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Natural Resources : A blessing or a Curse?

Outline :

- Introduction
- Natural Resources are a blessing.
 - Instigator of Agricultural Revolution
 - Used since pre-historic times
 - Stimulator of Industrial Revolution
 - Balance of life on Earth
 - Provide basic necessities to humans
 - Humans derive comfort out of it
 - Source of economic stability
 - Essential Component of life.
 - Maintain natural cycles needed for life on Earth.
 - Source of energy for humans
 - Raw material for all the commodities and man-made things.
- Some people consider natural resources a curse but that is not the case
- Conclusion

(complex)

Thesis Statement : Natural Resources are, therefore, a blessing that is a source for various commodities, basic necessities and comfort for humans, also providing a source of energy and economic stability for mankind, and instigating agricultural ~~ress~~ revolution, while some people consider it a curse but that is not the case.

Essay :

Mankind has been working for hundreds of centuries to make their lives better but all the progress we see today is derived from the ~~that~~ knowledge acquired by humans, just a few centuries ago. The knowledge made humans use their intellect to mold the situation in their favor, and using anything in their reach to build up this modern world. That

knowledge involved the use of naturally available resources for their progress. Hence, these natural resources were a blessing for humanity. Because these natural resources were the source of basic necessities for mankind ever since. These were also the source of commodities that humanity used to make lives easier. These resources were also the source of energy in form of fuel for centuries. These natural resources were the source of economic stability for mankind ever since. These natural resources had many uses and providences for mankind that facilitated the modern progress. Natural resources are a blessing indeed as these helped mankind progress over centuries through various means and those who consider it a curse are not very right.

Natural Resources were the instigator for agricultural revolution. Agricultural revolution back started when humans acquired knowledge of farming in a way that was needed for more production using resources. The agricultural production flourished and the granaries were filled to the top. This ended the fear of short term famines and droughts while saving many lives. Ever since, the agricultural revolution in 1700's in Britain, the world food production increased many folds. This was all because of the use of potash and gypsum at that time and now commercial fertilizers made from minerals now-a-days. Hence, natural resources are a blessing as these instigated agricultural revolution.

Natural resources are being used since the dawn of human life on earth. These resources were the

cradle of civilizations in various ages like Bronze age, Iron age etc. All these metals are natural resources and some are alloys of these natural resources. Humans used these natural resources to make tools for hunting, fishing and even farming. Use of Bronze and copper was common in Indus Valley Civilization, dating back to 3000 BC, for farming and hunting. Hence, these natural resources have been a blessing for centuries, since pre-historic times.

Additionally, these natural resources were also the stimulators for the industrial revolution. Industrial revolution is the origin of modern progress. The use of resources at factory and commercial level production lead to industrial revolution. Various initial industries used metals to produce machineries that were more efficient and saved time.

First to use machinery was textile industries that used machinery made of metal and raw material of textile as cotton, both of which were natural resources, all this in 1860's. Hence, Natural Resources were also the stimulators of Industrial revolution.

Furthermore, natural resources are also the driving force that keeps the balance of life on Earth. This balance refers to the ecological and geochemical cycles that uses the natural resources as their components. All the organisms in any ecological and geochemical cycle, uses minerals and gases to create further products. These products are used by others and converted to newer products and the cycle continues. A tree produces oxygen for 36 humans. This means that the natural resources, whether in form of organisms or in form

of minerals ~~and~~ and gases are all essential to maintain a balance of life on Earth. Hence, natural resources are a blessing that maintain the balance of life on Earth.

Natural Resources are also the source of basic necessities for the mankind. Basic necessities include food, shelter and clothing etc. Food is obtained from agriculture, live stock and fisheries, that all are natural resources. Similarly, clothing is mainly obtained from cotton, that is formed by plants. Cotton is 100% pure cellulose fibres that is only made by plants naturally. This proves that the basic necessities needed by humans are all, in one way or the other derived from natural resources. Hence, Natural resources provide basic necessities to humans, being a blessing.

Similarly, Humans also derive their comfort out of natural resources. Comfort include all the use after basic neccasities is fulfilled. Although, modern houses are made of concrete but the source of cement is gypsum and of pebbles ~~is~~ is rocks in mountains. Even marble used to decorate buildings is naturally found in mountains. Pakistan is also one of the largest marble producer in the world, that explains how almost every house in Pakistan has marble in it, even being a strained economy. Hence, humans derive their comfort out of these natural resources which proves it to be a blessing.

Additionally, natural resources are also the sources of economic stability of this world. Ever since, new innovations are taking

place, humans have maximized their benefits from these natural resources. Sustainable use of these resources was also coined to ensure that these resources do not end right away and are available for future generations as well. That's why, ~~the~~ an essay "Sylva" was written in 1662 to ensure sustainable forest management to preserve forest wood. Because, forest wood was source of economic stability at that time in Europe. This practice still prevails and makes natural resources a blessing and source of economic stability.

Natural resources are also the ~~source~~ of essential components of life. Many minerals, nutrients and substances are present in the bodies of living organisms and help them sustain life forces and processes.

Essential substances make up vital enzymes, organs, medium and other components that play a crucial role in keeping the organism intact. Human body is made up of 60% of water. Water is an essential natural resource and medium of various enzymatic reactions in body. Hence, these natural resources are also the key component behind life force.

Natural resources also helps to maintain the important cycles on Earth. These cycles are vital for human life and other organisms as well. Cycles of respiration and photosynthesis are the two most important natural cycles that involves resources like Carbon, Iron, Mg and Oxygen. This cycle of CO_2 and O_2 is responsible for sustaining, not just humans but all life on the

plant Earth. This is why Earth is the only known place with life. Indeed, Natural Resources are the blessings that maintain life on the face of the Earth.

Furthermore, natural resources are also the source of energy for humans. Historically, energy only meant fire from wood or energy from food but now it refers to every thing that bring another thing in motion or operation. Cars and vehicles get this energy from fuels. Houses get electricity and factories get power from various sources that are used as any energy required. 20% of the world energy comes from renewable and rest from non-renewable sources, that all are natural resources or their derivatives. If there would not have been the natural resources, there wouldn't have

been any energy. So, natural resources are a source of energy that is a blessing.

Humans use these natural resources to obtain useful products and their commodities. Whether, these comes from living source or mineral sources, all these are counted as natural resources. Rubber is obtained from Rubber plant, but also from chemical sources that are derived from minerals. Similarly, plastic is obtained from mineral resources. But whether organic or mineral source, these sources are all natural, accounting for \$ 2 trillion global market of plastic and rubber. All vehicles, devices, home appliances and daily household or commercial items are derived from natural resources, which makes these natural resources a blessing that is the source of all commodities and useful products.

However, some people argue that natural resources are a curse for mankind. Their argument is followed by the evidences of war over resources and land, nuclear weapons, climate change and poverty due to resource distribution. But this does not makes natural resources a curse, as these problems are not due to the existence of natural resources, rather these are due to their usage and distribution by the human being. Hence, it is the humans that lead to these issues by exploiting and misusing these resources and this does not make these natural resources a curse.

Hence, proved that natural resources are, in fact, blessing for mankind as these brought a lot of benefits to mankind over the course of centuries.

Natural resources provided a source of energy to mankind since start. Mankind derived all their commodities and useful products from these natural resources by applying their knowledge of science. Natural resources also provided a source of economic stability to mankind. Similarly, humans derived their basic necessities and comfort out of these natural resources. Additionally, the modern progress dawned with the technological use of natural resources in early modern times. Hence, natural resources are a blessing for mankind if used for beneficial purposes and service of mankind and world. Various issues have arisen over centuries, due to mis use of these resources, like wars and climate change. But with sheer determination and

goal of service of humanity, mankind
can bring an end to
these conflicts and global issues
that rose from unwise decisions
and make world a better
place to live.

