized. Another important opportunity is Central and South Asia connectivity. Afghanistan geographically has been a pivot of the Central and South Asian regions This has been the only missing link between the South Asia and Central Asia and their economic linkages and ultimate economic integration. During the last three/ four decades there have been efforts from different regional countries to integrate South and Central Asia economically, but all these efforts have been in vain because there has been instability and war in Afghanistan. There is a great opportunity and Pakistan could capitalize upon that opportunity by linking South Asia and Central Asia.

Taliban can stabilize Afghanistan and the USA by signing an agreement in Doha with Taliban indirectly recognized it. But for political reasons they are not openly declaring it. Taliban are behaving very diplomatically, and they are really behaving like a state actor. I think for Pakistan it could be a big challenge to convince the Taliban to give up support to the TTP. Taliban has vocally declared when Mullah Brother went to his last visit to China that they would not support any terrorist group to use Afghan soil against China, Pakistan or any other country. Now there is a challenge how to convince the Taliban to recognize the Durand line as permanent border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. I think this potential Talibanization on a low level may emerge in Pakistan. The influx of refugees from Afghanistan would be also a problem, already there are some 6,000 more refugees that has come since August 15th to Pakistan. So, if the situation gets more problematic in Afghanistan there would be more refugees in Pakistan. With that I came to the end of speech. Thank you very much.



Dr Manzoor Afridi (Chairman Department of IR and Politics, IIUI)

Ladies and gentlemen, Assalam-u-Alikum, Good Afternoon, I am thankful to Prof. Dr Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar for inviting me to speak in this important webinar on Afghanistan.

I am glad to see Brig @ Mahmood Shah, Dr Raza Khan, Prof Soherwordi and Khalid Taimor and all other participants. It's really difficult usually for the last speaker to talk on the topic because all the main points have been delivered by the worthy speakers but let me try to have my opinion on this important topic Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan 2021: Challenges and opportunities for Pakistan. Well, there are a lot of opportunities for Pakistan When Taliban again got power in Afghanistan and they formed a government, but on the other side yes there are challenges as well.

If we talk about the opportunities the first is the recognition of Taliban government. If we see back in 1990s when there was a Taliban government from 1996 to 2001 for 5 years so it was only recognized by Pakistan, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia but now this time Pakistan is not alone or Pakistan is not in the list of few countries to recognize it. We can say that now the whole burden is not on the shoulders of Pakistan to recognize that. Yes, it can be a challenge, but I would rather say it is an opportunity for Pakistan that now we are having wait and see policy. We see the reaction of the neighboring countries of Afghanistan especially China, Russia, Central Asian republics, Iran and Turkey and also the extra regional powers in the Middle East and other areas of the planet and all the major powers of the world like the US, France, Germany, UK and other important players. So, this time Pakistan is not alone there are many countries that are having this wait and see policy. The worthy speakers talked on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor and also the inclusion of Afghanistan in it. If we see that during the Ashraf Ghani era even, he repeatedly said that Afghanistan would join the CPEC but it was not made possible because of his allegations he leveled against Pakistan and because of the many other issues between the two countries but now the situation has changed. The Taliban has got power in Afghanistan and they are willing to join this China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Another Important point is China's enthusiasm, China is of the opinion that Afghanistan should join the China Pakistan Economic Corridor. If Afghanistan join and of course will join, it will not be limited to Afghanistan but rather it would be extended to the Central Asian republics. Already Pakistan is on the way to have this motorway not only reach to Kabul but also to Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and other Central Asian Republics. So, if we are keeping in mind the huge reserves of the hydrocarbon of the Central Asian Republics and other minerals in Afghanistan.

So the extension of CPEC is really significant and if Afghanistan joins it will not be only beneficial for China and Pakistan but also for the whole region for Central Asia and South Asia.

After Taliban have got control of Afghanistan, many experts have highlighted that there are more chances for political and military stability in Afghanistan. So Afghanistan connects both the important regions of South and Central Asia. If Afghanistan joins the CPEC, not only the CPEC but such other corridors like Lapis Lazuli about the regional integration process can also be materialized.

Another opportunity is the border security. For the last 20 years Pakistan was struggling to have a safe border on its Western front Taliban and Pakistan`s government can develop consensus that how to make this Durand line between the two countries more stable and more secure. By achieving this of course Pakistan can concentrate on its eastern border with India.

Another opportunity is the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. I think that this is also very much important because Pakistan is now a permanent member of Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Afghanistan is an observer in this SCO. China and Russia are the founding members of SCO. All of them are on the same page so far the issue of Afghanistan is concerned. This SCO can be further strengthened in economic and defense sectors because there is a specialized agency within SCO which is called Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). There is already collaboration among Central Asian republics Pakistan China and Russia. But now this collaboration can be further strengthened in future. This Shanghai Cooperation Organization can be stronger due to Taliban`s coming into power and having more stability in Afghanistan.

Another opportunity for Pakistan is that now Taliban are a bit reformed. From their announcement now it is clear that now these Taliban are not the Taliban of the 1990s. They have allowed female education; they`ve also allowed women working in different fields and they have also allowed the media personnel to have their own projection. If they are in this situation definitely it can create more opportunities for Pakistan.

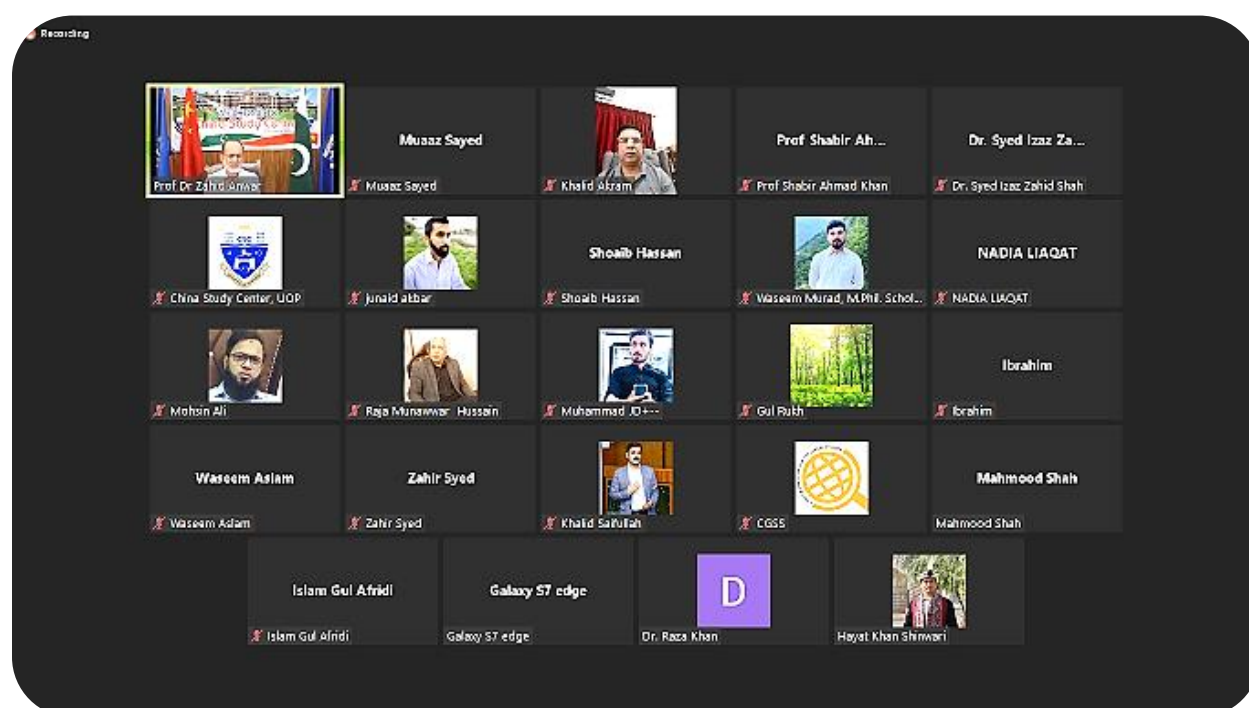
Another point is that the trade extension to Central Asian republics. One of the Scholars commented that the trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan can be increased to 15 billion dollars. So it is very much welcoming and of course it's possible because for much of its trade, Afghanistan is dependent on Pakistan. So, if we extend this motorway, the CPEC to Central Asian republics then of course there is trade extension and Pakistan is already working on this Special Economic Zones under the CPEC. Pakistan's economy can be connected regionally and globally.

In the last 20 years there was very much involvement of India in Afghanistan's affairs and Pakistan always agitated over it to the Afghan government and also to United States of America. But now with the coming into power of Taliban and even before that when there was a deal signed between the Afghan Taliban and the US administration then the Indian role has decrease. Now if you see India is very much disturbed over this development and now the Indian role has decreased. Off course, Pakistan doesn't want to have any kind of Indian illegal involvement in Afghanistan. And now I think just one hour before I read here in a newspaper that Torkham border is now open for the pedestrians. It is also welcoming development that now pedestrians can cross the Torkham border freely. It is the today's development and it shows consensus between Pakistan and Afghanistan and the most important thing that is the border security that can be strengthened.

So far challenges are concerned the first challenge that Taliban have to implement their announcements, declaration, commitments and their reforms agenda. Yes, they are mostly restricted or limited to the announcements and in some sectors little bit of course they have brought reforms, but the world is watching, and the world is waiting for more reforms. Pakistan is also waiting for implementation of these Reforms` announcements by the Taliban. Second is that the reaction and assistance of international community. The world is watching and waiting the Taliban's behavior, the world has not recognized the Taliban Government yet. Pakistan is waiting for what kind of reaction international community in coming days will show towards Taliban. The International community and all the major powers, United Nations, International Donor Agencies will provide assistance to the Taliban government or not. If they fail to provide assistance then it can create problems.

It is necessary to have all-inclusive Government in Afghanistan and International community will also uphold their own commitment that what they were demanding from Taliban. There should be an inclusive government in Afghanistan.

By external interference there is likelihood of civil war which will create problems for Pakistan. Another thing that is important is the crackdown on the wanted organizations by Afghanistan. The violent organizations like the ISIS, if Taliban could not control these organizations then it can create a challenge for Pakistan. Thank you ladies and gentlemen. A large number of experts, scholars, faculty, students, journalists, diplomats and practitioners participated in the webinar



WEBINAR ON, “NATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (2021)”



Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar (Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar)

INTRODUCTION:

China Study Center, University of Peshawar has organized a webinar on theme, “National Day of People’s Republic of China 2021”. Today is the National day of the People’s Republic of China. Pakistan and China are all weather friends. Both these states have cooperated with one another on global, regional, and bilateral issues. China and Pakistan are close friends and this Iron Brotherhood is cherished in both countries. This friendship is considered higher than mountains, deeper than Oceans and sweeter than honey. People’s Republic of China came into existence on 1st October 1949 after a long struggle and in this struggle Communist Party of China played an important role which came into existence in 1921. The Civil War, Long March, Great Leap Forward and Cultural Revolution, all these epithets point to the great sacrifices of Chinese for their national cause. Today many renowned scholars from different Universities of Pakistan and abroad have joined us. I welcome all distinguished speakers and participants, especially Madam Bao Zhang (Political Counsellor, China Embassy Islamabad), Dr Safdar Ali Shah, Director General CPEC at HEC and Prof Dr Muhammad Idrees, Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar. The purpose of this webinar to show solidarity of the people of Pakistan with the people of China, to see how this friendship evolved and what is to be done to further strengthen this all-weather friendship.



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees (Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar)

It is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all of you on this auspicious occasion to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China. The celebration commemorates the founding of the People’s Republic of China, which was established on October 1st, 1949. The anniversary bears particular importance, and it is significant because of the tremendous progress made in China to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

Ladies and Gentlemen Pakistan and China has a history of strong diplomatic relationship that was established in 1951. The friendship between the two countries has grown and maintains an upward trajectory over the last 6 decades. The leadership of both the countries is committed to taking this relationship forward. China and Pakistan relations have developed an outstanding model for relations. The all-weather strong relations are based on mutual trust, respect, and goodwill. Both the countries have signed various agreements in economic, defense, diplomatic, and strategic spheres. With passage of time, the robust brotherhood became stronger.

Pakistan and China cooperation has increased with the passage of time in various fields including Knowledge industry. The collaboration in higher education strengthened in the wake of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) further galvanized the academic cooperation among the institutions of higher learning between the two countries. University of Peshawar is playing an important role in the education of the youth of the province and the region at large. The establishment of China Study Centre at University of Peshawar with the financial and technical support of Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad has boosted mutual understanding between the peoples of the two the countries. At the end once again, I welcome all the distinguished speakers and honorable guests on behalf of the University of Peshawar to this Webinar. Thank you All.



Prof. Dr Safdar Ali Shah (Director General, CPEC HEC, Islamabad)

Prof Dr Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Madam Bao Political Counselor Islamabad, Prof Dr Zahid Anwar, Dean faculty of Social Sciences University of Peshawar. Distinguished speakers, ladies and Gentlemen Assalamualikem. Good morning and Ni Hao. Today is the National Day of China, my warm greetings and good wishes to our Chinese friends and Participants, Happy National Day. Ladies and Gentleman this day (National Day of China) reminds us of great revolution, the struggle of the peoples of China under the leadership of Chairman Mao Zedong which culminated in the creation of people Republic of China in October 1949, and the epic journey of the newborn People's Republic of China to the rise of China as a great Global power but above all I believe it is our lasting friendships that we remember on this day and that is exactly what I have made the topic of my talk today. You have also highlighted this, I will highlight such

aspects which are little known by the general public that how deep our relations with the areas now called the People's Republic of China and the areas of present day Pakistan then Gandhara. So, I talk about the historical linkages between Gandhara and China, the role played by the Silk Road and I might talk about Gandhara and China, it might sound strange what role Gandharan played in China and then the Chinese travelers who came into Gandhara, I will talk about the last 70 years of diplomatic relations when we made a new beginning, I would say and then a word about the future of Pakistan China relations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is said that Pakistan and China relations were made in heaven. And a great leader Zhou Enlai said that Pakistan and China relations began with the advent of mankind. The historical contact with China is traced back a thousand years before the current era to the reign of Zhou Dynasty that reigned from 1122 BCE to 250 BCE. So that is the kind of depth of our relationship. Then coming close to the AD eras. In 139 BCE, emperor Wu Di sent his envoy Zhang Qian to the Kushan court (2nd Century BCE to 3rd Century CE) please remember these Kushans as a tribe that moved from western side of the present-day Gansu province of China to Central Asia and then onward to Gandhara where they established a great empire.

There were regular contacts between the Han Dynasty and the Kushans of Ghandhara. Buddhism played a very important role in this relationship. Historically emperor Ming Di (62 CE) of Eastern Han dynasty saw a yellow deity in his dream: a god whose body had the brilliance of the sun and who flew before his palace. So his court astrologists interpreted this as the image of Buddha. So, what he did he sent two of his emissaries to Gandhara to collect relics and texts. So, they meet to very famous monks one was Kasyapa Matanga and other was Bharmaratna and they persuaded them to accompany them to China, with their texts, Relics, and statues of Buddha. They carried them on two white horses. The emperor was so pleased that he built a stupa in the capital Luoyang in 68 CE. It was named "White Horse Temple". This is the oldest temple in China and off course the role played by the two Buddhist monks you can see. So Gandhara had a role to play there.

A word about the famous Silk Road, please remember that the Silk Road was neither a particular road nor a single route. The term "Seidenstrassen" or "Silk Roads/ Routes" was coined by a German geographer, Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen in 1877. So, there were tracks and roads

and there were no highways. This modest non-road became one of the most transformative superhighways in human history—one that transmitted ideas, technology, and artistic motifs, not simply trade goods. And please remember that Gandhara was at that time at the crossroads of various routes. So, the best example of this kind of definition or you can call the explanation is the Silk Road between Gandhara and China. Please remember Alexander had come to Gandhara in BC 326 and some of his army was left behind so they established a kind of Kingdom in Bactria later on one of his descendant has established a big kind of empire with Sialkot as its capital. And then there were continues stream of travelers from Middle East to Gandhara, so that is the significance of this route.

So, the Silk Road played an emotional and psychological role also. So the spirit of the Silk Road was revived in the form of KKH. When this road was built it was named as Friendship Highway and the Chinese side played their role more than their share. They not only built their part of the road on their side but also a part of this road on Pakistani side and number of peoples died. In Urdu it is called “*Shahrah-e- Resham*”. It is the literal translation of the Silk Road. CPEC is yet another manifestation of the ancient Silk Road. Gandhara had been at the crossroads of history and Pakistan enjoys this geo strategic advantage even now.

Another aspect is that there were Gandharans in China. Kanishka’s Empire extended right to the Central Asia and to China. And I already mentioned that these great Kanishka’s were the tribe from China which moved to Central Asia and then came to Bactria. So, they had links also. During this time there was free passage or movement from Gandhara to China and from China to Gandhara.

Now we will see the links based on the historical facts and Archeological evidence that Gandharans were in China, and they played a role. So based on some of these observations the “The Silk Road: A New History by Valerie Hansen”. She has identified seven Silks Roads into China in the light of excavations of ancient sites, and discovery of documents and artefacts, which show strong cultural integration between Gandhara and China, four sites are more significant.

- Niya

- Kucha
- Caves of Kizil and
- And Khotan
- **Niya:** It was an earth by Aurel Stein in 1901. He discovered Kharsohti documents written on wooden slips. These Kharsohti was the Gandharan script which was popular in Gandhara so the people who have writing this must be Gandharans` There is a mention of a Buddhist monk Zhi Qian, who hailed from Gandhara- from the great Yuezhi empire, that was the name of tribe we called Kushan empire. And interesting things is that some of the documents that were recovered from there they had two stamps. One in Chinese style and the other in Gandharan. It is a royal decree of instructions which tells us that Silk rolls were used as currency. So that's why it was also called the Silk Road and the role of Silk as a currency also. So, documentary evidence founds from there. Then comes next the Archaeological site that is Kucha.
- **Kucha:** The fame rests on Kumarajiva (344-413 CE) who translated Buddhist scriptures from Sanskrit to Chinese especially Lotus Sutra. Kumarajiva's father had immigrated from Gandhara. He was a prince and got married into the local royal Chinese family. So, Kumarajiva father was Gandharan, and the mother was Chinese. He has the primacy in introducing Buddhist teachings in China. So, we can say that the Kucheans learned Buddhism from the immigrants from Gandhara and they had close contacts between Kucha and Gandhara. It is said that Kumarajiva frequently moved between Taxila and Kucha.
- **Caves of Kizil:** Another interesting site is Caves of Kizil. It is discovered by Sven Hedin in 1899. It is complex of 339 caves located 67 kilometers east of Kucha. It was built during the time of Kumarajiva. These caves are decorated with masterpieces of Buddhist art particularly the Jataka stories. The stories of the earlier lives of Buddha. Now the stories has repeated in identical way, the way they were repeated in Gandhara. So, this shows that is somebody who is inspiring either had been to Gandhara or had come from Gandhara. Another very interesting observation was that after the White House Temple most of the places of worship / temples were built on the lines of shrines in Gandharan monasteries specially in Taxila.
- **Khotan:** Another important location is Khotan. There is complete book on this. It was the largest settlement in the South-west of Xinjiang. The earliest Buddhists came to this place

from Gandhara, and Buddhism reached eastern China from here. So, Khotan became the center of Buddhist learning. Even the great traveler Fa-Xian and his companions stayed in the monasteries of Khotan, once they came to India and these regions. An interesting discovery was of some coins, which were discovered from here have imprint in Chinese on one side and in Kharoshti on the other. It shows close interaction between Khotan and Gandhara during the Kushan rule, in the 3rd century CE. This shows that immigrants from Gandhara played a great role in transmission of Buddhism and of course interaction between the two regions.

Now we talk about travelers who came from China to Gandhara.

Faxian or Fa-Hien: He came here in the 4th Century. He came and he walked on foot and visited most of the sacred places in Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. So once he went back, he wrote his travelogue, which is a source of great information on his journey. One thing that we learn from him is a great Tope in Peshawar. It was thought that it was a highest building in the world. Or what he says, *“There was not one comparable to this in solemn beauty and majestic grandeur the finest tope in Jambudvipa that is the Universe or the Known world”*. He also liked that there were thousands of monks and another important discovery was that Buddha relics from this location. But the relics were handed over to Burma during colonial time.

Buddhist monk Song Yun: Next important is Buddhist monk Song Yun. He came a century later into the 6th Century and then returned with Mahayana Buddhism developed in this region. His travelogue or accounts became, “journey to the West” and his visit to Uddiyana (present day Swat) he has to write about Uddiyana

“The land is renowned for its fertility and produces rich harvest. It is very full of streams and fountains. Flowers and fruits are abundant. The climate is agreeable temperate”.

So more Monks came but they came through Pameers. And the route which is in the Northern areas of Pakistan from where there were various passes, they came over there. And in 8th Century envoy Wukang followed this route, he came to Gilgit and then travelled to India. And the Monk Che-Mong basically he used a pass which is more than 14 thousand feet. So, it's actually connecting Kashmir with our Northern areas in Gilgit Baltistan. Now another evidence is that the frequent movements of these pilgrims across this KKH and Northern areas. Although in Pakistan there are 50,000 rock carvings and over 5,000 inscriptions in 39 languages have been found as recorded. But only in the Northern areas there are as many as 30,000 petroglyphs that are

recorded in the Northern areas alone. The highest density is between Shatial and Raikot on the Karakoram Highway. And the forty mile stretch between Shatial and Chilas is called the zone of Carvings.

The Northern Areas and the routes across Pameer to India or the ancient route between China and Hinduka that is India was the only link from the Pamirs to Kashmir and Uddiyana (Swat). It is also interesting that some of these travelers like Song Yun who had come basically to this region Gandhara mostly stayed in Gandhara for example in Peshawar, in Taxila and in Swat and they never went onward to India and from here they returned. So Gandhara and Buddhism played important role in developing historical links between China and Gandhara or modern-day Pakistan.

There are 4 important passes, so they were across the mountains into India and from here people went to Kashghar and from there they came into India. Another route they identify is the Karakorm pass. And many caravan of traders from Yarkand to Leh. So, these areas played a very important role in the relations of two areas. China Pakistan friendship was made in heaven and the ingenuity of these relations cannot be challenged. And it is proven through solid archaeological evidence.

Now when we talk about Pakistan China relations, we start the relations from the time when Pakistan established its diplomatic relations with China. Although Pakistan recognized People's Republic of China in 1950. And it severed its relations with Taiwan. It was among the initial few countries to do that. But formally diplomatic relations were established on May 21st, 1951. That's why we said we have completed 70 years which start from 1951 and not from 1950. And then Pakistan has the distinction of being the first Muslim country to recognize the PRC. And we signed the First Treaty of Friendship in 1956. And then PIA had the distinction of first airline from a noncommunist country to land in China. And PIA another important role is open linkages between China and United States.

Another thing which strengthened our relations with China were Panchsheel principles of its foreign policy. These are the five virtues of Foreign Policy which were enunciated in 1954 and then incorporated in the ten principles adopted at Bandung conference in 1955. These are

1. Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty
2. Mutual non-aggression:
3. Mutual noninterference in each other's internal affairs.
4. Equality and cooperation for mutual benefit: and
5. Peaceful Co-existence.

So, these principles had led the Chinese Foreign policy and they have built strong foundation for relations with other countries specially with Pakistan which has proved to be a great friendship. Many watchers of China and Pakistan relations have hardly any things in common. They have two different political systems, different ideologies, and different cultures. So these are the foundations that I highlighted through history which have developed this kind of trust and another thing is the maturity in this relationship.

I will just highlight three testing times when China Pakistan relations were tested. The leadership exercise maturity on either sides. The first one is 1951 when China intervened in the Korean war so there was resolution in the General Assembly of dubbing China as an aggressor. Pakistan did not vote against China in the United Nation General Assembly and stood with China. Then China leadership when in 1954 Pakistan joined SEATO (1954-71) and then CENTO (1955-1959) the two agreements which basically were anti-communism and India, China was not very happy, but they did not complain and finally the things got back. Then in 1954 another situation arose when Prime Minister of Pakistan Bogra spoke "international communism as the biggest potential danger to democracy in the region" It was done in Colombo So again the Chinese leadership exercised again large-heartedness and maturity. So, the relationship did not deteriorate and we went from one good location to another one.

Now let us see some High points between Pakistan and China. Please remember this that Pakistan spearheaded the efforts at the UN to get PRC its rightful place in the Security Council as a permanent member which finally materialized in 1971. Then Pakistan facilitated Sino-US talk or relations. First of all, a secret visit of Henry Kissinger to China by PIA and it was followed by the visit of President Richard Nixon next year. So, Pakistan played a role in bringing these two powers near to each other. Then another symbolic high point is Karakoram Highway. I said the number of lives lost on both sides in building this highway shows the kind of well of

people to complete this road. It was completed in 1978 and named as the Friendship Highway. It is a matchless manifestation of friendship and cooperation. I said the Chinese did not build the road inside their own boundaries, but they came here and helped us in building the part of the road on our side also. Some other high points include the Defence cooperation. On record General Zia Ul Haq said that the Chinese enabled Pakistan to move towards self-reliance. So, if we are self-reliant in the production of defense equipments and other things so we are also thankful to Chinese for help in this case. Then the road leading to Diplomatic enclave named as “Zhou Enlai Avenue”. This Avenue is still there, and this is manifestation of our friendship and probably this was the first dignity given this kind of an honor. The last foreign dignitary to meet Chairman Mao was President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, although he is better known for being the Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto but at that point of time, he was also President of Pakistan. Then the latest development is the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and this Corridor symbolizes the spirit of the Silk Road and that is why it shows the depth and the breadth of our relations and the trust both countries have for each other. Before I close, a word about the future of Pakistan China relations. This is an analyst who makes interesting remarks, and he said “Pakistan is the central part of China’s transition from regional power to a global one... holds critical position in China’s strategy of defeating the “containment policy” of the West. They have been trying CEATO and CENTO and other agreements how to contain China and the efforts are still going on. So, Pakistan played a very important role because this strategic linking I think the future of Pakistan China friendship is very bright. Then CPEC is flagship project of BRI. It is a \$1 trillion plan of China. And this flagship project has been given to Pakistan by China speaks of the kind of trust between the two countries. So, this shows the future intentions of the two countries. Then we have seen over time as I said that the relations are based on mutual trust and benefits which is a win-win position. As president Xi sometimes said they want to build co-prosperity regions and all go together and prosper together that is the kind of development which is more lasting. Then we have seen there is unanimity of views on global issues in the General Assembly, Security Council, and China has supported Pakistan on Kashmir issue and we have supported China on Taiwan and other important areas. There is no interstate conflict between the two countries. We share a border but there are no border conflicts, we resolved these border issues very early. Then Pakistan and China have number of initiatives,

strategic projects, one example is JF 17 Thunder, and this has been a very successful project, I think there will be many more. I personally say that the relations among the state are based on mutual benefits. Most of the new projects and new direction based on mutual trust and mutual benefits. So, the future of Pakistan China relations is very bright. Thank you very much. I just wanted to highlight that these relations are not 70-year-old they are millennia old, and they were very intense relations between these two countries, and we have a historic strength for these relations. And we hope that this spirit will continue, and Pakistan & China will have a wonderful relationship in future as well.



Madam Bao Zhang: (Political Counsellor, China Embassy Islamabad)

Good morning and thank you Dear Prof Dr Muhammad Idrees, Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Dear Prof. Dr Safdar Ali Shah, Director-General CPEC-HEC and Dear Prof Dr Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Centre, University of Peshawar, Assalam-u-Alikum and Good Morning to everyone and thank you for inviting me to speak at this webinar to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

First of all, I would like to convey the best greetings from Ambassador Nong Rong to all the friends present today. First, I would like to thank Prof Dr Muhammad Idrees and Prof Dr Zahid Anwar of the University of Peshawar for initiating this webinar on the China's National Day. I think our happiness of the National Day celebration is doubled when we share it with our friends and I still remember my first visit to the University of Peshawar and I was astonished by its long history, rich culture and the beautiful campus. I wish to visit University of Peshawar again after the Covid situation is over and also my thanks goes to Dr Safdar Ali Shah (DG CPEC- HEC) for giving us very wonderful lecture actually I should say, especially the way you touched upon the historical linkage between China, and Pakistan I still remember my visit to the museum of Lahore, Museum of Peshawar and Museum of Taxila where I found very beautiful Buddha sculptures. I think that bring me very close to Pakistan. This kind of historical linkage is always there, and I was inspired to work harder for our friendship. But also, would like to thank HEC for supporting the China studies in Pakistan. I think it's a great cause to work for promoting understanding of the two people especially among youngsters, I think that in the past seven

decades of relations our strong friendship was not only based on government to government, business to business and military to military cooperation but also more importantly people to people contact so I would like to thank the HEC and also the different universities in Pakistan for supporting of our bilateral corporation and this kind of understanding among our two peoples. I think the small trees we plant together today they will grow up into a towering tree and the future generations and all of us will benefit from that. I would like to say it as all the respected speakers and friends around Pakistan also the professor from China, I can see some of my good friends are present today but honestly, I feel myself a student while speaking in front of the learned Professors and Doctors make me feel myself a student and I wish to learn from the wisdom and the knowledge from all of you to better promote the China Pakistan cooperation. As you said today that today is the National Day of China and I think that all of you have shown a very good understanding of China and of the China Pakistan relations especially when we are looking back at the history, we have close cooperation and relations. But still I feel that there is a need to promote more understanding of Pakistan's society what China was, what China is and what China will be. Because of the time limit I want to speak less but I would like to add few more points first 2021 this year is also the 100th years anniversary of the foundation of the Communist Party of China so it's very big and significant year to all Chinese people and nation, I think this is time to look back at the 100-years journey of Chinese nation and seek true aspiration from that journey which enabled Chinese people what they are today.

I think the most important conclusion that we learn is that without the CPC there would have been no new China. All the struggle and sacrifices and creations through which the CPC has united and led Chinese people in the past 100 years I think its to be tied together by one ultimate theme that is to bring about the greater rejuvenation of Chinese nation. Now CPC has over 95 million members, be it public servants, University professors, businessmen, artists, any profession you can name, they all have the CPC members. Without winning the mandate of the people and without serving people wholeheartedly the CPC would have never grown from a 50-member small party to the biggest party in the world. I think this is a tremendous achievement and also, it's a hard one. Recently there are some talks in Western society about separating the CPC from the Chinese people I think it is totally wrong and we hope that all friends can see these false allegations and out of the political calculations and also support us and to see the China

from this kind of prospective. The second point I must say under the strong leadership of President Xi Jinping the Chinese people are marching confidently and strive towards the 2nd century goal of building China into a great model socialist country in all aspects. We are confident about the goal we are about to achieve but also we know it's a hard journey and we are very clear about the challenges we are having. As you can see that domestically China development is growing very fast but when we look at the international and regional dynamics there are lots of uncertainties. Recently as our President Xi Jinping in his address to the United Nations General Assembly pointed out that the world is at historical crossroad and also I think there is similar kind of thinking in Pakistan. As your Prime Minister Imran Khan also stressed that the world is facing multiple challenges. So I think that our two countries share the common views on a world and also the common views on the regional dynamics. And our approach and solutions are almost the similar so talking about the crossroad I think there are two ways one is to build a community with a shared future for mankind and for the Asian countries also that uphold the international system with the United Nations as its Core and international order based on international law. Treat each other with respect and as equal, stick together in time of difficulties and pursue the win-win Corporation. That is the approach of China and also I think that's approach of Pakistan whenever we are talking about this kind of regional situations, International situation in any of international forums I think both of our two countries are upholding peace, justice, corporation, win-win resolution instead of provoking conflict and confrontation. Still there is another trend in the world that is to insist on isolation, exclusion to impose their domestic rules over others to draw lines with ideology and engaging small circles and small groups with very specific targets like we can see now in the Indo Pacific strategies.

There are different approaches but to China Pakistan we are very clear that we are on path of cooperation and the win-win situation for each other so I think that we are on the right side of the history so we would like to keep this kind of strategic communication with Pakistan. Work together for more exchanges of mutual learning and also to continue to promote the Belt and Road Cooperation specially the CPEC. Also, recently I read from the news reports there are still some thoughts on transparency and the debt trap of the CPEC. I think that is not true story, the CPEC has brought this kind of a Win-Win Corporation to Pakistan based on mutual respect. So with the CPEC jobs are created, revenues are created and power supply also ensured. We all

know that the CPEC has brought about 1/3rd of power supply and it just created the 75 thousand jobs for Pakistan and also which now that Rashakai the KKH2 I think the province of the KP enjoys better situation to attract investment from all over the world and also within Pakistan. So that are the benefits of the CPEC and I think the CPEC entering into the 2nd stage will enjoy more benefits in future so there is never a kind of debt trap for Pakistan. Pakistan is the best friend of China if China treated its best friends with the debt trap so how can China finds more friends in the world. So, I think it is kind of false allegations against China Pakistan against the CPEC but there are still a lot of markets here in Pakistan then I would like to call all the friends to work together with us to find this media projection of the China Pakistan Cooperation as just now as Prof Safdar Ali Shah said Pakistan is in critical position in this kind of strategy of containing policy of China so I think we are fully aware of the situation and we look forward to a very close cooperation with all of you. I think with all these words, I would like to thank you once again for inviting me to speak at this forum and I would also like to welcome the suggestions from your side how to better promote China Pakistan Corporation; Pak China Dosti zindabad



Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Chawla (Dean (r) Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Punjab University)

Bismillah Irahman Rahim. Thank You Prof. Dr Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar, Prof Dr Zahid Anwar Director China Study Centre, Madam Bao Zhang and other distinguished speakers Assalamualikum. Thank you very much for giving me a Chance to share my thoughts on China Pakistan relationship. First of all, let me say Ni Hao to Madam and to other distinguished guests. I am happy to see our Chinese friends are celebrating their national day. I am very happy to listen the lecture of Prof Dr Safdar Ali Shah that was a thorough and complete survey of the history of relationship of China and Pakistan from ancient to modern time. That was the great connectivity which he has highlighted with his wonderful empirical analysis. So I would not add further to what he has already explained. Pakistan and China are tested friends. This friendship and relationship is ideal in every sense of the word.

Madam has wonderfully explained Pakistan China tested relationship. This friendship was tested in 1960s, 1970s so on and so forth. China remained steadfast despite difference of ideologies. CPEC is a milestone that will strengthen people to people contact and understanding and that will actually benefit our universities too. We have enrolled Chinese scholars in the Department of History and Pakistan studies at the Ph.D / MPhil levels in the Punjab University. We signed many MoUs with Nanjing University, Beijing University, Changsha University, Northeast University, Shanghai University and many other universities. Professor Zahid Anwar has cleared the point that CPEC is not Chinese attempt to colonize Pakistan like that of East India Company. CPEC is based on Win-Win model. Because China model is soft power model based on peoples` progress. After the Cold War China is once again a major player in the world politics. This time we are lucky that we are not standing on the wrong side of the history. We are standing on the right side of the history like Prime Minister Imran khan day before yesterday said that there were some kind of factors due to which the progress of CPEC in Pakistan was little reduced. Now it is in full bloom and we believe that it is all in favor of Pakistan. There are many neglected areas in Pakistan; CPEC project will help in its development. The CPEC that is actually linking Gwadar to China, and actually, going to benefit those regions which somehow remained backward in every sense, so we believe that the Belt and Road Initiative is beneficial for the world and especially CPEC is actually beneficial for Pakistan more than China. That is why our love for Chinese people is increasing and enhancing, there is no misconception whatsoever regarding CPEC at public and private level.

Another thing is the recent fall of Kabul, we feel that there were some concerted efforts to sabotage, to create hurdles in the construction of CPEC in Pakistan. Like you said that containment policy has been going on and Pakistan was used as a proxy unfortunately but now under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran khan Pakistan is not going to become proxy anymore. And we are lucky that Afghanistan is now free. Pakistan is not to become a proxy especially against China and we also believe China had never let us down in many times. Whenever we needed China support, diplomatic or otherwise China was always there. We want to send our best wishes to China because of the Chinese progress and China emergence as a superpower. Keeping in view the current regional situation Pakistan is also emerging as an important player. Thank you very much.



Prof. Dr. Nasir Afghan (Director China Study Center, IBA Karachi)

Assalamualikum, Ni Hao, thanks to Dr Safdar's wonderful presentation and Madam Bao for her presence and sharing her views about Pakistan and China's positions about different issues and areas. I thank Dr Zahid for arranging such a beautiful webinar. First of all, happy 72nd birth day to China. It has waged a struggle and got success after tremendous sacrifices. Many people gave sacrifices during cultural revelation. China has become stronger especially when Deng Xiaoping took control of China in 1978.

Today China is a superpower due to the contributions of Deng Xiaoping. We should remember the qualities of Chinese leaders who transformed China. I think Chinese by nature are hardworking, family oriented and they always save money for the future. Our two peoples have many commonalities. When I was a kid I used to watch Chinese revolutionary movies which inspired me. There is propaganda going on against CPEC. I think there is need of information corridor between China and Pakistan may include Afghanistan, because there is no information corridor there is also need of social media strategy for the success of second phase and third phase of CPEC. We need to influence people perceptions as perceptions influence behavior and if we do not influence perceptions, we will not be able to influence the behavior of people. The important thing is to realize how can we improve our relationship in the future? CPEC should include human development beside infrastructure, power, road, energy etc. If we don't solve the health and education related problems of people we will not be able to get full benefits from CPEC projects. So we need to focus human development side, social development side within the CPEC also. I propose that Shanghai university, Tsinghua university, Fudan university, Beijing university should set up their campuses in Pakistan, it will help us to transform the level of education, increase our capacity both in private and public sector and also help us train our industrial workers. A lot of Chinese industries came to Pakistan in Karachi, and they said we don't have local skilled manpower here. The kind of trained skilled manpower we want for our industry. I think it is very crucial that we setup such training centers in universities in Pakistan to train our next generation of factory workers. China can help Pakistan in the area of agriculture by transfer of agricultural technology. 70 % people are working in agriculture sector but our productivity and efficiency is very low. Chinese industries' transfer of agriculture practices,

knowledge and setting up think tank on agriculture policy will help considerably. It is not only transfer of technology but also the learning how to manage farms, how to plan and how to sell these things, I am using this platform to highlight our areas of opportunities. We know that we have great friendship with the Chinese people and we respect two countries in the world one is China and the other is Turkey. We have opportunity to transform this relationship with China to the next level of generations. We are very grateful to Chinese friends as they have supported us always. We need to adopt too many things from Chinese friends. One of the most important things is the merit system in China and the Confucius system that was developed during the Han dynasty. I am grateful to Prof Zahid Anwar, Dr Safdar Ali Shah and my other colleagues especially Madam Bao Zhang.



Prof. Dr Muhammad Khan (IIUI Islamabad)

Bismillah al rahman al Rahim, I am extremely grateful to Prof Dr Zahid Anwar. Thank you very much University of Peshawar, much respected panelists, delegates, representatives from the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad and all the speakers.

Ladies and Gentlemen in today's webinar I would be talking about the personality of a President XI Jinping, a man who as a matter of fact has two visions, one internal and the other external or global. I have visited China more than a dozen time but more than that I have the honour to have the Chinese Fellowship from National Defence University Beijing Because we are used to have an exchange program between National Defence University Islamabad Pakistan and NDU, Beijing and the I had the honour to be there in NDU, Beijing . I enjoyed Chinese hospitality and respect they have for the people of Pakistan and rightly said by President XI Jinping that we are the Iron Fist. Indeed Pakistan and China are Iron Fist. Our friendship Inshallah is going to be long lasting and that's not for a particular time and that time has proved, that from 1950 till today it is 2021 that we are enjoying this friendship and that today we are here to pay homage and pay respect to People's Republic of China and particularly the Communist Party which indeed has founded this modern China. I remember that this was a great clash between the communist and the Nationalist and finally the Nationalist were not finding a way where to go after the defeat in 1949. And Pakistan was among the first country which recognized People's Republic of China

and continued its support during the Cold War so that People's Republic of China its rightful place in the United Nations Security Council membership which was with Taiwan i.e., Republic of China. Today Pakistan recognizes one China policy. There is no second option and second question on that.

Now let me talk about President Xi Jinping. The life of President Xi Jinping is the story of a statesman and leader who has seen all ups and downs within Chinese Communist Party and mainland China. He remained intimately involved in the process of reunification of Taiwan with mainland and clashes took place in Hong Kong.

Indeed, President Xi Jinping has the collective wisdom and experiences of all former Chinese presidents, Chinese political leadership, and the Chinese bureaucratic structure. While working behind the scene, he has been instrumental to previous presidents and premiers who gradually brought China to the current stage of development. Soon after taking over as the President of People's Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping initiated reforms and developmental packages at domestic level. Besides, he initiated major reforms in the foreign policy of China with a clear intent of projecting China as a global power. The domestic policy of Mr Xi Jinping includes the idea of a "Chinese Dream." which includes two aspects:-

1. One; by 2021 (the current year); on the eve of completion of 100 years of the founding of the Communist Party of China, the country should become a "moderately prosperous society." China is rightly evolved into economically prosperous and politically forward looking society.
2. The second milestone is 2049, the centenary of the People's Republic's establishment, the modern China. The year is said to be the decisive year with respect to China's global status; the level of a super power. This was amply clear from the address of President Xi Jinping to 76th Session of UNGA.

In this address he projected China as an alternative power at the global level. It was a clear message to international community for a "win-win cooperation and well-rounded development" which runs counter to the current unipolar world order under US. In the same address, the message to developing world was for a "post-U.S. dominant world order" in which Chinese

economic developmental model will play a decisive role. It means the Global South which constitutes 75% of the population is being asked to follow China rather than US and the West for a Win-Win Economic Model. In the field of financial and economic reforms, President Xi brought fundamental changes. He considered private-sector companies as the true engine of Chinese growth. “The Made in China- 2025 policy, which aims to propel the country to the fore in the industries of the future, is based around state-directed industrial policy.”

He further decentralized the industrial system for better quality production. It was because of massive economic and industrial reforms which brought China to a superior position at international level. Indeed, under President Xi Jinping, United States was given a befitting response by China, once President Trump wanted to down-play the Chinese economic development; the economic war. Mr Xi Jinping said that, “No one is in a position to dictate to the Chinese people what should or should not be done.” Unlike previous leadership of China, President Xi Jinping took a clear and tough foreign policy stance at the global level. Some people even say that, it was a hard-line stance of China, especially on the “security issues as well as foreign affairs, projecting a more nationalistic and assertive China on the world stage.” Nevertheless, China has asserted itself to take the leadership role at the global level. Winning economic war against US, having a greater ingress over African Continent and the Middle East to the dislike of many states are some of the examples of Chinese assertive foreign policy under President Xi Jinping.

Another dimension is to the disliking of Washington, President Xi declared the contemporary China–United States relationship as a “New type of great-power relations”. Mr Xi warned the US and the world that, in the event of any confrontation between China and US, there will be a disastrous situation for both states. Besides, President Xi Jinping is against the United States’s Asia Pivot or Rebalancing Asia. He believes in the unity of Asian Continent and Asian community. “Matters in Asia ultimately must be taken care of by Asians.

Asia’s problems ultimately must be resolved by Asians and Asia’s security ultimately must be protected by Asians”. Under Mr Xi Jinping China has turned into as an assertive rising global power with clear motive of undoing the current world order. China demonstrated this show of

force against India in the East Ladakh area of former Princely State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Indian troops were badly beaten back in September-October 2020 with heavy losses to Indian Army and capturing hundreds of kilometres area in Aksai Chin along LAC. This was strategic win of China over expanding power of India. Indeed, Mr Xi Jinping is in the process of taking over the role of global leadership after a vacuum in this important international position. President Xi is viewed as the most powerful Chinese leader since Mao explains to the world “how China works, what it intends to do in the coming years during his tenure as President and how its unique governing system will get it there.”

At global level, President Xi Jinping’s vision envisages; China may distance itself from US gradually without getting into the former Cold War model. The new Chinese approach under President Xi Jinping would follow a model, to discredit United States internationally for what it did in last 20 years in Afghanistan, the Middle East and elsewhere in the world.



Dr. Tahir Mumtaz Awan (Director China Study Center, CUI, Islamabad)

Assalamualikum. Thank you very much Prof. Dr Zahid Anwar for arranging the seminar I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Muhammed Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, Madam Bao Zhang from the embassy and Dr. Safdar Ali Shah from HEC. Today, we are celebrating the National Day of China.

Discussing the economic growth, the CPEC, the BRI and other such initiatives are really important but what the king of Bhutan said is also important. He said that growth doesn’t matter unless people are happy. So, our people and Chinese people are happy. Bhutan in fact was one of the first country which initiated the GNP of happiness (the happiness index) and even in the time of pandemic we have seen that in 2020 China was on 94th and right now in 2021 China is 84th in the happiness index, even during the pandemic we have seen happiness and economic growth in China. I think it was because of the way the government has taken care of the people because of how the people were taken care of and how well the vaccination was organized? COVID-19 infected very quickly and vanished very quickly. I talk about the golden week. The festivals in Golden week are celebrated in China every year. When I was in China I also saw the Dragon boat festival, the races of boats and the spring festival when cities are covered with

flowers and small oranges. During the festival you'll find moon-cakes everywhere. Festivals improve the happiness index.

It is not only that we see that pandemic is making our lives measurable and pandemic is making people sit in their rooms in the lockdown, it is also the festivals the Chinese celebrate and happiness they enjoy during their holidays. I hope if my friends have visited China they would have observed this. I have observed that a large number of people visit the Great Wall of China, celebrate festival and become happy.

There are some measures to strengthen and stabilize the consumption of key sectors for example promoting new vehicles` sales, the purchase of second hand vehicles, promoting the sale of home appliances, furniture, home furnishings and boosting catering services growth. These are some other recommendations that can be followed to increase this GNP of happiness, and raise happiness index. We have to promote the healthy development of online consumption as pandemic has made us learn new things. These new online consumption patterns have increased online consumption and the brand and quality consumption. Expanding the green recycling and expanding the imported products. China has achieved zero poverty in the Urban Sector. So by promoting this commerce we can also help our country. We are still lacking in some of the construction expertise, the way Chinese engineering firms are working we can begin try to transfer that Technology. This all comes under the BRI and CPEC big initiatives. They are helping us to increase the happiness` index. We have to make people feel comfortable in these hard times. I would like to end my talk on a great wish; Happy National Day. Thank you very much



M Ahsan Achakzai: Chairman, Economics Department, BUITEMS, Baluchistan

Thank you so much Dr. Zahid Anwar Sahab for giving me this opportunity to participate in this webinar and I would like to congratulate China on its 72nd anniversary and my special regards to Madam Bao Zhang who is joining us from the Chinese Embassy Dr Safdar Ali Shah from the Higher Education Commission, Prof Dr Mohammed Idrees Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar and our very dear friend Nasir Afghan from IBA. It's always a pleasure to see you all and meet and share ideas and views. So

initially Dr. Safdar Ali Shah has discussed in detail the history of Pakistan and China Relations, similarly Madam Bao talked about the people to people contact and my friend Dr. Nasir Afghan also talked about that we should increase people to people contact. I am focusing in my speech on Baluchistan and CPEC and I am very happy to inform my friends that in 2019 government of Baluchistan ask me to conduct a study on the employment opportunities that CPEC will bring to Baluchistan and after careful study I am just going to share some of my findings that my estimates were that CPEC will bring about two hundred and twenty thousand direct jobs to Baluchistan. And I can name some of the projects, the coal fire power plant Baluchistan is expected to bring about 8,280 Jobs, the 300 MW imported coal-based power project in Gwadar is expected to bring about 4100 Jobs, the Bostan industrial zone will bring about a hundred and twenty thousand jobs, Quetta Mass Transit 500 jobs, road infrastructure Projects will bring about 10,500 jobs, Gwadar project will bring about 76100 jobs. The total estimate of job opportunities is two hundred and twenty thousand jobs. Now the problem is that we all talk about that CPEC will bring economic prosperity to Pakistan but interestingly these things are very slow at this point in time, but it does not mean that it is not moving towards the right direction. The province lacks skilled people required for these projects. The Government of Baluchistan has already decided to open institutes in southern (Uthar Area) and northern Baluchistan (Bostan Area) to give technical educations and teach the required skills to young people of the province. The good part about CPEC is that we are moving in the right direction which is a natural course of action as Dr Safdar Ali Shah mentioned that the friendship between China and Pakistan. I see in Quetta city many new big buildings are under construction, the real estate market people think that when CPEC projects kick off and Chinese start coming to Baluchistan they would require accommodation. The kind of accommodation they are used to I mean these new high rise constructions that is coming around the city, is not the usual kind of construction that is made for the local population. So, the quality of those buildings is way above the local standards. It is really interesting to know the pace might be slow, but things are moving in the right direction and eventually we will see that this friendship will endure. We look forward to benefit from this meanwhile as USA has evacuated Afghanistan and we are the closest neighbors. So, we will be requiring more support from international friends like China, and we will be counting on them in these difficult times so as far as Baluchistan is concerned we are positive that this friendship will

be long lasting and it will eventually result in economic prosperity of the region and the country for sure. Thank you very much Dr Zahid Anwar once again for giving me this opportunity to share my views on this auspicious occasion thank you.



Sayed Ali Nawaz Gilani (General Secretary KP CPFA Pakistan)

Assalamu Alaikum Ni Hao and thank you very much Dr Zahid Sahab for giving me this opportunity to speak on this auspicious occasion and thank you to UOP and all the honorable panelists especially to Madam Bao for her precious time.

This is the occasion that we have to celebrate China's role as a confident global player. Today I have written this article that now China become a very confident and known global player at the world stage and whether Western countries accept it or not, but this is a fact that after a very die-hard efforts and the vital role played by the Chinese Communist Party and visionary leadership and dedicated and devoted people of China, they bring people Republic of China to the global stage as a strong player. We have realized and we have to appreciate it. Dr Safdar Ali Shah has explained in historical context the long and deep relationship between China and our part of the Asian continent. We have seen that China and Pakistan are natural friends and I am not talking about particular relations I am talking about people to people relations and mutual respect between the two people. Madam Bao very gently explained the misunderstanding created by the Western media openly that they don't like the rise of any power from Asia. This is the occasion, I am congratulating China on the success and appreciating China for sharing the fruit of prosperity with its neighbors and friends, so this shows the Chinese courtesy towards its neighbors and friends. And I am confident Dr Zahid Anwar Sahib that this type of webinars will be organized on regular basis. And we can cooperate on Information about Chinese national festivals, culture and relentless struggle.

Once again thank you very much, this the time that understanding about China should be enhanced in all walks of life. And there is a great need that our university and our institutions like Nasir Afghan Sahib has mentioned from IBA Karachi that understanding should be increased to clarify misunderstanding that is created by the Western media. With these few words thank once again to the China Study Centre, University of Peshawar and all the honorable panelists. Pak Cheen Dosti Zindabad (Long Live Pakistan & China Friendship).

In the end the Director CSC thanks all the participants of the webinar who attended it including many faculty members, students, scholars, diplomats, journalists, officials and businessmen.

PAKISTANI EXPERT ON CHINA VISITED CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR

Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development (AIERD) from Islamabad visited China Study Center, University of Peshawar on October 8th, 2021. He met Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study



Centre, University of Peshawar. On this occasion he presented his book “Understanding China for Future Cooperation” to Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar. The book focuses on the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He explained the Characteristics of Chinese governance model and said that Chinese governance model which is based on win-win approach is becoming popular in developing countries. He also underlined that Pakistan should take full advantage of the CPEC opportunity.



Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay discussed the strengthening of cooperation between China Study Center, UoP and Chinese Universities. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar presented publications of China Study Center, UoP to the expert. Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay appreciated the performance of the China Study Center, UoP. The Director CSC, UoP

thanked the expert for his visit to China Study Center, University of Peshawar.

COLLABORATION IN CHINA STUDIES BETWEEN CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR & KOHAT UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director, Chin Study Center, University of Peshawar, visited Kohat University of Science & Technology on 13th October 2021 and held a meeting with Prof. Dr. Sardar Khan, the worthy Vice-Chancellor of KUST and discussed cooperation between the two institutions in the field of China Studies. MOU draft



was discussed and soon the two Universities will sign the MOU for academic collaboration and establishment of China Research & Study Center at Kohat University of Science & Technology. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar congratulated the Vice-Chancellor of Kohat University of Science & Technology for becoming member of CPEC: China Pakistan Consortium of Universities. At the end the Director, China Study Center, thanked the Vice-Chancellor, Kohat University of Science & Technology, for the hospitality & sparing time to discuss academic cooperation.

FAREWELL PARTY AT CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR



China Study Center, University of Peshawar organized a farewell party on 29th, October 2021 at the Conference Hall at 12 pm for the internees and Chinese Language Students (HSK 1 and HSK 3) students. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar in his address highlighted the importance of the Chinese Language generally and particularly in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He further added that Pakistan-China friendly relations are strengthening regional peace and stability.

The Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar congratulated the students of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar, and Government Frontier College For Women Peshawar who completed their internship at China Study Center, University of Peshawar. Those internees have completed their internship reports on different aspects of Pakistan and China relations including cooperation in higher education, BRI and Pakistan, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and Pakistan, Pakistan & China cooperation against COVID-19, CPEC: internal and external challenges, and CPEC: Opportunities.

In the end, Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar hoped that Pakistan-China relations will further strengthen with the passage of time and the Chinese Language will play a better role in expanding people-to-people contact

CONVOCATION AT UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR

A convocation ceremony was held on 30th October 2021 at University of Peshawar.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Idrees Vice-Chancellor, University of Peshawar presided the convocation. Special Assistant to Chief Minister on



Information and Higher Education

Mr. Kamran Khan Bangash was the Chief Guest. He said that the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is working to overcome the financial crisis of the Universities at Khyber



Pakhtunkhwa. Muhammad Daud Khan (Secretary Higher Education) Saiful Islam (Additional Secretary Governor Secretariat), and other high officials, Professors, scholars, educationists, and a large number of students participated in the convocation. Prof. Dr. Zahid Anwar who is Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, Dean Faculty of Arts and Humanities and Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar also participated in the Convocation.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR BUILDING NARRATIVES

An International Conference “China Pakistan Economic Corridor Building Narratives” was held on 17-18 November 2021 at International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI). Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences & Director, China Study Center, University of Peshawar also participated in the International Conference. He presented his paper “*Exploring Geo-Strategic Dimension of CPEC*”. In his presentation he highlighted that Pakistan geo-strategically is very significant and it connects South, East, West and Central Asian regions of the Asian continent. China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a multibillion dollars mega project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). It further strengthens relations between China and Pakistan which are considered higher than mountains, deeper than oceans and sweeter than honey. BRI and CPEC has the potential to connect China, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, Europe and many South Asian Countries. CPEC, the flagship project of BRI is transforming Pakistan economically. China has launched BRI which is based on win win model and with passage of time winning hearts and minds of people of these regions.



Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar also chaired Session – III, “CPEC: Opportunities and Challenges” in International Conference at Quaid-e-Azam Auditorium. A large number of students, researcher, experts, political analyst, and academia participated in the international Conference.

CHINA EMBASSY SCHOLARSHIP 2021 FOR DESERVING STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR

China Embassy Islamabad gave Scholarship of PKR 5.4 million for the deserving students of the University of Peshawar through China Study Center, UoP, Pakistan for the year 2021. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar visited Chinese Embassy, Islamabad on November 30th, 2021, to receive the Cheque of PKR 5.4 million.



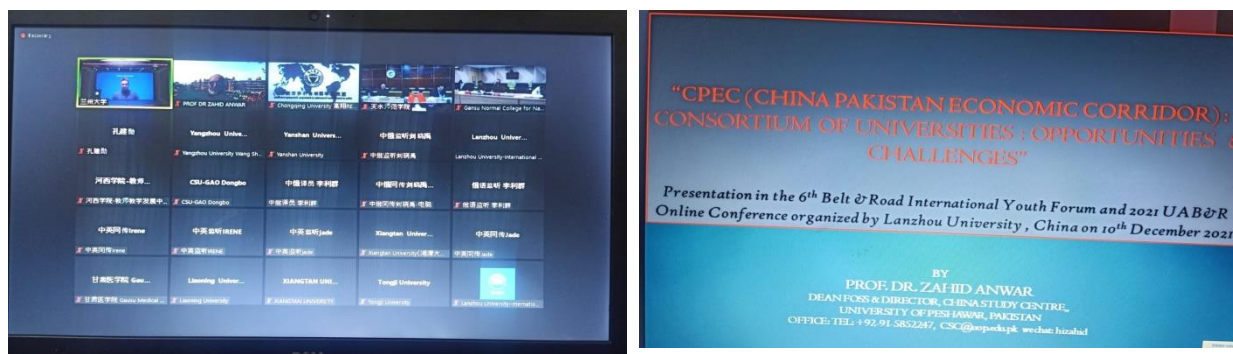
The Director China Study Center, UoP held a meeting with Mr. Wang Shengjie, Director of the Political Section of the Chinese Embassy to receive the Cheque and discuss the programs and events organized by China Study Center and a tentative events calendar for the year 2022.

China Study Center, University of Peshawar is located in the heart of Peshawar near the border with Afghanistan and had the advantage to conduct research on issues related to China, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It will focus on trilateral cooperation among China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan and will organize programs to enhance understanding. It will also conduct field survey to know the problems and needs of the people of merged districts of KP (former FATA) and its solutions. Also, China Study Center, UoP will enhance cooperation with other Universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the field of China Studies. It will be a hub of China studies in KP. The Center will organize different contests and events to encourage youth to understand Chinese culture and strengthen people to people contacts. The events will include the translation of interesting articles from Chinese to Pakistani languages and Chinese food festivals. These activities,

programs and events related to higher education, BRI and CPEC will contribute to China and Pakistan joint march towards a shared, peaceful and prosperous future.

PROF. DR. ZAHID ANWAR, DIRECTOR CHINA STUDY CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR PRESENTED PAPER IN THE UAB&R ONLINE CONFERENCE IN 2021

The Lanzhou University and UAB&R have jointly organized 6th Belt & Road International Youth Forum in Lanzhou University, Gansu Province, China on 10th December in 2021. UAB&R was established in 2015 and currently consists of 173 universities across over 27 countries and regions along the B&R. The Online Conference carried on the Win-Win approach and the Silk Road Spirit. WANG Haiyan, Director General, Department of Education, Gansu Province, China, ZHANG Shizhen, Vice-Governor of Gansu Province, China, YAN Chunhua, President, Lanzhou University, China, WANG Bo, Vice-President, Peking University, China, Barney Glover AO, Vice-Chancellor and President, Western Sydney University, Australia, HOUKIN Kiyohiro, President, Hokkaido University, Japan and many other educationists and experts delivered their speeches in the online



conference. Prof Dr LONG Ruijun delivered his presentation on, “Harmonizing Conservation & Development along the Silk Road: A Case of the Hindu-Kush-Karakoram-Pamir Landscape” Prof Dr Zahid Anwar, Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Director of China Study Centre, University of Peshawar, Pakistan delivered his paper on, “ CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) Consortium of Universities: Opportunities and Challenges”. Prof Anwar in his paper underlined that future belong to our young generations and collaboration in higher education will

pave the way for peaceful and prosperous future of the two countries and the region at large. Pakistan is catering to the needs of its young people and providing them education, employment, recreational activities, healthy and competitive environment so that it can play its productive role in nation building. The joint efforts of CAHE and HEC are successfully strengthening cooperation in higher education between the two friendly countries. The China Pakistan Universities` Consortium since 2017 is providing a conducive environment to the young people to promote their career and contribute to the China and Pakistan`s joint march towards a shared, peaceful and prosperous future.

LONG LIVE PAKISTAN & CHINA FRIENDSHIP



China Study Center (CSC) University of Peshawar organized a seminar on “Long Live Pakistan & China Friendship” on December 16th, 2021, at the Conference Hall of CSC. The Seminar was the continuation of Pakistan-China 70 years of Diplomatic Relations. Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Director China Study Center, University of Peshawar while addressing the seminar stated that China Pakistan Friendship is based on mutual trust. Both countries are promoting people-to-people contact. With the launch of China’s mega-projects Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), many developmental projects have been initiated. He further mentioned that China-Pakistan friendship is higher than mountains, deeper than oceans, and sweeter than honey. He explained the importance of language for understanding the culture and way of life of a people. He congratulated all the students who have successfully completed their HSK 1, 2, 3 preparatory certificate courses.

Mr. Falak Naz Khalil Assistant Professor of Electronics stated that China Pakistan are close friends and many students of Pakistan are now studying in China. He advised students to take full advantage of opportunity in the shape of CPEC. Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, HoD of Social Work Department stated that through volunteer activities the students of his department are playing their constructive role. A large number of students of his department are now learning Chinese at China Study Center. Under CPEC Pakistan and China are cooperating in the field of energy, science and technology, infrastructure development, agriculture, and social-economic development in Pakistan.



At the end of the seminar Prof Dr. Zahid Anwar Dean Faculty of Social Sciences and Director China Study Center, UoP distributed certificates among the Chinese Language Students (HSK 1 & HSK 3) who have successfully completed their Chinese language courses at China Study Center, UoP. Afterwards letters of appreciation were also distributed among the volunteers who have helped in organizing a one-day seminar at the SAQ Auditorium in University of Peshawar. A large number of faculty and students participated in the seminar.

(S &SE ASIAN UN) AMBASSADORS` ANNUAL MEETING 17TH DECEMBER 2021

South and South-East Asian Universities Network (S&SE ASIAN UN) Ambassadors` annual meeting was held online on December 17, 2021. The initiative of S&SE Asian UN was taken by the Yunnan University located in Kunming, China. The headquarters/secretariat of the network is located in Yunnan University. In the inaugural

meeting of the Network on 9-12 December 2018, Prof Dr Mohammad Abid, the then Pro Vice chancellor and Prof Dr Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center represented the University of Peshawar. Prof Liu Peng, Senior Program Officer of the Secretariat of the S&SE Asian UN at Yunnan University, Kunming, China moderated the meeting. The Network's Ambassadors Meeting took place on 17th December 2021 with the following sequence, Welcome Speech, Group Photo, Ambassador Certificate, Work Report 2021, Introduction on Ambassador Scholarship 2022, and Discussion on network's Work Plan 2022, Closing Remarks. The scholarship scheme was discussed in detail including the following points: Yunnan University Admissions for S&SE ASIAN UN Ambassadors' Scholarship Program 2022, full-time international students studying for a master's degree, scholarship coverage, full scholarship: tuition and on-campus accommodation. Experts from different shared their view points about the network's future plan. Prof Dr Zahid Anwar, Director China Study Center & Deans Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Peshawar in his speech appreciated the very useful and successful events/programs (Forum on Innovation & Entrepreneurship Education, webinar on Computer Science Application, Official Bilingual Website in Chinese and English, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Education sub-committee, webinar on Post-COVID Regional Economic Cooperation, New Opportunities and New Actions, Emerging Engineering Sub-Committee etc) organized by the Network despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, he appreciated the Ambassador's scholarship scheme and welcomed the sub-committee on regional studies. Its website has an English version also which can be viewed on

CONCLUSION:

Pakistan and China are two brotherly neighboring countries. The all-weather strong relations are based on mutual trust, respect, and goodwill. Both the countries have cooperated in different fields including defense, economics, foreign policy, Regional Peace, and Education. Both countries contributed a lot to regional peace and stability. These friendly relations have become stronger with the launch of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Under the umbrella of CPEC various MoU's have been signed between the two countries for strengthening cooperation in culture, History, science, technology, Higher Education, and People to People contacts. For the Collaboration in Higher Education the China Pakistan Universities consortium was established in 2017. Also, China Study Centers and Pakistan Study Centers have been established both in Pakistan and China to enhance mutual cooperation. Pakistan and China have a consensus on bilateral, regional and global issues. Both the countries supported each other through thick and thin and China's Win-Win project popularly called BRI and CPEC are fully supported by Pakistan.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic China Study Center, University of Peshawar in a very short span of the time organized numerous seminars, conferences, and webinars on Pakistan and China relations and regional issues. For achievement of its vision, mission, and objectives, to promote understanding and to strengthen collaboration in higher education China Study Center University of Peshawar is leaving no stone unturned. The team of the China Study Center, University of Peshawar under the leadership of its Director will continue its academic activities to promote understanding about China in Pakistan.

