




Yoichiro Sato

**Professor and Director of International Strategic Studies,
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University**



**JAPAN'S MARITIME SECURITY
INTERESTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN
REGION AND PROSPECTS FOR
INDIA-JAPAN COOPERATION**

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- “China is the most important. Most participants seemed to feel that the future in Asia would be determined by how China behaved, and how others behaved towards China.” (J. D. B. Miller of Australian National University, 1967)

Japan's Views of China and India


- Chinese Economy is Larger than India's
- Chinese Economy is More Open than India's
- ODA Loan Priority has, however, shifted from China to India.
- China is a geographic neighbor, for good and bad... India is remote.

Japan's interests in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)


- Trade Routes
 - Middle East Oil
 - Red Sea Path to Europe, North Africa
- Declining U.S. Security Dominance
 - Chinese Entry
 - Terrorism and Piracy
- Disaster Relief and Protection of Ex-Pat Citizens

Japan-India Cooperation

- Indian Views
 - Regional Multi-polarity
 - Selective Cooperation (U.S., Australia, Japan)
- Japanese Views
 - India's military power as maximizer of Japan's security interests
 - Indian naval power as counterbalance to China's




Inhibiting Factors to India-Japan Cooperation

- Geographical Remoteness
 - Japan's Constitution
 - Chinese Perception of the India-Japan Cooperation
 - India-Japan Strategic Divergence
 - U.S.-Japan Alliance as Primacy for Japan
 - Strategic Independence as Primacy for India
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Japan's Bilateral Relations in South Asia and the IOR

- Historically low due to India's Predominance
- Countering Growing Chinese Influence by Supporting Regional Democracies
 - Even-Handed Approach to India and Pakistan
 - New Opportunities with Myanmar
 - Other Bilateral Relations (Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Red Sea Littoral States)

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- The problem which is of immediate interest to both India and Japan and which is also likely to affect peace and stability in Asia is the challenge posted by China. It is in this context that future Indo-Japanese relations become highly relevant. (P. A. Narasimha Murthy, 1967)

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- “[T]he strategic partnership with the United States provides India with leverage to check China’s incursions into South Asia, although India will be cautious in exercising it. Any new development in China’s relations with India’s neighbors seen as detrimental to India’s interests could potentially set back the current rapprochement between Beijing and New Delhi and deepen India’s engagement with the United States and Japan.” (V. R. Raghavan, 2008)