

Reforestation as a global urgency.

Thesis statement: In the contemporary era, the world stands under the sword of Damocles, threatened by the escalating crisis of climate change. This challenge permeates environmental, political and economic spheres globally. Therefore, reforestation is an urgent and essential global response to mitigate the threats posed by climate change.

Outline:

I. Introduction

II. Causes of Climate Change: an overview

III. Reforestation is Indeed a Global Urgency to counter the impacts of climate change

A. Plummeting Air Quality

(case in point: Presence of PM 2.5, Air Quality Index)

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B. Surge in Natural Disasters

(case in point: Wild Forest
Fire in LA, Floods in Pakistan)

C. Decline in Biodiversity

(case study from
uttarpardesh)

D. Undermining Democratic Values

(case in point: decrease voters
turn out, India)

E. Economic Losses

(Drop in tourism industry)

F. Vulnerable Agricultural Sector

(case in point: cotton crops
damage in Pakistan)

G. Widening Climate-Induced Poverty

(case in point: The WHO report)

H. Threat to geopolitical stability (water disputes)

IV. Conclusion

Climate change is not just a problem for the future. It is problem right now, and it is effecting people and communities all around the world. (Barak Obama)

Climate change stands as one of the most pressing existential threats of 21st century, with far-reaching implications on environmental, political and economic spheres globally. It is evident from the plummeting air quality, surge in natural disasters, Rising economic loss and widening climate-induced poverty. In addition, climate change holds the potential to ~~atse~~ undermine the Democratic norms and values to flourish in true letter and spirit. While its roots lie in unchecked anthropogenic activities including industrialization, deforestation

and fossil fuel consumption. If left unaddressed, these challenges threaten to dismantle ecosystems and economies. As the world stands at the brink of chaos, there is utmost urgency to take robust and decisive actions by adopting reforestation as a key policy response to mitigate the threats posed by climate change.

Before moving towards discussion, it is important to ~~discuss~~ understand the ^{causes} ~~threats~~ of climate change. There are multiple ^{natural} ~~envi~~ and anthropogenic factors which induced climate related crisis. However, human-induced climate factors including burning fossil fuels, Deforestation, industrial emission and agricultural malpractices are considered as a major root cause. It is evident from the amount of carbon emissions of developed and developing

countries. Developed countries, including USA and China, are highly dependent on industries and other IT sectors.

In order to fulfill their industrial demands, these countries are indulged in deep mining, more water consumption and energy consumption. As a result, they are using natural resources in an unsustainable way and also polluting the environment by ^{global} ~~modern~~ ^{green} house gas emission (GHG) emission and e-waste.

Therefore, various human activities are disturbing the balance of ecosystem, which have far-reaching implications on climate change. In order to counter the threat of climate change, a dynamic and vibrant reforestation is required.

First of all, climate change acts as a significant driver behind numerous environmental challenges, with air pollution being one of the most alarming. Air quality is significantly

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deteriorated due to industrialization and urbanization, leading to rise of GHGs, CFCs, and release of other harmful substances including Nitric acid and sulphuric acid. This is further substantiated by the report of **Air Quality Index**, showing the presence of **Particulate Material (PM_{2.5})** in Lahore. Lahore is considered as one of the most populated city of Pakistan, the presence of PM_{2.5} is severely impacting the health of people. The PM_{2.5} is microscopic particles, primarily released from industrial emission, ~~proving~~ capable of penetrating in respiratory system. In order to safeguard the air quality, strong and resilient policy regarding reforestation should be implemented. Trees ~~are~~ hold the potential to inhale carbon dioxide and exhale oxygen, which purifies the air. Hence, reforestation is required

immediately to restore the air quality.

Moreover, climate change is increasingly contributing to the frequency and intensity of natural disaster. Amid climate change, glacier melting is increasingly leading to rise in sea levels and ultimately results in floods. This can be seen in case of **Pakistan 2020 and 2022 floods** and **severe Dubai flooding in Southern China**. ^{The data} ~~Moreover, it~~

~~first~~ demonstrates the ^{rise in} climate-induced natural disasters, ~~in order to counter the~~ leading to massive displacement and infrastructural damage. In order to counter the climate change and climate-driven challenges, reforestation can safeguard the vulnerable areas by reducing the pressure of floods. Moreover, plants and trees absorb water. For instance **mangrove trees** absorb more water as compared to other trees. Therefore, plantation of such tree ^{near} ~~at~~ high risk

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flooding areas, ~~have~~ ^{posses} the capacity to ~~ability~~ to reduce the intensity and frequency. So, reforestation ~~have~~ ^{has} ability to counter the climate-induced natural disasters -

Apart from impacting ~~the~~ human's life by declining air quality and fueling the fire of natural disaster, climate crises have far-reaching implications on biodiversity. Recently, it has been observed in Uttar Pradesh, where ^{an} massive deforestation disrupted the wild life, resultantly many wild animals including cheetah, tigers lost their habitats. Similarly, thousands of birds died and lost their nests, and so as plants. In addition, some polar bears have become extinct due to the rising temperatures in the Arctic Islands. By Bearing in mind that time and tide wait for none, whole world needs to take sustainable actions to safeguard the biodiversity.

and the environment that ~~we~~ ^{US} all of ~~them~~ share. Hence, fast-paced and dynamic reforestation is required to maintain the temperature as well as safeguard the biodiversity.

Another key sectorⁿ impacted due to climate change is governing system:
undermining democratic value.]

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Extreme weather patterns creates an Augean stable for the voters to cast vote. An excellent demonstration of this is the recent ^{general} elections of India, in which heatwaves leads to decrease in voters turn out, undermining democratic system. However, the essence of any democratic system lies in ensuring equal representation and voice of people. Similarly, the rising natural disasters, fluctuationⁿ in cost of living; and health issues disrupts the peace and

harmony of the society, resulting in protests. Eventually, it is responsibility of government to protect the life of its populace and one country cannot wash her hands off. Ultimately, in order to deal with the looming threat of climate change, initiating reforestation has become a pivotal step.

Climate change ^{carries} ~~has~~ far-reaching implications not only in the health ~~and~~ sector but also results in ^{loss in} economic ^{sector} ~~loss~~. As a result

of climate-leading disasters, historical places are under threat or already ^{decline} ~~drop~~ in tourism industry. As per report

of Travel and tourism development Index, 2011-2021, a drop in

tourism has been noted. Moreover, the infrastructural damage, massive displacement, job loss after ~~any~~

disasters also collectively contributed to severe economic loss and triggered a prolonged financial crisis. Ultimately, it is pushing the world into more vulnerable condition and more prone to climate driven threats. Therefore, reforestation remains a necessary crossing ^{of} the Rubicon in the fight against climate-induced threats: the economic loss.

Apart from the loss of biodiversity, climate change is disastrously impacting major economic sectors including agriculture. ~~Ex~~ Today, due to extreme weather patterns, crops are damaged ~~due~~ resulting in food security. Recently, in Pakistan, cotton crops are severely damaged and according to the official statistics published by the Production Gap Report, these damages may increase the

food insecurity upto 40% to 60% by 2050. This calls for urgent action to take visionary and robust steps to protect the agricultural sector and threats related to it. Similarly, Nimibia's government ordered to kill 100 elephants to tackle with the looming threat of food insecurity. Bearing in mind that time and tide wait for none, it is high time to evaluate the situation and ensure reforestation in order to combat with climate related threats.

Eventually, climate change exacerbates existing health issues, such as heat stress, malnutrition and water-borne diseases, which disproportionately affects the proletariat class, resulting in climate induced poverty. It is evident from the fact that climate-induced disasters lead to massive displacement,

job loss, health issues and infrastructural damage, pushing the marginalized people more backward and forcing them to live from hand to mouth. In this regard **The WHO** emphasizes the need for climate-resilient health system and adaptation strategies to protect the health and well-being of vulnerable population. several times. Especially the rise of cost of living leave the country in precarious conditions; high taxes on necessities lead to increased health issues; rise in out-of-children population; and decrease in innovation and economic growth, creating a gap between bourgeoisie and proletariat class. Therefore, reforestation needs to be ensured all over the world in order to promote peace and prosperity; justice and equality; and equity and Fairness.

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Last but not the least, climate-driven disasters are creating more chaos and posing a greater threat to geopolitical stability. One of the prime example is escalations of tension between **India and Pakistan** due to water issues. Moreover, ~~the~~ Trump's policies: **Quid Pro Quo** and **Make America Greater Again (MAGA)** are climate driven. Similarly the melting of Arctic ocean is creating trade opportunities along with disputes: the stance of America about Greenland and Canada. It can be observed that climate change is not only threat to economy or health, but also drastically impacting the regional stabilities. Climate change is a ticking bomb; therefore, it is a high time to counter its threats by taking concrete measures such as promptly large-scale reforestation.

In the end of all the discussion made above, it may be ~~considered~~ ^{concluded} that climate change has become a persistent and emerging global threat. This is beautifully captured in ~~James~~ ^{Attenborough's} ~~assertion~~ assertion that

"We cannot afford to wait any longer to address the threat of climate change. It is global emergency that requires urgent actions."

It call for the immediate actions to counter this transborder threat. For the reason that the climate change is effecting the vast areas including rapid increase in air quality, surge in natural disasters and economic loss. Moreover, it is not only impacting the environmental and economical spheres but also raising questions on political systems. For instance, decrease in voters turn out is observed all over the world.

The climate-induced vulnerabilities can potentially increase the geopolitical issues. Therefore, in order to address the root cause of all the issues, reforestation ^{is} ~~should~~ ^{considered} ~~be~~ as resilient and strong method to curb the climate challenge. Only through collective global commitment to reforestation can humanity hope to restore ecological balance and secure a sustainable future.