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Future of Balochistan: Independent Country or Province of Pakistan?

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Pakistan has four provinces and Balochistan is the largest of them covering 44 percent of the total area but less than ten percent of its population. Most of inhabitants of Balochistan are Baloch but Pashtuns and Brahuis also live in Balochistan. The area is rich in oil, copper, gold and natural gas. Its location is extremely strategic as the province shares borders with Afghanistan and Iran. Gwadar Port developed by China is in Balochistan and is of immense importance to Pakistan and China. However it is the most backward region in Pakistan despite being endowed with natural resources. Baloch people feel exploited at the hands of the dominant Punjabis and they regard themselves as ethnically, culturally and socially different from the rest of Pakistan. Baloch also believe that Pakistan has illegally occupied Balochistan although Balochistan was an independent country prior to formation of Pakistan. Baloch want Balochistan to be recognized as an independent nation state and are fighting for the same. They want India to help them in their effort however so far India has not extended any help to them. On the other hand Pakistan holds India responsible for freedom movement in Balochistan, which Pakistan calls terrorism. Pakistan's government is trying to repress the demand of Baloch people for freedom by killing, raping and inflicting violence on Baloch people and their leadership. (Dikshit, 2016) The question is whether India should help Baloch people attain their aim of an independent Balochistan. If India does, then this will help an exploited and proud people attain independence from