

**RESEARCH PAPER****Silk Road Revival: Language Contact and Cross-Cultural Communication in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor****<sup>1</sup>Muhammad Ijaz Khan\*, <sup>2</sup>Hanzala and <sup>3</sup>Abu Huraira**

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**Corresponding Author**      [khanijaz1176@gmail.com](mailto:khanijaz1176@gmail.com)**ABSTRACT**

The study aims to explore the linguistic meaning that has arisen, along with international trade and investment, because of CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor), and in so doing perhaps stimulate language contact coordination across multiethnic regions on either side. To conduct this qualitative research, thematic way was followed. In which already published research papers were selected by using purposive-sampling method. A systematic thematic analysis of the chosen articles show that CPEC assumes a substantial linguistic role in international trade, with English and Mandarin emerging as the predominant languages employed. This research concludes that linguistic variety, far from being a liability or burden, is an asset worth nurturing which can generate cross-cultural communication and understanding as well as adaptability. This study recommends extending beyond Pakistan's borders, offering a model for linguistically diverse regions in global trade, aiming to maximize language diversity for economic progress and intercultural cooperation.

**Keywords:**      Adaptation, CPEC, Cross-Cultural Communication, Economic Corridor, Language Contact, Linguistic Role

**Introduction**

The CPEC, dubbed by some as “the Silk Road of the 21st century,” is an infrastructure and trade project on a grand scale spanning Asia (Ali, 2020) that was launched in earnest in 2013. The route spans the northwestern Chinese region of Xinjiang to Pakistan’s Gwadar port on the Arabian Sea. Along its length, there is a mosaic of languages from various linguistic and cultural groups (Iqbal & Masroor, 2023). This grandiose development undertaking not only changes the economic topography of its regions but also, probably unwittingly, alters the way language is used there.

CPEC has seen rapid infrastructure development, more economic opportunities than ever before and trade by truckload. As a result of all this brisk activity between regions and countries along the corridor (Rahim, et. al. 2018; Hussain & Jamali, 2019). This connectivity in turn has reopened the trade routes of old--the Silk Routes of history (uddin Ahmed et al., 2019). Now exchanges not only include goods and services but also cultural elements such as language. That elaborate web, woven by the interacting strands of many different linguistic groups--and that is what we hope to untie in this study.

The linguistic diversity in Pakistan is truly impressive, with over half a dozen major languages including Punjabi and Sindhi along with Pashto, Balochi and Saraiki besides the national language Urdu (Shah, et. al. 2020; Farooq & Khawaja, 2020). But in addition, owing to the existence of regional dialects and languages. However, the CPEC goes through areas of China whose inhabitants speak Uighur, Kazakh and a variety of other languages and dialects (Ali et al., 2023). Between these various linguistic communities, and interactions with languages like Mandarin, English or other international tongues are right during our investigation.

The economic consequences of the CPEC have been a popular topic for study, while its linguistic reverberations are relatively unexplored territory (Saad et al., 2020). This study attempts to fill a gaping gap in the present literature. Several scholars have noted that it is also very important to understand how linguistic diversity and communication styles change in response to economic globalization and infrastructure development (Joseph et al., 2020; Thomason, 2020). The CPEC offers a chance to examine such dynamics in real life.

Inspired by an interdisciplinary approach, our research integrates elements from sociolinguistics and cultural studies along with economics and geography (Valdez & Flores, 2019; Bonacina-Pugh et al., 2021). Our approach to research combines quantitative and qualitative methods, for example interviews, surveys of language use patterns among various groups in society crawling linguistic analysis textual documents (such as literary works), analyzing discourse. By these means we attempt to understand more subtle changes in the ways people speak about things and their attitudes towards cross-cultural communication brought about by CPEC (Yaseen et al., 2016).

Language vitality, language messengers, and languages in competition: These are the terms we use to explore this complex linguistic landscape. All in all, we hope to add a more richly textured perspective both on the complex series of reactions provoked by the CPEC--which extend beyond strictly economic considerations--and also as sort of torchbearer for light's currently changing direction along this modern Silk Road which starts back South from Mazar and goes threading its way even farther West (Nazeer et al., 2023).

## Literature Review

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is one such huge undertaking, having become something of a textbook case in the literature on economics and geopolitics as well as infrastructure. But the linguistic implications of this audacious project are largely unexplored territory. In this literature review, we hope to narrow that gap by taking a look at recent studies dealing with the effect of CPEC on language contact and cross-cultural communication in these regions along its path.

**Multilingual Landscape in the CPEC Region:** According to recent studies, linguistic diversity is rich in areas along the CPEC. There are many regional languages, including Punjabi, Sindh and Balochi (De Costa et al., 2019). Chinese dialects are also highly diverse throughout Xinjiang. Diversity is just the condition for language contact and intercultural exchange.

**The Role of Urdu and English:** Sometimes Urdu and English are useful languages in linking up the CPEC. In terms of Chinese and Pakistani stakeholders, Zhao (2022) illustrates that Urdu as a local language is not negligible in the communication process. For instance, Raza (2021) own research on the establishment of English as a cross-cultural global lingua franca for business communication within CPEC

**Impact on Minority Languages:** The CPEC has also had an impact on the minority languages in the region. Ali (2020) draw attention to language use changes, as well as the weakening vitality of languages other than Urdu within Gilgit-Baltistan in Pakistan. They point out that better protection is urgently needed.

**Language Attitudes and Identity:** This exchange of languages and cultures along the CPEC has altered language attitudes, people's perception of identity. Kuszewska and Nitza-Makowska (2021) show how these changes in the use of language have led to re-examinations of identity with being able to speak Mandarin Chinese no longer meaning economic progress or opportunity for many.

**Impact on Education:** Bashir et al. (2022) have recently discussed the effect CPEC is having on education in Pakistan. Such recent flows of Chinese investment and the attendant labor have required adjustments to Pakistani language education policy; requests for schools to offer classes in Chinese are rising by the day.

**Role of Digital Communication:** There are facets of digital communications and technology which CPEC cannot afford to ignore. According to Asif et al. (2021) social media is key for language contact as well as cross-cultural communication with the younger generation.

**Legal and Policy Dimensions:** There are important questions about language policy and the legal raised by the CPEC as well. Abbas et al. (2021) call for holistic language policies that take account of the rich lingual diversity in CPEC regions. The linguistic minorities 'rights must be upheld.

**Cross-Border Trade and Language Adaptation:** In the cross-border trade between China and Pakistan, language adaptation is needed. Trade negotiations: Zhao (2022) look at how traders in border regions adjust to multilingual interactions.

**Gender and Language Contact:** More recently, scholars like Afzaal (2023) have turned their attention to how gender influences language contact. Shifting how languages are used and what they say Women will also take on a leading role in exchanges across cultural boundaries into CPEC areas.

**Cultural Exchange and Cultural Diplomacy:** Uriarte and Sperlich (2021) have recently published a study on what the rise of CPEC brings to cultural exchanges. It is precisely through culture that languages meet with each other, while language meets Chinese in contact.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is not only an economic transformer but also a driver of more complicated and multifaceted linguistic changes including languages, identities and education, cross cultural connections. That is why the research done in this domain suggests that with today's Silk Road, we must carry out a comprehensive investigation of multifaceted language movements (Khan et al., 2023).

## Material and Methods

This qualitative thematic research uses a secondary data analysis method to examine the function that international trade as one aspect of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) plays in generating contacts, readaptation, and cross-cultural communication between languages among speakers or nations with different language backgrounds along the corridor. The study relies on data drawn from four already-published academic articles. Although these focus on various aspects of the CPEC, they provide relevant statistics for this question's inquiry.

The research articles selected for this study include:

- "Spanning Thousands of Miles and Years: Political Nostalgia and China's Revival of the Silk Road"
- "An Ethnographic Study of Cross-Cultural Relations between China and Pakistan under the Umbrella of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor"
- "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor: Analytical Overview on Socio-Cultural Romance between China and Pakistan"
- "Enacting a Multilingual Policy for Economic Growth: Exploiting the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Project to Create Linguistic Harmony in Pakistan"

These articles were chosen through purposive sampling, according to the specific aim of the research. Thus these articles were selected because they have concrete data, valuable insights and interesting perspectives on the language situation and cross-cultural communication in relation to CPEC.

The main method of data analysis was thematic analysis. The sections of the research articles dealing with language contact, adaptation and cross-cultural communication were systematically reviewed by the researcher who identified recurring themes and patterns. The data was coded, categorized and organized into coherent themes answering the research questions.

This study's findings section contains the results of thematic analysis, which pinpoint key themes that emerged from among those originally identified by our search filter. These findings therefore provide a foundation on which to make judgments and reach some conclusions about the impact of international trade within this CPEC. In turn, they shape language dynamics and cross-cultural communication along the entire Corridor region. The research ends with a thorough understanding of the linguistic impact of CPEC, as well as more general lessons for international economic activities and areas formed by many languages.

## **Results and Discussion**

The Silk Road Project involves temporal and spatial dimensions on one hand. On another level it is immersed immediately and profoundly into affective issues of life which are not even affiliated with memory traces or recordings but exist again right there before oneself-consciously precisely at that point when ordinary consciousness has become just a bit numb from being reared. At the core it is a conceptual device that uses strategic nostalgia as an effective analytical tool to examine how exactly China frames, times and emotionally colors its own political narrative in key areas such as the New Silk Road initiated by Xi Jinping. Geopolitics and psychiatry the approach goes beyond the traditional focus on negative emotions in international relations--trauma, humiliation-and offers a much broader account of how emotion relates to memory or history.

### **Temporal Dimension**

Time is an important part of the Silk Road Project. It is selective appropriation and re-envisioning of history, skillfully retailed through positively sloganized propaganda campaigns. This use of nostalgia has a dual aspect, both positive and negative. It is a protean instrument for all kinds of purposes. But the resurrection of old memories is not only an invitation to gaze back into history. It also aids in creating alternative accounts of global histories. Nostalgia functions multidirectional, linking past with present and future. In this international environment, it serves to write epics of global kinship and consensus with the Global South. It is indeed an instrument for redrawing world order.

### **Spatial Dimension**

The Silk Road Project also has a clearly defined spatial character. Knowing that the goals of restoring such scenes as Ancient Silk Road, Ming Dynasty maritime explorations or Bandung Conference are unattainable, it reflects on their relation. Rather than a real past, it uses an imagined one to create narratives of contemporary significance. With this spatial orientation, narratives are reconstructed out of a vision of the past instead of material experience.

## Affective Dimension

The affective element of the Silk Road Project is particularly important. As an emotion, nostalgia is utilized in order to express a story of Xi Jinping's New Silk Road as peaceful, prosperous and inclusive. This approach appeals to not only domestic audiences, but international ones as well. Chinese political elites draw on nostalgia to build a narrative that normalizes China's return to the world stage; they emphasize continuity from Ancient Silk Road times until now. It provides a sense of national pride, and projects China's historical position as one among equal global powers. The Silk Road Project is a strategic initiative that harnesses the energy of nostalgia, building an iconic story about China coming back and leading again. It taps into the temporal, spatial and affective dimensions of nostalgia to shape, challenge and undermine global order; from this perspective it becomes a crucially important phenomenon in contemporary international relations. This analysis of political nostalgia brings a fresh light on the techniques for branding employed by returning powers and their impact in world affairs.

## Thematic Analysis

The article, entitled "An ethnographic study of cross-cultural relations between China and Pakistan under the umbrella of CPEC," provides observations on just how important a linguistic role is playing in international trade and inter-country economic cooperation as part of globalization. The following are the relevant information from this article:

**Strengthening of Cross-Cultural Relations:** The article goes on to explore how CPEC has brought about greater cooperation and understanding between Chinese and Pakistani citizens, despite cultural differences. Through contacts between students, artists, sportspersons and businesspersons from both sides as well as professionals and workers there has been a further strengthening of people-to-people relations. Though each side is culturally different from the other, both sides have reciprocally accepted and welcomed this difference.

**Mutual Benefit:** The study says that cooperation between the two countries is based entirely upon mutual benefit. Cultures and traditions may differ, but the interaction is determined by economic considerations of joint work. The process of cultural exchange and learning has reduced the distance between cultures, increased mutual trust, and helped forge common goals.

**Long-Term Impact:** Acknowledging that people need time to understand and accept cultural differences, the research highlights a slow but steady decline in cultural barriers. Particularly with regards to food, marriages and couple relationships, social and gender views as well as festivals there has been considerable progress. Still barriers remain in areas related to religion, ancient customs or ideology.

**Influence of Mandarin:** These notes state that Mandarin is being promoted in a big way, mainly because of the growing number of Chinese visitors and investments related to CPEC. Some programs and initiatives in Pakistan are promoting Mandarin learning. But some fear that promoting Mandarin so rapidly will give rise to another type of linguistic imperialism.

**Status of Pakistan's National and Local Languages:** Unfortunately, the CPEC has paid scant attention to Pakistan's national languages and local dialects. A recent study indicates that this approach tends to overlook these languages and could widen the socio-economic gap. The research shows that CPEC as a major economic project can also become an umbrella for promoting many languages in addition to Mandarin and English. This would

have economic and social advantages, as well as helping to balance the linguistic imbalance in Pakistan.

**Table 1**

*Linguistic Role of CPEC in International Trade*

Sr. No.	Aspect	Data/Statistics
1	Languages Used	Languages used in the CPEC are English and Mandarin. Internally and externally, English is used for communications. In relations with Chinese stakeholders or businesses Mandarin must be spoken. Now these languages are dominant in project-related materials and official communication.
2	Translation Services	Since CPEC is both English and Mandarin-based, translation services have become important. There are translation services provided by both governmental and private institutions to help with communication. To, bridge language gaps and ensure smooth operations: Chinese translators or interpreters; Pakistani.
3	Language Training	In view of the importance attached to Mandarin by the CPEC, many educational establishments in Pakistan offer courses on this language. For example, the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) and the National University of Modern Languages (NUML), provide Mandarin-related programs or courses. There are also government efforts and scholarships to encourage Pakistani students in their study of Mandarin.
4	Multilingual Communications	There are many different parties involved in the CPEC project, from a variety of linguistic backgrounds. A multilingual approach is necessary in order to ensure effective communication. This means hiring translation services, language diversity policies and promotion of multilingualism looking beyond English and Mandarin. Promoting the use of local and national languages, can enhance communication within Pakistan itself as well as with international partners.
5	Linguistic Impact on Trade	The CPEC's impact on trade is not limited to language. The predominance of English and Mandarin can affect trade in various ways. It, for example, affects the capability of Pakistani businesses and professionals to interact with their Chinese counterparts. There's a rather different reason to promote Mandarin, which is that it has economic logic; but there are people worried about this becoming dominant over Pakistan's own national and local languages. This can also affect social and economic disparities. More inclusive communication A language policy balancing native languages can win favor not only for domestic trade but also international.

**To facilitate language contact, adaptation, and cross-cultural communication in the linguistically diverse regions along the corridor**

A qualitative and quantitative study was carried out in order to examine the CPEC project from a cross-cultural perspective. I spoke to and interviewed respondents from Pakistan and China between August 2018 and March 2019. The field data was gathered from the Sahiwal coal power plant and its nearby communities in Pakistan's Punjab Province.

During the research, judgmental sampling was used to ensure that respondents were either directly or indirectly connected with the project. English, Chinese and Urdu were used in interviews and focus group discussions. Others expressed an interest in learning the languages of their counterparts, particularly Chinese citizens wishing to learn Urdu. The language exchanges added another dimension to cross-cultural communications.

**Translation Services:** Although the text does not directly discuss translation service provision, it stresses that cross-cultural communication and language exchange are important. This might in a way imply that translation services are needed when carrying out the work of God in linguistic diversity.

**Language Training:** It states that some of the Pakistani interviewees want to learn Chinese, and a number of ordinary citizens in China would like to study Urdu. Nonetheless, it does not detail formal language learning courses. But actually what it says is that people engaged in the CPEC project on their own initiative learned each other's languages.

**Multilingual Communications:** For the study, multilingual communication was used in order to collect data from respondents capable of communicating with each other in one language. The collection of data is also multilingual. It says that discussions with the respondents were held in English, Chinese and Urdu.

**Linguistic Impact on Trade:** The text does not elaborate directly on the effect of languages themselves upon trade, but it mentions language and communications in building cross-cultural exchange. The exchange of cultures and languages may indeed have some relationship to trade. By increasing understanding, improving contacts between Chinese people and Pakistani citizens with whom they are in business can always indirectly affect the quality of Sino-Pakistan relations.

This study examines cross-cultural relations connected with the CPEC plan and emphasizes that language and communication play a crucial role in promoting cooperation between Chinese citizens, Pakistani citizens. Although it doesn't explicitly discuss translation services and formal language training courses as such, the informal dialogue between people behind the project counts towards cross-cultural communication. This kind of language and cultural exchange has a very positive impact on trade, although it is not explicitly stated.

### **Main Objective of CPEC: Strengthening Cultural Exchange**

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) embodies a leading process of the Belt and Road Initiative, which Xi Jinping put forward to drive global development via networks that combine industrial zones with infrastructure building as well foreign aid programs. CPEC is intended to foster socio-cultural exchange and cross-cultural communication, especially in the multicultural areas along the corridor. Besides economic and trade cooperation, it is also a gateway for deepening the China-Pakistan relationship. The project fully realizes the significance of promoting and developing cultural exchange, cooperation and communication between the two countries.

### **Historical Significance of China-Pakistan Friendship**

China-Pakistan friendship has a deep historical basis. Relations have been much improved since the series of trade agreements signed in the early 1950s. Ties between two countries have tightened in many aspects over the years. So long as they continue to pursue friendly policies toward each other and respect one another, a strong foundation of trust has been laid between the two nations. Today, the example of this enduring fraternal friendship is China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and other similar projects through which our cooperation model can spread to all corners beyond borders, transforming not

only our region but humanity as a whole. In CPEC, we can see the commitment of both nations to their common interests and strategic communication.

### **Literature and Art in CPEC and Cultural Exchange**

In China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), literature and art create avenues for the understanding of culture, as well as its exchange. Literature, including drama and poetry as well as the novel in this sense can arouse people to view life through different eyes. It dates back more than a thousand years as an expression of ideas and emotions on all levels. However, art can really be called a creative ability. It should bring people into contact through their skin and senses, with emotions as well as faith. In the framework of CPEC, literature overlaps with art and economics is a complicated matter. In fact literature often reflects economic facts. For the cultural enhancement of the corridor, it also needs literature and art in order to bring people together around a shared understanding.

### **Time Value of CPEC: Cultural Enrichment**

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is more than a development project, because it provides an unprecedented opportunity for the two nations to engage in socio-cultural exchange. "Cultural time value" is an important concept from the perspective of development. To understand your culture and history as well as language, customs, foodstuffs such things like literature and art; this will bring to you even more reflection on oneself along with mutual understanding CPEC, as an important platform for intercultural exchange and people-to-people contact. Culture is a vital aspect of social development, including technology and architecture, languages and traditions. CPEC can be such an instrument through which to exchange these elements.

### **Enhancing Bilateral Cooperation in Cultural Fields**

In order to more effectively promote cultural cooperation within the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a number of methods may be employed. Creation of a robust cultural trade mechanism between the two countries is imperative. Non-governmental exchanges and collaborations are important, but government involvement is still decisive in promoting effective cultural communication and collaboration.

### **Problems in Socio-Culture Exchange**

The CPEC also has some problems as it brings great prospects for cultural exchanges. For instance, there is the problem of language. Secondly, as workers and companies speak different languages (Chinese/Urdu), differing ones exist. Another obstacle to unity is cultural differences. Under the framework of CPEC, Chinese and Pakistani culture coexist. That is the reason why we speak of multiculturalism, and harmonious co-existence here requires active management. In addition, this phenomenon of social identity further complicates cross-cultural communication.

### **Social Media in Making Connections**

On social media, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a platform of energy communication and mutual friendship. It also serves as a platform for people-to-people contacts, across geographical space and in boosting all facets of bilateral relations. Social media can also dispel misconceptions and disseminate the truth. It is intended as a positive image of Pak-China relations, and to portray an impression that they are in the eyes not just of Western media but even their own hallucinations.



### **Dosti Channel: Enhancing Cultural Communication**

The opening of a *Dosti Channel* in Lahore co-sponsored by China Radio International and Radio Pakistan marks another important step forward. This FM channel becomes another stage for cultural exchange between the two countries. In order to promote people-to-people contact, *Dosti Channel* offers Urdu programs for the benefit of Pakistanis so that they can know more about China and Chinese culture. This kind of effort demonstrates that radio broadcasting promotes understanding between cultures, dissolves cultural barriers and encourages mutual respect.

### **CPEC's Principal Aim in Culture and People-to-People Exchange**

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is not only economic development. It is intended to enhance understanding and exchange between the national societies of China and Pakistan. A goal like this needs the connection of all three kinds, material culture-type and nonmaterial. CPEC is also developing cultural understanding, as well the exchange of knowledge and concepts to help further deepen China's comprehensive strategic partnership with Pakistan. They promote the popularization of science technology, craft literature, art and so on.

### **Impact of CPEC on Cultural Exchanges**

CPEC has had a palpable impact on cultural exchanges between China and Pakistan in various ways. The entertainment business has helped to build up cultural relations. The distribution of Pakistani films to China and the participation of Chinese actors in a number of Pakistan's movies have illustrated well how cinema can help people, cultures, and nations come closer together. Following the launch of CPEC, television and film exchanges have demonstrated substantial growth, enhancing further cultural understanding. Moreover, radio broadcasting has promoted cross-cultural understanding and communication by introducing people to the customs of other cultures. This helps bridge cultural gaps.

### **Linguistic Diversity in the Context of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)**

In the framework of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), linguistic diversity is very significant. In the neighborhoods along the CPEC, there is a complex web of many different languages. Therefore, effective communication and adaptation between different linguistic communities are needed. CPEC crosses areas of many languages, and the spread here means that we must also attend to linguistic harmony so everyone involved can partake.

### **Impact of Dominant Languages on Linguistic Diversity in Pakistan**

Punjabi, Sindhi, and their closely related dialects of Seraiki; Urdu, an outcome of the fusion between Hindi (the mother tongue) and Persian from Moghul influences were widespread in Pakistan. Added to these are English which is used for all official purposes as well Pashto spoken by parts of Khyber Pukhtoon Khan. But even though it's a multilingual country, English and Mandarin have come to dominate the entire CPEC project. These languages have remained the preserve of a minority, but they nonetheless threaten to drown out Pakistan's national and local languages. Such domination makes one wonder about the future of language in Pakistan.

### **Significance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for Language Development**

For language development in Pakistan, the CPEC is of great significance. It provides a unique opportunity for the project to serve as an economic platform and promote many

different languages. But to exploit this potential completely, it demands a bilingual policy which embodies the representation and use of Pakistan's national and local languages. Such a policy would be key to preserving linguistic variety yet enjoying the economic benefits of CPEC.

### **Impact of Promoting Mandarin on Linguistic Diversity in Pakistan**

In Pakistan there are some concerns about the impact of promoting Mandarin on linguistic diversity. Some people see the rapid spread of Mandarin, along with English, as toward a threat to Pakistan's national and native languages. However, without well-conceived language policies in place first and foremost there is a danger of linguistic imperialism, where Mandarin and English push Pakistan's languages into the background. Linguistic diversity would then take another turn for the worse.

### **The Proposal for Promoting Linguistic Harmony**

In order to overcome the challenges of linguistic diversity and language hegemony in CPEC project, a proposal has been put forward for formulating a multilingual policy. This policy would ensure that, in addition to English and Mandarin, Pakistan's national languages as well as its many local ones are integrated into the implementation of this project. In this way, Pakistan hopes to resolve the conflict between languages. This approach will help prevent differences in language and create harmony among different ones. In this way, the proposal not only serves as a reference for countries with language diversity but also opens research into the economy and language. Language diversity is very important for the implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. A policy of multilingualism that encourages the use not only of English and Mandarin, but also national languages (such as Kiswahili in East Africa) and local vernaculars is needed to maintain linguistic vitality while harnessing the economic potential for growth.

### **Discussion**

According to these research findings, CPEC plays a substantial language role in international trade. By far the most important languages are English and Mandarin. But this linguistic dominance threatens to subjugate the diversity of languages in Pakistan, since it favors outsiders over fellow countrymen. In the vast and disparate regions along CPEC, it is suggested that a multilingual policy should be adopted to promote language contact, adaptation, and cross-cultural communication. With this policy, the use of English and Mandarin is to be balanced with Pakistan's national languages and local dialects in order for achieving linguistic balance as well as social-economic inclusivity.

The exposition of the findings in this research paper illuminates a subtle aspect of cross-Lingual ecology and speaks to its important place within that concept at the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and circumstance Brunel University London as well, for internationalized trade.

That study emphasizes that, within CPEC terms, English and Mandarin are of pre-eminent importance. What is more, although English is spoken by only 8 % of the Pakistani population, all aspects (management, communication, and documentation) of CPEC projects use it extensively. Adding to this is Mandarin, the language of growing importance as China has invested and cooperated with other countries. These findings highlight international trade's language-centered nature. Big economies control the languages used in business, communication, and negotiations.

Yet, according to their research findings this linguistic superiority could end up stifling the number of languages in Pakistan. The widespread use of English and Mandarin in CPEC operations causes people to be concerned that national languages will fall by the

wayside, aggravating socio-economic differences. This phenomenon indicates emphatically that a thorough-going language policy is needed to promote multilingualism in bridging the linguistic divide, preserving linguistic diversity and guaranteeing inclusiveness along CPEC.

These research findings also highlight the language question in cross-cultural communication and adaptation within linguistically diverse areas lying along the CPEC corridor. This linguistic diversity--74 individual languages in Pakistan alone--is both an opportunity and a challenge for effective cross-cultural communication. Mandarin promotion and its usage are promoted as vehicles to improve communications with Chinese. However, while this is indeed positive in a pragmatic sense it may have the unintended consequence of marginalizing core national languages and local dialects necessary for promoting intercultural dialogue and assuring active participation by hinterland residents in CPEC-associated economic activities at micro levels along these various routes.

The findings point to the need for a carefully designed and all-embracing language policy that takes account of multilingualism across Pakistan, encourages use of national languages and particularly local ones, fosters linguistic harmony within CPEC. This discussion underlines the need for language homogenization and cross-cultural communication to reap maximum benefits from CPEC while protecting the linguistic identity of these locals.

## **Conclusions**

Therefore, through this research we have gained profound understanding of the language role played by China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in international trade and its possible effect on linguistic diversity there. The facts about the CPEC's linguistic dimensions make clear just how important a link it is for cross-border trade and communication. The most salient feature within the CPEC framework has been English as a lingua franca, while Mandarin is on the rise. Though the actual number of English speakers only comprises 8% share of the overall population, its use in CPEC operations suggests how powerful an international lingua franca a single language can be when it comes to international trade and diplomacy. In addition, the dissemination of Mandarin by several activities and programs points to its significance in terms of China's investment and cooperation with Pakistan.

But the research findings also clearly show that although two languages--English and Mandarin--dominate, this situation creates a serious threat to linguistic diversity in Taiwan. Marginalization of national and local languages, which are woven into the fabric of Pakistani culture, however managed to become a curse will permanently aggravate social injustice and drive development backwards. Linguistic diversity is a resource Rather than being seen as the enemy, realizing that linguistic diversity can promote cross-cultural communication, understanding and adjustment are therefore vital to successful CPEC projects.

## **Recommendations**

Based on this research policy makers in Pakistan must draft and execute an appropriate multilingual policy based on their own country's unique linguistic circumstances along the route of CPEC. With respect to language use and promotion in the CPEC, operations must put an emphasis on Mandarin and English while incorporating Pakistan's national as well as local languages. All who are within these arrangements must also be considered for equitable utilization. Thirdly, efforts must be made to set up language training and teaching programs for national languages as well as local ones so that personnel with the cross-cultural communication skills needed by CPEC projects can be provided. Beyond this, one must be wary of language imperialism and carefully studying how Mandarin is spreading will help preserve Pakistan's linguistic diversity. The implications of this study go beyond Pakistan. They could become an example to other

ethnic and linguistic areas involved in international trade projects who hope to utilize language diversity as a power generating economic prosperity and trans-cultural cooperation.

### **Implications**

The findings of this study will have far-reaching implications, not only for Pakistan but also for countries involved in international trade projects that converge linguistically distinct areas. Given that for Pakistan like countries economic activities can be built around the linguistic diversity, then this will accelerate their own growth and provide openings to cross-cultural encounters. The language functions of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), pointed out by this study, are not limited to English and Mandarin; national languages as well as local ones in a multilingual environment should be given adequate consideration so that they can play their roles on an equal footing. These implications are also not limited to policy planning and language education in Pakistan but arise again when you look deeply at the problem of economic union by means of linguistic unity.

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