**Summary:**

**Identity matters: Hunza and the hidden text of Britain and China**

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**Purpose**:

The purpose of this article is to challenge the conventional notion that Gilgit Baltistan is a part of the Kashmir Dispute, with Pakistan and India as the only stakeholders. The author problematizes this notion by bringing in China in this issue through the analysis of hidden text, a political and historical account of standoff between Britain and China on Hunza. The overall aim of the author is to examine the implication of this issue for the identity of people of Gilgit Baltistan, whose identity is not tied to any state.

**Background**:.

This article was written against the backdrop of Chinese involvement in the infrastructural development for CPEC in Gilgit Baltistan, a territory with historical significance to China. While, not explicitly claiming this region, this involvement aligns with China’s policy of promoting flexible periphery and supra-national development links.

This writing is still relevant now as the conditions during which this article was written still persist, and the people of this region continue to grapple with the questions of their identity.

**Analysis**:

The term ‘Hidden text’ is only one in this context that requires definition . This term refers to the little known British-Chinese stalemate over a small valley system in the Karakoram Mountains, which Britain named Hunza and developed as the cornerstone of its official Gilgit Agency and which China recognized as Kanjut and envisioned as part of its newest province Xinjiang.

The author used documentary analysis, ethnographic research and landscape data to research this article.

**Synthesis**: the results. What did the author learn?

The author learned that China, contrary to popular understanding, is very consequential to the Kashmir dispute. However, while Pakistan and India insist on fixed borders and territorial mapping of GB, China focuses on supra-national development, linking GB to China, reviving the ancient Silk Route links. All these developments have significant implications for the identity of the people of GB, whose identity is in constant flux, and subject to interpretations depending on the changing sites of knowledge.