

Climate change is a major threat to the humans and their existence

Outline

I. Introduction

Thesis statement: Climate change poses an imminent and severe threat to human existence, evidenced by rising temperature, extreme weather events, and escalating environmental degradation.

II. Climate change a major threat to the humans and their existence

(A) Rising temperature a major threat to the humans and their existence

(B) Increased frequency of extreme weather

(C) A surge in pandemics and epidemics due to climate change

(D) Ecosystem disruption triggered by climate change

- (E) Drastic impact of climate change on agriculture
- (F) Increasing health risks
- (G) Forced migration due to climate change related events
- (H) Imposing a heavy economic burden
- (I) Negative impacts on vulnerable communities
- (J) Resource - Induced conflicts
- (K) Escalating wildfires posing a threat to ecosystems and human settlements

11. Strategies to mitigate the threat to the humans and their existence due to climate change

Transition to renewable energy

(B) Promoting reforestation and afforestation

(C) Climate resilient infrastructure - an assurance of safety for humans and their existence

IV. Conclusion

Essay

Climate change is like playing with the thermostat in a giant house we all live in. If we keep messing with it, the house gets too hot or too cold, making life uncomfortable. It's crucial for everyone to stop fiddling and work together to keep our home just right ~~and~~ for all of us. Climate change in actual world is a major threat to humans and their existence in many ways. The foremost among them is rising temperature. It also causes increased frequency of extreme weather events. Likewise pandemics and epidemics are the outcomes of climate change. Ecosystem degradation and agricultural destruction are also triggered by climate change. Similarly, climate change is posing health risks, economic threats, and social risks. Lastly, it is a reason behind

escalating wildfires which are damaging human settlements. However, some remedial measures can be taken to save humans and their existence from barbaric changes caused by climate change. These measures include transition to renewable energy, promotion of reforestation and afforestation, and establishment of climate resilient infrastructure. In short, climate change poses an imminent and severe threat to human existence, evidenced by rising temperature, extreme weather events, and escalating weather degradation.

Climate change is a significant threat to humans and their existence in numerous forms, the prime among them is rising temperature. Rising temperature, akin to a relentless fever, endangers human existence by disrupting ecosystems and causing extreme

weather events. As mentioned in the book of **David Wallace-Wells**, "The Uninhabitable Earth", he explored how soaring temperatures amplify risks to health, agriculture, and overall planetary stability. According to a latest report published in the journal *Bio Science* in 2023, just roughly 1.2 degree Celsius of temperature rise above pre-industrial levels has triggered a range of calamitous and costly consequences.

Climate change has also increased extreme weather events. There is a clear link between climate change and the intensification of extreme weather phenomena. According to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on climate change, the surge in heatwaves, hurricanes, floods

and droughts are the direct consequences of climate change. All of these extreme weather events are a major threat to humans and their existence.

Another key factor to consider is a surge in pandemics and epidemics due to climate change. Both of them are an existential threat to humanity. For example, Elizabeth Kolbert explained in his book "The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History" that how climate change contributed to the emergence of new diseases. Like COVID-19 took millions of lives, and caused many psychological problems during the span of last three years. Similarly, Malaria, Dengue and many other viruses have impacted humans badly. All of this loss is due to climate change - induced.

pandemics and epidemics.

In addition to above points, climate change is a leading factor behind the ecosystem disruption. Ecosystem disruption disturbs a balance in humans' life. For instance, disrupted ecosystems cause biodiversity loss, food insecurity, water crisis, vector-borne diseases, and ocean acidification. All of them have direct consequences for humanity in the form of health risks and social threats. Due to unavailability of food, water and healthy environment, it is impossible for humans to survive for a longer period of time. Therefore, climate change is a major threat to humans and their existence.

Equally important is the fact that climate change

has adversely impacted agriculture. Agriculture is the lifeline of many countries because the inhabitants have only source of income is agriculture in these countries. However, now they are vulnerable because of tremendous loss of agriculture due to climate change. According to the report of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of Pakistan published on 18th November, 2022, during the 2022 floods, 1736 people died, nearly 13,000 were injured, and over two million houses were destroyed.

The impact on agriculture and livestock was substantial.

The grim reality is that Pakistan is the 8th most affected country from climate change while its rank on Green House Emissions table is 153rd. Hence agricultural loss due to climate change has worst implications on humans and their existence.

In conjunction with the above idea, climate change is a leading cause of health risks in humans. There are multiple infections and complications which are caused by rampant climate change. For instance, due to recent floods in Pakistan triggered by climate change have badly impacted health and health sector. Like a surge in water borne diseases in flood affected areas of Pakistan is one of them. According to the report published by the Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry the stress expectant mothers experienced during the time of flood. Given the 65000 pregnant women affected by the floods, it is expected that childhood mental illness will prevail with depression and anxiety in coming years.

Additionally, it is pertinent to mention that climate change led to forced migration in different countries. It left many families and their children homeless. They are facing the problems like malnutrition and other existential threats due to unavailability of conducive habitat and healthy food. In 2021, the **IDMC (Internal Displacement Monitoring Center)** reported that all disaster-induced displacement in 2020 occurred in the South Asian region, with Pakistan recording the third-highest number of those displacements after India and Afghanistan. Similarly, in some countries people preferred to leave the country due to unbearable events caused by climate change. Therefore, climate change through forced migration is posing a great threat to humanity.

In the same vein, climate change is taking a heavy economic toll from humanity. The poor countries are bearing the burnt of disasters triggered by climate change. The developing world has differences with the developed world on the issue of climate change. The poor countries blame the developed world for their large contribution in the greenhouse emissions while the developing countries are suffering the most both economically and physically. For example, a recent report published by the UN Development Program (UNDP) in the name of "**Uncertain times, unsettled lives**" placed Pakistan on **161 position on the Human Development Index out of 192 countries.** This means that life expectancy, education, and **GDP per capita**

in Pakistan and its average development in three basic aspects of human development, health, knowledge and standard of living have declined. All of this occurred due drastic impacts of climate change.

Correspondingly, many communities are prone to destruction caused by climate change. They do not have alternative source of living except to remain in dangerous zones. They are continuously under the threat of different climate induced disasters. Different global studies revealed that more disadvantaged people now live in deltas, and low-lying flood plains which are frequently subject to flooding of both types - coastal flooding due to sea level rise and river flooding due to higher precipitation. In a research

paper "Sinking Deltas due to Human Activities", it was mentioned that in 2015, 4.4 million people were living in the delta of Indus in Pakistan. This fact proves that many disadvantaged communities are more vulnerable to climatic disasters.

Furthermore, many conflicts are induced by climate change, which are posing threat to humans and their existence. Declining amounts of quality food, water and land due to climate change may lead to an increase in global security threats, conflict and war. For example, In Arctic region the monopoly game has already among five nations. Russia holds the trump card while America seems to be sidelined.

There are chances of different conflicts between great powers over water and natural resources. Similarly, the major conflict between Pakistan and India is due to water distribution formula. This conflict can turn into a nuclear war because India is doing water terrorism. This will have huge cost for humanity. Thus climate change is a major threat to humans and their existence because it has potential to induce different conflicts.

Last but not the least point is that climate triggered wildfires are posing a great threat to ecosystems and human settlements. According to World Health Organization (WHO), 1700 deaths were recorded in 2022 due to heatwaves in Spain and Portugal. Wildfires

with intense implications on the Southern Europe. Homes were destroyed in London due to these fires. Similarly, a monstrous wildfire was recorded in California in 2021. It is considered as the second largest fire in the history occurred due to sweltering heat and an alarming drought. This has ravaged ~~and~~ cultivated lands and vegetations. Therefore, climate change causes wildfires which are the biggest threat to humanity.

However, to deal with the effects of climate change in order to save humanity, certain strategies can be adopted, transition to renewable energy is one of them. Fossil fuels are the major cause of greenhouse gases emissions. These gases cause green

house effect which leads to global warming. So in order to save humans, there is need to shift on eco-friendly fuels and renewable sources of energy. For example, - the developed world is slowly and gradually shifting on renewable sources of energy like wind, water and solar energy. In this regard, global gateway and the Build Back Better world are good initiatives in line with climate protection. However, they are still theoretical versions, there is need to implement the goals related to climate in letter and spirit. In this way, humans and their existence can be protected.

Another way to deal with climate change is to promote afforestation and reforestation. Due to massive urbanization

and unorganized settlements, millions of trees were cut down by the nefarious elements of society. However, there is a need to start a massive campaign of plantation throughout the world. In this regard, the billion tree tsunami of Pakistan can be taken as a starting point. For that purpose the goals that committed at COP28 which took place in UAE should be implemented. Like the provision of "Climate Fund" for the poor countries. So that they will be able to start the campaign of plantation at a mega scale. Hence the plantation can save the humanity from destruction by eliminating greenhouse gases from the environment.

Lastly, there is a need of a resilient climate

infrastructure to save humans and their habitat. In this regard, 'Lidar system' can be quoted as a case study, as a part of the BRI, Pakistan and China have set up a "Lidar station" to monitor the climate of local area. Researchers and scientists can work together under this Lidar network to establish a regional monitoring system. Similarly, the countries which are prone to massive floods should build dams. They can withstand the pressure of water during floods. Hence, the climate resilient infrastructure can save the humans and their existence.

To conclude, climate change is a major threat to humans and their existence. It is because of multiple reasons. It causes temperature rise, extreme weather events, pandemics and

epidemics, ecosystem degradation, agricultural losses, health risks, climate induced migrations, resource induced conflicts and wildfires. All of these factors directly or indirectly impact humanity. They can eliminate humans from the planet earth if certain steps will not be taken. Few of them are transition to clean energy, plantation and establishment of climate resilient infrastructure. In this way, humanity can be saved, and their existence can be protected.