

## **India-China relations since pre-independence period to Present Perspective.**

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### **Abstract:-**

India-China relations represent complex and multifaceted dynamics between two of the world's most populous nations. These neighbouring countries have a long history of cultural, economic and diplomatic exchanges. Although their relationship is cooperative, tensions have arisen over territorial disputes, economic competition, and strategic interests. Border issues, especially in the Himalayan region, have been a long-standing challenge affecting the overall geopolitical landscape.

Both nations, with diverse histories and aspirations, navigate a delicate balance between cooperation and competition, shaping the narrative of their bilateral relations on regional and global platforms. In this article, the history of India-China relations so far has been reviewed.

- **Objectives:-**

- 1) To review the history of India China relations.
- 2) To study the present status of India China relationship.

- **Methods:-**

In terms of research methodology, this paper employs a range of research methods, including historical and logical methods, to examine different historical periods and chronological

aspects simultaneously, along with specific social science methods like analysis, statistics, synthesis, and comparison to present data descriptions, statistics, and explore patterns within specific spatial and temporal contexts. In addition, this research uses popular methods in political science, especially for analysis of recent periods, such as content analysis, comparative analysis, and event

Analysis, to explain the foreign perspectives of India china relationship.

- **Keyword:-**

India china relation, international affairs, Brussels Conference, Panchsheel principle.

- **India-China relations in the pre-independence period:-**

Relations between India and China were cordial since ancient times. The relationship between India and China greatly influenced Indian foreign policy, perhaps more than any other country. India and China had friendly relations in ancient times. Both India and China have been the inheritors of a civilization many thousands of years old. And keeping cultural traditions alive. Both these countries are the most populous countries in the world in which China remained staunch communist while India remained non-aligned. Cultural and economic exchange continued between the two countries. This relationship may not have been close and extensive, but goodwill and brotherhood remained between the two countries. The sole purpose of China's relationship with India during the British period was to imperialistically exploit the Chinese people. The British Indian government used Indian resources to impose its slavery on the Chinese people. There was no hesitation in using the Indian Army to defeat China in the war and crush Chinese nationalism. But the people of India did not want to cooperate in any way in this imperialist policy. But the government could not stop it.

In modern times, relations between India and China began at the Brussels Conference of Depressed Nations held in 1937. In this conference, a joint communiqué was issued by

the representatives of India and China. And cooperation between India and China was necessary to free Asia from Western imperialism. In this declaration, Indian forces were condemned by the British rulers in China, and the Indian National Congress criticized the British government towards China by accepting many of its resolutions. In 1937, when Japan attacked Manchuria, China Day was celebrated to show sympathy towards China and India boycotted Japanese goods and after achieving independence, independent India tried to establish good relations with its neighboring country. Attempted to establish a communist government in China after the fall of the Kuomintang government in 1948. He welcomed the newly established government in India and showed his friendly behavior by giving it recognition. Hence, during the time of Kuomintang government, KM Panikar was working as the Indian Ambassador to China and in 1949, he was again appointed as the Indian Ambassador. Friendship relations between India and China started with the efforts of KM Panikar. India always supported China and tried to help it. India was the only country among the non-communist countries that quickly recognized Communist China and gave the new Republic of China its rightful place in the United Nations. Due to this, India had estrangement with many countries, especially with the United States. Supported China while ignoring America.

• **Nehru era India-China relations (1947 to 1964): -**

After achieving independence, India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru tried to build cordial relations with its neighboring countries. In which Pandit Nehru tried to establish relations with China, the period from 1954 to 1957 is considered a good relation for India and China. On June 29, 1954, an eight-year trade agreement was signed between the two nations in which India gave up its additional indigenous rights from Tibet. Handed over to China. It was from this trade agreement that the Panchsheel principles were created. India accepted China's sovereignty over Tibet. In 1954, when the then Prime Minister of China visited India, the Panchsheel principle was jointly emphasized. Pandit Nehru visited China in October 1954. Nehru and Chou En Lai worked in full cooperation at the Bandug Conference in April 1965, later China also supported China on the question of Goa and India supported China on the Quemay and Malsu islands. According to Vincent Shoyab, perhaps no one in the world would have made as much efforts as Pandit Nehru to establish friendly relations with the Chinese.

Initially, relations between India and China remained very cordial for many years, yet differences of opinion were found on questions related to Tibet. Tibet is situated between India and China and China has had sovereignty over it for a long time. In the beginning of the twentieth century, when Russia started influencing Tibet, the British government began to be surprised. Lord Curzon sent a military contingent in 1905 to force the Dalai Lama to sign a treaty. Then a treaty was signed between Britain and China in 1905, by which Britain accepted China's charter over Tibet. A treaty was signed between Britain and China in 1905, by which Britain accepted China's suzerainty over Tibet.

Through this treaty, it was agreed that there will be an Indian agent at Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, Indian trade agencies will be established in Yadug, Gyantse and Gartok and India will also have the right to establish a post office up to Gyantse. Apart from these facilities, India will also have the right to have some army in Tibet to protect its trade routes, but this treaty does not clarify the relations between Tibet and China, and Tibet will have complete independence on internal matters. The new communist government of China took control of Tibet, and declared Tibet a part of its state. In January 1950, the Chinese government announced the liberation of Tibet from imperialist plants. India opposed this policy of China. India was not ready to give up its exclusive rights over Tibet. It was ready to accept China's sovereignty in Tibet. But at the same time it wanted to be given an autonomous governing unit. But China did not care about

this, and started military action against Tibet on 25 October 1950. India opposed this military action.

China accused India of interfering in China's internal affairs under the influence of imperialists. In this environment, a situation of tension remained for a few days but the situation did not last long. On May 23, 1951, an agreement was reached between China and Tibet and it was expressed that Tibet would have complete control over China's foreign relations, trade, security and transport.

There will be control, Tibet will remain completely independent on remaining matters. China will provide protection to Indian doubles. In 1954 AD, China's Chou En Lai visited India and propounded the Panchsheel theory. A dispute had started regarding the border between India and China. In 1950 to 1951 AD, in the map of Communist China, a large part of India was shown as part of China. When the Indian government drew China's attention to this, it replied that this map was made by mistake. When the Chinese government said that improvements would be made soon, the Indian government did not doubt this action of China. But China also never changed its map and China's claim on Indian territory kept increasing. In 1964 AD, China started sending its military contingents and units to various Indian border areas. In the letter dated 23 January 1950, the Chinese government observed that there has never been a border dispute between India and China and the so-called borders are against China. Considered to be merely the result of an imperialist conspiracy.

On 20 October 1962, Communist China launched a large-scale attack on India. Before this, on 12 July 1962, the Indian outpost in the Galyan river valley in Ladakh was surrounded by the Chinese. On 21 November 1962, China suddenly made a unilateral attack on its side. Armistice was declared and the war ended.

- **India China Relations (Current Perspective):-**

Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited China from 14 to 16 May 2015. 24 agreements worth 10 billion dollars were signed between the two countries. On 16 May, 26 agreements worth 22 billion dollars were signed between India and bean companies. Modi encouraged Chinese investors. Invited to India, Shri Narendra Modi announced to give visa only to the citizens of China. Nathul Pass Narg was opened for the people going to Kailash Mansarovar from June 2015. In June 2017, due to the ongoing dispute between China and India in Sikri, the journey to Kailash Mansarovar through Nathu La Pass was stopped, at the same time there was tension on the border in Doklam. India protested against China's road construction and troops entered Indian territory and destroyed two Indian bunkers. The roots of the dispute in Doklam are a small patch of inaccessible pastures (about 250 km) in Bhutan but its geographical location is considered strategically important for both India and China.

On 28 August 2017, troops of both countries withdrew from their positions in Doklam. On 27–28 October 2018, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in Wuhan for informal talks with Xi Jinping, China extended unprecedented goodwill for a new beginning. Xi Jinping welcomed Modi to Wuhan for the second time outside Beijing to host. India and China once again moved towards talks.

Bilateral relations under the time frame of Closer Development Partnership between India and China deepened with the Second Informal Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on 11–12 October 2019 in Chennai.

- **Conclusion:-**

Relations between India and China were cordial since ancient times. Both India and China tried to keep the culture and traditions alive. Both the countries are the most populous countries in the world and there has been cultural and economic exchange between the two countries. In the modern period, relations between India and China were established in the Brussels Conference of Nations held in 1937. After India gained

independence, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru tried to build cordial relations with China. Initially, cordial relations remained between India and China for many years. The dispute over Tibet started between India and China. On January 1, 1950, the Chinese government announced the liberation of Tibet from the imperialist conspiracy. India opposed this policy of China. China and India had a border dispute in 1954. There have been a lot of ups and downs in China relations, but at present, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is making efforts to improve the relations between India and China.

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