The China-India Project

India-China Relations: Issues, Trends and Emerging Scenarios

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# Table of Content

Abstract 1

Biography 4

Evolving Relationship from the 50s to the Late 80s 5

Downturn in Relations from 1962 to the late 1980s 6

New Phase from 1988 to 1998 7

A New Setback...Followed by a Rapid Improvement in Relations 8

Issues at Stakes in Contemporary China-India Relations 11

Apparent Shift in the Balance of Power in South Asia 11

The Pakistan Factor 12

The Tibet Issue 14

Economic Relations 16

Emerging Scenarios 18

Co-operating on Global Economic Issues 20

Ensuring the Emergence of a Multipolar World Order 21

Conclusions 24

Endnotes 26
Abstract

This paper examines some vitally important issues and trends in India-China relations, from the early 1950s to the present. It critically surveys how their “flowering relations” in the early 1950s, based on peaceful co-existence, got suddenly transformed into mutual hostility following the 1962 border war and then explains the new phase of improvement in their ties since Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi’s visit to China in December 1988. This paper argues that despite divergences in the perception and approaches of New Delhi and Beijing on issues such as Sino-Pakistan military and strategic ties and India’s Tibet policy, both countries have enormous potential and opportunities to expand and deepen their economic ties in their mutual interests. Finally, this paper discusses the emerging scenarios of India-China relations and examines how these two countries can cooperate to establish a better global political and economic order by addressing the problems of developing countries on the issues of poverty, sustainable development and human rights, including alternative mechanisms to counter the current trend towards unilateralism in the international system.
Biography

B.M. Jain is Professor and Research Scientist in Political Science at the South Asia Studies Centre, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur in India. He has authored/edited over one dozen books on South Asia and international relations, besides publishing over seven research papers in leading national and international journals, the latest ones include *Encyclopedia of Modern Asia* (New York, 2002) and *Air Power International Encyclopedia* (Oxford, England, 2002). Apart from delivering lectures at more than two dozen universities in America, Germany and England, Professor Jain has been Visiting Fellow in several American and Asian universities. To his credit, he has been editor of the *Indian Journal of Asian Affairs* since 1988. He also features in *Who's Who* in the *World Encyclopedia* (Marques, USA, 16th edition, 1999), and is on the International Advisory Board of the Toda Institute of Global Policy and Research Institute (Hawaii, Honolulu, USA).