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**RESEARCH PAPER**

**US Factor in Sino-Indian Relations: An Analysis**

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**ABSTRACT**

India and China are neighboring countries in the South Asia region mutually stand independent countries equally ensure two-pronged relations. Subsequently the tic, they had diplomatic relations till now but in South Asia, they have a rivalry, and the US is also part of this rivalry. They have multiple agreements for trade and also deter about economic conflict in the South Asia region. The US relations with Beijing and Delhi are very complicated because Washington creates zero-sum outcomes in strategic relations and bilateral relations between them. The objective of this study is to focus on Sino-India relations after 9/11 and analysis the US factor. This study follows the secondary base data that is the assumption of triangle relations in South Asia region.

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**KEYWORDS** Security, Sino-Indian Ties, South Asia, USA, US-China Rivalry

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**Introduction**

India and China are neighboring countries in the South Asian region and both have bilateral relations. Due to Sino Indies Tibet war, they have clashes till now, both have some similarities and some belongings are different between them. India and China are two rising power in the Asian region and are also called two Asian giants, have trade relations, strategic partnerships, cultural relations, education relations, and signed different agreements (Bajpae, china india regional dimensions of bilateral relationships, 2105). From the start, they have had diplomatic relations till now but in South Asia, they have a rivalry, and the US is also part of this rivalry. They have multiple agreements for trade and also deter about economic conflict in the South Asia region (Yaseen, Jathol & Muzaffar, 2016)

China and India both also promote stability, peace, and developments in the international community, China wants to good relations with India because it is raising power in front of the global age, Beijing and New Delhi do many things same economically and politically, China and India both are pleasing in ASEAN, Central Asia, South Asia, Indian Ocean Sea and also promoting in CBMs for strategic intension and SCO also obliging for China and India (Zhang, 2010). The US relations with Beijing and Delhi are very complicated because Washington creates zero-sum outcomes in strategic relations and bilateral relations between them. The US Indio ties strong just for China beating in the global world, actually in Asia China become strong in power that's why USA increase their interest by the use of India.

The triangle relationships between China-US and India in international politics this triangle appear in the latest year, China wants to improve their relations with India because its policy is stability, peace maintained, and peaceful co-existence but the US closer with India for raising power (Gancheng, 2016). On the other side, India plays the game for its self-interest for balancing power, economic strength, and military. This triangle a lot assumption within Asia region for increasing power in a global world it is the geopolitical game because where China wants stability with India then there US support India to against China, in different borders war between two Asian giants US help India (Muzaffar, Yaseen, & Rahim, 2017).

### **Literature Review**

This training is subject to on diverse works analyses that offer the problematic the revision and the gray area. The literature review that is the critical consideration is dependent on previous researchers and scholars, the section gives the different views of this study, these reviews give the new phenomena that is the more effectively than earlier readers, this study literature collective by different books, articles, reports, and different academies journals that give new ideas and phenomena about this critical analysis.

Alyssa and Raja debate about power and realignment in Asia the rise up China economy and its effect on US-Indo relations by (Raja & Mohan, 2009) in 21<sup>st</sup> century China rise as a great power in the global age observers say that China has great shift about wealth and power in the East, it not only affects the economy and security but also effected new Indo - US strategic partnership.

Alan Winters and Shahid Yusuf highlighted that China and India have huge populations and rapidly increase their economy after the independence; both are dancing with Giants by their some similarity and some differences between both giants in the economy, trade industrial zone (Yusuf, 2007).

Sornarajah and Jiansu debate on economic order by internationally of China and India both are raising their economy rapidly in new world order by (Wang, 2010) China and India two developing largest economies, Gross domestic products and both cooperating in World Trade Organization, both are cooperation in South-South coalition, both are the member of General Agreement on the Tariffs and Trade.

### **The Realistic Approach in the Tussle of Seas**

The realist theory applies to China and India relations since the natures of relations between them are realistic because individual requirements defend their national interest in world politics and international relations and maintain their power in international relations. Allowing to realistic theory together also depends on offensive and defensive theory; China and India want the security dilemma like defensive for their defense in world politics and maximize their power affording the offensive realism both China and India struggle for achieving the power just for threat for each other and another in international politics. In border conflict, their nature was realistic both want their hegemony on the borderline and increase the security dilemma for threatens. They maintain the balance of power by allying with United States, USSR, and South Asian states, both use different terms to preserve their balance with alliances in world politics. The anarchy also applies in both China and India relations because the war between them in South Asia and border issues are the cause of the anarchy in international politics.

According to the realist school of thought, China and India have selfish nature in point of view of economy and security and USA and Pakistan play the role as an alliance because there is a balance of threat from each other power so alliance makes secure for the threat. The realist school of thought completely counterpart the relations of the superpower USA's realistic policy towards the world and especially China because the realistic school of thought base on the balance of power and USA essential require the balance of power, but their alliance India-US and China and Pakistan as threat create anarchy in South Asia, there was also buffer states that are used for control the conflict and maybe use the as the threat. In buffer states, China and the USA make sure their influence because they want themselves from each other in every way so they create the security dilemma for security some time their balance of power is flexible for stability and peace. The key thing is the powerful influence China want the power by peacefully and the USA influence as a threat because the 9/11 incident makes it aggressive toward the world and the US desire the power for the threat but after 9/11 China rise the power and it became a threat for the USA, so their nature is realistic and create the balance power.

The methodology of this study clarify the objective of the study, the main facts of the research, the significance of the study that gives the importance of the gap area and finds the problem of the study and builds the research questions and finds the answers by literature review, The theoretical framework is realism and neo-realism of this study because in the global age focus on power and security dilemma. This study depends on the qualitative data that is also collected from a secondary source, this research study data is contingent like books, articles, newspapers, statement of the political leaders, government reports and journals, etc. the literature of the study highlight the statement of the problem and find the gap area, so this study variable depends on security, power, economy, the balance of power, etc. As China and India in South Asia want hegemony it's a so this study base on their qualities, so the different articles give the ideas about gap area of the study. The books find the history of both Asian giants that is similarities and differences. The newspaper is also the source of qualitative data that highlights the current situation of international politics in the global era. The variable of the study is the quality of China and India that strengthen and also become a threat for each other. Both are neighboring states and multi-border issues, that's why both are highlighted in the daily news. This study literature is dependent on secondary base and qualitative.

### **Role of USA, India, and China in South Asia Sea**

In the South China Sea, U.S and China are competitors for hegemony, in international relations prospectus, China and the US are strategic challengers as for great power, in recent years China a lot of control over the South China Sea and challenging to neighboring countries Philippine and Vietnam because China influence like strategically, politically, and economically and it is a threat for the U.S and its allies partners that present in this region like Japan, Senkaku Island in the East China Sea, China also their dominancy in SCS and ECS that with the yellow sea that is provoked for U.S strategic, etc. (O'Rourke, 2021). Because both have the same goals in maritime areas that are just for boost up the economy by trade in the sea route.

### **China, USA, and India in the South China Sea**

The South China Sea become a rivalry definite between China, India, and the U.S, as this sea has great potential that depends on conflict particularly in which countries that have the desire to achieve power worldwide like in energy growth and

military power. China wants the hegemony in this area and claims that it is beyond dispute, as it is Southeast Asian also a concern in this region and claims about its region, China is also unknown in the South China Sea region (Salil, 2012). There is no proper solution in the region of the South China Sea because there was no effort to work but its impact on the security but there is a need for a solution about the conflict of the South China Sea region because there is a need for stability and peace. U.S and India have a concern about the Chinese next move in SCS, the main reason is that when South China Sea region change things and any development that has affected all over the world especially those countries that are interested in the economy in this region.

This issue becomes multidivisional in a recent situation. This conflict, especially between China, U.S, and ASEAN states, the US, is the high stakeholder in the region; India is the key alliance of the U.S both is high cooperative like in Asia-Pacific (Salil, 2012). China has a lot of energy needs that will be fulfilled by the region of South China Sea however it shows the China strategic attention in this region because this region is full of resources like its routs fruitful for those countries which have interest economic power like superpowers U.S and China that has main rival countries in the current scenario.

The main reason is that sea-borne trade where the oil trade-main thing that some from the Persian Gulf, India and United States if impose resistance on China at Northern Indian Ocean region like Malacca, Hormuz that may be this conflict control, however, the US wants stability at the region just for the balance of power. India also wants peace by the friends' states in the region, as the Indian and Chinese developing many projects that connected the region in the South China Sea, that are beneficial for both the energy and international economy of the Asian Century. Representing its past fairness simply motivations home-based the argument that China is moral for the world, and in the development, the domain will be all the further worthy on behalf of China.

### **U.S and China rivalry in the South China Sea**

The United States is present in the South China Sea for the national and economic desires because it is important for trade, and it thinks about China as a threat to the U.S so it allies with other states that are isolated from China. The USA wants just to protect its strategic interest from China in the South China Sea region. Furthermore, the increasing resistance among China and its neighbors in the latest intervals of complete security concerns have provided the United States with an opening to emphasize itself.

### **China and India Debates on the South China Sea**

India and China have a lot of rigidity in the South China Sea region, India play important role in the region and does not pay any intention in conflicts, China does not tolerate the appearance of India at SCS, but India did not pay any intention to China because at Indian Ocean Sea India has a strong position in the region of IOR, so Indian influence also in the South China Sea with the support of IOR (Salil, 2012). India and China have the main factor in the economy in current development and influence.

### **U.S policy towards the South China Sea**

The United States finds out peace and stability for the South China Sea and decrease the tension between China, the Philippines, and Vietnam, and also between Beijing and Washington. The tension is the territory because it's an important route for trade by gulf countries towards different countries like superpowers. This issue is not

new but still highlight in the current scenario, U.S policy towards the South China Sea since 1995. This conflict is highly affected to Southeast Asia. The Philippines and the United States are an alliance in the South China Sea region, that's why the U.S intricate in the region (Mcdevittl, 2014). U.S secretary statement is that time Kerry: "For example a Pacific state, and the occupier power, the United States has a domestic attention in the preservation of peacetime and strength, admiration for worldwide commandment, unrestricted legalized exchange, and independence of triangulation in the South China Sea" the U.S claim that there is no any competition and no any territorial claim and no any conflict with other states at this point, but we want to control of other dispute in the region and help for stability and maintain the peace. China has no belief in U.S policy towards SCS but the United States many times clearly said that just stability and peace maintain in the region, the individual case stayed in September 2013, while Kerry and the Chinese extraneous parson come upon in New York City.

### Importance of South China Sea for China

Beijing directing the SCS stands essential for as a nearby sea, the situation stands together a security barrier intended for South China and the dynamic profitable track for Chinese trade, comprising eighty percentages of its oil imports. While it is the main concentration, resembling Taiwan or Tibet, remained a passionately argued issue in 2010, afterward a New York Times explosion declared that China had completed this declaration in a gathering with a senior U.S. administration authorized. While the China and U.S have a lot of interest in the region of SCS. However, in case or not China legitimately contains the SCS in that one interpretation of primary interests, in the governance of President Xi Jinping China's arrangements recommends that regulator of the SCS stands indistinguishable extraordinary continuously that one list of interests. As it covers China's dominance, in Xi it is in circumstance preserved as central attention. "In a speech made at a Politburo meeting dedicated to China's diplomatic approach to its peripheral neighbors, Xi is reported to have said that China must improve the ability to safeguard maritime rights and interests, and resolutely safeguard our country's maritime right He went on to speak about safeguarding China's core interests" (Mcdevittl, 2014).

### Map of South China Sea



### **Political map of the South China Sea**

The map shows the South China Sea and the surrounding countries with international borders (nationsonline.org, 2017). The map display SCS that is situated in Southeast Asia and its nearest countries the side is South of China, east and south of Vietnam, west of the Philippines, and north of the island of Borneo. There is water surrounded through the east bank of the Malay Peninsula and the southern portion of the Gulf of Thailand. The sea area is larger than the area of India. It is attached via the Taiwan Strait with the East China Sea and through the Luzon Strait with the Philippine Sea. The SCS is connected with multiple states borders; there are Malaysia, Thailand Singapore, as well as East Malaysia, Brunei, and Indonesia on Kalimantan. There are many islands and the Paracel Islands, organized through China, The perfect Spratly Islands are demanded through Taiwan, Vietnam, and China. An interesting detail is that China has signed and ratified the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, while the US has signed but never ratified it. China claims that it is the region of China, but “in the worldwide panel in The Hague rejected China's statements in the South China Sea and ruled that China has no historical rights based on the nine-dash line map” (nationsonline.org, 2017).

### **The Sino-U.S Clash in the South China Sea**

China is the rising power it also increases its military accomplishments and rises influenced in western pacific and the South China Sea, China has good relations and long term policy with Southeast Asia. China also develop its economic growth, cultural relations, and diplomatic relations with Southeast Asia, but strategically not well as compare to Northeast Asia, as the United States' well-known superpower (Shulong, 2014). But China and U.S also showing huge interest in the region of the South China Sea, which creates tension between them till now also in the future that give new turns in China and U.S relations, that may be complicated or not, maybe solid or not. The US is also involved in the sovereignty issue of the South China Sea region against China. U.S has the main policy to deter China because the U.S also supports the Philippines in the SCS region depute between china and the Philippines.

### **India Policy in the South China Sea**

The South China Sea is the disputed land between multiple countries and China's statement about the SCS region is that its control in the water of SCS, but it was rejected in the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. The route has a lot of importance because world trade passes through from this region so that's why different states claim that control this region. India wants their presence in the SCS and United States wants the balance of power there. India has an economic connection with the region to East Asian countries and with the Pacific region. China claims that the historic line and nine dashes line that is the heart of SCS its links with China (Jawli, 2016). India has interest South China Sea because it involves its geopolitics, geo-strategy, and geo-economics. India never wants that China controls the water portion in the SCS region.

India's geopolitical interest is its geographical position in the South China Sea. India has good relations with U.S and Austria because the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific are connected. There was also an Indian navy that cooperated with the U.S and Japanese navies in the pacific region, China and India both are neighboring countries both are link with the South China Sea and Indian Ocean Sea both want their hegemony in water areas there are trade benefits because both are Asian giants. Although designation, the Indian Ocean not to India only. India and further nations can

correspondingly claim that the South China Sea make sure of not fit for China only (Jawli, 2016).

### **US-China-India in Indian Ocean Region**

The Indian Ocean Region is the most important region for trade, it has great significant resources and has a high geopolitical position, and IOR has importance for US, India, and China trilateral relations. This power shift of IOR has strategic importance for the uprising and influence and interactions between the U.S, China, and India. The Indian Ocean is the third biggest figure of water that is connected with the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, Australia, and South East Asia, the Atlantic, Pacific Ocean, and the Indian Ocean is the center of the world platform. East to the West has increased the energy politics and threats, the Indian Ocean, and the Western Pacific strategic heart of the world (Lou, 2012). The United States and India have democratic states; they have good relations in the current scenario because they have a main tussle with China. The power shift of the region between triangle U.S and India cooperation but China is the factor between them in IOR, the democratic peace theory give the different ideas like realistic politics in the region of Indian Ocean, and serious strategic politics in the region.

### **The Great Game in IOR**

There is a great game between different countries in the region of IOR China raising their military strength to counter the U.S presence so another side U.S and India has more cooperated to against China in Indian Ocean disputes because India worried about Chinese presence because of Chinese policies are strong towards every region like a string of pearls strategy. Three main participants in IOR like China, India, and the U.S, have a main interest there stability and security but individually (Lou, 2012). These three counties try to struggle for maritime power but the Chinese raise in maritime power as comparing other countries. So the U.S and India come to each other and become an alliance against China (Shah, Muzaffar, & Yaseen, 2020) There are many chances to cooperation between triangle and maintaining the peace and stability but no one compromise in any point because of every state her self-interest for their nations and power and security.

### **In the Indian Ocean Region China Competitive**

China has an interest in maritime areas and increases their influence like at IOR, China wants stability and security but two powers also involved in the region of Indian Ocean as India and U.S. China's primacy determination constantly remains arranged defending hers energy security welfares, through the technique of safeguarding the Gulf to the South China Sea. U.S and India want strategic gain in Indian Ocean Region. China might continue by her harmonious sea tactic, China wants the great space in IOR by the competition between the three countries the U.S, China, and India, and promoting the security in this region. U.S and India have a strong presence in IOR but Beijing seriously works on IOR for the energy influence in the current era because of its determinations for the economy, India is also a rising power like in politics and regional economy and maintains its strategic independence both China and India want their bilateral affairs to recover in IOR (Rajan, 2014). The present developments direct that the three highest authorities' sophisticated India, China, and the US - require their main concern by prospective on behalf of the clash. This could not stand encouraging to the establishment of local reconciliation and success, a dream of all apprehensive countries.

## China and India Strategy in IOR

From the strategic views, the Indian Ocean has huge importance for China trade and security, China faces the issue in Malacca Strait by the strategic pressure of the U.S and India (Jiacheng, 2017). In the 21<sup>st</sup> century Maritime Silk Road it's the project of China that why China needs for a good relation in the region of IOR and new development with the other states that present and situated near the Indian Ocean. China has a large involvement in the region and is also involved in politics, economic issues, and the influence military from a security perspective.

## The Indian Ocean Position

The Indian Ocean is the largest body area in the world; "it is situated between Africa on the west, Asia on the north, Australia on the east, and south by the Southern Ocean. The Ocean has four important waterways, including the Strait of Hormuz, Suez Canal, Strait of Malacca, and Bab el Mandeb. The Indian Ocean's northern coast is shared by Pakistan, Iran, Bangladesh, and India, while Sunda Island (Indonesia), Malay Peninsula, and Australia segment the eastern coast. It is bounded to the west by Africa and the Arabian Peninsula and south by Antarctica. By way of the connection between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea, the Strait of Malacca is the straight sea path between India and China and therefore is one of the greatest seriously moved transport stations in the world. The Indian Ocean is linked to the Atlantic Ocean in the southwest as Africa's southern tip. India, Australia, and Indonesia have the longest exclusive economic zones and shorelines"



Map showing the location of the Indian Ocean (Misachi, 2021).

## Sino India Relation during the Trump Era

Sino-U.S relations is not well during the US President Donald Trump, because president Trump behaves with China like a flexible that depends on his mood that is combination signs, constructing the actual improbability the Chinese administration is recognized to stand as opposed to, Sino and United States conflict depends on politics, economic, and military in world affairs. President Trump shapes the diplomatic tragedy between the relations between China and U.S, which reduces the maybe conflicts, Trump give also attention to Taiwan (Stanzel, 2017).



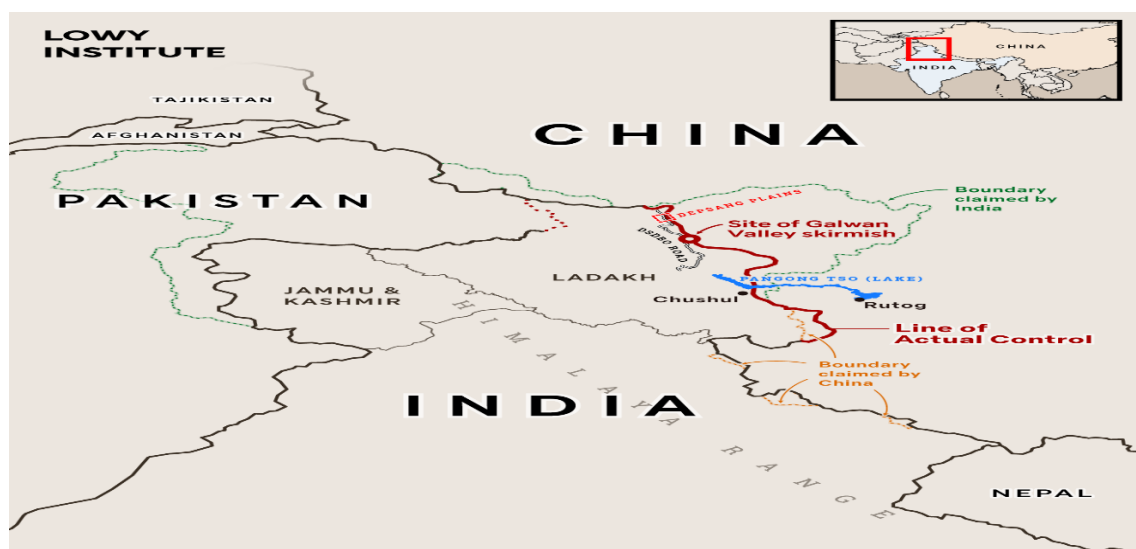
U.S-Indio relations during Trump era because US foreign policy is fair towards the partner like trade disparity and settlement issue, in Indio-Pacific region India in a strong position there is US trade with India and not any disturbance by Trump policies, Trump's transactional approach just the security policy (Parpiani, 2018). Indio-US relations just want the influence and challenges and greater engagements with other states and balance power all over the world and maintain their self-interest, security, and regional and international politics.

### In the Ladakh dispute the Opportunity for US-India Relations

As know that in the recent era the crisis in Ladakh start between China and India, it is also a border issue like Tibet, there is no good relation at this Ladakh point and Washington has good supporter to India and this crisis gave the good opportunity for Indio-US relations and also improve the strategic partnership between them. India-China has a boundary conflict in Ladakh that is a new turn and threat for China, India, and the US and their interest in the India-Pacific region (Kugelman, 2020). In-Line of Actual Control, Indio-Pacific and multi-issue and cooperation Washington and New Delhi alliance and supporter with each other and India also support U.S policy in Asia, and see-based cooperation, India and U.S increase their friendship bond against to China in everywhere. These two countries have a truly strategic partnership, shares arms, and technology, and have common security relations. In the current crisis of China and India that gave the chance to America's view about India, it is the right strategic partner of Washington like Japan and South Korea. In the current situation, Washington and India increase their security, and cooperation like the alliance.

In 2020 China Change many things in the Line of Actual Control in the Ladakh border that is under the control India, from both sides they stand strong position that is control by troops but their anger always come near to war, but in June there was a crisis start between the army that change something in Ladakh area, India looks new policies of China that is the permanent challenger. For India, the political connection is currently clear through aggression and mistrust, and the LAC determination stays further seriously armed and violence-prone (Tarapore, 2021). So there is an opportunity for the U.S that create a strong bonding between the relation of India and the U.S because the US supports India in the Ladakh crisis due to the presence in the Indio-Pacific region just because of India.

### Map of Ladakh Border



It shows the crisis location, "A skirmish in the Galwan Valley on 15 June 2020 left 20 Indian soldiers and an unknown number of Chinese soldiers dead, marking the first loss of life on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) since 1975" (Tarapore, 2021).

### **Conclusion**

In Sino-India relations many uprising due to different situations both are raising states in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and known as Asian giants because both are strong in Asian regions and Indio-Pacific, both have a common interest about their national interest and progress after independence they have good relation but after 1962 war there relation were complicated they become an alliance of different countries. After 9/11 change over the world policies particularly U.S policy strange toward the global era, U.S neediness balance of the power because its nature is realistic, it wants also command in Asia region and counter to China and control the China hegemony in the Asian countries, so the U.S create an alliance with India against to China in the South Asian region and water-based rout. India needs technology and other aid like energy and economy, so it has great bonding with the United States, and both good strategic partners in the global era, U.S help India in wars and border crises to against China as the main tussle between China and U.S because both are superpower both want their hegemony in see based areas, natural resources area, and energy areas. Therefore both have a common interest in their influence all over the world.

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