



ABSTRACT

Airpower as an element of geostrategic tool has been gaining momentum since its advent in the early 1900s. It has been vital in determining geopolitical objectives of nation states in the global arena. This study therefore provides an in-depth analysis of elements that comprises airpower, geopolitics and geostrategy and how it had been developed together as an intricate cluster that has changed the way the world of geopolitics operates in the modern day.

The study is being conducted using secondary research in which a conceptual framework was developed to assess the relationship airpower has on geostrategy and geopolitics with the dependent variable being the research title with the independent variables being Indian Airpower and Chinese Airpower. The evolution of the terminologies of the three variables have been examined in-depth. Extensive analysis of offensive and defensive air power capabilities of major powers together with India and China had been discussed together with the importance of Indo-Pacific region and an assessment of scenarios in the region indicating the interlink between three variables for India and China in the Indo-Pacific region.

The findings revealed that airpower has played a major role in the global scenario although in the Indo-Pacific region it is still debatable as actual air combat have not taken place within the region between the two states. The study therefore provided findings of hypothetical scenarios of a conflict with India and China in an air war in which the study revealed that China has the competitive edge over India in an all-out air war yet the ability of China to defeat India in an air skirmish is debatable as it would depend on the type of aircraft used and the supporting elements that accompany in favor of the respective nations during the skirmish. With the assessment of India and Chinas importance placed on airpower, the study concluded that air power plays a significant role in their geostrategy which inadvertently links to their geopolitical strategy.