

Significance of Gwadar port with reference to Strategic and Economic Perspective

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**Significance of Gwadar port with reference to Strategic and
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Gwadar port is the third important international port in Pakistan after Karachi and Qasim ports. It is located at the junction of Central Asia, South Asia and Persian Gulf, ideally positioned to be the hub of transit trade. Realizing this fact China and Pakistan signed project for development of Gwadar port. Pakistan would be able to explore natural resources like minerals, oil, gas and hydrocarbons of Central Asian States. The project would be helpful to set up special Economic Zones (SEZ) in Balochistan that increase job opportunities and commercial activities in province of Balochistan. Trade through Gwadar port would not only helpful to reduce time duration but also less logistic costs especially Chinese trade with Africa and Middle East. Being a comprehensively development program, it entails the linking of Gwadar port to China's north-western region of Xinjiang through highways, railways, oil and gas pipelines.

The research conceptualizes the Gwadar as a hub port that will contribute significantly to the revival of Pakistan's economy. Gwadar port will provide strategic dominance to Pakistan as port is so far from Indian reach as compared to other two Pakistani ports. India is using all tactics to counter development of Gwadar port presently India investing large amount in Iranian Chabahar port. The United States and India are likely to view Chinese involvement in the Gwadar port project with Suspicion because Gwadar port is to be used by the Chinese People's liberation Army for defence purposes, it would be a matter of great concern for all regional players.

Abbreviation

AEWS	Air borne early warning system
BOOT	Build own operates and Transfer
BOW	Build operate Own
CAF	Civil Armed Force
CCCC	China Communication Construction Company
COPHCL	China overseas Port Holding Company Ltd
CPPB	China Pipeline petroleum Bureau
CRBC	China Road and Bridge Corporation
ETIM	East Turkestan Islamic Movement
EU	Europe union
GIE	Gwadar Industrial Estate
GWOT	Global War on Terrorism
SCO	Shanghai Corporation Organization
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SID	Special Industrial Development
SLOC	Sea Lanes of Communication
TZHESC	Tianjin Zhongbei Harbour engineering supervision Corporation
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LRMPA	Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft
MMCFD	Million Cubic feet per day
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NDRC	National Development and Reform commission
NHA	National Highway Authority
OBOR	One Belt and One Road
PLS	People's Liberation Army

PMSA	Pakistan Maritime Security Agency
RAPF	Riverine Amphibious Police Force
RCD	Regional Cooperation development
REAP	Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan
UAVs	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
VLS	Vertical Launch System
XUAR	Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	01
2. Statement of Problem	02
3. Objective of study	03
4. Hypothesis	04
5. Research Question	04
6. Theoretical Framework	05
7. Research Methodology	07
CHAPTER # 01	08
1. Brief History of Gawadar	09
2. Gawadar deep sea construction plan	15
3. TAPI and IPI	17
4. Gawadar-Nawabshah gas pipeline under IPI pipeline project	19
5. Impact of trade and ports in building national economy	21
6. Pak-china corporation	21
7. Inauguration	22
8. Economic development prospective	23
9. Challenges	25
CHAPTER # 02	27
1. Strategic significance of Gawadar port	30
2. Strait of hormuz	33
3. India is concern over CPEC	34
4. India policy toward Afghanistan	34
5. India plans to develop chabahar port	35
6. China plans to develop Gawadar port	36
7. Military advantages of Gawadar port	40
8. China is approach towards Indian Ocean	42
9. The role of Pakistan navy	43
10. Military threats	45
11. Bandar Abbas and chabahar port of Iran	46
12. Port Salah Oman	46
13. Domestic port: Karachi and Qasim port	47
14. Dubai port	47
CHAPTER # 3	50

1. Economic significance of Gawadar port	51
2. International airport of Gawadar	52
3. Road infrastructure	53
4. Central alignment	54
5. Road network	54
6. Karaka ram highway	56
7. Railway infrastructure	57
8. Pak-china friendship hospital	58
9. Essential requirement of water and its proper supply	59
10. Energy project	59
11. Bilateral trade	60
CHAPTER # 04	71
1. The impact of CPEC on Gawadar	72
2. Threats of CPEC in Gawadar	79
3. Special security division	85
4. Task force-88	86
5. Conclusion	88
6. Recommendation	90
7. BIBLIOGRAPHY	92
8. Journals	93
9. Articles	94

Lists of Maps

S.No.	Title	Page
1	Map-1	18

2	Map-2	19
3	Map-3	20
4	Map-4	28
5	Map-5	29

