

Insights into the Situation of Pakistan - Geographical and Natural Resources

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Khyber Pass

I have always been interested in politics, especially of the Asian subcontinent. I was talking to a friend the other day and he was able to share many good insights into the situation of Pakistan in today's world. Pakistan is a most important nation both in terms of geographical location and natural resources.

Looking at Pakistan from a geographical point of view, we see that it could easily become a way to the Arabian Sea for either Afghanistan or the USSR. Dominion of Karachi means dominion and rule over the Arabian Sea area, which would include the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Aden (leading to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal).

Karachi, being the only port in Pakistan, also functions as the major port of importation for Afghanistan. Because of the need to get goods transported up to the north country, there is an all-metal road, built especially for the use of heavy loads and running the entire length of the country. This road leads up to the Khyber Pass (which borders with Afghanistan). This pass has been throughout history the most important gateway from Central Asia into the plains of the South Asian Subcontinent. If Afghanistan could not receive imports from the Karachi port, it would have no other choice but to turn for help from the USSR.

I feel that this is one of the causes of the conflict between the two countries, although the people of both continents do not carry any hatred for each other. The government of Afghanistan (backed by the USSR) carries on a constant propaganda campaign in which they say that the land on both sides of the Khyber Pass should belong to Afghanistan.