

Climate Change Hampers Human Development, Demanding Immediate Actions

Outline:

A. Introduction

1. Quotation of Rebecca Solnit
2. Conceptualizing climate change and Human development
3. Thesis Statement

B. Relationship Between Climate Change and Human Development

C. How Climate Change Hampers Human Development

1. Deprives humans from basic right to life;
 - a) Right to life — UDHR
 - b) Case study: 1037 casualties in 2025 flood in Pakistan — NDMA
2. Blocks humans well-being through destroying their property,
 - a) Case study: 2025 flood in Pakistan — More than 2,30,000 houses get demolished
3. Reduces people's access to education;
 - a) Right to Education — Article 25(A) of constitution of Pakistan
 - b) Destruction of educational infrastructure from floods and landslides
4. Pressurizes health facilities;
 - a) Due to lack of sufficient health facilities, many people lose their lives
 - b) Eruption of water-borne diseases after floods
5. Perpetuates gender inequality;

- a) Case Study: Early girls' marriage in Sub-Saharan desert, Africa as a result of drought - World Meteorological Organisation
6. Leads people towards famine;
- a) Loss of agricultural land flourishes food insecurity
- b) Case study - Destruction of 2.5 million acres agricultural land in 2025 flood in Pakistan - PBS
7. Takes away fresh water resources;
- a) For example: Floods contaminate surface and underground fresh water ^{reservoirs} while drought ~~digg~~ dries up water resources

D. Immediate Actions Required for Addressing Climate Change

1. Controlling deforestation through strict measures;
 - a) Case in point: Deforestation contributes to 11% of global 'carbon' emissions
 - b) Implementing ~~existing~~ ^{strict} laws and abiding with international programs such as REDD+
2. Reducing reliance on fossil fuels;
 - a) Using renewable energy resources
3. Promoting green transportation;
 - a) Case in point: Replacing conventional vehicles with electric vehicles
 - b) prioritizing public transport
4. Constructing sustainable develop cities;
 - a) Case study: Green Urbanism model of USA
5. Reducing Industrial emissions through scientific ways;
 - a) Case in point: Using rubber scrubbers for

- removing pollutants from industrial emissions
6. Proper management of waste;
 - a) Case in Point: Using waste as a source of geothermal energy
 - b) Ban on open burning of waste
 7. Initiating Environmental Awareness campaigns;
 - a) Case in Point: 'Fridays for Future' campaign started by educated youth in Asia, Africa, and Europe for environmental conservation

E. Conclusion

Essay
"All disasters are human-made, none are natural-made."
Robbica Selonit

Robbica Selonit, an American environmental activist, has rightly said that all the disasters in this land are ~~direct~~ indirect result of human activities. The land of this atmosphere is inhabited by people at large and remaining is inhabited by non-human beings. But, it is the human being that disrupts the natural ecosystem through its different activities. These activities have led to climate change which resulted in the hampering of human development. Climate change basically refers to the environmental conditions characterized by rising temperature, intense rainfall, changing weather patterns, long-

from absence of rainfall, and other extreme climatic conditions on the contrary, human development refers to the social, economical and political well-being of humans so that they could live a healthy and comfort life. But, this human development is strongly affected by changing ~~in~~ climatic conditions. These conditions have hampered human development in different ways which ^{includes} ~~are~~ depriving humans from basic right to life through casualties in floods and other climatic conditions. Furthermore, climate change destroys educational infrastructures and property of humans. Also, it puts pressure on health facilities through causing eruption of water-borne diseases. Though, it has seriously affected human development but through serious and urgent actions, these extreme conditions could be reduced. For this, it's necessary to control deforestation through strict measures, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels by using renewable energy resources as alternative. Furthermore, through promoting green transportation, and constructing sustainable cities, the trend of climate change could be controlled. So, this essay will explore the relationship between climate change and human development, and ^{will also} discuss how climate change hampers human development along with suggesting immediate measures to counter climate change.

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To start with, climate change and human development are inter-related. Both have effects on each other. Climate change hinders human development as it causes extreme climatic conditions such as flood, drought, heavy rainfall, and precipitation. Also, climate change leads to rise of temperature which made human survival impossible. These climate-related hazards i.e. floods lead to destruction of human infrastructure while heavy precipitation affects soil fertility and made it incapable of farming. Conversely, human development also have effects on climatic conditions. If humans are well-educated, they will try to live a sustainable life ^{which will make their environment healthy and there will be strong} ~~and it~~ ~~they are economically strong~~ they will be less chances of climate change. Hence, climate change and human development are strongly inter-related to each other.

Firstly, climate change deprives humans from ^{their} basic right to life. Right to life is the first and foremost right granted to ^{all} human beings by every declaration of human rights, especially Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But, climate change and its associated disasters have badly impacted this right. These disasters appear in the form of floods, draughts, and biodiversity loss etc. Out of all, these disasters, floods are reportedly claiming more lives as compared

to other disasters. The recent flood of 2025 in Pakistan is an example where flood has led to the loss of 1037 lives. Also, not ^{only} humans, but plants and animals also affected from it. Hence, climate change hampers humans development by depriving them from their right to life.

Secondly, climate change leads to the destruction of human property which in turn affects the well-being of humans. As property of human i.e. land, houses and commercial infrastructure are sources of earnings for humans ^{so} but this economic strengths of them are badly demolished by floods. The 2025 flood in Pakistan causes the destruction of more than 2,30,000 as per official statistics. Additionally, the wind storms blew away the roofs of unpaved houses. Resultantly, people suffer economically. Therefore, human development is hampered by climate change through destroying their property.

Thirdly, climate change hampers humans development through reducing their access to education. The access to education is the basic and fundamental right of humans. Even, constitution of Pakistan provides safeguard ^{to} of this right. But, the hazards associated with the climate change narrow down ^{the} ^{Peoples} access to education through damaging infrastructures of educational institutions and communication networks. The landsliding

and floods

as a result of heavy rainfall ^{in-pacted} and floods ^{impacted} them. Due to this, as a reaction of the precious time of students get wasted and they suffered from evil of ignorance. Hence, climate hinders human development through reducing people's access to education.

Furthermore, climate change puts strong pressure on the health facilities thereby, people deprived from proper treatment. The right to health is included in United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and also in United Nations Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR). But this right is ignored in the time of climate-related calamities. Climatic hazards such as floods and draught breed water borne diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery and hepatitis etc. Also, hazards bring ^{serious} people injuries in people. So, this puts heavy burden on many hospitals and contribute to the deprivation of right to health of to many people. Hence, climate change pressurizes health facilities which in turn hampers human development.

Additionally, climate change perpetuates gender inequality which means hindering equal human development. Women constitute nearly half of the population of world and Pakistan but climate change leads to the denial of their social, ^{and} economic development. In many regions, the girls face gender-based violence, early marriages, and disparity in getting financial aid.

The report of World Meteorological Organization provides the evidence by quoting example of girls' early marriage in sub-Saharan desert of south Africa where this occurs due to drought ^{and parents} feel risk of famine ^{which compels them to do} early marriages of their girls. Hence, climate change perpetuates gender inequality and hinders ^{event} human development.

Sixthly, climate change leads people towards famine, therefore restricts their development. In every year, a large sum of agricultural land gets destroyed due to floods and soil erosion. When agricultural land gets ruined, it means less crop productivity which is unable to cater needs of huge population. This ultimately contributes to famine. In the recent flood of Pakistan 2025, nearly 2.5 million acres of land has been ~~destroyed~~ affected. Hence, climate change hinders human development through causing famine.

Lastly, climate change takes away the blessing of fresh water from humans which is a serious violation ^{violation} of human development. Due to the floods, the natural freshwater reservoirs of water get destroyed or polluted. Both underground and freshwater reservoirs get affected from flood. Flood water enters into these reservoirs and renders them water unusable for human. Additionally, drought also dries up these water reservoirs. So, this all indicates serious implications of climate

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change, especially in water whose unavailability makes human life impossible. Therefore, taking away fresh water resources due to climate change restricts human development.

The above paragraphs were about how climate change hampers human development. In the below paragraphs, there will be put forward some measures to cope with this challenge.

Firstly, climate change could be addressed through controlling deforestation and formulating strict laws against its exploitation. The state from international organizations revealed that deforestation contributes to 11% of global carbon emissions, as trees are natural 'carbon sinks'. So, this demands that deforestation should be controlled through making strict laws and implementing them. Also, the governments should engage with international programs for forest conservation such as REDD+. Hence, through controlling deforestation, climate change could be hindered.

Secondly, through reducing reliance on fossil fuels, climate change could be addressed. There are many countries whose economies are strongly dependent on the consumption of fossil fuels. These fossil fuels emit various greenhouse gases such as CO_2 , NO_2 , and SO_2 etc which ultimately

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contributes to climate change. So, through replacing the use of fossil fuels with renewable energy resources such as wind energy, geothermal energy, and hydroelectric energy, the climate change could be dealt with.

Thirdly, climate change could also be coped with through promoting green transportation. Green transportation means using that vehicles which do not utilize fossil fuels for their operations rather they ~~are reliant~~ ^{rely} on renewable energy resources and other sources which do not emit greenhouse gases. Electric vehicles are the best example of the green transportation which rely on electric batteries. Not only green transportation, but it is also pertinent to make people habitual of using public transport for reducing carbon emission. Hence, through promoting green transportation, climate change could be slowed down.

Fourthly, climate change could be controlled through shifting to sustainable cities. It is a fact that urbanization has led to the increasing rates of carbon emissions but its solution lies in constructing sustainable cities. The best model of these cities are given in 1984 in US which is known as 'Green Urbanism'. In this model, there is use of green transportation and construction

of all the dense buildings in one area, to left remaining land for its natural growth. Also, all the things available in one building in this model which prevents people's transportation to other areas and therefore reducing emissions of hazardous gases. Hence, through constructing sustainable cities, climate change could be stopped.

Fifthly, by using scientific ways, industrial emissions could be treated which will lead to provision of healthy climate. In the whole world, industrialization has major role in climate change. Before industrialization, humans were not facing issue of climate change. In Pakistan, industrial emissions account for 38% of total emissions of Pakistan. However, through using scientific ways like rubber scrubbers, industrial emissions' entry into atmosphere could be prevented. Hence, climate change could be improved through reducing industrial emissions scientifically.

Lastly, there is need of initiating environmental awareness campaigns through which people are made aware of hazards of environmental damage. When humans don't care for their environment consciously or unconsciously, then it should bring catastrophes for them in the form of climate change. So, there is necessity of ^{initiating} environmental drives in every country. The 'Friday for Future' is an

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excellent environmental drive for conserving environment and protecting safe climate. Hence, through initiating environmental awareness campaigns, climate change could be healed.

In a nutshell, this essay explores the relationship between climate change and human development; and also elaborates how climate change restricts human development. Though its consequences are of serious nature, but through taking some active and well-organized measures, this issue could be tackled. These measures include initiation of environmental awareness campaigns ~~for~~ enhancing public's knowledge about impacts of environmental damage. Also, through managing proper disposal of waste and reducing industrial emissions through scientific ways, the challenge of climate change could be addressed. The essay ^{also} highlights how climate change hampers human development. Climate change ~~hampers~~ hinders human development through snatching freshwater resources from people. Not only this, it also compels people towards food insecurity. Furthermore, climate change is key contributor in perpetuating gender inequality in the form of ^{climate-related} early girl marriages, and gender-based violence in refugee camps. In short, climate change results from human intervention and now it has made people's life complex.

