



PS 292: Foreign Aid Research in Pakistan

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Table of contents

01

Summarizing the
Work

02

Learning
Content/What
I've Learned
About Foreign
Aid

03

Interesting Notes
on the Content

04

Proposing Future
Research

Summary: Objectives

Project Objectives: This project documents the historical narratives and descriptions of major newspapers regarding foreign aid and its donors in Pakistan from 1971 to the present. The question the project is aiming to address is “How is recipient public's trust towards different donors formed or lost?” The project employs computational text analysis methods to examine decades of newspaper coverage, tracking how different aid donors are portrayed in Pakistani media and how these narratives have evolved.

My Tasks: Classify and code news articles from 1972-1972 in Pakistani media in relation to foreign aid

Summary: Codebook

- Aid relevant: 1 or 0
- Status
 - Disbursed
 - Committed
 - Discussed
 - Suspended
- Donor: name of country or organization
- Recipient: country or organization receiving aid
- Third Party: important role mentioned
- Third Party Act: facilitating or obstructing
- Flow type
 - Grant
 - Loan
 - Debt relief
 - Mixed (grant and loan)
- Infrastructure: 1 or 0
- Amount: if any amount of aid is specified
- Sectors
- [Link to spreadsheet](#)

Learning Content

Trends of Most Common

Status

- Discussed - 39 occurrences
- Disbursed - 38
- Committed 37

Donors

- United States - 17 mentions
- China -13 mentions
- World Bank - 13 mentions

Recipients

- Pakistan
- Bangladesh

3rd parties and acts

- United Nations
- Facilitating

Obstructing

- Except for a few times, every action of obstructing aid was by India

Flow types

- Grant

Most Common Sectors

- 998 - unspecified
- 520 - developmental food aid/food security assistance
- 320 - industry, mining, and construction

Least common Sectors

- 130 - population policies/programs and reproductive health
- 740 - disaster prevention and preparedness
- 330 - trade policies and regulation



Learning Content

Part I. Foreign Aid (Week 13)

- a. Types of aid
 - i. Bilateral vs. multilateral
 - 1. United States to Pakistan: mostly grants
 - ii. Humanitarian vs. development
 - 1. Short term humanitarian aid: Article 33: Emergency relief: \$160,000 + \$50,000; 12 vehicles; maternal-child feeding for 300,000 mothers
 - iii. Concessional
 - 1. Grants: United States
 - 2. Loans: World Bank and Asian Development Bank
 - iv. Tied and Conditional
 - 1. Mostly United States and Japan
 - 2. Military
 - a. United States and China to Pakistan

Learning Content

Part I. Foreign Aid (Week 13) Extended

- a. Strategic vs. Need-Based Aid
 - i. Bilateral
 - ii. Third party
- b. Overall
 - i. Pakistan: largest recipient of aid; loans, debt relief, development packages
 - ii. Bangladesh: received mainly humanitarian aid and grant-based initially with some loans, much less structured aid

Interesting Notes

Foreign Aid Effectiveness (Week 14)

- a. Poverty traps/financing gap model
 - i. Aftermath of war created a strong cycle of poverty to be institutionalized
 - ii. Aid temporarily closed the finance gap, reliance on aid grew
- b. Aid and Volatility
 - i. Aid tied to Cold War decisions and conditional aid
- c. Aid and institutions
 - i. Institutions of democracy wary after war and under Bhutto
- d. Nationalization/reliance on foreign aid - partial rentier state

Proposing Future Research

Part I. Extended questions on this project

- a. This project's aim: “How is the recipient country (Pakistan) public's trust towards different donors formed or lost?”
 - i. Does voting behavior among the public change based on trust in donor countries?
 - 1. Foreign policy, candidates with strong foreign policy plans/initiatives
 - 2. Are citizens able to differentiate between strategic and need-based aid, and does that impact their opinion on donor countries?
 - ii. How are foreign aid donor actions portrayed in the media throughout South Asia?
 - 1. Ex. United States aid to Pakistan portrayed in the Pakistan media vs. the Bangladesh media

Proposing Future Research

Part II. Similar Projects

- a. Reversal study
 - i. Comparing Pakistan's foreign aid public perception from the donor's perspective
 - ii. Possibly compare aid Pakistan gives directly (bilaterally) or through organizations like the United Nations, Asian Development Bank, and International Development Association
 - iii. How do citizens view the foreign aid they give to other countries?
 - iv. How does this impact their political views and voting decisions?

Proposing Future Research

Part II. Similar Projects

- a. Comparing Need-Based Aid and Strategic Aid
 - i. In PS 241, we learned about need-based and strategic reasons for giving aid...
 - ii. Perceptions on foreign aid from the donor's perspective of need-based vs. strategic countries
 - 1. Do citizens view foreign aid more positively or negatively based on the type of aid-giving country they live in?
 - 2. How does this impact their voting decisions and political opinions?
 - iii. Perceptions of foreign aid from the recipient's perspective of need-based vs. strategic countries
 - 1. Is there a difference in perceptions?
 - 2. Are countries that receive strategic aid more likely to support foreign relations with that donor, or are countries that receive need-based aid more likely to support foreign relations with that donor?
 - iv. Compare Nordic Countries with the United States



URAP Cambodia Research!

