



Major shift: World views China more favorably than the United States, **now**

In what is a major shift, global opinion has changed dramatically and people around the world are viewing China more favorably than the US, which had a more positive image earlier.

The Asian Tribune

www.asiantribune.net

The global ratings quite clearly reflects change in the power structure, perceptions and diplomacy along with a growing sense of unease with the US' policies around the globe.

The Pew Research Centre has conducted a survey across 36 counties and found that China is now seen more favorably than the United States of America.

Surprisingly, the views from UK and France, Germany and other US allies, nations like Canada and Mexico have also suggested the same trend and support this global view.

US' influence over the world was nearly complete till recent years but support for Israel, deterioration of its relations with its key allies, forcing deals on other countries, suppress anti-war opinion, the open declaration of aim to capture Greenland and many other reasons have led to this situation where China has not just emerged as a counter and a balance but is seen as a far more balanced state. What was unthinkable has happened now. It is also clear that the war-mongering, the influence of Israel on US, the atrocities on Gaza residents, the attack on Iran and all its aftermath,



American youth support for Palestine grows big way

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For decades, America and Israel have been strong allies and despite US' relations with Arab nations, the American policy regarding Middle East seemed to be governed more by its tilt towards Jerusalem. On political lines US' has been Israel's biggest backer and has always stood behind Tel Aviv. This stand was visible in the establishment and the support permeated to the lowest level in the society due to media, politicians and also influencers, statesmen, actors and other major Hollywood voices who showed pro-Israel leanings for decades. That had become US' standard policy.

VP JD Vance said section in Israel tried to manipulate US' opinion in order to prolong Iran war.



Gallup has been keeping an eye on this aspect for a quarter century. Now, 41% Americans have more sympathy for Palestinians than those who support Israel (36%). There is high support for independent Palestinian state among Americans now. It is a real shift when it is viewed in the sense that majority of young US adults sympathize with Palestinians, compared to just 23% for Israelis. US Vice president JD Vance' comments about a section in Israel trying to manipulate US and keep it engaged into continuous wars, indicates the change.

Movie on extra-judicial killings in Punjab revisits dark period, gets wide attention

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Satluj is a movie that focuses on the era when Punjab saw a tragedy of epic proportions. It takes audience back to a period when extra-judicial killings had become common and thousands of youths just disappeared, never to return to their families.

The killings, encounters, secret cremations and torture by police was exposed by a human rights activist, Jaswant Singh Khrala.

Diljit Dosanjh plays the role of Khrala and charged just one rupee as fee. The movie ran into trouble as the Censor board ordered cuts and after three years of fight with the board, it was decided that the movie would just be released on the OTT platforms.

The filmmakers had refused to accept the changes and the large scale alterations that had been demanded by the censor board. The number of cuts demanded were more than 120.

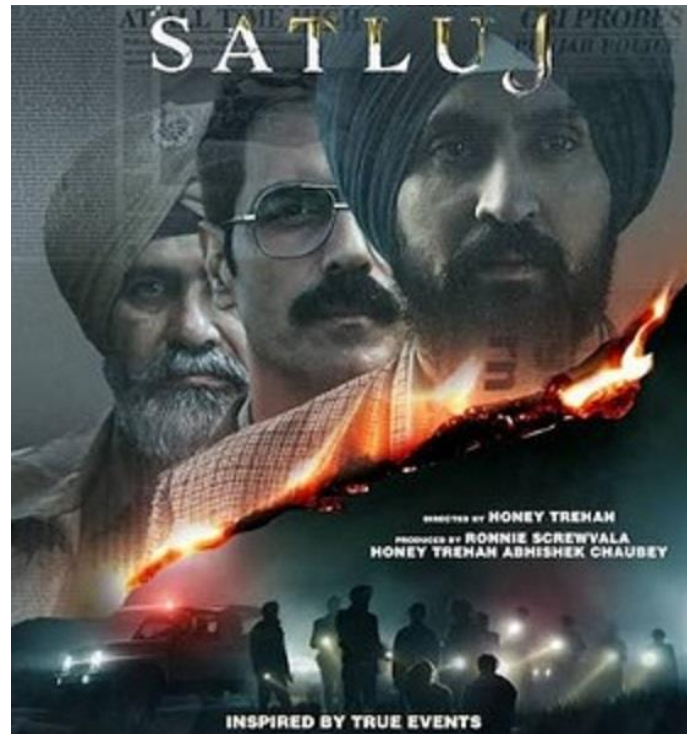
As it was about a difficult period and focuses on the human rights violations, the film faced trouble. Thus, it was streamed uncut on an OTT platform.

However, this was also stopped and the movie was abruptly taken off in 48 hrs. from the platform.

However, it is internationally available and despite commercial losses that the

film makers suffered, it is now available across the world and is also being shown in Punjab, even in rural areas, where people are arranging the movie's screening on their own. The 1980s was a dark era when insurgency reached its peak in Punjab after the Operation Blue Star and the subsequent killing of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The Punjab police under KPS Gill adopted strong tactics and human rights violations became common. The result was that large number of youth went missing, the figure ranging into thousands. After torture and encounter, there were secret cremations. It is claimed that the figure ranges from 5,000 to 25,000 though the numbers are contested. The movie bypassed theatres' run entirely and so there's no conventional box-office tally to point to financial success of the movie. Its main revenue path was an OTT license i.e. streaming deal and that too got pulled from the Indian market after just two days, cutting off its biggest potential audience. But, as it had been released and once it was made available on the internet, it got shared and downloaded widely. It is still streaming internationally, so it may earn from overseas OTT subscriptions and diaspora viewership, but no reliable figures on the OTT licensing fee or budget have been known so



Far. Given the fact that Diljit waived his fee and the film seems to have been made as much as an act of advocacy as commerce, "recovering cost" may not have been the primary goal for this one — though that's inference on my part, not something the reporting states directly.

Satluj has drawn attention and it is being seen across the world, especially in Punjab. For decades, questions have been raised about this era when the police writ ran large and innumerable families suffered in Punjab.

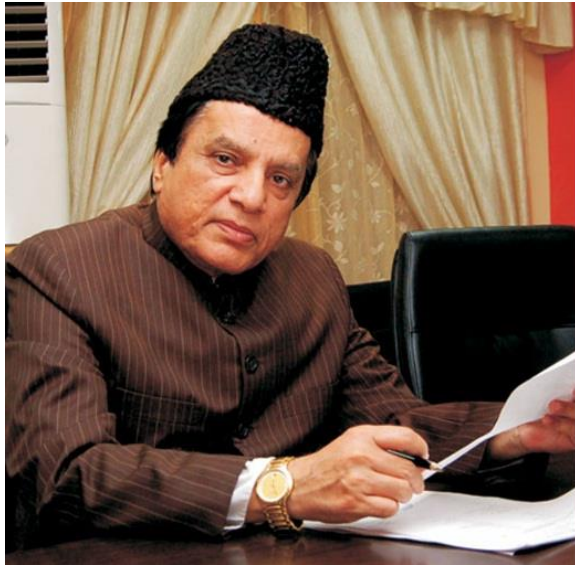
On social media platforms too, the movie's release led to arguments and debates. The methods of KPS Gill and the iron hand that led to the extra-judicial killings and huge amount of suffering, is a period that has not been forgotten in the state and the Sikh community has particularly been sensitive, because they feel that justice was not done and there was need for healing. Right now, despite the controversy surrounding the movie, it has brought back focus on human rights.

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July 16, 2026 Thursday

Visionary leader and educationist who built 56 institutions during his lifetime



It was a Herculean task to get permissions but it was his focus and determination that led to creation of institutions after institutions. Late Dr Vizarat Rasool Khan was always concerned about the educational needs of the poor and he did his best to support youth and motivate them to study as well as avail scholarships.

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In an era when the Muslim community seriously lacked educational institutions, certain individuals played an important role and set up the institutes. The initial struggle for setting up these colleges and the efforts of the visionary persons led to creation of more institutions in later years. Among these leaders, the name of late Dr Vizarat Rasool Khan is important as he remained focused on his vision and despite the numerous bureaucratic hurdles, Dr Vizarat Rasool Khan managed to build the colleges in Deccan.

Indeed, Dr Vizarat Rasool Khan championed the cause of education among Muslims. His contribution was immense, as he dreamt big and managed to achieve the goals. Khan built 56 educational institutes that include 24 engineering colleges and two medical colleges. He also set up the first ever women's medical college in India, apart from women's engineering college. Further, he was at the forefront for the fight to ensure that Muslims from the poor section get higher education, at a highly subsidized rate.

A social-worker who also dabbled in politics and got elected as an MLA, his focus throughout his life, remained on education. Those not familiar with the bureaucratic setup, feel that it is easy to establish colleges or institutions. The truth is that Herculean fights and lifelong efforts were needed, as State governments don't give permissions for setting up of Minority Colleges. The files just don't move. The real issue is the indifference in bureaucracy towards any such proposal. Further, there are obstacles at every juncture.

Building the dozens of colleges and a 750 bed hospital is an accomplishment in itself. Professional colleges were set up one after the other and finally it led to medical colleges and hospital. Still, Khan was not satisfied. He was trying hard to establish an autonomous university. He felt that there was no dearth of talent among the poor but they didn't have resources. Apart from being the head of Shadan Group of Educational Institutions, he was socially active and coordinated with activists, academicians, leaders and politicians.



Seven in every ten children suffered due to extreme heat in this summer

The Asian Tribune
www.asiantribune.net

Nearly seven in every 10 school-going children surveyed across India have reported missing school or routine activities because of extreme heat.

Meanwhile more than three-fourths said rising temperatures had affected their ability to concentrate on studies, according to a rapid assessment conducted by CRY – Child Rights and You.

The assessment, titled “Feeling the Heat: Children’s Voices on Heat, Well-Being and Learning in India”, highlights the growing impact of extreme heat on children’s education, health and everyday lives.

Conducted during May and June 2026, the volunteer-led assessment gathered responses from 3,096 school-going children aged 10–17 years across 27 States and Union Territories.

The findings reveal that 88 percent of children felt this year’s summer was hotter than previous years. Nearly 68 percent reported missing school or routine activities because of heat-related distress, while 76 percent said the heat negatively affected their ability to focus on studies.

Around 47 percent identified the afternoon as the most difficult part of the day, and more than 45 percent said school hours were particularly uncomfortable, underscoring the challenges children face while learning in increasingly hotter conditions.

The assessment also points to the growing health burden of extreme heat.

Nearly 63 percent of children reported experiencing dehydration, 51 percent suffered headaches, and 44 percent experienced extreme fatigue during periods of intense heat.

Extreme temperature made it difficult for students to focus on studies. They suffered from dehydration, felt uneasy in classrooms, got sick too.

Heat-related challenges extended beyond schools into children’s homes. More than half (53 percent) of the respondents reported frequent power interruptions or overheated living spaces, while nearly three in 10 experienced water shortages, further compounding their discomfort and affecting their daily routines.

The findings also reveal that the impact of extreme heat is not experienced equally by all students.

Around 71 percent of children from families depending on daily-wage or manual labour reported severe heat-related distress, compared to 46 percent of children from other households; highlighting how climate-related risks disproportionately affect children from economically vulnerable communities.

A 17-year-old girl from Jharkhand said, “On a particularly hot day, I found it difficult to concentrate at school because the temperature was extremely high.

The classroom felt warm and uncomfortable, and I became tired more quickly than usual. During lessons, it was hard to focus on what the teacher was explaining, and I felt thirsty.”

The assessment found that children are not only experiencing the effects of rising temperatures themselves but are also acutely aware of how extreme heat is affecting their parents and caregivers.

Nearly 59 percent said heat had made work more difficult for their parents, while 58 percent noticed changes in their parents’ mood or

behavior. Another 43 percent reported increased stress or irritability at home, suggesting that the effects of extreme heat extend well beyond physical discomfort and into family life.

An 11-year-old girl from Delhi said, “My father became very ill because of the heat and couldn’t go to work. We couldn’t buy vegetables or milk that day... I stayed home to care for him.”

India witnessed repeated heat wave conditions during the summer of 2026, with temperatures crossing 45°C in several States. Schools in many regions revised timing, curtailed outdoor activities & in some places, temporarily suspended classes.

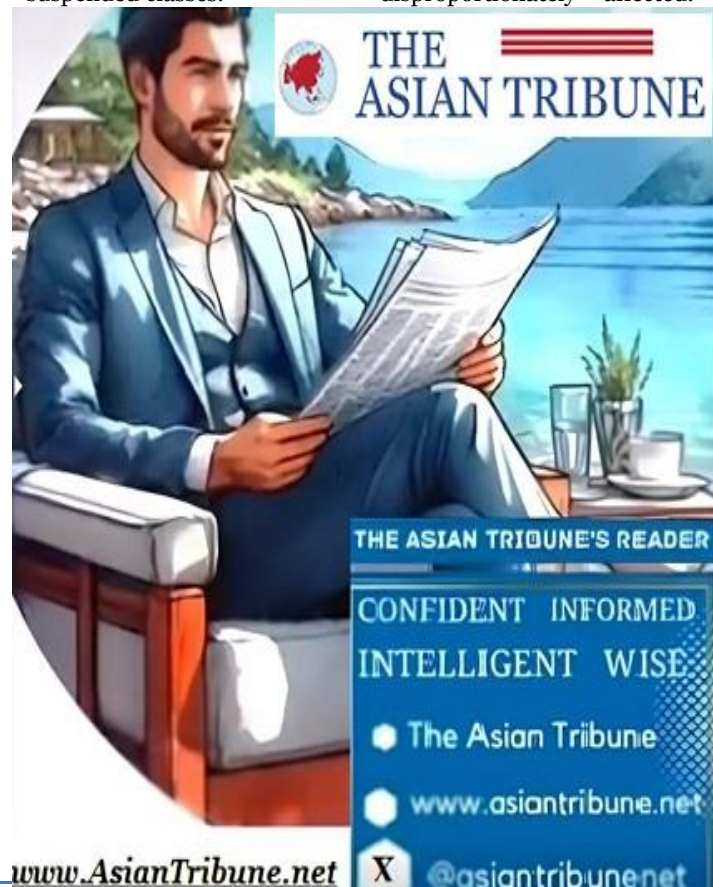
As many as 88 percent felt this year’s summer was hotter than previous years.

Nearly 68% reported missing school or routine activities because of heat-related distress, while 76 percent said the heat negatively affected their ability to focus on studies.

47 percent identified the afternoon as the most difficult part of the day, while 45 percent said school hours were uncomfortable.

63% students experienced dehydration, 51 percent suffered headaches, and 44 percent reported extreme fatigue due to heat

Children from economically vulnerable households were disproportionately affected.



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