



Globalization, CPEC and Chinese Language

Salma Niazi*

Department of English, Jinnah University for Women, Karachi, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Globalization is not a word but the world itself. Globalization is interconnecting virtually every sphere of activity. One Belt One Road (OBOR) project which is proposed by China is uniting 100 countries. OBOR is a 21st century Silk Road. China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an integral part of mega project OBOR. CPEC reduces China's distance by 5 times, i.e. from 16000 km to 3000 km China is Pakistan's largest trading partner. The impact of globalization in the form of CPEC is immense. Globalization has an important effect on language. The connection of people results in the flow of language. The linguists suggest that we are influenced by the language we speak (Nicholas Weiler, 2015). The speaking of a language influences so much that we start thinking as the native speakers. It is important to learn Chinese language because soon Chinese will become a global language. So, the language will emerge as a lingua franca for trade and business. With the rising economy of China one can only compete with knowledge and trade after gaining command of the language. In the exploratory research qualitative paradigm was followed.

Keywords: One Belt One Road (OBOR), China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Chinese Language.

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*Address of Correspondence:

salmasaqib79@gmail.com

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1. INTRODUCTION

The impact of globalization is immense. Globalization means interconnections in virtually every facet of life. It covers a wide range of economic, political and cultural trends. Rapid flow of globalization is connecting the past with the future. Globalization covers variety of aspects and dimensions. Due to the impact of globalization and the promise of economic benefits will attract young people to dominant languages and businesses feed this interest because they do not hire people who do not speak dominant languages (Parker, 2005).

These interconnections lead to worldwide integrations. Globalization does not refer to removing boundaries of the countries only but it serves to represent all the nations of the world as a unified whole. Crystal (1997) asserts that power of people devises a language and people want to speak someone else's language for one reason-power. It connects China, Asia, Russia, Europe and Moscow. CPEC is a part of the OBOR project. The Silk Road unifies, economically, the Asian and the European continents through Eurasia—and it would be a system of rail transportation, of roads and of ports. At the geopolitical level OBOR is a mega project, of which China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an integral part.

On the wall in a university in Beijing on the poster, these remarkable words from Nelson Mandela are written: If you converse with a man in a dialect he comprehends, that goes to his head; that you converse with him in his own dialect that goes to his heart. As Chinese are coming to us it is vital to learn Chinese dialect. In the near future Chinese economy will surpass the economy of U.S. So, the language will emerge as an international language and as a lingua franca for trade and business. With the rising economy of China one can only compete with knowledge and trade after gaining command of the language. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), the most prestigious international financial institution in the world, has rated China's ranking to number one economic superpower in the world. Human creatures do not live in the Objective world alone, nor alone in the realm of social movement as commonly saw, yet are especially helpless before the specific dialect which has turned into the articulation for the general public. As indicated by a report from the daily paper The National, 'A large number of Chinese dialect experts and translators are required in future to address the issues created under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) venture.

These views were expressed by member of Punjab government scholarship selection committee and Chinese language expert Kamran Chaudhary. Punjab Chief Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has broad vision regarding the learning of Chinese language and the Punjab government has announced a scholarship scheme for 500 candidates (Kamran, 2016).

“The first batch of about 70 people has reached China for two-year Chinese language course while 200 selected candidates of the second batch are ready for China and their departure is expected in the end of September”. The Chinese dialect mediators and interpreters in Pakistan have incredible breadth, including the nation would be required a huge number of Chinese dialect specialists in future as a large number of Chinese specialists of various fields are relied upon to visit Pakistan to work in the CPEC. The administration was sending individuals to China for taking in the dialect however in future, a few Chinese dialect organizations were relied upon to work in Pakistan where Chinese dialect would be educated other than the planning of ace coaches.

CPEC is a trade project but it is beneficial for Pakistan as well as for south Asia. The inspiration to learn Chinese language is not only in Pakistan but Australia is also affected by Chinese influence (Rapoza, 2017). The study of the Chinese language is increasing in the United States and around the world. In 2009, about 60,000 American college students were studying Chinese (Kan, 2014). That is three times as many as in 1990. Clayton Dube is the head of the U.S.-China Institute at the University of Southern California. He praises Zuckerberg's effort and thinks more American CEOs should learn foreign languages. “To speak Chinese means you begin to think as Chinese people do. You begin to understand how Chinese speakers have the world organized, how they perceive things. And that is a vital step if you're going to be culturally competent”.

Research Question

Due to the impact of globalization and the commencement of CPEC is it important for Pakistani youth to learn Chinese language?

Objectives of the Study

The objective of the study is to find out the factors that are promoting rate of Chinese language acquisition in Pakistan:

- Globalization and Economic dominance of China.
- CPEC.
- CPEC related projects generate jobs.
- Reduce distance to China.
- To trade with China.
- It will reduce the rate of unemployment in Pakistan.

The Scope of Study

The study helps to determine the main factors of growing number of Chinese speaking people in Pakistan. The emergence of Chinese language will influence the future of Pakistani youth.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Virtually all fields of human endeavor are affected by growing worldwide interconnections. The interconnections occur in many fields of global environment for example economics, business, politics, culture and technology. The most important global trend is language because language is the most important prerogative of human beings. As human being is a social animal and it is important to communicate to blur the boundaries of interconnections. All these projects on one hand give us economic stability and on the other hand we will be influenced by the Chinese dragon in a way. As the budget is insufficient for education, science and technology it is the time for leaders to realize the fact that CPEC will increase economy trade and business in Pakistan. But the question is “are we preparing laborers and professional workers for future?” With the CPEC, there is hope that this project will open new business outlets for businessmen from China, Pakistan and Iran. It will also provide a platform of cooperation in huge agricultural sector and will boost tourism industry of Pakistan. It is important to create a team of efficient professionals and well skilled man power. Start speaking Chinese and you will start thinking as Chinese people do. Pakistan can avail great opportunities from China’s expert in various sectors like energy, technology and education sector to produce new employment opportunities.

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a 3,218-km set-up of roads, railways and dry ports from Gwadar Port to Kashgar and will enhance lives of about 3 billion people of this region. \$46 billion promised by China which now becomes \$58 billion is three times the total FDI Pakistan got in the last decade. So now Pakistan has expediency through CPEC as its FDI was on a decline. Now it has gained momentum by nearly 17% of their GDP. The project is estimated to directly create some 700,000 jobs up to 2030, and speed up GDP growth significantly. Pakistan is facing acute energy problems. The country’s overall capacity of power generation is 23,538 MW, leaving a shortfall of nearly 40,000 to 60,000 MW. If things go as planned, by 2017 these projects would add 10,400 MW to the national grid. Chinese banks are willing to finance If students start learning Chinese language it will beneficial for Pakistani Industry. It will increase export and job opportunities. The requirement of One Belt One Road and its linked project CPEC is to start learning Chinese.

Ellis (2006) debates that our interest in the language is the reason for the acquisition. Jiang (2000) discusses the need for learning a language with its culture since both are intrinsically inseparable. (Rehman, 2017) discusses the need of quality education. The highest national priority lies in the realization of the fact that our economy growth depends upon the investment in science and technology.

In the development of a country economy as well as science and technology play an important role. It is the dilemma of our nation that we are facing differences on unimportant issues. In order to be a part of developing world it is important to keep in pace with the world the economy of China is number one and they are making us powerful in the form of Gawader port and CPEC (Sullivan, 2015). All these projects on one hand give us economic stability and on the other hand we will be influenced by the Chinese dragon in a way. As the budget is insufficient for education, science and technology it is the time for leaders to realize the fact that CPEC will increase economy trade and business in Pakistan. But the question is “are we preparing laborers and professional workers for future?”

The most efficient way is to include Chinese language in the curriculum of educational institutes. When we learn the language of a culture then we realize the secret of their success. How they are at the top of the list.

Learning a language depends on the acquisition of culture when we start speaking Chinese we adopt the culture of these hardworking people then we realize the secret how Chinese dragon has dented the American eagle.

The future of English language is in danger in Pakistan after the commencement of CPEC project. In the past to travel and earn in U.S.A. was the cause of learning English. As nowadays China has gained economic power so, the youth of our country inspired by the high fortunes of Chinese dragon.

CPEC reminds the arrival of East India Company in undivided Sub-continent. In the past the entry of East India Company altered the language in Pakistan. CPEC will bring the Chinese near us it is important and urgent to learn the language. It is high time to realize the importance of Chinese language acquisition. For alas! We are not gaining the inspiration from the hardworking nation.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

It is a qualitative paradigm of research based on exploratory research. Inductive approach would be conducted and sampling would be non probability. To meet the objectives of cross sectional study both primary and secondary data would be collected through various methods and techniques. Secondary data would be obtained from various sources. Primary data would be collected through questionnaire and survey of the Confucius institute The University of Karachi.

4. DECISION AND CONCLUSION

It is recommended and the demand of the time that we must unite on this platform and appreciate the decision of including Chinese as a language in the curriculum of all schools, colleges and universities across Pakistan to prepare skilled, professionals and highly educated labourers or manpower for future. The real wealth of Pakistan is youth. The youth is attracted towards Chinese. It is a good sign and also it is high time to prepare skilled, professional and educated team to face the challenges of 2020 Pakistan.

While discussing questions to the learners of Chinese language that's why they inspire to learn Chinese instead of English. The answer of majority is in favor of Chinese. The respondents are interested in learning Chinese language because of economic dominance of China. 75% respondents learning Chinese because of job opportunities in China. 55% inspired of the culture. 80% interested in travel. 70% respondents learning Chinese as a second language. The answers suggest that future of Chinese will be brilliant in Pakistan.

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