

***Pakistan's foreign policy toward brotherly Islamic countries of
Central Asia after 9/11***

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Abstract

Pakistan enjoys long history of region based relations with Central Asia Republics. After its independence both regions re-established their relations. USA and India are afraid that Pakistan will be leader of the Muslim bloc that's why it project India as regional source of repression to be as option for Central Asia than Pakistan which was achieved by her and Pakistan up to some extent failed to play its desired goal due to its policy's lapse.¹ Such like challenges can be counted on the basis of strong religious ties between the two. Main objective of the research is to find out opportunities and challenges to the relations of sisterly region. To achieve the desired objective descriptive and analytical methodology is adopted. This research concluded that though there are some challenges to Pakistan in the region but she can have very cordial relations on the basis of shared religion.

Key words: *Central Asia, Pakistan, Relations, Opportunities, Challenges*

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Introduction:

According to Paul Kennedy, a famous historian, Pakistan is one of the nine important states the future evolution of who not only would determine the destiny of the region but also affect the stability of international community. Farther he mentioned in his article in the foreign affairs quarterly that “progress by a pivotal state such as Pakistan would help not only the region but also promote US interests in trade and in investment”.² A vital personality and as a principal actor Pakistan develop itself and now trying to protect its interest at any cost. Being an ideological state Pakistan not only has to establish and promote cordial links with Islamic countries but also trying to play a leading role in order to protect the rights and interests of developing countries in general and Islamic countries in particular.

Pakistan in terms of international relations didn't compromise on its Islamic ideology. In order to get its economic, political and security goals pursue peace process in Afghanistan and for that sake a multi-dimensional strategy is launched including joint mission, shuttle diplomacy and close liaison with Central Asia, OIC and United Nations.

The aim of Pakistan's foreign policy is to revive the historical cultural relations with newly independent Republics of Central Asia and to develop economic cooperation and bilateral beneficial trade with them. Pakistan is cooperating with Central Asian States in the fields of Oil and gas pipelines, transit routes, technical assistance programmes, banking and credit facilities.³

Pakistan relation's with central Asian republics:

Islamic republic of Pakistan one of the best options for central Asian states due to its geographical importance because it's a gate way for central Asian states. Central Asia one of the resourceful region from the very beginning, due to its economic condition Islamabad is motivated to have bilateral relation with central Asian states. After the defeat of Soviet Union in Afghanistan and Pakistan importance in this war increased the interest of central Asian republics to move to Pakistan with healthy economic and political policies and Pakistan also want to have good relation to these states. The CARs wants relation with Pakistan just to depress its internal and external challenges .The main object was to use