

Climate Change & Impacts on Pakistan

"Possibilism", a concept in Geography discipline, dictates that man's knowledge and technology has changed the face of the world. It is a conspicuous reality that human activities not only triggered climate change but also catalysed it. The drastic rise in temperatures speaks volumes of it. The impacts on Pakistan are visible and steep. Currently, Pakistan is on a spree of heat waves followed by forest fires. The change in hydrological cycle and seasons ^{has} caused recurring flash floods and droughts. These harsh impacts have further implications, such as loss of infrastructure, water borne diseases, ~~defa~~ rapid increase in deforestation, and increased mortality rate. Additionally, climate migration is a serious implication affecting thousands of lives. Environmental determinism, another perspective in Geography, adheres that physical environment rather than social conditions, determines culture. This helps in supporting thesis that climate change determines culture of a particular area. Such as climate migration will have certain push and pull factors influencing and determining culture of an area. Climate migration would either put financial burden on the state or provide an economic opportunity. Nevertheless, the question arises: how to reverse the

impacts of climate change? The answer lies in bitter reality, climate change and its impacts cannot be reversed. However, to acclimate is a sound option through mitigation of climate change and adaptation of climate treaties. The adaptation is met with serious challenges such as entailing absence of political will and financial constraints in absolute adherence of climate treaties. However, time is of the essence otherwise and if strict and quick actions are not taken then even omnipotency would not help mitigate climate change. Hence, concerted efforts are required in adhering to Paris Agreement (2015) and succeeding pledges developments to help abate impacts of climate change on Pakistan.