



Q: In the backdrop of the recent SCO Summit, analyze China's global outlook and its implications for Pakistan and ~~India~~ and region.

Introduction:

The recent SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, reasserts China's growing capacity to lead Eurasian leadership in the ongoing multipolarization of the world. The weakening of western-led liberal order has provided the opportunity, ~~which~~ China has long awaited, for its capacity to lead has merely increased with time. China's contemporary global outlook and understanding has evolved from Deng Xiaoping's low-profile diplomacy to Xi Jinping's striving for achievement. China's global ambitions are based upon mutual respect for sovereignty, security, and independence. The post-2020 global initiatives in pursuit of global governance within development, security, and civilization, make China's global ambitions clear. Moreover, BRI, AIIB, SCO, BRICS, all run parallel to US-dominated multilateral institutions, demonstrating that China is no longer a passive but active asserter. Besides, before global leadership, China pursues hegemonic ambitions within its region. For Pakistan, which is China's all-weather strategic ally, it would only

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provide more strategic importance, security assurances and increased geo-political profile. While for India, which itself pursues to dominate Indian Ocean, would face a zero-sum game dilemma.

A- SCO Summit reasserts China's growing potential to lead in the ongoing multipolarization.

Xijinying during the summit stressed about an equal and orderly multipolarization of the world, directly threatening the US-dominated exclusive world order. SCO itself constitutes one quarter of the global GDP and 42% of the global population. The sheer size and importance of SCO substantiate the influence that China holds in Eurasia and global South.

B- Evolution of the Chinese global outlook: from peaceful rise to striving for achievement

(i) Deng Xiaoping's low profile diplomacy:

Deng Xiaoping opened and reformed China's economic and political outlook. He asserted, "Hide your strength, bide your time." He believed that China must not engage in costly conflicts rather focus and concentrate its resources on internal development and maintain low profile.

ii) Xi Jinping's striving for achievement in post-2010 era:

Once China achieved adequate economic and military power, Xi Jinping asserted that China must no longer hide its light and strive for what it deserves. Instead of taking assertive and aggressive anti-US stance, China initially advocated for co-management of world affairs. Xi Jinping proposed a new model for major country relations to US, in 2012 during Obama administration.

c. China's contemporary global outlook is based upon mutual respect for sovereignty and security in the multipolarization of the world.

China believes in indivisible security and advocates for a multipolar world. US-dominated institutions must be replaced and a more inclusive infrastructure must be built. China is a staunch supporter of absolute sovereignty and non-interference. It advocates for cultural diversity and bloc-free politics. The Global initiatives for security, development, and civilization are the major pillars of China's global outlook.



low profile politics

peaceful rise

striving for achievement

China's Global outlook

Global initiatives

- GDI (2021)
- GSI (2022)
- GCI (2023)

parallel institutions

- BRI
- AIIB
- SCO
- BRICS



0. Implications of China's pursuit of regional hegemony in South Asia

China strives for a global leadership in an ongoing multipolarization. It would merely establish itself as one without having ~~the~~ hegemonic influence within the region. Except Pakistan, China has border issues with almost all the neighbours of its South Asian region. It claims sovereignty in South China Sea, too. Such a provision state of affairs has implications on India, a major contender of balancing China in the region, and Pakistan, China's strategic ally.

E- China's global ambitions and its capacity to sustain them favours Pakistan's geo-political and geo-economic profile

(i) Pakistan's geo-political location would take major boost:

Pakistan's proximity to China, a global leader in a multipolar world, would definitely attract global diplomatic, political and strategic importance. Besides, Pakistan's long-term strategic relations with China itself would ensure its long-term security and peace at the borders.

ii) Pakistan would rise geo-economically:

Pakistan's

economic relations with China through CPEC and other flagship projects would further dividends once more countries are connected. China's position would favor Pakistan economically.

iii) Pakistan would benefit from its increased strategic importance culturally and diplomatically:

A strong relations with China would increase Pakistan's soft power culturally and diplomatically at global forums. Pakistan's foreign policy would benefit from a major boost.

Conclusion:

Geo summit in Tienjin produced several visuals of changing global leadership. The multipolarization as stressed by Xijnping during the summit is ongoing and China holds capacity to lead a multipolar world order. China's global outlook has evolved ~~with~~ from Dengxiaoping's passive outlook to Xijnping's calculated assertiveness to achieve what China deserves. The new model of major countries relationship (2012-2015) was initially advocated but was not well received. China pushed for parallel initiatives and global initiatives. It has implications in favor for Pakistan, while not so bright for other countries.