

ROLE OF CHINESE LANGUAGE IN PAKISTAN CHINA RELATIONS

Muhammad Arif, Ph.D

Fellow, School of Journalism, Hebei University China

Professor Bai Gui,

Dean School of Journalism, Hebei University China

ABSTRACT: *This article traces the foot prints of Chinese language diplomacy used a tool to enhance the existing bond of friendship between China and Pakistan, the oldest strategic allies in the region. The study explores government initiatives, academic programs and projects aimed at promoting Chinese language in Pakistan. The horizon of Chinese diplomacy in Pakistan is being expanded by teaching Chinese language utilizing online methods, distance learning system, regular classrooms and radio broadcasts technology. It highlights the various aspects of Pakistan China cooperation through the lens of Chinese Language diplomacy, and through the role of various organizations such as Confucius institute, China Radio International, Pakistan China Institute, National University of Modern Languages and Chinese embassy. The study is highly significant as it helps to know the strategic measures China is taking to strengthen the bilateral ties and enhancing people to people contacts through language diplomacy.*

KEYWORD: Chinese Language, Public diplomacy, Confucius institutes, China Pakistan Relations, cultural engagement, Language and Communication

INTRODUCTION

The globalization has boosted interaction with nations, societies, cultures and civilization as well as it has linked international markets; therefore the need to understand and communicate with the world has also increased. China is investing heavily in policies aimed at improving its image, creating understanding about China and Chinese civilization and above all advancing its domestic and international role through various public diplomacy initiatives. These strategic measures symbolize China's long-term vision for the immediate neighbours, region and the world. After reforms and opening up policy of Deng Xiaoping in 1979, China is engaging with the world. Now China is 3rd biggest investor; it is biggest trade partner of more 120 countries and has highest foreign currency reserves in World. Chinese currency, Yuan, has become the eighth-most-traded currency in the world in 2013. China's incredible economic progress is helping to overcome the current global economic crisis.

Politically, China has changed itself from an inward looking state to an outward looking nation. After turbulent consequences of socialist and communist experiences, China is adopting new political trends according to its social conditions. On the diplomatic front, China has resolved border issues with eight neighboring countries. It is engaging with immediate neighbours, South Asian, Central Asia, Africa and Middle Eastern countries. China is reaching to Asia, Africa, and Latin America. China has set up new platforms for regional and international cooperation like SCO,

ASEAN, and BRICS. China's current leadership has given new vision for global China by introducing Silk Road Economic Belt, Maritime Silk Road; the two strategic projects aimed towards the revival of Silk Road. Now Chinese trains are carrying cargo from commercial center of Yiwu are reaching to the heart of Europe-Germany and will be departing soon for Middle East and Africa in the 21st century. It is said 21st century is Asian Century which will be led by China. In the this changing scenario, when China is engaging and shaping the world, Chinese Language has become more and more important than ever. Chinese language is being taught and learnt world over because China engages herself with the global community.

Communication is to diplomacy as blood is to the human body. While language is a bridge between different people of different cultures. Now there has been a craze of Chinese-learning all over the world. China has set up at least 350 Confucius Institutes in the world and around 40 million people are learning Chinese language.

As China emerges on global stage, its economic power is changing attitudes towards Mandarin Chinese worldwide. Chinese as a foreign language (CFL) consequently emerges as a subject for research as well as an educational market. Chinese language will become a highly important factor in the future as regards the global communication, global interaction and integration.

Pakistan China Relations

Pakistan and China are time tested friends, good neighbours as well as economic partners. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1951, both the countries have celebrated a time-tested friendship full of vigor and vitality. The strategic partnership between Pakistan and China has maintained the sound momentum of growth. Traditional friendship between the two countries has deepened and exchanges and cooperation in various fields has made new progress.

In the last six decades, Pakistan China have expanded cooperation in all sectors of life ranging from military to military ties, trade and commerce links, research and academic exchanges, joint counter terrorism exercises, relief and rescue operations, besides sports and cultural exchanges. Expansion of Karakum High way, joint manufacturing of JF-17, construction of Gwadar deep sea port, Neelum-Jhelum hydro project are exemplary projects of Pakistan China partnership.

Pakistan China signed FTA in 2006 and bilateral trade is worth 15 billion dollars. China has supported Pakistan by investing in the field of energy, renewable energy and civilian nuclear energy projects. Positive progress was also made in financial cooperation. The two sides agreed to conduct cooperation in currency swap. The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China has opened branches in capital city, Islamabad and commercial hub, Karachi. Some 120 Chinese companies and more than 20,000 Chinese nationals are contributing in the development projects in Pakistan's various regions including Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtoon khawah and Kashmir, Gilbit Baltistan of Pakistan. To strengthen political and parliamentary exchanges, a parliamentary group has been established by the Senators of Pakistan.

New Frontier of Pakistan China Partnership

In 2013, Pakistani China governments agreed to launch a landmark project called China-Pakistan Economic Corridor which will connect Pakistan's deep sea Gwadar port with China's Xinjiang region. Both Pakistan and China are discussing a number of mega projects under the rubric of

Economic Corridor in several fields like energy, infrastructure and connectivity which would revitalize Pakistan's economy. The Economic Corridor, with a total investment of \$33 billion, is a new glaring example of the close friendship between the Pakistan and China. The 2,100-kilometre corridor would include special economic zones, a railways system and a model city, airport as well as a free port at Gwadar. Pakistan government is planning to establish state-of-the-art industrial zone in Gwadar with the help of China. Therefore, Pakistan China economic corridor is a new frontier of bilateral cooperation. To boost academic links, Pakistan China signed youth exchange program in 2008 to promote educational linkage between universities and the 2102 was year of friendship. The two countries had active exchanges and cooperation in culture, education, sports and other fields. They signed an MOU on establishing cultural centers in each other's country. One hundred Pakistani young people visited China for the fourth year in a row. And 424 Pakistani students studied in China under scholarships during the 2009--2010 academic year.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, media played a vital role to strengthen and promote these friendly relations. The image of China in Pakistan is friendly and positive while the image of Pakistan in China is appreciable, both in old and young generations. China and Pakistan achieved fruitfully all-round cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, defence, culture, people to people exchanges and so on. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Sun Weidong on several occasioned has emphasized that people to people exchanges were the foundation of China-Pakistan relations. We should still work hard to pushing forward the exchanges between our two peoples, making the social foundation even more firm and stronger. The existing trend of learning the language of each other's country reflects the strong bonds of their friendship and rapid growth in the bilateral relationship. Pakistani youth has enthusiasm to learn Chinese language, which would serves as a strong bridge bringing the people of the two countries closer to each other.

Syed Hasan Javed, the additional secretary of Pakistani Foreign Ministry, told China's Xinhua News Agency that the young people in Pakistan take more and more interest in China's culture and heritage, which enhances the bilateral friendship and increases the youth contacts. In futuristic view, Pakistani youth is learning Chinese language which would help them excel in coming future defined and dominated by China's excellence in all fields. Chinese and Pakistani people are naturally tied in relationship of mutual love, respect and brotherhood. However, the only hurdle is a communication gap created by language barrier. The promotion of Chinese language exchange programs will help Pakistan cross this barrier and pave way to achieve the objective of public diplomacy boosting people to people contacts.

Role of Chinese Language in Pakistan China Relations

To add momentum to the existing relations between Pakistan and China in the 21st century, various programs of teaching Chinese language in Pakistan have been launched in the last decade. Today Chinese language has been taught at public and private schools, colleges and universities to kids, youth and professionals. Chinese language programs in Pakistan have boosted the public diplomacy endeavors of China to understand Chinese, history, culture, development and its tremendous achievements attained in the last forty years. It is also helping to bridge the people of two countries and strengthen the time tested friendship as well as building academic linkages between the educational institutions of two countries.

Centers of Chinese language learning in Pakistan

There are various institutes and organizations in Pakistan promoting Chinese languages programs and National University of Modern Languages (NUML) is the most famous, well equipped and modern.

National University of Modern Languages (NUML)

NUML is a public sector university chartered by the Government of Pakistan where Chinese language teaching started around 1980. Now it has campuses in major cities such as Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Hyderabad, Multan, and Faisalabad. NUML was the pioneer institute in the promotion of Chinese language and culture in Pakistan. Here Chinese department has several well trained native Chinese teachers as well as modern language labs. Today hundreds of students are learning Chinese language both at the elementary and professional levels. Chinese language initiative at NUML has not only helped to introduce China to the people of Pakistan but also has built a new window of understanding between China and Pakistan in the area of public diplomacy focusing on boosting people to people contacts. Prof. Lei Weizhong, former Head of Chinese Department at NUML addressing the ceremony of "Chinese Bridge", a Chinese Language Proficiency competition, held at NUML said "learning Chinese Language could further strengthen the unique bond of Pakistan China friendship and boost the cooperative partnership between the two friendly countries".

Role of Confucius Institute Islamabad

Confucius: (551-479 BCE) is a thinker, political figure, educator, and founder of the RuSchool of Chinese thought. (Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy). Confucius Institutes is a Non-profit public institutions which aim to promote Chinese language and culture in foreign countries. (Office of Chinese Language Council International) There are almost 400,000 learners across 96 countries in 322 Confucius Institutes and 369 Confucius Classrooms teaching the language and culture of China—the Asian nation rising to great power status and defining the 21st century. Confucius Institutes, a soft power initiative, are playing vital role in promoting Chinese language and culture. To promote Pakistan China all-weather strategic partnership, first Confucius Institute in Pakistan was established in April 2005 at National University of Modern Languages (NUML) in capital city Islamabad. It is the first Confucius Institute in the Muslim world. Confucius Institute was founded by the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban), Beijing Language and Culture University, and National University of Modern Languages in Islamabad.

The Office of Chinese Languages Council International is known as the Hanban and provides support to Confucius Institutes throughout the world. Now Confucius Institute at NUML Islamabad holds cultural activities, competitions and events focused on teaching Chinese language and introducing China to people of Pakistan. Every year hundreds of students attend Chinese language courses at Confucius Institute. After graduation, these students get admission in Chinese universities or they get jobs in various Chinese companies working in Pakistan. Second Confucius Institute was founded in 2014 in Karachi while third one will be established in Faisalabad, a commercial and industrial hub in Punjab province.

The nine years of operation, Institute has achieved remarkable results. It has been awarded "Confucius Institute of the Year" for three years in 2007, 2008 and 2010. In 2011, the Institute's

Chinese language teaching programs have further expanded, sponsoring 27 teaching centers at universities, primary and secondary schools and language training institutions across Pakistan with a total enrollment of 6,000. The various cultural activities organized by the Institute have attracted more than 40,000 participants. To support the sustainable development of local Chinese language teaching in Pakistan, the Institute has organized a large-scale local Chinese language teacher selection and training program as well as training sessions on the use of local teaching materials, benefiting more than 50 Chinese and Pakistani teachers. By the efforts of the Institute, Chinese language education is being incorporated into the national education system of Pakistan. Since 2005, Confucius Institute played a vital role by providing platform to Pakistani youth to learn Chinese language, know Chinese culture and contribute towards boosting Pakistan china cooperative partnership and strengthening people to people contacts.

Chinese Language Centers in Punjab Province

Punjab is the most populous province of Pakistan, with approximately 56% of the country's total population, a region being the cradle of civilization since times immemorial. Punjab is a central region with sophisticated institutions of learning and education. It has 32 universities providing undergraduate and postgraduate courses in all the major arts, humanities, science, engineering, law, medicine, veterinary science, and business. Punjab has highest literacy rate of 74.6% in 2014. Lahore, being the capital city, is the main cultural, historical, administrative and economic center of Punjab and has the highest Human Development Index out of all of Pakistan's provinces at 0.670. Lahore is a city of colleges and universities, art and culture as well. Punjab University Lahore is the oldest, most reputed institution of higher learning and has produced top leadership of the country.

Pakistan's cultural and historic Lahore while China's historic city Xia'n are declared sister cities. The current Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif has strengthened close friendly relations between China and Pakistan by signing numerous economic agreements with Chinese companies. Chinese investors are bringing capital and technology to Punjab creating job opportunities for its skilled youth population. China would build and operate the first-ever metro transit system in Lahore.

Punjab-Jiangsu Cultural Centre – Lahore

Punjab-Jiangsu Cultural Centre at Lahore is the first Chinese Cultural Centre in the country, established under the control of Information, Culture & Youth Affairs Department. The center facilitates people of Punjab for learning "Chinese Language besides cultural activities such as Chinese Cooking Classes and Chinese Traditional Painting Classes. Punjab-Jiangsu is training youth in Chinese language and culture that would play vital role in enhancing cultural and economic ties between China and Pakistan.

Chinese Language Centers in Sindh Province

Sindh is the southern province of Pakistan and the region had been home to one of the world's oldest civilizations, the Indus Valley civilization. Today, Sindh province is the most industrialized and urbanized province of Pakistan. Karachi is an industrial port city and the provincial capital of Sindh. It is center of modern, liberal, universal education for the province. Karachi is famous for its leading universities as well. Karachi, being the export center, industrial and commercial hub of

Pakistan has multi-billion projects like Karachi Nuclear Power Plant, Port Qasim and Pakistan Steel Mills that provide tens of thousands of jobs to the residents of Sindh. Karachi has head offices of Pakistani companies, and regional offices of international companies.

China is also investing in various development projects in Sindh from oil and gas exploration to mining, nuclear and infrastructure projects such as Thar Coal project and Saindak Copper and Gold mines. China's Exim bank has established its branch in Karachi. China's commercial hub Shanghai and Pakistan's industrial and economic center Karachi were declared sister in 1984.

Chinese Language in Public Schools of Sindh

Pakistan and China have unprecedented close ties for more than 60 years. To boost these further, the government of the Pakistan's southern province, Sindh, announced plans to make Chinese compulsory in schools from 2013. According to plan, all educational institutions in the province will have to provide Chinese language courses from class six (10-11-year-olds). Elaborating the program, Former Sindh Education Minister Pir Mazhar-ul-Haq said that the initiative reflected China's growing role as an economic giant in the world and would benefit Pakistan in the long term. "Our trade, educational and other relations are growing with China everyday and now it is necessary for our younger generation to have command over their language," minister said. The provincial government also announced that students will be given incentives, including foreign scholarships, to encourage them to study Chinese. Students learning Chinese will gain extra marks, scholarships and foreign visit opportunities. The Sindh government said that it would seek help from China to go ahead with the plan and is now in the process of devising a syllabus.

Chinese Language Course at Education Department Sindh

In 2012, Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh started offering Chinese Language Course for in service public sector teachers of Sindh. The course was offered in accordance with the directive of former President of Pakistan, Asif Ali Zardari, to introduce Chinese language in educational system. For further strengthening people to people exchanges with China, Pakistan government has introduced various friendly policies especially in the area of education. Teaching Chinese at School levels would benefit to the youth of Sindh province in the long run.

Chinese Language at Cadet College Pitaro.

The Cadet College Pitaro was the second Cadet College in Pakistan after Hassan Abdal to be established at Pitaro, Sindh. In 2013, the government of Sindh decided to launch compulsory teaching of Chinese language from grade six in 2013 and it was decided that learning Chinese will be made compulsory in Cadet College Pitaro, grade six onwards as well. On May 27th, 2013, Mr. Pan Qingjiang, Acting Consul General to Karachi, on behalf of the Chinese Consulate General, donated 250 sets of Happy Chinese Language in Urdu to the Confucius Class in Cadet College Pitaro, Sindh, Pakistan. This initiative will produce a generation of people having knowledge of Chinese culture and language and they will define new vision of Pakistan China friendship in 21st century. Chinese language will play more efficient and dynamic role in achieving the goals of unprecedented partnership between Pakistan and China.

Confucius Institute at Karachi University (KU)

University of Karachi is one of the largest and best educational places in Pakistan. In May 2013, Karachi University (KU) and Sichuan University, China, Zhou Jimeng, signed MOU to set up the Confucius Institute of Chinese Language to teach the language to students from the primary to higher secondary level. This is the establishment of second Confucius Institute in Pakistan. The institute has been set up at the University of Karachi in collaboration with Sichuan Normal University in China and accredited with the office of Chinese Language Council International, also known as Hanban. The inaugural ceremony of the institute was held at the Governor's House, Karachi. The Sichuan University will award postgraduate degree in Mandarin language to the students who complete a two-year programme at its campus. The students, who complete the language course at the KU, will be eligible to attend a one-year advanced course at the Sichuan University for free. The Chinese government has also offered to provide scholarships to eligible students. The teachers at the institute will be native Chinese speakers. KU vice-chancellor Prof Dr Mohammad Qaiser said "I believe a new milestone in the history of cultural exchanges between the two countries has been achieved with the launch of this institute," Confucius Institute at Karachi will help to establish strong people to people contacts between the two countries.

Chinese Language and Role of Private Education sector of Pakistan

Chinese language teaching shifted from public institutes to private schools after 2001 as Pakistan China relations got more strength and warmth during the time of Musharraf regime. Several private institutes emerged on the landscape of teaching to launch various projects of teaching Chinese language and help take Pakistan China friendship to get new vision.

China Radio International-CRI and Roots Millennium Schools-RMS Cooperation

In this regard, China Radio International-CRI and Roots Millennium Schools-RMS were the first organizations from China and Pakistan to collaborate in teaching Chinese in Pakistani schools. CRI-Roots Confucius Classroom launched in 2011 was a new gateway to expand cultural relationship from traditional platform to knowledge exchange project. It was the first private sector initiative aimed at training school kids for Chinese Language in Pakistan. The school invited native Chinese teachers to teach Chinese Language to 3000 Students on full time basis as part of their structured academic study plan and language curriculum from Grade 1 to 7. This Chinese Language Program has given opportunity to a new generation of young Pakistanis educating themselves with a desire, determination and drive to look for opportunities across all areas of education, trade, commerce, tourism, industry, business and research to help transform Pakistan China long standing historic friendship into a vibrant and durable cooperative partnership. The Pakistan-China Institute was the chief architect of this unique initiative, from the conception to materialization of solid cooperation between Roots School System and CRI to promote Chinese language in Pakistan.

Bahria University Karachi Campus

Bahria University, established by the Pakistan Navy in 2000, has slowly and steadily grown into one of the leading higher education institutions in Pakistan. Bahria University Karachi campus announced offering Chinese Language course. The university claim having well experienced and qualified Instructors for teaching Chinese language. University is offering 4-Level duration

Chinese Language course. The course provides an excellent opportunity for students, business community and executives to learn the Chinese language.

EduTek Institute of Professional Studies

Edu Tek is a private sector educational institute, certified by Government of Sindh, offering Chinese Language courses in Karachi. Main focus of this course is on spoken language, grammar and counting, daily and business phrases while the teaching format consists of Audio, Visual clips vocabulary songs and group interactions.

Chinese Embassy Islamabad and Chinese Language Promotion

In 2014, the culture section of the Chinese Embassy, Chinese Culture Center, headed by the Chinese experts in the Chinese Gong Fu (martial art), Chinese dancing, calligraphy, and Chinese language teachers would provide an opportunity to Pakistani students to learn more about the Chinese culture. Bao Jiqing, Head of the Chinese Embassy Women Group and wife of the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, started the China Culture Camp 2014, which was the first of its kind, organized by women's group and culture section of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad.

During this past half a year, almost 40 students from different schools had taken courses at the culture camp, in which Chinese language, Chinese music, Fajji, as well as Chinese calligraphy were taught.

China Radio International, Urdu service and Chinese teaching program

China Radio International, the national radio broadcaster of China, has Urdu service which broadcasts Chinese language program to teach Chinese to listeners around Pakistan. The program is very popular among the radio listeners in rural areas of Pakistan. Listeners can find Chinese language content of daily programs beside the old content.

Chinese teaching program of China Radio International, Urdu service is facilitating people to understand China and its dynamic cultural diversity.

Online Learning Sources of Chinese Language

As internet revolution creates tremendous opportunities of virtual learning. With the advancement of communication technology, more and more virtual classrooms are emerging and teachers from thousands miles away are enlightening the minds of millions in different regions at the time. A new culture of education is emerging in human civilization which is sophisticated, cost effective and time saving. Through virtual schools with the advanced training method, students can get a better training. Virtual schools are changing the landscape of learning. Nations, societies, students can emerge with all the suitable know-how trained properly on the specific subject by virtual schools that represents a glorifying future.

Pakistan is effectively using this vast source of knowledge and is marching with the pace of information technology and various educational organizations have launched online learning schools.

E-Learning Initiative of Chinese Language Program

NUML has started offering an "E-Learning Chinese Language Program" for those individuals and groups who are interested in learning Chinese Language. E-Learning Chinese Language Program" is a new platform to extend the horizon of diplomacy based on the promotion of Chinese language.

NUML cherishes a 44-year-old history of imparting & promoting education of Chinese language and literature across Pakistan. Following in the footsteps of same tradition of an academic excellence, offers the first ever video based Chinese language distance education program through internet. Thousands have joined learning Chinese language through video based E-Learning program. This platform gives the opportunity of leaning to old, educated and learned people through distance education system.

Pakistan-China Institute .Confucius Institute joint project

Pakistan-China Institute in collaboration with Confucius Institute Islamabad launched an innovative project focusing on Online Chinese Language Learning. The project was first of its kind in the history of teaching Chinese in Pakistan. The Program, a joint initiative of Pakistan-China Institute, Latif Ebrahim Jamal National Science Information Center and University of Karachi, commenced four month courses teaching basic Chinese language. The classes were held entirely via video conferencing and transmitted to universities across the country, with teachers from the Confucius Institute serving the role of language instructors. The objective of the program was to impart Chinese language education to Pakistani students in order to equip them with linguistic skills and enhance socio-cultural understanding of China. The program was held from February 17 to June 9, 2014.

Role of Pakistan-China Institute in promotion of Chinese Language

Pakistan-China Institute (PCI) is the first-of-its-kind non-governmental, non-partisan and non-political Think Tank. Pakistan-China Institute endeavours to be the principal non-governmental platform to promote people-to-people ties between Pakistan and China in all areas particularly defence and diplomacy, education and energy, economy and environment, with a focus on youth and women. Pakistan-China Institute firmly believes that overcoming the language barrier between the two people and cultures will knit them closer and induce new areas of cooperation. Rising China offers a multitude of opportunities for the young, aspiring minds in Pakistan to pursue high quality education or initiate commercial ventures. Thus, learning the Chinese language is paramount in tapping the great bilateral cooperation potential.

It is with this belief that PCI has worked hard to promote and facilitate the learning of the Chinese language in Pakistan. As early as 2011, PCI engaged with one of the largest network of schools in Pakistan, Roots Schools System, to initiate the first ever Chinese language program at the elementary school level. The program has been most successful with currently around 4000 children learning the Chinese language. Another premier effort of PCI for the promotion of the Chinese language has been the popular Online Chinese Classes, initiated in collaboration with Confucius Institute Latif Ebrahim Jamal National Science Information Centre and University of Karachi. Launched in February 2014, the program ran two parallel courses on “Basic Chinese Language” which were broadcasted through video conferencing all across the public sector universities of Pakistan. In order to institutionalize this process of learning, PCI signed an MOU with Dr. Zhang Daojian, Head of Confucius Institute at National University of Modern Languages (NUML) on June 20, 2014.

Distance Learning System and Initiative Of Chinese Language

Distance education system has brought new hopes to learning aspirants around the world. This system proves to be very productive and useful in case of large nations which are geographically distant. There are numerous students who would want to study aboard but financial or geographical constraints make the situation difficult for them. But with the coming of online education structures in countries like Pakistan the scenario has completely changed. Today students from small towns, rural areas and financially low level backgrounds, can get themselves enrolled in a number of accredited online schools and attain a degree that will be a big step ahead in their career. Be it any phase of life they are in, employed, pursuing a course, part-time or full-time working, a virtual classroom give them the flexibility that their present life demands. Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad, a largest university of Pakistan in terms of registered students, has made different agreements with the Chinese universities for the development of education. AIOU, signed memorandum of understandings with Yunan Open University and University of China. According to reports 'Chinese Language Teaching Center' will be established with the collaboration of University of China in the Allama Iqbal Open University.

The language center will open a window for the language educationists of both countries to take advantage of the experiences and share the skills of their experts. Chinese language center will play vital role to reduce language barrier between Pakistan and China by creating a nationwide platform for the aspirants of the Chinese language and culture. The president of Yunan Open University, Ex Yuban said that China is the neighboring country of Pakistan and both the countries enjoy strong relationships. Agreement with AIUO will help to further strengthen relationships as well as cooperation for education. Pakistan government has special policy to develop the relationships with China in the field of education. Both China and Pakistan are giving special attention for the development of education and are making the collaboration with the high standard Chinese educational institutes.

Future Plans for Teaching Chinese Language

Beside public sector supported programs for teaching Chinese language, several private institutes are offering Chinese language in all urban cities of Pakistan. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Sun Weidong while addressing the 13th Chinese Bridge Competition held at the National University of Modern Language (NUML) said Chinese language is an essential tool and a significant bridge for developing people-to-people contacts. In Pakistan, there is burst of enthusiasm to learn Chinese language. More and more Confucius Institutes are being established. There are already two such institutes, one at NUML and other in Karachi, and third one will be built in Faisalabad. NUML's efforts and role of the Chinese teachers in promoting Chinese language in Pakistan. This year, the ambassador said, China will dispatch sixty Chinese teachers to Pakistan and invite 140 Pakistani Chinese language teachers to China. He assured that his government will spare no effort in providing more and more platforms, programmes and materials for Pakistani youth to learn Chinese.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Chinese Language Program for media people in Pakistan

Pakistan in the last decade has seen a rapid media boom dominating the state media that enjoyed monopoly for more than thirty years. Now media is free, independent and commercial. In this scenario, China should provide specialized training programs coined with language training to media people of Pakistan so that they could be aware of China's culture, political system and economic transformation that has taken place in China in the last 40 years.

Investment in Chinese Classrooms in KP, Balochistan,GB

Pakistan's northwestern provinces KP, GB and south western Balochistan, are rich in natural and human resources. But youth potential has not yet been tapped properly due to low literacy rate and lack of schools, colleges in this area affected by the spillover effect of Afghan War. Pakistan China economic corridor, a multibillion dollar project will through these areas in one way or other. So investing on human capital and especially providing the opportunity to learn Chinese language will help Chinese companies attract business opportunities in this area. So opening up Chinese classrooms in Balochistan, KPK, GB will build the bridge of basic communication with local community and enhance people to people contacts. Over the past years, the Chinese government has instituted a substantial cultural diplomacy program such as establishment of Confucius Institutes, which offer Chinese language teaching for foreigners. Increasing Chinese teaching institutes in other provincial cities and urban cities of Pakistan will build the foundation of powerful China friendly community. It could pave way for China to bridge with Muslim world. This kind of initiatives will be effective "soft power" tool that China could use to build as part of its goal for global role.

Pakistan's former Ambassador to China Masood Khan talking to APP news agency said Chinese Language will help to build new bond of brotherhood between Pakistan and China, which have unprecedented history of friendship eulogized as deeper than sea, sweeter than honey, higher than Himalaya, stronger than steel. Now nations around the world are looking to the East especially China for development, business, education and technology therefore Pakistani youth should come forward to learn from the Chinese model of development and learning Chinese language would bring opportunities for them.

CONCLUSION

New century brings new hope for the Asian region. China's win-win cooperation policy can be better understood through the promotion of Chinese language diplomacy.

Pakistan is a rich and resourceful country as regards possessing talented human capital. China as an emerging super power is standing next door to Pakistan. So learning Chinese language will open new frontiers of cooperation, partnership and friendship and people to people exchanges between the two neighbours. The use of Chinese language to boost Pakistan-China friendship termed as "higher than the mountains and deeper than the oceans", would translate into exploring opportunities to promote people-to-people contacts and ensuring cooperation in the realms of education, business and culture between the two countries.

REFERENCES

- http://app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=115965&Itemid=2
<http://pk.chineseembassy.org/eng/zbqx/t1023344.htm>
<http://www.nihao-salam.com/news-detail.php?id=MTQ5Ng==>
<http://www.pilac.punjab.gov.pk/?q=Punjab-Jiangsu%20Cultural>
<http://tribune.com.pk/story/553057/academic-diplomacy-ku-to-establish-a-mandarin-institute/>
<http://www.diplomacypakistan.com/china-relations-with-pakistan/140-pakistani-chinese-language-teachers-will-go-to-china/>
<http://tribune.com.pk/story/639432/academic-diplomacy-after-islamabad-mandarin-institute-comes-to-karachi/>
<http://www.pakistan-china.com/diplomacy.php>
<http://thediplomat.com/2011/02/confucius-whats-in-a-name/>
<http://news.xinhuanet.com, 2012-8-16 16:07:00>
www.bimcs.edu.pk
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-14787216>
<http://pakistannewstoday.4com.co/2014/06/09/promoting-research-chinese-varsity-aiou-sign-mou-in-science-and-technology.html>
<http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/islamabad/26-Oct-2014/chinese-culture-centre-to-start-in-january-next-year>
http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zzjg_663340/yzs_663350/gjlb_663354/2757_663518/
<http://www.jagsar.com/blog/benefits-of-online-training-over-classroom-training/>
<http://www.pakistan-china.com/news-detail.php?id=MjQ5&pageid=news#sthash.2ycdw9OZ.dpuf>
<http://ezinearticles.com/?Virtual-Classrooms-Of-New-Age-Education-System&id=1247367>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab,_Pakistan#Demographics_and_society
<http://pk.china-embassy.org/eng/jlnfanghua2011/t824233.htm>
<http://thediplomat.com/2011/02/confucius-whats-in-a-name/>
<http://www.bahria.edu.pk/>
http://www.chinese.cn/conference11/article/2011-12/12/content_394530.htm
<http://numl.info/confucius-institute-islamabad.aspx>
<http://karachi.chineseconsulate.org/eng/whjy/t1044582.htm>
<http://www.dawn.com/news/656505/sindh-to-teach-chinese-language-in-schools-from-2013>