

GLOBAL WARMING IS AN EXPENSIVE HOAX

OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION

Thesis Statement:

Global warming is a bitter reality of the 21st century. Its impacts are quite evident on the Earth and its inhabitants. In fact, the cost of neglecting it is much higher than that of taking mitigatory measures.

II. GLOBAL WARMING IS NOT AN EXPENSIVE HOAX:-

- i) Quick Rise in the earth's surface temperature is aberrant to natural climate change

Case in point: Unprecedented rise in earth's surface temperature compared to the last ice age

- ii) Ice cover is melting much rapidly; causing ocean expansion

Case in point: Melting ice sheet of Greenland and Antarctica - NASA

Case study of Indonesia

- (iii) Acidification of oceans is threatening marine life existence

Case in point: Decline in coral reefs, acidity increased by 30%.

- (iv) Rapidly melting glaciers and rising sea levels are aggravating water scarcity

Case in point: WMO 2023 report.

- (v) Extreme weather conditions are repercussions of global warming

a) Water bodies related disasters; floods

Case in point: Pakistan flood 2022

b) Heat waves and urban heat island effect

Case in point: April and May of 2022 are the hottest year months

in the 77 years history of Pakistan

g) Variable monsoon patterns causing yield reduction

Case in point: UNHCR report: climate change causes severe food crisis.

v) Loss of biodiversity due to temperature rise and subsequent climate disasters.

Case in point: Queen's University Belfast report

vi) Economic loss caused by global warming impacts is greater than the financial cost of reducing greenhouse gases emissions

a) — Labour productivity reduces

Case in point: LSE's Grantham Institute report

b) — Infrastructure loss due to floods

Case in point: 2022 flood in Pakistan caused \$33 billion loss

g) — Climate-led disasters make the poor more poorer

Case in point: UNHDI report
a) Catastrophic events due to
global warming cause high death
toll

III. ANTI-THESIS: GLOBAL WARMING IS AN EXPENSIVE HOAX

- i) Climate change and global warming
is natural
- ii) Only 2°C rise in temperature
is nothing to be worried about
- iii) Developing nation envious of
developed countries industrial
growth

IV. PRAGMATIC MEASURES TO COUNTER THE MENACING IMPACTS OF GLOBAL WARMING:

V. CONCLUSION

The Essay

Global warming is not a prediction, it is happening.

(James Hansen)

James Hansen is an American researcher who confirmed the occurrence of global warming mainly due to human activities.

Global warming is the rise in earth temperature. Naturally, change in the globe's temperature and climate occurs at a slower pace but human development, that is unsustainable, as a result of industrial revolution is warming the earth at an unprecedented rate. Developed countries notably US is rebutting the phenomenal occurrence of global warming due to its economic recession threat, if

they ^{would} connect on clean and environment friendly economic growth. It would also ~~be~~ impact it ~~cripples~~ hegemony in the world. These developed nations can easily become blind of global warming because the impacts of global warming are more prominent in the developing nations. It is against the principle of tit for tat. But the things will not remain same, if the persistent threat of global warming is never met with pragmatic measures. Scientific evidencies including rising sea level, oceans expansion, boiling earth's surface, acidification of ocean's water, extreme weather events and loss of biodiversity, are claiming the reality of global warming. Its impacts are quite evident on the inhabitants of

the earth. It is the need of hour to mitigate green house gases production and perform adaptive measures, because the management of catastrophic events is expensive than these preventive measures.

The reality of global warming is manifested in the form of quick rise in earth's surface temperature. With the passage of time, change in climate occurs. The temperature of earth has been changing since the previous **4.5 billion years**. This natural change is not very fast, slight change occurs with a regular interval of **50 years**. While the rise due to increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is **10 times** more **faster** than the natural ones. Anthropogenic activities all responsible for this unprecedented

rise because before the industrial revolution, earth's temperature is rising at a normal level. Since the 1980's - the era of industrial revolution - each decade recorded much warmer than the past ones. Greenhouse gases including CO₂ and methane has been taking credits of this unprecedented rise by acting as a warm blanket around the earth. If the rise in temperature is not contained upto 1.5°C (compared to pre-industrial levels) as stated by IPCC (Intergovernment Panel on climate change), the results would be disastrous for the whole globe.

Icesheet melting in the polar regions of the earth is another evidence of global warming. The 21st century has witnessed the ^{previously} unseen and unpredictable events converging into reality.

Polar regions of the globe were completely covered by the snow. The rising global temperature has caused the retreat of ice caps.

According to **NASA**, Greenland lost **150-250** cubic kilometer of ice per year between 2002 and 2005. Antarctica also lost **152** cubic kilometer of ice per year between 2002 and 2005 as

stated in "**Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment**" by **NASA**. Due

to this ice melting, oceans are expanding. Although **71%** of earth is already covered by oceans, only **29%** is left for humans inhabitation. With the growing

population of world, **8.1 billion** as per the recent data, even this

29% is not sufficient if considering the forest communities and species.

The same scenario has appeared

in Indonesia. **Jakarta** - Indonesia's former capital - is mostly under water due to which they are forced to change their capital city to **Nusantara**. Thus, explicit impacts

of global warming are threatening the human survival on the earth.

The other impact of global warming that is rising its prevalence, is the acidification of ocean water.

Ocean water is a major sink of carbon dioxide. Higher levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere foster its absorption by the ocean. This is a natural phenomenon but if it occurs at

a greater level than it causes the acidification of ocean. Abundance of carbon dioxide has increased the acidification of ocean by

30%. Acidic water is harmful

to the marine life. Aquatic
lives are at the verge of extinction
due to high temperature and
acidification of ocean. **Coral**
reef is, an example of this,
showing a huge decline due to
acidification of ocean.

Water scarcity is another
proving fact of global warming
which cannot be denied by the
developed nations also. Rapidly
melting glaciers that are
source of fresh water are the
fallout of global warming. By
glaciers retreat, sea level also
rises and due to lack of
water storage facilities the
temporary blessing turns into
a disaster including floods, loss
of freshwater. It is also
difficult to store a large quantity
of water because this large

quantity or excess of water is the result of water cycle collapse.

World meteorological organization (WMO)

stated in 2023 report that rapidly melting glaciers not only leads to disastrous events but also causes water shortage. As all the water fall in rivers and ultimately into sea.

The most noticeable events of weather are blatantly describing that earth is boiling. These extreme weather conditions include floods, urban heat island effect and variation in moonson patterns. **Floods** are the water bodies related weather catastrophes which are not only destroying land and infrastructure but also impacting humans physical and mental health, their inhabitation and survival. In Pakistan, **2022** flood

cost 17000 lives with 38 million people became affected with diseases.

8 million people suffered forced displacement. The prime reason of these floods are higher precipitations due to global warming. The second climate disaster is **heatwaves** that are common during summer season in Pakistan. In 2022 May and April were recorded as the hottest months with 53.2°C as the highest temperature is Sibi. Heatwaves cause urban heat island effect which also becomes cause of global warming thus the cycle continues. Heatwaves also cause heat strokes which is very fatal to human bodily health. The next implication of global warming is manifested in the form of **Variation in monsoon** (rain fall) **pattern**. Due to these variations, crops yield is effected. In the age

of inflation and high cost of living, reduced food production is causing a severe backlash on the poor. United Nations Human Development Index report 2022 stated that climate change due to global warming is causing severe food crisis. Therefore, global warming proves a reality not a myth.

Adding to this, loss of biodiversity is also explaining the happening of global warming. Species on the earth are at the threat of extinction due to rise in temperature and extreme climate events like wildfires, droughts and floods. Certain species have been extinct since the end last ice age that was around **65 million years** ago. The one notable example is the extinction

of Belemnite clay melomys, the first mammal which was extinted due to climate change. Likewise, Queen's University Belfast report claimed that 71000 animals species in the world are under the threat of extinction due to global warming, climate change and human hunting practices. These accounts for greater than 30% of the total animal species existing in the world. Preservation of biodiversity is as important as the survival of humans on the earth.

That's why global warming is a genuine threat to humanity.

Some people argue that shift from the fossils fuel to sustainable and clean energy resources is very expensive. While if analyse it collectively than the implications of global warming

and consequent climate change cost much expansive than the financial cost of shifting toward sustainable development, by reducing greenhouse gases emissions. The first economic impact of global warming is the **reduction in labour's**

productivity. The extreme heat and cold makes it difficult for the people to work. These situations also impact the health of the proletariates. As LOE's Grantham

Research Institute on Climate
change and the Environment

estimated that labour productivity
and supply would decrease by
46.2% by 2080 with 3°C rise
in temperature. At the second

place, economy also suffers due to **infrastructure damages** caused by floods. In Pakistan, 2022 flood caused **\$33 billion** loss

that is almost **30%** of Pakistan's GDP. Thirdly, vulnerable groups are more prone to climate change effects due to global warming. This **makes the poor more poor**. In UNHDI report 2022, UN High Commissioner on human rights warned that over 370 million indigenous people's livelihood is under threat. Lastly, **humanitarian loss** which occurs due to all the above prescribed events is much greater as compared to wars. Wars are manmade disasters that can be controlled immediately but global warming — no doubt is also a ~~manmade~~ triggered event but it cannot be controlled so easily. Its repercussions last for the whole life of earth till the end of universe. That's why it is the essentiality to control

it in the contemporary era.

Those who considered global warming as a myth, an expensive hoax neglect the reality of its occurrence. They make point that climate change due to global warming is a natural phenomenon. It is not a new thing and it has to be occur in this way, human activities are not responsible for its happening. Their other stance is if it is happening then only 2°C rise in temperature is not a noticeable thing.

They further rebut this facts that by alleging that developing nations including India, China and many others are envious of the development made by the Global north and they have failed to compete with them. Therefore, the global north is using such kind

of tactics to impede their progress. Nevertheless, global warming is a bitter and clear truth they are rejecting it for their materialistic purposes.

The happening of global warming and its blatant impact on the earth's environment and its inhabitants necessitating the need to counter the menace of global warming by taking mitigatory and adaptative measures.

These measures include reduction in greenhouse gases emissions, shift from non renewable energy resources to renewable energy resources, environment sustainable industrial growth, reforestation and preventing deforestation, and sustainable agricultural growth to face the challenges of food crisis, as stated in the UNFCCC

conferences (United Nations conventions on climate change).

In a nutshell, it is proved that climate change which is due to global warming is a explicit reality. Its impacts are evident in the form of rising sea level, glaciers retreat, ocean acidification, extreme weather events of floods, heatwaves and variable monsoon patterns, loss of biodiversity and economic loss due to these effects. To counter these impacts collective effort from developed and developing nations required. As **COP-29** also highlighted the importance of implementing mitigatory and adaptative measures to contain global temperature at **1.5-2°C** at the end of 21st century.

According to Barack Obama;

We are the 1st generation

to feel the effect of climate
change and the last
generation who can do
something about it.