



## Optimistic Role of China in Peace Building in Africa: A Case Study of Darfur

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**Abstract:** *The developing Sino-African relations are perceived by some foreign affairs academia as a measure of the basis on which its larger strategic drives are fabricated. Chinese interests on the continent not merely focus on economic benefits however also includes governmental, security, and sociopolitical interests. This fast-developing correlation offers opportunities besides challenges to both China and Africa. China's trade, venture, and infrastructural development support are primarily re-modeling African markets. However, Chinese growth posturing retreat dilemma to international power balance. Particularly, the US perceives the African continent as ravenous for their investments, expertise, and peace, and cordiality. Moreover, argumentative concerns are distressing these relations. Africa remained a fatality of Western colonialism in addition to "strings-attached" methodologies. Hence, carried around using "quasi-state" players, thus, frequently condemned through majority African leadership to interfere with the local affairs within a few African states besides also offering reliant over foreign-aid support. This article endeavors to use the qualitative nature of the study based on secondary sources. Therefore, the descriptive-analytical technique is used to conclude a critical study of Sino-African relations besides conflict management in Africa, making a case study of Sudan. This paper also attempts to examine that how China's investments on the continent are donating to issues by observing transmission of Chinese weapons towards Sudan underbid of securing petroleum to guard its domestic safeties.*

**Key Words:** Africa, China, Darfur, Quasi-state, Balance of Power, Conflict Management

### Introduction

China's foreign policy towards the African continent started growing during the 1950-the 70s, due largely to China's anted towards disrupting global isolation, relocate Taiwan while globally documented administration of Chinese, thus swap the aforementioned by Beijing policies (Sullivan, 2018, p. 15). Moreover, it, too, wanted to encounter former United Russian supremacy while using sufficient radical resistor to stop Western radical viewpoints standards of equality, liberty of language, and material being fully engrossed into Chinese Civilization. This was a test for the state's financial development. After the demise of Mao in 1976, China boarded on a slow financial rearrangement which caused an

optimistic impact on financial development and additional communication through the alfresco realm. Thus, China is underway liaising by African republics through supplementary self-governing African administrations frugally (Taylor, 1998, pp. 443-460).

While China's economic growth across the global scheme, most researchers forecast that it might stand as utmost leading political then political company over the globe aimed 2025 (DNI, 2008, p. 29). Essentially, it has all the qualities to make a country a great and influential state: A huge people expert and controlled and full of nationwide arrogance and devotion, massive earthly and a home-grownup

development and individuality. Its attention is focused on structure philosophical unity among states in Africa aimed at loan collectivism, thus, deterring West's expansion [\\_\(Chigora, 2012\)](#). Thus far, Chinese safeties across Africa reformed towards further practical pursuits, including expertise, asset, also strength. Interpreting realists', each state remains autonomous thus follows its domestic safeties while persuasion of protecting its existence. Accordingly, China's objectives are to mollify its politico-economic and ethno-ideological interests to dominate its persistence in the international order.

Diplomatically, Africa is perceived as the primary measure; thus, Chinese larger premeditated drives have been fabricated. Moreover, Africa appears as another greatest landform behind the Asian continent; hence, it pursues African backing towards polygonal mediums like the UN, particularly to the power of its balloting alliance. Entirely, the states of Africa represent over one-quarter of the United Nations member countries and ballots; thus, China owes global communalist association [\\_\(Cheru & Obi, 2010, p. 46\)](#). Sino-African relations remain supportive to improvements contained by the UN. Such as, Africa Union has future packages for United Nations improvements aimed cumulative towards seats in the UN Security Council (UNSC). Thus, providing a chance to China to increase presence on the African continent. Ideologically, China-Africa offers identical fundamental past persecution by West foreign controls, thus shared empathy towards emerging democracies.

Economically, predominantly Chinese involvement over the African continent affluence investments in addition trades. Sino-African trade relations remained rising to 40 percent annually, including above 480 percent of upsurge aimed at manufactured fashion items targeting China during 2003-2014. Moreover, China, following its status of emergent business and trade economy, has offered extra employments towards Africa, thus validating as well as gaining investment yields, exploit productivity besides minimizing the liability aimed dependence over national economical-plans [\\_\(Rotberg, 2009, p. 87\)](#).

Moreover, it too supports self-governing African governments prudently providing developmental loans as a primary instrument of improvement. Additionally, China has also industrialized a working substructure to establish a growing system of relations in Africa. Such as, it funded Tanzania US dollars 500 million aimed at the assembly of a railway-track network involving Tanzania and Zambia [\\_\(Alden, Large, & Oliveira, 2008, p. 198\)](#).

Though the Chinese unceasingly considered itself an epicenter of the global economic sphere, its rising effect in Africa is stimulating the Western delusion of equality, social privileges, and Eulex, thus acceptable marketplaces within Africa. Though, China has been objected many times for mistreating human rights and indorsing deprived equality in addition to non-offering some applications offering transfer of services in addition data towards the African continent [\\_\(Cheru & Obi, 2010\)](#). Moreover, Sino-African dealings have also been observed on an extraordinary increase as compared to the West in general and the US in particular. Approximately, few argumentative concerns distressing Afro-Western relationships contain western representations aimed at capitalism besides liberalism republics which are appeared by maximum Africans as un-befitting to their factual settings and their history as well as values.

The Western states have been forcing African regimes to embrace equality to validate enduring support courses towards respective states [\\_\(Prempeh, 2007, pp. 469-506\)](#). Furthermost, leadership in Africa to reasons democracy as immaterial for African growth requirements citing China as a model of development. An additional argumentative subject moving African relations with the West is dogmatic denationalization that has been enforced in few governmental establishments within Africa. Moreover, it too not follows dogmatic denationalization however stimulates state inventiveness side-by-side with private inventiveness having value-adding actions, service formation, and comprehensive growth [\\_\(Rotberg, 2009, p. 31 & 204\)](#).

Formerly, soliciting research case study, it is substantial to consider the foremost causative aspects of Sino-Africa peace-building relations and Chinese engagement in Sudan crisis that largely involves: foremost, explanation of China's character of engagement in Africa, while the other efforts to investigate research study in case of Sudan's engagement with China in particular. Primarily, it offers exploration concluded the considerations of overt engagements and covert dealings with the African continent in general and Sudan in particular. The endeavor has been laid in to integrate the latest works and readings on the matter to appraise the course and be productive, in fact. Thus, the reviews recognized the neediness of upgrading study balancing over China's peace-building in African and its engagements in Sudan.

Though the number of books, periodicals, papers, articles, and readings attempted on the issue, limitations of the study, particularly in the case of Chinese engagement in Sudan, exist. Thus, it necessitates to discourse the referred concerns by considering the case study of Sudan with particular concern in discovering Sino-Africa peace-making engagements and its repercussions in an embryonic international peace-building effort in Africa. Therefore, the data collected for this research will be analyzed referring to "Realist Theory" with the intention to comprehend the behavior and interactions among states. Sino-African engagements as overall while Sino-Sudan, as specific, is deliberated in relations to oil quest, resource-capital domination, and control over market-economy with viable argument.

### **Theoretical Setting: A Socio-Political Context of Stability**

Predominantly, the international order has always been considered as an arena for power struggle by the realists. Power, an aptitude to affect the performance of others, and the aptitude to thrive in conflict. [Mearsheimer, 2001](#) essentials two styles of power: covert (dormant) and overt (offensive). Covert remarks social-economic fixings leading towards structuring of overt (military) power, hence, mainly established over

state affluence then general choice from the public (Mearsheimer, 2001, p. 46). Aimed at realists, the global scheme remains revolutionary, henceforth requirement of imperative constancy offering states illustrious evolutionary control besides a score of contentment. Thus, the hegemonic status quo refers to stabilizing the current directive. Ever since the culmination of the Cold War, the US has been the hegemon-state during the 21st Century. Though China has emerged as a hegemon-state, however, it is striving to be a great power [\(Cheung, 2018, p. 22\)](#).

Moreover, the hegemonic constancy viewpoint forecasts anti-US alliance would not arise supremacies including UK, France as well as Japanese remain fundamentally contented authorities captivated within stabilizing current international order [\(Barnett & Duvall, 2005\)](#). While one school of thought in international relations academia vies that the increase of China in the global scheme makes possible all-pervading security in the quest with the US that might consequence in considerable prospect for confrontation. N Woods views it as an arena of competition towards countless control in international order [\(Woods, 2011, p. 253\)](#). While Mearsheimer's quarrels are unacceptable it views, the Chinese rise will not prime the confrontation since core power players like the UK, Japan, and France are comfortable in stabilizing the US dominance [\(Mearsheimer, 2001, p. 52\)](#).

Predominantly, the qualitative technique of learning is applied to determine the research findings. Moreover, the descriptive-analytical method is used to consider the existing character of existing Sino-African peace-building engagements and contextualize China's aspect in Sudan's crisis with a foremost emphasis on the recent politico-economic activities and peace-building process.

### **China Factor in Peace Building within Africa**

China's strategy towards the African continent was inconsequential till the 1950s [\(Shinn, David H.; Eisenman, Joshua, 2012, p. 194\)](#). However, during the 1950-the 90s, China's policies towards Africa developed gradually [\(Shinn, David H.;](#)

Eisenman, Joshua, 2012, p. 30). Primarily, it aimed at diminishing Inter-continental inaccessibility, engaging earlier united Russia aimed at prevalence within international communalist drive, thus, correspondingly dislodging Taiwan globally accepted Chinese administration. Moreover, it also proclaimed "Eight-Principles," addressing techno-economy support to African states in 1964\_(Alden, Large, & Oliveira, 2008, p. 200). These "Eight Principles" were perceived as candid African-driven strategy by the majority of the African leadership, hence, an outline as contrasting to neo-liberalist IMF besides World Bank Procedures. China has never asked for any treats or involved some conditions; thus, it has attracted African leadership to continue with China's inclusive international position.

The problematic issues of Africa with the question of how they are accomplished professionally and skillfully remains one of the foremost trials of the recent era. Moreover, China has been condemned for its character in conflict management and peace-building in Africa, including the Darfur issue in Sudan to DR Congo. However, China has been engaged in the mutual-recreation part within the post-clash rebuilding process. Such as, it displayed a part in support of Sudan's peace contracts in 2005, which concluded in the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)\_(Grawert, 2010, p. 29). Thus, the emergence of a political change as a new independent democracy of South Sudan. However, China in peace-building engagements within Africa has contributed to Involvement in UN Assignments in Africa, supporting human rights and improvement, monetary assistance, and lastly, taking part in multidimensional mediums trailing a converted resolve to engagements de-mining support and to end within anti-piracy actions.

### China and UN Peace-keeping

Chinese have been offering monetary endowment aimed at UN mediation across Africa through logistic sustenance to the United Nations and the confined regions. It, too, has contributed to the

UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) in 2005-11, which had the objective to provide the support to CPA that managed the emergence of South Sudan\_(Koos & Laurent, 2010, p. 29). China has also supported the de-mining efforts in conflicted zones of Africa. Hence, I assisted in de-mining in Eritrea and also trained over 120 mine-clearance experts of Eritrea\_(OCHA, 2003). Subsequently 1998, China has operated along with the UN and afforded land-mines clearance assistance besides provision of gears to different African states, including Sudan, Chad, Mozambique, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda, Eritrea, and Angola, thus, helped decrease risks in conflict zones.

### Development and Humanitarian Assistance

Chinese have backed development efforts besides humanitarian assistance towards different African states like Sudan. As, throughout Darfur issue, it contributed sustenance-supplies, daily-wearing, besides medicines for millions who remained emigrants because of the hostilities. Darfur referred for prolonged under-development, and it is one of the problems contributing towards problems in the area\_(Brosché, 2008). To counter this, China has been attractive in the building of infrastructure developments. Chinese suppliers have employed the assembly of principal highways surrounded by the Darfur province. Moreover, by establishing its Embassy in Sudan in 2008, China has too augmented assistance to South Sudan (Avruch & Mitchell, 2013). Furthermore, through participation in multi-lateral settings, it pursued a negotiated resolution to issues in Africa. It has somewhat displayed a character in deciding issues in Africa.

### China and Peace Building in Darfur

Sino-Sudan relationships were insignificant afore Sudan's freedom in 1956. However, the mutual relations between the two states commenced developing immensely from 1956 to 1990\_(Lai, 2007). However, this correlation is predominantly trade and industry as it is principally driven to a large extent by the Chinese endeavor to maintain its domestic securities. China's intentions at

monitoring and manipulating Sudan's capitals are predominantly oil. Thus, the claim is forced by China's increasing mandate for oil capital as a consequence of its express economic development. Moreover, China is also supportive of developmental ventures in numerous areas of the state.

Therefore, it has capitalized billions, predominantly in the oil industry. Subsequently the endorsement of the CPA in 2005, China have developed as an innovative frontline for an economic industrialist in Sudan. Wherein, it has been supportive to developmental endeavors, including structuring education complexes, developing medics and care facilities, transportation besides energy groundwork in the country. Hence, a source of oil-capital other than supporting funding to sustain the government. Moreover, Sudan also exports cotton, metal scraps, and sesame to China in the trade of weapons imports, clothing, and manufactured textile goods.

As the Chinese wages extra attention to practice soft-power in Sudan, the fast-rising relationship offers massive prospects besides trials to the emerging state (Ganguly, Scobell, & Lio, 2017). Though China has arbitrated dialogues among belligerent groups in Sudan, yet its role is somewhat intermittent. During the course of the balloting across Sudan during the 2000s, Chinese affianced balloting through the capital, whereas towards South-Sudan, it mapped CPA with topography linking petroleum, hence drove added to the conflicts in the region. Even, Chinese subsidized in multi-faceted opportunities following resolve to skirmishes in two Sudan's thus attracted criticism over its character in violating human rights.

Sudan, the foremost petroleum-capitalist republics across Africa, the appearance aimed China offers rheostat besides exploitation plan to petroleum-industry in Sudan. China's financial aids have non merely anticipated "neo-colonialism"; however too offered despotism as well as oppression within Sudan. Paradoxically, China contends that it does not intervene in the domestic matters of the states it contracts with.

However, this is deceptive and challenging in Africa and for countries aspirant to advance democracies (Large, Daniel, 2008). Thus, Sudan was attracted to China when its dealings with international monetary organizations turned problematic due to a deprived democratic system. Established on the realist's view, despotism in Sudan would have been powerless to control the state with no substantial financial as well as an armed endowment through China (Alden, Chris; Large, Daniel; Oliveira, Ricardo Soares de, 2008). Moreover, most interpreters of politics hypothesize China's financial support aimed at Sudan's despotic élite has costed very high humanitarian abuses in Sudan and particularly Darfur. Therefore, Sudan is globally documented as a leading African state where dislocation and human-rights exploitations have arbitrated at greater enormity.

Chinese factor aimed Darfur extends beyond petroleum capital. Thus, it remained uncultured defilements involving humanitarian abuses encompassing an assortment of armed, securities, and law enforcement agency paraphernalia (Amnesty International Report, 2011). China is among a few countries together with France, Saudi-Arabia, and Iran that have excessive extent numbers of fighting weaponries and light-guns and ammo to Sudan. The Darfurian zone was intensely pretentious by the propagation of these fighting weaponries and light guns. Thus, belligerence faster in height within conflict region. Moreover, the estimate of the humanitarian abuses, innocent killings, and obliteration of major portions were enormous. Thus, it resulted in around 1.6 million general public displacements within Darfur, whereas over 200,000 displacements to the bordering states, including Chad, while thousands were massacred (UN News Service, 2006).

Actually, the West has always been a critic to the Chinese for ongoing transmissions of the fighting equipment to Sudan. On the pretext of being well-recognized, arms transfers resulting massive massacres, sexual abuses, and kidnappings by government-equipped militias and associated fighting groups in combat regions. The former official government of Sudan is

accused of using outpourings in oil-capitals to support an armed volume that has been practiced in Darfur, involving humanitarian abuses massive massacred in the area (Amnesty International Report, 2003). Furthermore, China has also been suspected of supplying gunships to former governments in Khartoum to subjugate resentment in current South-Sudan and Darfur (Daly, Martin W., 2010). Paradoxically, China argues that armaments supplies are supportive to the resistance of the receiver state. Moreover, it does not warn peace, safety, and reliability of the state in general and the international community as a particular. Yet, they also do not intervene with the domestic matters of the state.

Chinese do not merely venerate humanitarian aspects but similarly, trust on military besides law enforcement agency paraphernalia to empower them to remain its annexation of natural-capitals at the cost of general public such as Merowe-dam venture. The venture exiled local farmers, and skirmish resulted with police. However, the people were lastly relocated by the dam establishments. Still, there is a resilient trend of Chinese aggravating skirmishes in Sudan. Perhaps, the Chinese workers constructing the power tower engaged with waterwells in Bayuda while barred the Manasir nomadic access facility, thus resulting in the killings of numerous of these nomadic by the trained and equipped soldiers. (Gleichen, 1905, p. 30).

Hence, as Chinese doughs African continent offering socio-political, socio-economic, techno-economic, requirement aimed at subterranean exploration would be concluded at originating special belongings of such association within African continent. Though China is inspiring Africa's furthestmost suppressive establishments, thus growing the prospect of crisis. Yet, it is for that reason authoritative in engagement with African states. Hence, it concluded that states in Africa require to exercise extra attentiveness in their mutual relations as they receive Chinese financial assistance, development ventures, and supply fighting apparatus besides training facilities.

## Conclusion

China's increased existence in Africa has obstructed equally constructively and destructively towards peace-building and reliability in the continent. Moreover, in a few states like Sudan experiencing representative evolutions, it has offered significant aid supports, including capitalizing in infrastructures, presenting technical contributions, and assistance in cooperative projects. Conversely, in states that have premeditated capitals, including Sudan, Nigeria, and Angola, it too deteriorates the raw-capital expletive, thus reinforcing neo-genealogical configurations which are barely self-governing henceforth foremost aimed at humanoid rights exploitations (Richard, 2008). Such, meanwhile 1990s, the Chinese facilitated Sudanese government to expand the indigenous armaments market that has certainly driven the ferocity of the entire region. Moreover, it has also been equipping firearms to these states. Thus, such firearms are notorious present-day apparatuses for despotism and violence. Lastly, China has donated to peace-keeping interferences to African states developing after conflicts, for instance, in Sudan and South-Sudan.

Although realists contend that the global order is recognized by anarchy, thus certainly China's increased existence in Africa has established that. Even though maintaining a permanent seat in UNSC and owning decisive status towards vigorously addressing obligation amid entire countries bearing the global undertakings, for instance, validating intercontinental peace-building, China has fueled conflicts through the continent. It has been blamed for careless armaments transferences to African states that have steered conflicts and humanitarian exploitations (Richard, 2005). Whereas maintaining a permanent seat in UN Security Council, it has the principal obligation to control the flow of armaments transferences and ensure it do not donate to persistent humanitarian exploitations and international human-rights act. Therefore, African leaders and international relations academics concerned about the continent essentially gauge policies

aimed at Chinese engagement on the African continent besides evolution of the bearings it has on Africa's future. Thus, more studies on the subject will facilitate the comprehension and understanding of the matter concerned.

Latterly, the conclusion leads to practicable recommendations concerning China's character in peace-building within Africa in general and Sudan in particular. Hence, Chinese investments are generous in reshaping the continent however are not creating any space for transmission of services and technologies to particular state. Thus, it needs transference of equipment and expertise

to African states. Moreover, there is a requirement for the Chinese leadership to support democracy along-with development in Africa. African leadership requires scrutinization to answer experiments accessible aimed at Chinese position on the African continent through instigating modules since former democracies remained engaged with China. Reinforce pellucidity concerning armaments transmissions through recording and openly on every aspect relating services, security, and policing that have been sanctioned export besides transportation, thus, documenting data from state to user.

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