

TOPIC:

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Despite its urgency, climate change / crisis remains the most neglected cause.

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement:

Climate crisis is a global issue threatening the very foundation of humanity. Despite its urgency, it is not addressing and remains the most neglected issue. However, by taking adequate measures, this crisis can be solved.

2. How climate change is a neglected cause?

3. Reason behind neglecting climate crisis.

- a) Lack of political will and inadequate international cooperation.
- b) prioritizing national and economic interests over long-term sustainability.
- c) Engagement of great powers in rivalries and paying no attention to climate crisis.

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- d) Political crisis and economic insecurities in developing world
- e) Lack of awareness in public regarding climate change.

4) Consequences of neglecting climate change

- a) Drastic impacts on environment
 - i) Increase in earth temperature.
 - ii) Melting of glaciers due to rise in temperature
 - iii) Rise in sea levels
 - iv) destruction of ecosystem and extinction of biodiversity.

- b) Social impacts due to climate crisis
 - i) Humanitarian crisis

- c) Severe impacts on economy.
- d) Life threatening health implications.

5) Addressing the neglect.

- a) Strengthening the global climate governance on climate change.

- i) International cooperation
- ii) Binding agreements and their implementation.

- b) Transformation of economy to renewable and clean energy.

- c) Regional and global climate initiatives.

- d) Raising awareness in youth and role of media.
- e) Inclusion of climate change preparedness in curriculum.
- 6) Conclusion.

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Imagine waking up in a place where the breath taking in is toxic, the ecosystem is withered and the water is tainted.

Stewart L. Udall, Politician and Conservationist, says "we live in a place of vanishing beauty, of increasing ugliness, of shrinking open space and of overall environment that is diminished daily by pollution and noise and blight. It means that climate change is real and happening at very faster rate. It is critical issue of modern time, but is neglected and is not given proper attention. The reasons behind its neglect include the lack of political will and international cooperation, prioritizing short term economic interests, the rivalries between great powers, political instability and lack of awareness among the public regarding climate change. This neglect causes severe implications on environment, society, economy and most importantly on health. It has forgiven no one, whether its plants and animals, or human beings. Although its a serious issue but it can be addressed

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by (mainly) strengthening the governance on climate change globally. Also, transforming the economy and adopting new ways especially for agriculture can decelerate the problem. These measures are need of the hour because climate change is a global issue and is threatening the very foundation of planet and future of humanity. It is one of the biggest challenge demanding adequate measures. However, despite its urgency, it is remained neglected in modern time.

Climate change is no longer a distant threat; it is happening now and is increasing day by day. Since industrial revolution in 1870, the global earth temperature is increasing at exponential rate. According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, about 1.2°C temperature of earth has been increased since 1850 to 2021 and this can further increase to 1.4 to 5.8°C upto the end of this century (2100). Similarly, a report by World Meteorological Organization (WMO), says that year

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between 2015-2022 were the warmest on record. According to the same report, the intensity of natural disasters is increasing with time. The report says that, from 1970 to 2021, 11778 disasters have occurred which caused humanitarian crisis and social and economic problems. A UN report, 2022 shows that in last 50 years, 20 lac people died due to climate change, including 18 lac from developing countries (93%) and \$4.3 trillion economic loss occurred. This shows that climate change and its implications on humanity and other ecosystem is intensified with time and is neglected by world leaders.

The ~~main~~ main reasons behind neglecting climate change is the lack of political will and international cooperation. The world political leaders and the largest carbon emitters do not take interest in solving the problem of climate change. The failure of Paris Climate Agreement, 2015 shows their inadequate

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cooperation. Similarly the Kyoto Protocol, 1997 has also failed and did not meet its objectives.

This negligence and ignorance has worsened the crisis.

Another important reason is the priority of corporate interests. The world largest economies prioritize their national and economic interests over long term sustainability. Naomi Klein in her book "This Changes Everything" argues that capitalism and industrial revolution have effected the atmosphere very badly. The competition ^{among} of world economic leaders and ^{the greed to become} ^{becoming} the top and largest economies has made them to take no notice of climate change. They have become so busy in fulfilling their interests that they overlook this serious cause.

Another reason of neglecting climate change is the rivalry between great

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powers. They are so engaged in wars that they pay no attention to climate crisis. Russian and Ukraine war, and the economic rivalry between United State and China have severely effected the climate problem. They have failed to look after the most important issue rather than engage in wars.

Similarly, the political crisis and economic insecurity in developing world is also playing an important role in nelegince of climate cause. Countries like Pakistan and Sri Lanka are are so engaged in the internal problems like political unness and economic problems that they failed to give attention to climate.

Another reason for neglecting the climate change is lack of awareness ^{in public} and passive role of media. Media coverage of the climate crisis often falls short in shaping the public perception about climate change.

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Due to this, public remain uninformed about the true extent of the crisis and its long-term consequences.

The neglect of climate change has drastic impacts on every sector of life. Its worst implications is on environment. The global earth temperature is increasing which causes melting of glaciers, rise of sea levels and severe floods in return. According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the average daily air temperature on earth's surface reached to 17.8°C (62.92°F). The average global temperature reached to 17°C for the first time on July 2, 2023, whose record go back to 1979.

The rise in temperature has caused the melting of glaciers. A report published by ~~Integra~~ International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), 2023 says that Himalayan glaciers ~~that~~^{which} provides critical water to over 2bn people, are melting 65% faster than

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than last decade. This warming of oceans and melting of oceans result in sea water taking up more space result is accelerating sea level rise. Data collected by US NOAA known as **Optimum Interpolation Sea Surface Temperature Series** has shown that Ocean temperature higher than in previous year stretching back to 1981.

Along with impacts on environments climate change and its neglect has severe social implications. It causes severe drastic humanitarian crisis, for instance unbearable heat, torrential rainfalls, floods and severe droughts. The flood of 2022 in Pakistan is witness to it. The flood has affected 33 million people, more than 1730 lost their lives, 8 million people have displaced and are facing various problems according to a report by **World Bank**.

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This climate change causes acute and serious health issues. The people displaced due to flood are facing life-threatening disorders. The shortage of clean water, lack of sanitation and proper hygienics has caused fatal diseases in children and in expecting women. **WHO reports** 1400 health care instl. destroyed due to flood 2022.

Beside social crisis, climate change has dreadful consequences on economic. The flood of 2022 has destroyed all the agriculture and infrastructure in the affected areas.

According to a report by World Bank the total economic loss of 2022 flood is \$15.2 bn. that in which include housing damage \$5.6 bn, agricultural livestock \$3.7 bn and transport and communication sector \$ 3.3 bn.

According to the same report, the GDP loss of FY 2022 due to flood is 0.2% include crop loss of agricultural sector 0.9%.

The climate change effects are severe and more-threatening to humanity and ecosystem, however,

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These problems can be addressed through proper channel. The implications can be reduced by strengthening the cooperation between world leader and global climate governance. It includes the implementation of treaties on climate change i.e Paris climate Agreement. These agreements should made binding. The 192 nations should decide and come to a proper solution on reducing the fossil fuel consumption and emission of CO₂ gas.

Another possible solution and the most important one is the transformation of economy to renewable and clean energy. Countries should transform to solar, tidal, and wind power rather than consumption of hydro carbons. Pakistan has initiated various project and made certain policy to tackle ^{with} the problem of climate change. The National Clean Air Policy by Shery Rehman is formulated to cope

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with the problems caused by climate change especially air pollution. Another step taken by government of Pakistan is **Land Information Management system** which will revolutionize the agriculture in the country and will transform it to the renewable energy.

Along with the transformation of economy, the initiation of 'Green climate fund' is also an important solution. The world leaders should fund the developing nations for the project of climate and also for the management of problems caused by climate crisis.

likewise, the awareness of people and public is mandatory to solve the trouble of climate change. Media can play a vital role in this regard. the initiatives like **Friday for future** is very significant and critical in this concern.

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Individuals can make a difference through the choices they make every-day. 10 miles less driving each week can eliminate more than a 100 million pounds of carbon each year.

In conclusion, it is evident and clear that climate change is a severe, life threatening global issue in this current time. It causes drastic implication both on living and non-living environment. However, it is remained neglected and it is the most less paid attention causes. But it is the time to solve and address this issue other wise it will have long term effects. This cause is real, it's serious and it's upto us to solve it. Embrace solar and wind powers to their full potential, we can cut the world yearly carbon emissions by a third. It's either 'Now or Never.'