

Indo-China Relationship : A Conflicting Saga

Abstract

The relation between two Asian giants; India and China has always been fluctuating, since both the countries became independent. Not only both the countries exist indistinct demarcation of about 4000 kms. border line, but also remained a part of ancient civilization.

Keywords: Indo-China Relationship, Conflicting Saga, Socialistic Government, Religious and Cultural Activities.

Introduction

India and China existed a prolonged history of peaceful mutual cooperation, in terms of economical, religious and cultural activities.

Aim of this Research Paper

In this research paper, the bilateral relations between two Asian giants; India & China in the field of social, cultural, political, economical, military, trade, colonial and the saga of ups & downs between both the countries at the international level has been tried to present.

The Old Silk Route

It is an unique example of mutual cooperation. India became independent in 1947, whereas in 1949 the socialistic government was formed in China under the leadership of Mao-ste-tung after the downfall of 'Comintaang dynesty'. India was the first nation to recognize the newly formed Chinese regime and recommand for the permanent membership in UNO, but on the contrary China referred India's independence as **unreal** and India as a **pro-imperialistic & revolutionary** nation.

The bilateral relationship between India and China had been very friendly during 1954-57. On the basis of "Punchsheel Siddhant"; formed by Chao-En-Li and Nehru, both the nations laid the foundation of mutual cooperation on 29th of April 1954.

Panchsheel Siddhant

1. To show respect to each other's integrity and sovereignty.
2. The policy of non-agression
3. The policy of non-interference
4. Equality and mutual trust
5. Peaceful co-existence

Under this process, the Indo-China relationship converted into a slogan of '**Hindi-Chini bhai bhai**' during **Baandug Conference** in 1955, but unfortunately this process of friendship transformed into unexplained tension in Nefa borer which ultimately culminated into a war which took place between 20th October 1962 and 21st November 1962 in. It was the worst period for Indo-China relationship. India was badly defeated in the war, because it was not fully prepared to face a war of such an altitude.

After the reFOUNDATION of Indo-China relationship in 1976, the mutual cooperation kept on improving gradually. In the field of trade and technology, both the nations signed many agreements.

In 1976 onwards, the general improvement in the mutual cooperation took place between both the countries, which further continued in the field of economic & technological development in later years. Since then, the bilateral relationship between both the countries improved and developed to such an extent that it produced very productive results for both the nations.

Under this process, the changing global scenario and the international series of events brought both the countries into one platform again after 1990. In order to strenghten the relationship further with freshness, innovative perspective & new zeal, the different statesmen from India visited China several times; e.g. President Venkataraman in 1992, Prime Minister Narsimha Rao in 1993, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2009 and President Pratibha Devi Patil during 26-31st of May 2010, on the occasion of 60th anniversary of bilateral relationship between both the countries. On the other hand, Chinese Premier; **Ziang Zemin in 1996, Zhou Rong Zhi and Hu Zintao in 2006** visited India. Apart from this, the **China Year** was also celebrated in India during 2012 & 2013

Sushila

Assistant Professor,
Deptt. of Sociology,
Km. Mayawati Govt. Girls P.G.
College, Badalpur, G. B. Nagar

Despite the aforesaid efforts and being so close neighbours, India and China have not been able to improve their relationship so far. In the recent years, suddenly several issues have cropped up in the international scenario in such a way that whatever improvement in our mutual relationship has taken place since eighties, has start declining.

Among the main disputes include, **the issuance of Staple VISA to J&K residents, non-approval of J&K as an integral part of India, to build rail track and roads in POK, the presence of Chinese soldiers in the Gilgit; Baltistan area of occupied Kashmir, display of Chinese banners in Leh-Laddakh region in recent times, the matter of setting up 2 atomic reactors in Pakistan, the attempt of increasing surveillance in the surrounding sea region, the deployment of CSS-5 missile in the Tibetan plateau; adjacent to Indian border, the attempt of nullifying India's presence in Indian Ocean region**, which has resulted in hot debate in the socio-political ground in India; especially the media at large.

Under such circumstances, India's helplessness seems to be quite natural and unavoidable. If such an attitude of China creates anti-China atmosphere in India, then we can't nullify it. On one hand, China looks at India with the sense of suspicion and competition, while on the other, it tries to fill up the vacuum in our relationship through promoting bilateral trade. India's export to China is 220 million \$, whereas China's export to India is 770 million \$. That means, trade balance is now in China's favour. India exports 70 % crude oil to China.

The Area of Disputes

The main topic of dispute between India and China is the border dispute, which has not shown any progress even after 13 rounds of talk, some of those are as follows :-

Trans-Karakoram Track

Under an agreement in 1963; signed between China and Pak, Pakistan handed over an integral part of J&K to China. India wants this territory back.

Akshai Chin Territory

China had annexed 80,000 kms of Indian territory, situated in North-East Laddakh.

Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh

China claims on 95 thousand sq. kms area of Arunachal Pradesh and also does n't recognize the McMahon Line, 1914. It says that the said line has been imposed on them by the colonial rulers. China's intention is to annex Tawang territory of Arunachal Pradesh; rich in Buddha culture, is known to global community.

China's Malafide Intention in the Present Perspective of Treaties

1. During the year 2009-10, China used its influence in checking the release of 880 million \$ as a credit from Asian Development Bank.

2. In 2008, Chinese infiltration to the 'Actual line of control' of Indo-China border was taken place about 270 times.
3. With the intention of surrounding India in Indian Ocean region, China is constantly increasing its military might in this region by registering its presence in **Koko Island** (Myanmar), **Habban Tota** (Sri Lanka), **Gwadar Port** in Pak and **Chittagong** in Bangladesh.
4. Extended unconditional support to Maoist of Nepal.
5. Already lent financial support to Pak in its Neelam-Jhelum project and Vazidam project.

China's Concerns

1. China suspects that it's tankers won't be allowed to pass through the **Malakka straits** (Jaldamrumaddhya) amidst the heightened tension in mutual relations. In this context, USA would also extend its support to India.
2. China suspiciously looks at the **Indo-American Nuclear Programme**.
3. India is constantly strengthening its relationship with **South-East Asian** countries.

Bilateral Importance of the Mutual Cooperation

1. India can achieve progress by formulating new dimensions for trade relations. In this process, China would also be benefitted.
2. India and China can establish new heights in the field of I.T. by exchanging their software & hardware technology respectively.
3. Importance of converting 21st century into Asian century.
4. Mutual cooperation is essential in setting up multi-polar world.
5. Cooperation in the field of energy safety.

Cooperation at International Level

India and China as a member of BRICS has given new signals of world politics in the summits of **G-8, ASIAN, WTO, UNO** etc. by raising the voice of third world jointly. In this way, it is essential that China should now change its attitude towards India on the basis of mutual trust by accepting India as an equal partner, so that its dream of multi-polar world (**Russia-China-India**) politics could convert into a reality. Moreover, it will undoubtedly create a serious impact on the international and regional politics.

Conclusion

The relations between India and China appears to be very diplomatic. It is very difficult to say, how long China would continue to be a friend or enemy of India. To sum up, Indo-China relationship is supposed to be a story of many ups and down which will continue to swing in the years to come.

References

1. Ghai, U.R. : 2003-04 – Antarrashtriya Rajniti Jain (Hindi edition).
2. Jain, Pukhraj : 2012 – Bharat Videsh Sambandh (Hindi edition).
3. Singh, Tandon, Ramacharya : 2012 – Bhartiya Yuddha Kala.
4. Singh, Girish Chandra : 2012, Rashtriya Suraksha.
5. Kurukshetra Magazine : Ank-3, 2012.