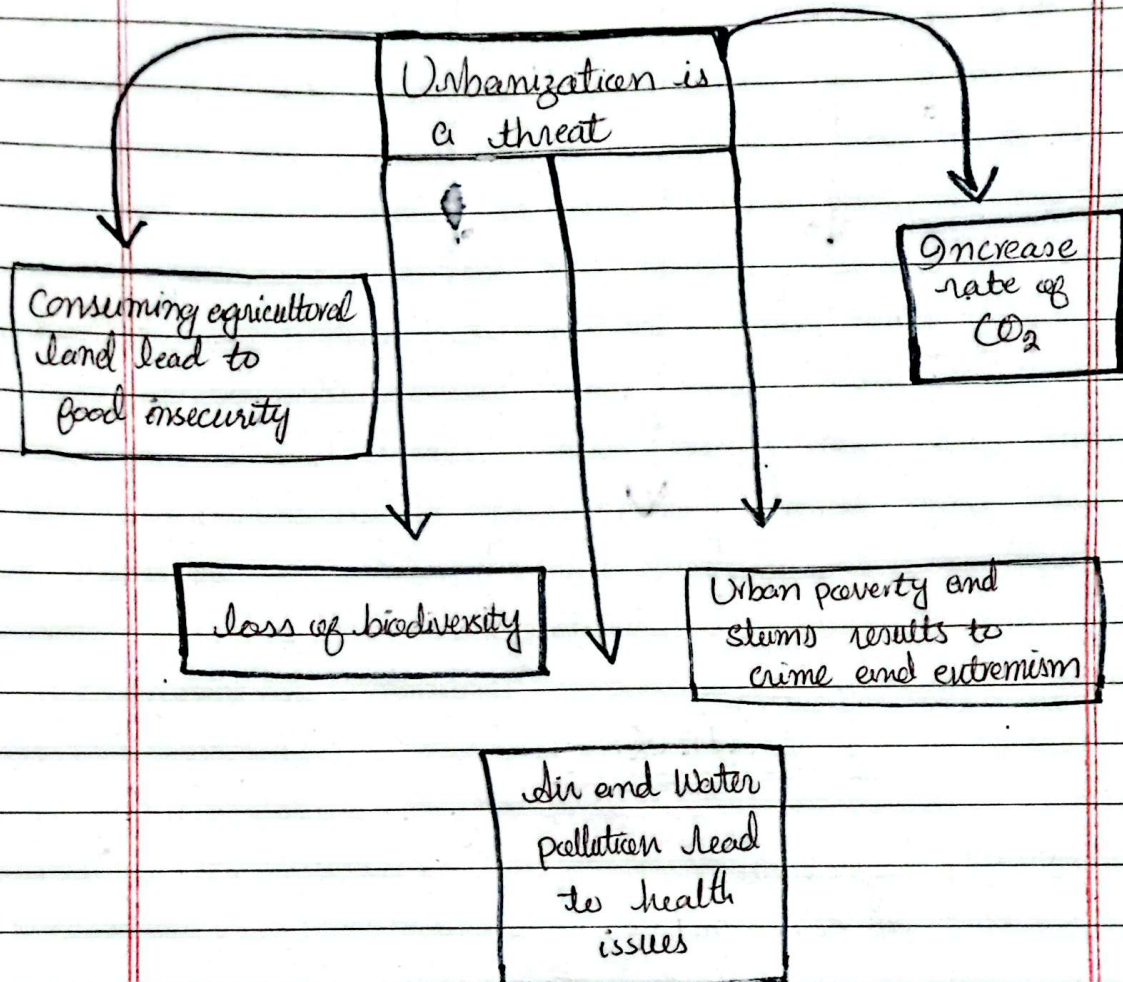


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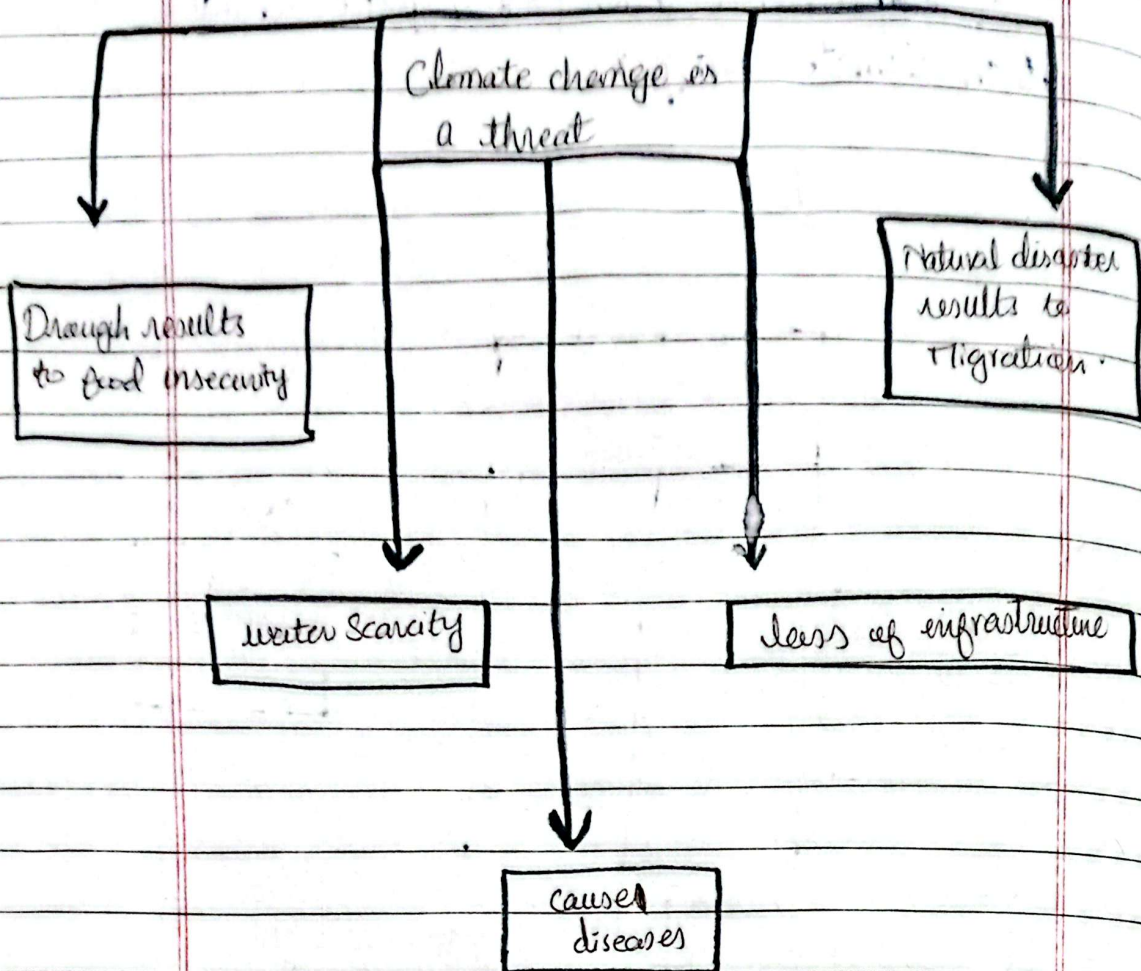
Does rapid urbanization pose a greater threat than climate change?

Brainstorming



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## Outline

### 1. Introduction:

1.1. Attention grabber

1.2. General Statement

1.3. Thesis Statement.

### 2. Urbanization pose a greater threat than climate change:

2.1. Consuming agricultural land forests and wetlands lead to food insecurity.

2.2. Loss of biodiversity

2.3. Air and water pollution lead to health issues.

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- 2.4. Urban poverty and slums results to crimes and extremism.
- 2.5. Increase rate of  $CO_2$ .
3. Climate change pose a greater threat than climate change.
  - 3.1. Drought lead to food insecurity
  - 3.2. Water Scarcity
  - 3.3. Causes multiple health issues
  - 3.4. Loss of Infrastructure
  - 3.5. Natural disaster results into Migration and IDPs.
4. Urbanization is a greater threat as compared to climate change.
  - 4.1. Urbanization is consuming agricultural land and lead to food insecurity.
  - 4.2. Urbanization reduces water availability as compare to climate change.
  - 4.3. With precautionary measures, diseases can be cure
  - 4.4. Climate change less infrastructure but in longterm, while Urbanization is a present crises which is affecting our daily life.
  - 4.5. Migration is not a serious problem as compare to crime and extremism caused by urbanization.
5. Conclusion.

## The Essay

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Urbanization is not about simply increasing the number of urban residents or expanding the areas of cities. More importantly, it is about a complete change from rural to urban style in terms of industry structure, employment, living environment and social security." (Li Keqiang). Moreover, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century climate change is a threat. However, urbanization is a greater threat as compared to climate change. This is because, urbanization is rapidly consuming agricultural lands, less biodiversity, lead to multiple health issues, trigger crime and extremism and increase the rate of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. In contrast, climate change poses a greater threat than urbanization. For instance, it leads to food insecurity, water scarcity, health issues, loss of infrastructure and migration. Furthermore, urbanization is a greater threat as compared to

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climate change. This is because Despite, the implications of climate change is devastating, but it is slowly and steadily. In contrast, Urbanization is our current issue, which is affecting life on daily basis. For instance, from food to water, from polluted environment to multiple health issue, it is affecting our daily life.

Urbanization pose a greater threat as compare to climate change. This is because, Urbanization are consuming agricultural land forests and wetlands. Moreover, the increasing rate of Urbanization are consuming agricultural land forests and wetland. These consumption of Urbanization lead to food insecurity. For instance, over 3 decades, approximately 77,000 acres of agricultural land in KPK Peshawar, ~~and~~ Tardan, DI Khan, Kohat and Bannu have been taken by housing developments.

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and settlement (Shamim Shahid, Negative impact: Rapid urbanization poses threat to agricultural land, 2016). Such illegal housing development lead to food insecurity. Moreover, urbanization not only lead to food insecurity, but it losses biodiversity.

Urbanization lead to less of biodiversity. This is because, as urbanization is consuming the agricultural land and forests which is a source of habitat for harming indigenous wildlife. Therefore, it results to less of biodiversity.

Moreover, unplanned urbanization specifically in Karachi is harming indigenous wildlife. For instance, the international Union for conservation of Nature (IUCN) estimated that birds species diversity in Pakistan's urbanized region has decline by around 30% (unplanned urbanization, Dawn, 2024). However,

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the increasing ~~and~~ rate of urbanization lead to loss of biodiversity. Furthermore, Urbanization also lead to air pollution, which lead to multiple health issues.

Similarly, urbanization results to increase rate of air pollution, which results to multiple health crises. As cities grow, human activities, infrastructure expansion, and industrial concentration release harmful gases and particulate matter into the atmosphere. Moreover, such particulate matters lead to multiple health crises.

For instance, vehicles emissions and industrial activities escalates air pollution, leading to respiratory diseases, asthma and cardiovascular conditions (urbanization and pollution, express tribune, 2025).

However, urbanization lead to multiple health crises. Moreover, <sup>Urbanization</sup> not

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only results to air pollution, but it lead to increase the rate of crime and lead to extremism.

Urbanization can lead to crime and extremism.

This is because, this usually happens in developing countries where cities grow faster than infrastructure ~~and~~, services and job opportunities. Moreover, large amount of people move to cities for seeking jobs. However, due to unemployment they push towards crimes and extremism. For instance, poverty, resource inequality and unfair distribution of resources become potent driver for extremism (Ali Babakhal, poverty & extremism, 2015). However, urbanization lead to increase the rate of crime and extremism. Hence, Urbanization also lead to increases the rate of carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ).

Similarly, Urbanization lead to increase rate of carbon dioxide.

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Urbanization significantly increases the rate of  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions. This is because, modern cities heavily rely on fossil fuels. Expanding urbanization results to transportation growth which is mostly run by petrol and diesel — producing large amount of carbon dioxide.

A study examining Karachi revealed that 287% increase in  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions between 1980 and 2007, directly linked to mass urbanization and soaring energy consumption. Carbon dioxide emissions surged from 39 million tonnes in 1980 to 151 million tonnes in 2006 (Fiza Ilyas, Dawn, 2012).

In contrast, climate change pose greater threat than climate change. For instance, climate change lead to draught and food insecurity. Hence, climate change causes ~~reduced~~ ~~and~~ irregular rainfall and reduced rainfall. The reduced rainfall results to draught, while the irregular rainfall lead to floods. For instance

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the recent cloudburst triggers devastating floods in KPK and Gilgit Baltistan which washed away the agricultural land. Such phenomena may lead to food insecurity in the upcoming months. According to a briefing to the National Assembly, 37% of Pakistan's population is facing food insecurity due to climate change phenomena (Climate change leading to food insecurity, Express Tribune, 2024). Climate change not only leads to food insecurity, but it also causes water scarcity.

Furthermore, climate change is the predominant cause of water scarcity. Hence, due to changing rainfall patterns, rising temperature and glaciers and snow melting, water scarcity happens. Moreover, climate change causes glaciers to melt faster. Initially, it increases the flow of water but eventually reduces long-term water supplies. For instance, the absence of reservoirs and climate change

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make water security worse. Similarly, per capita water availability dropped from 5,260 cubic meters 1951 to 908 cubic meters by 2016. Due to both increased demands and climate change (Expert warn of water crises as population hits 220 m, Express Tribune, 2024). Not only water scarcity lead by climate change, but it also results to multiple health issues.

Similarly, climate change ~~are~~ is the foremost cause of multiple diseases. This is because, as Pakistan has been facing multiple disasters since 3 decades. Among other flood is the top most i.e flood in 2010, 2022 and 2025. Moreover, each flood destroyed the infrastructure ~~and~~, agricultural land and loss of lives. So, the flood affectees lives in camps and with lack of proper food they faces malnutrition. Moreover, due to lack of proper sanitation and clean water for drinking they faces

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Malaria and diarrhea. According to UN report, that climate change has increased risks of malnutrition, malaria and diarrhea (climate change increased global burden of diseases, Express Tribune, 2024). Hence climate are the predominant cause of loss of infrastructure.

Climate change <sup>is</sup> also the foremost cause of infrastructure damage. This is because, the devastating floods after the heavy rainfall destroyed the infrastructure, communication and also washed away the agricultural land in KPK. For instance, the recent phenomena of cloudburst destroyed roads, bridges, buildings, electricity installations damaged many power poles/transformers and also washed away schools (Floods badly damage infrastructure in KP, Dawn, 2025). However, climate change also damage the infrastructure, especially the recent

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devastating flood. Climate change also  
lead to migration and IDPs.