

Essay:

Does Urbanization pose a greater Threat than climate change.

① Outline:

Introduction

Thesis statement:

"Urbanisation is more dangerous than climate change because it quickly makes cities hotter, dirtier, and more crowded, while its effects are felt faster and harder than the slow impacts of global climate change"

2- ^{Urban} Rising ↑ Temperatures: A silent killer

②a cities getting hotter faster:

(European Commission joint Research centre (2022) found that urban areas heat 2-3°C faster than rural areas because of concrete, traffic and lost greenery.)

②b Deadly night heat in poor areas

(UCAR (2023) and (Resources for the future (2024) reported that poor neighborhoods face dangerous night temperatures that worsen heart and breathing problems.

②c consistent night warming

in big cities.

A global study (2000 - 2023)
of major cities using satellite data showed nighttime temperatures rose by $2-3.7^{\circ}\text{C}$, especially in rapidly urbanizing areas like Delhi and Ahmedabad

- Urban Flooding And infrastructure collapse

- ③a) Weak drainage in big cities
Time (2025) explained that Urban growth without planning leaves cities like Dhaka and Karachi with blocked drainage and constant flooding.
- ③b) Pakistan floods displacing millions - Reuters (2025) and Politico (2025) - showed how Pakistan's 2022-23 floods displaced 33 million people, worsened by poor city planning.
- ③c) ~~Heat~~ Cities sinking faster from groundwater loss.
Reuters (2024) reports that nearly 45% of China's major cities are sinking due to groundwater extraction, increasing flood risk and causing annual economic losses of \$1 billion.

1- Urban Pollution And Health Treats:

(1a) Air pollution killing Thousands
WHO (2024) reported that 7 million deaths each year are linked to polluted air, with urban residents suffering the most.

(1b) Energy crisis from cooling demand
Smithsonian (2023) noted that rising urban heat drives up electricity demand for cooling, stressing fragile power grids.

(4c) Slums facing worst conditions
UN-Habitat (2024) stated that 1.2 billion people in informal settlements live with poor sanitation, waste, and toxic pollution.

approximately 1.5 billion

5- Climate change: A slower long-term Danger:

(4a) Rising Temperature and heatwaves.
Climate change is steadily increasing global average temperatures, making heatwaves more frequent and severe.

IPCC (2023) reported that the last decade was the hottest in recorded history

(4b) Melting Glaciers and Rising Seas -
Global warming is causing glaciers and polar ice to melt, which is leading to sea levels are rising at an accelerating rate, threatening coastal cities.

(4c) Extreme weather patterns
Climate change is linked to more intense storms, prolonged droughts, and erratic rainfall
WMO (2024) stated that climate extremes are now more common than ever in recorded history

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Way Forward: Safer And Greener cities:

- ⑥a) Planting trees and cools roofs
Financial Times (2024) reported that cities like Singapore reduced heat by green roofs and urban forests.
- ⑥b) Better drainage and wetlands.
World Bank (2024) advised building wetlands and stronger drainage in cities to reduce future flood losses.
- ⑥c) Stronger urban climate policies
UN-Habitat (2025) emphasized that well-planned cities with green transport and housing can cut both climate and urban risks.

Conclusion: