

## Abstract

The present research work has been structured into six chapters including introduction and concluding remarks that addresses the key aspect of China's growing interest in Nepal and its implications for India as follows:

The *first chapter* provides an overview and introduction of the research to be conducted. This includes the background of the research, the statement of the problem, objectives and significance of the study, hypothesis and nature and scope of the study. The *second chapter* deals with the methodology and the review of the literatures. The present research work had employed the descriptive, explanatory and analytical method. It is a method in which the researcher has attempted to analyze and interpret both the primary and secondary sources. The useful literature for this research work are books and articles in journals and periodicals written with varying degrees of relevance on China's expanding footprint in Nepal and its possible implications for India.

The *third chapter* would throw light on the political, economic and strategic dimension of the emerging relations between Nepal and China. There has been a 'political power vacuum' in Nepal since the monarchy's abolition in 2008 with China is trying to make use of this opportunity to neutralize Indian influence. PRC's policy towards Nepal is demonstrated through China's growing investment in strategically crucial infrastructure, including airports and highways. It seeks to examine the China's strategic interests in Nepal. Further, it analyses the multi-dimensional aspects of relations between India and Nepal. The economic and security aspect of relations between the two sides has been discussed in length. The chapter has made an assessment that China's interest in Nepal has always been tied to its geopolitical concerns over the security of Tibet, which has been dominated by China since 1950. Nepal has emerged as a forum for anti-China activities. China therefore hoped to erode India's traditional influence and to install a pro-China regime there.

The *fourth chapter* would cover the special relations between Nepal and India from the past to the present. It analyses India's long-term interests in Nepal against the backdrop of the growing influence of China. Geographically, socially, culturally and historically, the two countries are linked most intimately. Cultural ties between India and Nepal have existed since the dawn of civilization. Cooperation improving mutual security across the open border is crucial. Recent concerns over security have

motivated India to reassert its influence on Nepal by infrastructure investments and by extra troop deployments on the border. It analyses the multi-dimensional aspects of relations between India and Nepal. The economic and security aspect of relations between the two sides has been discussed in length. Despite Chinese growing clout in Nepal, India will seek to maintain its sphere of influence in Nepal's politics. In fact, India considers Nepal as a strategic partner. India's interests in Nepal are multifold ranging from political, economic to security dimensions. India's primary interest in Nepal has been governed by its security considerations.

Following which, the *fifth chapter* would examine the dynamics of the triangular relations between China, India and Nepal. It analyses the dynamics of competition and cooperation between China and India over Nepal. It also throws light on the Nepal as a strategic bridge between the two big powers - China and India. The chapter argues that the Sino-Nepal relations are poised to be significantly affected by an evolving China-Nepal-India triangular relationship on account of Nepal's geographic position. Effective consolidation of this triangular relationship is vital to ensure political stability in Nepal and therefore security for both China and India.

The *last and final chapter* would conclude the report by bringing out several finding and suggestions on the study being carried out. The study found that unlike India, China made a late entry, but has made tremendous progress at the political, economic and strategic level. China perceives Nepal as the key in the Himalayan region to provide security and peace in Tibet but also as provider of access to natural resources. The most imperative motive of Chinese foreign policy towards Nepal is stability and the ability to cooperate with any type of government so that it doesn't turn against China's national interests and to curb any impact on the Tibet issue as well.

  
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