

давно назревшие жесткие реформы в Афганистане, позволяя также президенту Гани и его команде объяснять афганской общественности, что без этих реформ Афганистану будет сложно заручиться иностранной помощью.

Надеюсь, что дискуссии, состоявшиеся в рамках конференции, помогут в понимании степени вызовов, стоящих в регионе Аф-Пак, и сосредоточении на необходимости сближения и сотрудничества между участниками в интересах мира и безопасности.

THE DYNAMICS OF PEACE AND CONFLICT IN AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN REGION AND IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL SECURITY

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Summary

The article describes in detail all aspects of situation in Afghanistan and most recent trends of regional co-operation with a view of assistance being rendered to Afghanistan in combating narcotics, terrorism, restoring its agriculture, political transition to democracy. The projects of building transportation corridors from Central Asia via Afghanistan to the South Asia and Arabian Sea are discussed. Prospects of peace building require participation of Pakistan and India in the creation of secure environment in the region.

Key words: *Afghanistan, geopolitical landscape, economic indices, transformation, narcotics, democratic transition, security, jihadi movement, Islamist threat, Central Asian corridors, Pakistan, India.*

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PAKISTAN AND THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION

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Summary

Peace and stability in Afghanistan are crucial for the economic potential not only of Central Asian region but Asia as a whole/ Possibilities of Pakistan to play a greater role in the SCO are under discussion in the paper. The author considers important economic issues (energy corridors from Turkmenistan to Pakistan via Afghanistan) and counter-terrorist struggle in Pakistan.

Key words: *Afghanistan, regional stability, Pakistan SCO membership, Gwadar port, energy corridors, antiterrorist war, Peshawar incident.*

The SCO as an organisation keeps its focus on cooperation in economic, trade, finance and on developing interconnectivity between member states. The member states also want to see the elimination of terrorism and extremism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. Because of the agenda SCO has set for itself, it is one of the most valuable instrument for promoting economic development, peace and stability in the region. The priorities of SCO clearly suggest that its agenda is in sync with the priorities of Pakistan. Pakistan is, therefore, desirous of playing a greater role in the SCO.

I would now like to discuss some of the common areas of focus of both SCO and Pakistan.

Peace and stability in Afghanistan is crucial for the economic potential of Central Asia, South Asia, South West Asia and Asia Pacific to unleash itself at its optimal capacity. The future security and strategic stability of these regions is also dependent on peace in Afghanistan. Afghanistan has been on the agenda of all SCO meetings. The SCO has also formed a special contact group on Afghanistan which reflects on the interest of the organisation on this issue. The SCO states also encourage Afghan participation in regional projects. SCO has the potential to collectively assist in the process of stabilization that has started in Afghanistan since 2014. All the SCO states have a common interest in encouraging and promoting the political, economic and security transition that is taking place in the country. The SCO members also have the intention of opening up trade with South, South West and South East Asia and the Middle East through Afghanistan. Peace and stability in Afghanistan will act as a catalyst for SCO states in contributing towards the process set in motion by Russia for the creation of the Eurasian Economic Union. Similarly, China's networks of economic belts and corridors will be of immense benefit to the SCO members as soon as conditions normalise in Afghanistan. It is not in the interest of SCO states if the situation in Afghanistan worsens. They all, therefore, wish to see peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Pakistan considers peace in Afghanistan as vital for the stability in the region. Together with Afghanistan, we have shared negative consequences of prolonged conflict in Afghanistan. Continuation of conflict pains Pakistan more than any other country, apart from Afghanistan itself. Peace on our western borders is, therefore, vital for our stability and economic development. It would open up the way for our economic cooperation, joint ventures and trade with SCO states that we are very keen to enhance. Pakistan provides the shortest transit land route to many of the SCO countries and beyond through Afghanistan. The Gwadar deep sea port makes Pakistan an indispensable link for SCO member states when it comes to the economic development of the SCO region.

Energy corridors through Afghanistan have an important potential. Pakistan wants early implementation of projects such as TAPI and CASA 1000. Some crucial agreements in this regard have already been inked. Such projects will build interdependence and create economic reasons for stronger relationship between Pakistan and SCO states. It would pave the way for Pakistan to start importing much needed gas from Turkmenistan. The TAPI Agreement for supply of gas to Pakistan from Turkmenistan from 2017 will remain a non-starter unless the situation in Afghanistan gets stabilized. Similarly Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan have signed CASA-1000 Agreement for supply of 700 MW of electricity to Pakistan via Afghanistan from 2016. Pakistan is an energy deficient country and we need these vital supplies for which the security situation in Afghanistan will play a decisive role.

The other important issue on which the SCO focuses upon is counter terrorism. Pakistan denounces terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and condemns killings by terrorists anywhere in the world, committed for whatever purpose. No ideology, religion, or cause can either validate or rationalise the shameful acts and monstrous crimes committed by terrorists. Plainly put, terrorists are none else but criminals. Pakistan, like the SCO member states believe that the crimes of the terrorists must be countered and deterred.

For the past several years, Pakistan has fought an unrelenting war against terrorism. In this war, we have incurred huge costs in human life and resources. We have lost more than 60,000 precious lives and incurred financial losses exceeding US \$ 100 billion. Economic and investment opportunities, that we have so far lost, have been much more.

In June last year, Pakistan launched its military operation 'Zarb-e-Azb' to eliminate terrorists hiding in the North Waziristan Agency of the tribal areas. The operation is continuing successfully. Several hundred terrorists, including foreign operatives, have been taken out. Improvised explosive devices and several munitions factories have been destroyed. Huge stocks of arms and communication equipment have been destroyed. Terrorists' hideouts and networks have been dismantled and their command and control system has been wiped out.

December 16th heinous incident in Peshawar in which the terrorists killed more than 140 young students in a school in Peshawar further strengthened the resolve of Pakistan to stand

firm against terrorist's actions. All the political parties in Pakistan have put together a National Action Plan to deal with the terrorists and this Plan has been put into action and all the factors of national power are being used for its implementation. We, as a nation, will ensure that the sacrifices that we are giving in terms of blood and treasure will not go in vain.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation shares common political and socio-economic goals. It has several other substantial areas of economic cooperation from which Pakistan would like to benefit. The SCO leaders have confirmed their commitment to cooperate in further modernization of national economies, close investment partnership, cooperation in the field of transport and communications, innovative technologies and agriculture. We would like to benefit from mutual cooperation with SCO member states in areas like trade and investment, agriculture, science and technology, IT and telecommunications and environmental protection.

During the SCO Summit in Dushanbe held in 2014, the procedure for granting the status of the SCO member state and the memorandum of obligations of a candidate country for obtaining the status of SCO member state were adopted. These documents will promote geographical expansion of the SCO and we look forward to attending the XI SCO Forum with Pakistan being the full member of the SCO. Pakistan's membership will be of great importance for the country itself, the SCO and the region at large. It will offer further opportunities to work thoroughly on building peace and stability and eliminating terrorism in the region.

ПАКИСТАН И ШАНХАЙСКАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА

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Аннотация

Мир и стабильность в Афганистане существенно важны для экономического развития не только центральноазиатского региона, но и Азии в целом. В докладе анализируются возможности Пакистана играть более значительную роль в ШОС. Автор рассматривает важные экономические вопросы (энергетические коридоры из Туркменистана в Пакистан через Афганистан), описывает антитеррористическую деятельность в Пакистане.

Ключевые слова: Афганистан, региональная стабильность, членство Пакистана в ШОС, порт Гвадар, энергетические коридоры, война с терроризмом, Пешаварский инцидент.