

Climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat.

## Outline

### 1. Introduction

**Thesis Statement** :- Significantly increasing socio-economic, political, and cultural issues mark that climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat.

**2. How climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat.**

- (a) Increasing water scarcity ✓
- (b) Rising food insecurity ✓
- (c) Depletion of resources ✓
- (d) Loss and destruction of infrastructure ✓
- (e) Reducing economic growth ✓  
(Economic Instability)
- (f) Destruction of cultural sites due to disasters. (Cultural loss) ✓
- (g) ~~Clash between centre and provinces on resources (Political Instability)~~
- (h) Educational loss due to disasters ✓

- (i) Biodiversity loss by heavy disasters. ✓
- (j) International conflicts on resources. ✓
- (k) Water conflict between countries. ✓

### 3. Strategies to control climate change impacts and reduce national security threat.

- (a) Collective efforts to control/reduce carbon emission. ✓
- (b) Reforestation and Aforestation practices. ✓
- (c) Making environment friendly policies by government. ✓

### 4. Conclusion

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From the very beginning, nations have been facing multiple security threats like terrorism, extremism, and colonialism which not only weakened the nations but also destroyed them. In today's world, states face a worst kind of national security threat which is caused by climate change. It drives nations towards socio-economic, political, and environmental destruction. Climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat.

Extreme weather events like floods, droughts, heatwaves have impacted national resources which cause conflicts and fragility. Climate change is national security threat because of water scarcity, and rising food insecurity in countries. Moreover depletion of resources and loss of infrastructure are threat to national security. Reducing economic growth of countries and destruction of cultural sites are also threats to national security. To reduce this national security threat and control climate change impacts collective efforts are necessary to control carbon emission and making environment friendly activities by government. Significantly

increasing socio-economic, political, and cultural issues mark that climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat.

Water scarcity becomes a national security threat. People suffer from worst conditions worldwide. Climate change causes extreme weather events like floods, droughts, and heatwaves which affect fresh water supply, agriculture, ecosystem, and human access to safe water globally, specially in already water-stressed regions like Pakistan. The United Nations World Water Development Report 2022 highlights that Pakistan is facing a severe water crisis. The country's water scarcity is projected to worsen, with annual water

Availability potentially dropping below 500 cubic meters per capita by 2025.

To conclude, water scarcity due to climate change is posing a great threat to national security.

Rising food insecurity has also a big threat to national security. People have limited access to food specially in most climate vulnerable countries. Climate change intensifies disasters which destroy agriculture, reduce crop yield, and leads to soil erosion.

As a result, food shortage occurs and people suffer from food insecurity. In Pakistan food insecurity situation alarming with 42.1% of the population, over 104 million people unable to access adequate food. Increasing food insecurity becomes a huge challenge for nations. In a nut shell climate change leads to food insecurity which is posing threat to national security.

Moreover, depletion of resources is threat to national security. Resources are the big source of economic growth of countries. Climate change is destroying the

resources. It accelerates disasters which impact forests, pollute water, erode soils and agriculture. Due to these impacts resources are depleting rapidly. Resources depletion causes threat to humanity and nations. The World Economic Forum's Global Risk Report 2026 highlights extreme weather events as the top long-term threat to humanity and developing countries. To summarise, climate change is responsible for depletion of resources which is a big threat to national security.

Furthermore, loss and destruction of infrastructure is one of the threats to national security. Nations face this threat due to climate change. Heavy floods destroy homes, roads, bridges, and buildings, which is a threat for the nations. It takes billions to reconstruct them. Infrastructural destruction also causes displacement of people. In Pakistan, floods of 2022 is the worst flood caused by heavy rains which destroyed people, infrastructure and lands, total damage of \$14.9 billion loss. It is challenging for the countries to face huge losses due to disasters.

To cut long story short, Climate change is not an issue but a national security threat as it destroys infrastructure of countries.

Additionally, reducing economic growth of countries due to climate change impacts is a threat to national security. Extreme weather events destroy infrastructure, ecosystem, agriculture, fisheries, education institutions, industries and resources. These all are the main source of economic growth of country. Due to these disasters, economic growth of countries reduce, and they face multiple threats. According to United Nations In Pakistan, 12% of GDP loss expected by 2070 due to climate change impacts on agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Climate change leads to economic instability. To sum up economic instability is posing major threat to national security.

Similarly, destruction of cultural sites due to disasters is major threat to national security of any country. Climate change events damage cultural sites which affect indigenous species and people.

Cultural sites are the beauty of the nation and have great role in countries activities and contribute to GDP as they are also tourists place. Destruction of these sites create threat for national security. Floods of 2010 in Pakistan, damaged ancient cultural site of Sindh "Mohenjo-Daro". It's a big threat to Pakistan national security. In conclusion, cultural loss due to climate change is a threat to national security.

In the same way, educational loss due to disasters <sup>is the national security threat.</sup> Education is the backbone of country. Climate change effects on educational institutions not only the loss of education but also infrastructure. Due to disasters, educational institutes destroy and it takes time for reconstruction. And children suffer from deprived education. When disaster occurs rural population displaced and it shifts to urban schools for shelter and protection. This also impacts on loss of education of urban children. In Pakistan, floods of 2010 destroyed rural areas schools and for six months displaced people

Stayed in government schools in cities.

This indicates that due to climate change impacts education suffers. To sum up, Educational loss due to climate change is a biggest factor contributing to national security threat.

In addition to this, Biodiversity loss by heavy disasters becomes a national security threat. Climate change causes global warming <sup>due to</sup> which glaciers are melting. Polar species have threat of extinction due to ice melting. Heavy disasters destroy forests which results in displacement and loss of Biodiversity. Polar bears <sup>species</sup> are declining due to ~~ice~~ melting sea ice. Biodiversity contribute to economic growth and beauty of countries. Climate change impacts on Biodiversity causing threat to national security.

International conflicts on resources increasing that is great threat to national security. Every country wants to become stable and developed that's why fight for resources to grow its economy. Due to climate change impacts resources are limited and depleting which

create challenges for nations. Demands for resources is more and availability of is less, which leads to international conflicts.

like Middle East oil conflicts. These conflicts due to resources are threat to national security.

Furthermore water conflict between countries is posing threat to national security. Water is essential for life. Extreme weather events causes water scarcity and pollution. People have limited access to safe water and agriculture also suffer due to water scarcity. This situation creates conflict between countries.

Every country wants to get water to fulfill needs of their people, and run country and become more developed. For example Pakistan and India conflict on water. Both nations face pressure from growing water demand. Scarcity of water creates conflicts between nations, which is a national security threat.

Climate change is not only intensifies disasters but also creates multiple threats

for states. like economic instability, cultural loss, education loss, resources depletion that's why it is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat. It is necessary to control this threat. Here are some strategies to reduce climate change impacts and national security threat.

Collective efforts are crucial to reduce carbon emission. By shifting towards renewable energy can reduce fossil fuels burning. Promoting electrical transportation and using cycling for transport. These activities can reduce carbon emission. In this way climate change impacts can be controlled. As a result national security threat also reduce.

Moreover, reforestation and afforestation practices are necessary to control climate change and national security threat. Plants regulate water cycles, and reduce disaster risk. Reforestation and afforestation mitigate environmental, social, economic and cultural threats.

Furthermore, making environment friendly policies by government can reduce

climate change impacts and national security threat. Governments strengthen disaster management agencies, build climate-resilient infrastructure, and funding new technologies to combat climate change and control national security threat.

To conclude, significantly, rising social, economic, cultural, political problems indicate that climate change is no longer an environmental issue but a national security threat. Reducing economic growth of countries and destruction of cultural sites due to disasters are the major threats to national security. Educational loss, biodiversity loss, international conflicts on resources and water conflicts between countries are also threat to national security. To reduce this national security threat it is necessary to control climate change impacts. Reforestation and afforestation practices can mitigate the impacts of climate change and reduce national security threat. Making environmental friendly policies by government can also control climate

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change impacts and overcome national security threat. By acting on these strategies planet can be saved from dangerous impacts of climate change and in this way, nations become more stable and developed socially, politically, economically, culturally, and environmentally.