CHINA'S "PEACEFUL RISE" AND ITS IMPLICATION ON MALAYSIA

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

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ABSTRACT

During the Post-Mao period, Deng Xiaoping introduced the "open" economic system that saw China in reaping enormous benefits. Deng's priorities were to up-grade the nation's living standard with reasonable basic need required by the citizens. Economic growth and the military modernization have resulted in China to espouse the 'peaceful rise" policy. Thus, the aim of this project is to analyse China's rising economic, military and political power as well as to determine whether the development of these aspects is intended to form part of China's "peaceful rise". Any outright attempt through its military capabilities to seek regional hegemony and created competition in its economic growth that threatened the physical security and political autonomy of other states would only jeopardise China's "peaceful rise" policy. Furthermore, this project also examines Malaysia's perception of China's "peaceful rise". This project argues that China would continue its flexible and open orientation toward trade and economics. To maintain its upward economic momentum, it is imperative for China to work toward and support a stable global environment. Hence, a major thrust of Chinese diplomatic objectives is one of assurance. This thrust serves two goals: (a) to prevent balancing coalitions against China's expanding power and influence, and (b) to maintain and cultivate support for China's development goal. For Malaysia, the consolidation of Sino-Malaysia bilateral ties is prove of Malaysia's the trust of China's 'peaceful rise' policy. China's growth is a catalyst for Malaysia's economic progress. In general, Malaysia does not see China as a threat.
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