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Q1. China as a Strategic partner or an emerging economic threat to Pakistan?

ANSWER:

China–Pakistan relations began in 1950 when Pakistan was among the first countries to end official diplomatic relations with the Republic of China (or Taiwan) and recognize the People's Republic of China (PRC) government on Mainland China. Since then, both countries have placed considerable importance on the maintenance of an extremely close and supportive special relationship and the two countries have regularly exchanged high-level visits resulting in a variety of agreements. **The PRC has provided economic, military, and technical assistance to Pakistan, and each country considers the other a close strategic ally.**

Bilateral relations have evolved from an initial Chinese policy of neutrality to a partnership with a smaller but militarily powerful Pakistan. Diplomatic relations were established in 1950, boundary issues resolved in 1963, military assistance began in 1966, a strategic alliance was formed in 1972, and economic co-operation began in 1979. **China has become Pakistan's largest supplier of arms and its third-largest trading partner.** China has given Pakistan a loan of US\$60 million which was later made a grant after East Pakistan broke away. Recently, both nations have decided to cooperate in improving Pakistan's civil nuclear power sector.

Maintaining close relations with China is a central part of Pakistan's foreign policy. In 1986, President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq visited China to improve diplomatic relations, and Pakistan was one of only two countries, alongside Cuba, to offer crucial support to the PRC after the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989. China and Pakistan also share close military relations, with China supplying a range of modern armaments to the Pakistani defence forces. China supports Pakistan's stance on Kashmir,¹ while Pakistan supports China on the issues of Xinjiang, Tibet, and Taiwan. Military cooperation has deepened, with joint projects producing armaments ranging from fighter jets to guided missile frigates

The Strategic Importance of Chinese-Pakistani Relations:

Introduction:

Of all China's neighboring countries, China-Pakistan relations are the closest and friendliest. The two countries established diplomatic relations in 1951, making Pakistan one of the first Islamic countries as well as the second country in South Asia after India to establish diplomatic relations with China. The two countries have remained strong allies ever since. The closeness of the relationship between the two countries can be seen from major bilateral interactions over the years. For instance, in the Indo-Pakistani wars of 1965 and 1971, China took the side of Pakistan against India. In addition, China supported the alliance between Pakistan and the United States against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. China also provided assistance

for Pakistan to become a nuclear power in 1998, and used its Security Council veto power for the first time in 1972 to block the entry of Bangladesh into the United Nations. Pakistan played a crucial role in the ice-breaking visit of U.S. National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger to China in 1971, and was one of only two United Nations member countries (along with Cuba) to support China following the Tiananmen Square incident of 1989. The two countries enjoy close cooperation in areas such as trade, borders, and their militaries, meaning that Pakistan has a unique status among China's many diplomatic allies. How can we understand the special relationship between China and Pakistan? Why have the two countries enjoyed such friendly and stable diplomatic relations across a whole range of areas over the past 65 years? If we can accurately answer these two questions, we can more fully understand the strategic importance of Pakistan both in the region and worldwide. As one of the world's major powers, China's development across a range of areas has been the subject of increasing international attention in recent years. China is widely considered to be an "emerging power" that may threaten the United States in the future. Therefore, China's strategic relationship with Pakistan must be understood from an international strategic perspective, specifically the interlocking geopolitical relationships between China, the United States, India and Russia. In addition, the struggle between Western and Islamic civilisation in the context of developments in the Middle East following the 11 September attacks, in particular the global spread and diffusion of terrorism, are also crucial factors in China–Pakistan relations.

The Regional Context and Players:

After the Second World War, in the context of the U.S.-Soviet Cold War, China and India took a more prominent role in East Asia and South Asia. Although China is not a member of the "Non-Aligned Movement", while India is one of its three founding countries (along with Egypt and Yugoslavia), both China and India took independent foreign policy positions outside of the U.S. and Soviet power blocs. As a result, bilateral relations between China and India, as well as their diplomatic relations with the U.S. and Soviet blocs have had an important impact on the strategic relations between China and Pakistan. In simple terms, although India pursued a policy of nonalignment during the Cold War, it had close military and diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. In addition, the tension in relations between China and India mainly arose from long-term territorial disputes along the two countries' shared border. At the same time, friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union were a thorn in the side of the Chinese whose own relations with the Soviet Union deteriorated from the 1960s onwards. Therefore, within the South Asia region, China pursued a policy of alliance with Pakistan to balance against India. Even after the collapse of the Soviet Union, China has continued to maintain this policy, even as China and India tried to improve relations with each other and establish a degree of mutual trust.

During the Cold War, relations between the Soviet Union and India were friendly. In addition, following the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, together with the normalisation of relations

between China and the United States, the United States and China followed consistent policies towards Pakistan, offering it political and military support in hopes of containing Soviet influence in Central and South Asia. In this case, with the Taliban's rise to power in Afghanistan in 1996, and the 11 September attacks, there was a structural change in the strategic situation. The main effect of this was that U.S. policy in Central and South Asia changed from its previous supporting role to a dominant role in the regional order in order to carry out its post-911 global anti-terrorism policy. In recent years, there was a radical change in the roles of Russia and India from their previous animosity towards the United States and China, as both countries to some extent became partners of the United States in the fight against terrorism. The role of China was even more subtle, in particular after the 2008 global financial crisis as China's overall power advanced substantially and its political, military, economic, and even cultural influence expanded, thus changing the regional power relations in Central and South Asia. These changes can be understood on the following three dimensions. First, although relations between China and India are still defined by competition in the context of great power politics, China regards India as a potential overseas market for future expansion, and therefore China-India relations have been quickly normalised. Second, the above changes have not undermined the importance of Pakistan to China. This is because Pakistan has an important role in ensuring a stable regional order in Central and South Asia and preventing the spread of terrorism to China. Third, even more importantly, after Xi Jinping's rise to power, China proposed the grand strategy of "One Belt and One Road." India has not offered its support, while China has announced plans to invest 46 billion US dollars in Pakistan, focused on core projects in railway construction, highway construction, energy, and infrastructure with the goal of accelerating the modernisation of industry in Pakistan and connecting China's Xinjiang to Gwadar Port in Pakistan. This "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor" will continue the expansion of China's political and economic influence in Central and South Asia.

The Current Status of China-Pakistan Relations:

Although China-Pakistan relations have always been friendly, past cooperation between the two countries was mostly at the political and military level and had not extended to the comprehensive social, economic, and cultural exchange relations of today. This new phase in relations started in May 2013 with the visit of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang to Pakistan and the official proposal of the concept of the "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor." Subsequently, there was an exchange of visits between leaders and officials from both countries, including the visit of Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain to China in February 2014 and Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's subsequent visit in April 2014 which involved intensive consultations over the proposal. Finally, during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Pakistan in April 2015, the proposal was officially finalised, including the signing of 51 Memorandums of Understanding between the two countries, the inauguration of eight projects, and the launching of five joint energy projects. Aside from the familiar infrastructure and energy

projects, this new phase of relations between the two countries also included social, economic, technological, and even cultural cooperation. For example, the two countries have organised bilateral exchanges in radio and television. The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China set up a branch in Lahore, Pakistan's second city; the ministries of science and technology in the two countries jointly established the China-Pakistan Joint Cotton Bio-Tech Laboratory; Pakistan's University of Modern Languages (NUML) and Xinjiang University jointly established the NUML International Center of Education, and the China Culture Center in Pakistan has been established. If these initiatives are successful, relations between the two countries will become more closely intertwined at all levels, from high-level political and military relations, extending to the full range of contacts and relations at each level of society.

What will be the ultimate effect of the 46 billion US dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor? According to an interview given by China's ambassador to Pakistan Sun Weidong last month (June 24) to the Xinhua News Agency, at present achievements from China-Pakistan cooperation projects are focused on four areas: energy projects, transport infrastructure, Gwadar Port, and industrial cooperation. Major energy projects include construction of a 300 megawatt solar power plant by Chinese company Zonergy, and work has already started on more than half of the remaining sixteen planned energy projects. In terms of transport infrastructure, reconstruction and upgrade works of the Karakoram Highway (KKH) within Pakistan are underway, and the construction of the Karachi-Lahore Motorway also started this March. For the development of Gwadar Port, on November 11, 2015, Pakistan handed over 280 hectares of land use rights to a Chinese company for a term of forty-three years, and construction on new facilities is already underway. Finally, Chinese projects in Pakistan under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor already employ more than 6,000 Pakistani workers, showing that the close relationship between China and Pakistan has already moved from the policy announcement to the project implementation stage. The amount of funds involved, the depth of the exchanges, and the number of people participating are unprecedented in relations between the two countries.

Issues with China's Muslim Minority

However, the relationship between China and Pakistan is not without worries. First, in the past the Chinese government held suspicions that Uyghur terrorists were operating in Pakistan and running terrorist training camps in the country, and that these terrorists had a direct relationship with terrorist incidents in Xinjiang. Second, in recent years, fundamentalism has spread very quickly within Xinjiang, and a large number of terrorist incidents have occurred. As a result, the Chinese government has been extremely concerned about Pakistan's willingness, ability, and determination to fight Islamic terrorism. Finally, China is also concerned about the continued failure of the United States to successfully rebuild Afghanistan's political order,

especially the ambiguous role played by Pakistan in the country, which in theory supports the political order constructed by the U.S.-led alliance, but is also surreptitiously supporting the Afghan Taliban and Al-Qaeda. Therefore, China has recently expressed a desire to participate in peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban, meaning that due to its powerful influence over Pakistan, it may be better qualified than the United States to play the role of mediator in delivering peace to Afghanistan.

Q2. Write down a period of Ayub Khan?

ANSWER:

Mohammad Ayub Khan, (born May 14, 1907, Hazāra, India—died April 19, 1974, near Islāmābād, Pak.), president of Pakistan from 1958 to 1969, whose rule marked a critical period in the modern development of his nation.

After studying at Aligarh Muslim University, in Uttar Pradesh, India, and at the British Royal Military College, at Sandhurst, Ayub Khan was **commissioned an officer in the Indian army (1928)**. In World War II he was second-in-command of a regiment in Burma (Myanmar) and commanded a battalion in India. After the 1947 partition of British India he was rapidly promoted in the army of the new Muslim state of Pakistan: from major general (1948) to commander in chief (1951). In addition, Ayub became minister of defense (1954) for a brief period.

After several years of political turmoil in Pakistan, in 1958 President Iskander Mirza, with army support, abrogated the constitution and appointed Ayub as chief martial law administrator. Soon after, Ayub had himself declared president, and Mirza was exiled. Ayub reorganized the administration and acted to restore the economy through agrarian reforms and stimulation of industry. Foreign investment was also encouraged.

Ayub introduced the system of "basic democracies" in 1960. It consisted of a network of local self-governing bodies to provide a link between the government and the people. Primary governing units were set up to conduct local affairs; their members were elected by constituencies of 800–1,000 adults. A national referendum among all those elected confirmed Ayub as president. He was reelected under this system in 1965, against a strong challenge from an opposition united behind Fatima Jinnah, the sister of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, the creator of Pakistan.

Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistan Army:

The **Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistan Army** (reporting name: C-in-C) was normally the highest-ranking officer in the Pakistan Army from the country's independence to 1972. The C-in-C was directly responsible for commanding the army. It was an administrative position and the appointment holder had main operational command authority over the army.

Direct appointments to the command of the Pakistan Army came from the British Army Council until 1951, when the first native commander-in-chief was nominated and appointed by the Government of Pakistan.

The C-in-C was assisted by a deputy C-in-C until the late 1960s. The last deputy C-in-C was Abdul Hamid Khan, who served until 1969. The C-in-C designation was changed to 'Chief of Army Staff' in 1972, Tikka Khan was the first person to hold the new title. Six men have served as C-in-C, the first two of them were native British and the post was largely akin to the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army.

martial law and president of Pakistan:

This new alliance nearly threatened President Iskander Mirza because Suhrawardy and Feroz were now initially campaigning to become prime minister and president in the next general elections to be held.¹ **The conservative Pakistan Muslim League, led under its President A.Q. Khan**, was also gaining momentum in West Pakistan and threatened for the Dharna movement. These events were against President Mirza hence he was willing to dissolve even Pakistan's One Unit for his advantage.

On the midnight of 7 and 8 October 1958, President Mirza ordered a mass mobilization of Pakistan Armed Forces and abrogated the Constitution after sending a letter to Prime Minister Feroz and the Constituent Assembly about the coup d'état. Most of the politicians became only aware of coup the next morning; only the U.S. Ambassador James Langley was kept aware of the political development in the country. **President Mirza appointed General Ayub as its chief martial law administrator (CMLA) to enforce the martial law in both exclave– West and East Pakistan.**

Constitutional and legal reforms:

The Constitution reflected his personal views of politicians and the restriction of using religions in politics. His presidency restored the writ of government through the promulgated constitution and restored political freedom by lifting the martial law enforced since 1958.

economic and industrial reforms:

He also introduced agricultural reforms according to which no one could occupy land more than 12.5 acres (500 irrigated land and 1000 unirrigated.) An oil refinery was established in Karachi, and these reforms led to 15% GNP growth of the country that was three times greater than that of India.

Ayub and the 1965 war:

Decades after his death, his diaries covering the period from 1966 to 1972, were published. The most telling omission is the war of 1965, which failed to make it into his memoirs. In his diaries, he said that the people of Pakistan were gullible and the politicians were crooked, which he had been saying all along

The omission of the 1965 War is very curious since millions think Ayub led Pakistan to victory. Ayub, a graduate of the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, was a brigadier in the British Indian Army when Pakistan gained independence. In 1951, Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan appointed him as the first Pakistani commander-in-chief of the army.

Ayub khan resignation 1969:

The popular demonstrations and labour strikes which were supported by the protests in East Pakistan ultimately led to his forced **resignation in 1969**.

Q3. Write a note on the role of Pakistan in organization of Islamic conference (O.I.C)?

ANSWER:

Role of Pakistan in organization of Islamic conference (O.I.C):

Pakistan has always used OIC as a platform to gather support on the Kashmir conflict against the Republic of India.

During the OIC 1994 Conference in Tehran, Pakistan succeeded in persuading the member countries to create the "OIC Contact Group on Kashmir"

OIC role in Pakistan-Bangladesh relationship:

It was under the pretext of the 2nd summit of OIC held in Lahore between 22–24 February 1974 that Pakistan recognised the former or ex-Eastern Pakistan as the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Pakistan had initially not invited Bangladesh to attend the summit. However, as members of the OIC group gathered in Lahore, several heads of the state from the Arab world put pressure on Pakistan's then prime minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, to invite Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to attend. A seven-member delegation from OIC in fact visited Dhaka to invite Mujib to participate in the summit. As a result of the 2nd OIC summit, Pakistan formally recognised Bangladesh on 22 February 1974, and Mujib was flown by a special aircraft from Dhaka to Lahore to attend the summit.

1). Bhutto subsequently visited Dhaka in July 1974. Established relations on 18 January 1976.

Pakistan has raised many important issues at the second summit of OIC.

2). Pakistan has had frayed relations with India and because of its involvement in civil war, East Pakistan seceded from West Pakistan in 1971. The intervention gave rise to the state of Bangladesh.

Pakistan's solidarity with Palestine:

Main articles: Pakistan–Palestine relations and Israel–Pakistan relations

Pakistan assisted Jordan in military operations to suppress freedom movement by Palestine Liberation Organisation. However, Pakistan is a critic of occupation of Palestinian territories by Jewish state of Israel. In line with OIC strong stance against the occupation of Palestine by Zionists, Pakistan has continuously adopted a stance against Israel.

Military cooperation:

See also: Pakistan–Saudi Arabia relations, Pakistan-Turkey relations, Pakistan-Indonesia relations, Pakistan-United Arab Emirates relations, Pakistan-Brunei relations, and Nigeria–Pakistan relations

Pakistan enjoys sound and steadfast military defence relations with many members of OIC.

Army collaboration:

Army Service Corps School has trained up to 30 officers from Muslim countries like Bangladesh, Bosnia, Maldives, Palestine, Turkey. Pakistan Army Military College of Signals has trained

more than 500 officers from places such as Burma, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Gambia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Palestine, Sudan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Uganda, UAE and Zambia, most of these countries are member of OIC.

Naval collaboration:

More than 1900 officers from Muslim countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Palestine, Turkmenistan, Lebanon, Iran, Ghana, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya and Oman have been trained in Pakistan Naval Academy Pakistan SSGN has also trained officers from countries like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Qatar and Iran.

Military technology collaboration:

Pakistan is thought to have developed its atomic bomb programme with millions of dollars of contributory aid from (mostly) Saudi Arabia and Libyan oil wealth.^[7]

OIC on the issue of Kashmir:

Kashmir conflict and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation § Dispute with India

Pakistan has always used OIC as a platform to gather support on the Kashmir conflict against the Republic of India. In 1969 King Hassan of Morocco invited the Government of India for the 1969 Summit in Rabat. But after Pakistan then ruler Gen Yahya Khan threatened to walk out, King Hassan requested the Indian delegates not to attend the meeting.

During the OIC 1994 Conference in Tehran, Pakistan succeeded in persuading the member countries to create the "OIC Contact Group on Kashmir". The Foreign Minister of Pakistan would discuss the possibility of cutting ties with any state that recognized Jammu and Kashmir as "Integral part of India" by safeguarding our national security and geo-strategic interests including Kashmir; some countries are not recognized by Pakistan because of their move towards against the self-determination of Kashmiris as a form of aggression. These countries are the State of Israel, Armenia, Costa Rica, Liberia and Zambia.^[citation needed]

A lone wolf attack on Indian Forces on 14 February 2019, followed by Indian claim Air Strike subsequently led to a military stand off between India and Pakistan.

India with its expanding diplomatic, economic and military clout, has been strengthening its relations with middle east. Hence, amid the tensions, Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj was invited as "Guest of Honour" by UAE to represent India as an observer state.

Pakistan rejected this development and demanded the expulsion of India from the summit citing Kashmir issue and Indian violation of airspace of Pakistan, a founding member of OIC. OIC

called emergency meeting of Kashmir contact group on Pakistan's request, the meeting was on February 26, 2019. Although, OIC condemned Indian violation of Pakistani airspace by India, UAE refused to revert invitation to India.

Hence, for the first time in five decades, the United Arab Emirates invited foreign minister of India Sushma Swaraj to attend the inaugural plenary 46th meeting of OIC foreign ministers held in Abu Dhabi on 1 and 2 March.¹ Pakistan boycotted the meet objecting to the invitation to India. Swaraj addressed the meet raising concern for spreading terrorism.

Q4. What is constitution? And which constitution is running in Pakistan now a day?

ANSWER:

Constitution:

A constitution is primarily a set of rules and principles specifying how a country should be governed, how power is distributed and controlled, and what rights citizens possess. It is usually written down and contained within a single document; the UK is unusual in having an uncodified constitution with many sources.

Constitutions vary in length, the famous US Constitution of 1787 being rather short, but will typically all contain guidance on matters such as those listed below:

Rules and guidelines for conducting elections, including when and how often elections are held, who can stand for elected office, which processes and procedures are to be applied (including details of the electoral system), and provisions for the oversight of elections.

The relationship between the key institutions, or branches, of government: the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. It is usual to set out precisely what powers are held by the different branches, and how individuals within them, including the chief executive, can be checked or removed.

The location of sovereignty (ultimate political authority) within a political system. In the case of the USA, sovereignty lies with the people ('We the People...') and in the UK sovereignty, by convention, rests with Parliament.

Ways in which a constitution can be amended: a constitution must contain a clear statement of the processes by which it can be changed. Some 'originalists', such as the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, believe constitutions should be beyond reproach but most political actors and commentators view them as 'living' documents. That is, it should be possible to adapt and change a constitution so that it better matches the values and principles of the time, and so that problems and challenges not

envisaged at the time of the constitution's founding can be addressed within the bounds of the system. An uncodified constitution makes no distinction between 'higher' constitutional and other law, therefore amendment is easily attained via a parliamentary majority and no special arrangements are necessary.

A statement of the rights of citizens against the state and how redress might be gained. The opening 10 Amendments to the US Constitution are known as the 'Bill of Rights' and guarantee freedoms such as the right to a fair trial and 'due process of law', free speech, freedom of religion and, notoriously in the case of the 2nd Amendment, 'the right of the people to keep and bear Arms', a staple of presidential election campaigns. The situation is more complicated in the UK but recent statute law such as the Human Rights Act (1998) and the Freedom of Information Act (2000) serve a similar purpose, as does common law and convention, albeit these protections are not entrenched and the lack of codification also explains some confusion as to where the rights of citizens lie.

The overall type of government. The American constitution specifies that it will be both a democratic and a federal system, with federalism and the separation of powers enshrined in the 10th Amendment: 'The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.' This provides the moral and legal force behind States' Rights.

What the nation stands for. A constitution begins with a Preamble, a short statement the purpose of which is to neatly summarise and crystallise the values and principles a nation hopes to embody and wishes to project to the rest of the world. They are aspirational and often quite vague statements intended to inspire citizens and shape a positive national identity and political culture. The French constitution promises the Republic will embody 'the common ideal of liberty, equality and fraternity'; in Brazil, the constitution promotes 'the exercise of social and individual rights, liberty, security, well-being, development, equality and justice as supreme values of a fraternal, pluralist and unprejudiced society'; Russia swears its allegiance to 'the universally recognized principles of equality and self-determination of peoples'; India highlights Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, and Ireland promises to 'promote the common good, with due observance of Prudence, Justice and Charity, so that the dignity and freedom of the individual may be assured, true social order attained, the unity of our country restored, and concord established with other nations'. A closer look at preambles would reveal no shortage of 'spin' and a certain tendency towards the airbrushing of history but in theory a constitution encapsulates a set of values, beliefs and goals the people of a country can collectively support and often, as in the case of the racially very diverse nation of Brazil, such statements are careful constructions aimed at overcoming potential barriers to unity. In this way, a constitution goes to the heart not only of a country's system of government but also to its image of itself.

constitution is running in Pakistan now a day:

The Constitution of the **Islamic Republic of Pakistan** (Urdu: آئین پاکستان), also known as the **1973 Constitution**, is the **supreme law** of Pakistan.

Q5. What is foreign policy? And what is the importance of Pakistan foreign policy?

ANSWER:

Foreign policy:

Foreign policy, general objectives that guide the activities and relationships of one state in its interactions with other states. The development of foreign policy is influenced by domestic considerations, the policies or behaviour of other states, or plans to advance specific geopolitical designs. Leopold von Ranke emphasized the primacy of geography and external threats in shaping foreign policy, but later writers emphasized domestic factors. Diplomacy is the tool of foreign policy, and war, alliances, and international trade may all be manifestations of it.

the importance of Pakistan foreign policy:

1. The primary objective of Pakistan's foreign policy is to safeguard the national security, territorial integrity and political sovereignty of the country.
2. To protect Pakistan's economic interests abroad.
3. To project the image of Pakistan as a progressive, modern and democratic Islamic country.
4. To promote peace, stability and friendly relations with Afghanistan.
5. To find the resolution of all disputes with India including the issue of Kashmir. Raise the Kashmir issue on international forums.
6. To forge cordial and friendly relations with all neighbours, Muslim countries and the larger international community.
7. To fulfil its responsibilities as a responsible member of the international community.
8. To prevent and respond to threats and capitalize on opportunities.
9. To safeguard the interests of Pakistani diaspora.

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan maintains a large diplomatic network across the world. Pakistan is the second largest Muslim-majority country in terms of population (after Indonesia) and is the only Muslim majority nation to have possession of nuclear weapons.

Pakistan's economy is integrated into the world with strong trade ties to the EU and economic alliances and agreements with many Asian nations.

Pakistan enjoys a highly strategic geopolitical location, being situated at the corridor of major maritime and land-based transit routes reaching from energy-rich Central Asia and the Middle East to the population centers of South and East Asia, as well as having geostrategic hotspots such as Afghanistan, China, India and Iran as immediate neighbors. Pakistan maintains a tense relationship with the Republic of India due to the Kashmir conflict, close ties with the People's Republic of China, Turkey and Gulf Arab states and a fluctuating relationship with the United States of America due to overlapping interests during the Cold War and War on Terror. Pakistan is a member of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), is named by the US as a major non-NATO ally in the war against terrorism and is one of founding members of IMCTC.