PalArch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology

A SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF PAK-TURK RELATIONSHIP (A CONTENT ANALYSIS)

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Jabbar Ali, Dr. Sabir Ahmed, Afsheen Ekhteyar, Dr. Shabib-ul-Hassan, A Socio-Economic And Historical Perspective Of Pak-Turk Relationship (A Content Analysis), Palarch's Journal Of Archaeology Of Egypt/Egyptology 18(10), 3108-3121. ISSN 1567-214x.

Key Words: Turkey, Pakistan, Relationship, Islam, Cooperation.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this article is to depict and evaluate the ties between Pakistan and Turkey. History frequently plays deciding role in the relationship between nation-states. On an international chessboard, there are no permanent allies, neither permanent enemies, just perpetual interests. Relations between the two countries date back generations before the establishment of the two states, more specifically during the Turkish War of Independence, when Muslims from the northwestern British Raj sent financial assistance to the declining Ottoman Empire, which was followed by the formation of the Turkish Republic and the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Additionally, the two nations have historical Islamic connections since Muslims residing under the British Raj saw the Ottoman Sultan as their Caliph, and the Caliph of

Islam and all Muslims regarded the Ottoman Sultan as their Caliph. Pakistan and Pakistanis have, as a consequence, had a favorable image in Turkey and among Turks for many decades. Pakistan and Pakistanis Since their founding in the early 19th century, Pakistan and Turkey have maintained strong cultural, historical, and military connections, which are now developing into deeper economic ties as both nations strive to build their own economies. Pakistan's ties with Turkey are founded on two fundamental elements history and religion. Islam as a shared religion served in the past as a key component in the ties of two nations. However, in this article, we shall examine the development of ties, bilateral trade, and a shared strategy on international problems and military relations as well. This study also examines the connections between the two Muslim strong states.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Pak-Turkish Relations: A Historical Overview

There are warm ties between the people of Pakistan and Turkey that date back centuries and are built on shared values and national interests. This fruitful partnership dates all the way back to when the Republic of Turkey was established in 1923 and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was established in 1947. Both nations have provided one another with outstanding assistance since Pakistan's founding, especially during the most trying periods. During the 1950s, policies of security played a vital role in developing the relations between the two states. Both states felt the threat from the USSR's communist bloc. Pakistan and Turkey participated in the capitalist and western bloc led by the United States of America. The two Muslim states cooperated for the prevention of communism in Muslim regions, particularly in South Asia and the Middle East.In contrast, the Baghdad Pact was not fruitful for both states' common cooperated policy (Daily Times, 2016). The security policy had been created at the starting of the 1960s by the western powers strictly. Within the umbrella of Regional Cooperation for Development, Pakistan and Turkey started to conduct bilateral relations by mid-1960s. Jonson's letter of 1964 deteriorated Turkey's relations with the USA. The United States also left Pakistan alone in the war of 1965 with India. There was no composite support from the United States, which created the illusion in Pakistan and Turkey. Turkey developed its relations with Warsaw Pact and developing countries, and Pakistan tried to tie its relations with China (Bishku, 1992). In the early 1970s, Pakistan faced a severe crisis when Pakistan disintegrated, and East Pakistan gained independence in Bangladesh from the Indian Supported war of 1971. Turkey supported Pakistan diplomatically and even military and did not accept Bangladesh as an independent state until Pakistan accepted in 1974 (Choudhury, 2016).

In 1974, Turkey's military entered in the Island of Cyprus. Pakistan also supported the military and diplomatically the stance of Turkey on international platforms. During this period, Pakistan and Turkey supported and stood for each other's cause. In the 1980s, Pakistan and Turkey relations gained importance in a similar style with the circumstances in the 1950s. When USSR attacked Afghanistan in 1979, the security policy in the western bloc gained significance. It was apparent that USSR extending Warsaw toward Sub-continent. While on the other side, Iran left the dearest and the oldest ally USA after the Islamic Revolution of 1979. In this context, the Pakistan Turkey alliance gained significance for both to contain the Islamic and Khomeini revolution in Iran and communist expansion toward South Asia. During this period, two significant political changes came in Pakistan and Turkey. In Pakistan, through a military coup

Chief of Pakistan Army, General Zia-ul-Haq, seized power and became Martial law administrator in 1977.

In 1980 similar coup in the same fashion came in Turkey by Turkish chief of staff Kenan Evren. Both military powers focused on global security in a new phase. The United States backed both military administrators until the end of the Afghan war in 1989. (Khan, Hussain, Sibttain, Farookh, 2016). The period of the 1990s witnessed the relations of two states came to a lower degree. Both states could not build solid economic ground, and some intensive political contacts were a significant factor that led to some cooling in relations. Turkey's interest was diverted toward newly independent states, which were emerged after the disintegration of Yugoslavia and the Balkan regions in the 1990s. Pakistan focused its concentration on the political and economic stability in Afghanistan. The attack of the USSR destroyed Afghanistan politically and economically. There was an obvious difference of interest and policy of Pakistan and Turkey. Islamabad supported the Taliban regime while Ankara backed Northern Alliance (Hussain, 2018).

The United States attacked Afghanistan in 2001 with North Atlantic Organization against the Taliban regime. The relations of Pakistan and Turkey were highlighted in the international press. Pakistan was facing sensitive religious and ethnic issues, but Turkey tried to support domestic stability in Pakistan. The history of bilateral relations between the two states observed that the main driving force of Pakistan and Turkey's close relations are religious and cultural affinity, which became the common identity. In international issues, there were different policies and interests of the two states. Despite brotherhood relations, there is a dearth of strong economic relations. It is a dire need to make strong economic grounds to build strong relations. (Hussain, 2018)

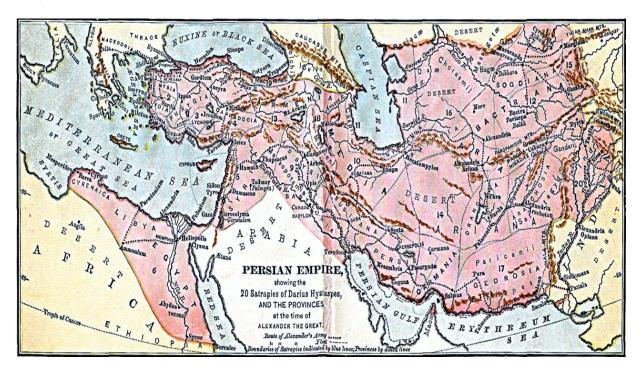


Figure 01: Regions of both modern-day Turkey and Pakistan in the domain of the Persian Empire.

METHODOLOGY

I have adopted the qualitative methodology to do my research work because this type of methodology suits my research plan. There are books, research papers, reports, newspapers, thesis and Constitutions. The study plan is more related to the reading material than doing the field work. I have gone through the primary and secondary resources during my study. Primary sources which I studied were Constitutions of Pakistan along with Turkey. Furthermore a book on diplomatic ties between the two countries has been studied for research. Secondary sources which I studied were containing books, research articles, thesis, magazines, reports and newspapers.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Diplomatic ties between Turkey and Pakistan were established in 1947, shortly after Pakistan became the world's biggest Muslim nation and the country's capital was founded in Islamabad. Following Pakistan's establishment, Turkey was one of just a few nations to recognize the country and to support the country's successful quest to become a member of the United Nations. Turkey and Pakistan established diplomatic relations shortly after the latter's independence in 1947, and bilateral relations became more close as a result of the two nations' shared cultural, religious, and geopolitical ties. Following Pakistan's establishment, Turkey was one of just a few nations to recognize the country and to support the country's successful quest to become a member of the United Nations. In a letter to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Pakistan's founding leader Muhammad Ali Jinnah expressed respect for the country's founding leader, as well as a wish to build Pakistan according to the Turkish model of modernism. In a similar vein, Pakistan would follow in the footsteps of Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal in order to create a contemporary Islamic Pakistan, with all other forms of so-called ism being rejected by the people of Pakistan. A similar point of view was stated by the former President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf, who was born in Turkey and had significant military training while growing up there. In Turkey, Jinnah is revered as a great leader, and a prominent road in the Turkish capital Ankara, the CinnahCaddesi, is named after him. In Pakistan, roads named after Atatürk can be found in Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, and Larkana, among other places. RecepTayyipErdoan was given the Nishan-e-Pakistan on October 26, 2009, and he was the fourth global leader to address the Pakistani parliament during that day's proceedings.

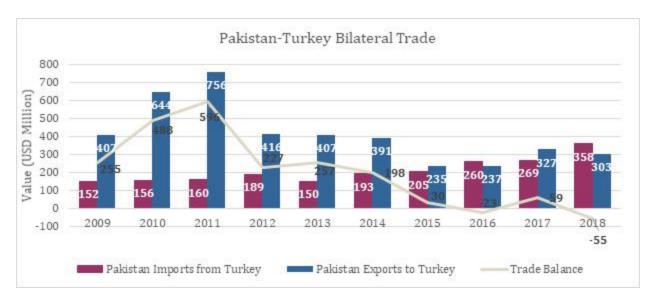


Figure 02: Pakistan-Turkey Bilateral Ties

Turkey and Pakistan are founding members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and members of the Developing 8 Countries (D-8) group. Both countries have been working hard to create a preferential trading agreement with the goal of significantly increasing trade and investment, particularly in the transportation, telecommunications, manufacturing, tourism, and other sectors, among other things. Both governments have set a goal of increasing the amount of bilateral commerce from \$690 million to more than \$1 billion by the end of the decade. Rice, sesame seeds, leather, textiles, fabrics, sporting items, and medical equipment are among the products that Pakistan exports. Wheat, chickpeas, lentils, diesel, chemicals, transportation vehicles, equipment, and energy goods are among the items that Turkey sends to Pakistan. Moreover, Turkish private companies have made substantial investments in industrial and construction projects, including the development of roads, pipelines, and canals. The Free Trade Agreement between Turkey and Pakistan is currently being negotiated between the two nations.

At different times in history, the contiguous Persian, Hellenistic, Arab, and Turco-Mongol civilizations that have impacted the areas that now include both Pakistan and Turkey have influenced each other. During the 5th century BCE, ancient Persia expanded from Anatolia to the Indus River, bringing with it Persianate cultural and political traditions to these newfound lands. Modern-day Turkey was the home of several ancient European civilizations, notably the Ionian Greek culture, which flourished there. Numerous traces of ancient Greek cultural and historical impact may be seen across the nation, including many Greek and Hellenistic archeological sites that have been discovered around the area. In the aftermath of Alexander the Great's invasion of the Indus Valley, Pakistan was also affected by Greek culture and civilisation, which resulted in the creation of the Indo-Greek Kingdoms and the spread of Greco-Buddhism. Gandhara, an area in western Pakistan, served as a significant crossroads for Hellenistic, Iranian, and Indo-Aryan trade and interaction throughout history. Due to the Seljuq invasion and Turkification of the area, Turkey became a Turkic-speaking nation in the 15th century. Despite the fact that Pakistan is not a Turkic-speaking nation, its main languages, especially Urdu (also known as Lashkari), were heavily affected by the Turkic language of the

Mughals before it was adopted as the empire's official language in the 16th century. As a consequence, it has appropriated a large number of loanwords from Chagatai. Mashafi is credited with coining the term "Urdu," which has its origins in Mughal rule and is derived from the Persian language.

Furthermore, the shared cultural effects on Pakistan and Turkey date back many centuries, when numerous Turkic and Iranian peoples controlled large swaths of Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East, resulting in the formation of the modern states of both countries. The dress styles of the two nations have a similar ancestry in Central Asia, as do their respective textiles. As with the food, there are some similarities in terms of preparation like as kebabs, pilaf, and halva, but the spice level in Pakistan differs owing to the influence of South Asian cuisine. The Hanafi school of Sunni Islam is practiced by the majority of the populations of Turkey and Pakistan, which was the interpretation of Islam adopted by the Ottoman Empire and the Mughal Empire, respectively, throughout their respective reigns. There are strong traditions of moderate Sufism in both countries, and religious ministers from both countries communicate with one another on a regular basis.

In February 2007, following a visit by then Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gül to Islamabad, Turkey launched a trilateral summit process between the two countries and Afghanistan as the backbone of its diversified foreign policy in Southeast Asia. Pakistani deputy Humair Hayat Khan Rokhri confirmed that, according to Gül, "we are all brothers who need to support each other," in order to "bring security and stability to the region."During a meeting between Pakistani and Afghan leaders on April 1, 2009, which was held as part of the trilateral Ankara cooperation process, the leaders of the three countries pledged to improve coordination between their political, military, and intelligence tiers in the fight against militancy and terrorist activity. BurhanKayatürk, the chairman of the Turkish–Pakistani Friendship Association, said that "this is the first time that the military and intelligence chiefs of Afghanistan and Pakistan have attended the trilateral summit, which is a reflection of the stronger commitment to work together." At the Friends of Pakistan Donors Conference in Tokyo on April 17, 2009, Turkish State Minister Mehmet Aydn donated \$100 million to Pakistan for infrastructure, health, and education initiatives, according to a press release. "It is in their interests to see a stable Pakistan; otherwise unrest would spill over onto their land," said Turkish Parliamentary Deputy Kayatürk, calling on neighbouring nations, particularly India, to make similar pledges.

3. DISCUSSION:

Political Cooperation and Diplomatic Stance on International Issues:

I. Afghanistan

In political cooperation, Pakistan and Turkey added regional problems and issues to the 2000's agenda. In these issues, the Afghan problem was on the top of the list. Both countries agreed on two mechanisms. One was multilateral, and the other was trilateral. While in the trilateral summit, Turkey, Pakistan, and Afghanistan permitted turkey to play her role as facilitator in the solving of different issues between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Turkey is consistently working to gather the neighboring countries of Afghanistan to bring stability to the country. In 2007 Turkey played her to gather the leaders of Pakistan and Afghanistan, who were in a collision way after

the Taliban insurgency since 2005. Turkish President AhmetNecdetSezer hosted the first trilateral summit in Ankara. Hamid Karzai, the Afghan president, and Pervez Musharraf, the Pakistani president, met at the conference. At the meeting, leaders released the Ankara Declaration, which aims to promote trilateral collaboration. Both nations agreed to cooperate and respect each other's territorial integrity, as underlined in the declaration. (BBC Turkish, 2007).

In 2008, the Turkish President Abdullah Gull, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, and Afghan President Hamid Karzai convened in Ankara for a second trilateral conference. (Raza & Akbar, 2012). Third trilateral conference in Ankara, Turkey, gathered high-level military, police, and intelligence officials from three nations in 2009, and stressed security collaboration amongst participants (The Nation,2010). The fourth trilateral summit, held in Istanbul in 2010, was attended by the top brass of the military and intelligence leaders from the three nations, including Afghanistan. Foreign Minister AhmetDavutoglu of Turkey has indicated his readiness to urge the Taliban to end the bloodshed in Afghanistan, according to the Associated Press (Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the UN, 2016).

These summits were held regularly, and the eighth and final summit was held in Ankara in 2014. Instead of those trilateral meetings, there was also a difference between the policies of Pakistan and Turkey. Afghanistan remained an important issue for Pakistan and Turkey. The perception of both states remained different on this issue. Turkey diverted its political and economic interest in Central Asian states, which stopped the influence of Turkey in Talibani Afghanistan. Turkey is a secular state that is why it supports moderate and liberal views. In Afghanistan, the Taliban are fanatic extremists and anti moderate Islamic views. Turkey and all other Central Asian states, and Russia were concerned about the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. It created a threat for these states to exports Islamic extremism and terrorism. Ankara supported anti-Taliban forces in June 1997, Afghani- Uzbek leader Rashid Dostum took refuge in Istanbul, and Ahmad shah Massood also visited Ankara in 1998, the commander in Northern Alliance against Taliban. Turkey recognized BurhanuddinRabbani as the only legitimate representative of Afghanistan. Turkey wished for a government that might be representative of all factions and ethnic groups of Afghanistan. (Raza& Akbar, 2010).

While the perception of Pakistan was and is different from the perception of Turkey, Pakistan recognized the Taliban as the legitimate authority in Afghanistan. Pakistan's support for the Taliban has done more damage to the country than it has brought it any tangible advantages. In terms of Pakistan's economic future, it has suffered probably the most significant setback as a result of its support for the Taliban. As a consequence of Islamabad's backing for the Taliban government in Kabul, Pakistani society has been more influenced by the Taliban. As a result, radical Islamic groups have increased their influence on the government and the people of the country. Instead of the difference, the relations between Turkey and Pakistan always remained cordial and friendly. Instead of differences in policies and interests of Pakistan and Turkey, the two states cooperate in every field and respect each other's stance, view, and interest (Dawn, 2003).

II. Kashmir

The issue of Kashmir is also an old unresolved international issue. Since 1931, the people of Kashmir have been fighting for their right to self-determination, while India has maintained that Kashmir is a part of India. Turkey has historically backed Pakistan's official position on Kashmir, and this has continued. According to this resolution, a free and fair plebiscite in Kashmir should be held under the supervision of the United Nations, as stipulated in the United Nations Security Council's resolution on Kashmir. Ankara continues to support the United Nations-mediated solution of the Kashmir conflict. Turkey also emphasises the need of bilateral negotiations between India and Pakistan in resolving the situation. The Tribune published an article in 2000 stating that On Kashmir, Turkey has always supported Pakistan's position. Instead of having good ties with one another, the leaders of two countries face a slew of problems. The first is to figure out how to reverse the bad tendencies that have developed in the relationship between the two nations.

Defense and Military Cooperation and Agreements

The next important field of relations between Pakistan and Turkey is military and defense cooperation. The two countries have a long history of cooperation in different international issues and have supported each other's stance. Both have cooperated in different security threats, from the 1950s communism threat to the 2001 religious extremism threat. Moreover, Pakistani and Turkish militaries consistently flourished multidimensional links. Both militaries began joint military pieces of training. In 1954, Pakistan and Turkey signed a defense treaty first time in the history of relations. Since the sign of the treaty, armies of both countries cooperated actively in training and armaments. (Hussain, 2008). This military collaboration was expanded even further, and the Pakistan-Turkey Military Consultative Group was established in 1988 as a result. The mission of the Military Collaboration Group (MCG) was also to expand cooperation in the military training and defence industries. The High-Level Military Dilute (HLMD) was created in June 2003 to support the military's high-level operations (Hussain, 2008). Since the year 2000, bilateral defence and military cooperation between Pakistan and Turkey has grown in relevance and significance. Both Pakistan and Turkey have traded weapons, exchanged military expertise, and conducted military exercises on a regular basis. A bilateral training programme, as well as the exchange of pilots and air force personnel, were agreed upon by both nations in 2015 (khan 2016). The level of collaboration between the two nations is extraordinary, and in recent years, Pakistan and Turkey have finally taken real steps to further their relationship.

The Regional Cooperation for Development and other Pacts

When we analyze the multilateral cooperation of Pakistan and Turkey, we need to focus on long historical relations between the two countries. The Baghdad Pact, also known as the Central Treaty Organization, was established in 1919 and marked the beginning of regional cooperation. (CENTO). The Baghdad Pact was formed in 1955 with the primary goals of limiting the spread of communism and preventing the Soviet Union from expanding its influence in South Asia and the Middle East. After the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979, the Pact came to an end and was never renewed. As a result of their shared religious, cultural, and geographical ties, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey formed a regional organisation in 1964, which was known as the Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD). The RCD was a consequence of the increasing commitment of these three nations to western powers during the period of the Cold War. The organization did not survive for a long time, and finally, in the 1980s, it was renamed an Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). (Dawn, 2001). The two countries were working

together for the improvement of the economy, education, and health facilities. Both countries were closely working to control terrorism, extremism and fundamentalism in both states. Intelligence agencies officials working jointly and share reports with each other. Pakistan and turkey both are facing Islamic extremism in recent years. Pakistan is facing with the challenge of Taliban and Turkey is fighting with ISIS and Al-Qaida groups. (The News, 2017).

Religious and Cultural Cooperation

Pak-Turk relations are base on two significant factors culture and religion. These two significant factors play an essential role in shaping relations between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Turkey. Islam has played a significant and determining role in the past and plays its role between relations of the two Muslim majority states. The relations began from Ottoman Empire before the establishment of the nation-states. The Muslims of British India sent financial aid during the Turkish war of independence. The Muslim women of Subcontinent sent their ornaments and jewelry for the support of the Islamic Caliphate in Turkey. These sacrifices have great respect in the hearts of the Turkish people. Turkey and Pakistan established diplomatic ties shortly after Pakistan gained independence in 1947. Since then, the relationships have reached their pinnacle in terms of religion, culture, and the economics.. Religion-related services and prayers were conducted in the mosques of Calcutta during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877; contributions were collected for the Turkish soldiers who were injured in the conflict. The Muslims of the Subcontinent sent a medical mission to turkey during the Balkan war. After the first World War, Britain and allied powers covered turkey in every sphere. At that time, the Muslim leaders and people of the Subcontinent started the renowned Caliphate movement against British policies and boycotted British goods and all other things. The Ali brothers launched this movement and met British prime minister George Lloyd with MoulanaAbulKalam Azad and Sir Aga Khan III on behalf of Sultan of Turkey. The allied powers were against the Caliphate, including Britain, but according to the will of the Turkish people, the modern republic of Turkey was established under the leadership of General Mustafa Kamal Attaturk. The founding father and the first Governor-General of Pakistan, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, expressed his views in these words." The exploits of your leaders in many a historic field of battle; the progress of your revolution; are well known to the people of Pakistan" (Pakistan Turkey Report, 2014).

Since day one, both countries have had strong ties as two Muslim republics. The religious factor shaped brotherly relations, and cultural ties also have great importance. The first agreement for cultural cooperation signed in 1953 was followed up through cultural Exchange curricula. Through this curricula, many Pakistani students got scholarships in Turkish universities, and many Turkish students also got this facility. Besides this Centre for Strategic Research (CSR), Ankara and the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad signed a landmark agreement in May 2003. In recent years, the two embassies in Ankara and Islamabad have been working closely to promote culture and heritage. The embassy of Pakistan in Ankara hosted a cultural week named "JeevayJeevay Pakistan" on March 23, 2012, marking the first time in the history of Pak-Turk ties that such an event has been staged. The cultural shows have different activities e.g. Qawali, fashion show, Pakistani food and Pakistani drama were showed to the people of turkey and in Pakistan Turkish food, Turkish products and particularly famous Turkish drama "My Sultan" is like to watch everyone. Turkish President RecepTayyipErdogan announced the establishment of a Turkish cultural center in Lahore. These initiatives promote cultural ties and people-to-people

relations. Many Pakistanis are married to Turkish women, and married culture promotes affinity, amity, and affection among two states.

Economic Relations

Pakistan and Turkey are emerging economies. Turkey is on the list of the top 20 economies of the world, while Pakistan is enjoying the only Muslim atomic power and have the six largest armies in the world. Turkey has a strong army; both states need to boost their economies play a crucial role in international platforms. Already both are playing a positive and significant role in United Nations and a dominant role in Organization for Islamic Countries. Several Turkish corporations are investing in Pakistan, including Tekser, Enka, and Binder, for various projects in the country (Daily Times, 2016).

In 2009 both countries established the High-Level Cooperation Council (HLCC). The primary purpose of HLCC is to improve the economic relations of the two countries. There are no impressive economic ties between the two states if we see the historical ties of the two countries. Both have had a close affinity for long; although cultural and religious affection and relations are too strong, there is hope for better economic ties. Therefore HLCC has to focus on increasing mutual investment and trade. The volume of bilateral trade in 1990 was \$132 billion. In 2000 there was \$135 million, only \$3 million increased. In 2011 the bilateral trade reached its apex with \$1.087 million, but it declined to \$599 million in 2015. Turkish exports to Pakistan are 73 percent more than Pakistani exports to turkey. (Suvankulo& Ali 2012).

When we see the Turkish trade with other South Asian countries \$ 599 million with Pakistan, \$ 6.263 million, Bangladesh \$1.196 million, Sri Lanka \$138 million, Nepal \$63 million, Button \$ 2 million, and the Maldives \$0 million, this record is very concern for Pakistan because Pakistan is behind India and Bangladesh. Pakistan needs to concentrate its full attention boost economic and trade relations with turkey. (Turkish Ministry of Economy, 2015)

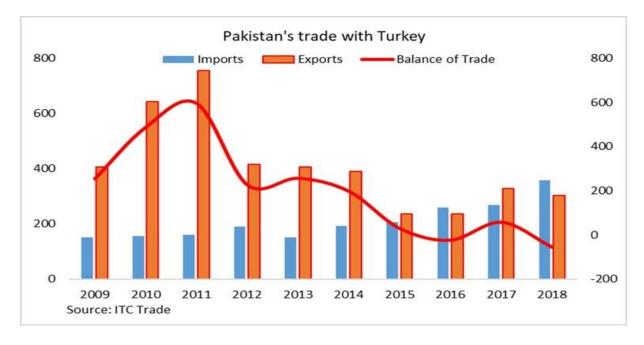


Figure 03: PAK-Turk Economic Ties over the Years

1. CONCLUSION

Today Pakistan and Turkey enjoying their relations with great affinity. Their relations are based on shared culture, religion, heritage, and goals. Their relations rooted in history have defined the relations of present times. Both states' religious and cultural relations are exemplary and supported each other in every difficult time, but the commercial and economic relations were below the expectations. The significant problems between the two states in trade and economic points of view have not been resolved yet. There is dire need to boost economic relations; both states need to invest a massive amount in different projects and work jointly. The two countries are closely working to contain extremism and terrorism in both countries. The senior officials of intelligence agencies, military chiefs and foreign and interior ministers, and even prime ministers and presidents of both countries met in many summits to combat terrorism and cooperate. Turkey has been working as a facilitator between Pakistan and Afghanistan to bring peace and political stability to Afghanistan. Turkey is also supporting Pakistan's stance regarding the Kashmir conflict between India and Pakistan.

In comparison, Pakistan has supported the Turkish stance in the Cyprus issue and the Balkans. Both countries play a significant role in international forums, for instance, the Organization of Islamic Countries and the United Nations. Both countries are founder members of RCD with Iran. Pakistan and Turkey are two powerful Muslim states. Pakistan is the only Muslim atomic power and has the sixth-largest army, while Turkey is on the list of top 20 economies of the world and has a powerful army in the region with close ties with Europe, Middle Eastern, Central Asian and South Asian countries. The two states need further cooperation in economy, trade, education, culture, science and technology, diplomacy, and administration.

2. FUTTURE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Market for European and Asian goods and services is expanding. Great possibilities exist for Turkey and Pakistan to work together to realize the commercial and economic potential of an expanded Euro-Asia market to the advantage of both countries. Turkey has connections to both Europe and Central Asia, while Pakistan has the potential to act as a gateway to Central Asia. In order to take advantage of their advantageous geographical positions, both nations should consider partnering in order to create a huge market that may be expanded to include North Africa and Southern China. Later on, this region may be extended to encompass the remainder of South Asia as well as the Far East, if the need arises. This would allow for the establishment of a massive market between Casablanca and Seoul, which would be beneficial to a large number of countries, the majority of which are currently in a state of underdevelopment because, with the exception of a few, none of them are members of a prosperous economic or trade grouping. It is in the interests of both Turkey and Pakistan to work together to bring the goal of a larger Euro-Asia market to fruition as soon as possible.

Improving economic ties is critical to the long-term viability of these bilateral partnerships. It is necessary for Pakistan to delve further into the possibility of Turkey serving as a doorway to Europe, while Pakistan serves as an outlet to the Indian Ocean, China, and the Far East. It is possible for them to defend each other's interests, particularly in the commercial sector in Europe and Asia.

- As part of its attempts to normalize ties with Afghanistan, Pakistan offered a \$100 million contribution to the Afghan rebuilding and rehabilitation effort during the Donors Conference in Bonn, Germany, back in January 2001. The close Turkish-Afghan Alternatives: Turkish ties between the two nations allow Turkey to play a role by serving as a link in a trilateral arrangement in which all three countries are engaged in matters of mutual concern.
- ➤ When it comes to strengthening its tourist sector, Pakistan may take a lot of inspiration from Turkey. Turkey is one of the top 10 tourism attractions in the developed world, attracting visitors from all over the world. Tourism has the potential to significantly contribute to the improvement of the Pakistani economy. In this context, the possibility of collaborative initiatives may also be investigated. We have an agreement on tourist collaboration, just as we have on other avenues of cooperation, but it is necessary to put the agreement into effect.
- ➤ Jobs for Pakistani professionals and technical personnel such as physicians, architects and software engineers may be available in the future.
- Among the possible areas in which trade between the two nations might be increased are coal mining, minerals, copper mining, cotton and textile manufacturing, leather manufacturing, ceramic manufacturing, and steel manufacturing. In the banking, pharmaceutical, construction, transportation, housing, financial services, and education sectors, there is a pressing need for collaborative efforts. 37 There is also a need for the establishment of exhibition centers for each other's goods in Pakistan and Turkey.
- ➤ It is also necessary for Turkey to take more proactive measures and make more contributions toward becoming an Asian power rather than just a European one.
- > Creating institutional connections, whether they be political, economic, or cultural in nature.
- ➤ Improvements in military connections that include not only the training of soldiers but also the execution of joint military exercises as well as the joint manufacture of weapons may help to enhance bilateral defense relations.

Ties between Pakistan and Turkey, as well as relations between Pakistan and the rest of the Muslim world, have been taken for granted. Pakistan recognizes the need of maintaining strong relations with Turkey, given that the two countries have a similar vision for the Muslim world and have the potential to bring the Western world and the Muslim world closer together. Bilateral economic relations would also assist both countries in overcoming their respective economic difficulties in the future, and both countries could use these relationships to assume leadership roles in international organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Economic Cooperation Organization.

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