PAKISTAN AND HER NEIGHBOURS:

Useful definitions:

Location & Neighbour Countries

- **Location:**
  - Pakistan is located between 23 degrees North to 37 degrees North Latitude and 61 degrees East to 77 degrees East Longitude.

- **Neighbours:**
  - China lies in the north
  - Afghanistan and Iran are in the West
  - India lies in the East and
  - Arabian Sea in South

PAKISTAN AND IRAN:
After Pakistan gained its independence in August 1947, Iran was the first country to recognize its sovereign status. Economic and trade relations continued to expand in both absolute and relative terms, leading to the signing of a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries in 1999.[4] Both countries are founding members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). At present, both countries are cooperating and forming alliances in a number of areas of mutual interest, such as fighting the drug trade along their common border and combating the Balochistan insurgency along their border. Iran has expressed an interest joining the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN
Afghanistan–Pakistan relations refer to the bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The neighbouring states share deep historical and cultural links, and are both self-declared Islamic republics and members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. Relations between the two countries have been strained since 1947, when Afghanistan was the sole county to vote against Pakistan’s admission into the UN.

In 1952, the government of Afghanistan published a tract in which it not only laid claim to Pashtun territory within Pakistan, but also its province of Balochistan. [11] Diplomatic relations were cut off between 1961 and 1963 after Afghanistan supported more armed separatists in Pakistan.
However Pakistan and Afghanistan have been described by former Afghan President Hamid Karzai as "inseparable brothers",[23][24] which is due to the historical, religious, and ethnolinguistical connections between the Pashtun people and other ethnic groups of both countries, as well as trade and other ties. The two countries are also amongst each other’s largest trading partners, and Pakistan serves as a major conduit for Afghan transit trade.

PAKISTAN AND CHINA
China is all weather friend of Pakistan. China Pakistan relationship is based on strong strategic, economic and political foundations. With China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) China has committed the investment worth US $ 51 billion in Pakistan.

China and Pakistan enjoys robust defence relations as China is largest defense partner of Pakistan. China has often times provided financial and military aid to Pakistan to fight against terrorism. In the past China has played an important role in development of Pakistan’s nuclear infrastructure.
Relations between India and Pakistan have been complex and largely hostile due to a number of historical and political events. Relations between the two states have been defined by the violent partition of British India in 1947, the Kashmir conflict and the numerous military conflicts fought between the two nations. Consequently, their relationship has been plagued by hostility and suspicion.

Soon after their independence, India and Pakistan established diplomatic relations but the violent partition and numerous territorial claims would overshadow their
relationship. Since their Independence, the two countries have fought three major wars, one undeclared war and have been involved in numerous armed skirmishes and military standoffs. The Kashmir conflict is the main centre-point of all of these conflicts with the exception of the Indo-Pakistan War of 1971 and Bangladesh Liberation War, which resulted in the separation of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).