



PAKISTAN - TURKEY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND PROSPECTS FOR STRENGTHENED BILATERAL COOPERATION

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Salem MAZHAR
Burhan KAYATÜRK
Maj. Gen. (R) Dr. Shahid HASHMAT
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Panel Notes

25.11.2020 (Wednesday) at 15.00
"Pakistan-Turkey Strategic Partnership and
Prospects for Strengthening Bilateral
Cooperation" panel held online by DIPAM
and CGSS (Center For Strategic Studies
Global). In the panel moderated by Laraib

HASSAN from CGSS, Vice Rector of Punjab
University from Pakistan Prof. Dr.
Muhammad Saleem MAZHAR and CGSS
Senior Advisory Board Member, Maj. (E)
Dr. Shahid HASHMAT, former MP from
Turkey and Turkey-Pakistan Friendship

Group member Burhan KAYATÜRK and Regional Development Specialist Mehmet Emre AKTUNA participated as speakers.

Moderator Laraib HASSAN, explain the purpose of the panel as achieving mutually beneficial results between Pakistan and Turkey, stated that it is important to emphasize the importance of cooperation between the two. She drew attention to the importance of this situation especially for Pakistan's young generations. Panel especially intended to emphasize the importance of cooperation between Pakistan and Turkey for the younger generation in Pakistan. She also stated that the panel will help young students learn more about the relations between the two countries and the geostrategic, economic and social importance of these relations.

The online international panel started with the keynote speeches of Brigadier General Akhtar NAWAZ, CGSS Senior Advisory Board Member. Nawaz stated that Turkey always supports Pakistan in Kashmir issue and another issues like disasters, emphasized that Turkey always on the forefront to help Pakistan in every regard. In addition, such panels, important for two countries citizens to get in touch and would help to strengthen the relationship between Pakistan and Turkey, he said. Nawaz, also stated that CGSS looks forward to strengthening ties between the two countries.

Burhan KAYATÜRK, stated that relations between two parties established on strong and good bases and stated that the relations are continuing well. He stated that both sides should strive to establish more cooperation in the economic and cultural fields between Turkey and Pakistan. He expressed his belief that both

countries should reestablish love and affection and emphasized that such relations should be reorganized. He commented that the friendly relations between the two countries could develop and include more countries, and by showing examples of Malaysia, Indonesia and some Arab states. He mentioned that Asian countries should establish a political partnership among themselves and drew attention to the Asian Parliament in order to strengthen the relations between Asian countries. He stated that Pakistan should be more visible among Asian countries. He emphasized that Pakistan should take a more active role in the international system and express the Kashmir problem in more areas.

Kayatürk, Turkey and Pakistan that have strong leaders and these leaders have extremely good relations with each other. He mentioned the potential cooperation issues between the two states and stated that more cooperation should be made in these areas in the future.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem MAZHAR, referring to the cultural and historical similarities between the two countries was stressed that Turkey has good relations with Pakistan. He expressed his admiration for Muhammad Iqbal and Rumi as famous thinkers of both sides and emphasized historical importance of these thinkers. He emphasized the necessity of diplomacy by stating that the basis of all diplomatic relations is the contact of people with people. He proposed the initiation of joint research and joint academic activities between the two countries. He drew attention to the influence of a similar culture with thinkers and academics who will bring the two countries closer. He stated that students should be supported with scholarships in

order to implement student exchange programs in academic terms. It is a valuable communication between Turkey and Pakistan and emphasized that this good relationship and good communication is important in every regard.

Mehmet Emre AKTUNA stated that the panel is has great importance for the development of bilateral relations. He emphasized the historical past by stating that there is solidarity between the two especially in political realm. Aktuna stated that he would view the relations between the two countries with a pessimistic perspective. He stated that despite the friendship and good relations between the two, it is not a good situation that their commercial figures are very low, and that the commercial figures between the two should be increased. The speaker mentioned the concerns about certain issues in diplomatic relations between Turkey and Pakistan and stated that the relations between the two should be further developed. Made suggestions by mentioning constructive policy options to strengthen relations. He stated that the brotherhood and friendship between the two countries should show itself stronger in tourism, informatics and trade, and that the Kashmir and Cyprus issues brought the two closer to each other. He stated that the two countries were in cooperation, solidarity in military relations, but complained about the lack of numerical relations between them despite the good relations between the two.

He stated that there was no expected participation or interaction, especially in the fields of education, culture, travel and tourism, and that these relations could be further developed. He agreed with the remarks of the previous speakers on the

Turkey-Pakistan relations. And he said bilateral ties will only get better in the future. He said that if the commercial cooperation between the two countries increases, there will be positive results for both countries.

Recalling that Pakistan is a nuclear power, he claimed that if she wanted, she had a lot to achieve. Reminding that there are no obstacles to the further development of the strategic partnership between the two countries, he stated that the two countries have sufficient capacity and opportunities. He stated capacity could be increased cooperation in the areas of information, communication and aviation between Turkey and Pakistan.

Dr. Shahid HASHMAT emphasized that the ties between the two countries have continued for generations and the two communities have a common cultural and historical background. The speaker stated that Turkey and Pakistan have great potential for trade, and stated that it is necessary to encourage tourism and facilitate travel. Speaking about the historical flow of diplomatic relations between the two countries, he stated that the two always support each other. He stated that both countries have been in cooperation for a long time.

He mentioned the Turkish development model as an example for Pakistan. Speaker reminded Turkey's support to Pakistan on Kashmir and mentioned that bilateral relations in education, military, trade and tourism need to develop further. He explained the commercial figures between the two and stated that these numbers are gradually increasing.

He argued that cooperation in the field of common defense should be increased and

cooperation should be ensured on high-tech warplanes, tanks and warships. Hashmat suggested that travel convenience and visa agreements be signed between the two countries. He emphasized that communication should be encouraged both as a society and as a state and bilateral relations should improve in trade.

Pakistan - Turkey to Strengthen Strategic Ties More:

- Providing political leadership to the Muslim world by forming a core advisory group within the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
- Promoting and supporting peaceful conflict resolution between OIC member states
- Expanding cooperation in the fields of higher education, research and development, and science and technology
- Providing scholarships and exchange programs for students / faculty members / researchers
- Cooperation against illegal immigration, especially to prevent Pakistanis illegal entrance Turkey to escape Europe
- Establishing a joint television channel and broadcasting organization to encourage co-production of movies and drama series in both languages
- Civil servants, senior military leaders, parliamentarians, academics, scientists, researchers, professionals (doctors, engineers, business people) and artists should make frequent exchange visits, as well as routine visits.



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ABOUT DISCUSSANTS

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem MAZHAR, vice-rector of Punjab University. He received his master's degree at Punjab University in 1986. After receiving his doctorate from Tehran University in 2006, he finished his post-doctorate at University of London School of "Oriental & African Studies (SOAS). He has many articles on topics such as Southeast Asia, Foreign Policy and literature which are in Urdu, Persian and English. Mazhar also took part in many projects and workshops.

Maj. Gen. (R) Dr. Shahid HASHMAT is CGSS Senior Consultant. He is a retired Major General of the Pakistan Army and has 37 years of experience in military leadership and higher education administration. He commanded a military unit in the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Haiti and served as the Officer in Charge of the General Planning Unit of the UN DPKO Mission Planning Service in New York. Former President / Dean of the International Center for Peace and Stability, National University of Science and Technology, Dr. Hashmat holds a Post-Doctorate in International Cooperation and a PhD in International Relations. He has published a book titled "International Conflict Resolution: The Role of the UN and OIC" (2014) and many articles in national and private journals. He has worked extensively in the fields of National Security, Regional and International Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, Combating Extremism / Terrorism and Interfaith Harmony.

Dr. Mehmet Emre AKTUNA is in charge of the Engineers and Architects Unit of TİKA Central Asia and Caucasus Department. After receiving his undergraduate degree from METU Civil Engineering program, he also completed his master's degree in the Faculty of Architecture, Cultural Heritage Preservation program at METU. He then received his doctoral degree from the Cultural Heritage Preservation program at Gazi University. Between 2010 and 2016, AKTUNA worked as the Engineer and Architects Unit of TİKA's Balkans and Eastern Europe Department, and between 2016-2018, he worked as the Program Director of TİKA Islamabad and Ashgabat.

Burhan KAYATÜRK graduated from Pakistan Lahore Engineering and Technology University Electrical-Electronics Engineering Department. He completed his master's degree in Business Administration at American International University. He has worked as an engineering and project manager in Pakistan, India, Nepal and Afghanistan, as a consultant and senior manager in international companies. He had different tasks in such AK Party Ankara Academy of Political Head of Turkey-Pakistan Friendship and President of the Cultural Association, Turkey Union of Engineers Honorary Board Vice-President and the Association of Research Entrepreneur Businessmen as Chairman of the Advisory Board. He was awarded the "State Medal" of the Pakistani Parliament. Kayatürk, who was elected as Ankara Deputy in the 23rd Term and Van in the 24th Term, is the Deputy Head of Foreign Affairs of the AK Party Headquarters and a Member of the Pakistan Friendship Group. He speaks English, Urdu, Arabic, Hindi and Japanese.