

Climate Change in Pakistan: Causes and Consequences

1. Introduction

- a. Definition of climate change
- b. Pakistan's vulnerability Paradox
- c. Thesis statement: Climate change in Pakistan is driven by both global and domestic factors, with far-reaching consequences across economic, social and environmental domains.

2. Causes of climate change in Pakistan

a. Global causes

- i. Greenhouse gas emissions from industrialized nations
- ii. Shifting global climate patterns affecting South Asia.
- iii. Climate injustice (carbon debt).
- iv. International diplomacy & ^{climate}finance gaps.

b. Domestic factors

- i. Fossil fuel dependency and energy sector emissions.
- ii. Unsustainable agricultural practices
- iii. Deforestation (loss of carbon sinks)
- iv. Rapid urbanization and industrial Pollution.

c. Loopholes in political and legislative measures.

- i. Short-term policy priorities over long-term sustainability
- ii. Fragmented governance and poor implementation of climate related laws.

d. Religious and educational voids

- i. Lack of climate education in schools and madrassas' curricula
- ii. neglect of green religious teachings.

3. Consequences of climate change in Pakistan (threat multiplier)

a. Environmental consequences

- i. Rising temperature and heatwave (Glacial Lake Outburst Flood).
- ii. Increased frequency of flood and droughts
- iii. Water scarcity (water supply in Karachi is less than 50% of its daily demand).

b. Economic consequences

- i. Damage to agriculture and food security
- ii. Infrastructure destruction and rising recovery costs.
- iii. Threat to GDP and long-term development.

c. Social and humanitarian consequences

- i. Displacement and climate migration
- ii. Health crises

o- Heatwave in Karachi (2015)

o- Lahore's smog crisis (2023)

o- Heat stroke and dehydration related deaths in Multan (2022)

o- Faisalabad faced skin infections (2022)

iii. Gendered impacts, especially women and children

iv. Instability in social fabric of Pakistan.

d. Educational disruption

- i. Schools closure or became shelters for affectees.
- ii. Increased dropout rates and learning loss.

4. Pragmatic measures for climate resilience and sustainability in Pakistan.

- i. Decentralized renewable energy initiatives
- ii. Climate-smart Agriculture

- iii. Strengthen climate governance and enforcement.
- iv. Enhance international cooperation and climate finance access. (SAARC, OIC, etc)
- v. Integrate climate education into curricula.
- vi. Community-led adaptation programs
- vii. Reforestation as a carbon sink strategy.
 - Ten Billion Tree Tsunami (2019 - ongoing)
 - More global initiatives like Bonn challenge by IUCN in 2011

5. Conclusion

- i. Restatement of thesis
- ii. Summary of keypoints
- iii. Broader implication