CHINA'S TREPIDATION OF KASHMIR ISSUE

MUHAMMAD IJAZ BUTT

Government College Township, Lahore (PAKISTAN)
Email: drijazbutt@yahoo.com

Abstract: Since Pakistan and India are nuclear powers, any conflict on Kashmir issue can trigger a nuclear war causing devastating effects on the whole region. Thus, theKashmir issue is emerging a nuclear flashpoint and become the matter of concern and trepidation for all the regional powers. China is particular concerns due to its commercial interests and the success of its one road one belt policy of regional connectivity. This exploratory paper has aimed at exploring the Kashmir issue and China's attitudes towards it in a critical way. Since the partition of Indo-Pak, into two independent states, Kashmir has been a burning issue between Pakistan and India. This also has been a challenge among other states of the world because this is not between Pakistan and India but also its geographical significance; this has been impacting other states like China and Afghanistan. But the most important affect has been noted on the geo-political broad vision of China. The overall, China has been found standing with the views of Pakistan because in view of geographical and cultural integration of the region is very close with that of Pakistan. The other reason of China's stand with Pakistan is due to the UN resolutions to resolve this issue. Although China seems to be firm with its declared agenda in this regard yet from time to time due to many socio-economic factors, her policies to this issue has been emerged flexible and changing. But, it is acknowledged that she, too, agrees that this must be resolved in the light of UN resolution so far the Kashmiris might be able to enjoy independent lives. China has been shifting its policystance on Kashmir issue under the influence of its commercial interests in South Asia. However, this is a fact that unlike the position of Russia, itwas unwilling to accept that Kashmir belongs to India. Sometimes in fifties, it has taken a neutral position towards this issue showing its neutrality, Kashmir neither a part of Pakistan nor of India. But, in recent years due to emergence of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) and for other economic benefits, China is showing her firm stand with Pakistan on each platform of the world.Thus, this paper has analyzed the issue of Kashmir and China's stance towards its resolution. Finally, this paper has proposed few recommendations towards this issue.

Keywords: Trepidation, Kashmir Issue, China's role, UN resolutions, Regional Connectivity, CPEC