

Article

Pakistan and SCO: Challenges and prospects امکانات | BY Dr Muhammad Khan

THE 2022 annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was held from September 15-16 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan under the chairmanship of Uzbek President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The priorities ترجیحات outlined for the forum for next year one include: a) raising the potential and authority of SCO, b) making efforts for peace and stability in the region, c) reducing poverty by ensuring یقینی بنانے food security and availability of basic necessities ضرورت of life.

Besides, the intraregional trade and commerce will be promoted through elimination خاتمہ of trade barriers رکاوٹیں, aligning ترتیب کی technical regulations and digitalization of customs procedures.

These broad outline goals of the SCO Summit for year 2022-2023 is a welcoming step. Indeed, 22nd Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) took place at the most crucial اہم time of contemporary حاضر world.

It is the first summit after Russian attack on Ukraine and Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. The Declaration اعلامیہ of 22nd Summit of SCO called for greater cooperation among

member countries of SCO with **emphases** زور دینا against three **evils** برائیوں; the **extremism** انتہا پسندی, terrorism and **separatism** علیحدگی پسندی.

Among all SCO member states, Pakistan has the **distinction** بے مثال، غیر معمولی of playing an **unparalleled** امتیازی حیثیت، اعزاز role against all these evils.

On the side-lines of the summit Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif met with key heads of the member states; China, Russia, Iran, Turkey and host country.

From the forum of SCO Pakistan **emphasized** زور دیا cooperation that rejects **confrontation** تصادم and advances the **imperatives** بقائے باہمی of peaceful co-existence ضروریات at the regional and international level.

Indeed, peace is the most needed **aspect** پہلو for each state at regional level as well as at global level.

Today, SCO has almost half of the global population, 25 % of world's **GDP** and about 80% of **Eurasian landmass** براعظم یا زمین کا بڑا ٹکڑا.

By **virtue** فضیلت of its **geopolitical** location, Pakistan is in the **vicinity** گردونواح of world's major economies and emerging regional markets.

Besides, it occupies a strategic location **viz-a-viz** great powers and their strategic interests. Therefore, "Pakistan can utilize economic tools like trade, energy, and investment,

infrastructure development to further its geopolitical and geo-economic objectives in a **befitting** مناسب manner.

For Pakistan, the SCO is the most **vital** اہم cooperative forum. Through this forum, Pakistan can seek economic **assistance** مدد from major powers and regional states to **prosper** پھلنا، through trade and investment.

SCO, being an emerging security bloc, can prove greatly helpful for Pakistan in helping it from traditional and non-traditional security threats.

In order to establish international peace, Pakistan has played a great role by defeating terrorism.

Since SCO Charter is based on **enhancement** اضافہ of **comprehensive** وسیع cooperation among its member countries.

The organization further aims to **strengthen** بناانا peace by ensuring regional security and stability for **attaining** حاصل **multi-polarity** کرنا at political level and economic **prosperity** حاصل کرتے ہوئے **accruing** خوشحالی all the benefits of **globalization**.

Pakistan believes in peace and cooperative relationship with its neighbours. In this regard, it fits into the principal objective of SCO which calls for peace not the war and cooperation not the conflict.

There are many **commonalties** مشترکات in SCO Charter and the foreign policy of Pakistan. As one of its permanent members,

Pakistan has assumed a **crucial** اہم position for this forum.

Pakistani **visualization** تصور for SCO also outlined the **galvanization** محرک بنانا of Shanghai Spirit to strengthen the mandate of forum while reducing the 'risks of conflict, **fostering** فروغ دینا confidence, and promoting stability.

' In earlier summits of SCO Pakistan suggested regional trade in local currencies, which **boost** کرنا اضافہ the regionalism and economic prosperity.

For an efficient trade, there is a need for regional connectivity through development of infrastructure and cultural **affinity** وابستگی.

Food and health security is yet another area which Pakistan proposed for **enhancing** بڑھانا cooperation among SCO members.

Pakistan is facing worst economic crises especially **in the wake of** وجہ سے massive flooding in the country.

While outlining the opportunities for Pakistan as a member of SCO, there is a requirement to **quantify** شمار کرنا them as per the objectives and charter of the organization.

Pakistan has the opportunity to get the support of all SCO members in its **drive** مہم against the terrorism.

Rather, the SCO members are fully **cognizant** باخبر of the contribution and sacrifices, Pakistan has **rendered** دیے ہیں for

the global peace and security by **combating** یا کے خلاف جنگ terrorism. مقابله کرتے

Indeed, the SCO Charter **endorses** توثیق کرنا the vision of founding father of Pakistan and further provides a guideline for a value-added performance from the platform of SCO.

Since SCO aims at: strengthening mutual trust, friendship and good neighbourliness between the member States, so are foreign policy **objectives** مقاصد of Pakistan.

Currently, Pakistan is facing massive flooding which has **displaced** گھر کیا over 33 million people. It has caused death of over 1400 people, wounded over 10,000 people and destroyed the population centres, vast agricultural area and crops amounting to over \$50 billion.

SCO states must help Pakistan in the **rehabilitation** بحالی of flood affected areas. Besides, Pakistan is still facing **militancy** عسکریت پسندی and terrorism **sponsored** تعاون ہونا from Afghan soil.

It has **hostile** دشمن neighbourhood and facing security challenges from its neighbourhood **on account of** سبب کے its geopolitical location and **conflicting** متصادم interests of the major powers.

Besides, the unresolved Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan has kept the South Asian region in a state of war.

In order to **dislodge** ختم کرنا the CPEC, India is promoting separatism, extremism and terrorism in different parts of

Pakistan which is against the basic spirit of SCO.

Pakistan is not in favour of any arms race, but it desires other regional countries like India to cooperate for promotion of peace and regional **stability** استحکام in South Asia and broader SCO region.

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Arrests in Kashmir

Editorial

India began a new wave of **oppression** جبر، ظلم on the Muslim population of Kashmir, arresting or **detaining** حراست میں لینا several Islamic scholars based around the occupied **territory** علاقہ. Kashmiri leaders in AJK **condemned** مذمت کی the move and said it was another attack on Kashmiri people's freedom, adding that there is already no freedom of expression in the region, where **activists** کارکنان and journalists are regularly arrested and disappeared. Other leaders point specifically to New Delhi's **seizure** قبضہ of control of the **Waqf boards**, saying the BJP wants to **forcibly** زبردستی **seize** ضبط کرنا and occupy **prominent** نمایاں religious sites and Waqf board properties, and arresting the religious leaders was **intended** ارادہ رکھنا to **preempt** سے کارروائی کرنا organised protests against this

eventuality امکان.

Critics ناقدين have already noted that the only reason the Indian government wants to take control of religious sites is to close them as a means to change the Muslim identity of Kashmir. Already, New Delhi has been illegally **colonising** Kashmir by **violating** کرتے خلاف international agreements by moving non-Kashmiris into the illegally occupied territory as a way to change the **demographics** خصوصیات آبادی and reduce the **influence** اثرورسوخ of the local Muslim population. This may also be why, despite there being many jails and other places around the Kashmir valley where activists and freedom fighters have been tortured over the years, India has instead chosen to throw most of the religious leaders in Jammu jail, reducing the chance of them being able to contact the outside world.

It may also be more than a **coincidence** اتفاق that the arrests came just a day before the UN General Assembly session was to begin – New Delhi would not want protests and state violence in occupied Kashmir to be making headlines during the meeting of world leaders. However, people have not **taken this lying down**, and have been protesting and appealing for the world to take notice and stop New Delhi's **oppressive** ظالمانہ **tactics** حرے، حکمت عملی. Unfortunately, India's geostrategic importance for countries that regard China as a **rival** حریف means that none of the Western powers, which claim to put human rights above all else, would ever raise a finger to stop New Delhi

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The **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation** is a Eurasian political, economic and security organization. In terms of geographic scope and population, it is the world's largest regional organization, covering approximately 60% of the area of Eurasia, 40% of the world population, and more than 30% of global GDP

Intra-regional trade refers to the exchange of goods and services between countries located in the same geographic region. With growing trade, regions become increasingly economically integrated.

Gross domestic product (**GDP**) is the total monetary or market value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period. As a broad measure of overall domestic production, it functions as a comprehensive scorecard of a given country's economic health

Eurasia is the largest continental area on Earth, comprising all of Europe and Asia. Primarily in the Northern and Eastern Hemispheres, it spans from the British Isles and the Iberian Peninsula in the west to the Japanese archipelago and the Russian Far East in the east.

geopolitical
adjective

relating to politics, especially international relations, as

influenced by geographical factors

vis-à-vis

- 1: in relation to
- 2: as compared with
- 3: face-to-face with

Multipolarity is a distribution of power in which more than two nation-states have nearly equal amounts of power.

globalization

noun

the process by which businesses or other organizations develop international influence or start operating on an international scale

A **waqf** (Arabic: وَاقِف; ['waqf]), also known

as hubous (حُبوس) or mortmain property is

an inalienable charitable endowment under Islamic law. It typically involves donating a building, plot of land or other assets for Muslim religious or charitable purposes with no intention of reclaiming the assets. A charitable trust may hold the donated assets. The person making such dedication is known as a waqif (a donor). In Ottoman Turkish law, and later under the British Mandate of Palestine, a waqf was defined as usufruct state land (or property) from which the state revenues are assured to pious foundations. Although the waqf system depended on several hadiths and presented

elements similar to practices from pre-Islamic cultures, it seems that the specific full-fledged Islamic legal form of endowment called waqf dates from the 9th century AD

colonize

verb

gerund or present participle: colonizing

send settlers to (a place) and establish political control over it.

"the Greeks colonized Sicily and southern Italy

The **United Nations General Assembly** is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, serving as the main deliberative, policymaking, and representative organ of the UN. Currently in its 77th session, its powers, composition, functions, and procedures are set out in Chapter IV of the United Nations Charter.

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Founded: 1945

Take (something) lying down

to accept (something bad, such as an insult or unfair treatment) without trying to fight against it He vowed that he would not take the court's decision lying down

Today's words Synonyms

vicinity (noun): nearness; closeness; proximity.

galvanize (verb): motivate; stimulate; energize.

dislodge (verb): remove; displace; shift.

cognizant (adjective): aware; conscious; abreast.

revocation (noun): abrogation, cancellation, repeal.

contravention (noun): breach; violation; infringement.

dogma (noun): teaching; belief; conviction.

align(verb): place; position; dispos

alienate (verb): detach; isolate; divide.

Today's Vocabulary and their Use

affinity وابستگی یا تعلق : he had a special affinity with horses.

galvanize متحرک کرنا : the urgency of his voice galvanized them into action.

endorse توٲٲق كرنا : the report was endorsed by the college.

foster فرورر دٲنا : the teacher's task is to foster learning.

lenient نرم - رحمدل : in the view of the Court the sentence was too lenient.