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Pakistan-Afghanistan relations after 9/11 and role of other countries²

Abstract

This article discusses Pakistan Afghanistan relations after 9/11 with especial reference to the role of external powers. Within this context paper stresses upon that external factor played very important role between these two countries. Two major forces United States and Russia dependably go after impact and impart of the area's vigour and regular recourses. Indian association in Afghanistan likewise hurt investment of Pakistan and make issues between two nations. The study further explores that how this external factor decide nature of relations of these two countries. After 9/11 War on dread have come the investment of worldwide and local players in sharp canter. Being a prompt neighbour, the outer players' diversions in Afghanistan has straight affect upon Pakistan's hobbies and security. These parts not just look at the investment of the outer players in the district however effects on Pakistan and Afghanistan relations. Further what confound the scenario is the contention around distinctive players especially Iran, India, and Pakistan as they seek after their own particular engages.

Key Words: US, India, Iran, powers, challenges

Introduction:

The worldwide powers dependably had an extraordinary engage in the South Asian locale because of its geostrategic essentialness. The hobbies of different global and territorial players have come into sharp canter. Since Pakistan's origin in 1947, the nation has dependably been at the junction of planet governmental issues, spotted in the play yard of major powers in the chase for their universal investment. Pakistan is bordered by an incomprehensible number of diverse sorts of verges, outskirts and domains; some of them are un-divided and un-portrayed, and others incorporate ceasefire lines, lines of control, lines of real contact and working limits. This offers ascent to different varieties of cross-outskirt security issues, extending from outside invasion to multifaceted and ethnic natural inclination issues. The nation imparts long outskirts to its main rival India, neighbourly China, unstable Afghanistan, irregular Iran, and many kilometres of coastline along the Arabian Sea.³ The downfall of Soviet Union

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² I, Dr Kalsoom Hanif, hereby declare: The article is a part of my MPhil thesis submitted to History Department University of the Punjab, Lahore. The co-authors of this paper one way or the other have helped me refine and finalise it into an article form—Dr Kalsoom.

³ S.M. Burke, &L. Ziring. *Pakistan Foreign Policy: An historical analysis*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.1990

and disclosure of mineral assets in Central Asia breathtakingly adjusted the geopolitical comparison. Afghanistan has hence, by and by gained discriminating criticalness as an area connect for oil and regular gas pipelines and exchange track. Today, the Central Asian states have come to draw much consideration as it is accepted that they expect the potential key to remember vigor security in the 21st century. Outside impedance has been a steady marvel to Afghanistan, a nation which has seen "The Great Game", the Soviet mediation and American supported resistance. The outside impedance in the post withdrawal period proceeded unrelieved with the special case of USA, which conveniently put Afghanistan into a back burner. Iran, India and Russia had been the long-time supporters of Northern Alliance in its battle against the Taliban. These nations were slanted that US compels might soon leave Afghanistan and they were dead set to keep up their impact with their previous representations.

Russia:

It is alleged that after October 2001, US invasion, Russia intelligence agency provided the support to the terrorist, which operating terrorist activities in Pakistan. In October 2001 Russia sent approximately 40 tanks and 12 military helicopters to the Northern Alliance forces as part of a \$70 million arms package. This package also includes old Soviet T-55 tanks, military helicopters and submachine guns as well as anti-aircraft missiles."⁴ Moscow also provided intelligence, use of air space for the US delivery of humanitarian aid.⁵ The cooperation among different players in Afghanistan like Russia, China, and others in battling terrorism however has a somewhat narrow context. Each country is primarily worried with particular its own interest in the region. In the long time Russia and China however are bound to keep a wary eye on the U.S military presence in the region and would like to see partnership beyond the objective of fighting terrorism and limitation religious extremism. These two major powers and the United States compete for influence and share of the region's energy and natural recourses. Although Afghanistan is not a world power, the fact that this country can provide access to rich oil and gas reserves, allowed Afghanistan to have influence over and even affect international diplomacy. Russia, and Tajikistan, tried to balance Pakistan's involvement in Afghanistan by supporting conflicting Afghan groups. Iran and Russia, in link with Tajikistan, supplied the anti-Taliban United Front (Northern Alliance). The Uzbekistan government supported a local militia of Uzbeks from Tajikistan and Afghanistan that had roots and operations in both countries.

USA:

US strategy towards Afghanistan after afghan Jihad was disgraceful which brought about radicalism in the locale. Soviet withdrawal key eye of America got the oil and common assets of the locale. Vital area of Afghanistan was seen as a

⁴ Musa Khan Jalalzai. *The Taliban insurgency in Pakistan and Afghanistan*. Lahore: Sang-e- Meel publication.2008.p 113-115.

⁵ Major General Samay Ram. *The New Afghanistan, Pawn of America*. New Delhi: Manas publications. 2004. p. 72

way for developing American impact in the new republics and take out the locale immense gas and common recourses to the planet's business sector. The US engages in Afghanistan and Pakistan declined after the Russian withdrawal from Afghanistan. As the 9/11 commission Report closed, a U.S. flop to smooth Afghanistan might decrease U.S. security by permitting the nation to turn into a place of refuge for terrorists and guilty parties. Notwithstanding, Afghanistan gathered its vitality as the oil rich Central Asian States were so magnetic it was not possible be overlooked. In short American engages in the district could be compact as accompanying:-

The presence of US forces in Afghanistan was also meant at long desired policy to Contain China.

- To check the stream of narcotics stemming from poppy fields of Afghanistan.
- To stop the spread of religious fundamentalism and terrorism from Afghanistan.
- Discovery of huge quantity of hydrocarbon and mineral resources in Afghanistan.
- The US was closely watching the co-operative framework between China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan (i.e., Shanghai Co-operation Organization), that resulted in establishment of a new block in the region.

“One of the goals of America is to secure financial decent footing in the Caspian range by setting up an exchange track in Central Asia.”⁶ American hobbies make the security issue for Pakistan. In October 2001, US assault in Afghanistan, many Taliban contenders and just about the whole sound Taliban senior initiative shura had discovered shelter in Pakistan's federally directed tribal zone (FATA) at the focal point of the outskirts, and in addition in parts of the Pakistani area of Baluchistan to the west and the north west boondocks territory (NWFP) to the east and south. Taliban and other religion radical components are working on both sides in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The US intrusion in Afghanistan in October 2001, aroused an invasion of Taliban and al-Qaida activist into the FATA that would in the end bring about the amalgamation of radical control in the locale. These radicals' components are incredible danger for Pakistan. The United States and Pakistan, in any case of being old associates, have distinctive targets in Afghanistan. Nine years of deficient war in Afghanistan have brought about American and NATO associates to address the prosperity of war and even U.S. certification to the reason. Besides, the center security undercurrents in Afghanistan remain dubious, and it is even understood that full of feeling inversion in Afghanistan after a complete U.S. withdrawal may carry triumph to the Afghan Taliban.

America constrained Pakistan to be a part of war on dread truth be told he left no decision to Pakistan" Bush accepted Musharraf in the White House on

⁶ Jagmohan meher. *America's Afghanistan war the success that failed*. Delhi: Kalpaz publication. 2004. p.39

13 February 2002 and called him a 'pioneer of incredible fearlessness and vision' and accordingly Musharraf guaranteed to take action against terrorism polished against India, and to find Al Qaeda from Afghanistan. In 2004 president Bush designated Pakistan as major non-NATO associate of the US. For the year states was restricted for Israel, Australia and Japan. Pakistan appropriated harsh comments from Afghanistan side as in 2005-6 connection between Pakistan and Afghanistan soured. Karzai put forth more provocative expressions than his clergymen. In a discourse soon after an adolescent meeting in Kabul on 20 June 2005, he expressed that "after the annihilation the Soviet powers, a more risky occupation originated from neighbour unmistakably inferring Pakistan". Despite focused on relations Karzai sent a ten part appointment, headed by transportation Minister Inayatullah Qasami to Pakistan to gain blessing from neighbourly neighbour. More than once Pakistan guaranteed of its approach of non-impedance in Afghanistan inside affairs.⁷

Pakistan and Afghanistan impart the past, present and future. It is significant for the U.S. to comprehend that regardless of what number of territorial players it puts energetically to accomplish a sheltered entryway out of Afghanistan, Pakistan's part remains critical. The United States' investment in Afghanistan has been decrease of Islamic fanaticism, development in human rights and the economy. In its war against terrorism, chasing down Osama container Laden and finding Al-Qaeda is the essential objective of the United States. Despite the fact that, the status of this theatre turned into auxiliary since the Iraq war went to the fore, to attain its destinations, the United States, is urged to look after a sizable quality in the Arabian Sea

In 2008 China's Jiangxi Copper Company and China Metallurgical Group Corporation made a joint venture of \$3.5 billion which earned them full digging rights for improving Afghanistan's Aynak Copper field. Aynak Copper field is the planet's biggest undeveloped field.⁸ China is likewise included in building a \$500 million power plant and a line track from Tajikistan to Pakistan which will realize 10,000 businesses for Afghans and \$400 million in sovereignties yearly to Afghan government. China is additionally occupied with advancing correspondence arrangements, restoration of watering system ventures, open clinics and way restoration undertakings recompensed by European Union (EU). China is eager to find approaches to back universal endeavours to battle militancy and carry strength to both States Pakistan and Afghanistan. Few district assumed vital part in Sino-U.S relationship. Islamabad was channel for the standardization of relations between China and United States. It was the Soviet attacks that gave the last stimulator for creating joint Sino-U.S indicate insights to screen Soviet military exercises. "After 9/11 China gave completely back to Pakistan's choice to withdraw the backing of the Taliban and advancing a constrained collaboration on counterterrorism issues with United States". Chinese engage in Afghanistan has been further upgraded resulting to 9/11. The vicinity of American drives in

⁷ Dr. Raja Muhammad Khan, 'The Evolving Nature of Pak-US Relationship', *NDU Journal*, Vol. XXV, 2011, pp. 61-89.

⁸ Fazal-ur-Rehman, 'Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Potential and Prospects', *Margalla Papers*, 2008, pp.35-48

her patio i.e. in Afghanistan and Central Asian States. China wants that Afghanistan ought to be free from any outside impacts, incorporating coalition constrains, as this is prone to undermine the area's security. Focal Asian States and Afghanistan present an expansive market with rich mineral and human assets to China. China might additionally want to see a legislature in Afghanistan which is benevolent to Pakistan. China is put billions of dollars in Pakistan on distinctive activities. China needs amicable relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan against Taliban and radical. China too sees waiting US vicinity in Afghanistan and Central Asia, and in addition the relentlessly fortifying ANA as a danger. Pakistan is the wild-card for China.⁹ The two nations impart an "all-weather fellowship" and this is prone to proceed with; however China is not right away in a position to supplant US liberality regarding military, civil and fiscal help. Notwithstanding, China has pressed on to court Pakistan as a vast giver of military fittings and has aided Pakistan in various key tasks, incorporating another port at Gwador in Baluchistan

India:

India had dependably his impact in Kabul aside from throughout the short time of Taliban. the point when India was constrained to close down his government office and departments in Afghanistan. Despite the fact that he exploited the questionable connection between Islamabad and Kabul yet couldn't take formal position on fragile issues like Pakhtunistan and Duren line between Pakistan and Afghanistan. In spite of the fact that India has looked after exceptionally close social connections with Afghanistan as he offered numerous instructive offices and Indian motion pictures and TV programme mainstream around urban Afghans. The extent that Pakistan relations with Afghanistan are concerned India assumed exceptionally significant part, Pakistan's remote strategy essentially relies on upon Pakistan connection with India.¹⁰ After 9/11 India assumed a dynamic part and tried to create Pakistan's picture as a terrorist nation yet Pakistan got associated of America in war against terrorism. India turned into the part of each International meeting to development the Bonn process and recreation of Afghanistan. India looked after impact on Afghanistan and took a few steps of it.

- India upheld Karzai government to guarantee that Afghanistan does not again turn into a sanctuary for Pakistan-supported terrorists.
- India secured discretionary connection with Afghanistan to backer for its investment. After fall of Taliban it revived its consulate in Kabul and its major gainful focuses in the Western and Northern parts of Afghanistan.
- India throughout the time of Northern Alliance upheld on the grounds that Pakistan backed Mujahidin. In any case in Karzai's period India kept

⁹ Husain Haqqani, 'Breaking up is not Hard to Do: Why the US-Pakistani Alliance Isn't Worth the Trouble', *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 92, No. 2, March/April 2013, p.75.

¹⁰ Afshan Subohi, 'Whither Regional Trade', *Dawn*, 27 May 2013.

Northern card in its back pocket so that in the time of need they can utilize it.

- India expects that any sort of compromise that carry the Taliban into the Afghan government might empower Pakistan upheld. so India backed Political compromise in Afghanistan.

India built a little base in Farkhor, Tajikistan, in backing of exercises and staff inside Afghanistan. "Separated from implying, the ascent in Indian impact in the nation and a discerned comparing misfortune for Pakistan. The vicinity of Indian so near outskirts incites Pakistan's sensitivities. In Pakistan are raised why India decides to contract ventures close to the Pakistani fringe and in grieved ranges when there is much they could do in North." Some Afghan factions, specifically the Tajik gatherings headed by the Panjshiris, may decline to acknowledge diminishing Indian impact in light of the fact that they see Indian underpin as a fence against the washout of the US-headed state-building business endeavour. The Afghan government, on the other hand, has everything to increase and small to lose from a closure to the Indo-Pakistani restriction.¹¹ India clearly having the status of the fifth biggest socio-financial support in Afghanistan with enormous vicinity both regarding assets and men in essentially each segment of the nation postures extraordinary chances for Pakistan's investment. Through open and private segments inclusion India has earned goodwill of the Afghans which is truly testing for Pakistan in picking up their goodwill in its support. Also, Pakistan's concern in Afghanistan is the confinement of India's more extensive part in the nation where it is not thoughtful to the advancement and reconstructive exertion yet rather tries to adventure such ventures as an instrument for making confuse in Pakistan's defenseless zones. India-Pakistan rivalry backtracks to the times when the interest for Pakistan rose. After autonomy the "Pashtunistan" issue furnished India an opportunity to pressurize Pakistan from both outskirts. Later Afghanistan turned into a battleground for Indo-Pakistan substitute war. India respected any administration in Kabul that restricted Pakistan and the 9/11 occurrence gave it a chance to disfavour Pakistan by confining it in Afghanistan and global community.¹²

Not long after 9/11, New Delhi started a crusade to incorporate Pakistan in the Axis of Evil and make it a target rather than an accomplice of the US headed war on terrorism. truth be told, India is yearning to make rubbing between Pakistan and Afghanistan, by offering fillip to disputable issues by ethicalness of her impact on Afghan government

India is as of now 20% inadequate of her vigour prerequisite which is liable to fly up to 80%²⁹ with the present scale of her advancement. She might additionally want to see a legislature in Afghanistan which is dangerous to Pakistan in order to keep her out of vigour diversion and also to make a two front

¹¹ RasulBakhshRais, *Recovering the Frontier State: War, Ethnicity and State in Afghanistan*, Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2008.

¹² Kai Adie, *Power Struggle over Afghanistan*, New York: Skyhorse Publishing, 2011.

issue on Pakistan in any destiny war with India. India has conferred over \$ 1.2 billion in philanthropic, recreation, and developmental help for Afghanistan, making India fifth biggest global benefactor to Afghanistan with activities traversing healing facilities, foundation, and the social area. India is investigating its expanded vital premiums in Afghanistan and the more stupendous Middle East.¹³ Consequently, while India's vicinity in Afghanistan has a Pakistan-particular utility, it is additionally about India's developing capacity to impact its expanded key neighbourhood. Notwithstanding concerns of security, India presses on to put intensely in Afghanistan, ad lobbying its delicate power picture around the regular person populace instead of endeavouring to impact the military or governmental issues in the nation¹⁴.

Iran:

Iran likewise indicated investment to leave the detachment infringed by the US and universal group seeing an opening in the district. Iran offers close chronicled, social, etymological and ethnic connections with Afghans. "Since the ascent of oil pay in the early 1970s there has been a change in Iran's state of mind when Shah started envisioning of a restoration of the Persian Empire. Pakistan's rout in the 1971 war had released its prior significance in his eyes. With oil costs raising the Shah of Iran had set out on his goal-oriented exertion to move back Soviet impact in neighboring nations and make a Modern form of antiquated Persian Empire. Until the eighteenth century Iran had governed Western Afghanistan and the fall of Zahir Shah have resuscitated Iranian aspiration.¹⁵ Taliban's offered to secure force picked up quality in Afghanistan, the strongest resistance in their domination has originated from Iran. There is likewise proof that Iran was supporting the rivals of Taliban both tangibly and ethically in the area.

Iran additionally helped the acceleration of the emergency by fuelling the war, while playing the "Shia card." as a matter of actuality, a few investigators have reasoned that Iran's strategy in Afghanistan has kept the pot bubbling in Afghanistan so it could pick up control of area tracks and pipelines to Central Asia Iranian firms helped in recreation of Afghanistan. Iranian support adds up to more than US \$280 million so far and exchange volume between the two nations is more than \$1.3 billion. Iran has saved \$100 million for building a college in Kabul.¹⁶ Iran's vicinity and solid impact is really obvious in the Herat territory of Afghanistan. Not just this, Iran likewise had Afghan displaced people like Pakistan and has just about 900,000 authorized Afghan exiles inasmuch as unlawful inhabitants' number is not known. Iran is enthusiastic about building stronger relations with Afghanistan however it doesn't underpin the

¹³ Siddiqui Iqtidar. *Hydro-Politics and Water Wars in South Asia*, Karachi: Vanguard Books, 2010.

¹⁴ Mahmud Ali Durrani, India and Pakistan: *The Cost of Conflict and the Benefits of Peace*, Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2001.

¹⁵ Dr. MavaraInayat, 'Human Security and Civil Society in South Asia' in *Non-Traditional and Human Security*, Islamabad: Institute of Regional Studies, 2007, pp. 185-199.

¹⁶ M.Ali. US foreign aid to Pakistan and democracy: An Overview. *Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences*, (2009). 247-258.

Pakistan-Afghanistan relations after 9/11 and role of other countries: JRSP, Vol. 58, No 3 (July-Sept 2021)
reconciliatory process presented by President Karzai in light of the fact that Iran never distinguished Taliban's legitimacy.¹⁷

Central Asian States

"The Central Asian States have their own particular contentions inclination and key goals between European and Asian oil organizations however these organizations don't need Pakistan's connections with oil and gas rich area of Central Asia. They need continuation of war in Afghanistan. in order to undermine Pakistan's financial and mechanical force. These organizations however need Pakistan to be a major customer market of their multi-national modern company unmanageable items. War in Afghanistan was indeed the ruinous of Pakistan's political ethnic religious and investment structure.¹⁸

Indeed Afghanistan is a battleground of oil and gas wealth of Central Asia. there are rivalry around territorial and western oil organizations to manufacture the pipeline to transport the vigor showcase in Europe and Central Asia. These competitions turn into another incredible diversion around Russia and Great Britain and America to overwhelm Central Asia and Afghanistan."¹⁹ Therefore Pakistan, rather than the aforementioned potential provincial players' commitment and avidness, has been abate in helping towards the remaking exertion in Afghanistan. For the past numerous years Pakistan has been connected with the war and military side of the nation that has forgotten the individuals worn. Afghans look towards nations which are dealing with their necessities.²⁰ That is the reason there is an environment of hostility towards Pakistan and its vicinity in the nation while nations like India, Iran, China and Russia are dependably welcome because of their help. Pakistan in seeking after its investment and impact in the nation is stood up to with the test of clashing premiums of these solid, compelling territorial players. Likewise, regardless of how repulsive the scenario is in Afghanistan, it is a sovereign nation where the individuals are much mindful of their necessities and have solid supposition over issues. Joining of Afghan investment with those of Pakistan hinges on upon the what's to come course of occasions and how stable the scenario stays with Pakistan's assistance. For Pakistan there are controls in Afghanistan while rivalling these investment goliaths in one place that may advance into a clash of premiums. Accordingly Iran has two vital destinations inside Afghanistan.²¹ In "Iran's approach towards Afghanistan" Moshen Milani says Iran's objectives in Afghanistan are to create a budgetary circle to impact by participating in

¹⁷ Dr. Aazar Tamana, 'Implications of US-Pakistan Cooperation post 9/11 for India-Pakistan Composite Dialogue' in *US-Pakistan Cooperation post 9/11 and Pakistan's Security* (PhD thesis), Curtin University, Perth, Australia, 2010, 271-339.

¹⁸ Shahnaz Akhtar. Dynamics of USA-Pakistan relations in post 9/11 period: Hurdles and future prospects. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science* 2012, 205-213.

¹⁹ Jagmohan Meher. *America's Afghanistan war the success that failed* (Delhi: Kaplax publication. 2004)

²⁰ W. Sohrab, W., & I. A Chaudhary., Pak-US Relations in 21st Century: Challenges and opportunities for Pakistan. *Berkeley Journal of Social sciences*, (2012). 1-16.

²¹ Riaz Mohammad. *Afghanistan and Pakistan* (Karachi: Oxford University Press. 2012)

Pakistan-Afghanistan relations after 9/11 and role of other countries: JRSP, Vol. 58, No 3 (July-Sept 2021)
reproduction in Afghanistan and for Iran to turn into the center for the Transit of
products and administrations between Persian Gulf and Afghanistan, focal Asia,
India and China.²²

Conclusion:

Pakistan assumed exceptionally essential part after 9/11 particularly to kill terrorism and to uproot Taliban. It broadened uphold for reconstructing security, peace and new political request in Afghanistan that demonstrated helpful. Various political and security activities were taken by Pakistani government. In spite of the fact that numerous touchy Issues, for example the Durand Line and Pushtunistan inquiries, the war on terrorism, the antagonistic association of India and Iran against Pakistan may be questionable ones and posture troubles between Pakistan and Afghanistan throughout this time however Pakistan remained exceptionally cautious to supervise all the scenarios. Yet, exchange with the Central Asian Republics and Afghanistan, vigour pipelines, and the United States vicinity in Afghanistan are certain components that are harbingers of another time of peace and amicability in the area.

It is paramount for the U.S to comprehend that regardless of what number of outer calculates, puts energetically to realize a sheltered passage out of Afghanistan, Pakistan's part remains essential. United States vicinity in Afghanistan is chance for Pakistan as issue of outskirts might be determined. China is in fever of Pakistan and Afghanistan sound relationship. On the grounds that stable Pakistan and Afghanistan is in fever of China. Last however not minimum is the part of India, created strategic connection with Afghan government and contribute vigorously against Pakistan. India expects that any sort of compromise that carry the Taliban into the Afghan government might empower Pakistan sponsored. so India upheld Political compromise in Afghanistan. As Pakistan, as far as concerns it, should productively captivate Afghanistan, whatsoever levels. This is the best way to hold, console and improve Pakistan's impact with respect to Afghanistan.

²² Malik, Hafeez. *US relation with Afghanistan and Pakistan*(New York: oxford University Press, 2008)