

# NATURAL DISASTERS : CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

## OUTLINE

### 1. Introduction.

Hook: "Don't wait for the chaos, build the calm."

Thesis Statement: The disaster caused by natural phenomenon cannot be stopped but its consequences can be prevented and mitigated

### 2. Causes of natural disasters.

a. Geological disasters - fault lines, ring of fire, mountains and glacier ranges.

b. Meteorological disasters - global warming, climate change, less pro-active measures.

c. Hydrological disasters - encroachments, less storage capacity

d. Biological disasters - spreading to others, less medical research. (WHO report)

e. Environmental disasters - man-made, negligence of precautions.

### 3. Consequences of natural disasters:

a. Objective consequences - mental health (PTSD), physical health (diseases), displacement. (UNOCHR) report

- b. Subjective consequences - loss of life and livestock, financial constrain. (NDMA)
- c. Loss of infrastructure - loss of crop yields, roads and connectivity. (FAO)
- d. Social consequences - migration towards urban areas, refugee camps (UNHCR)
- e. Economic constraints - loss on economy of the country i.e. agriculture, tourism, transport etc. (WEF report)

4. Solution to mitigate natural disasters - focus on pro-active measures rather than reactive measures

5. Conclusion:

"Do not wait for the chaos, build the calm." The most triggering danger that people face in twenty-first century is natural disaster. It is disastrous and bring havoc destruction than any other conventional threat. Natural disaster not only disrupts the landscape, but also disrupt uncountable lives. There are certain disaster that cannot be avoided. Those disasters are geological and

climate confined. But many of them are caused by human activity. Natural disasters become further disastrous and cause massive destruction when not mitigated timely. Certain natural disasters that can be predicted before or their patterns can be observed as harm causing, must be prevented by pro-active measures. Such measures are already been adopted by several countries around the world. Because the consequences of natural disasters effects the whole every sphere of life. Its consequences can be from the loss of timely house chores to the loss of life and country's economy as well as global war matter. Thus, the disaster caused by climate natural phenomenon cannot be stopped but its consequences can be prevented as mitigated.

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Natural disasters are one of the most challenging issue that is being faced by almost every country around the world. No country is left which have not faced the disastrous consequences of these natural phenomenon. Beyond the military and economic capabilities, natural disasters poses

exacerbated threat and destruction. Natural disasters effect all the developing and developed countries equally without any discrimination. However, its consequences are profound when developing countries are ~~not concerned~~ considered. The factors that involve in the causes of natural disaster can be classified according to the types of it respectively. This essay will further discuss the ~~cause~~ classified causes and consequences into a structured manner.

The geological disasters such as earthquake, volcano eruption, landslides etc poses ~~threat~~ great affect to geographical fabric of the respective region. The major causes of earthquake, volcano eruption and landslides are fault lines, ring of fire and global warming respectively. In 2025, major earthquake incidents occurred around the faultline in which countries like Myanmar, Thailand, Afghanistan and Tajikistan have undergone great impact. Similarly, an earthquake around the region of Japan had resulted in volcano eruption in Russia. Thus, these natural phenomenon have affected the countries in a disastrous way. The cause behind these natural disasters is often mostly natural, without any humanly misconduct.

In the recent years, the world has gone through ~~meteoro~~ ~~logical~~ ~~at hydrological~~ disasters more frequently than any other disasters. For instance, heavy rainfall in Brazil (2024), Kenya floods (2024) which had displaced around 250,000 people. Similarly, Pakistan had faced heavy rainfall which resulted in floods in various regions. The unpredictable patterns of climate change is the major cause of such catastrophic events. However, pro-active measures could help to prevent these events to become disasters. Encroachment is ~~prove~~ common in the countries like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and other developing countries. This encroachment had exacerbated the situation by blocking the flood rivers. Thus, it resulted in severe floods in India and Pakistan.

In the summers of 2025, the the ~~the~~ patterns of heat were unusual. Severe heatwaves ~~has~~ been recorded and the temperature went highest of since 1990. Thus, this year was termed as the most hottest year. The immense heat and heatwaves led to death of thousands of people around the world. Therefore, heatwaves are also now

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considered as one of the natural disasters. The temperature in UAE hiked  $52^{\circ}\text{C}$  ~~in 2029~~ and in Europe  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The main reason behind the unprecedented heatwaves is global warming. According to the report presented in Kigali Amendment, the temperature is rising  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$  every decade. It can be coped by reducing the hazardous gases i.e. Green House Gases. Thus, it can be considered that uncontrollable emission of carbon Gases is one of the major cause of global warming.

In 2020, the world had undergone a global pandemic i.e. Corona Virus. The regular activities were suspended due to lockdown imposed by the governments. The deaths occurred during the pandemic were ~~above~~ <sup>more than</sup> seven-million as per the World Health Organisation report. There were two main reasons due to which the virus spreaded world wide were: lack of timely action and less medical research. The vaccine took almost a year due to less medical research. Besides that, ~~the~~ Due to this reason, the coronavirus pandemic was termed

as biological disaster under the natural disasters.

The environmental disasters occur mostly due to human negligence. Many such incidents affected thousands of people and ~~that~~ their effect is yet suffered by ~~it~~. The incidents like atomic nuclear bombing on Japan, Chernobyl disaster, Bhopal disaster, Seveso disasters have one thing in common, that is human negligence. Except the nuclear bombing on Japan, the other incidents occurred by lack of primary precautions. ~~to~~ This led to release of fatal toxic substance that resulted in death of thousands of people.

The consequences posed by natural disasters ~~have~~ are immense and wide. It affects ~~from~~ ~~an~~ individual, ~~to the~~, state or global ~~and~~ affairs. However, it can be prevented through pragmatic measures.

The objective consequences of natural disasters are pivot. In terms of an individual's suffering, he or she goes through mental, physical and financial constraints. Due to natural

millions of people get displaced with loss of their homes and livestocks. Besides that, according to the United Nations Office for Coordination on Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), post-trauma stress disorder is prevalent among the survivors of floods, cyclones and earthquakes. In addition to it, respiratory issues after volcanic eruption, diseases like malaria, dengue after rainfall and floods are common physical consequences faced in result of natural disasters. Whereas the displacement, migration and loss of property are further worsening the menace.

The subjective consequences like loss of life, livestock and financial loss are also posed by extreme natural disasters. As stated earlier, the heatwave temperature went upto 50°C in Europe where this immense ~~heat~~ heat is rise in temperature is not common. In result nearly 2500 people died due to heat stroke. Moreover, due to floods <sup>in Pakistan</sup>, partial regions of Balochistan and almost 80% of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa - in houses and livestock loss as per the Natural

Disaster Management Authority Report 2025. People had to bear the financial drain caused by natural disasters.

The consequences of natural disasters, specifically floods and rainfall also impact the infrastructure such as roads and connectivity means. Besides this, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), in 2023 a severe loss of crop yields was experienced due to droughts. This has also aggravated the menace of food insecurity. Particularly the developing and agrarian economies had faced significant challenges due to the natural disaster.

The Climatologist Dr. Michael E. Mann says that, "The cost of inaction on climate change will not be measured in just economic terms but in human sufferings, displacement and loss of life". In this statement, it reflects the fact that the consequences of natural disasters are beyond the economic dimension. One of the major social consequences of natural disaster is displacement and migration towards

urban areas. People move towards urban regions for the search of better means of earning. According to the Report of United Nations High Commission for Refugees, 250 million people migrated due to climate change Disasters in 2025. The above mentioned states does not include the war related displacement and migration. Therefore the consequences of natural disasters also foster migration of people, overpopulation of urban areas and loss of earning means.

In a wider perspective, natural disasters also impact the at state level. The affected country has to face economic constraints if any natural disaster occurs. A study presented by World Economic Forum in which it states that "global economy will decline upto 4% due to climate change by 2050". This study only considered the 135 countries' possed to economic challenge. Moreover, the economic constraints faced by a country can be downturning in agriculture, tourism and transport sectors. This also affect the import and export of the suffered country. Thus, it is observed

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that natural disaster affect the whole country's economy in every aspect.

The above stated causes and consequences of climate change natural disasters are significant and profound. But, timely and collective action can help to curb its far-reaching consequences.

During a speech in Climate Action Summit 2023, Dr Michael E. Mann said,

It is our responsibility to act now to limit warming and reduce the risk of catastrophic disasters for the future generation.

It reflects that timely pro-active measures can help to reduce today's natural disasters and save the future generation. The approach must be pro-active rather than reactive.

Through collective action, the world can mitigate the natural disasters' consequences. United Nation, and major powers must play their responsibility in this regard and revive the platforms that can help to reduce the natural disasters and its their affects.

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In conclusion, it can be said that the natural disasters are inevitable phenomenon, but its repercussions can be prevented and mitigated to a certain level. This unconventional threat affect the overall fabric of the world. It has far-reaching affect on an individual's life to the state and global affairs. According to some scholars, if ~~it~~ is climate change phenomenon is not addressed collectively, it may led to war (such as, water war, food scarcity etc). Therefore, natural disasters ~~must~~ be managed effectively to reduce its destructive consequences.