



中华人民共和国驻巴基斯坦伊斯兰共和国大使馆
Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



One Day International Conference Report on **“Global Civilization Initiative Given by President Xi** **Jinping and Its Impact on Belt and Road Initiative”**



Jointly organized by
Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar
and
Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF) in
collaboration with
Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan
on 22nd August 2023 at
Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar



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Aim of the Conference:

The conferences in different cities of Pakistan aim to integrate national and international intellectuals and scholars to discuss the Chinese advanced giant initiative: Global Civilization Initiative (GCI). Our vision is to familiarize the academicians, policy makers, and experts with successful Chinese initiatives and grand innovative models proposed by President Xi Jinping and his pivotal contribution towards prosperity for all mankind. This conference aims to facilitate a comprehensive and insightful exploration of the intersections between two significant concepts in today's global landscape. Furthermore, it will expedite meaningful discussions that lead to a deeper understanding of the Global Civilization Initiative and its impact on the Belt and Road Initiative, while also fostering an environment of collaboration and mutual learning among participants.

About The Conference

On 22th August 2023 One Day International Conference on “Global Civilization Initiative given by President Xi Jinping and it’s Impact on Belt and Road Initiative” was held at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar. It was jointly organized by Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar, and Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), Islamabad in collaboration with the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China to Pakistan.

The conference was moderated by Ms. Wajeeha Khan Lecturer at Department of Political Science SBBWUP and Ms. Zara Kamaal Khan a BS Student , and was attended by around 200 students of the Political Science Department at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women



University. The opening remarks given by Mr. Khalid Taimoor Akram, Executive Director, PRCCSF. He elaborated the role of China Communication University of China in advocating the concept of a Community with a Shared Future. The pillars of this concept include the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), Global Development Initiative (GDI), and Global Security Initiative (GSI), all of which strengthen people-to-people connections and connectivity.

Programme Remarks

Opening Remarks: In his opening remarks, Mr. Khalid Taimoor Akram, Executive Director of the Pakistan-Research Centre with a Community for Shared Future (PRCCSF), elaborated on the role of China Communication University in advocating the concept of a Community with a Shared Future. He said that the university has been actively promoting the concept through its research, teaching, and outreach activities.

The Community with a Shared Future is a vision for a world where all countries and peoples



live together in harmony and cooperation. It is a vision that is based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and win-win cooperation. The three pillars of the Community



with a Shared Future are the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), the Global Development Initiative (GDI), and the Global Security Initiative (GSI).

The GCI is about building a world where all cultures and civilizations can coexist and learn from each other. It is about promoting understanding and tolerance, and building a more inclusive and harmonious world. The GDI is about promoting sustainable development and shared prosperity for all. It is about ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of their background or circumstances. The GSI is about creating a world where everyone feels safe and secure. It is about preventing conflict and resolving disputes peacefully, and building a more stable and peaceful world.

Mr. Akram said that China Communication University has been active in promoting the GCI, GDI, and GSI through its research, teaching, and outreach activities. The university's efforts to promote the Community with a Shared Future are important because they help to build understanding and cooperation between different countries and cultures. He said that the university is committed to playing a leading role in building a more peaceful and prosperous world.

Conference Highlights:

The conference aimed to discuss the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), a significant Chinese vision put forward by President Xi Jinping. The purpose was to discuss the visionary models put forward by President Xi Jinping, focusing on their contribution to global prosperity. The conference illuminated the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness as proposed by China, fostering cultural exchanges that



transcend differences and promote mutual understanding. The conference featured a series of discussions, presentations, and speeches that shed light on various aspects of the Global Civilization Initiative and its relationship with the Belt and Road Initiative. Key highlights of the conference include:

The speakers included:

- Professor Dr Safia Ahmad Vice Chancellor
Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University
Peshawar



- Mr. Khalid Taimoor Akram, Executive
Director, Pakistan Research Center for a
Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF),
Islamabad



- Professor Li Huailiang, Dean of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future at Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China



- Dr. Sumaira Gul, Head of the Political Science Department, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University





- Ms. Areesha Shafqat, Research Analyst, Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), Islamabad



- Professor Dr. Zhang Yanqiu, Deputy Dean of the Institute of Community with Shared Future at Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China



- Dr. Zhang Yu, a Ph.D. Scholar from the Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China



- Dr. Zarmina Baloch, Assistant Professor,
Political Science Department of Shaheed
Benazir Bhutto Women University



- Ms. Nayab, Ms. Syeda Manal, and Ms. Sana Jan, M-Phil Students from Shaheed
Benazir Bhutto Women University



The speakers discussed the following topics:

- The concept of a Community with a Shared Future
- The role of the GCI in promoting global peace and prosperity
- Impact of GCI on local Culture and Traditions.
- The impact of the GCI on the Belt and Road Initiative
- The importance of cultural exchanges in promoting mutual understanding
- The role of China-Pakistan friendship in the development of the GCI



Conference Proceedings: Conference was started with the Recitation of few verses from the holy Quraan, Ms. Wajeeha Khan the moderater welcomed all the guests at the venue and formally introduced the purpose of gathering at that day. She gave a brief insight about

all the previous seminars and conferences organized by Department of Political Science on CPEC and related Topics. After the introduction session stage was handed over to the stage secretary miss Zahra Kamal. The opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Khalid Taimoor Akram, Executive Director of PRCCSF. He emphasized the concept of a Community with a Shared Future, comprising the pillars of Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), Global Development Initiative (GDI), and Global Security Initiative (GSI).

Presentations and Discussions

Topic: Cultural Harmony and Tolerant Societies:

Speaker: Professor Dr. Zhang Yanqiu, Deputy Dean of the Institute of Community with Shared Future Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China

She started her speech by paying a vote of Thanks to PRCCSF and SBBWU team and said that, the world is facing many challenges, old and new. There are many reasons for us to promote dialogue and cultural harmony in addressing these challenges that is why our President Xi Jinping raised the Global Civilization Initiative, which is expected to inject fresh and strong energy into the common development and progress of human society in a world facing multiple challenges and crises.





This is the third initiative that China has put forward for global governance, following the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative. It is another major public product provided to the world by China.

Despite the differences in history, culture, political systems, and development stages, I believe that countries around the world, including China and Pakistan, share the common aspiration for peace, development, equity, justice, democracy, and freedom. These are the common values of humanity.

At the same time, we all want to have a better future. For a better future for all countries, including China and Pakistan, we need to closely connect our economic cooperation, political trust, and understanding of each other's cultures.

This is a very important but also challenging task. I believe that respecting each other's cultures and being tolerant of each other is very important.

This means that we need to be open-minded and learn the history and context of each other's cultures. For example, in China, we eat with chopsticks, but in other countries, people eat with their bare hands. This may make it difficult for us to understand each other.

In China, the boy's family usually prepares the house and wedding for the newlywed couple, but in India, the girl's family usually spends more money. In Western countries, the elderly often live alone, but in Asian countries, they are usually taken care of by their children.

I think there is nothing wrong with these cultural differences. Respect is the right choice for us.

The history of China and Pakistan shows that we have struggled for independence together. This makes us value the importance of unity, harmony, inclusiveness, and mutual respect.

The Global Civilization Initiative is particularly important considering the destructive challenges that the world is facing, such as terrorism, climate change, and geopolitical confrontations.



We believe that all countries, regardless of their size, strength, or political system, should respect the diversity of cultures. Each country has its own unique culture. For example, in the media, some countries adopt a liberal media culture, while China has a government-led media culture.



I think that we may have some misunderstandings or disputes, but only by respecting the diversity of our civilizations, cultures, and systems can we build a lasting peace for the entire world.

We need to find similarities between different cultures and value systems. We are all human beings, and we have more in common than differences.

For example, during the pandemic, China donated and provided a total of 2.2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines to other countries. This is based on the Chinese cultural value of helping others in times of need. However, this effort has been criticized by some as vaccine diplomacy.

We need to have more dialogue and communication on this issue.

The Global Civilization Initiative also advocates the common values of humanity, highly values the inheritance and innovation of civilizations, and upholds the principles of equity, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness.

All countries should refrain from imposing their values or models on others, and they should also avoid ideological confrontation.

For example, the education of children in Xinjiang is a sensitive issue. Some Western countries have criticized China's education system in Xinjiang, saying that it is a form of forced assimilation. However, according to my research, the Chinese government's education policy in Xinjiang is based on the principle of voluntariness.



The parents of the children in Xinjiang have the right to choose whether or not their children learn Chinese.

Key points of her speech includes the following points.

- The GCI emphasizes the importance of respecting the diversity of cultures and civilizations, and avoiding imposing one's values or ideologies on others.
- The GCI calls for increased people-to-people exchanges and cooperation between countries.
- The GCI is a positive step towards building a more peaceful and harmonious world.
- The GCI is a response to the destructive challenges that the world is facing, such as terrorism, climate change, and geopolitical confrontations.
- The GCI emphasizes the importance of mutual learning and dialogue between different cultures.
- The GCI calls for responsible media that accurately reflects the diversity of cultures.
- The GCI promotes international people-to-people exchanges and cooperation.



Topic: Global Civilization Initiative's impact on Global Peace and Community with Shared Future.

Speaker: Professor Li Huailiang, Dean of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing, China

Professor Li Huailiang said that the world today is confronted with accelerated change unseen in a century. Humanity has long since become a community with a shared future, where all people rise and fall together. The wave of globalization has intricately interwoven the value chains and supply chains of countries around the world.



At the same time, human society is also confronting a series of global challenges and issues, such as climate change, environmental pollution, and cyber security. These challenges cannot be addressed by any one country or organization. There is an urgent need for collaborative governance and a shared perspective that takes into consideration the interests of all humanity. We must seek common ground while respecting differences, and collectively pursue the overall well-being.

As a responsible major country, China has consistently linked its own development with global peace and development. It has resolutely upheld the international system with the United Nations at its core and the international order based on international law.



In 2013, President Xi Jinping first proposed the concept of a community with a shared future for humanity. This vision serves as the distinct banner for China's diplomacy in the new era. It has not only provided a Chinese solution to advance global governance, but also infused new impetus into the building of a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation.

China has become a major trading partner for more than 140 countries and regions. It has also signed more than 200 cooperation documents on the joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative with 151 countries and 31 international organizations. From 2013 to 2022, China's trade in goods with Belt and Road countries doubled from US\$1 trillion to US\$2 trillion, with an average annual growth rate of 8%. As a result, an increasing number of people in various countries and regions are reaping the benefits of the Belt and Road Initiative.



The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has significantly promoted infrastructure development in various domains, including energy, transportation, water management, and communications. It has also enhanced economic resilience and improved the lives of local people.

At present, the world has once again come to a historical crossroads. Building a community with a shared future is the prevailing trend of global development. The friendship between China and Pakistan represents the spirit of solidarity and the relevant mindset. China and Pakistan should promote the establishment of a new type of international relations, deepen and expand the global partnership of equality, openness, and cooperation, and strive forward on the path of building a community with a shared future.

Key Takeaways from the presentation are:

- The world today is facing accelerated change and global challenges that cannot be addressed by any one country or organization.
- There is an urgent need for collaborative governance and a shared perspective that takes into consideration the interests of all humanity.
- China has consistently linked its own development with global peace and development, and it has proposed the concept of a community with a shared future for humanity.



- This vision serves as the distinct banner for China's diplomacy in the new era, and it has infused new impetus into the building of a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation.
- China has become a major trading partner for more than 140 countries and regions, and it has signed more than 200 cooperation documents on the joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative with 151 countries and 31 international organizations.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has significantly promoted infrastructure development in various domains, including energy, transportation, water management, and communications.
- At present, the world has once again come to a historical crossroads. Building a community with a shared future is the prevailing trend of global development.
- China and Pakistan should promote the establishment of a new type of international relations, deepen and expand the global partnership of equality, openness, and cooperation, and strive forward on the path of building a community with a shared future.

Topic: The Global Civilization Initiative: Promoting Peace, Prosperity, and cross cultural Understanding

Speaker: Dr. Zhang Yu, a Ph.D. Scholar from the Communication University of China,

Good morning, everyone. It is a great honor to meet you all here today. I am glad to share my thoughts with you on the topic of promoting inter-civilizational exchanges through the Global Civilization Initiative and building a more tolerant and open world.



The Global Civilization Initiative, proposed by President Xi Jinping, is a sincere call to the world to promote inter-civilizational exchanges and dialogue, and to learn from each other's civilizations in a spirit of inclusiveness and mutual learning. The GCI can promote harmonious cultural exchanges, which in turn can lead to peace, prosperity, and better understanding between people.

Today, as countries around the world face common challenges in the pursuit of peace and development, and as they make their respective explorations towards modernization, inter-civilizational cooperation and dialogue are growing stronger than ever. However, the problems of misunderstanding and estrangement are still hindering international



cooperation. Therefore, it is essential to step up inter-civilizational exchanges and closer people-to-people connectivity.

In the context of the Global Civilization Initiative, cultural exchanges can help to bridge gaps and enhance understanding. This value consists mainly of the following:

- First, the Global Civilization Initiative can promote peace. It is believed that the world is a shared community in which people should live together peacefully, and all individuals should live as neighbors of one family. The GCI calls on countries to respect the diversity of world civilizations and uphold the principles of dialogue and inclusiveness. China is advancing this initiative by fostering shared values among humanity, and by encouraging people-to-people exchanges and mutual learning among different countries.
- Second, the Global Civilization Initiative is conducive to prosperity. The GCI upholds the principle of respecting the diversity of civilizations, and calls on countries to keep an open mind in their interactions with other civilizations, and to refrain from imposing their own values or models on others. This demonstrates China's inclusive approach to promoting inter-civilizational cooperation with all countries, so as to build a closer and more united world.
- Third, the Global Civilization Initiative contributes to creating a good environment for better understanding between people. It is believed that people-to-people exchanges are an important means to promote understanding and appreciation



among people of all countries, and to promote the prosperity and progress of human civilization.

In conclusion, the Global Civilization Initiative is a valuable initiative that can help to promote peace, prosperity, and understanding between peoples. Countries need to explore the building of a global network for inter-civilizational dialogue and cooperation, enrich the content of exchanges, expand avenues of cooperation, and promote mutual trust and understanding among countries and peoples. Guided by the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, we need to enrich and improve the forms of inter-civilizational actions on the basis of extensive discussion and consensus.

Key Points:

1. The Global Civilization Initiative (GCI) is a call to the world to promote inter-civilizational exchanges and dialogue.
2. The GCI can promote peace by fostering shared values and encouraging people-to-people exchanges.
3. The GCI is conducive to prosperity by respecting the diversity of civilizations and promoting cooperation.
4. The GCI contributes to creating a good environment for better understanding between people by promoting people-to-people exchanges.

Topic: Global Civilization Impact on Local Culture and Traditions:

Speaker: Dr. Sumaira Gull, Head of the Political Science Department at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University,

She discussed how GCI can influence local cultures and traditions. As the world becomes more interconnected, traditional cultures and ways of life are rapidly changing. This presentation explores the effects of global civilization on the local cultures and traditions that shape our societies.

Culture includes customs, beliefs, music, dress, festivals, dances, and other forms



of artistic expression that shape our social habits and history. Traditions include ways of life, ceremonies, rituals, knowledge, and practices that are passed down from generation to generation. Global civilization refers to the interconnectedness of societies, economies, and cultures across the world. Interconnectedness includes everything from the sharing of ideas and traditions to the global exchange of goods and services. People and culture all over the world are more connected than ever before. Global civilization promote shared values and a sense of community across culture. Advancement in technology and communication have revolutionized the way in which we interact with one another. The rise of the internet, social media, and smartphones has made access to global culture and ideas virtually instantaneous. People are more mobile than ever and are traveling to other countries for



work, study, and leisure, bringing their culture and traditions with them. The global economy has created many opportunities for the states to develop their own economic sector. Global music festivals provide a platform for local musicians to showcase their unique sound and connect with a worldwide audience. The global exchange of food and culinary traditions can lead to the creation of new and exciting dishes. Global celebrations can bring people from all over the world together to appreciate and celebrate local traditions. Many traditional cultures and practices are disappearing as people adopt global values and trends. As traditional cultures disappear, the world is becoming more culturally homogenized, leading to a loss of diversity. Some people are fighting back against cultural assimilation by exploring and preserving their traditional ways of life. Efforts are being made to preserve and promote local culture through education, tourism, and cultural exchange programs. Education can play a key role in preserving and promoting local culture and traditions by teaching history, language, art, and music. Tourism can be a powerful tool in preserving and promoting local culture and traditions, by showcasing local cuisine, crafts, and festivals. Cultural exchange programs create opportunities for people to appreciate and learn about different cultures and traditions. The impact of global civilization on local culture and traditions is a complex issue with both positive and negative effects. By acknowledging the interrelatedness of cultures and promoting diversity, we can ensure that our world remains rich and beautiful.

Here are some key points from her presentation:

- Global civilization is the interconnectedness of societies, economies, and cultures across the world.
- Advancements in technology and communication have made it easier for people to share ideas and traditions from all over the world.
- This has led to a mixing of cultures, with some traditional cultures disappearing and others being modified by global influences.
- Some people are fighting back against cultural assimilation by exploring and preserving their traditional ways of life.
- Efforts are being made to preserve and promote local culture through education, tourism, and cultural exchange programs.

Topic: GCI Route towards Economic Boost Worldwide:

Speaker: Ms. Areesha Shafqat, Research Analyst at Pakistan Research Center for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF), Islamabad

The Belt and Road Initiative, also known as the Silk Road Economic Belt, is a massive global infrastructure and economic development project launched in 2013. The project aims to enhance connectivity and cooperation among countries in Asia, Europe, Africa, and





beyond through the construction of physical and digital infrastructure; which consist of two components Silk Road Economic Belt (focused on land based infrastructure connecting China to Central asia, Middle east and europe) and 21st century Maritime Silk Road (focused on maritime routes connecting China with South and Southeast Asia, Europe and Africa). The thought behind the project is to establish and strengthen partnerships among the countries along the Belt and Road. The connectivity projects will help align and coordinate the development strategies of the countries along the Belt and Road, tap market potential in this region, promote investment and consumption, create job opportunities, enhance people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and mutual learning among the peoples of the relevant countries, and enable them to understand, trust and respect each other and live in harmony, peace and prosperity.

One of the essential parts of the Belt and Road Project has been the CPEC project; launched in 2015 in Pakistan by president Xi Jinping, in order to connect Gwadar port to western region of China. Since 2015, projects related to energy and transportation infrastructure has been carried out and special economic zones have been built to promote industrial growth. In recent years, China has been at the forefront of leading global initiatives targeted at creating sustainable peace and prosperity. At a time when the entire world is in difficult moments, especially with economies recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, China has stepped up, as expected of the second-largest economy in the world, and provided concrete gateways that are workable and could lead to global peace and stability.



To keep the peace and stability intact in the future as well, President Xi Jinping introduced guidelines for the world to adopt, under the name of three initiatives; global development, global civilization and global security in the year 2021 and 2022. Looking back at the history of Pakistan, it has been under the British rule for centuries, leaving a deep foot print on the country; even after 75 years of independence. Our basic model is based on the same ideologies as of the east india company, making us different from the Chinese; which were once a colony of the soviet union. Just like Pakistan and China, multiple countries which have become the part of the Belt and Road Project, and those which will become the part of the project, all bid by different rules, cultural and traditions. These differences have been highlighted by the President Xi Jinping, by thinking ahead of his time and tried to resolve; what can develop into a future threat, the clash of civilizations. In the history of humanity, over thousands of years, various civilizations have come into being, developed, and have in return promoted the overall development of human society. Diversity has been a prominent feature of civilizations. In spite of differences in histories, cultures, political systems and development phases, countries around the world share the common aspiration for peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom -- the common values of humanity. Hence, Chinese President Xi Jinping has emerged as a prominent advocate for a Global Civilization Initiative, seeking to foster a harmonious world characterized by cooperation, connectivity, and shared prosperity. President Xi's vision for this initiative revolves around various key aspects, including environmental responsibility, cultural exchange, poverty alleviation, inclusive development, enhanced cooperation, and peace. By digging into these areas, we can gain a deeper understanding of President Xi's vision.



Although these initiatives do seem promising, yet we cannot blindsides ourselves from the challenges involved in their adoption. The first and the foremost problem, that we are going to encounter is aligning interests of different nations and stakeholders having varying priorities and interests. Secondly, collaborating across borders and cultures requires effective coordination and cooperation. Overcoming bureaucratic hurdles, differing regulations, and geopolitical tensions will be a task.

Initiatives on a global scale require substantial financial, technological, and human resources. Allocating these resources fairly and efficiently is a challenge, especially in a world with varying economic capacities. Apart from that, successfully avoiding cultural insensitivity while implementing initiatives that respect and incorporate diverse cultures will require careful planning. It is obvious that through these initiatives, we want to improve the economic world condition, therefore ensuring long-lasting impact without contributing to resource depletion or environmental harm is essential for the well-being of future generations. Some initiatives may struggle to gain traction due to a lack of education and awareness among the general population. Informing and engaging people is crucial for success. Responding effectively to unexpected global crises, such as pandemics or natural disasters, requires rapid coordination and adaptation of initiatives.

These challenges are tough to overcome but not impossible. Overcoming them requires strong leadership, international cooperation, innovative problem-solving, and a commitment to the greater good. Steps like collaborative platforms where governments, businesses, (NGOs), and individuals can come together to share ideas, strategies, and



resources for boosting economic growth can be established, with virtual access to all. Secondly, Governments and international organizations can focus on investing in critical infrastructure projects such as transportation networks, energy systems, and digital connectivity to stimulate economic activity. Thirdly, Initiatives can help promote education, vocational training, and skill development, including partnerships between educational institutions and businesses to ensure that the workforce is equipped with relevant skills. Fourthly, encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship can lead to the creation of new industries and job opportunities. Governments can provide incentives such as tax breaks and grants for research and development, as well as support for startups and innovative businesses. Along with, simplifying trade processes and reducing trade barriers to boost international trade and economic growth.

Economic growth should be balanced with environmental sustainability and social equity. Hence, promotion of clean energy, responsible resource management, and inclusive economic policies should be at the forefront. Improving access to financial services for marginalized populations can stimulate economic activity at the grassroots level, in which microfinance and mobile banking can play an important role.

It's important to note that a global civil initiative for economic boost would require strong international cooperation, commitment, and resources from all stakeholders involved. In conclusion, the Global Civilization Initiative is a pathway toward an economically vibrant, united, and sustainable world. By focusing on, areas like infrastructure, trade, digital and regional connectivity, research, cultural exchange, we can unlock unprecedented economic



potential. Let us come together as a global community to turn this vision into reality and create a brighter future for all.

She identified certain Challenges:

- Aligning the interests of different nations and stakeholders.
- Collaborating across borders and cultures.
- Allocating resources fairly and efficiently.
- Avoiding cultural insensitivity.
- Ensuring long-lasting impact without contributing to resource depletion or environmental harm.
- Gaining traction due to a lack of education and awareness among the general population.
- Responding effectively to unexpected global crises.

She suggested the following Ways to overcome these challenges:

- Establish collaborative platforms for sharing ideas, strategies, and resources.
- Invest in critical infrastructure projects.
- Promote education, vocational training, and skill development.
- Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Simplify trade processes and reduce trade barriers.

- Promote clean energy, responsible resource management, and inclusive economic policies.
- Improve access to financial services for marginalized populations.

Topic: Art and Culture for Cross-Cultural Understanding:

Speaker: Dr. Zarmina Baloch, Assistant Professor at the Political Science

Department of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University,

She discussed that In a world that is increasingly becoming more globalized, it is important for people to have an understanding and appreciation for different cultures. Art is one of the best ways to achieve this. It can provide a window into another culture, and help to build awareness and understanding of that culture. There are many ways in which art can build cultural awareness. One way is by providing a representation of a culture that is different from one's own. This can help to broaden one's understanding and appreciation of that culture. Another way is by promoting cultural exchange.



Explaining Cross Cultural Understanding she Emphasised This can happen when people from different cultures come together to create art, or when people from one culture view art from another culture. This can help to create a dialogue and exchange of ideas between cultures. Art can also help to build cultural awareness by challenging preconceptions and stereotypes. By presenting a different perspective, art can help to open people's minds and encourage them to think more critically about the world around them. Ultimately, art is a



powerful tool that can help to build cultural awareness and understanding. By providing a representation of other cultures, promoting cultural exchange, and challenging preconceptions, art can help us to see the world in a new light and appreciate the beauty and diversity of cultures from all around the globe.

Art is important in our cultural awareness for a number of reasons. It can be used to express and document the cultures of our past, present and future. It can be used to record historical events and to preserve the memories of those who have experienced them. Art can also be used to raise awareness of current issues and to promote social and political change.

The act of creating art is the physical representation of a culture's views, beliefs, and practices. The arts are a way for people to express their own identity through drawings, paintings, carving, body adornment, and folklore. In addition to expressing power, prestige, and rank, art can be used by societies to reinforce their legitimacy. Through the Lakota myth of the white buffalo woman, the culture demonstrates how art can be used to express and teach. Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel's frescoes. Catholics revere the chapel as a symbol of the faith's biblical scriptures. The Genesis of Adam by Michelangelo is one of the most famous and theologically complex paintings in the history of art.

It is not only the work of cultural and creative artists that has a variety of functions in our community. Its purpose is to help students and pupils discover their inner talents, improve their mental and physical development, and serve as a vocational job. Cultural and **creative art**, regardless of its form, is an important part of our community, and we should all be grateful for it.



As an accepted phenomena that Art & Culture uniting societies she narrated that a bond is formed between an [art work](#) and its subject. Culture contributes to the development of social capital in a community and fosters character development. Art brings people together physically – at galleries, museums, and performance spaces – and culturally through its ability to tell a community’s shared story, inspire reflection, and form connections that unite people regardless of their backgrounds or ethnicity.

Art expresses society’s values and beliefs, according to the philosopher. It reflects the changes in our society that are part of our daily culture. Our **cultural heritage** can be preserved while also promoting communication and understanding between various cultures.

We can be inspired and soothed by art; it can bring us all together. According to UNESCO Director-General, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and **Cultural Organization**, culture makes us resilient, provides hope, and reminds us that we are not alone.

The arts and cultures can contribute to a sense of community and social cohesion, as well as foster social inclusion and empowerment for individuals. Furthermore, these activities can help foster social norms that foster civic pride and tolerance. Community festivals, for example, may allow people to come together to celebrate their **cultural identity** while also learning about other cultures.

If in Pakistan someone is asked about China they will respond you by appreciating their food, youth would mention kung fu, kids would be fond of kung fu panda.....

The appeal of China extends beyond martial arts and food. Many people from other countries also like other aspects of Chinese culture, including the art of tea-making, Hanfu - traditional Chinese clothing, and Peking Opera. These aspects collectively form a key part of both our Chinese and global intangible cultural heritage. And now, China is gearing up to celebrate these cultural treasures.



The Global Civilization Initiative advocates that countries need to uphold the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness among civilizations, and let cultural exchanges transcend estrangement, mutual learning transcend clashes, and coexistence transcend feelings of superiority. This reflects China's outlook on civilization in working with other countries to promote the concept that each country has its own beauty and beauties of all countries should be cherished and respected by all.



As a Chinese saying goes, "Without achieving the good of one hundred various schools, the uniqueness of one individual cannot be achieved."

The Global Civilization Initiative maintains that peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom are the common aspiration of all peoples. Countries need to keep an open mind in appreciating the perceptions of values by different civilizations, and refrain from imposing their own values or models on others and from stoking ideological confrontation. This shows China's clear vision and strong determination to build a community with a shared future for mankind. Pride and prejudice are two biggest obstacles to exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations. In today's world, all countries are closely connected and we share a common future. Conflicts can only erode achievements of human society's development. Seeking common ground while reserving differences is the sustainable path towards world progress.

Key takeaways from the Presentation are:

- Art can be used to build cultural awareness and understanding by providing a representation of other cultures, promoting cultural exchange, and challenging preconceptions.
- Art is important in our cultural awareness because it can be used to express and document the cultures of our past, present, and future. It can also be used to raise awareness of current issues and to promote social and political change.

- Art can unite societies by bringing people together physically and culturally. It can also help to preserve our cultural heritage and promote communication and understanding between different cultures.
- The Global Civilization Initiative advocates for the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness among civilizations. It also maintains that peace, development, equity, justice, democracy, and freedom are the common aspiration of all peoples.

Topic: Student Insight about Global Civilization Initiative

Speakers: Miss Sana Jan, Miss Sayeda Manal, Miss Nayab M-Phil students from Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University,

Students shared their analysis of GCI's impact on the Belt and Road Initiative. They highlighted the importance of cultural diversity, China-Pakistan friendship, and the significance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for Pakistan's development.

Syeda Minal Tirmizi an M.Phil Student said that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a massive infrastructure and



economic development project launched by China in 2013. The initiative aims to enhance

connectivity and cooperation between countries across Asia, Europe, Africa, and beyond, through the construction of various transportation networks, including railways, roads, ports, and other critical infrastructure. The BRI also includes investment in various sectors such as energy, trade, and technology.

The BRI has the potential to bring peace and prosperity to the region in several ways. It can improve economic development, infrastructure investment, trade facilitation, cultural exchange, and diplomacy and stability. However, it is important to carefully plan, manage, and execute the BRI in order to realize its full potential and avoid potential challenges.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's vision for the BRI is rooted in fostering greater connectivity, cooperation, and development among countries across Asia, Europe, Africa, and beyond.

His objectives for the BRI include promoting economic growth and development, enhancing trade and investment, fostering international cooperation, strengthening cultural exchange and people-to-people ties, addressing



infrastructure gaps, and promoting green development and environmental protection.

Here are some specific examples of how the BRI has been implemented:

- China has invested heavily in the construction of railways, roads, and ports in countries along the BRI route.

- China has also invested in energy projects, such as oil and gas pipelines, in these countries.
- China has established economic zones in countries along the BRI route to promote trade and investment.
- China has also organized cultural exchanges and people-to-people ties between countries along the BRI route.

The BRI is a complex and ambitious initiative that has the potential to shape the future of the global economy. It is important to carefully monitor the implementation of the BRI and address any potential challenges in order to maximize its positive impact.

Sana Jan another M.Phil. student expressed her opinion by saying that The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a vast infrastructure and economic development project launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013. It aims to create a network of infrastructure connecting China to Europe, Asia, and Africa, including roads, railways, ports, and pipelines. The BRI also seeks to boost trade and investment, and promote economic growth and cultural exchange.

Pakistan has been a significant participant in the BRI, with projects



like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). CPEC is a multi-billion dollar investment in infrastructure development, including roads, railways, power plants, and



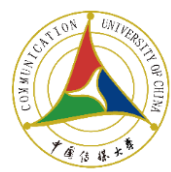
ports. The project is expected to transform Pakistan's transportation networks, energy sector, and industrial base.

The BRI has the potential to bring significant benefits to Pakistan, including:

- Increased economic growth: The BRI projects are expected to create jobs and boost economic activity in Pakistan.
- Improved infrastructure: The BRI projects will help to improve Pakistan's transportation networks, energy sector, and industrial base.
- Increased trade: The BRI will help to boost trade between Pakistan and other countries in the region.
- Enhanced connectivity: The BRI will help to connect Pakistan to other countries in the region, improving its access to markets and resources.
- Strengthened ties with China: The BRI has the potential to strengthen Pakistan's ties with China, a major economic and political power.

However, there are also some potential risks associated with the BRI, such as:

- Debt burden: Pakistan could face a debt burden if it is unable to repay the loans it takes out to finance BRI projects.
- Environmental impact: The BRI projects could have a negative environmental impact, such as deforestation and pollution.
- Corruption: There is a risk of corruption in the implementation of BRI projects.



Overall, the BRI has the potential to bring significant benefits to Pakistan, but it is important to carefully manage the risks associated with the initiative.

In addition to the economic benefits, the BRI has also had a positive impact on people-to-people relations between Pakistan and China. The BRI has promoted cultural exchange and educational cooperation between the two countries. This has helped to increase understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

Overall, the BRI is a complex and ambitious initiative that has the potential to bring significant benefits to Pakistan. However, it is important to carefully manage the risks associated with the initiative in order to maximize its positive impacts.

From Department of Political Science Nayab a student from M.Phil programme expre said that CULTURAL IMPACT OF BRI":

- The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a Chinese-led international development strategy that aims to connect Asia, Africa, and Europe through a network of land and sea routes.
- Pakistan is one of the countries involved in the BRI, and the initiative is expected to have a significant cultural impact on the country.
- China has been promoting its cultural influence in Pakistan for many years, but the BRI has accelerated this process.



- There has been a significant increase in Chinese cultural activities in Pakistan, such as the establishment of Confucius Institutes, the translation of Chinese books and movies, and the promotion of Chinese tourism.
- The BRI is also expected to lead to greater cultural exchanges between the people of China and Pakistan, such as through student and tourist visas.
- The full impact of the BRI on Pakistan's culture is still unknown, but it is clear that the initiative will have a significant impact on the country's cultural landscape.

Here are some specific examples of the cultural impact of the BRI in Pakistan:

- The Chinese government has established Confucius Institutes in several Pakistani universities. These institutes promote Chinese language and culture, and they have helped to increase awareness of China among Pakistani students.
- Chinese movies and TV shows have become more popular in Pakistan in recent years. This is due in part to the BRI, which has made it easier for Chinese cultural products to reach Pakistani audiences.
- The number of Chinese tourists visiting Pakistan has also increased in recent years. This is expected to continue to grow as the BRI progresses.

The BRI is a complex initiative with far-reaching implications. Its cultural impact on Pakistan is just one of many aspects that need to be carefully considered.

Closing Remarks: Mr. Zaildar Ahsan Shah, Advocate at the High Court and Advisor on International Relations at PRCCSF,

Mr. Zaildar Ahsan Shah, Advocate at the High Court and Advisor on International Relations at PRCCSF, Delivered closing remarks, emphasizing the importance of a shared future vision, sustainable development, and cultural exchanges for mutual learning among

civilizations. In her concluding remarks, Professor Dr. Safia Ahmed, Vice Chancellor of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, expressed gratitude to the organizers, speakers, and



attendees for their contributions to the insightful conference. The event successfully facilitated meaningful discussions on President Xi Jinping's Global Civilization Initiative and its potential impact on the Belt and Road Initiative, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration between China and Pakistan.

The conference concluded with a call for further research and cooperation on the GCI and its impact on the Belt and Road Initiative. This conference was a valuable opportunity to discuss the GCI and its potential to promote global peace and prosperity. The speakers shared their insights on the initiative and its impact on the Belt and Road Initiative. The



conference also highlighted the importance of cultural exchanges in promoting mutual understanding.

The conference was a success and it is hoped that it will contribute to the further development of the GCI and its impact on the Belt and Road Initiative.

Key Takeaways from the Conference

- The GCI is a Chinese vision for a future world characterized by peace, prosperity, and cooperation.
- The GCI is based on the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and inclusiveness.
- The GCI has the potential to promote global peace and prosperity.
- The GCI is already having an impact on the Belt and Road Initiative.
- Cultural exchanges are essential for promoting mutual understanding and cooperation.
- China-Pakistan friendship is an important foundation for the development of the GCI.

Recommendations

- The GCI should be further promoted and developed.
- More research should be conducted on the GCI and its impact on the Belt and Road Initiative.
- Cultural exchanges should be strengthened to promote mutual understanding and cooperation.
- China and Pakistan should continue to strengthen their friendship and cooperation in the development of the GCI.



