

# The Geopolitics Shift in Asia and its Impact on Pakistan

## Outline

### I Introduction

#### Thesis Statement:

The geopolitical shift in Asia has always attracted the attention of major powers and has brought security implications for Pakistan. For most of the time, instead of using its pivotal geopolitical position for its advantage, it has been played to the disadvantage of Pakistan on many accounts. However, Pakistan could get maximum benefits by diversifying its foreign policy.

### II Manifestations of Geopolitical Shift in Asia:

A) Rise of China and its strategic expansion in Asia

B) Emergence of India with help of the US as a regional power

C) Increase in the role of the US to counter China and Russia in the region

D) Enlargement of the Russian engagement due to strain relations with the West

IV

E) ~~The~~ return of the Taliban in Afghanistan altered the geopolitical landscape in South Asia

### III The Impacts of Geopolitical Shift On Pakistan:

A) Growing strategic relations between India and US imbalances power in South Asia

B) Increasing security risks from Kabul due to neglect of major powers

C) Burgeoning China-US competition brings political implications for Pakistan at global level

D) Challenges to CPEC and foreign investment ~~Chinese~~ due to bloc politics

E) Balancing relationship between isolated neighbours and major powers

## IV The Wayforward to Reduce the Impacts of Geopolitics on Pakistan:

- A) Bringing political stability through consensus of all political parties and stakeholders
- B) Concentrating on economic uplift of the country by mobilising domestic resources
- C) Devising a dynamic foreign policy without biases and ambiguous alliance system
- D) Maintaining good relations with neighbours and resolving issues diplomatically
- E) Countering the ~~rise~~ hegemonic motives of the India and the security risks from Afghanistan involving global powers

## V Conclusion

With the rise of the China and the resurgence of the Russia, the world has moved to a new power competition. The two super powers, China and United States, are contenders for their hegemony in Asia. On one hand, US is trying to maintain decades-old supremacy in the region, while on the other hand, China is trying to build partnership with states to increase her influence. This strategic competition between the two giants has placed many middle powers of the Asia in tight spot to choose between them - Pakistan, since its inception a middle power in Asia due to its vital geostrategic location. In current era, the geopolitics shift has changed the dynamics of politics with the rise of China in the region. The emergence of China as an economic power has ~~also~~ increased the interest of the US in Asia. For this, US has made alliances with

with India and other Asian states to counter China and Russia's role in the region. The shift in the foreign policies of middle and great powers has a direct impact on Pakistan. Like the abrupt withdrawal of the US and its allies from the Kabul was increased security risks. Besides, the hegemonic motives of the India in the region has also posed a challenge to Pakistan's national interests in the region. Further, Pakistan's economy faces significant challenges due to bloc politics in the region. However, these impacts of geopolitics can be mitigated by strengthening Pakistan's economy and bringing political stability. In fact, geopolitical shift in Asia has always attracted major powers for competition and unfortunately Pakistan could not attain maximum benefits but it has proved as a curse for her. However, this time Pakistan could protect its national interest by pragmatic measures.