

THE PRAXIS OF CHINA-SUDAN BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

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ABSTRACT

The Sudanese oil diplomacy, which has been a major determinant of Sudan's economic conduct, has been greatly influenced by the praxis of China-Sudan bilateral economic relations for three reasons. First, China-Sudan bilateral relations have remained relatively stable since 1959 even in the face of drastic changes in the political environment, second, China developed Sudan's oil industry and changed Sudan into a net oil exporter, and third, China became the main importer of Sudan's oil, taking up to 70% of Sudan's oil production which provided China with about 6% of its energy needs at home. The objective of the study was to explore the praxis of China-Sudan bilateral economic relations influencing Sudanese oil diplomacy. The respondents in the study were officials from Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs China's Embassy in Kenya, Sudan's Embassy in Kenya, South Sudan's Embassy in Kenya, Students at Pwani University of Mombasa, University of Nairobi's Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, Confucian centre at Nairobi University and students at Maseno University. The study relied more on qualitative analysis, but quantitative analysis was also used. Qualitative data were analyzed using qualitative analysis methods while quantitative data collected in the field were analyzed using descriptive statistics in form of histograms and pie charts and inferential statistics. Probability sampling method used was simple random while non-probability sampling methods used were convenience, purposive and snowball sampling methods. Simple random was used to get information from university students while purposive sampling was used to get information from respondents with special knowledge on the subject. Both primary and secondary data were collected. The collection methods included key informant interviews, questionnaires with closed and open-ended questions, library research and content analysis. Likert scales were used to capture respondents' attitudes toward, and level of agreement on, various related issues. Data were presented in histograms and pie-charts and later interpreted into meaningful information.

Keywords: Bilateral Relations, Peaceful Coexistence, Confucianism, Taoism, Realism.