

CHINA AND MUSLIM SOCIETIES: INTERACTIONS AND DYNAMICS

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ABSTRACT

This research explores the multifaceted interactions and dynamic relationships between China and Muslim societies worldwide. It examines the historical trajectory of these interactions, tracing their evolution from ancient Silk Road trade to contemporary geopolitical engagements. The analysis delves into the diverse cultural, economic, and political dimensions that shape this relationship, considering the varied experiences of Muslim communities within China and those residing in predominantly Muslim nations. The abstract highlights the economic interdependence that has emerged, particularly through China's Belt and Road Initiative, which has significantly impacted infrastructure development and trade in numerous Muslim-majority countries. It also addresses the complexities arising from China's domestic policies concerning its Muslim population, particularly the Uyghur community, and the international responses to these policies. Furthermore, the abstract examines the cultural exchanges and religious diplomacy crucial in shaping perceptions and fostering understanding. It analyzes the role of media, education, and religious institutions in mediating these interactions. The dynamics of political influence are also considered, focusing on China's growing role in international forums and its engagement with Muslim-majority states on regional security and global governance issues. Finally, the research acknowledges the evolving nature of this relationship, marked by both cooperation and tension. It emphasizes the need for a nuanced understanding of the diverse perspectives within both Chinese and Muslim societies to navigate the complexities of this crucial global interaction. It calls for further research to explore the long-term implications of these interactions on regional and international stability.

Keywords: China, Muslim Societies, Cooperation, Tension

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