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## RELATION OF CHINA PAKISTAN ON WATER SECURITY OR IMPACT ON INDIA'S CONTROL OVER THE INDUS RIVER SYSTEM

**Abdullah Danish**

**Student of political science, and international relations, university of management and  
technology, Lahore.**

[F2021126029@umt.edu.pk](mailto:F2021126029@umt.edu.pk)

### ABSTRACT

Indus river system is an integral part for subcontinent to thrive this research we are going to see the hard relationship how india take control on over indus water . it is the main resource to conduct peace in between india and Pakistan there was a treaty which is known as Indian water treaty which were work to change geopolitical issues. China helps Pakistan to resolve this issue through there main project china Pakistan economic corridor CPEC. They changing the ways of this dynamics the control of india on the indus river system is facing challenges to other neighbour countries or is under threat for agriculture and regional alliance as we know more indias agricultural foundation the possible decrease in water flow brought on by upstream infrastructure projects in disputed territories also raises questions about the ecological well being of the river system. The relation of china with india is not even good like Pakistan so that's why invest more on Pakistan infrastructures through which developments were easy and also engage in our water issues and its is the historical dependence between india and Pakistan the decrease in water supply reduce the democratic relations or effect regional stability india reduce there control on indus river system and improve there wter infrastructure through which they give responsibility of longterm water security .

### INTRODUCTON

The most issues which were continue through out twenty first century which were based on water security in areas of subcontinent were geopolitical tensions were combine as we know the south asian region is almost tenty five percent of the population of intire world ther resources of water wre use in there agriculture farming and us in industries and also escalating the situation between the countries above its economical and environmental impacts on the rregions political and strategical analyses above its economical environmental effect the center of this dynamic is the indus river system (IRS) a transboundary river basin that strItches across india pakistan and china forming the backbone of their water supply systems and agricultural economies.

the treaty has been largely successful in preventing outright war over water resources, its rigid framework has left little room for addressing emerging challenges, including the impacts of climate change, population growth, and evolving power dynamics in the region The Indus River and its tributaries, governed by the historic Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) (Conner, (2013).) of 1960, have been a rare example of cooperation between India and Pakistan, two nuclear-

armed neighbors locked in a decades-long conflict over territorial, ideological, and strategic issues. Brokered by the World Bank, the IWT divided the waters of the IRS between the two nations, granting Pakistan exclusive rights over the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) and India control over the eastern rivers Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej While. The growing partnership between China and Pakistan has further worsened the already precarious IWT balance in recent years.

China interaction in Asian water politics reaches its investments in Pakistan through which the construction of dams and water catchment and projects on the mountain ranges has raise questions inside the india and similar countries with due to the possibilities that these project will change the flow and inflame well before threats and risk .

Pakistan on over other side observe that china increase there power in the region as a bet to india supposed supremacy sice the indus and the river system of the indus water supply is morethan the ninety percent of the Pakistan water which were the national resource of the Pakistan Pakistan is crucial dependent on the river system for power energy use agriculture use and for drinking purposes the country increasing poor management and intence water scarcity are making reliant on international assistance to fullfill there water needs china will help Pakistan in making the major projects to made diamer or basha dams which were help them in making economical stability and security.

Its is very difficult to india to resolve this issue because the significant outside members were entrein water regional debates to resolve this conflict . it simplifies government to governments problem solving for india by giving a outside people into the regional water conservation .china Pakistan relationship purpose two difficulties for india they give the authority to the ne dehli control over the irs which were manage the relation between the pakistan .

In the end, the ability of regional actors to give up a zero-sum perspective and take a more collaborative approach to shared resources will determine the future of water security in South Asia.

. While the challenges are formidable, they also present an opportunity for India, Pakistan, and China to demonstrate leadership in addressing one of the most critical issues of our time. Whether this potential is realized will have profound implications not only for the region but also for the global discourse on water and security

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

1. How much impact does China-Pakistan's developing cooperation effect on the South Asia's water security geopolitical dynamics, particularly as it relates to the Indus River System?

2. How does the management and control of the Indus River Basin benefit from China's infrastructure investment in Pakistan, especially through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)?
3. If China keeps helping Pakistan build upstream water supply systems on the Indus Valley River System, how could be the major risks and issues for India's water security?

## **THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK**

The theories of resource conflict and geopolitics, which provide insights into the relationship between natural resources and international relations, serve as the foundation for this study. According to the geopolitics of water theory, national security and power are significantly influenced by one's ability to acquire and manage water resources. This hypothesis aids in explaining China's and Pakistan's strategic moves to gain upstream advantages in the framework of the Indus River system, as well as India's associated worries. As we know about the resource conflict theory disagreements over limited resources such as water which have the ability to make complex conflicts. As we make example risk between india and Pakistan have historically been reduce by the Indus Waters Treaty. china involvement add a new factor that make the conventional framework raise the possibility of resourcebased conflicts. In this study we use these frame works in the way to see which region is effected by the collaboration of china and Pakistan on the water we develop some policies through which that supports the management of water and regional stability .

### **Theories of Water Security**

As we see the idea of water security which were depend on the fair distribution of water resources to complete the structure of the environment economy or population. we see the water security through different frameworks like realism liberalism or critical theory these theories give the idea how we resolve the water security issue .

### **Water Security and Realism**

In realism they believe in more power and power which frequently results in rivalry and conflict over limited resources. Realists would contend that the IRS is a zero-sum game in which the success of one state (in terms of access to water or authority over the river system) inevitably results in the failure of another. Realist theory would contend that any change in the status quo, particularly through outside players like China, might intensify conflict over the river system given the strategic significance of the Indus for both India and Pakistan as well as the historical conflicts between the two countries

### **Water Security and Liberalism**

In terms of international affairs, liberalism holds that institutions, agreements, and standards allow states to work together. When it comes to water security, liberalism would highlight how international agreements like the Indus Waters Treaty serve as a means of guaranteeing collaboration between India and Pakistan on common water resources. It would imply that peaceful cooperation and conflict resolution techniques could result from the Sino-Pakistan relationship if it is defined within the framework of international accords and norms..

### **Water Security and Critical Theory**

For instance, the Indus Waters Treaty itself may be attacked for being a treaty shaped by post-colonial power dynamics and for failing to appropriately reflect current geopolitical realities, such as China's expanding regional importance. Critical theorists would also focus on how economic and environmental inequities impact access to water supplies and how these discrepancies may lead to more conflicts or cooperation. Critical theory adopts a more nuanced stance, highlighting the ways in which historical contexts and power relations impact the management of resources such as water. Critical theorists contend that historical injustices that influence how water resources are distributed are closely tied to water security.

### **Theories related to geopolitics**

over the system of the Indus River. Understanding the discussion in the context of broader geopolitical ideas is essential to understanding how India's authority is impacted by Sino-Pakistan relations.

### **Goeconomics Theories**

The primary focus of goeconomics is the use of economic tools to geopolitical objectives, particularly with regard to natural resources. Understanding the close relationships between China and Pakistan, especially in relation to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is necessary to comprehend how Sino-Pakistan relations may impact water security. China might tilt the scales with its investments in hydroelectric infrastructure in Pakistan and its growing influence in the upstream regions of the Indus River Basin.

One can use goeconomics to examine how China's financial and technical assistance to Pakistan might enable the latter to create projects that could change India's historical control over the river system by influencing water flows to India.

### **Theory of the Regional Security Complex**

According to Barry Buzan's idea of a regional security complex, the security concerns of adjacent governments are interconnected in ways that influence the region's overall security dynamics. China, India, and Pakistan together up a regional security complex in South Asia, where one state's security concerns impact the others'. India is impacted by Pakistan's growing ties with China in a number of areas, including water infrastructure, the military, and the economy, especially in respect to the Indus River System. The regional security complex theory would concentrate on how changes in regional power dynamics, specifically with regard to India's water security, might result from China and Pakistan's collaboration in the management and use of water resources in the upper reaches of the Indus Basin. (Hussain)

### **Theory of Power Transition**

According to A.F.K. Organski's power transition argument, when a rising power faces an established hegemon, global stability is frequently upset. India has historically had hegemonic influence in South Asia, therefore the rise of China to importance has significant consequences for that region. India's dominance over the Indus River System may be threatened by the Sino-Pakistan alliance, which is particularly relevant to water management. That is why power transition theory would aid in framing the analysis of how China's increasing participation in

South Asia may undermine India's regional authority and how India's waning dominance over the Indus could be a part of a bigger global change in power.

### **Climate Change and Environmental Security**

Climate and environmental security are closely related to water security. The geopolitics of shared river systems are significantly impacted by climate change, which changes rainfall patterns, decreases glacier melt, and raises water demand. The consequences of climate change may intensify tensions between India and Pakistan in the context of the Indus River Basin (Hussain), particularly given the growing water stress that both nations are experiencing.

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### **Platform for Environmental Security**

As a fundamental component of national and regional security, environmental security highlights the necessity of addressing environmental degradation, such as water scarcity. In such a way, China's evolving engagement in Pakistan's water infrastructure could be interpreted as a response to environmental pressures, particularly in a region susceptible to drought and flooding. but would put regional security at risk since China's infrastructure projects would disrupt India's natural water cycles and exacerbate the country's water scarcity, escalating competition and hostilities over the common Indus water resources.

### **Water diplomacy and hydropolitics**

Water diplomacy is the term used to describe the agreements and conversations that take place between states around shared water resources. Understanding hydropolitics—the politics of water resources in transboundary river systems is essential to comprehending the dispute over shared water resources between India and Pakistan, especially in light of Sino-Pakistan cooperation..

### **Making Strategic Use of Water**

water flow manipulation can be used as a political leverage tool, India is concerned about Pakistan's expanding water infrastructure projects, which are supported by Chinese investments. Since India has historically depended on the Indus for its industrial and agricultural demands, any change in the availability of water might have significant socioeconomic implications.

### **Water Management Across Boundaries**

Theories of transboundary water management concentrate on how nations that share water resources might work together—or clash—to manage such resources. The IWT created a legal framework for collaboration in the Indus River System case. However, this framework is made more difficult by the growing participation of external parties, particularly China. Theories of transboundary water governance would examine how emerging geopolitical tensions and new actors impact current water-sharing agreements and whether China, India, and Pakistan can

adjust to these new circumstances by institutional reform, diplomacy, or dispute resolution procedures.

### **THREE ENTITIES :**

The three entities that were interlinked through geopolitically the three entities which were talk about is the entity which were focus on the water security conflict and resolve the issue china Pakistan ties and india dominance over the indus river system the importance of these three countries are as following

#### **1. Security of Water**

If we talk about the security system of the water in the context of indus river basin the security system of indus river is very crucial because it flows through out the subcontinent both countries india o Pakistan use this water for the agricultural process and generating energy to reduce load shedding both countries were depend on the indus river system because of there large population

#### **South Asian Water Security**

The water security is the major security issue of the south Asian countries most probably india or Pakistan both coutries were dependent on the indus river system for the usage of agricultural fields industries and for drinking purposes water security issue is the main issue issue of these countries because they both share the water of the indus river they also facing the lack of water poor water management and the growing population which were work on the agriculture fields they also effect the climat change which fluctuating the river flows and glaciers melting that complicates the region water supply . china instantly growing there involvement in Pakistan in different projects like energy projects roads projects and water projects.

#### **Links between China and Pakistan**

The links between china and Pakistan is important in the context of water security because china is invest heavy investements on water infrastructure projects in Pakistan through there main project china Pakistan economical corridor CPEC

#### **The Indus River System Is In Under Indian Control**

The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) were signed in in 1960 provides a crucial framework for managing the water resources between India and Pakistan in the recent geopolitical development China growing engagement in upstream water infrastructure projects in Pakistan and having there long term relationship.

#### **The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT)**

The indus water treaty is occur because of maintain the peace over water stabilities or concerns and have tested by the geopolitical tensions after the conlct between india and Pakistan the india use the water concern as the weapon to make the source of the conflict

the indus water treaty is relate in maintaining peace of these water water concerns.the treaty is signed that india were take a charge of the rivers which were located in the eastern rivers like sutluj and ravi while the water which were flow on the western side of the western river like jehlum and chenab that are claimed by Pakistan the agreement made to resolve the issue of supplying water supply problems and both countries ensure that they use these river system for perspective of agriculture and economical use

#### **India's Water Use Strategy**

India has historically been cautious about using water as a geopolitical instrument, even though it has legal power over the Eastern Rivers. The growing significance of water security in India's foreign policy is demonstrated by the country's recent political comments and policies on the

suspension or modification of the IWT. Furthermore, India has a major advantage over Pakistan in terms of water availability due to its control over upstream tributaries that feed into the Indus River, especially in disputed areas like Jammu and Kashmir. However, the geopolitical situation's growing complexity—particularly China's involvement in Pakistan—has started to erode India's standing.

## **ANSWERS OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

### **1 Impact of China-Pakistan's Developing Cooperation on South Asia's Water Security Geopolitical Dynamics, Particularly as It Relates to the Indus River System ?**

**ANS :**

Through initiatives like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), China has become an essential partner for Pakistan in a variety of sectors, including energy, transportation, and infrastructure development. One of the most significant aspects of this collaboration is China's participation in hydroelectric projects in the upper reaches of the Indus River Basin, particularly in the Gilgit-Baltistan area, which is ideally situated in the upstream portion of the Indus. The water flow dynamics of the Indus River are threatened by Chinese-backed projects like the Diamer-Bhasha Dam and the Kurrum Tangi Dam, which have an immediate impact on downstream nations, particularly India. The dynamics of growing cooperation between China and Pakistan has had a major issue South Asia's geopolitical dynamics which were particularly alliance to the Indus River System (IRS) (Shah).

According to the Indus River system it is the source of the both countries through which they cooperate or having conflict in between them according to this treaty Indus Water Treaty India is take a charge of the eastern rivers for example Ravi, Beas and Sutlej while Pakistan will take the charge of the western rivers like Indus, Jhelum and Chenab. The geopolitical dynamics of South Asia are impacted directly by the China through which they expand their influence in Pakistan. China support the Pakistan infrastructure projects that were the strategy of the regional objectives from the wider range of geopolitical power in South Asia and make balance in the dominance of India. Water security issue is the main issue in conflict of geopolitics as the growth of Pakistan water resources which were easily feasible by the investment from the China as we know China and Pakistan relation and its friendship were very deep. The changing in dynamics of the Indus River Basin might lead to regional instability when the interests of China and India, and Pakistan come with each other. This situation have a long term impact on the region peace and security since water is now a major issue that could be already existing tensions or even having the intensions of the new conflicts which were easily made.

### **2. How Does China's Infrastructure Investment in Pakistan, Particularly manage the control of the Indus River Basin through the Pakistan China Economic Corridor CPEC ?**

The most important and mega project of China is the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that are made on the mega projects like hydro power projects, roads projects, etc. China helps them in giving the financial support and participating in all project to complete these projects on time. These project effects the concerns of the geopolitical concerns which were surrounding to the Indus River as well as the Pakistan water management system. China doing investments in Pakistan through their project of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) offer both possibilities and challenges for the control and management of the Indus River system. CPEC, the centerpiece project of China Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) aims to connect China western provinces to the Arabian Sea through Pakistan.

### **Development of Infrastructure and Hydropower Projects**

Hydropower is considered to be a crucial component of Pakistan energy moving forward since the country has struggled with a lack of electricity. By keeping more water during the monsoon season and releasing which is needed along the year. Through these dams Pakistan easily store there water which were use throughout the year and also supply water easily to its people for the different purposes. Thus, these hydroelectric advancements might help Pakistan better manage its water resources for flood control, agriculture, and energy production. China could fastly increase Pakistan energy outcomes and provide reliable electricity to the country growing industrial and agricultural sector by participating in large dam projects like the the Diamer Bhasha Dam. there are many benefits of china in infrastructure investments in Pakistan through which the the hydroelectric projects improve their country energy security The flow of water downstream to Pakistan and India depends on these projects which are situated in the upper part of the Indus River Basin.

### **International Water Management Implications**

In the use of power generation we change the flow of the rivers or storing the water . Pakistan increase development in dams due to the help of Chinese investment and making the effect on the water flow into the india India is the state or nation which were significant fields and depends on the water of the indus because they use sixty percent of water from the indus and also having the demand on the industrial use that's why if we change something india will be impacted by these changes Although they may also assist Pakistan in maintaing its energy and water resources China infrastructure investment in hydroelectric projects in pakistan raise significant concerns over the cross boarder water management system between India and Pakistan. The Indus River Basin is shared by India and Pakistan and any changes to the water flow from the upstream regions quickly affected to the downstream countries .as we talk about more long before China emerged as a major player on the global scene, the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), which governs the usage of the Indus River, was negotiated in a different geopolitical context. As China intervene in Pakistan upstream water infrastructure grows india may feel that the treaty is becoming more difficult to enforce if China interests are perceived as taking attention to over India long standing control over the water system. While India political and diplomatic influence over water related issues with Pakistan may decline Pakistan may feel more secure in its approach to controlling the Indus River with China support.

In the result China infrastructure investments in Pakistan hydropower industry complicate the cross boarder governance of the Indus River Basin even they have the potential to enhance their energy security and water management within Pakistan. The relationship between India and Pakistan over the shared resource is made more complicated by China's influence, and India's worries about possible water flow diversion or manipulation are only going to grow.

### **2. Major Risks and Issues for India's Water Security if China Continues Helping Pakistan Build Upstream Water Supply Systems on the Indus Valley River System?**

If China keeps helping Pakistan build upstream water delivery systems on the Indus River System, (Shah) especially through projects like the Diamer-Bhasha Dam and the Kurram Tangi Dam, India's water security is at serious jeopardy. India may encounter the following three main dangers and problems:

#### **Decrease in Water Inflow to India**

The possible decrease in water flow from the Indus River as a result of upstream projects



financed and enabled by China poses the most urgent and serious threat to India's water security. Water flow downstream to India may be severely limited as Pakistan constructs more dams and reservoirs with Chinese assistance. Particularly in areas like Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan, India's agricultural and industrial operations rely heavily on the waters of the Indus, especially the Jhelum, Chenab, and Ravi rivers. A large portion of these areas' irrigation comes from the Indus River. If Pakistan, backed by China, increases its control over upstream water sources and manipulates water supply, India may experience water shortages.

### **Strong Diplomatic Relationships**

China is a growing global power with strategic interests in Pakistan that might complicate diplomatic efforts to resolve water disputes. The growing of China-Pakistan relation could rise the tensions for India. Water security might become a significant cause of tension and even hostility in international links. For India, the issue of water security has always been delicate, particularly in relation to Pakistan. The treaty was established to resolve disagreements between India and Pakistan over water distribution. India may see China's increased involvement in upstream water projects as a violation of the Indus Waters Treaty or as an instance of a third party interfering in a bilateral affair.

### **CONCLUSION:**

If we want to stay long term or need long term stability then the area of the water security is one of the most crucial challenge. The Indus river system, which are historical, made by the source cooperation as well as the source of conflict at same time between Pakistan and India. India is currently impacted by the strategic alliance between China and Pakistan. The fast growth of relationship between China and Pakistan impacted Indian strategies.

Through the financial support from China in the infrastructure development and hydropower projects investments as part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), China plays a significant role in helping Pakistan to manage the Indus river system. The regional balance of power in water management is changing as China continues to expand its engagement in Pakistan's water infrastructure, including the building of hydropower plants and dams in the regions where it is sensitive to make dams like Gilgit-Baltistan. China's increasing sway over the regions of South Asia, already complicated (Cohen) landscape, where water is a vital resource for industry, agriculture, and drinking is increasingly being used as a source of rivalry rather than collaboration. A framework intended to ensure the equitable distribution of water resources between India and Pakistan. The research has highlighted several important implications of the Sino-Pakistan relationship on the greater issue of water security in South Asia, with a particular emphasis on the implications for India's control over the Indus River System. The regional balance of power in water management is changing as China continues to expand its engagement in Pakistan's upstream water infrastructure, including the building of hydropower plants and dams in sensitive regions like Gilgit-Baltistan. China's increasing sway over South Asia adds to the region's already complicated (Cohen) landscape, where water is a vital resource for industry, agriculture, and drinking increasingly being used as a source of rivalry rather than collaboration.

The recognition that water security is a delicate geopolitical (Cohen) issue rather than merely an environmental or economic policy issue lies at the core of this study. More than a billion

people live in South Asia, and a sizable section of the populace is directly dependent on the Indus River for domestic consumption, electricity, and agriculture. Pakistan's agriculture industry, which accounts for a significant amount of its economy, is especially dependent on the IRS. India also relies on the Indus for irrigation in its northern states, such as Punjab, and is becoming more and more dependent on it for energy. This is the serious problem to the population of both countries and also facing the problem with climate changes and water shortage so that's why both countries were managed or shared the Indus river.

India and Pakistan have generally signed the treaty in 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). In which the treaty specifies each country's rights to the several river flows of the river that the India controls the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas and Sutlej) and Pakistan controls the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab). This agreement is being assigned by the agreements of both countries.

China's increasing influence in Pakistan particularly through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is the significant change in the geopolitical landscape of the region. China has played a main role in building hydroelectric dams and other water infrastructure on the Indus River, in addition to giving Pakistan substantial financial support and infrastructure investments. Examples of Chinese involvement in the region include the Kurram Tangi Dam and the Diamer-Bhasha Dam, which is anticipated to be one of Pakistan's largest dams. These projects raise serious concerns for India especially in regards to water security even though they could offer Pakistan substantial advantages like enhanced energy production and better water storage capacity.

Given the potential for a reduced water supply, more geopolitical competition, and heightened tensions with China and Pakistan, this is a critical issue for India. As China's influence in the area increases, India's water security will become a more important component of its security and diplomatic plans. Thus, managing the shifting geopolitical interests and alliances that today define South Asia is as crucial to the water security of the area as managing the Indus River. Sustainable water management practices, effective diplomacy, and conflict resolution will be essential to ensuring that the Indus River remains a source of cooperation rather than hostility among the South Asian countries.

The largest impact of China's engagement in Pakistan's water management infrastructure is the potential reduction of India's dominance over the Indus River System. Due to the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), India has historically been able to retain some control over water distribution despite its political issues with Pakistan. However, China's growing influence through infrastructure investments in Pakistan's upstream water systems might pose a threat to India's position. If Pakistan continues receiving Chinese aid for the construction of hydroelectric dams in the upper basin, India may see a reduction in water flow during critical seasons, particularly in years with drought or little rainfall.

In the end, China and Pakistan's growing cooperation—particularly in the form of building water infrastructure in the Indus River Basin presents a complicated and dynamic threat to South Asia's water security dynamics. China's investments may benefit Pakistan greatly, including better water management and higher energy production, but they also complicate the Indus Waters Treaty and India's control over the river.

