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## Pakistan's COAS Bolsters Defence and Security Ties During China Visit

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On July 25, 2025, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir concluded a high-level visit to the People's Republic of China, where he engaged with senior political and military leaders to strengthen the strategic partnership between Pakistan and China. The discussions focused on defence cooperation, counterterrorism efforts, and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), reaffirming the close alliance between the two countries.

Upon arrival at the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Headquarters in Beijing, Munir received a guard of honour, reflecting the strong military ties between Pakistan and China. He held key meetings with Vice President Han Zheng, Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and senior PLA officials, including General Zhang Youxia of the Central Military

Commission (CMC). The talks covered regional security challenges, counterterrorism collaboration, and joint military initiatives. Foreign Minister Wang Yi emphasized China's support for Pakistan's efforts to combat terrorism and safeguard Chinese personnel and CPEC projects. Munir reiterated Pakistan's commitment to protecting Chinese interests and highlighted the broad national consensus on deepening bilateral defence ties.

The visit underscored the strategic significance of CPEC as a fundamental element of Pakistan-China cooperation. Both parties discussed enhancing connectivity and addressing hybrid threats, with Munir stressing the importance of operational interoperability and military modernization. Chinese officials commended Pakistan's armed forces as a key factor of resilience and stability in South Asia.

Munir's meetings with PLA General Chen Hui and Lieutenant General Cai Zhai Jun focused on joint training exercises and coordinated counterterrorism strategies to address transnational threats. These discussions occurred amid heightened regional tensions, with Pakistan managing complex geopolitical dynamics involving Iran and India. China's recognition of Pakistan's stabilizing role provides a strategic counterbalance to external pressures and reinforces a partnership built on mutual trust.

This visit represents a decisive step toward strengthening Pakistan's strategic depth. As global challenges continue to evolve, Munir's engagements signal a robust defence partnership aimed at promoting regional peace and economic progress. The longstanding Pakistan-China relationship remains a pillar of stability in a volatile international environment.