This study is the result of research carried out over a span of five years during my association with the Division of Chinese Studies, Centre for East Asian Studies of the School of International Studies, as a research scholar.

It was prompted by my interest in China's foreign policy towards the Western countries right from the days of my M.Phil course work. Canada was chosen as a case study as Sino-Canadian relations have not received due consideration from researchers. While myriad developing countries have been branded as satellites of foreign powers, one of the few Western countries possessing this brand name has been Canada. Notwithstanding the merits and demerits of such characterization in the literature of international relations, it is significant to note that even such so-called satellite states play significant roles in international relations and politics.

Canada's role in building up and subsequently strengthening its economic ties with a Communist giant of the Orient is one such noteworthy example. Numerous works have been undertaken to highlight the relations between the United States and powerful European countries with the People's Republic of China. However, when it comes to Sino-Canadian relations the dearth of substantive work is very conspicuous. Of course, a host of Canadian scholars have produced work on the field. Yet, pundits from the third countries have not shown much interest in this field.
My interest in this field grew enormously as the economy of the Asia-Pacific region began to bloom in the 1980s. Geography had made Canada a country on the Pacific rim. So is China. I thus decided to venture into this field, of course, with awareness of the difficulties involved as far as the availability of source materials was concerned. In fact, the paucity of materials served as an extra source of attraction.

During the course of investigation I had an opportunity to visit Canada from August to October 1989 to do field research and where I had the benefit of consulting different libraries, scholars and administrators who have been or are still associated in one way or another with Sino-Canadian relations. Although my original plan was to visit China as well, severe political upheavals and domestic turmoil in China proved to be an obstacle. Of course, meeting knowledgeable personalities in China would have otherwise made this study more complete.

This is an endeavour of Indian scholar to probe into the political and economic dimensions of Sino-Canadian relations taking into account the limited English versions of Chinese source materials. In writing this dissertation Canadian sources were used extensively because they were more easily available and accessible. Source materials on Sino-Canadian relations before Ottawa recognized Beijing are scanty. Although materials in the forms of newspapers, periodicals and Government publications in the post-recognition are available, these are certainly not adequate. Efforts, however, have been made to make a judicious use
of the available primary and secondary source materials in the field. Although many Canadian scholars have done a substantial amount of research in related fields, they have not adequately taken into consideration the Chinese viewpoint. The author has made a modest attempt to take into consideration the Chinese viewpoint.

The present study examines the development of relations between China and Canada over the period from 1949 to 1985. The year 1949 is significant as far reaching political and economic changes took place with the proclamation of the People's Republic of China under the leadership of Mao Zedong which had a great bearing on the course and direction of Sino-Canadian relations. As this study was undertaken in 1985, the development of relationship between the two countries has been traced upto that year. Though the relationship shows two distinct phases, pre-recognition and post-recognition, the developments of the first phase acted as stepping stones to the final culmination in the latter phase. The interrelationship between the two phases clearly indicates the correlation between politics and economics, for which such a long span with emphasis on specific issues had to be undertaken.

The relationship between countries is determined by numerous factors -political, economic, cultural and international environment. All these factors are interrelated and interact with each other. Healthy political relations can promote trade and close economic ties may bring about better political relationship.
At certain times one of these factors may assume primacy and take a leading role in affecting other factors. Though in the Sino-Canadian relations bilateral trade has played a predominant role in promoting closer ties, the political and cultural factors were not insignificant. The significance of this study lies in its attempts to portray the fine blend of politics and economics. Moreover an attempt has been made to show a general pattern in the growth of relationship, though many other issue areas are open to further research.

The work consists of five chapters with special emphasis on the issues of Canada's granting of recognition to the PRC, its position on China's representation in the UN, the beginning of bilateral trade in 1961 in real sense, and its subsequent growth and cultural and academic exchanges between the two countries. A short historical sketch prior to the period under study has also been attempted. The approach is primarily descriptive and analytical. I make no claim of specialized knowledge of economics. However, I have been a keen student on political economy. The present study has thus a heavy slant on politics of economics rather than a pure study of theoretical in applied economics. The limitations of this study is that as I have never been a formal student of economics, I was handicapped to a certain extent in handling the economic aspects of the study which are of enormous significance to the relationship.

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(SANJIB KUMAR ACHARYA)