

THE REJECTION OF NEPAL TOWARD TAIWAN'S AID IN THE CASE OF NEPAL EARTHQUAKE DISASTER 2015

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Abstract

This research aimed to explain and analyze the reason behind the rejection of Nepal toward Taiwan's aid in the case of Nepal earthquake disaster 2015. Nepal is categorized as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to natural disasters. Geographically, it lies between the two large and populous nations of Asia- China in the North and India in the West, South, and East. Many reports and studies have shown that over the last 33 years, various disasters have occurred in Nepal. One of the greatest disasters to hit the country is Gorkha earthquake that occur on April 25, 2015. A 7.8 magnitude of quake has caused nearly 9,000 casualties, 22,303 injured, and more than 600,000 structures in Kathmandu were destroyed. Due to incapability to handle the national disaster, the Government of Nepal called for International aid. During the emergency, Nepal surprisingly has decided to reject an offer for assistance which consist of 20 professional rescue team from Taiwan. In fact, Taiwan has well-trained rescue team and capability to bring resources and expertise to help the earthquake victims, since the country also familiar with earthquake disaster. To analyze the reason behind the decision of Nepal to reject an offer of aid from Taiwan, the writer uses Disaster Diplomacy theory. The data comes from the secondary

data using library research method. This research found out that the reason behind the rejection are: 1) Accepting aid from Taiwan could distract diplomacy with China; 2) Nepal wants to re-affirm its commitment to One-China Policy.

Keyword(s): *Disaster Diplomacy, International Aid, Distract Diplomacy, One-China Policy*

Introduction

Nepal is one of the countries in Asia that prone to natural disaster. According to Nepal Disaster Report 2013, the state is ranked as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to natural disasters. Geographically, it lies between the two large and populous nations of Asia- India in the West, South, and East and China in the North. The state is characterized as a mountainous country, located in the central part of the Himalayan belt. Hills and high mountains cover about 86% of the total area. The altitude ranges from 70 meters to a maximum of 8,848 meters with varying climatic conditions. Besides, with its rugged topography and active tectonic processes, the environmental conditions have caused Nepal to be vulnerable to natural disasters (Disaster Preparedness Network-Nepal, 2013).

The historical record shows that Nepal has been suffering from a various type of natural hazard. The earthquake of 1934, called the Bihar earthquake, followed by other quakes in 1980 and 1988 were the example of earthquake vulnerability in the country. In addition, and the flood of 1993, 2008, and 2014 are the most devastating disasters which caused many casualties and physical properties. Besides, many reports and studies have shown that over the last 33 years, various disasters in Nepal has caused enormous loss of life and destroyed property worth billions of Rupees. The disaster also has an adverse effect on the nation's development activities, and it can be a continuing threat to sustainable development. As the country lies in the high seismic prone zone, large-scale earthquakes were frequent in the state in the past including the recent shock of 25 April 2015 that is categorized as the most devastating disaster of the year. (Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal, 2015)

The earthquake struck the Barpak Village of Gorkha district near the city of Kathmandu. The quake has caused nearly 9,000 casualties, 22,303 more were injured, and more than 600,000 structures in Kathmandu and other nearby towns were either

damaged or destroyed. The first shock with magnitude 7.8 has registered struck the area. Then, two large aftershocks, with magnitudes 6.6 and 6.7, shook the region within one hour of the main quake, and several dozen smaller aftershocks occurred in the area during the succeeding days. (Rafferty, John P., 2016). The data showed that the total number of 14 districts out of 75 regions in the country has affected by this huge disaster. More than 600,000 households were fully damaged. The quake even affected not only entire Nepal but also some parts of India, Bangladesh, and the Tibet region. Therefore, the Gorkha earthquake disaster 2015 is considered as the largest to hit Nepal after the Nepal–Bihar earthquake in 1934. (Disaster Preparedness Network Nepal, 2015)

Immediately after the disaster, the Government of Nepal launched a large-scale relief operation to help the victims with support from the international community. The Himalayan prone-country was unprepared for the major disaster that is categorized as one of the greatest disasters in the past 80 years. Besides, the disaster-affected areas were mostly in remote villages, thus it's quite hard for Nepal's government to handle the aid distribution and relief operation alone. Due to its incapability to handle the national emergency situation, the Government of Nepal therefore called for international assistance.

The international community responded with the various type of support since the first day of disaster. The outflowing of public sympathy, donations of money, aid supplies and rescue teams have been sent to help the victim in Nepal. The aid began to come from neighboring countries such as India, China, and Pakistan as a quick response by sending aid and rescue team. Besides, the rescue team also came from distant countries such as Israel, the United States, Britain, Japan, Indonesia, and Finland. Within 24 hours, the humanitarian assistance which consists of many local communities, volunteers, youth groups, and the private sector gathered in Kathmandu. More than 100

international rescue and medical teams have been dispatched to Nepal. (Ramzy, 2015)

During the emergency situation, Nepal's government, however, has decided to reject an offer of aid from Taiwan after the devastating earthquake. A professional rescue team consisting of 20 people from Taiwan who was ready to dispatch to Nepal has been canceled. According to Nepalese officials, the government decides to prioritize the aid from its neighboring country first looking at the chaotic conditions of Nepal.

In fact, Taiwan has excellent search and rescue teams as the country also has similarities regarding vulnerability to disasters, especially earthquakes. Besides, Taiwan's assistance in the form of well-trained emergency response personnel would be able to bring resources and expertise to the relief effort that was indeed needed by Nepal. Moreover, Taiwan has pledged about \$300,000 in donation aid and planned to start charity rescue missions to Nepal. Even though the rescue team was declined, however, Taiwan still sends the assistance in the form of medicine to the Nepalese. (Ong, 2015)

Method

Disaster Diplomacy Theory

The term "Disaster diplomacy" was introduced by Kelman and Koukis (2000) with the question 'Do natural disasters induce international cooperation amongst countries that have traditionally been "enemies"?'.

The term "Disaster diplomacy" can be understood as the study of how and why disaster-related activities do and do not induce cooperation amongst enemies. The term enemy is not limited to violent conflict or complete antipathy toward each

other. However, it defines as friends and allies that have disagreements and conflicts, resulting from the disaster-diplomacy possibilities among parties that are not necessarily being full or violent enemies.

In the literature definitions, disaster diplomacy investigates how and why natural disasters contribute to or not to peace or conflict, examined before and after a disaster. First, in the context of before disaster, the disaster diplomacy discusses the activities related to the reduction of disaster effects, such as the prevention, mitigation and effort to minimize the number of casualties. Otherwise, after the disaster occurred, the disaster diplomacy investigates the disaster-related activities, such as relief operation and recovery can influence or not to peace and conflict. (Kelman, 2012)

Ilan Kelman further explains that disaster-related activities can influence, support, affect, push along, the diplomacy between the party. Disaster-related activities, however, do not create a new diplomatic opportunity. They can be the catalyst to support diplomacy that has already started with a basis. Based on the research and the history, disaster-related activities alone have not been shown to produce new diplomatic results. Where disaster-related activities do influence diplomatic activities, primarily by supporting them, a pre-existing basis is needed on which to found that diplomacy. That pre-existing basis could trade links, cultural connections, secret or open peace negotiations amongst the parties in conflict, or joint sports events. (Kelman, 2012).

Even though disaster-related activity can promote diplomacy, however, disaster diplomacy does not always yield the desired outcome. Disaster diplomacy can fall into failures. There are many factors exist and are pursued to inhibit disaster-diplomacy outcomes. Several factors that cause diplomacy to fail can either be the main cause, or one of them. According to Ilan Kelman, there are several factors behind the failure of

disaster diplomacy. The writer, however, uses one of the factors to explain the reason behind the disaster diplomacy failures.

The factor that is used to describe the failure of disaster diplomacy is the presence of 'distraction'. The disaster-related activity could distract diplomacy refers to the fact that the process of disaster-related activity might be distracted from the presence of core issues. Both disaster-related collaboration and diplomacy are long-term endeavours which might not be appropriately addressed if those involved are distracted by the third party. The disaster-related activity could distract diplomacy occurs when recipient states do or do not necessarily need offered assistance but decline it due to the presence of another party that acts as the distraction. It further indicates that the acceptance of assistance could potentially distract the relation between the recipient and the third party.

In practice, disaster diplomacy has multiple purposes that either can support or distract diplomacy. The first disaster-diplomacy purpose is survival of oneself. This means that disaster-related activities, such as foreign aid response are needed as the effort to survive from the impact of the disaster. The second purpose is that the disaster diplomacy would be of mutual benefit. It means that beneficial relations can be a possible outcome for both parties. The third disaster-diplomacy purpose is long-term, global gains even if that has the potential for requiring short-term self-sacrifice. In this context, disaster diplomacy has an impact on the future relationship between parties, even though the disaster-related activities happen in such a short period. The fourth purpose of disaster diplomacy is to prove humanitarianism. The disaster-related activities can be the opportunity for the country to claim support for the global humanitarian endeavor. The last is, re-affirmation of old prejudices and enmity can affect disaster diplomacy interests. This purpose suggests that avoiding disaster diplomacy has multiple goals like promoting disaster diplomacy.

The purpose of declaring old prejudice could be made for internal gain. It includes during a disaster to determine the decision made by a state in responding to the disaster-related activity. The response given by one party reflects the goal to be gained, one of them is to re-affirm or assert the ongoing relationship of both parties. (Kelman, 2012).

Furthermore, disaster diplomacy in practice is related to the political context, because disaster-related activities and diplomacy are inherently correlated with political topics. Humanitarian imperative that needs specific political considerations could also result in a country avoiding to accept humanitarian assistance as a part of the disaster-related activity. The reason that underlies the refusal of the aid in disaster situation could be a loss of face, expected loss of face, not willing to be dependent on an enemy, and causing further problems for a foe or with other parties. (Kelman, 2012)

The rejection of Nepal, in this way, is under the purpose to re-affirm the old prejudices and enmity. The term enemy here is articulated in a wide range, not limited to violent conflict. Even though Taiwan is not the enemy of Nepal, however, Nepal has fully committed to One-China policy. Under this policy, Nepal has firmly respected the sovereignty and dignity of China by not allowing its territory to be used against China. China, on the other hand, has always treated Nepal as an equal and friendly partner respecting its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national independence. Moreover, China is well known for it's reluctant to have ties with nations that recognize Taiwan in any form of relations. As a consequence, any action regarded potential for improved relations with Taiwan is avoided by Nepal.

On the other hand, the acceptance of aid in the disaster-related activity could further distract the diplomacy with China. The presence of China has become the major consideration for the country to decline the offer of aid from Taiwan. Nepal and

China have shared a tight and stable relationship of friendship and cooperation characterized by various agreement at all levels from the government since long time ago. China as one of Nepal's neighbors has the considerable contribution to various developments in the country which is regarded as one of an emerging country in the world. Therefore, Nepal attempt to manage its good relation with China and avoid any action which can hamper its relationship and diminish the diplomacy prospect with its partner.

Reason Behind Rejection of Nepal Toward Taiwan's Aid in The Case of Nepal Earthquake Disaster 2015

A. The acceptance of aid could distract diplomacy with China

Disaster diplomacy is one of the ways a country used to achieve its purpose. Disaster diplomacy examined why and how the disaster-related activities (pre, during, and after a disaster) contribute to or nor to cooperation or peace among parties. In the context of during a disaster, the disaster-related activities consist of search and rescue operation, medical aid, funding assistance, and so forth. However, disaster-related activities are sometimes having the opposite outcome to disaster diplomacy. It could sometimes exacerbate conflict, distract diplomacy, and diminish peace prospects between the parties.

In the case of Nepal's rejection, the humanitarian aid provided by Taiwan is seen to have consequences with its close partner, China. The reverse action, which is accepting the offer of assistance will possibly reduce diplomacy prospect with China. Both countries have shared steady and tight relationship and cooperation characterized by agreement at all levels. China as one of Nepal's neighbors has a massive contribution to various developments in the country which is regarded as one of an emerging country in the world.

The diplomatic relations established between Nepal and China in 1955 leads to the establishment of several cooperations in term of economic, cultural, education, tourism and so forth. The first attempt to enhance the relationship between both countries was made on the agreement of trade on 20 September 1956. It was later followed by the establishment of Inter-governmental Economic and Trade Committee (IGETC) in October 1982. The IGETC meetings have become the primary forum for discussion on Nepal-China bilateral economic and technical cooperation. It was the critical cornerstone for growing of diplomacy especially economic relations between Nepal and China. (Prasad, 2015)

Furthermore, in 2009, the government of Nepal and China agreed to establish "China-Nepal Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership" to bring both countries into the new height. The economic cooperation between both countries has been increasingly growing. Since the very beginning, the economic cooperation becomes the primary source that keeps the ties of both countries closed. Moreover, combined with the fact that Nepal is regarded as one of the emerging countries in the world, China's position as one of the largest industrial nation is hugely needed. There are several considerations of Nepal to maintain its diplomatic relation with China, primarily based on the economy and culture, as follows:

1. China is the top five bilateral donors of Nepal

Foreign assistance plays a significant role in Nepal's socio-economic development. The country considered external aid as an excellent asset for its development process. According to Development Cooperation Report for Fiscal Year 2010-11, international aid represents 26 percent of the national budget. Besides, most of the foreign aid flows distributed directly to the proper recipient outside the national budget. The main sectors receiving external support include education, local development, health, roads followed by clean water, energy, agriculture, peace, and

rehabilitation. Various economic and financial reform programs also receive significant external support. (Finance, 2012)

China has been one of the significant donors of aid to Nepal for decades. The Government of China has been assisting Nepal in the socio-economic development endeavour since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations. The first agreement “Agreement between China and Nepal on Economic Aid” was signed in October 1956. Ever since then, China has been providing financial and technical assistance to Nepal, which has contributed significantly to Nepal's development, more specifically in the areas of infrastructure and human resources development, education, health and food assistance, and so forth. The total volume of China's aid under bilateral agreements in 2013 is about 430 million RMB. (International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, 2014)

According to the Nepal Ministry of Finance, over the past 50 years, the presence of China's financial and technical assistance has completed more than 30 projects in Nepal. These projects include The Arniko Highway, the Ring Road, Prithvi Highway, Kathmandu-Bhaktapur road, Gorkha-Narayanghat road, Hetauda Cotton Mill, Sunkoshi Hydro Project, the Birendra International Convention Centre, Bhrikuti Paper Mill, Lumbini Sugar Mill, Bhaktapur Brick and Tile Factory, Bansbari Leather and Shoe Factory, Gorakkali Rubber Udhog and so forth. Those are some examples of such projects assisted by China that has performed a constructive role in the social and economic development of Nepal. (International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, 2014)

Table 4.1: Top five bilateral donor of Nepal
Source: (Division, 2015)

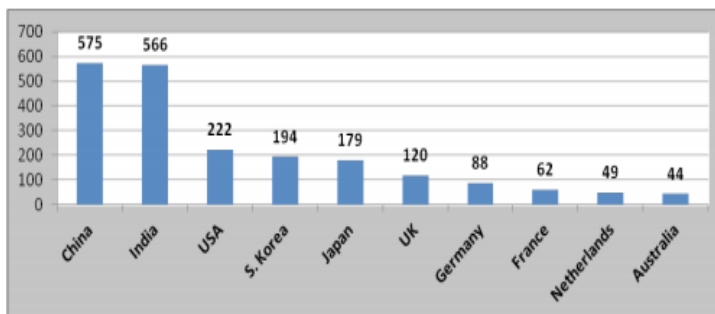
Bilateral Donors	Disbursement (in US\$)
United Kingdom	151,135,383
India	47,796,349
USAID	45,360,254
China	41,381,522
Japan	40,592,722

Based on the table above, during the fiscal year 2013/2014, a total number of aids provided by China exceed US\$ 41,381,522, the fourth largest donor after the United Kingdom with US\$ 151.13 million, India US\$ 47.79 million, USAID US\$ 45.36 million, and Japan US\$ 40.59 in the fifth position. Besides, China along with India and Korea also provide technical assistance to the Government of Nepal through education field such as scholarship, training and study tour conducted in their countries, which is not wholly indicated in the total volume of aid. The top 5 bilateral partners have contributed approximately 31 percent of the total disbursements for Nepal. (Division, 2015)

Moreover, the funding given to Nepal from China is significant enough to build several state development projects. In addition, one year later in November 2014, China and Nepal signed a new memorandum of understanding committing 10 million yuan (US\$1.45 million) annually from 2014–2018 for the development of Nepal, particularly in northern districts. (Murton, 2017)

2. The Biggest Investor in Nepal

China has become the number one biggest investor in Nepal. The country has become one of Nepal's primary source for infrastructure development since 1960. Chinese involvement particularly in the water resources and infrastructure building, which is the most needed of the country so far. According to Prasad: *Study of Nepal's Economic Relations with China*, a total of 575 projects have been approved under Chinese investment with an investment of NPR 10,632 million which helped to create 31,594 jobs in Nepal. (Prasad, 2015)\



Based on the chart above, during the year of 2012-2013, there are ten of a state that considered as top 10 countries that accepted for industrial foreign investment in Nepal. China positioned as the biggest investor in Nepal (575), followed by India (566), USA (222), South Korea (194), Japan (179), UK (120), Germany (88), France (62), Netherlands (49) and Australia (44).

Furthermore, the historical record shows that China-Nepal trade is growing and has been a remarkably wide trade imbalance. According to the Kathmandu Post, on November 2012 the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) of exchanges allowing 7,787 Nepalese products exported to China free of tariff. The

products that will earn the zero-tariff facility including woolen carpet, cardamom, garment, pashmina, medicinal herbs, biscuits, incense sticks, metal crafts and woolen scarps. Besides, duty-free access of Nepalese products to the markets in China could help to decrease the trade deficit of Nepal. (Money, 2012)

3. Source of Nepal's Tourism Sector

Nepal is outstandingly endowed with abundant and diverse natural resources and cultural attractions. The country is ranked as one of the hotspots and top ten destinations for tourism adventure in the world. There is not any other country in the world which has such unique cultural heritage, especially the Hindu and Buddhist heritage that has become the strong attraction for the foreign visitor. Moreover, the country is also rich with the environmental spectrum from the highest peak of the World- Mount Everest, to the Terai plains. Tourism is, therefore, considered as the source of foreign exchange and revenue which helps to promote the national economy of Nepal. It is also an opportunity to build peace and prosperity for the people of Nepal because tourism sector provide diversified employment opportunities, which also provides additional income. The number of tourist in Nepal will have significant impact to country's revenue and can contribute to poverty reduction through economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits.

According to Nepal Ministry of Finance, China is the second largest tourist source for Nepal after India. In the period of 2013 to 2014, the largest number of tourist's arrival have been from India (23.0 percent), followed by China (11.2 percent), Sri Lanka (7.5 percent), USA (7.3 percent), and United Kingdom (4.7 percent). All of those countries have remained as top 5 countries visiting Nepal for the last 10 years. From these countries, Nepal has earned significant foreign currency equivalent of NRs. 34.21

billion and provide employment for about 20% . (Shrestha, 2014)

China as the second largest tourism source for Nepal is counted as great asset for state's income. Both countries have been promoting people-to-people relations through the regular hosting of the cultural festival, friendly visitation, exhibition, cultural and film show, food festivals, and so forth. Sister city relations between the cities allowing the increasement of tourist's arrivals especially from China to Nepal. Moreover, the number of tourist arrival from China in 2016 exceeds 122 million. (Bhandari, 2017). Therefore, the presence of China as the source of foreign tourism in Nepal is considered as the asset for sustainability of nation's income.

B. Nepal wants to re-affirm its commitment to One-China policy

Nepal is a country with a small in economic, weak government, as well as low power in international politics. In fact, the country is considered as one of the emerging countries in the world. Many Nepalese are living in poverty and illiterate. Survival and security of the country are considered the primary concern and objectives of the state which assume the supremacy of national interest. For the survival, Nepal is dependent on its neighbors. Most of the foreign aid is coming from China and India. Without foreign assistance, Nepal is unable to manage the nation's budget and other development work.

China's hegemony role in the Himalayan country is described as the Umbrella for Nepal. As already indicated, Chinese investments and donor in Nepal has become the evidence of how importance of China's role for economy of Nepal. Besides being a close neighbor, China has significant leverage in many sectors of the Nepalese and is always ready to help the country, especially in the precarious situation during the earthquake on April 25, 2015. The earthquake that hit the

Himalayan region has caused nearly 9,000 lives and caused financial losses estimated at \$ 7 billion, or a massive one-third of the country's GDP has worsened the stability of the country. The physical damage caused by the disaster estimated at \$ 5.2 billion and economic losses of \$1.9 billion (Sood, 2016). Unprepared, the Nepal government called for international emergency assistance.

As the immediate response, China sent a rescue team in early 24 hours to provide humanitarian aid to Nepalese people. China's rescue team arrived on Sunday morning, along with a group from the People's Liberation Army (PLA). The day after, on Monday, China again dispatched the second 58-members medical team arrived. A total of 62 members of the Search and Rescue team has been sent to assist in the disaster situation. (Morten Wendelbo, 2016)

Moreover, China also provided the largest funding aid that ever pledged in the disaster assistance. According to Dou Enyong, the Chinese assistant minister of International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, said that the fund announced by his country's government for Nepal's earthquake reconstruction is the largest foreign assistance ever pledged by China with the total of RMB 4.7 billion to help Nepal recover from the loss of April 25 earthquake. (Report, 2015)

Compared to China's assistance, humanitarian assistance offered by Taiwan amounted to only 20 rescue team. Besides, the financial assistance that is planned to offer is approximately \$300,000. The number of humanitarian assistance offered by Taiwan is far from China's, as well as the number of aid funding. Thus, Nepal perceived the assistance from Taiwan is not so attractive compared with assistance from China.

Furthermore, one of the primary reasons for the rejection that can be perceived is that Nepal has always been upholding One China policy. The Government of Nepal is firm in its

principled stand not to allow Nepalese territory to be used against China. China, on the other hand, has always treated Nepal as an equal and friendly partner respecting its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national independence.

One-China Policy has become the acknowledgment of the People's Republic of China position that there is only one China in the world. This policy asserts that Taiwan is a part of China and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal administration representing the whole of China. Under this policy, China firmly opposed the recognition of Taiwan as an independent state, and other countries should respect the policy. In article 2 of Anti-Secession Law, it stated:

"There is only one China in the world. Both the Mainland and Taiwan belong to same China. Cession of sovereignty and territory of China will not be tolerated." (Congress, 2005)

The complex relations between China and Taiwan start when China declares itself as a communist country. Since the formation of China as a communist state (People Republic of China) on October 1, 1949, there has been opposition to the formation of a communist government itself. The opposition was carried out by the Nationalist Republic of China under the Kuomintang Party (KMT). From that time on the Kuomintang established a country on the island which is now called Taiwan and declared self-government outside the official government of the People's Republic of China. The existence of the Republic of China (Taiwan) with the government center in Taipei, however, is claimed to be part of the People's Republic of China. Beijing declared to the international forum that Taiwan should be subject to this One China policy because Taiwan had been bound by a consensus agreed upon by representatives of both sides in 1992 in Hong Kong. However, these two countries have different interpretations.

In practice, the People's Republic of China establishes an absolute regulation in interacting with the international world, namely by applying an absolute mechanism that every country that wants to establish diplomatic relations with the China, must first avoiding Taiwan in any form of relations. Under this policy, China further makes it clear to any country that wants to keep its relationship with the People Republic of China and affirms that as requirements. Through this policy, however, China is being concerned not only against Nepal, but all countries that try to connect with Taiwan must first sever their relationship with China. The country even pressures international organizations not to recognize Taiwan as an independent state.

The complicated situation between China and Taiwan inevitably has implications for Nepal. Nepal, which is a close neighbor of China, has recognized the policy and is committed to respecting the sovereignty and not wanting to interfere in the country. For Nepal, the application of One China Policy's is considered as a necessary step to always maintain good relations with the PRC government (People's Republic of China).

Besides, as a country that relies heavily on China, Nepal must undoubtedly maintain its position in the eyes of China. China has massive contribution to the development process of Nepal. Conversely, if Nepal receives assistance from Taiwan, China could question the commitment of Nepal toward the One-China policy. In inter-state relations, countries that usually assist will be recognized and respected. Also, the assisted country also feels that they have a responsibility to maintain the partner's feelings in any situation. As well as situations that occur when Nepal needs assistance in a disaster situation. Nepal chooses to refuse the offer of aid from Taiwan rather than irritate the feeling of its partner.

In the case of the earthquake disaster, however, the accepting of aid from Taiwan would be considered by China as

an attempt to disrespect the policy and the sovereignty of China. This is not the thing that Nepal wants, and once again, for Nepal, turning down the aid from Taiwan is one of the reasons to confirm one of China's policies. Under this policy, Nepal attempt to avoid any action which can hamper its beneficial relations with China due to this strict policy. Even though when the disaster situation the country was highly in need of the assistance, the consideration of the policy has become the priority.

Conclusion

In the case of Nepal's rejection, the humanitarian aid provided by Taiwan is seen to have consequences with its close partner, China. The reverse action, which is accepting the offer of aid will possibly reduce diplomacy prospect with China. Both countries have shared steady and tight relationship and cooperation characterized by agreement at all levels. China as one of Nepal's neighbors has a massive contribution to various development in the country which is regarded as one of an emerging country in the world.

There are several considerations of Nepal to maintain its diplomatic relation with China, primarily based on the economy, as follows:

1. China is top five bilateral donors of Nepal
2. The Biggest Investor in Nepal
3. Source of Nepal Tourism Sector

China's hegemony role in the relationship with the Himalayan country is described as the Umbrella for Nepal's economic development. As already indicated, Chinese investments and donor in Nepal became already a well-known phenomenon. Besides being a close neighbor, China has significant leverage in many sectors of the Nepalese and is always ready to help Nepal, especially in the precarious situation during the earthquake on April 25, 2015. The aid for

Nepal's earthquake reconstruction is the largest foreign assistance ever pledged by China with the total of RMB 4.7 billion to help Nepal recover from the loss of April 25 earthquake.

Another main reason for the rejection that can be perceived is that Nepal has always been upholding One China policy. The Government of Nepal is firm in its principled stand not to allow Nepalese territory to be used against China. China, on the other hand, has always treated Nepal as an equal and friendly partner respecting its sovereignty, territorial integrity and national independence. As a country that relies heavily on China, Nepal must inevitably maintain its position in the eyes of China. Conversely, if Nepal receives assistance from Taiwan, China could question the commitment of Nepal toward the one-China policy.

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