

**ABSTRACT**

Since its inception in 1947 up until the present day, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has had reason to be wary of India. After three wars and countless border skirmishes with their larger Hindu neighbor, and oftentimes rival, Pakistan views India with a degree of suspicion and threat. However, most of India and Pakistan's most significant conflicts had been, and continues to be fought, on land, mainly in and surrounding the hotly disputed region of Jammu and Kashmir, with both countries investing much the way of military equipment for their armies and border security agencies. However, Pakistan has recently been seeking to improve the capabilities of their navy, a long ignored branch of the Pakistani Armed Forces. This thesis will attempt to examine the reasoning behind Pakistan's choice to turn their attention towards and improve the capabilities of their long neglected navy, and attempt to correlate it with both India's own steadily increasing naval presence in South Asia as well as the People's Republic of China's heightened involvement in the region in the form of the Belt Road Initiative as well as the China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

**Keywords:** *Pakistan Navy, Naval Capability, South Asia, Regional Powers, Interdiction, Belt Road Initiative, China Pakistan Economic Corridor.*