

# Natural Disasters and Our Preparedness

## Outline

### 1. Introduction

1.1 Hook

1.2 Background

1.3 Thesis Statement: Although natural disasters are unavoidable, effective disaster management and preparedness can significantly reduce human, economic and environmental losses.

### 2. Natural Disasters in Pakistan

#### 2.1 Earthquake

2.1.1 1974 Hunza earthquake

2.1.2 2005 Kashmir earthquake

#### 2.2 Floods

2.2.1 2010 flood in Pakistan

2.2.2 2025 flood in Punjab, KPK and Gilgit-Baltistan

## 2.3 Drought

2.3.1 March 2000 drought in Sindh, Balochistan and in parts of Punjab

## 3. Causes of Disaster in Pakistan

3.1 Climate change - According to UNICEF

3.2 Geographical vulnerability

## 4. Our Preparedness for Natural Disasters

4.1 Institutional Framework

4.1.1 National Disaster Management Act (2010)

4.1.2 Provincial and District Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs and DDMA's)

4.2 Early Warning System

4.3 Public Awareness and Education supported by UNICEF and NDMA

## 5. Challenges to Effective Preparedness

5.1 Weak Governance and Coordination

5.2 Climate Change Pressure - UNDDR

research

5.3 Ineffective institutions

## 6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Improve institutional capacity
- 6.2 Integrate climate adaptation into disaster preparedness policies

## 7. Conclusion

### The Essay

We cannot stop natural disasters but we can arm ourselves with knowledge; so many lives wouldn't have to be lost if there was enough disaster preparedness.

(Petra Nemcova)

Pakistan is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world and is facing many disasters. According to

Climate Risk Index 2020, Pakistan is

ranked fifth among the countries most

affected by extreme weather events.

Natural disasters is a sudden adverse

or unfortunate extreme event either natural

or man-made. Disasters are large scale

geological or meteorological events that have potential to causes loss of life and property.

The types of disaster includes earthquake,

floods and droughts. Pakistan is suffering

from natural disasters but unfortunately

Pakistan has not fully prepared to counter

it. The only solution is possible by

improving institutional capacity and climate

adaptation to reduce disasters.

Pakistan is facing multi-dimensional

natural disasters like earthquake, floods

and droughts. Earthquakes come due

to the movement of tectonic plates.

The active tectonic zones in northern

and western Pakistan present continuous

(cosmic) seismic hazards. The 1974 Hunza

earthquake affected almost 97000 peoples

and reported death was 5,300. And the 2005 Kashmir earthquake demonstrated high vulnerability in infrastructure and emergency response. It <sup>affected</sup> (caused) 2,500,000 peoples and death toll was 87,351 peoples. These are the worse earthquake that came in Pakistan.

Floods is a form of natural disasters. It caused due to monsoon intensification and melting glaciers. It releases/left severe impacts on people lives <sup>and</sup> infrastructure. For example the 2010 flood affected approximately 20 million people and caused heavy economic loss. Another example is the recent 2025 Pakistan floods that came in Punjab, KPK and Gilgit, Azad Jammu Kashmir and Sindh.

According to NDMA displacement exceeded 4.7 million people in Punjab with nearly 2.8 million evacuated. Floods caused to displace the people, damaging infrastructure and loss of economy of any state.

Droughts is also a form of natural disasters, in Pakistan. That comes due to a prolonged lack of precipitation, leading to water shortages and excessive use of water. One of the most severe droughts in Pakistan's history was the droughts of 2000, causing widespread destruction across Balochistan, Sindh and parts of Punjab. It affected over 3 million people killed millions of livestock and crippled agricultural output, leading to significant economic loss and a major humanitarian crisis. So droughts is a worst form natural disasters it effect economy, agriculture production and humans life.