

**National Textile University**

Group Assignment

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# Foreign Policy

Foreign policy can be defined as the connections or associations amongst the sovereign states. However, in the broader perspective the foreign policy is said to be those endeavours of the independent states which they embark upon to develop close relations between them in order to benefit from each other’s achievements in various fields of human activity. The foreign policy is usually referred to as the general principles by which a state governs its re-action to the international environments.

# Pakistan’s Foreign Policy

The foreign policy of Pakistan is primarily directed to the pursuit of national goals of seeking peace and stability through international cooperation. Special emphasis is laid on economic diplomacy to take advantages offered by the process of globalization as also to face challenges of the 21st century.

The peculiar location of Pakistan with its linkages with the West and Central Asia, its cultural and ideological orientations as well as circumstances surrounding its birth culminating in the partition of the Indian sub-continent make the task of fashioning a rational approach to international affairs complex and difficult. The wars with its hostile neighbour, the loss of its eastern part, its policy with regard to Afghanistan and its friendship and dependence on the USA constitute the salient elements of its foreign relations. To these may be added close links with China and the Muslim countries especially Saudi Arabia, Gulf States, Iran and Turkey.

Another very important factor has been the weak and unstable political system and the emergence of military as a dominant political force making the task of foreign policy formulating still much difficult.

## Guiding principles of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy

The guiding principles of Pakistan's foreign policy are firmly based in country's Islamic ideology, its rich cultural heritage and historical background, especially the intense struggle for freedom. As an Islamic and Non Aligned county Pakistan supports, with all its hearts, the Islamic causes and upholds with the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states Pakistan also openly corroborates the non-use of force international relations as well as the established behavioural standards of honourable neighbourliness peaceful coexistence and amicable collaboration for mutual gains.

Pakistan's strategic location made it a focal point of the world. Particularly the Super Powers, due to Pakistan's highly important geographical location, indulged into an ardent tug of war in order to establish a stronghold in Pakistan ever since the independence. Moreover the hostile Indian attitude, combined with the Super Powers vying for establishing influence in the newly born country, made Pakistan immensely vulnerable The political climate in the sub-continent before the independence, was also a dominant factor in moulding Pakistan's foreign policy after the partition The long standing animosities between the Hindus and the Muslims during the freedom struggle, were in fact, the maturing of thoughts and pressing methodology for ripening and developing Pakistan's relations with other states.

# Foreign Policy of Pakistan during Imran Khan Era

Ex. PM Imran Khan Niazi and Ex. FM Shah Mehmood played a vital role in establishing good relations with other countries.

## Pakistan and Saudi Arabia

When Imran Khan stepped in as Prime Minister the country was deep in financial plight. It badly needed a bail out amount to come out of the financial quagmire Prime Minister's frantic efforts to manage the Balance of Payment (BOP) crisis were successful when the Saudi government agreed to give $3 billion to Pakistan as Balance of Payment support for one year and supply of $3 billion worth of oil on deferred payment for three years. The total package was $6 billion

This is the second time when Saudi Arabia has bailed out Pakistan during the last four years. The Saudi assistance will immediately push the official foreign currency reserved back to double digit in addition to > lessening burden on the external sector.

Saudi Arabia will deposit $3 billion cash with the State Bank of Pakistan, in addition te providing one year deferred payment facility for the import of oil. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has also agreed to reduce visa fees for Pakistanis

The Saudi aid strengthened Pakistani currency by 1.4% to Rs. 132.03 to the US dollar in the inter-bank market after Saudi Arabia agreed to $6 billion assistance package. The announcement of financial assistance came at a time when Pakistan badly needed foreign currency to avert default on import payment and debt payments The financial package injector á new lease of life into national economy and provided great support for the rupee The rupee's recovery came after the announcement of $6 billion and package for Pakistan by Saudi Arabia Saudi Arabia also promised to provide $3 billion in cash to reinforce Pakistan's foreign currency reserves. These announcements were issued after Prime Minister Imran Khan attended the Future Investment Initiative (FI1) conference in Riyadh. In addition to the current package Saudi Arabia has agreed to set up a multi billion dollar aid refinery in Pakistan during the next five years.

The country's looming Balance of Payment crisis had been avoided when China promised to provide financial assistance. Although China and Pakistan have a strategic relationship and are faithful allies, the PM Imran Khan's visit to China had received special significance due to expectation to Chinese financial assistance for Balance of Payment.

After the meeting with PM Imran Khan the Chinese leadership pledged to help Pakistan come out of a hovering economic emergency.

The government had already indicated that there was $12 billion financial gap out of which Saudi Arabia gave a $6 billion lifetime.

Besides negotiating the assistance for Balance of Payments, the Pakistan delegation headed by foreign Secretary Tehmina Janjua, will discuss currency exchange arrangements and increased access for Pakistani products to Chinese markets. It has been agreed that the CPEC would be re-focused attracting investments for scial economic zones, agriculture. sector, jobs creation and vocational training CPEC is made a gateway for progress. prosperty and connectivity.