

# Climate Change: Causes & Consequences

## Outline

### 1) Introduction

**Hook** The post apocalyptic visuals of the 2014 German film "Sun" are very striking visually. The film depicts extreme sunlight reaching the Earth due to its climate induced atmospheric ~~damage~~ damage. Majority of the Earth's population is dead in the film while the very few remaining ~~remain~~ <sup>stay</sup> indoors to avoid extreme UV exposure. I wonder whether, God forbid, this could become a reality in my lifetime, if the world doesn't start taking climate change & its impacts seriously.

**Thesis** In 21<sup>st</sup> Century, its not the atomic bomb ~~that~~ that is a threat to humanity's survival and peace, rather its climate change and its disastrous impacts that have started to show up. The world must unite forces to fight ~~it~~ it or else dangerous times await us into the future.

## 2) Causes of Climate Change

### I) Industrialization

i) 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Industrialization

a) Massive emissions due to industrialization in Europe

b) Coal Burning

ii) Second half of 20<sup>th</sup> Century & 21<sup>st</sup> Century Industrialization in Asia.

### II) Vehicular Emissions

i) Trend of owning personal transportation in Europe and Americas in 20<sup>th</sup> century

ii) Train as a medium of transportation and freight movement

iii) Rising per capita incomes in many countries of global south leading to increase in personal car ownerships

iv) Poor transport infrastructure in highly populated global south leads to more and more purchase of personal vehicles

### III) Deforestation

### 3) Consequences of Climate Change

#### I) Droughts

- i) Severe water crisis in Iran in 2025
- ii) Dry canals in Sindh causing barren land
- iii) Loss in agricultural produce causing food insecurity.
- iv) Reclamation of land by sea in Sindh

#### II) Floods (Climate Induced)

- i) Severe floods in Texas (US), Pakistan, India, Germany ~~USA~~.
- ii) Severe infrastructure damage
- iii) Agricultural and livestock damage

#### III) Glacial Melt & Rising Sea Levels

- i) Rising sea levels and risk to coastal areas
- ii) Glacial melting leading to severe floods and ultimately waste of fresh water

#### IV) Extreme Temperatures

- i) Extreme waves of cold and hot weather
- ii) Sub-continent's wet bulb heat temperature will make it uninhabitable by 2100.
- iii) Temperatures consistently touching 50°C in southern parts of Pakistan and Middle East.
- iv) Severe winters and snowfalls like 2020 in Pakistan.

#### V) Financial, Social & Psychological Impact on Vulnerable Segments of the Society.

## 4) Recommendations

I) UN to take lead on tackling climate change

II) Existential Threat

III) First world to assist third world in combatting climate ~~finance~~ crisis through financial support

IV) Adoption of emissions friendly technologies.

## 5) Conclusion