

## **Research Article**

# **A Discourse Analysis Of CPEC As A Language Changer In Pakistan**

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## **ABSTRACT**

CPEC is going to play the part of the game changer in the region. Globalization has already affected the cultures across the world. This is the biggest economic investment so for getting benefits in true sense language barriers must be crossed. And it is sure that there will be a long term impact of CPEC on culture as well as language of the territory. There are some causes in changing the trend or ratio of some specific language learners in a region which has great importance. For instance, English language is famous among the students of some areas, because they have their all academic subjects are taught in English. In such condition the people become a bilingual or multilingual in the region. This research article aimed to find out the importance of CPEC and its impacts on the Chinese language learners in Pakistan. It also discusses that the students believe that Chinese language will be supportive in creating bright future thus CPEC is now becoming a source of language changer in Pak. Random sampling technique was applied for data collection in four targeted colleges of Lahore Pak. The researcher has applied both the quantitative and qualitative type of research in the study. For Data collection, questionnaires were used as a research tool. Likert scale based questionnaires were used for data collection from the four targeted colleges. Ten questions were investigated via forms and the collected data were put in SPSS to find the results.

**Keywords:** CPEC, Chinese Language, Language Changer, Multilingualism, Mandarin.

## **Chapter I: Introduction**

CPEC stands for the words China-Pak Economic corridor, an oversized developmental scheme initiated by China. It is considered as pastime changer which will change the destiny of Pakistan. Of course, CPEC has great positive influences on the economy of Pakistan in different ways but it will not only affect the economy of Pakistan but languages also. The national and official language of Pakistan is Urdu but English was once the official language of this country. Basically English is a language considered as a lingua franca, thus English language speakers are commonly found in Pak as the educated people can speak English. It has become a fashion to speak English in the country. English language is considered as a key

of success in the country. People in Pakistan learn English Language to get good jobs in their life, because it is considered as a language of success. But with the significant step of CPEC and its expectations people in Pakistan think that they should focus Chinese language which has the largest ratio of its speakers in the world, as compare to English language. With the arrival of CPEC it is becoming a fashion to learn Chinese language in Pakistan, because China is proving its strength and power in the economical war of the world. An economic revolution in the world is expected with CPEC success. The majority of Pakistani Students now gaining scholarships in Chinese language as compare to others. Several number of the people in Pakistan learning

Chinese language in the country and outside of the country, because they think that in coming days definitely there will be a significant revolutionary job opportunities for a person who can speak Chinese. Million of the people have expectations here of getting excellent job opportunities in the mega project of CPEC.

History tells that Chinese language has a significant worth as is spoken by the largest population of the world and 2<sup>nd</sup> largest economy of the world. Now it is going to be the largest economy partner of the world.

### **1.1 Purpose of the study**

This purpose of the study is to thrash out the significance of CPEC as a language changer for the people in Pakistan. It aims to find out that the people in Pakistan now consider that learning Chinese language will more effective and supportive as compare to English for better future especially in CPEC projects. The researcher discusses some research questions like does CPEC has any importance on the economy of Pakistan has CPEC any impact on minimizing English language learning ratio in Pak due to CPEC. What are the challenges and expected benefits for a Chinese language learner in Pakistan due to CPEC.

### **1.2 Hypothesis of the study**

The hypothesis of the study is that the Pakistani students want to learn Chinese language with the expectations to have a bright future in the mega project of CPEC.

### **1.3 Delimitation of the study**

1. The research study has delimited to Chinese national language learning in Pak.
2. The study has delimited to the students of the four colleges in Lahore, Pak through cluster sampling.
3. The study has delimited to forty students of the four targeted colleges.
4. Both male and female students were selected for data sampling.
5. Lahore Grammar College (Girls campus) ShadmanChowk, Sofia College of Arts & Science Chung e Lahore, Quaid e Azam College Shadman Lahore, and Wise Girls College Gulberg, Lahore were selected for sampling.

## **Chapter II: Literature Review**

### **2.1 Preface**

CPEC is a mega scheme initiated by China which has a vital role in the development of both, China and Pakistan as well as many other countries. It will be helpful in making prosperous both countries. It is not only supports China and Pak but dozens of many other countries in the world. Pakistan times (2016) announced that China - Pak Economic corridor (CPEC) is an extra-large scheme of 45+ billion USD initiated by China which will be supportive in heightening the relationship and friendship between China and Pakistan. It is considered as a foundation of China and Pak prosperity.

### **2.2 Promotion of Chinese language learning with the progress of CPEC**

There is a deep link between the trend of Chinese language learning in Pak and CPEC. The majority of the students in Pak wish to learn Chinese language with the progress of CPEC. Not only the students but the teachers also show interest learning Chinese language for their bright future in the mega project of CPEC and the programs related to the project. According to Bao (2016), with the progress of CPEC, the Pakistani students and teachers' demand of learning the Chinese language is increasing day by day.

One can claim that China is to be the greatest trade partner in the world. CPEC is one of the mega projects in the world which will be helpful in boosting trade internationally. Gong (2014) stated that China is becoming a great trader partner of the world so Chinese language is becoming important in the world.

As a friend China is offering several beneficial projects to Pakistani citizens. Due to their support in economical zone the people in Pakistan have a deep interest in Chinese culture, and civilization. Pakistani people have great interest in Chinese language now due to its great interest in Pakistan nowadays. Sarkar (2013) admitted that the interest of the Pakistani citizens especially of young people is growing in Mandarin language. One of the reasons of growing interest is that the Pakistani citizens regard China as a well-trusted friend.

Ramay (2015) acknowledged that CPEC and expectations from CPEC is a hot subject/ topic in Pak nowadays. International media believes that CPEC is a strategic corridor which will cover the development and trades needs of Pakistan and many other countries in the world. Khalid and Abid (215) admitted in their research article that there will be special economic zones for explicit areas in Pakistan which will be beneficial for the common man also. CPEC will be supportive in creating more than 2 million job opportunities directly or indirectly. It will be helpful in person to person contact from both countries.

**Chapter III: Data collection**

This research study has been divided into five varied parts and “The Research Methodology” this chapter depicts the methods and techniques used in the study. The aim of this chapter is to argue or talk about the methods and techniques exercised in collecting data for the study and complete design used in the research. Both quantitative, including qualitative methods were used, in other words, it can be claimed that the mix method has been used by the researchers for data collection. Thus, for collecting data statistically, the instruments and records were used that discuss quantitative descriptions about the different variables, on the other hand the

interviews and the documents were brought into play in collecting data qualitatively. So this study will illustrate more evidence, including multiple pictures of arguments as it is the main feature of the mix method in research. Creswell (2008) explained that the mix method/approach is a latest method used in collecting data that can be applied in researches to illustrate multiple pictures of different arguments.

The researchers have used interviews and questionnaires for data gathering to investigate the results about the effectiveness of CPEC as language changer in Pak. The study has been delimited to the four colleges/ Higher Secondary Schools from Lahore through cluster sampling. Both boys and girls from certain colleges were the participants for this research. The investigator went to four targeted colleges and distributed the questionnaires among the students and were filled after that he took interview of the targeted students one by one about CPEC as a language changer in Pak. For data collection, seventeen students from each college were taken for filling the survey forms and three students from each college were interviewed about the CPEC as a language changer in Pak. So the total number of sampling was eighty in the research. The result will be discussed in the section of data analysis.

**Chapter IV: Data analysis**

**4.1 Description of the responses about the queries via tables**

| Table 1: Name of the Institutes |           |         |               |                    |       |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|-------|
| No of the institutes            | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |       |
| V a l i d                       | 1         | 1 0     | 2 5 . 0       | 2 5 . 0            | 25.0  |
|                                 | 2         | 1 0     | 2 5 . 0       | 2 5 . 0            | 50.0  |
|                                 | 3         | 1 0     | 2 5 . 0       | 2 5 . 0            | 75.0  |
|                                 | 4         | 1 0     | 2 5 . 0       | 2 5 . 0            | 100.0 |
|                                 | T o t a l | 4 0     | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |       |

The table shows that four institutes were taken for the study. Firstly, Lahore grammar college (girls campus) Shadmanchowk, secondly Sofia college of Arts & science Chunge Lahore, thirdly, Quaid e Azam College Shadmanlahore, and lastly, Wise girls college Gulberg, Lahore. Ten students were taken from each institute for sampling and the total number of respondents was forty.

|    |             | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----|-------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| ii | M a l e     | 2         | 0       | 5 0 . 0       | 5 0 . 0            |
|    | F e m a l e | 2         | 0       | 5 0 . 0       | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|    | T o t a l   | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

The table indicates that the total number of respondents was forty but twenty were male and twenty were female equally.

|       |                 | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree  | 1         | 3       | 3 2 . 5       | 3 2 . 5            |
|       | A g r e e       | 1         | 6       | 4 0 . 0       | 7 2 . 5            |
|       | No opinion      | 8         |         | 2 0 . 0       | 9 2 . 5            |
|       | D i s a g r e e | 3         |         | 7 . 5         | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|       | T o t a l       | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

The statistics gives an idea about the ratio/ percentage and the number of the responses about the question. Out of forty, 32.5% students strongly agreed, 40% agreed, 20% disagreed and 7.5% did not respond to the idea.

|       |                 | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree  | 1         | 3       | 3 2 . 5       | 3 2 . 5            |
|       | A g r e e       | 1         | 8       | 4 5 . 0       | 7 7 . 5            |
|       | No opinion      | 6         |         | 1 5 . 0       | 9 2 . 5            |
|       | D i s a g r e e | 3         |         | 7 . 5         | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|       | T o t a l       | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

It highlights that out of the total number of the respondents 32.5% respondents strongly agree, 45% agree, 7.5% disagree, and 15% did not respond to the idea of learning Chinese language to get a good job in Pakistan.

|       |                 | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree  | 1         | 4       | 3 5 . 0       | 3 5 . 0            |
|       | A g r e e       | 1         | 6       | 4 0 . 0       | 7 5 . 0            |
|       | No opinion      | 5         |         | 1 2 . 5       | 8 7 . 5            |
|       | D i s a g r e e | 5         |         | 1 2 . 5       | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|       | T o t a l       | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

The statistics demonstrates that 35% of the respondents strongly agree, 40% Agreed, 12.5% disagreed and 12.5% did not give any response to the investigated question.

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | A g r e e         | 2         |         | 5 . 0         | 5 . 0              |
|       | No opinion        | 3         |         | 7 . 5         | 1 2 . 5            |
|       | D i s a g r e e   | 1         | 9       | 4 7 . 5       | 6 0 . 0            |
|       | Strongly disagree | 1         | 6       | 4 0 . 0       | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|       | T o t a l         | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

The statistics describes that 5% respondents agreed, 47% disagreed, 40% strongly disagreed and 7.5% did not respond to the investigated query.

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 1         | 3       | 3 2 . 5       | 3 2 . 5            |
|       | A g r e e         | 1         | 1       | 2 7 . 5       | 6 0 . 0            |
|       | No opinion        | 5         |         | 1 2 . 5       | 7 2 . 5            |
|       | D i s a g r e e   | 8         |         | 2 0 . 0       | 9 2 . 5            |
|       | Strongly disagree | 3         |         | 7 . 5         | 1 0 0 . 0          |
|       | T o t a l         | 4         | 0       | 1 0 0 . 0     | 1 0 0 . 0          |

The above table depicts that 32.5% out of forty strongly agree, 27.5% agree, 20% disagree, 7.5% strongly disagree and 12.5% respondents did not respond to the asked question in the survey.

**Table 8: Are you satisfied with the Chinese language learning scholarships for Pakistani students?**

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 9         | 22.5    | 22.5          | 22.5               |
|       | Agree             | 14        | 35.0    | 35.0          | 57.5               |
|       | No opinion        | 7         | 17.5    | 17.5          | 75.0               |
|       | Disagree          | 9         | 22.5    | 22.5          | 97.5               |
|       | Strongly disagree | 1         | 2.5     | 2.5           | 100.0              |
|       | Total             | 40        | 100.0   | 100.0         |                    |

It shows that out of the total learners 22.5% strongly agree, 35% agree, 22.5% disagree, 2.5% strongly disagree and 17.5% did not give response to the investigated subject.

**Table 9: Will Chinese language learners get more job opportunities in their future in Pakistan as compare to the other foreign languages?**

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 13        | 32.5    | 32.5          | 32.5               |
|       | Agree             | 14        | 35.0    | 35.0          | 67.5               |
|       | No opinion        | 5         | 12.5    | 12.5          | 80.0               |
|       | Disagree          | 7         | 17.5    | 17.5          | 97.5               |
|       | Strongly disagree | 1         | 2.5     | 2.5           | 100.0              |
|       | Total             | 40        | 100.0   | 100.0         |                    |

The descriptions tells that out of the total number of students 32.5% strongly agree, 35% agree, 17.5% disagree, 2.5% strongly disagree and 12.5% learners did not respond to the idea. Collectively the majority of the learners were in the favour of Chinese language acquisition.

**Table 10: Will CPEC be a language changer in Pakistan?**

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 10        | 25.0    | 25.0          | 25.0               |
|       | Agree             | 19        | 47.5    | 47.5          | 72.5               |
|       | No opinion        | 5         | 12.5    | 12.5          | 85.0               |
|       | Disagree          | 3         | 7.5     | 7.5           | 92.5               |
|       | Strongly disagree | 3         | 7.5     | 7.5           | 100.0              |
|       | Total             | 40        | 100.0   | 100.0         |                    |

It indicates response ratio of the targeted learners that 25% students strongly agree, 47.5% agree, 7.5% disagree, 7.5% strongly disagree and 12.5% had no response to the question. As a result the researcher came to know that the majority of the respondents think that CPEC will be cause of language changer in Pakistan.

**Table 11: Is Chinese language learning is not becoming fashion in Pak?**

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 7         | 17.5    | 17.5          | 17.5               |
|       | Agree             | 13        | 32.5    | 32.5          | 50.0               |
|       | No opinion        | 10        | 25.0    | 25.0          | 75.0               |
|       | Disagree          | 6         | 15.0    | 15.0          | 90.0               |
|       | Strongly disagree | 4         | 10.0    | 10.0          | 100.0              |
|       | Total             | 40        | 100.0   | 100.0         |                    |

According to the descriptions 7 out of 40 strongly agree, 13 agreed, 6 disagree, 4 strongly disagree to the idea that Chinese language is becoming a fashion language in Pak. The best part of the respondents gave their responses in favour of the idea.

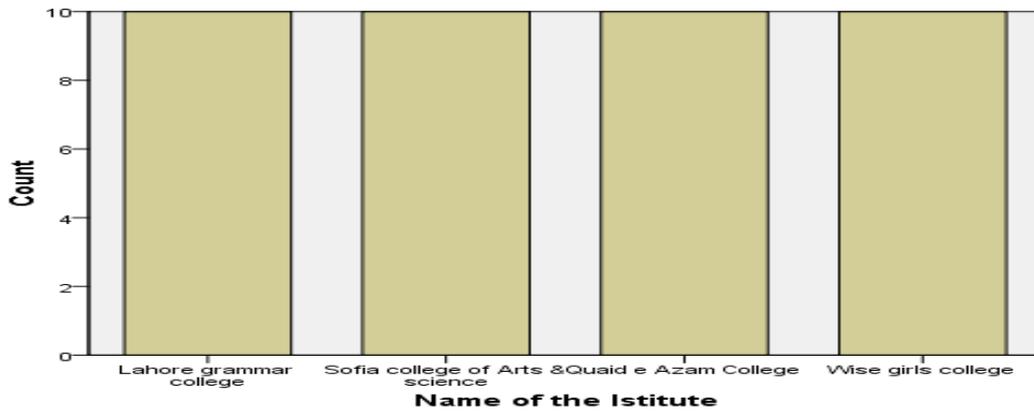
**Table 12: Should China scholarship council increase it scholarships related to Chinese lang**

|       |                   | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly agree    | 15        | 37.5    | 37.5          | 37.5               |
|       | Agree             | 14        | 35.0    | 35.0          | 72.5               |
|       | No opinion        | 5         | 12.5    | 12.5          | 85.0               |
|       | Disagree          | 3         | 7.5     | 7.5           | 92.5               |
|       | Strongly disagree | 3         | 7.5     | 7.5           | 100.0              |
|       | Total             | 40        | 100.0   | 100.0         |                    |

Fifteen respondents marked the option of strongly agree, 35% marked agree, 7.5% marked disagree, 7.5% marked strongly disagree and 12.5% marked the option of no opinion in the survey form. The best part of the students in Pak believes that China Scholarship council should increase its scholarships related to Chinese language.

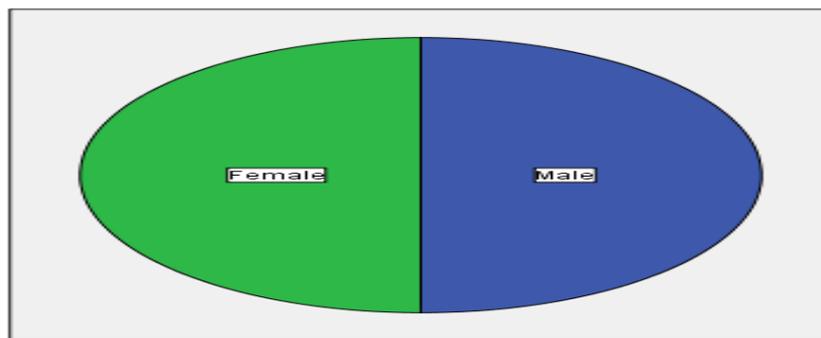
**4.2 Description of the responses via Bar charts and Pie charts**

**Figure 1:** Name of the institutes



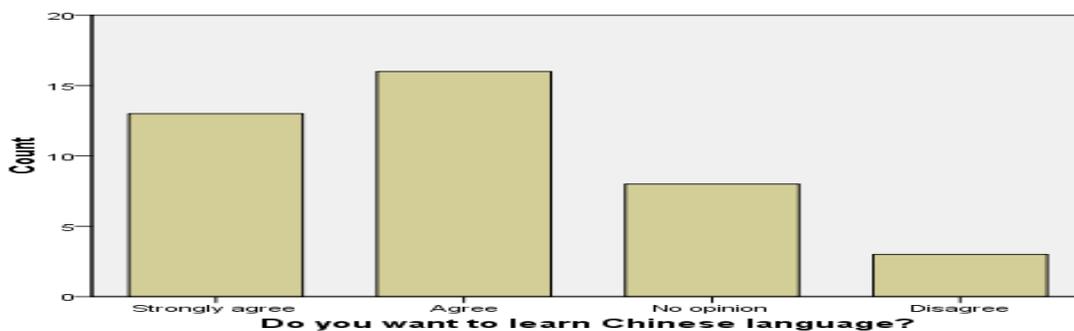
The diagram shows that the number of the targeted institutes were four as Lahore Grammar College, Sofia College, Quaid-e-Azam College, Wise Girls College Lahore. Twenty participants were selected equally for sampling.

**Figure 2:** Ratio of the participant of different genders



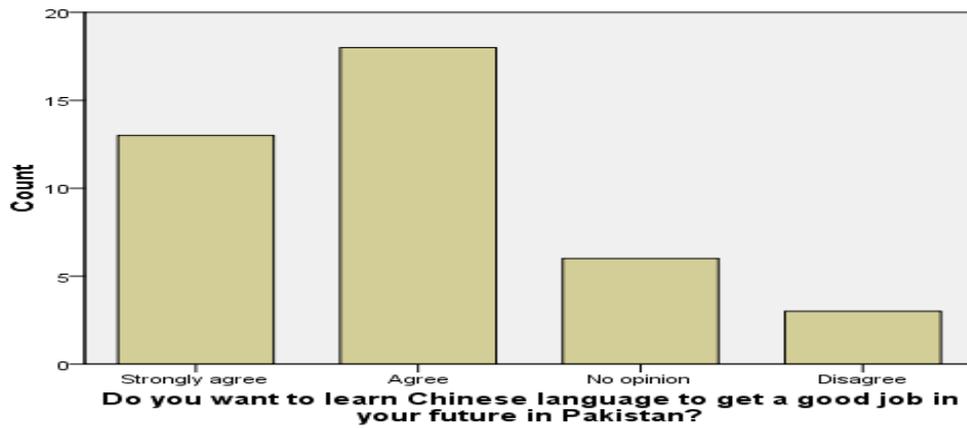
The pie charts indicates that the ratio of the participants were equal. Twenty students were male and twenty were female who shared their ideas about the investigated queries in research form.

**Figure 3:** Responses to the do you want to learn Chinese language.



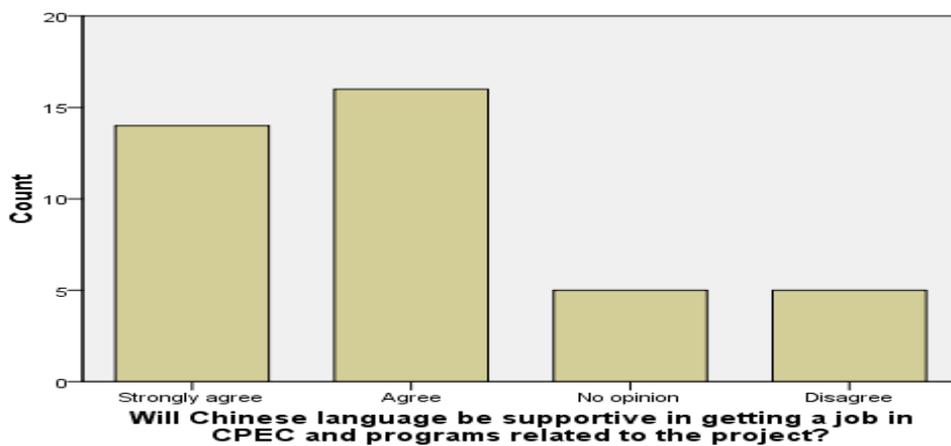
The bar chart describes the responses of the respondents about the query “Do you want to learn Chinese language?”. It proves that the majority of the Pakistani Students have willing to learn Chinese Language. Only two students out of forty disagreed to the idea.

**Figure 4:** Responses to Chinese language for getting good job in Pak



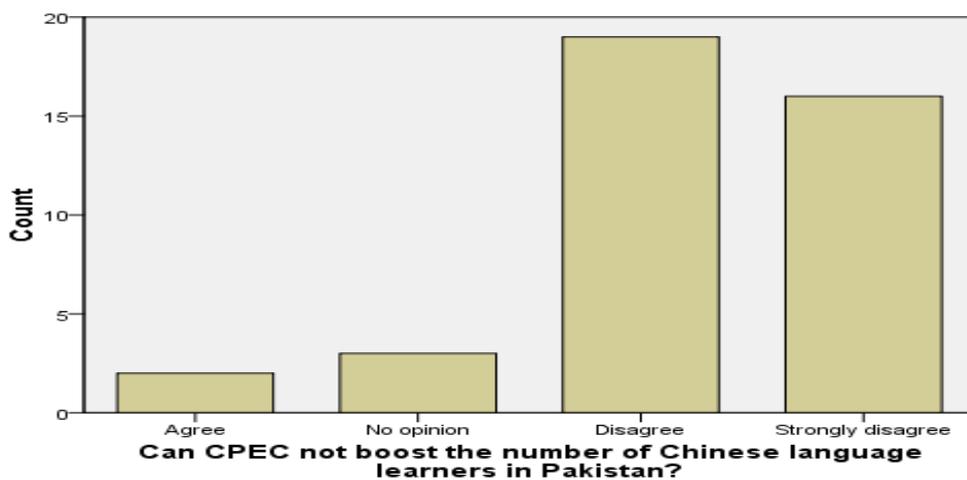
It highlights that out of the total number of the respondents 13 respondents strongly agree, 18 agree, 3 disagree, and 6 did not respond to the idea of learning Chinese language to get a good job in Pakistan

**Figure 5:** Responses to Chinese language in getting job in CPEC projects



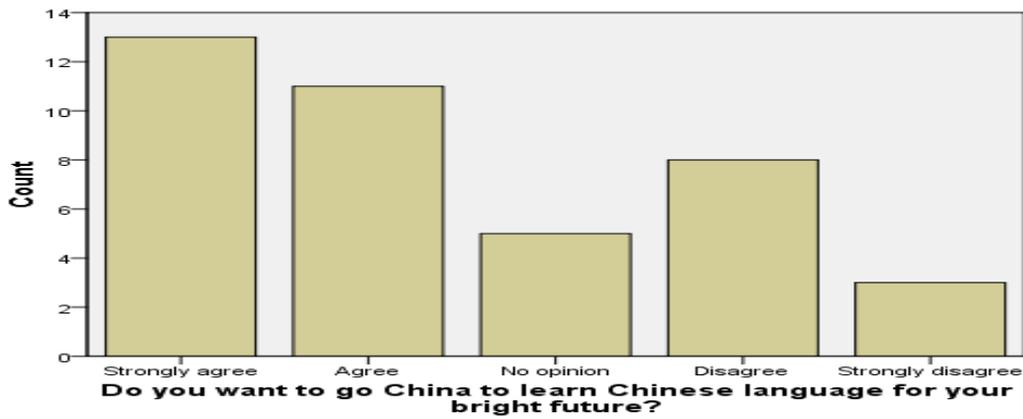
The bar chart demonstrates about the investigated query that 14 of the respondents strongly agree, 16 Agreed, 5 disagreed and 5 did not give any response to the investigated question.

**Figure 6:** Responses to CPEC cannot boost Chinese language learners



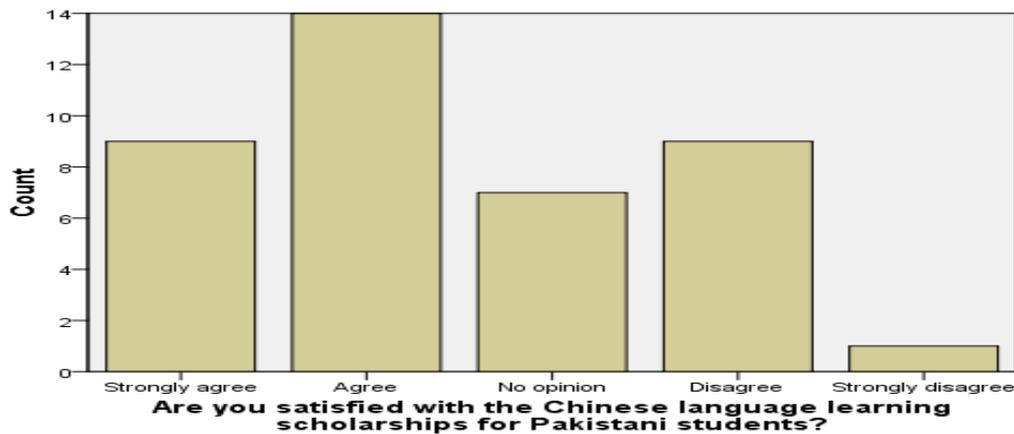
The graph describes that 2 respondents agreed, 19 disagreed, 16 strongly disagreed and 3 did not respond to the investigated query.

**Figure 7:** Responses to do you want to go China for Chinese language learning



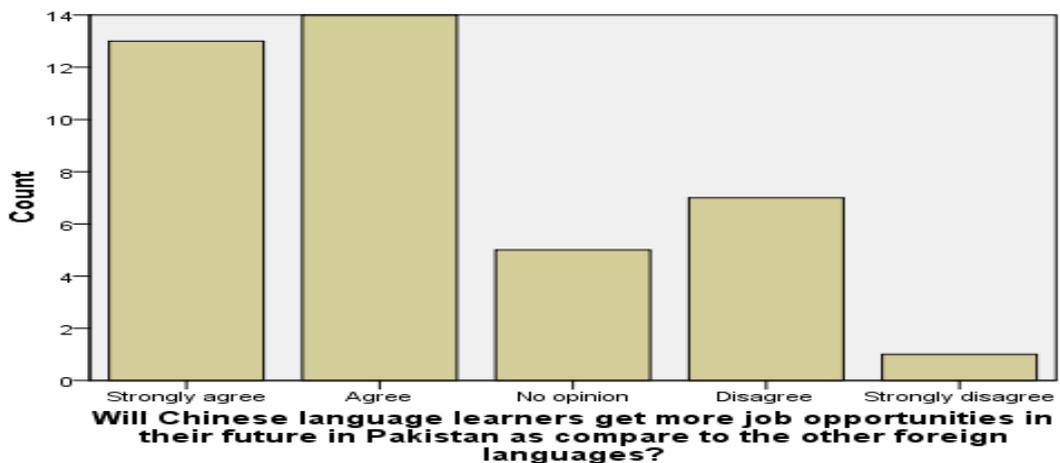
The above bar chart depicts that 13 out of forty strongly agree, 11 agree, 8 disagree, 3 strongly disagree and 5 respondents did not respond to the asked question in the survey.

**Figure 8:** Responses to the questions about Chinese language scholarships



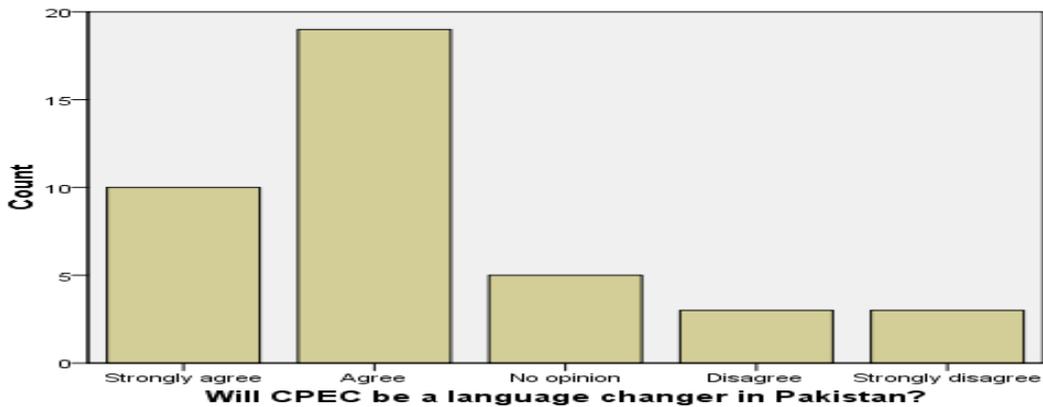
It shows that out of the total learners 9 strongly agree, 14 agree, 9 disagree, 1 strongly disagree and 7 did not give response to the investigated subject.

**Figure 9:** Responses to more job opportunities for Chinese language learners



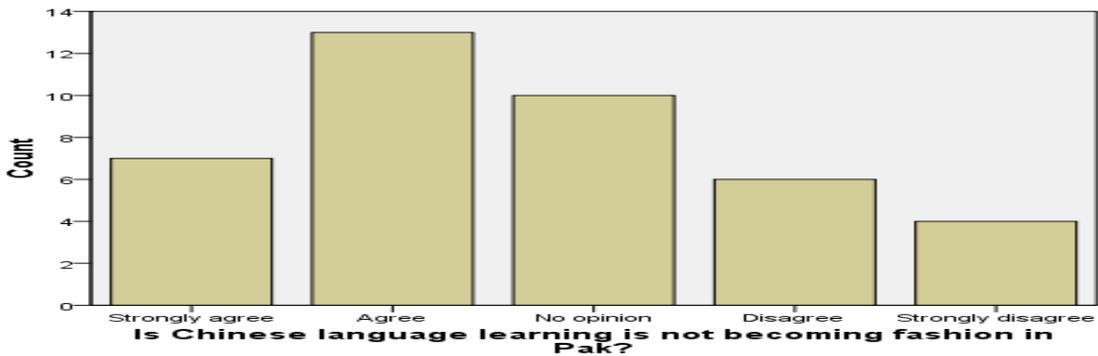
The descriptions tells that out of the total number of students 13 strongly agree, 14 agree, 7 disagree, 1 strongly disagree and 5 learners did not respond to the idea. Collectively the majority of the learners were in the favour of Chinese language acquisition.

**Figure 10:** Responses the CPEC will be a language changer in Pakistan



It proves that 10 out of 40 strongly agree, 19 out of 40 agree, 3 disagree, 3 strongly disagree and 5 had no response to the question. As a result the researcher came to know that the majority of the respondents think that CPEC will be cause of language changer in Pakistan.

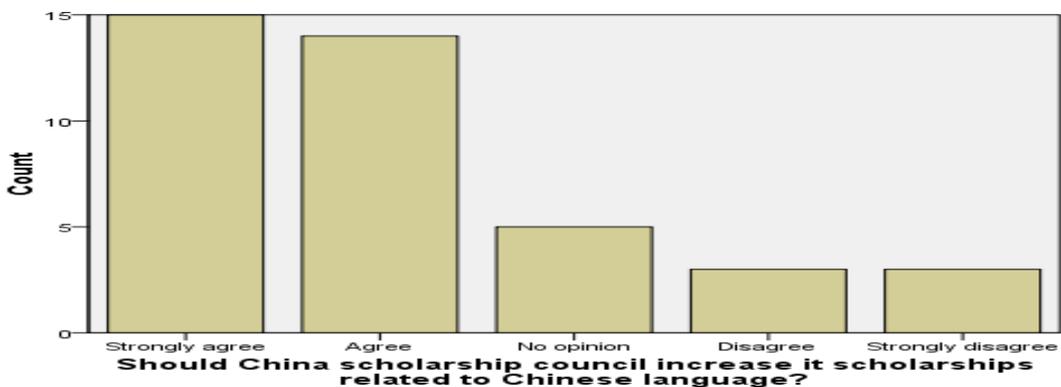
**Figure 11:** Responses to Chinese language is not becoming fashion in Pak



According to the bar chart 7 out of 40 strongly agree, 13 agreed, 6 disagree, 4 strongly disagree to the idea that Chinese language is becoming a fashion language in Pak. The best part of the respondents gave their responses in favour of the idea.

According to the descriptions 7 out of 40 strongly agree, 13 agreed, 6 disagree, 4 strongly disagree to the idea that Chinese language is becoming a fashion language in Pak. The best part of the respondents gave their responses in favour of the idea.

**Figure 12:** Responses to the query regarding Chinese language scholarships



The obtained result tells that 15 respondents marked the option of strongly agree, 14 marked agree, 3 marked disagree, 3 marked strongly

disagree and 5 marked the option of no opinion in the survey form. The best part of the students in Pak believes that China Scholarship council

should increase its scholarships related to Chinese language.

### Chapter V: Conclusion

People in the world have different opinions related to different issue in their daily life. The discourses of the people are analyzed to find out results about investigated matters that what they have opinions generally about the subject or matter. The findings in the research prove that Chinese language is becoming famous and fashion among Pakistani students. They believe that due to CPEC, the number of the Chinese language learners is booting day by day. The findings describe that the Chinese language learners' future will be bright and successful because they will have more good jobs opportunities in future as compare to other language learners. So it has been proved via findings that CPEC is becoming a cause of language changer in Pakistan. It is also becoming source/cause of multilingualism in Pakistan as the students will be able to speak Chinese language with Urdu, English and their mother tongue like Panjabi, Sindhi, and Balti language etc.

It may be recommended for further study that more researches can be done on Chinese language in Pakistan and CPEC as a language changer in different zones and countries of the world.

### Appendix

1. Do you want to learn Chinese language?
2. Do you want to learn Chinese language to get a good job in your future in Pakistan?
3. Will Chinese language be supportive in getting a job in CPEC and programs related to the project?
4. Can CPEC not boost the number Chinese language learners in Pakistan?
5. Do you want to go China to learn Chinese language for your bright future?
6. Are you satisfied with the Chinese language learning scholarships for Pakistani students?
7. Will Chinese language learners get more job opportunities in their future in Pakistan as compare to the other foreign languages?
8. Will CPEC be a language changer in Pakistan?
9. Is Chinese language learning is not becoming fashion in Pak?
10. Should China scholarship council increase it scholarships related to Chinese language?

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