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Abstract

The research is about the Pakistan's diplomatic ties with the Republic of Korea (ROK). It explains the historical context and latest status of Pakistan's relation with Republic of Korea. Pakistan and the Republic of Korea established diplomatic relations in 1983. The relationship between the two countries has been distinguished by economic cooperation, trade, and cultural exchanges. Both nations have looked to strengthen their ties through diplomatic conversation and collaborations on various regional and global programs. Bilateral trade and investment have played a notable role in enhancing the bond, with both countries attracting sectors such as electronics, textiles, and machinery. Trade between Pakistan and Republic of Korea has seen compatible growth. Pakistan's diplomatic relations with Republic of Korea shows how it balances economic gains, and strategic flexibility to manage its foreign policy goals.

Keywords: Diplomatic Ties, Economic Cooperation, Trade and Investment, Cultural Exchanges

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Abstract

The research is about the Pakistan's diplomatic ties with the Republic of Korea (ROK). It explains the historical context and latest status of Pakistan's relation with Republic of Korea. Pakistan and the Republic of Korea established diplomatic relations in 1983. The relationship between the two countries has been distinguished by economic cooperation, trade, and cultural exchanges. Both nations have looked to strengthen their ties through diplomatic conversation and collaborations on various regional and global programs. Bilateral trade and investment have played a notable role in enhancing the bond, with both countries attracting sectors such as electronics, textiles, and machinery. Trade between Pakistan and Republic of Korea has seen compatible growth. Pakistan's diplomatic relations with Republic of Korea shows how it balances economic gains, and strategic flexibility to manage its foreign policy goals.

Keywords: [Diplomatic Ties](#), [Economic Cooperation](#), [Trade and Investment](#), [Cultural Exchanges](#)

Introduction

Pakistan- Republic of Korea ties shows the both countries' bilateral diplomatic relations. In 1983, diplomatic relations were formed between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea (ROK). Pakistan and the Republic of Korea have significant diplomatic ties with each other. In 1983, proper diplomatic relations were formed between

Pakistan and the Republic of Korea (ROK). The Republic of Korea (ROK) is known as South Korea. There are several aspects of interaction between the two nations. Pakistani laborers who study Korean in their own country before relocating to South Korea are also welcomed as employees. The two Asian states' ties have occasionally upgraded since the 1980s. To attain sustainable growth and

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prosperity, it is crucial to implement efficient economic strategies and learn from the experiences of successful economies, as demonstrated by the comparison between the Republic of Korea and Pakistan. Pakistan may achieve economic growth and development by forming proactive relationships and strategic alliances with dynamic economies such as South Korea (Khan, [2019](#)). Pakistan and South Korea's diplomatic ties have grown stronger bond with one another and a common interest. The trade between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea has grown with the passage of time. Both international places export and import various items and services, inclusive of electronics, machinery, textiles, and more. South Korean agencies have shown concern in making an investment in Pakistan, specifically within the regions of electricity, infrastructure, and era. Joint ventures and commercial enterprise partnerships have contributed to financial growth and improvement. Many Bilateral agreements were signed to sell and facilitate trade, investment, and economic cooperation among these two nations.

According to official reports, the National Highway Authority worked with specialists from South Korea to make the feasibility assessment for the large-scale project of the Malakand Division. The aim of the project is to develop the travel experience for people traveling to the Malakand Division and those traveling from the Malakand Division. It is expected that this project will significantly enhance the region's transportation infrastructure and connectivity (Ali, [2015](#)). A financing deal has been signed by the Korea Exim Bank and the Ministry of Information Technology. Attending the signing event, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar underlined the government's dedication to building an inclusive financial and digital landscape in Pakistan. He said that the Awami Markaz building in Islamabad was turned into a software park during the previous PML(N) government and that now, with help from South Korea, a comprehensive multi-purpose park will be constructed. Speaking about the more than two thousand IT enterprises in Pakistan and the large number of university graduates in IT subjects, a representative from the Korean Exim Bank expressed confidence in the potential of the country's IT sector. Through this initiative, the

Korean Exim Bank is excited to promote Pakistan's socio-economic growth (Times of Islamabad, [2017](#)). Through this initiative, the Korean Exim Bank is excited to promote Pakistan's socio-economic growth.

Pakistan and South Korea had different economic tracks in the late 1940s, even though they were both agricultural countries with same way historical base. While South Korea became a leading global economy and made incredible progress, Pakistan struggled to maintain long-term economic growth. This discrepancy offers Pakistan the chance to learn from South Korea's prosperous economic policies and accomplishments, opening the door for well-informed decision-making and policy changes that promote sustained economic growth (Lee, Lee, & Park, [2018](#)). It is important to recognize that South Korea and Pakistan are two very different countries with unique economies, cultures, and sets of issues. Although South Korea is a leader in infrastructure, economic development, and education, Pakistan has its own advantages, such as its natural resources and cultural legacy. Every nation has strengths and opportunities for development, so any comparisons should consider the unique priorities and settings of each one. Pakistan and South Korea enjoyed a pleasant diplomatic bond. The countries maintained embassies in every other's capital and engaged in numerous varieties of cooperation, specifically in economic and trade sectors. Trade and investment between Pakistan and South Korea have been developing, with collaboration in regions like technology and infrastructure. The two nations signed various agreements for economic cooperation, trade, investment, and cultural trade. Economic ties between Pakistan and South Korea have been developing, with trade and funding being important components of the connection. The Cultural exchange applications, together with artwork exhibitions, performances, and educational exchanges, contributed to improving people to human beings' connections. The relationship between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea is still a living example of the ability of friendship and cooperation to cross national boundaries and promote prosperity for all, even as both countries develop and advance on the international scene. Despite their geographical

separation, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea have been allies and partners for many years. With their geographical separation, both countries have fostered a partnership based on respect for one another, cooperative economic growth, and cross-cultural interaction (Khalid, [2021](#)).

Statement of Problem

Pakistan's diplomatic ties with the Republic of Korea (ROK) were a subject of interest inside the global arena. This looks at targets to research the complexities, demanding situations, and implications of Pakistan's diplomatic ties with the Korean state. The evaluation has shed light on the historical context, political considerations, and capability effect on nearby and global dynamics. Understanding the historical evolution of Pakistan's diplomatic relations with the ROK is crucial. Balancing relations with this country, which has a unique geopolitical position and international profile, calls for Pakistan to carefully navigate its overseas policy choices. Pakistan's diplomatic ties with South Korea preserve large implications for nearby and global dynamics. This study focuses on comprehensively looking at the multifaceted nature of Pakistan's ties with the Republic of Korea.

Research Questions

- How has the diplomatic relationship between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea developed since their acceptance?
- How do Pakistan's alliances and economic interests shape its approach to establishing relations with the Republic of Korea?

Research Objectives

Objectives related to research are:

- To inquire into the factors that directed the flourishing of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea.
- To analogize the diplomatic link between Pakistan and South Korea, keeping interest in economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, and political conjunction.
- To investigate how political and regional developments have affected the diplomatic bond between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea in recent years.

- To analyze how the differing bond with South Korea aligns with or diverges from Pakistan's broader foreign policy objectives and priorities.

Literature Review

The study "Pakistan's Diplomatic Ties with the Republic of Korea" has been the subject of several publications, research papers, and articles in various journals. The following are the reviews of the examined studies:

In the study "Cultural Gala' to Bolster Pak-Korea Ties" by Baig ([2024](#)), it is stated that through lots of cultural events, the Korea-Pakistan Cultural Gala, which takes place from October 22 to 27, looks to strengthen the connection between South Korea and Pakistan. In addition to National Armed Day, there will be performances by well-known musicians including Uzair Jaswal and Kim Min-hee, as well as a folk music band, and Taekwondo exhibitions by Pakistani and Korean teams. In addition, the Pakistan National Council of the Arts will feature four Korean films. The occasion celebrates 40 years of diplomatic ties between the two countries and indicates their long-standing collaboration in the fields of education, culture, and the economy. The importance of their lifelong friendship and the necessity of ongoing cultural and educational exchanges were stressed by Korean Ambassador Park Kujin as ways to improve bilateral relations (Baig, [2024](#)). Research studies on the long-term effects of these types of cultural events on bilateral relations are significantly missing.

In the article "Globalization and the Nation States - Challenges and Opportunities for Pakistan" by Shah & Khan ([2023](#)), it is discussed how Pakistan is currently confronted with a challenging environment that includes political instability, economic debt, and tense ties with its neighbors. The development of a cogent national plan necessitates a detailed examination to solve these issues and prosper in the modern globalized world. Pakistan strives to establish economic, political, and security stability by taking lessons from successful countries like Bangladesh, Vietnam, South Korea, and India. To understand how these nations successfully managed the possibilities and problems of globalization and contributed to their

success, this research uses a comparative method. Pakistan may learn from Bangladesh, Vietnam, South Korea, and India as examples of countries that have effectively negotiated globalization. More detailed explanations of the lessons learned from these nations would be helpful (Shah & Khan, 2023). The gap that I have explored is what programs, approaches, and techniques have been effective, and how might Pakistan modify them.

In the study "Pakistan-Korea Diplomatic Relations" by Gilani (2023), Suh Sangpyo, the current Korean ambassador to Pakistan, is aggressively working to improve relations between the two countries in a few areas, including trade, culture, and education. Pakistan is significant as a quickly developing country with a sizable population and a wealth of natural resources, according to Ambassador Sangpyo. He also spoke of Pakistan's strategic significance given its location between Asia and the Middle East and its historical significance as a stop along the Silk Road. Additionally, Ambassador Sangpyo highlighted Pakistan's extensive cultural legacy, which includes the Islamic traditions, the Mohenjo-Daro culture, the Gandhara Buddhist Arts, and the Indus culture. Since the two countries' diplomatic connections were established in 1983, there has been a noticeable improvement in their bilateral relations, notably in the areas of commerce, investment, cultural exchange, and development cooperation (Gilani, 2023). The research gap is the significant turning moments, obstacles, and milestones in their relationship that can provide a full understanding. The economic aspect of their relationships may be better understood by analyzing trade numbers, investment trends, and economic agreements.

In the study "Salik Sees Huge Potential in Furthering Economic Ties between Pakistan and South Korea" by Abrar (2022), the federal minister Chaudhry Salik Hussain, for the Board of Investment (BOI), has emphasized the tremendous opportunity to strengthen commercial connections between Pakistan and South Korea. He stated that the collaboration between Samsung and Lucky Motors to manufacture cell phones in Pakistan will improve their economic and commercial ties. South Korean Ambassador Suh Sangpyo also voiced hope over the two countries' strong economic and commercial ties, with intentions to further

collaboration in a few areas and foster intercultural exchange. South Korea is also updating its travel advice for Pakistan and will shortly start a group tour (Abrar, 2022). The study should examine any fields where Pakistan and South Korea may work together most effectively. The most promising areas for mutual gain may be identified through analysis, which can help direct specific actions.

In the article "Mechanisms of the 'Aid Curse': Lessons from South Korea and Pakistan" by Prasad & Nickow (2016), experts have questioned whether foreign aid, despite its good intentions, may obstruct progress. In contrast, East Asian countries had remarkable development in the 1960s despite receiving significant aid. Researchers compared the effects of aid on development in South Korea and Pakistan to better comprehend this conundrum. The study reveals that despite being pervasive, corruption managed to grow dramatically in South Korea. Pakistan, on the other hand, had a strong bureaucracy but had trouble expanding. The main difference between the two countries was their tax structures. Combined with foreign assistance, countries with poor tax administration foreign aid and poor tax management in a country can be led to debt cycles that impede growth. In contrast, nations devoted to strict taxes, even when receiving help, might avoid the ill effects of foreign aid, a phenomenon known as the "aid curse" (Prasad & Nickow, 2016). The paper does not go further into the causal links, despite mentioning corruption and tax laws as important factors. And does development impact corruption and how does corruption impact development levels? I get more insight and also examine these links in greater depth.

Economic Companionship and Development

An important changing point in the undisruptive efforts to strengthen the economic ties between Pakistan and South Korea was met during the third meeting of the Joint Trade Committee, which happened on January 6, 2021. This meeting gave both parties a platform to have profound talks on strengthening bilateral trade and investment links. The objective was to find areas of mutual interest and synergies that may propel bilateral trade and investment to new heights via constructive discussion and idea exchange. To further

strengthen economic cooperation, the talks probably made clear how important it is to create a supportive regulatory environment and improve trade facilitation policies. Both Pakistan and South Korea aimed to improve business conditions and enable companies to take advantage of new possibilities in the international market by removing trade and investment restrictions (Finance Division, 2021). The third Meeting of the Joint Trade Committee demonstrated Pakistan's and South Korea's dedication to fostering a solid and long-lasting alliance based on mutual confidence, collaboration, and shared economic objectives. The two nations sought to fully use their economic connection for the benefit of their respective economies and populations via cooperative efforts and ongoing interaction. As a commercial, investment, and development partner, the Republic of Korea is very important to Pakistan. The two nations have significant economic ties. Korea has made investments in Pakistan in several industries, including power generation, automobiles, electronics, and candy. Prominent Korean corporations such as Daewoo, Lotte, Samsung, Hyundai, and Kia have become well-known brands in Pakistan. Furthermore, Korean companies have entered thermal and hydropower projects, enhancing Pakistan's energy industry. Pakistan is also a possible entry point to the Middle East, Central Asia, and other regions due to its advantageous geographic position. Pakistan is one of the ROK's most reliable human resource partners. Our workers are contributing to the economic development of the nation through the Korean Employment Permit System (EPS), which aims to supply labor to the ROK industry through the systematic import of foreign workforce (Park Y.-b. , 2016). Many laborers from Pakistan entered the ROK using the method in just the previous year. With the help of our Korean partners, we hope to greatly raise this. Improving the flow of competent labor complies with international standards for human resource quality.

Additionally, Korea has provided official development support to Pakistan since 1991. Pakistan cherishes this development cooperation. The Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) of Korea has given incentives for infrastructure, healthcare, and technology projects

of almost \$1 billion over the 2022–2026 time period (Munir, 2023). In addition, a Korea Partnership for Innovation of Agriculture (KOPIA) provision has been maintained in Pakistan as part of an ongoing interaction in agricultural research. With the advantage of Pakistani farmers and the upgradation of bilateral cooperation in this critical area (Park & Moon, 2019). This project seeks to develop agricultural productivity and ease knowledge provision between the two countries.

The signing of the Framework Arrangement between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea is an important development in the current relationship between the two countries. The arrangement, aggregate to US\$ 1,000 Million, indicates a collective request for the course of sustainable development in sectors instrumental to Pakistan's development progression. The honoured Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq acted as president in the ceremony with the attendance of persuasive officials, comprising Mr. Mian Asad Hayaud Din and H.E. Suh SangPyo. By signing the document, the leaders stated their oath to the pursuit of partnership in essential areas, including health, communication, agriculture, energy, and with a specific focus on information technology (Economic Affairs Division, 2022).

Mutual Political Engagements

Former Korean ambassador to Pakistan Dr. Song Jong-hwan, who is now a chair professor at Kyungnam University, stated that Korea would like to improve ties with Pakistan, especially in the areas of trade and tourism. Dr. Song emphasized the opportunities for Korean investors in Pakistan's tourism and industrial sectors while presiding over a delegation made up of officials from academics, industry, and tourism. Citing Pakistan's Buddhist sites as appealing travel destinations for religious visitors, he underlined the potential for collaboration in cultural and religious tourism. Dr. Song also brought up the expanding financial efforts of Pakistani hydroelectricity businesses as well as the increasing number of Pakistani workers in Korea. The large number of Pakistani workers in Korea more than 10,000 people demonstrates the strong bilateral labor cooperation between the two nations. The acknowledgment of the significant contributions Pakistani laborers have made to the

Korean economy is further demonstrated by the raising of the annual employment quota for these individuals to 2,500. This adjustment represents a strengthening of economic relations beyond trade and investment and reflects the benefits that both countries gain from labor mobility. He stresses the value of the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and South Korea in upgrading bilateral relationships and proposes Buddhism as a source of enhancing cultural exchanges (Iqbal, [2023](#)). Furthermore, through providing ease to talent transfer, promoting cultural interaction, and developing people-to-people contacts, the career opportunities proposed to Pakistani workers in Korea precipitate the socioeconomic progress of both countries. Due to Korea's assistance, it is believed that agreements could further be a cause of improvement in commerce. Both nations are aware of the benefits.

Cultural Diplomacy and People-to-People Ties

An important cultural exchange between Pakistan and South Korea is shown by the Embassy of Pakistan's involvement in the "K-wave Festival Cultural Exchange booth" at the Korean Culture and Information Service (KOCIS) K-wave Festival in 2022. Mr. Yong-Man JO, the second vice minister of the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, was introduced to Pakistan's stall by Ambassador Nabeel Munir, underscoring the significance of such events in fostering cooperation and admiration of the cultures of each other. Pakistan gave a push to cultural diplomacy between the two countries by exhibiting its rich and distinctive cuisine and culture to a ton of people at the event. Sharing cultural experiences not only adds a sense of harmony among people but also develops communication and teamwork across many fields (Embassy of Pakistan in Korea, [2022](#)). Pakistan looks forward to improving the perception of its history and tradition overseas and strengthening its cultural relations with South Korea by participating in events such as the K-wave Festival. These kinds of projects help to strengthen the bonds that connect the two nations together, based on their shared respect and appreciation of one another's cultural history.

In addition to highlighting Pakistan's historical ties to South Korea, Jamal Shah's speech also highlighted the modern value of cultural interchange in bolstering diplomatic ties. Shah emphasized the significance of art and performance in breaking down barriers and promoting understanding between people by recognizing the participation of cultural troupes from Korea and Pakistan as representatives of their own cultures. His declaration of reciprocal cultural interactions between South Korea and Pakistan shows his dedication to fostering intercultural understanding and strengthening cultural connections. Pakistani audiences will get the chance to witness first-hand the depth of Korean customs when the Korean Cultural and Art Troupe is invited to perform there, further promoting cross-cultural engagement. Shah's gratitude to the Migrant Multicultural Festival (MAMF) organizers and attendees emphasizes the value of these kinds of forums in fostering friendship and international communication. These kinds of celebrations act as catalysts for fostering international understanding, fostering peace, and honoring the variety that enriches our world community (Government of Pakistan, [2023](#)). Pakistan urged people to immerse themselves in its customs by showcasing its vibrant culture via dance, music, and traditional attire. All things considered, Jamal Shah's speech at MAMF 2023 perfectly captures the essence of cultural diplomacy by highlighting the role that art and cultural exchange play in creating deep relationships and advancing international understanding and peace.

The dedication to promoting cross-cultural dialogue and understanding is demonstrated by the partnership between the Department of Korean Language & Culture, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, and the National University of Modern Languages (NUML). The presence of dignitaries, such as the Republic of Korea's ambassador, emphasizes how important the occasion is for fostering bilateral ties. In addition to testing students' knowledge, the Korea 2024 Quiz provided an opportunity for meaningful engagement with Korean culture. In addition to recognizing the recipients' accomplishments, the prizes which included the Samsung Tab A9 and

Galaxy Watch 5 also brought enthusiasm to the occasion (Pakistan Observer, [2024](#)).

Area of Cooperation and Interest

On September 26th, 2022, the Ambassador of South Korea to Pakistan, Suh Sangpyo, met with the Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf at Parliament House. They discussed bilateral relations and regional and international issues. Speaker Ashraf highlighted the long-standing economic partnership between Pakistan and Korea, expressing Pakistan's desire to deepen these ties through increased parliamentary and economic cooperation. He noted Korea's economic progress and urged Korean companies to invest in various sectors in Pakistan, especially business, communication, energy, infrastructure, and information technology. Certainly, in their meeting, Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf emphasized the historical economic relationship between Pakistan and South Korea, highlighting the potential for further collaboration, particularly in key sectors. He appreciated Korea's support for flood relief efforts and accepted an invitation to participate in the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries (National Assembly of Pakistan, [2022](#)). Overall, the discussion emphasized not only the existing strong ties between Pakistan and South Korea but also the shared commitment to addressing global challenges such as climate change through cooperation and collaboration on regional and international platforms.

Pakistan has failed to establish a developmental state and emerge as an economic powerhouse like South Korea. While South Korea experienced significant social and economic growth, Pakistan struggled to uplift the living standards of its population. By employing British philosopher John Stuart Mill's method of difference, the view identifies the social structure and conflicting elite interests as key factors influencing the development outcomes of South Korea and Pakistan. It reviews various theoretical frameworks such as neoliberalism, neo-statism, developmental state theory, and state intervention to provide a comprehensive understanding of the subject (Mishra, [2022](#)).

To accommodate increased traffic, the Malakand tunnel project now involves two tunnels rather than one, and the National Highway Authority (NHA) is requesting an additional \$85 million to pay for this project. South Korea had initially committed to lending \$78 million for a single tunnel. However, costs have increased because of the project's enlarged scope. Situated on the Nowshera-Chitral Highway, the 14-kilometer Malakand Pass is beset by steep slopes, alignment problems, and regular landslides, all of which contribute to traffic congestion and accidents. To tackle these problems, the NHA suggested building a 9.77-kilometer tunnel. In May 2011, the project's original proposal was authorized with an estimated cost of Rs. 9,043.325 million. In December 2012, the Economic Affairs Division (EAD) and the EXIM Bank of Korea signed a \$78 million financing arrangement. The Korean consultant's most recent traffic calculations revealed that two tunnels would be required, bringing the project's total cost to \$163 million. Consequently, in November of last year, the amended project plan which came with a price tag of Rs. 16,544 million was approved. The Malakand tunnel is intended to facilitate better access to Central Asian republics and shorten travel times for citizens of Dir, Malakand, Swat, and neighboring territories. It also links Dir-Chitral with Tajikistan and other Central Asian Republics, reducing traffic on the Torkham Road (Maqsood, [2018](#)).

Evolution of Diplomatic Ties Over Time

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan participated in a number of high-level meetings during his official visit to the Republic of Korea, with the goal of strengthening ties between the two countries. Prime Minister Aziz and Prime Minister Lee Hae-chan of Korea discussed a range of topics related to bilateral cooperation and shared their opinions on important international concerns. Talks were expected to cover a broad range of subjects, from improving bilateral ties to discussing the changing landscape in Southwest Asia and the Korean Peninsula (Business Recorder, [2005](#)).

The former Ambassador of South Korea to Pakistan, reflecting on his tenure from June 2013 to May 2016, reminisces about the warmth and gratitude he received from the people of Pakistan.

Even after leaving, he continues to hold Pakistan dear to his heart. Despite recent challenges faced by Pakistan, including natural disasters and economic difficulties, he remains optimistic about the country's potential for economic growth. Drawing parallels between Pakistan and South Korea's historical relationship, he highlights Pakistan's assistance to South Korea during times of need, which South Korea now aims to reciprocate. This is evident through increased economic cooperation, exemplified by the expansion of projects like the IT park in Islamabad and collaborations in defense, education, and tourism. The Ambassador shares insights into South Korea's rapid development, attributed to visionary leadership and collective efforts. He believes that Pakistan can benefit from South Korea's successful rural development model, the New Village Movement, especially given Pakistan's significant agricultural population. He proposes initiatives to strengthen cultural ties between the two countries, such as establishing a Gandhara Cultural Research Centre and promoting religious tourism (Jong-Hawn, [2023](#))

Beyond their shared economic background, the two countries' friendship has grown stronger on a personal level. The business, healthcare, science, and technology sectors of Pakistani society have all benefited from the return of Pakistani students who studied in Korean universities. Korea has shown its support for Pakistan in difficult circumstances like the floods that occurred in 2022. The two peoples' deep affection was highlighted by the \$2 million in immediate humanitarian aid that the Korean authority transferred and the over \$1 million that Korean citizens kindly provided to support those affected by the natural catastrophe (Sang-pyo, [2023](#)). This year features the 40th anniversary of Korea and Pakistan's diplomatic relations, and I have no suspicion that our alliance will shine and prosper in the years to come.

Pakistan has significant export potential as seen by the US\$ 4.5 billion in leather goods imported by South Korea. Korean businesses might investigate joint ventures or investment prospects in Pakistan's fisheries sector, taking advantage of South Korea's US\$ 5 billion seafood import market (Kyung-sik, [2024](#)). This industry signifies an additional domain with substantial prospects for economic cooperation between Pakistan and South Korea.

Many industries, including agriculture, livestock, energy, minerals, food processing, automotive, IT, textiles, housing and construction, and logistics, present investment prospects for Korean businesses in Pakistan.

Increased bilateral cooperation between South Korea and Pakistan is planned in several areas, including trade, investment, IT, culture, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges. At their meeting in Islamabad, Korean Ambassador Park Ki Jun communicated this to Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif. The ambassador presented the good wishes of the Korean authority to Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and praised him on his selection as PM. In addition to thanking the achievers of the congrats, Prime Minister Sharif emphasized the stronger economic and investment ties that have arisen between the two nations since the early 1960s. He applauded Korea's transition into a cutting-edge economy and conveyed Pakistan's desire to gain knowledge from Korea's experiences in IT, particularly artificial intelligence, SME development, and industrialization. To address Korea's, need for human resources, Prime Minister Sharif suggested sending business delegations to each other's countries to foster trade and offered to enhance Pakistan's exports of skilled labor. He said that to talk about present investments and investigate the fresh potential, the relevant Cabinet Ministers would work with the Korean side in coordination. Furthermore, Prime Minister Sharif invited Yoon Suk Yeol, the president of South Korea, to visit Pakistan on official matters (Radio Pakistan, [2024](#)).

Concerns and Stability in the Region

The building of a Samsung Electronics TV line-up facility in Karachi, in partnership with R&R Industries, is another noteworthy milestone in Pakistan's economic landscape, according to Abdul Razak Dawood, advisor to the prime minister of Pakistan on commerce and investment. The factory is expected to start operations in the fourth quarter of 2021 and produce an estimated 50,000 units yearly, making this strategic cooperation a significant milestone in Pakistan's manufacturing industry. Dawood emphasized the significance of this project and how it fits in with the Ministry of Commerce's "Make-in-Pakistan" strategy, which

aims to promote industrialization by lowering input prices and offering incentives. In order to improve economic independence and promote sustainable growth, this policy framework places a strong emphasis on local production. The support of the Make-in-Pakistan strategy by Prime Minister Imran Khan highlights the government's determination to advance export-oriented industries and raise the nation's standing internationally. Pakistan hopes to boost economic growth, lessen dependency on imports, and generate job opportunities by promoting indigenous production and investment (Malik, [2021](#)). To achieve these goals and promote knowledge transfer, skill development, and value addition within the regional manufacturing ecosystem, the Samsung TV plant's establishment is a major step forward. These collaborations highlight Pakistan's potential as a desirable location for international investment and cooperation, supporting the nation's ongoing focus on industrial development and innovation and laying the groundwork for long-term economic growth and prosperity.

South Korea is dedicated to making a major contribution to international peace and security. Its active involvement in numerous UN peacekeeping operations and significant financial support for the UN peacekeeping budget serve as testaments to this dedication (Roehrig, [2013](#)). Now, South Korean forces are stationed in many nations like Pakistan, India, Lebanon, South Sudan, and the Western Sahara. These soldiers are doing a wide range of vital duties, including upholding law and order, offering rehabilitation programs, delivering aid to injured parties, and other vital duties. South Korea contributes significantly to regional stability and humanitarian efforts by means of these initiatives.

Conclusion

Since their official diplomatic opening in 1983, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) have had a prosperous many-year relationship based on mutual respect, courtesy, and interest. Pakistan was designated as a priority partner in accordance with the provisions of the Korean Economic Development Cooperation. The acknowledgment was made of bilateral policy meetings between Pakistan and South Korea, where both countries

pledged to further their economic cooperation. Pakistan is a suitable choice for investment because of its big population, high agricultural output, youthful, tech-savvy labor force, and growing demand for products and services. Pakistan is a perfect place for Korean investors because it is also a getting point to vast markets in Central Asia, the Middle East, and most others. Pakistan welcomes business and presents Korean enterprises with a wealth of options. South Korea has funded Pakistan's energy, infrastructure, and technology sectors, leading to an increase in trade between the two countries in products and services such as textiles and electronics. This economic collaboration has been supported by various bilateral agreements. Projects like the National Highway Authority's, Pakistani infrastructure developments, financed by the Korean Exim Bank, are examples of the link between South Korea and Pakistan. There is an also effort to develop economic and transportation linkages. Pakistan's economic strategy underwent a dramatic transformation in the 1990s with its strategic shift towards economic liberalism, emphasizing the value of regional connectivity and trade development. Since its official establishment in 1983, the bilateral ties between Pakistan and South Korea have expanded to involve multiple types of actions, including trade, investment, labor exchange, and cross-cultural exchanges. The simple fact that both countries maintain embassies in their respective capital cities has made clear how strong their diplomatic relations are. Substantial South Korean investments in Pakistan's system, motor vehicles, and telecommunications fields have gained advantages for both countries' economies. This has been a positive connection. Pakistan's ongoing cooperation with South Korea is a prime example of how strategic alliances and effective ties can boost economic progress. The benefits of this connection can be seen in the labor and student exchange as well as the growth in bilateral trade. Cultural contacts have strengthened the bond between the two nations and promoted understanding and respect for one another.

By actively participating in UN peacekeeping missions and making substantial financial contributions to the UN peacekeeping budget, South Korea stands by its strong commitment to

global stability and security. South Korea's military is positioned in several nations, including Pakistan, and they play a major role in the upkeep of law and order, aid, regional stability, and humanitarian efforts. Since its establishment in 1983, Pakistan and South Korea's diplomatic ties have grown stronger in respect for one another, and a common interest. Their continued high-level discussions and Pakistan's status as a priority partner in the Korean Economic Development Cooperation have improved their legislative, educational, cultural, and economic ties. These exchanges highlight the strengthening bilateral relationship and the

possibility of further cooperation. Pakistan is a very suitable investment destination due to its huge population, robust agricultural output, and young, technologically savvy workforce. Its strategic location and these attributes make it a desirable investment opportunity for Koreans. The strengthening diplomatic and commercial relations between Pakistan and South Korea further augment this economic potential. Pakistan's desire to study Korea's industrialization success story suggests that its economy may be about to undergo a significant upheaval.

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