

## **Strategic and Economic Interests of Pakistan and India in Central Asia**

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### **Abstract**

Central Asia which is referred as the Heart of Asia, geopolitically, geographically, strategically, economically, politically, militarily as well as from cultural aspirations consequential and appreciable from the arteries of Pakistan and India. Pakistan being the agricultural and industrially thriving and proliferate state agog and inquisitive in securing its correspondence with Central Asian Republics. Besides this, India's most favorable interests being a part of this Afghan closest border territory for the attainment of more liberalized Indian market in terms of trade, sea-routes, by-road links and marketing simultaneously also for the purpose of becoming richest one in the natural resources from this main hub and pivot of Asia. In this article, both Pakistan and India are described as the beady-eye for each other that which of either global opposite authority would rise up in gambling the reserves or making more obliging and amenable connections within this region irrespective to different problems and obstacles. Both these resistant states i.e. Pakistan and India, either for one or the other reasons such as for the objective of energy resources, for the military services, for regional as well as for global meshing or coalescing continuously modeling and assembling themselves knotting with this earth surrounded land. In the economic subject, Central Asian Republics act as a donor and donee in the international circle. The contribution of organizations especially that of Shanghai Corporation is essential part in which not only Pakistan and India involved but also Russia, China and USA as reverberation actors in trading and trafficking inter-state Central Asian Republic.

**Key words:** Landlocked region, Resources, Geopolitics, Great Game, Strategic Interests, Economic Interests, Shanghai Corporation, Obstacles.

### **Introduction**

Central Asia, as a landlocked region is open to the influence of its neighbours, especially when those neighbours at different times have been empires or great powers which include Turks, Persians, Greeks, Arabs, Chinese and Russian. The

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all have encroached on and transformed the Central Asia. After one another power, the most recent appearance of Central Asia has been come after the collapse of Soviet Union in 1991. So the Central Asia comprises of five states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These five states share much commonality as well as many differences which push them apart.(Bohr, 2004: 485)

These states have common history as well as culture but they differ in their ethnic issues, economic condition and in foreign relations. Russia's role in 1990's has shaped its influence in Central Asian States (Cummings, 2012: 93). Russia has remained the most important state to have its influence on domestic and international policies of Central Asia. Demise of USSR and appearance of Central Asian Republics (CARs) on the world map have changed the geo political scenario of the region. These states got importance due to the resources of oil and gas. These states possesses oil and gas resources more than that of Middle East as well as having those metals which are otherwise not found anywhere in the world.(Iqbal, 2014: 21)

Due to landlocked characteristic and being old part of USSR, most of the routes are having their convergence towards Moscow and after independence these states are in a process of exploring and establishing new land, Sea and Air routes to outside world.

## **Old and New Great Game**

Central Asia had been the chess board of imperial rivalry existed between British and Russian empires caused by their expansionist policies. "During late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Central Asian region including Afghanistan was a zone of major contest between British-Indian Empire and Russian Czars. These powers were struggling for establishing their hold in the region, which was termed as the Great Game of that time" (Iqbal, 2014: 21). Russia and Britain were trying to contain each other in Afghanistan and Central Asia and demarcate the border between Afghanistan and Central Asia in 1884 in order to terminate the Great Game. Afghanistan became the center of conflict as on one side there was a big power Russia and on the other side British India was existing. British had feared that Russia may threaten British Balochistan to reach warm water via Turkman Heart and Kandhar while Russians were having fear that British would undermine them in Central Asia, either through Muslim tribes of the area or through the rulers of Bokhara and Kokand. So this great game was waged for blocking Russian and British further expansion but the new Great Game is being played for the access to the resources or wealth of Central Asian Republics. The players have increased from two to many which include Russia, USA, China, Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and Iran. Central Asian States having energy reserves which are needed by all power players of Great Game. Russia has potential to re-surge; USA is acting as a sole super power and struggling to retain its status of world hegemon. China is raising power and aims at attaining its economic giant status. India has huge

market and aims to rise as regional power. Iran aims to dominate the Gulf as a regional power. Afghanistan is also important for the flow of resources from Central Asia to international world. Pakistan being a country on the cross roads of Central and South Asia is an important state for possessing warm water ports and routes of energy transportation to India and China. Pakistan is also sharing borders with Afghanistan, India and Iran.

### **Strategic and Economic Interests of India in Central Asian Republics**

India is a secular and global biggest democracy. Its economy is growing on a fast scale. India is a second thickly populated country having third largest standing army, the fourth largest air force and the fifth largest navy in the world. India wants to get a permanent membership in UN Security Council and looking forward to achieve the status of regional and global power. When in 1991 USSR was disintegrated it was alarming for India to see an Islamic block which would be inclined towards Pakistan. Since then India with the help of USSR fairly managed its ties with Central Asian Republics and prevented Pakistan from making good relations with them. During Taliban era, India formed a common front with Iran, Russia and Central Asian Republics against Taliban and India supported Northern Alliance against Taliban and created a tussle between Taliban and Northern Alliance in Afghanistan and it also created a gulf between Central Asian Republics and Pakistan (Iqbal, 2014: 84). "Counterterrorism cooperation has been the main security concern for India with regard to Central Asia, and cooperative security initiatives have already begun with Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan" (Lal, 2006: 30).

India became successful in attracting Central Asian Republics towards herself and she portrayed a bad image of Pakistan in front of Central Asian States. For India it was important to have good relations with Afghanistan in order to access the resources of Central Asia. 9/11 incident and US invasion of Afghanistan has had provided an opportunity to India to explore and develop her relations with Afghanistan and Central Asia. The US installed anti-Taliban government in Afghanistan further favoured India to have good relations with Afghanistan and from Afghanistan India is a successful too to have friendly relations with Central Asian Republics. India is trying to undermine the interests of its rival states, Pakistan and China. India has its economic as well as political interests in this region. India is preventing any major strategic gains to Pakistan and keeping a check on its influence in the region. India also wants to capture arms, export market of Central Asia and reduce Chinese influence in arms industry. In terms of India's energy security interest in this region as "Central Asia contains vast hydrocarbon fields both on-shore and off-shore in the Caspian Sea." (Campbell, 2013: 3).

### **India's Strategic Corporeality in the Central Asian Region**

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India is vital to Central Asia because of its rising attitude for the economic, military, regional, social, cultural intentions towards this land surrounded area. Traditionally, India was not free ride in certain matters like that of marketing or for the objectives of resources because of the hypercritical participation of Russia in this region. For example due to this over-controlled policy by the Russians in this region, India's undeviating connection sparse and cramped in Central Asia. Now and then, India is showing from different perspectives its engrossment and fascination for having a stable and intensifying as well as modernistic attempts in this territory for the global most attractive icon. Due to the earthly and terrestrial accessibility and juxtaposition also for dynamism stockpile Central Asia is significant to India. It is the rule in the international system that states move towards a specific angle and seeks its curiosity where she finds the best consequences as recently from the India's government point of view it is highlighted that "it refuses to lay down a quota for importing oil (and presumably gas) from any country, including Iran. Instead, India will buy oil (and, again, presumably gas if not other energy sources) from wherever it gets the best deal" (Kothari,2014 :240)

China's ingress and access towards Central Asia is much highest at the peak as compared to India, this can be visualized clearly from the two main strategies applied by the Beijing, Firstly its winning approach in energy value in terms of both oil blocks and oil business and organizations and secondly, China by using its technological skill in order to have reach in energy footing and framework also in the industrialization which came up in the outcome of mutual and logical interdependence between the two regions. Even the Chinese political leaders made a large number of deals and promises in making its climax reach in this region where as such India lacks but in the present scenario India is making its great efforts and contributions in having the best appropriate result being a part of Central Asian Republics. Somehow, apart from TAPI, Oil and Gas Corporation (ONGC), India is by and large a user of the foreign air base called as Ayni Air Base or Gissar Air Base which is a military Air base in Tajikistan located in the west of Dushanbe (capital of Tajikistan). This is military air craft base is important from the Soviet Union as this military station served for the Soviet Union during the Cold War era. Consequently, Tajikistan showed quite positive and favourable response in a way that not only in the past but also in the future Russia would be the only one to get benefit and user of this military air center, this gives a clue for the cooperative and unanimous relations between each other. (Kothari,2014 :240). Nevertheless, Indian own created confederation named as Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) pursue subsidize in Kazakhstan. India's stratagem of saturating oil from the Central Asian republics for worthwhile and achieving more economic stability in the Indian emporium and market place. If there would be no corroborate on Jihad evangelism, this cause a great combination and menacing to India's civic and governmental dependability especially in fighting for the issue of Kashmir. For the remunerative objective, "there is also scope for India to assist

Central Asian states in developing small and medium-scale enterprises” (Campbell,2013:5). There are spheres where India minimizes its abettance in which the most acclaimed and pre-eminent is the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation(ITEC)Strategy. In the primitive times also in future scenario, India’s trepidation and consternation is that if Afghanistan cascade and plummet beneath Taliban’s sweep and influence this could spring up to the progression and sequence of fundamental and far-reaching changes in Islamic societies or an advocate of radical political and social reforms all through Central Asia. Additionally, the strategic and economic reach of India lies in the “development of strong ties with the countries of Central Asia along the energy and security vectors” (Campbell,2013:10).India is also supported by Tajikistan and Kazakhstan as India’s tender and proffer to get a seat in UN Security Council (Lal,2006:30).

Indian interests in the region are as following,

- Tap the regions energy resources.
- Pursue geostrategic and economic goals.
- To prevent the possibility of emerging Muslim block and also to make a check on Pakistan’s influence there.
- To protect Indian Interest, within conflicting interest of different players like USA, Russia and China. (Iqbal, 2014: 86)
- Indian Policy towards Central Asia is directly or indirectly in a position of stopping Pakistan for gaining benefits and to keep a check on Pakistan and to get her share in every step of Pakistan like TAPI gas pipeline and it should end in India.
- India is also trying to contain China as China is a big Asian power.
- To prevent Pakistan’s influence in Central Asian Republics, India is also improving its relations with Afghanistan and Iran. India is providing training assistance to Afghanistan armed forces, India is welcoming Afghan students, media is collaborating with Afghan media, and numbers of Indian Journalists are working there. India has also offered them assistance in information technology IT sector. India is also capturing Afghan market for the export of cheaper Indian goods. Collaborating in Afghanistan’s reconstruction programmes. From Afghanistan India can easily create insecurity problems for Pakistan and it can pose threat to Pakistan from two sides. With the presence of India in Afghanistan it can easily prevent any kind of Muslim block having soft corner for Pakistan.
- In Tajikistan at Farkhor India has established her military base and also providing assistance in service and repair of military equipments.
- Kazakhstan is strongly supporting Indian membership in Shanghai cooperation organization (SCO). India is cooperating in oil and gas industry, military, pharmaceuticals and information technology IT industry.
- India is interested to set up a software training and development centre in Kyrgyzstan.

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- India is attempting to boost trade and commercial ties with Uzbekistan. India has constructed road link from ChahBahar Port to Afghanistan, Mazar-i- Sharif and further to Uzbekistan.

The main purpose of doing it is to prevent Pakistan from getting major advantage of Gwadar Port. It is clear that India has the ability to prevent Pakistan's strategic interests in Central Asian Republics. In this regard India has signed North-South Corridor Agreement with Iran and Russia in September 2000. This corridor is basically to connect Mumbai with St Petersburg, via Tehran and Moscow. Mumbai will be linked with Bandar Abbas Port of Iran by maritime transport, after that it will move along road and rail networks to connect Bandar Abbas Port with Caspian Sea ports of Bandar Anzali and Bandar Amirabad via Tehran. From Caspian Sea it will be shipped to Russian Port. (Iqbal,2014 : 90). This route will bypass the Afghanistan-Pakistan route. India is trying her best to hold her feet strong in Afghanistan for two reasons, firstly to put Pakistan under her check and to strengthen her relations with Central Asian Republics for strategic and economic purposes. India is further strengthening her position and trying to keep Pakistan out.

The strategic and economic interests of India are showing that India is in a position of advantage as compare to Pakistan. India is having a support of USA and India is also strengthening her relations with Iran through North South Corridor, ChahBahar Port and road link to Uzbekistan for oil and gas resources.

### **Pakistan's Interests in Central Asian Republics and its Uncertainties**

Pakistan has an important location of South Asia. It provides a shortest out let to land locked Central Asian Republics to the Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean and further to rest of the world. Pakistan acts as bridge between South and West Asia for resources of Middle East and South Asia. Karakoram highway is an ancient Silk route between Afghanistan, Tajikistan, China and Pakistan and for having access to Gwadar port, this route provides land link to Central Asian Republics through Tajikistan. Pakistani ports of Karachi, Pasni and Gwadar which are around 1600 km away from Central Asian Republics are the shortest route for economic link between Pakistan and Central Asian Republics. It can give boost to bilateral trade in raw material and manufactured goods. It is to be said that Pakistan has to build cultural and economic ties with Central Asian Republics, which will provide strategic depth to Pakistan against the hegemony of India in South Asia.

Pakistan and Central Asian Republics have some things common in their societies like the religion of Islam, having tribal system, architecture, art and design. In ancient times the people of both regions did bilateral trade and Afghanistan was used for reaching each other region and Pakistani city Peshawar was the main city used for trade and hindko language of Peshawar was also used for trade dealings between Central Asia and Sub-Continent. Samarkand-Multan to Lahore route was used for trading. Ports of Pakistan can give boom to Central Asia and future

developments can lead this region as another Middle East when linked with outside world.

The Central Asian Republics will be linked with Gwadar Port through Karakorum Highway, Turkham and Chaman. This route will bring lot of economic activities for Pakistan as well as for Central Asian Republics. If this proposed route and resource corridor is established then Pakistan's dependence on Middle East especially on Saudi Arabia will definitely reduced. (Iqbal, 2014: 132). TAPI is also a good proposed project to utilize the energy resources of Central Asian Republics. "The Gwadar Port is the first step towards fulfilling Pakistan's ambition of becoming a Trade and Energy Corridor (TEC) for China, which will one day help ship Persian Gulf oil from Gwadar overland through Pakistan to China" (Ahmad, 2010:8).

Gawadar Port is an indication and exemplification in terms of Pakistan's embryonic of marketing and merchandising gallery for China from the bird's eye view for China's future energy strength and dynamism. Pakistan is scrutinized and assessed as the centric and peripheral in the geo-economic being so much lucrative and cost-effective in aggrandize and enhancing the geographical regions either compact or massive in empowering and authorizing a large number of people to live in everlasting and sempiternal tranquility.

Iran as well as Central Asian states are viewing with an eyeball for the rich energy markets for the purpose of creation and implementation of their own identity and collectiveness of their own petroleum and natural gas. TAPI is mainly concerned with the security issue and there is a need to build and properly construct the pipeline so that there should be a good attainable and achievable supply of gas. This gas pipeline ends at the famous city of Indian border Fazilka (Ahmad, 2010:4).

This transferring of macro-level trade would lessen and attenuate the historical tensions and rivalries between India and Pakistan and between India and China. This would also reduce the turmoil and disruption between Pakistan and Afghanistan which are linked with each other in terms of historical past events, ethnicity, geographically and security affairs. In future TAPI is said to be qualified in improving relationships between India and Pakistan in order to get these two opposite states away from initiating the war. From the symbolic and emblematic significance Iran-Pakistan-India conduit extrapolate is referred to as the secluded and strife-free channel or pipeline. Consequently, in 2008 the heads of Petroleum of India and Pakistan held a meeting in Islamabad and negotiated on the price issue, similarly the Iranian head also visited Islamabad and New Delhi talked on the matter of pipeline, whereas on the other hand, India swing from side to side on the project and showed a vindicate of Mumbai Attacks to ostracize the dispense. This event happened just after the TAPI (Ahmad, 2010:7)

Ultimately, "Pakistan's operational emergence as an energy corridor in South, West and Central Asia creates a win-win situation for not all the countries and nations of these historically-linked sub-regions of Asia, it also potentially benefits

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all the extra-regional powers who have a stake in Asian stability in the 21st Century and beyond” (Ahmad,2010:3).

Pakistan has good expertise in banking sector, irrigation, livestock, poultry and agriculture machinery which could be shared with Central Asian Republics. Pakistan can offer military training, skill development and defense industries. At present Pakistan is offering various sources to Armed Forces of Central Asian Republics. Pakistan can offer skilled human resources to defense industry. As Central Asian Republics seriously lacks in technicians which Pakistan can easily provide to them.

For Central Asian Republics, the shortest sea route is the Arabian Sea through sea ports of Pakistan. Central Asia can access this port by rail as well as by road link to Gwadar Port. Central Asia has two nearest railheads at Kuchka and Tirmiz. From there the goods could transport to Heart and through Kandahar and Quetta for Karachi or to Gwadar Port. For land routes Central Asia and Pakistan have following options,

1. Route from Salang Pass, Kabul, Jalalabad, Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi.
2. Route from Tajikistan through Badakhshan across Pyanj River to western passes in Frontier Province and to Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi.
3. From Karakoram highway, Kashgar, Gilgit, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Karachi.
4. From Chitral, Booni, Baroghal post to Kankhun, Kurtut, Khundood and ends at Khorog where it joins to M41 Highway of Tajikistan. Pamir Highway is a section of M41 road going from Bishkeh (Kyrgyzstan) to Termez (Uzbekistan) crossing Tajikistan through the Pamir Mountains.

Stability in Afghanistan is crucial for Pakistan’s involvement in Central Asian Republics. It is the foremost requirement of Pakistan for the utilization of oil and gas resources of Central Asia.

Pakistan is officially recognized as an energy arcade in the regional states and in order to gain an image of world’s noteworthy and distinguished state and strategically prestigious one in dealing with Central Asia. Pakistan is considered as a deprecatory being a neighbor state to Central Asia, the landlocked region viewed Pakistan’s role as an analytical and carping because of its supporting of Taliban in Afghanistan and the Islamic military group and dubious and cynical aspirations in terms of trade in this territory.

- Pakistan’s main interest in Central Asia is for the strategic and tactical reasons for the promotion of high-level business and commerce liberalization with each other.
- Pakistan wants to have a stronger position in this region in terms of the military services in order to keep India’s less involvement in this region.



- For the regional integration as well as for more cooperative security measures with Afghanistan, this is the closest connecting border to Central Asia.
- Pakistan's major interest in Central Asia is that of transferring and movement of goods and services through sea-routes which Central Asia lacks, it would fall down India's interest in the region.
- Pakistan is continuously making efforts in having friendly relationships with Kyrgyzstan for the thorough fare connections to sea-ports of Karachi and Gawadar which would be beneficial in facilitating Pakistan with a large-scale electricity.
- India which is the main stumbling block for Pakistan, because of the two antagonistic powers having nuclear weapons, due to which Pakistan bothered to be a win player in this great game.
- Pakistan by making collaborative and strengthened relations with Uzbekistan to counter terrorism (Lal,2006:24)
- Faucet the increasing means of transportation from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- For the purpose of transporting gaseous fuels from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan to Pakistan.
- As Pakistan being an agricultural state, she is a good supporter for Central Asian states to provide this region with agricultural facilities in order to reduce Indian interest from this land.

### **Pakistan's and India's role in Shanghai Cooperation Organization**

Shanghai cooperation organization (SCO), an internationally recognized intergovernmental organization based on political, economic, security, regional and mutual cooperation, established on 15 June 2001 by six member states namely China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It has five observers such as Pakistan, India, Iran, Afghanistan and Mongolia. However, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Belarus are acting as a symposiums in shanghai cooperation organization.

In the historical perspective there occurred a long-term hostile and conflicting situation between Russia and China in terms of border sharing which resulted as a multipartite issue after the independence of the former Soviet republics in 1991, and in 1996 the so-called three Central Asian's states such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan along with Russia and China inscribed Shanghai Agreement on Confidence Building in the Military Field in the Border Area. Later on in 1997, Agreement on Reduction of Military Forces in the Border Areas was signed by these states which created a stage of mutual borders among these five states. This mutual regime border gave the title for this organization as a Shanghai Five. Ultimately one of the other state of Central Asia, Uzbekistan which has no border closer to China but became a member of SCO for its security regional integration in the world.

It was also a rising question that apart from Russia and China, how the two averse states India and Pakistan find SCO as a beneficial confederation. Both states are trying to have strong links with this organization in order to have access to energy rich republics of Central Asia. SCO also recognized in providing protection to infrastructure, communication, transmission, effervescence and stability in economic power. Furthermore, one of the basic facet of SCO being related with the other regional organizations in terms of the geographical features it is extended over from the White Sea (located in Russian's sovereignty) to the South China Sea. It can also reach to the Indian Ocean and Middle East due to the fully participation of the observer states.

Mongolia became the observer state within SCO in 2004 whereas Pakistan, India and Iran reached the status of as an observer states of SCO in 2005. These states presented as a divergent and various groups in terms of democratic politics as well as in acquiring and integration of the internationally recognized approval. The basic incentive of these states for being a member of SCO is that they should have an open door policy for the purpose of trade with the Central Asia countries. These states are mainly concerned for having a combined convergence in energy transferring in the Eurasian region.

Iran has shown a keen interest in developing bilateral energy cooperation with China which can be seen in 2006 when Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad welcomed six SCO member states in Tehran delegation for the negotiations on energy profit utilization and further growth. As it is analysed that "Iran is 'a good fit' also in terms of its stake in combating drug trafficking" (Bailes & Dunay, 2007 :18). Pakistan and India, both are struggling to be a win-win from each other in having a closer ties with Central Asian states regarding militarily, holding energy resources and for much stronger regional relationships with the Middle Asian (CARs) states. Interestingly, Iran has pressed down for the full membership of SCO whereas Pakistan and India showed less demonstrative interest in this matter as if anyone would become the full member of SCO then it is taken to be understood that the other observer states would also categorized in the same position.

Many questions raised that why Pakistan and India not being finally considered to be having a full-membership in Shanghai Corporation, there are two reasons one is that as Pakistan and India both are the nuclear powers and are non-signatories of Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 Nuclear Weapons due to which there occur the complexities and more chances of raising conflicts between the other states of the world in the span of this organization and the other reason is that as India-Pakistan's conflict over Kashmir can create such possibilities for one to reside in the SCO, this would lead the adverse denouement within the internal matters of SCO and would definitely give the pessimistic image to the outside world about this organization.

However, SCO's 2005 Astana summit is significant from the point of view of increasing more stability and vulnerability in the security performances of the

member states also it enables to function in the field of providing high-proficiency in the elimination of missiles and reduction of armaments, projectiles, secret and illegal conveying of drugs and narcotics and it also stepped forward for the cooperative and encouraging confidence building measures among the different states. This organization mapped functional and constructive arrangements for the large-scale security zone in the world.

Both India and Pakistan are trying to involve in more and more activities of SCO. Moreover, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek is significant from the perspective wherein the governmental bodies of Russia, China, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Iran, Mongolia, Afghanistan as well as the representatives of the observer states Pakistan and India arranged in the colloquy of Shanghai Cooperation Organization held on September 13, 2013 which is famous with a name Bishkek Delegation or Bishkek conclave. The role of Bishkek summit is vital where it is clearly notified by the member states that SCO would provide security protective measures to both Afghanistan as well as Central Asia in flowing down and reduction of the military forces particularly the ISAF troops. Other than ISAF, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) and Al-Qaeda helping to stalk the proceedings of the foreign and multinational crime from Afghanistan to Central Asia. The extremists fundamentalists groups created quite critical and threatening situations in the Central Asian region due to the striking attempts of the Islamic movements in the Farghana valley which is nearer to the greater parts not only of Central Asia but also Afghanistan, China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous region (XUAR). (Reeves, 2014:4)

### **Obstacles between Pakistan and Central Asian Republics**

Due to frequent political unrest and instability in 1990's of Ex Prime Ministers, Benazir Bhutto and Mian Nawaz Sharif governments, Pakistan lacks behind to develop good bilateral relations with Central Asian Republics and as a result India took advantage and strengthens her relations in economic, military, technology, education and telecommunication sectors. These secular Central Asian Republics have also serious concerns about Pakistan's intentions and involvement with the Jihadi elements active in these republics. Pakistan is also seriously in trouble due to terrorism in her state. Pakistani forces are also launching war against the terrorists in Waziristan.

Pakistan is facing tough competition with India, Iran and Turkey in Central Asia as they are enjoying many advantages. These states and Russia also are trying hard to provide outlets to Central Asian Republics through them. Pakistan has no infrastructure to attract Central Asian Republics. But the Gwadar Port and proposed rail and road networks linking Central Asia with Arabian Sea and China through Karakoram Highway will be an opportunity for Pakistan to provide and out let to Central Asian Republics.

Iran has developed a road network with the help of India to link Central Asian Republics with Arabian Sea. To develop Chahbahar Port between the cooperation

of India and Iran will further give more advantage to attract the resources of Central Asia. Pakistan should also cooperate with Iran for getting resources from Iran as well as from Central Asian Republics. Gwadar Port is likely to face tough competition from Iranian Port of Chahbahar. India can exploit this situation by strengthening Pakistan's rivalry with Iran. Pakistan needs to strengthen her relations with Iran and execute the agreed project of Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline in near future.

The law and order situation in Baluchistan province is another hindrance for the commercial activities through Gwadar port. A proper domestic as well as foreign policy is required to address all the obstacles. The rail and road routes to Central Asian Republics are required to establish in order to yield benefits through Gwadar port. For this purpose the under developed province of Xinjiang needs to develop communication infrastructure with the help of Chinese cooperation. As this province is linked with Pakistan and it will provide access to Pakistan towards energy corridor. Baluchistan and Gwadar port is an important opportunity as well as a challenge to get gas and oil from Central Asian Republics. Baluchistan can play an important role towards the economic development of Pakistan if government can successfully control the Baloch nationalist movement and solve the grievances of Balochs and enhance the trust of people. Pakistan has also suffered because of the instability in the military insurrection. For example during General Musharraf's regime, there was a Pashtun pressure in terms of Afghan-Pakistan border also Pakistan interested to resolve its inter-state problems with the assistance of America due to which it makes a great obstacle in terms of Pakistan's relations with Central Asian Republic (Rumer, 2003: 131)

It is very important for Pakistan to stop India's influence on Central Asian Republics by offering them assistance in various fields. In the shadow of new economic realities, Pakistan should improve her relations with Russia and encourage Russian cooperation in all sectors. One of the main obstructions and hindrances in terms of Pakistan with Central Asia is that of Wakhan cloister which is closely linked with Afghanistan and China, which is the most suitable border in connecting Pakistan with Tajikistan. "Lack of a common border with any Central Asian state is one of the primary impediments to accessing the region" (Asif, 2011: 2).

Pakistan signed a number of memorandums for the understanding with Central Asian republics. "Pakistan's plans to open a transportation corridor to Central Asia through Afghanistan" (Rumer, 2003: 95). There are certain directions and exhortations in Pakistan's foreign policy in terms of this region.

- To engage in hospitable relations with every republic of Central Asia.
- Pakistan must not wait for the peaceful sally of Afghanistan rather she should engage herself in every agreement and treaties with CARs.
- For the deference, popularity and ascendancy Pakistan must not apart herself with any conflicting state of Central Asia.

- In order to improve and amplify the trust, Pakistan should supplement regional and international caucus.
- For the mutual cooperation and much withstand cultural and monetary bind, Pakistan must focus on the researchers, scholars and educational sectors in terms of this, one major option is that she must invite the Central Asian students by giving them scholarships business and jobs opportunities and also giving them chances in visiting different areas of Pakistan (tourism).

## **Conclusion**

Pakistan and India are the two South Asian players in the game theory of Central Asian Republics. In the geopolitical as well as in topographical study, these two hostile states are endeavor in making continuous and ongoing amalgamation within the Central Asian states. After the independence from Britain in 1947, because of joining the anti-communist bloc and Leninist bloc, this situation hampered and preclude in developing close ties with CARs. Originally, Pakistan has much more fiscal and mercantile knot with Central Asian states rather than bureaucratic, constitutional or strategic truss. Pakistan's foreign policy determines to engage its relationship with this region because of the Afghanistan prospect. Furthermore, India in contrasting with Pakistan, she has had much established and entrenched chemical industry and an increasing impressive development in it. For the Asian free trade area multiplex dialogues and agreements go on between India and Pakistan for the embellishment of economic trade dealings especially with the CARs. Both these countries have the individual goals and aims in getting more fascinating and nearer to this Middle Asian region.

On the part of whole to see from the future perspective, not only the foreign powers such as Russia and China reach its arms for the Central Asian region, but modern world emerged on the stage to realized that how Pakistan and India are struggling and making elbow grease and exertion for the globalized identification and hat tip status. The other observer states like Iran and Mongolia are also finding ways to reach a high-level approach towards this region. The Eastern globe as well as the Western globe is in the queue how to be serviceable if they would stand in connection with Central Asian states. The neighboring states are more curious about its outstretching for this particular land area. Central Asia one of the wealthy state in the oil and gas production due to which the other outsider states are frequently staring with round eyes and keenly in gaining and attaining their objectives and goals from this region. This create the phenomenon of geopolitics and despotism in the rough form. It is the silent tussle between Pakistan and India that who gets more advantage and become prosperous in the post-2015 scenario. Facing a number of hurdles, obstacles and quandary, even then the two states are for the financial-monetary and for the territorial characteristics are nonplussed and baffled within the Central Asian region's recognition. The global village is looking forward that at which point Pakistan and India by and large would successful and

fastest in developing its strategic linkage with this region either through diplomacy or through the dependency theory of international enigma.

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