

Pakistan's Relations with Iran and Other Muslim Countries

Introduction

After gaining independence in **1947**, Pakistan aimed to build strong and friendly relations with **Muslim countries**.

These relations were based on **Islamic brotherhood, shared faith, and cooperation**.

Among all, **Iran** was the **first country** to recognize Pakistan as an independent state.

Pakistan's foreign policy was guided by the idea of **Muslim unity**.

Since its creation, Pakistan has always supported cooperation among Islamic countries to promote **peace, trade, and development**.

This friendship helped Pakistan gain **respect and strength** in the Muslim world.

Establishment of Good Relations with Iran

Iran recognized Pakistan soon after its independence in **1947**.

The **Shah of Iran, Reza Shah Pahlavi**, visited Pakistan several times, and Pakistani leaders also went to Iran.

Both countries developed close **political, cultural, and religious ties**.

Iran's early recognition showed **trust and goodwill** toward Pakistan.

The two nations cooperated in **defense, education, and security**, and often supported each other during difficult times.

This friendship became a **strong foundation** for future cooperation in many areas.

Regional Cooperation: RCD and ECO

In **1964**, Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey formed the **Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD)**.

Its purpose was to promote **trade, transport, and technological cooperation**.

Later, in **1985**, the RCD was replaced by the **Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)**.

Through these organizations, Pakistan and Iran worked together for **economic progress and regional stability**.

They developed roads, communication links, and trade networks.

These steps helped increase **understanding and unity** among Muslim countries in the region.

Trade Deals and Economic Cooperation

Pakistan and Iran signed several **trade and oil agreements**.

Iran provided **oil and gas**, while Pakistan exported **rice, textiles, and industrial products**.

They also worked together on the **Pak-Iran Gas Pipeline Project** and other joint ventures.

These trade deals helped both countries **improve their economies** and reduce dependence on non-Muslim states.

Regular trade and energy cooperation created **trust and interdependence**, making their

friendship stronger.

Such cooperation became a **pillar of their long-term partnership**.

Receipt of Aid and Assistance

Iran and other Muslim countries like **Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Libya** helped Pakistan in difficult times.

They provided **financial aid, oil, and disaster relief** during wars, floods, and earthquakes.

Pakistan also received **loans and donations** for development projects from these countries.

This help showed **Islamic solidarity and brotherhood**.

When Pakistan faced challenges, Muslim countries stood beside it, proving that unity among Islamic nations brings **strength and hope**.

These acts of support built **trust and long-lasting friendships**.

Pakistan's Relations with Other Muslim Countries

Pakistan maintained good relations with **Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Indonesia, and other Islamic states**.

These countries supported Pakistan in international forums like the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**.

Pakistan also provided **training, education, and technical assistance** to other Muslim nations.

Pakistan became an **active member of the Muslim world**, working to solve common issues and promote peace.

Its support for Islamic causes, such as **Palestine**, increased its **respect and importance** among Muslim countries.

Pakistan's Role in Promoting Muslim Unity

Pakistan always supported the idea of **Muslim unity and cooperation**.

It helped resolve disputes among Islamic nations and hosted **OIC conferences**.

Pakistan also spoke out against **Islamophobia and injustice** faced by Muslims globally.

Through diplomacy, peace efforts, and humanitarian help, Pakistan became a **leading voice** for Muslim countries.

Its friendship with Iran and other nations proved Pakistan's **commitment to Islamic solidarity** and world peace.

Conclusion

Pakistan's relations with **Iran and other Muslim countries** have always been friendly and cooperative.

These ties are built on **faith, culture, and mutual support**.

From early recognition to trade and aid, the relations have grown stronger over the years.

Pakistan's cooperation with Muslim nations has strengthened its **foreign policy and economy**.

Together with Iran, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and others, Pakistan continues to **work for peace**,

unity, and progress in the Muslim world.

This shows that **Islamic brotherhood remains the foundation of Pakistan's foreign relations.**