

## Pakistan-Iran Relationship in the Context of Regional and International Challenges (2001- 2013)

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### Abstract

This research paper aims to examine the Pakistan-Iran Relationship in the context of Regional and International challenges emanated after 9/11 (2001). It will explore the internal and external challenges to the relationship, especially the role of US and India. I will also analyze the options available to the two partners for improving their relationship in order to enhance its efficacy and durability. Pakistan is an Islamic country which has been influenced by the U.S. preventing the free development of her society and stabbing her political autonomy. India on the other hand is increasing her influence in the South Asian security complex by making relations with the western neighbours of Pakistan. The Indo-US strategic partnership is also polarizing the balance of power in Indian favour thus sandwiching Pakistan on the east and west and seriously jeopardizing the external security milieu of Pakistan. This paper analyzes Pakistan-Iran relationship in the context of this web of relations among the contending and cooperating powers.

**Keywords:** Pakistan-Iran, Indo-US, Cooperation, Conflict, IPI, Drug trafficking

### Introduction

The border between Iran and Pakistan is the border between the Iran and Pakistan. It extends from the Indian Ocean to the south east of the Gulf of Oman, to the border triangle with the Afghanistan to the north. It crosses the historical region of Balochistan, separated between the three neighbouring States in the second half of the sixth century. At the time, the border

is drawn between Persia and the British Raj. The current border regions are the Sistan and Balochistan in Iran and Baluchistan in Pakistan (Bowen, & Kidd, 2004).

Pakistan and Iran share a tri-functional Border, located at cross-currents of events. It is attached to KPK Province and Balochistan, the largest province of Pakistan in terms of land, and it connects Makran Coast in Sindh with Helmand Province and Seistan of Afghanistan on the Iranian side of Balochistan. There are many ethnic and historical complex tribal and socio-political compositions of people living since centuries across the borders of the two countries (Cherry, 2001).

Drug Trafficking and illegal arms trade across the borders, is have been difficult to control for both the countries, caused by the non-state actors and groups in the region. Both Pakistan and Iran have signed a Treaty in 1960, on extradition measures, they agreed on joint patrolling, cross-border drug trafficking and arms issues and movements. According to Saito (2009), this agreement was concluded between the two countries with five points through joint efforts of Special committee of Pak-Iran to check cross border terrorism.

28<sup>th</sup> May 2009 was the day when Jundollah planned a suicide attack inside of Masjid-e-AmeerUIMomenin in Zahedan, Zeistan, which took 25 people to death. On 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2009, three Pakistanis were hanged to death, in public, in Zahedan as they confessed of supplying the explosives to terrorists (Zweiri, & Staffell, 2009). As a reaction in Quetta, Pakistan, there were demonstrations against Iran's execution. In another suicide bomber attack on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, 49 more people were killed in Sarbaz, Siestan, in a conference hall. According to Bowen, & Kidd (2004), Jundollah claimed the suicide attack's responsibility and of killing top commander of elite revolutionary Guards General Mohammad Zadeh and Deputy Head of the Guards ground forces Nour Ali Shoushtri.

David Rohde and David E. Sanger (2004) say that in terms of economic relations, Pakistan and Iran have a relatively low volume of mutual trade. Pakistan exported \$92 million to Iran while imports from Iran to Pakistan were \$ 265 million during the fiscal year 2003 -2004. That quantum of trade between the two countries was much higher during the Iran-Iraq war, than it is today. The main items of trade between the two countries are agricultural products, iron ore, fruits and textile. According to Inbar (2006), Pakistan was the first importer of iron ore from Iran. Iran assured Pakistan of honouring contractual obligations over iron ore supply and also assured of providing technical support in exploration, modernisation of steel production plants, and expansion of Pakistan Steel in Karachi. Iran was also interested in investing in economic, mining and industrial fields in Pakistan. Tehran imposed restrictions on Pakistan's rice and wheat in 1996. These crops are still not exported to Iran and a halt exist due to Iran's concern, according to which these crops carried diseases (Bowen, & Kidd, 2004).

Anoushiravan Ehteshami and Majoob Zweiri, in 2007, say that Prime Minister of Pakistan Mir Zafarullah Jamali, when visited Iran in October 2003, urged Iran to lift Ban on Rice, wheat and other products. According to Inbar (2006), Pakistan signed an agreement of preferential trade PTA on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004, with Iran. They agreed to cut down custom duty on 647 items. In which, Pakistan will reduce custom duty on 338 items exported to Iran. Whereas Iran will reduce custom duty on 309 items to Pakistan. According to some officials the agreement would be converted into FTA or free trade agreement later on. Economic strengthening and political relationship between Pak-Iran was the main purpose of the agreement. Another purpose was to provide an environment for trade growth and expansion in trade between the two countries by finding new areas of bilateral interests.

Pakistan and Iran declared their border Provinces as twin provinces. An agreement in this regards was signed by Owais Ghani, Pakistan's Baluchistan province's Governor and Iran's

Sistan Baluchistan province's Governor Hussein Amini, to strengthen the bilateral trade and economic relationship. In the joint press conference, after agreement, Amini said that they would not allow criminals to use Iranian land against Pakistan and want the same from Pakistan. Ghani said that the Twin Provinces declaration will more enhance our trade, cultural and economic relations with each other (Rajaei, 2000).

It looks natural that both countries have tried reaching to an agreement to integrate geographically separated people on both sides of borders through exchange of goods trade and other means. In addition, Pak-Iran both are concerned about security issues and economic relations through integration of twin Provinces at the border. Twin provinces declaration will have big social and political ramifications. Global and regional environments are changing and these changes will affect on both the countries (Zweiri, & Staffell, 2009). Both Pakistan and Iran are interested in bilateral cooperation. Both agree on naturally acceptable cooperation, while keeping the security concerns of both countries in mind, making political imperatives, economic development, territorial integrity, military defence and global peace. Pakistan and Iran's relations major dominants have been issues like security and politics, and economy is a huge tool to strengthen their relations. According to Rajaei (2000), Iran has a trade partnership with India on a larger scale than Pakistan's trade, but Pakistan's relations politically are more deep rooted. Iran has been Pakistan's historical trustworthy friend and at times when Pakistan's security was in danger, Iran came forward to seek Pakistan's security as its own security.

### **Pak-Iran Relations in Historical Perspective**

Pakistan and Iran agreed that in case the two neighbours fail to reach an understanding mutually, they would go for adjudication over their boundary problem, meanwhile in 1955, the railway from Quetta came under Pakistan's control. According to Christopher Jafferlot, who stated in 2002 that both the countries reported to have reached an agreement over demarcation issue of their boundaries. A consideration on an agreement was drafted by the Pakistan Cabinet in October 1957, which was signed and officially approved on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1958 (Wilkinson, 2010). Later on August 31, 1960, the final protocol on Pak-Iran Boundary agreement was exchanged. Pakistan's president Ayub Khan, at that time, stated the Accord as a Milestone in the Pak-Iran History of Brotherhood. There were a number of people in Pakistan who opposed the agreement because of their believing over the involvement the session on the cost of Pakistan's owned territory to Iran, this was stated in 2004 by Wilson John.

Tehran-Islamabad despite U.S. efforts to damage the friendly ties between the two neighbouring Muslim nations have chosen to strengthen their bilateral relations. Besides being neighbours and have a common border of over 900 km with Pakistan, Iran is the only country with which Pakistan share secular relations, based on cultural, ethnic and spiritual links (Ehteshami, 2002). Iran offered closer cooperation to Pakistan to resolve its energy crisis, but several U.S. officials opposed to the proposed Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline. Pakistan announced that he would refuse any pressure on the pipeline and would implement the project to solve its energy shortage. Pakistani media and all political and social circles support early completion of the project stressing that no foreign pressure should be accepted. Iran has also donated \$100 million for flood victims in Pakistan (Ehteshami, 2002). Iran was the first country to send its Minister Interior who personally gave first aid to people affected by floods in southern Pakistan, and also showing the relationship between the two countries.

Despite what may be said, relations between Iran and Pakistan relations are characterized by a kind of love-hate. There are points of common interests such as combating drug trafficking from Afghanistan, the pipeline project IPI (Iran - Pakistan - India) or anti Baluch group considered a terrorist by both governments, the Jundullah (Army of God). Moreover, the Iranian media insist that the powerful Pakistani intelligence service ISI (Inter Service Intelligence) is behind the support given to Taliban groups in their attacks against Shiites in Pakistan or diplomatic crisis following the kidnapping of Heshmatollah Attarzadeh Niyaki, commercial attaché of the Iranian consulate in the Pakistani city of Peshawar in November last year. Islamabad's ambassador in Tehran, Abbasi Bakhshi, has blamed the Taliban for the kidnapping and said that is one of the priorities of his government to obtain the release of the Iranian diplomat (Wilkinson, 2010).

Although few would call out, many are beginning to accept the idea that Pakistan is on track to becoming a failed state and that's something deeply concerned that Iran does not want a new problem on their already quite problematic borders. Dennis Ross (Washington envoy for Gulf affairs) and Richard Holbrooke (Washington Envoy for Pakistan and Afghanistan) clearly see that a stable Pakistan is another common interest with Tehran. Iran does not rely too much on the Pakistani government but is not willing to have a neighbour (one more) without government (Zweiri, &Staffell, 2009).

The Iranian problem was born out of modern Iran's condition and revival as a regional power standing in front of the US in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, this Iranian Problem was faced by the British in 19<sup>th</sup> century and they defined that problem as the decline of Old Iranian imperial State and execution of the decline(Barkawi, &Laffey, 2002). From Pakistan's point of view the Iranian issue is about transformation of their relationship. The underlying assumptions of critical theory, as a view point, seems to be proper fit in the analysis of Pakistan and Iran's relations with emphasis on dialogue's ethics, this was said by S.M. Burke, and Lawrence Ziring in 1994. That must be noted that for analysis of the Iran's situation, the paper shows the relationship between the interaction of power politics at systemic level and the state government power. Not only this but also it shows the effect of several issues and culture which impacts the this region's stability setup, especially at the level of inter-society system for understanding processes that affect behaviour of states' foreign policy(Ehteshami, 2002). In order to bring peace and advancement towards prosperity in the region, the discourse ethics is founded on the image of a mosaic. Which is made more beautiful by the various parts, every part being different colour, texture and shape. On the other hand a pattern is definite which make the visuality of every piece. It is sticked with glue which keeps the pieces together on a shared framework.

This may be notable that on electronic and print media there is hardly any day without Iran's nuclear program's update. Graham Allison who was a Pentagon official of Harvard University stated that if Iran carries on its Nuclear Policy, an American Hiroshima may be expected. Likewise, Iran's natural resources are very huge. This is to be believed that the size of oil and gas resources that Iran has, are unknown. This was stated by Shahram Chubin and Sepehr Zabih in 1974. An energy study of Oxford Institute estimated that Iran has 95 billion Barrels of oil, along with additional reserves in Khuzestan and south pars gas field since 2000. These resources were outsized only by 260 billion barrels of Saudi Arabian oil reserves(Ehteshami, 2002).

### **The Significance of Iran in Case of Relation with Pakistan**

According to Jackson, & Sørensen (2007), minerals and metals, gold, uranium and other exclusive resources, the demographics for industrial growth, and an estimated population of 75 Million. A cohesive cultural heritage is an additional advantage which has a significant impact exceeding the borders of Modern Iran.

According to Wilkinson (2010), Iran, due to its natural resources and nature of aggression between the US and Iran, was able to challenge the American hegemony. Nasim Zehra (2003), stated that in the era of post-cold war, terrorist violence and drug trafficking and the opinion over nuclear devastation are America's main concerns. Bruce R. Koniholm, in 1984 said that with the US (OEF) or operation enduring freedom, Pakistan's strategic significance gained importance. According to Shamim Ahmed Rizvi, Iran is the Linchpin state in the region who has 615 miles of Gulf Coast line (Jackson, & Sørensen, 2007).

Pakistan's strategic partnership with the United States, is a big concern for Iran, after 9/11 Was against Terror. On the other hand Iran's relations with India were Pakistan's concern, stated by Antoine Blea in 2004. The key question of this paper is how Iran and Pakistan both try to raise the historical relations to meet their mutual interests.

### **The Dangerous Alliance between Iran and Pakistan**

Almost a month grotesque summit in Iran, called "Tripartite Conference on Afghanistan-Iran-Pakistan Against Terror" - a farce that only know the participants, causes mirth Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, in another visit to the Persian country met on July 16 again with his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei to advertise with them, according to the official Iranian news agency IRNA, a boost to bilateral relations. Iran is ready to strengthen cooperation with Pakistan in all fields (Jackson, & Sørensen, 2007). In Afghanistan, the third member of the tripartite conference, with the modus operandi that exemplifies how it mediates their differences on radical Islam, unidentified gunmen with Taliban certainly attacked on 18 July this year, the home of General Jan Mohammad Khan, adviser to Afghan President Hamid Karzai and former governor of Uruzgan province, during the terrorist attack General Khan and a guest were killed, said a security official in the country (Bahgat, 2006). Remember that the WSSD was held on the sidelines of an international conference on terrorism organized by Tehran in which they participated, Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, whose country is constantly beleaguered by attacks produced by Al Qaeda and antagonistic Shiite groups and Sunni Muslims, the Sudanese genocidal Omar al Bashir, issued with arrest warrant by the International Criminal Court and the president of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon become de facto head of government in 1992 as President of the Parliament, the beginning of a bloody civil war that ended in 1997 with an estimated 100,000 deaths (Tahir-Kheli, 1977).

Also attended the event, which was aggravated by being under the UN flag, delegations from sixty countries. Adding another macula the discredited international organization, its Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon sent greetings to the attendees through his special envoy. As expected, Iran blamed U.S., Israel and Europe being the biggest culprits of violence. In a message read at the conference, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Washington had committed "terrorist acts and provided financial and military support to organized terrorists" in the Middle East (Ehteshami, 2002). While lecturing Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari and said that Terrorism spreads and threatens more than ever Afghanistan and the region, a suicide bombing by an Islamist-not an American or Israeli-against a hospital killed tens of people in Afghanistan, where criminal acts are everyday despite the Western military presence (Bahgat, 2006).

The announcement to give greater impetus to relations between Iran and Pakistan, came after Washington, about two months after a U.S. operation killed the Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden near Pakistan Military Academy Superior, suspended payment military aid of \$ 800 million (about a third of its annual defence package 2,700 million in the same currency) in military aid to Islamabad in order to seek greater defence cooperation (Hunter, 2001). In the tripartite conference, Iran reported so bombastic billionaire investment for the construction of a pipeline to export Iranian gas to Pakistan suggesting that the disbursement of the work was not done in dollars but in the currencies of the two countries. Ayatollah Khamenei The fan took the opportunity to again denounce "exploitation" by the attacks on Washington September 11, 2001 to justify interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq and compared it to "the exploitation of the Holocaust" to defend Israel. Khamenei used the occasion to denounce again "exploitation" by the attacks on Washington September 11, 2001 to justify interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq, and compared it to "the exploitation of the Holocaust" to defend Israel (Talwar, 2001).

Pakistan, for its population density and strategic location, constitutes a key country in the world political stage. It has an estimated 173.8 million people of which 97% population profess Islam (Siddiqi, 2009). About 77% of residents are Sunni Muslims and 20% Shia. These significant data were enhanced 13 years ago when in the streets of Islamabad, the capital; people are joyfully celebrating the announcement that Pakistan was going to join the list of countries that obtained the atomic bomb (Tahir-Kheli, 1977). The prominent scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan and his team were able, after several years of work avoiding penalties (similar to those that currently apply to threaten Iran) that threatened the United States and Europe, providing its deadly arsenal country have equated nuclear neighbour and rival, India, with which the Muslim state faced twice after independence in 1947 (Talwar, 2001).

Dr. Khan, a national hero for Pakistanis, later became a nightmare for Americans, under which he and an illegal network, taking advantage of their knowledge, began to do business with enemy countries, selling nuclear technology and material (Ehteshami, 2002). Reports claim that Dr. Khan was interviewed in the past with Osama Bin Laden, who was obviously interested in their research. According to atomic energy experts worldwide, Libya, North Korea and Iran, were among guests scientist would currently under house arrest by U.S. pressure. However, other versions say he was released in 2009.

In the opinion of most experts, Pakistan is accused of being the country most likely to transfer nuclear technology to terrorists. In 2007, 35% of analysts, thought it was Pakistan who had more chance of becoming the next venue of Al Qaeda (Norling, &Swanström, 2007). The following year, more than half shared that fear. Its current president Asif Ali Zardari, known playboy in his youth and widower of Benazir Bhutto, was imprisoned and contempt of his countrymen when he served as Minister of Investment. By its irregularities nicknamed "Mr. 10 percent" under the kickbacks allegedly charged. Other critics say that the bribes, reached 30%. Pakistan, the imminence of the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001, was forced to make a strategic alliance with Washington in the so-called "war on terror" (Norling, &Swanström, 2007). In a speech to the nation, before the start of combat operations, General Pervez Musharraf, who came to power in 1999 through a coup, said literally that the Alliance would establish with the United States was "evil minor ". In that same speech, Musharraf explained that if Pakistan did not help the Americans to overthrow the Taliban and capture bin Laden and his followers of Al Qaeda refugees in Afghanistan, the Pentagon would ask for cooperation to India, tilting in favour of his neighbour, balance the regional balance of power (Talwar, 2001).

Pakistan's approach to the Islamic Republic of Iran shows that was always closer to the theocratic regime that the United States, who seemed to become aware squandered taxpayers' money to help their enemies. An emblematic case is the Palestinians who in every public demonstration chanting "Death to EE. UU. Death to Israel" (Forsythe, 2006).

Pakistani President Asef Ali Zardari called on all countries to mobilize to put terrorism knees before it is he who kneel to the international community. In Pakistan, the attacks have claimed 35,000 lives in recent years. Meanwhile, his counterpart from Iran, demented Mahmoud Ahmadinejad whose country, along with Syria, is the main financier arming terrorist groups like Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip, accused without blushing last Saturday to Washington to support terrorist networks in the region (Alam, 2004). In line with this incredible speech, with the same impudence, the fanatical Ayatollah Khamenei, who had told Pakistani President Zardari that the main enemy of the Pakistani people and the unity of the country is the West, led by the United States, the Demon calculation of the dominant powers exploiting terrorism is trying to justify his presence (Wilson, 2001).

### **Diplomacy for Expanding the Relations**

The presidents of Iran and Pakistan discussed expansion strategies in relationships and promote the level of comprehensive cooperation between Tehran and Islamabad. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Thursday as part of the XVI Summit of leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in a meeting with Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, referring to the importance of the MNA in internationally, declared that all member countries must utilize the potential of the XVI NAM Summit (Norling, &Swanström, 2007). Pakistan's president at this meeting said that the celebration of the XVI NAM summit in Tehran is a great success for the Islamic Republic of Iran, said participants at this Summit can take important decisions to get to make significant achievements. The presidents of Iran and Pakistan, this meeting also reviewed some of the initiatives agreed between the two countries and consulted on how to speed up and complete these projects (Forsythe, 2006).

**Syrian Crises:** President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that Iran believes in national reconciliation to resolve the Syrian crisis, calling to respect the rights of the Syrian nation. In a meeting with the special envoy of Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, discussed a common culture and religion between Iran and Pakistan, and said that they are a large family in the same boat. They believe that their locations are linked to each other and have common interests that require us to support each other all the time. Confirming Pakistan's policy in relation to the events unfolding in Syria, Ahmadinejad said both Iran and Pakistan, believe in the political means to resolve the current crisis in the Arab state (Wilson, 2001).

Criticizing certain countries in the region for his involvement in the Syrian conflict, said that anyone who fans the flames of the crisis in the country is not a friend of the Syrians. SoghraEmam, meanwhile, said his country insists that the resolution of the Syrian crisis will come only through political means. He noted that Pakistan has always respected the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of the Syrian nation, and stressed that Pakistan's foreign policy is based on non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries (Alam, 2004). Pakistan is opposed to exert any force and military intervention in other countries.

**Combating Drug Trafficking:** The authorities of Pakistan and Iran agreed to build a wall on the border of 900 kilometres long to combat illegal drug trafficking, reported the Pakistani newspaper Nation (Alam, 2004). In today along the border shared by the two countries now

are placed the barbed wire. The corresponding decision was taken in the sixth tripartite meeting on combating drug trafficking on those representatives of Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan held in Tehran on Tuesday. During the meeting, the head of Pakistan's anti-drug department, Javed Iqbal, promised to strengthen border surveillance in the course of two years. Through Iran spend two main supply routes of narcotics: from Afghanistan to Europe and from the Persian Gulf to Europe. Most drugs entering Iran comes from Afghanistan but often the Afghan opium enters the country from Pakistan. Tehran spent on the fight against drug trafficking to 1,000 million dollars a year (Hurd, 2009).

Iran is making a 435 miles wall along with Pakistan's border to control drug trafficking and to eliminate terrorism and terrorist movement. This was stated by Iran's defense minister on IRNA, Islamic republic news agency. Brigadier General Ahmad Vahidi told to IRNA that road and barrier along the border with Pakistan, are built in un-passable hillside land with quality and precision (Wilson, 2001).

The fence is 3 feet thick and ten feet high. Built with cement, and steel rods, these fences will prevent terrorists from entering into Iran. Iran has earlier built barriers and fixing barbed wires to seal the borders and fight against terrorism and drug trafficking, movement of militants, and included digging canals (Hurd, 2009). Gulf and Europe are linked to Afghanistan in terms of drugs hub and Iran is on the cross road of this international drug transit link. Iran's defense minister blamed Jundollah without taking its name for suicide attacks in Iran. On the other hand Jundollah keeps saying it is struggling for Baluch minority's rights in Iran. Jundollah has been active over the last few years with the help of various groups such as Taliban and it is (wrongly) suspected that Pakistan's ISI has been favoring them.

According to Scott D. Sagan, 2006, Jundollah claimed to attack on a mosque in Chabahar in December 2010, which later lead to death of 38 people and 89 injured. Before Iran, it was India which built fence along the border. India, along with the LOC in Jammu and Kashmir and parts of other border in Punjab, has completed an electrified fence. Kashmir is the core issue between Pakistan and India. Pakistan and India have already been in wars three times since 1947, over the Kashmir issue.

### **Effect of Pakistan-Iran Relations and on Afghanistan and the U.S**

Pak-Iran relationships are not easy. In 1947, after Pakistan came into existence, Iran was the first to recognize Pakistan officially. The Shah of Iran, when visited Pakistan in May 1950, Signed a treaty of friendship. Both countries worked together as they both are Muslim Brother countries. Due to the challenges of threat to their security, both countries feel nervous allies, such as Pakistan is concerned about India-Iran relationship, while Iran is concerned about Pak-Saudi Ties. There is a 900 Kilometre long border which is shared by both countries (Hurd, 2009). Narcotic trade issue is also troubling Pakistan and Iran. There is large number of undocumented workers and other people involved in crime and terrorism which affect Iran and Pakistan. But it is considerable that both countries share a larger part of the boundary with Afghanistan (Atabi, 2004).

A stable Afghanistan is in favor of Pakistan and Iran. Some politicians from both countries who are also powerful stakeholders do not want Afghanistan to be Violent free. They need a weaker Afghanistan. US President Bush Described these actors as "specially designated global terrorists" in 2007, by which he meant ISI and Iranian Revolutionary Guard. For those who see the US as an enemy, Afghanistan can bleed the US and undermine its prestige, foreign policy goals. The core issue between the US and Pakistan relations have been Afghanistan. US claims that Pakistan's ISI is trying to destabilize Afghanistan, on the other hand, Pakistan is concerned

about internal security and Afghan exported terrorism which is not taken seriously by the US and that issue is affecting Pakistan (Hurd, 2009).

The tense situation between US and Pakistan has encouraged Iran and Pakistan to strengthen their relations, for Pakistani Policy makers, the US has not been sincere friend of Pakistan in difficult times, and there may be a time come and the US would not be our ally. That is why both Iran and Pakistan feel natural ally for each other. There are many factors which are common in both countries like Islam as religion plays a dominant role. Both countries are concerned about their neighbors (Hurd, 2009).

The Shah of Iran, after British withdrawal from Gulf region, revised some of his views about Iran and US Ties. Pakistan and Iran historically are good friends. After the fall of Shah of Iran, and after Bhutto's demise, Iran remained in friendship with Pakistan. In the same manner, after two defeats in 1965 and 1971 from India, Pakistan was in search of friends in Muslim world (Poureslami, et. al. 2004). Pakistan's new military leader Zia ulHaq became the first leader to visit Iran to support the first revolution, and Khurshid Ahmed, who was a member of Pakistan's Jamaat e Islami, met with Iranian Leader Ayatullah Khomeini in Paris, France in December, 1978 and again in January 1979. In 1980s, during the Iran-Iraq War, Pakistan decided to remain neutral. In 1980s, during Afghanistan war against Soviet Union, both Pakistan and Iran had their own interests which brought both of them more closely. Both countries supported a number of Mujahedeens groups and both countries were flooded with Afghan refugees (Poureslami, et. al. 2004).

In 1990s, after Taliban factor in Afghanistan, ISI sponsored the Taliban with Sunni radical ideology, and Taliban massacred thousands from the Afghan Hazara community, which later on encouraged Iranians specially the Revolutionary Guards to involve themselves in Afghanistan as a protecting factor for the Hazara community and stop the radical sunni Islam (Cornell, 2003). Pakistani Policy makers knew that Pak-Iran relations are a concern for the US as Washington thinks that Pak-Iran relationship may lead to nuclear technology sharing. But Pak-Iran relations encourage the US Congress to rethink about cutting the aid to Pakistan. If the aid was cut down, Pakistan will find a way to alternatives for raising money (Cohen, 2002). As far as Afghanistan is concerned, these three countries including Pakistan and Iran have strong linguistic and cultural relations and interactions. They have Islam as their common religion, Arabic as the Language of Islam. And millions of residents, who are Afghan, live in Iran and Pakistan and they have a huge impact on the policies of the two countries. Pakistan and Iran both have their common interests in Afghanistan (Atabi, 2004).

#### *Economic Relationship*

Pakistan and Iran started considerable cooperation in the year 1991 in energy sector, when an oil deal with Qatar and Pakistan started negotiating by Iran. However, this early collaboration was didn't improve in a meaningful manner and was limited. The negotiation was again attempted by Iran with Qatar about gas pipelines construction in Pakistan in the year 1995, but was however unsuccessful (Hassan, 2003). However, the cooperation related to energy has increased since 1990s and helped in providing the basis for much through network of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Iran in the current years (Cohen, 2002). Pakistan was searching out the investment of Iran actively by the year 2005 in energy and bilateral trade cooperation. Iran and Pakistan have intensified their economic partnership to the extent as according to the issued statement in the month of May 2012, these two countries showed their satisfaction with the rise in bilateral trade, which exceeded to 1.2 billion dollar in the past financial year (Ilias, 2010). In the year 2009, the non-oil export of Pakistan to Iran raised up to 80 percent, reaching two hundred and seventy nine million dollar

(Ilias, 2010). Likewise, the non-oil exports of Iran to Pakistan rose up to 11 percent, total two hundred and seventy eight million dollar for the year (Pant, 2009). In spite of this growth, Abdul Majid Haji Mohammad the Industry President and Karachi Chamber of Commerce said that the lack in banking system is a main hurdle to trade between Pakistan and Iran.

Since, Islamabad in 2005 has turned increasingly to Tehran for providing the required energy to Pakistan. Iran agreed in the month of August 2008 for financing a project of robust energy that would permit to supply one thousand megawatts of electricity to Pakistan for overcoming on the shortfall of power. The 60 million dollar project comprises of 100km electric line to help in increasing the forty megawatts of electricity which was received on daily basis from Iran by Pakistan.

Pakistan and Iran have discussed about constructing 2600km IPI (Iran-Pakistan-India) gas pipeline budgeting 7.5 billion dollar that would pump gas from south pars field of Iran to India and Pakistan (Hassan, 2003). In the year 1994, the tentative conversation regarding pipeline was started, however the tense relation of politics between Pakistan and India disturbed the project's realization. The international concern over nuclear program of Iran delayed the agreement and in the year 2007 Pakistan and Iran blamed India of hesitant due to pressure by the side of US. Manouchehr Mottaki the Foreign Minister of Iran blamed US in February 2012 of interference in planned pipeline by making New Dehli from IPI. Washington certainly has advised India for not following the deal whereas Iran confronts with the permission for nuclear enrichment program (Verma, 2007).

#### **Collusion' against Pak-Iranian Relations**

The relations of Pakistan and Iran are strengthening rapidly on a continuous basis. Both countries signed the three agreements on 13<sup>th</sup> of November during the visit of Ali Seedlou the vice president for International Affairs of Iran. The agreement signed as a segment of MoUs (Memorandum of Understandings) for the promoting the economic activity, and on time completion of the project of Iran-Pakistan gas pipelines and import of electricity from Iran (Cohen, 2002). Both countries agreed for increasing the bilateral trades to five billion USD mark. Iran who has completed already its area of gas pipeline decided for investing five hundred million USD to assist in creating the portion of Pakistan of this project. The president of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad also had a visit to Pakistan in this respect (Ehteshami, 2002). On 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at Islamabad in third trilateral summit, the president of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, president of Afghanistan Hamid Karzai and President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad put their heads altogether for creating the regional cooperation in different areas. They promised for eradicating militancy and terrorism from the region. Zardari had clarified in response to the blame of Karzai about cross border terrorism, "I deny this notion that any of our armed forces are directly or indirectly involved". He also stated, "Who were the owner and financier of former chief of Tehreek-e-Talban Pakistan Baitullah Mahsood" (Ilias, 2010).

Zardari promised for fighting against the pressure of United States on the project of Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline, and said "external forces can not undermine bilateral relations". Specifically, the support to Tehran was also assured by Pakistan, if Israel or United States launches attack on Iran. Whereas, giving hint towards United States, the president of Iran disclosed that there were no local root of problems in this region, but was forced from the outside sources. Iran and Pakistan in fact are very sincere regarding the regional cooperation between three countries comprising of Afghanistan's stability, but the secret diplomacy of America has been implemented by Hamid Karzai in the region (Ilias, 2010). Nevertheless, the relation of Iran and Pakistan cannot be isolate as it is associated with the considerable powers.

After the leasing of the NATO troops in this regard in the year 2014 from Afghanistan, United States who is in agreement with Kabul regarding strategic cooperation, has taken decision for establishing 6 bases of military in Afghanistan, to keep in view the resources of energy of Central Asia, with many strategic designs in against of Iran, Pakistan, Russia, and China. On 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012, in this respect, Obama the president of US disclosed the novel strategy of defence which requires the more presence of US military in Asia (Cornell, 2003).

Pakistan has also built up the relation besides China with Russian Federation. Seregei Lavrov the foreign minister of Russia visited Islamabad in this respect and same day General Ashfaq Pervez Kayani the chief minister of Pakistan gone for Moscow. The Russian-Pak relationship's reorientation was the key object of these visits (Pant, 2009).

President Putin in the year 2010 endorsed the offer of Pakistan publicly for joining the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) which comprises of China, Russia, as observers Iran and Pakistan, and as permanent members 4 Central Asian Republics. The president of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari participated in SCO's summit held in Beijing. Giving hint in their speeches towards the secret designs of US, President Putin and the President of China Hu Jintao stated, "Only when SCO member states remain united can they effectively cope with emerging challenges enhancing security cooperation" (Cohen, 2002).

### **Iran and Pakistan Gas Pipeline**

The presidents of Iran and Pakistan, Mahmud Ahmadinejad and Asif Ali Zardari, respectively, officially inaugurated the construction of the Pakistani section of the pipeline that should unite the two countries by the end of 2014 and the construction of which the United States opposes. Zardari travelled to the port city of Chabahar in Iran's south-eastern corner, where he was welcomed by Ahmadinejad, who moved to the nearby Pakistani border to inaugurate construction of the pipeline on the stretch of Pakistan, since Iran is well underway (Ilias, 2010). Before the ceremony, the Chabahar airport, the two leaders stressed the need for both countries use their capabilities for progress, including cooperation on energy, Pakistan is seriously deficient. The pipeline, which the United States that aims to keep isolated Iran over its nuclear program, strengthen, according to both rulers, the economic, political and security relations between Tehran and Islamabad, in addition to other countries opposed area, local agency Fars. Already after the first shovelful to the works on the Pakistani side of the border, Ahmadinejad said countries outside the pipeline, referring to U.S. and its allies are trying to sabotage it (Hassan, 2003).

From afar, seek to distance extravert hands and create conflicts between the peoples of the area in order to maintain their rule and loot the wealth of the region, Ahmadinejad, while considered the nuclear issue is an excuse to avoid said the progress of Iran and Pakistan. The Iranian president suggested expanding the pipeline, once the current project is completed, "to northern Pakistan to supply natural gas to other countries and "meet the needs of the entire region (Verma, 2007).

In addition to the pipeline, the oil and water supplies, commercial, political and cultural exchanges serve to establish a deep relationship between the peoples of the region, Ahmadinejad said. According to official data, when the pipeline for December 2014 is completed, it should be about 1,100 kilometres in territory of Iran and about 800 in Pakistan. This work will allow the daily export 21.5 million cubic meters of Iranian natural gas to Pakistan (Ilias, 2010). Iran and Pakistan also have they advanced a plan to build a refinery in the port of Gwadar in Baluchistan in Pakistan's southwest, which could cost about 4,000

million dollars and would have the capacity to process about 400,000 barrels of Iranian crude, according to media Pakistanis (Mishra, 2004).

The relationship of Iran and Pakistan in terms of radical as well as economic system is that the people in the different community of both Iran and Pakistan are passing through the critical transformative circumstances. The possible and effective solution of these domestic and political problems depends upon the basic factor which is peace in the regional environment and development in socio-economic action among the nearest countries. In the beginning of 1990's critical situations amongst Washington and Islamabad has been increased in excess of plans in order to build a gas pipeline that possibly will move towards the outsized extents of Iranian natural gas into Pakistan (Verma, 2007).

On the other hand Pakistan is passionate regarding the development projects and the main reason is that it would be responsible for a predictable 600 million dollars per year including the charges of shipment. It comprises of 2670 km extensive pipeline which is of 48 inch diameter (Zahab, 2002). It would link Assaulted gas field in Southern areas of Iran in case of the planned energy hub of Pakistan, for example Multan. By 2010 Iran could give permission to Indians so that importation process can increase around 2 billion cubic ft. of Iranian natural gas ordinary. Pakistan's curiosity in Iranian natural gas is basically because of the increasing gaps amongst cumulative mandate and fading source. Conferring to approximations obtainable at the OGDC Conference (Pakistan's Oil and Gas Development Corporation) detained at Islamabad in the year of 2004, 'Pakistan's underperformance by the year of 2010 would be 0.2 billion cubic feet per day (bcfd) increasing up to 1.4 bcfd by the duration of 2015 and 2.7 bdfd by the year of 2020 (Bahgat, 2006).

In the period of 10 June 2005, the project was deliberated to some extent by Pakistani foreign minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri and after then Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. It is pointed out that even if the United States management unconstrained its obstruction there would be additional authoritative assemblies in Congress and the broadcasting to perpetrate severe indentations on Pakistan and United States relationships. Relatively TAP or Iran's Afghan pipeline intended for Pakistan from Turkmenistan was planned (Zahab, 2002).

### **Review and Reflections**

The fundamental squabble of this unique paper was in order to syndicate practicality with ethics. Such performances are as a regulation, much more operational and on the other hand as well as a smaller amount overpriced than those deprived of the assistance of this 'soft' power. Inter-societal harmony recreates ethnic multiplicity in order to produce conversational intergalactic for lodging and reception of sympathy of benefits. This is to increase in value assortment. The earlier argument imitates that in cooperation Iran and Pakistan might well collaborate to core out intimidation, their obligation to a foremost sort of collective values, security concerns, drug trafficking, energy matters and abolition of deficiency (Bahgat, 2006). The year of 2007 was acknowledged by UNESCO as the year of Rumi and United Nations stated that in the year of 2008, which basically the year of Alliance of Societies.

Subsequently, the Islamic insurrection in 1979, there had been many sort of critical situations in Iran and Pakistan relationships. These instable connotations were sophisticated in computation to ethereal inspiration by the Taliban individualities. The expulsion of which removed a foremost annoyance amongst Iran and Pakistan. There stagnant persevere alterations of awareness in certain important extents. For instance, over the disposition of cosmopolitan services in Afghanistan, Iran requirements the power further down the support

of the United Nations, but Pakistan is prepared agree to take one uniform level if it is out of the United Nations. Along with the achievement of procedure RaheHaq in Swat and as well as Buner and the beginning of Rah-e-Nijat in Waziristan equipped militaries of Pakistan has assumed highest expenses. Alternative area of divergence is the itinerary for the tactical right to use of oil and gas amusing nevertheless surrounded by land Central Asian States. Islamabad's dry port, Gwadar's and Karachi ports deliver the undeviating path despite the fact that Tehran entitlements Bander(Ehteshami, 2002).

A significant apprehension for Tehran is strategic partnership of Pakistan with United States in the upright 9/11 war beside terrorism. On the other hand, for Pakistan it is Iran's commercial and premeditated communications with the contender India. Nonetheless, the dominant attitude in this state of affairs is the communal intimidation discernments to their coast-to-coast safekeeping (Bahgat, 2006).

Defence cooperation agreement of Indo-Iran confined in Tehran surrounded by the Indian Naval Chief and the Chairman of the Chief of Staff Commission, similarly as the Iranian Minister of Defence and Logistics, Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani carries a team spirit of Indo-Iranian geo-strategic perception. On the other hand the situation was critical Pakistan is a acquaintance in the US-led, global amalgamation in dissimilarity to pressure in Afghanistan, Iran inevitability documented as 'alliance of evil' by the US leader in the month of January 2003.

Similarly after the eradication of the Taliban, Pakistan and Iran rigidities talented Afghanistan has pointed up till now the requirement vestiges for fatherlands' collaborating discussion over Afghanistan. For instance, Pakistan's official's point of view to Iran's role in facilitating the introduction of the 'Indian factor' in Afghanistan finished Indo-Iranian joint endeavours for infrastructural progress. Additional the expansion of Indian consulate in Zahidan, a town bordering between Iran and Pakistan is viewed with apprehension in Islamabad (Ehteshami, 2002).

The central influence to physique a connexion of relationship and broad-mindedness these two countries among is the camaraderie of natural features and the current contact between populates who stake common cultural legacy, ancient times and as well as language. To supplementary adhesive the past stalemates, it is imposing to understand each other's dynamic welfares (Ehteshami, 2002). The vital factors that could endorse shared perceptions and enhance cooperation could probable by:

- a) The formation of theoretical exchange packages amongst universities and investigation establishments of both countries Iran and Afghanistan (Ehteshami, 2002).
- b) On the other hand beginning of deliberate interchange amongst crowns of concerned portions just in order to discourse matters of nation-wide safekeeping regional truthfulness, soldierly resistance, and moreover an anticipated meditation on provincial and intercontinental encounters to both countries Iran and Pakistan (Bahgat, 2006).
- c) Joint economic undertakings of Pakistan and Iran to encourage premeditated establishment. The continuous development on Iran, Pakistan and as well as India gas pipeline is a case in point.

A friendly relationship with Iran was a basis of inordinate support and gratification to Pakistan. All through the development of, Iran beside with Turkey, sustained Pakistan in many ways, the top instance with the help of which it was easily to understand that Iran's help to Pakistan for the duration of the September 1965 conflict with India. It remained unproven by India that Iran abounding oil to Pakistan for free. Furthermore, Iran referred Pakistan nurses, medical materials and a gift of 5,000 tons of firewood Iran also designated that it was bearing in mind

a restraint on oil provisions to India for the period of the belligerent (Bahgat, 2006). Subsequently the postponement of the United States fighting assistance to Pakistan, on the other hand Iran was described to have bought 90 Sabre Jet Fighters from West Germany which is of great importance and to have sent them to Pakistan.

In spite of the cumulative relationship among Pakistan and Iran present ascended a boundary inquiry as an outcome of misunderstandings approximately their prevailing limitations in the duration of 1947 to 1949 (Ehteshami, 2002). But then again it was the nature of sympathetic relationship among the two that the substance was greatest cordially determined in the period of February 1958 and the concluding Protocol on Pakistan and Iran Boundary Award was replaced on August 31, 1960." At this successful occasion Pakistan's Diplomat pragmatic: "The positive conclusion of this extremely complex work validates that can be realized by non-violent discussions among the two friendly countries whose relatives are enthused by joint esteem, shared friendliness, and as well as common faith" (Mishra, 2004).

### Conclusion

The relations between Iran and Pakistan back in August 1947 when the Iran was one of the first states to recognize the independence of Pakistan vis-à-vis the British Raj. 76% of Pakistanis see Iran positively, making Pakistan the most pro-Iranian nation in the world. Both countries are members of the D-8, the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and are observers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Bilateral cooperation has developed during the Cold War when Iran supported Pakistan in the face of India. Pakistan has provided his side a military support for Iran during the Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988). Since 2000, the Iranian-Pakistani relations normalized and continue to strengthen both the economic and military fields. Iranian and Pakistani armies and fight together against the drug trade and the Taliban along their common border.

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