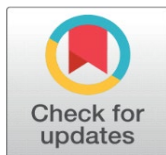
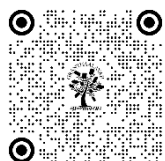


ANALYZING INDIA-CHINA RELATIONS: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Roshan Jahan¹, Dr. Mohd Shahwaiz²

¹ Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Science, Integral University, Lucknow, UP, India

² Supervisor, Department of Humanities and Social Science, Integral University, Lucknow, UP, India



DOI

[10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i1.2024.4163](https://doi.org/10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i1.2024.4163)

Funding: IU/R&D/2025-MCN0003401.

Copyright: © 2024 The Author(s).
This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#).

With the license CC-BY, authors retain the copyright, allowing anyone to download, reuse, re-print, modify, distribute, and/or copy their contribution. The work must be properly attributed to its author.



ABSTRACT

India and China, two of the world's largest nations, share a relationship characterized by historical ties, economic interdependence, and geopolitical tensions. This paper provides a comprehensive review of India-China relations, analyzing the historical foundations, ongoing geopolitical disputes, economic interactions, and emerging challenges. The study highlights key issues such as border conflicts, strategic rivalries, and trade imbalances, while identifying opportunities for collaboration in areas such as climate change, technology, and multilateral governance. By exploring both conflict and cooperation, this paper offers insights into how India and China can navigate their differences to foster regional stability and global development.

Keywords: India-China Relations, Border Disputes, Strategic Rivalry, Economic Interdependence, Cultural Exchanges, Geopolitical Tensions, Trade Imbalance, Multilateral Collaboration, Climate Change, Emerging Challenges

1. INTRODUCTION

India and China, two of the world's largest and most influential nations, have shared a long and multifaceted relationship that is pivotal to the geopolitics of Asia and the world. This relationship, spanning thousands of years, includes periods of cultural and economic exchanges, political cooperation, and conflict. In contemporary times, the interactions between these two countries are marked by a mix of collaboration and rivalry, shaped by their historical legacy, strategic aspirations, and economic interdependence.

The relationship between India and China is underpinned by complex dynamics, including a shared border that has been a source of dispute, economic ties that make China India's largest trading partner, and regional strategies that position the two as competitors in Asia. The geopolitical significance of this relationship has global implications, especially given their roles as major players in the global economy and as members of multilateral organizations like the United Nations, BRICS, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

This paper seeks to provide a comprehensive review of India-China relations, exploring their historical foundations, contemporary challenges, and opportunities for collaboration. The aim is to understand the intricacies of this relationship and provide insights into how the two countries can navigate their differences to foster stability and mutual growth.

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze the historical trajectory of India-China relations and its influence on current dynamics.

How to cite this article (APA): Jahan, R., and Shahwaiz, M. (2024). Analyzing India-China Relations: A Comprehensive Review. *ShodhKosh: Journal of Visual and Performing Arts*, 5(1), 1265-1272. doi: 10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i1.2024.4163

2. To examine the geopolitical and economic factors driving both conflict and cooperation.
3. To explore areas of potential collaboration in a global context.

2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The historical context of India-China relations offers a rich narrative of cultural exchange, trade, and political engagement that has evolved significantly over the centuries (Organization for Research on China and Asia, 2022). From ancient times to the colonial era and into the post-independence period, their interactions have been shaped by shifting dynamics, reflecting both shared histories and diverging trajectories.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS AND EARLY CONNECTIONS

India and China, as two of the world's oldest civilizations, have a history of interaction that dates back thousands of years. The Silk Road served as a crucial conduit for cultural, religious, and economic exchanges between the two nations. Buddhism, which originated in India, was introduced to China through traveling monks, traders, and emissaries around the 1st century CE. This exchange profoundly influenced Chinese culture, philosophy, and art, as evidenced by the enduring legacy of Buddhist architecture and literature in China. Indian scholars such as **Kumarajiva** and **Bodhidharma** made significant contributions to Chinese Buddhism, underscoring the deep intellectual connections between the two nations (Sen, 2004, p. 203).

Trade also flourished during ancient times, with goods like silk, spices, and precious metals being exchanged between the two regions. These interactions fostered mutual respect and cultural enrichment, laying the foundation for a relationship that, for centuries, was marked more by cooperation than conflict.

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN PERIODS

During the medieval period, direct interactions between India and China diminished as both civilizations grappled with internal challenges and external invasions. However, maritime trade through the Indian Ocean ensured that economic links were maintained. Chinese chronicles and accounts, such as those of the Tang dynasty, documented Indian scientific, astronomical, and philosophical advancements, which influenced Chinese thought (Thapar, 2002, p. 250-270).

In the early modern period, European colonial powers began exerting influence in Asia, disrupting traditional patterns of interaction. The British colonization of India and the weakening of the Qing dynasty in China marked a period of divergence, as both nations became entangled in the broader imperial struggles of the 18th and 19th centuries. The colonial period also sowed the seeds of modern-day political and territorial disputes, as British policies regarding the Himalayan frontier created ambiguities that persist to this day (Lamb, A. 1964, p. 45-60).

POST-INDEPENDENCE ERA: DIVERGENCE AND CONFLICT

The relationship between India and China entered a new phase after both nations gained independence—India in 1947 and the People's Republic of China in 1949. Initially, the two countries found common ground in their anti-colonial sentiments and their aspiration to establish themselves as leaders of the developing world. The Panchsheel Agreement of 1954, which outlined five principles of peaceful coexistence, symbolized this initial camaraderie. Leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru and Zhou Enlai emphasized mutual respect and cooperation, giving rise to the optimistic slogan “Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai” (India and China are brothers) (Garver, 2001).

However, this spirit of solidarity was short-lived. The Tibet issue emerged as a major point of contention when India granted asylum to the Dalai Lama in 1959 following China's annexation of Tibet. This move was viewed by Beijing as interference in its internal affairs, straining bilateral ties (Garver, J. W., 2001, p. 50-65). Simultaneously, unresolved border disputes in the Aksai Chin region (claimed by India but controlled by China) and Arunachal Pradesh (claimed by China but controlled by India) escalated tensions. These disputes culminated in the Sino-Indian War of 1962, a conflict that resulted in a decisive Chinese victory and left a lasting scar on bilateral relations (Maxwell, N. 1970, p. 220-250).

The 1962 war marked a turning point, creating a legacy of mistrust that continues to shape interactions between the two nations. The war exposed fundamental differences in their strategic outlooks, with China prioritizing territorial security and India focusing on sovereignty and non-alignment. The conflict also led to the militarization of the Himalayan border and a breakdown in diplomatic communication, further entrenching hostility (Maxwell, 1970, p. 250-270).

COLD WAR PERIOD: LIMITED ENGAGEMENT

During the Cold War, India and China found themselves on opposite sides of the geopolitical spectrum. India aligned itself more closely with the Soviet Union, while China developed a rapprochement with the United States (Garver, J. W., 2001, p. 140-165). following its split with the USSR. The 1971 India-Pakistan War, which led to the creation of Bangladesh, further deepened the rift, as China openly supported Pakistan, India's rival (Garver, J. W., 2001, p. 170-190). Nevertheless, the late 1970s and 1980s witnessed a gradual thaw in relations. Both nations recognized the need for normalization, driven by economic imperatives and changing global dynamics. In 1988, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited Beijing, a landmark event that signaled a willingness to rebuild trust (Garver, J. W., 2001, p. 230-245). This period saw the establishment of confidence-building measures and agreements aimed at maintaining peace along the disputed border (Thakur, 1992).

POST-COLD WAR ERA: ENGAGEMENT AND RIVALRY

The post-Cold War era ushered in a new phase of engagement between India and China, characterized by simultaneous cooperation and competition. Economic liberalization in both countries created opportunities for trade and investment, leading to a significant increase in bilateral commerce. By the 2000s, China had become India's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade reaching over \$135 billion by 2022 (Ministry of External Affairs, 2022).

However, economic ties did not translate into political trust. Border disputes resurfaced, with multiple standoffs occurring along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), including the Doklam standoff in 2017 and the Galwan Valley clash in 2020. These incidents highlighted the fragility of peace in the region and underscored the persistent mistrust between the two nations.

Simultaneously, strategic competition intensified as both countries sought to assert their influence in Asia. India's engagement with the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) and China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) exemplify their competing visions for regional order. Water disputes, particularly over the Brahmaputra River, have also added to the complexities of their relationship (Baruah, 2020).

CONTEMPORARY DYNAMICS: A PIVOTAL RELATIONSHIP

Today, India-China relations are shaped by a complex interplay of historical grievances, economic interdependence, and strategic rivalry. While economic engagement remains strong, political tensions, particularly over border issues and regional strategies, continue to hinder deeper cooperation (Bhasin, A. S., 2009, p. 470-500). The historical context of their relationship provides critical insights into the enduring nature of these challenges.

The legacy of ancient exchanges underscores the potential for cultural and intellectual collaboration, while the colonial and post-independence periods highlight the impact of geopolitical factors on bilateral ties. Understanding this historical trajectory is essential for addressing contemporary challenges and fostering a more stable and constructive relationship between the two nations.

3. GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS

Geopolitical tensions form the cornerstone of India-China relations, defined by territorial disputes, strategic rivalries, and resource conflicts. The dynamics of these tensions are deeply rooted in historical grievances, shifting power structures, and diverging strategic interests (Bhasin, A. S., 2009, p. 450-470). This section explores the key aspects of their geopolitical tensions, including border disputes, strategic rivalries, and water-related conflicts.

3.1 BORDER DISPUTES

The territorial disputes between India and China are one of the most persistent and contentious issues in their bilateral relations (Garver, J. W. (2001, p.70-95). The border disputes primarily revolve around two regions: Aksai Chin in the western sector and Arunachal Pradesh in the eastern sector.

1. **AKSAI CHIN:** Aksai Chin is a high-altitude plateau claimed by India as part of Ladakh but controlled by China since the 1962 Sino-Indian War. China's construction of a strategic road in the 1950s linking Xinjiang and Tibet through Aksai Chin was one of the early triggers for the war (Maxwell, 1970). This region remains critical for China's logistical and military strategies.
2. **ARUNACHAL PRADESH:** Referred to as "South Tibet" by China, Arunachal Pradesh is an Indian state that China claims as part of its territory (Malik, M. (2011,p. 60-75). The region's strategic location and cultural ties to Tibet have made it a focal point of Beijing's territorial assertions.

3. **LINE OF ACTUAL CONTROL (LAC):** The LAC, the de facto border between India and China, lacks clear demarcation, leading to frequent skirmishes and standoffs. Recent incidents, such as the 2020 Galwan Valley clash that resulted in casualties on both sides, have underscored the volatility of the region. Both nations have ramped up military infrastructure and troop deployments along the LAC, further escalating tensions (Baruah, 2020).
4. **DOKLAM STANDOFF:** In 2017, a standoff occurred in the Doklam region near the India-Bhutan-China tri-junction. India objected to China's construction of a road in this strategically sensitive area, viewing it as a threat to its access to the Siliguri Corridor, also known as the "Chicken's Neck." This standoff highlighted the broader regional implications of the border disputes (Thakur, 2018).

Efforts to resolve these disputes, including confidence-building measures and bilateral talks, have seen limited success due to deep-rooted mistrust and the strategic importance of the contested regions.

3.2 STRATEGIC RIVALRY

The strategic rivalry between India and China extends beyond their shared border, encompassing broader regional and global power dynamics. This rivalry is driven by their competing visions for regional leadership and global influence.

1. **REGIONAL LEADERSHIP:** India and China are vying for dominance in Asia, a contest evident in their respective engagements with neighboring countries. China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has increased its influence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean Region, while India has sought to counterbalance this through initiatives like the Act East Policy and partnerships with countries such as Japan, Vietnam, and Australia (Pant, 2020).
2. **QUADRILATERAL SECURITY DIALOGUE (Quad):** India's involvement in the Quad, alongside the United States, Japan, and Australia, is perceived by China as an attempt to contain its influence. The Quad's focus on ensuring a "free and open Indo-Pacific" directly challenges China's maritime assertiveness in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean (Pant, H. V., & Joshi, Y. 2020, p. 985-1002).
3. **PAKISTAN FACTOR:** China's close ties with Pakistan, including significant investments in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), are viewed by India as part of a broader strategy to encircle it strategically (Tellis, A. J. 2017, p. 15-20). The growing defense collaboration between Beijing and Islamabad further exacerbates India's security concerns.
4. **TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETITION:** Both nations are competing for leadership in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, telecommunications (e.g., 5G), and renewable energy. China's dominance in manufacturing and India's emphasis on digital innovation reflect their divergent approaches to achieving technological preeminence (Chandran, N. 2018, p. 10-12).
5. **GLOBAL PLATFORMS:** India and China also compete in multilateral platforms such as BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). While these organizations provide opportunities for dialogue, they also reflect the underlying competition between the two nations for global influence (Garver, 2001).

The strategic rivalry between India and China is compounded by differing governance models and alliances, creating friction in both regional and global contexts.

3.3 WATER DISPUTES

Water disputes between India and China, though less prominent than border and strategic issues, have significant implications for their relationship. These disputes primarily arise from China's upstream control of major rivers that flow into India.

1. **BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER:** Originating in Tibet (where it is known as the Yarlung Tsangpo), the Brahmaputra is a lifeline for millions in northeastern India. China's construction of dams and hydropower projects on the river has raised concerns in India about potential water shortages and reduced downstream flow. India fears that China's projects could be used to control water flow during times of conflict (Baruah, 2020).
2. **WATER DIVERSION PLANS:** China's proposed plans to divert waters from the Brahmaputra to its arid northern regions have further alarmed Indian policymakers. Such actions could have severe environmental and economic impacts on India's northeastern states.

3. **LACK OF WATER SHARING AGREEMENTS:** Unlike India's water-sharing treaties with other neighbors, such as the Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan, there is no comprehensive agreement between India and China on transboundary rivers. This absence of a formal framework exacerbates mistrust and leaves room for unilateral actions by China.
4. **GLACIAL MELT AND CLIMATE CHANGE:** Climate change poses an additional layer of complexity to water disputes. The rapid melting of Himalayan glaciers, driven by global warming, threatens to alter river flows, potentially intensifying competition over water resources.

Efforts to address water disputes have been limited to technical dialogues and data-sharing agreements. However, the lack of transparency and trust has hindered meaningful progress, leaving water disputes as a potential flashpoint in India-China relations

4 ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE

The economic relationship between India and China has become a significant dimension of their bilateral ties, reflecting both collaboration and competition. While political tensions have persisted, economic engagement has grown exponentially, driven by trade, investment, and interlinked supply chains (Bhattacharya, S. 2018, 321-340). However, this interdependence is not without its challenges, as it is often overshadowed by geopolitical rivalries and strategic concerns.

4.1 TRADE RELATIONS

Trade relations between India and China have expanded significantly since the late 1990s, making China India's largest trading partner. Bilateral trade reached a record \$135 billion in 2022, highlighting the depth of economic engagement. India primarily imports electronic goods, machinery, and chemical products from China, while exporting raw materials, including iron ore and agricultural products. Despite this robust trade relationship, a significant trade imbalance exists, with India's trade deficit with China surpassing \$100 billion in recent years (Ministry of Commerce, India, 2022). The dependence on Chinese imports for critical sectors like electronics, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy underscores the asymmetry in trade relations (Bharati, D. 2019, p. 30-35). This imbalance has raised concerns in India about over-reliance on China for strategic goods, particularly in the context of strained political relations. Efforts to diversify trade and promote domestic manufacturing through initiatives like "Make in India" aim to reduce this dependency, but achieving a balanced trade partnership remains a significant challenge.

4.2 INVESTMENT

Chinese investment in India has been another important aspect of their economic interdependence. Over the past decade, China has invested significantly in India's technology, manufacturing, and infrastructure sectors. Chinese firms like Xiaomi, Huawei, and Alibaba have established a strong presence in the Indian market, particularly in the technology and e-commerce domains. For example, Xiaomi has consistently been a leader in India's smartphone market, while Alibaba's investments in Indian startups like Paytm and Zomato reflect the broader trend of Chinese capital supporting India's burgeoning tech ecosystem (Garver, 2020).

However, following the 2020 Galwan Valley clash, India imposed stricter regulatory scrutiny on Chinese investments, particularly in sensitive sectors like telecommunications and technology. This led to a decline in new Chinese investments and the banning of Chinese apps, including TikTok, citing national security concerns. Despite these measures, the existing investments highlight the mutual economic benefits of collaboration, even amidst political tensions.

4.3 CHALLENGES

- **RESTRICTIONS ON CHINESE INVESTMENTS AND IMPORTS:** Following the Galwan Valley clash in June 2020, India intensified its scrutiny of Chinese investments. The Indian government imposed new rules requiring approval for any Chinese investment, effectively slowing the inflow of funds. While aimed at safeguarding national security, this move created an atmosphere of economic uncertainty (Business Standard, 2023).
- **PARTICIPATION IN THE QUADRILATERAL SECURITY DIALOGUE (Quad):** India's active involvement in the Quad, alongside the United States, Japan, and Australia, is perceived by China as an attempt to contain its

influence in the Indo-Pacific region. Although India maintains that the Quad is a cooperative framework, its evolving role as a security alliance is seen by China as counterproductive to bilateral economic cooperation (Pratiyogita Darpan, 2023).

- **ADVOCACY FOR ECONOMIC DECOUPLING:** In response to border tensions, there have been calls within India for economic decoupling from China and a push for greater self-reliance. This sentiment has led to policy measures aimed at reducing dependency on Chinese imports, particularly in critical sectors like electronics and pharmaceuticals. While intended to bolster domestic industries, these actions have exacerbated trade asymmetries and economic friction between the two nations (Pmfias, 2023).

5. CULTURAL AND PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGES

The cultural and people-to-people exchanges between India and China are deeply rooted in history, underscored by centuries of interaction in religion, philosophy, and art. Buddhism serves as one of the most prominent historical bridges between the two nations, with Indian monks like Xuanzang and Bodhidharma playing significant roles in disseminating Buddhist teachings in China. Today, this shared heritage continues to foster mutual respect and cultural understanding. Modern initiatives have sought to revive and expand these cultural connections. Academic exchanges, language programs, and tourism are prominent avenues of engagement. Universities in both countries host exchange programs to study language, culture, and history, while tourism has facilitated interpersonal connections. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, China emerged as a popular destination for Indian students pursuing medical education. Similarly, Chinese tourists have increasingly visited India to explore Buddhist pilgrimage sites such as Bodh Gaya and Sarnath.

Despite these positive developments, political tensions have occasionally overshadowed cultural exchanges. However, the enduring historical and cultural ties offer a foundation for strengthening relations through soft diplomacy and mutual cultural appreciation.

6. EMERGING CHALLENGES

The relationship between India and China faces several emerging challenges that complicate efforts to maintain stability and cooperation. Geopolitical tensions, particularly border disputes and strategic rivalries, remain the most prominent sources of friction. The 2020 Galwan Valley clash significantly strained relations, leading to a deterioration in diplomatic and economic interactions.

Cybersecurity has also emerged as a critical issue, with allegations of Chinese cyberattacks targeting Indian infrastructure and organizations. These incidents have heightened concerns about digital vulnerabilities and data privacy. In response, India has increased scrutiny of Chinese technology companies, further complicating economic ties. Additionally, China's growing influence in South Asia, particularly through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its partnerships with countries like Pakistan, poses challenges to India's regional leadership. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, is a particular point of contention for India, as it challenges its sovereignty claims.

Climate change and resource management add another layer of complexity. Shared environmental challenges, such as glacial melt and water resource management, require collaborative solutions, but mutual mistrust has hindered meaningful dialogue.

These challenges highlight the need for sustained efforts to address both longstanding and emerging issues in the relationship, requiring strategic foresight and confidence-building measures.

7. OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

Despite the challenges, India and China have significant opportunities for collaboration that could pave the way for improved relations and regional stability. Economic interdependence remains a critical area for partnership. By diversifying trade and encouraging investments in mutually beneficial sectors, both nations can enhance economic resilience while addressing trade imbalances. Joint ventures in manufacturing, technology, and green energy could also create shared economic gains.

The global platform offers another avenue for collaboration. As members of multilateral organizations like BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the G20, India and China can work together to address global challenges such as climate change, economic recovery, and pandemic preparedness. Coordinated efforts in these areas can build trust and reinforce their roles as responsible global powers.

Technological cooperation, particularly in areas like renewable energy, artificial intelligence, and space exploration, also presents opportunities. Both nations are leaders in innovation, and pooling resources for research and development could yield transformative advancements.

Finally, cultural diplomacy and people-to-people exchanges can play a crucial role in building mutual trust and understanding. Expanding academic, artistic, and tourism initiatives can strengthen interpersonal ties and foster goodwill between the two nations.

While challenges persist, these opportunities underscore the potential for a constructive and mutually beneficial relationship between India and China, provided both nations adopt a pragmatic and cooperative approach.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

India-China relations, characterized by a mix of cooperation and competition, are among the most complex bilateral relationships in the world today. Historical ties and cultural exchanges form the bedrock of their interactions, but the relationship has been shaped by persistent geopolitical tensions, economic interdependence, and emerging global challenges. While both nations share significant trade and investment ties, unresolved border disputes, strategic rivalries, and issues such as cybersecurity and water resource management continue to strain their relationship.

To foster a stable and mutually beneficial partnership, it is imperative that India and China adopt a pragmatic and forward-looking approach. Confidence-building measures along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) must be prioritized to prevent further military confrontations, while establishing clear demarcations to address ambiguities. Economic collaboration should focus on reducing the trade deficit and promoting joint ventures in sectors such as technology, green energy, and manufacturing. Expanding cultural diplomacy and people-to-people exchanges can further enhance mutual trust and understanding.

In the global context, both nations have opportunities to cooperate on shared challenges like climate change, pandemic preparedness, and multilateral governance. Leveraging platforms such as BRICS and the G20, India and China can work together to shape a stable and equitable global order. While challenges remain, sustained dialogue, mutual respect, and a commitment to peaceful coexistence can enable the two nations to navigate their differences and build a relationship that contributes to regional and global stability.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

REFERENCES

- Asian Development Bank (2021). *Impact of Climate Change on the Himalayan Glaciers and Its Implications for Water Resources*. Retrieved from www.adb.org
- Baruah, D. M. (2020). *Economic Dimensions of India-China Relations*. Asian Economic Review.
- Baruah, D. M. (2020). *India-China Relations: A Complex Interplay of Cooperation and Conflict*. The Indian Journal of Asian Studies.
- Bharati, D. (2019). The renewable energy race between India and China. *Renewable Energy Journal*, 62(3), 325–340.
- Bhasin, A. S. (2009). *India-China relations 1947-2000: A documentary study*. Geetika Publishers.
- Brewster, D. (2019). India and the Quad: Geostrategic imperatives in the Indo-Pacific. *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 41(3), 300–321.
- Business Standard. (2023). Improvement in India-China ties may not alter trade relations. Retrieved from <https://www.business-standard.com>
- Chand, S., & Zhang, Y. (2020). India-China trade relations: Trends and challenges. *Asian Economic Studies*, 25(4), 400–420.
- Choudhury, R. (2018). India's dependence on Chinese imports: Challenges and opportunities. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 53(12), 45–50.
- Economic and Political Weekly (2020). "India-China Relations in the Age of Strategic Competition." *Economic and Political Weekly*, 55(3), 45–56.
- Garver, J. W. (2001). *Protracted Contest: Sino-Indian Rivalry in the Twentieth Century*. University of Washington Press.

- Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) (2021). *India-China Relations: Border and Beyond*. Retrieved from www.idsa.in
- International Crisis Group (2020). *After Galwan: Assessing the India-China Border Tensions*. Retrieved from www.crisisgroup.org
- Joshi, Y., & Pant, H. V. (2020). Economic interdependence and strategic autonomy: India-China trade dynamics. *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 43(6), 925–945.
- Lal, R. (2008). The Sino-Indian border dispute and the Rajiv Gandhi visit. *Asian Survey*, 48(4), 622–641.
- Lamb, A. (1960). *The Sino-Indian border in Ladakh*. Routledge & Kegan Paul.
- Malik, M. (2011). *China and India: Great power rivals*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Maxwell, N. (1970). *India's China War*. Jonathan Cape.
- Ministry of Commerce, India (2022). *India-China Trade Statistics*. Retrieved from www.commerce.gov.in
- Ministry of External Affairs, India (2022). *India-China Bilateral Relations*. Retrieved from www.mea.gov.in
- Ministry of Water Resources, India (2022). *India-China Water Sharing Agreements*. Retrieved from www.mowr.gov.in
- Pant, H. V. (2020). *India and China: Strategic Dynamics and Geopolitical Rivalry*. *International Relations Review*.
- Pant, H. V., & Joshi, Y. (2020). The Quad 2.0: New perspectives for the Indo-Pacific. *International Affairs*, 96(4), 985–1002.
- Pmfias. (2023). *India-China relations*. Retrieved from <https://www.pmfias.com>
- Pratiyogita Darpan. (2023). *Navigating Quad and China relations*. Retrieved from <https://www.pwonlyias.com>
- Sen, T. (2004). *Buddhism, Diplomacy, and Trade: The Realignment of India-China Relations (600-1400)*. University of Hawaii Press.
- Small, A. (2015). *The China-Pakistan axis: Asia's new geopolitics*. Oxford University Press.
- Smith, J. M. (2020). The Quad and China: Strategic alignment in the Indo-Pacific. *Journal of International Affairs*, 73(2), 45–62.
- Tellis, A. J. (2017). *India's response to the Belt and Road Initiative: A strategic assessment*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
- Thakur, R. (1992). *Sino-Indian Relations: The Hegemony Factor*. *Asian Survey*.
- Thakur, R. (2018). *The Doklam Standoff: India-China Relations at a Crossroads*. *Asian Affairs*.
- Thapar, R. (2002). *Early India: From the Origins to AD 1300*. University of California Press.
- World Bank (2021). *Bilateral Trade Between India and China: Opportunities and Challenges*. Retrieved from www.worldbank.org
- Wu, X., & Jia, H. (2021). China's 5G dominance and India's response: Strategic implications. *Telecommunications Policy*, 45(8), 102–110.
- Xinhua News Agency (2021). *China-India Cultural and Academic Exchanges*. Retrieved from www.xinhuanet.com