A Case Study:

Global Warming: Climate Change and Melting Glacier of Koh-e-Safid

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INTRODUCTION

The Global warming means that increase in average temperature day by day. This is a global issue. After 1850, when industrialization occurred this issue increases slowly and now it became a big issue for whole world. Developed countries decrease their ground level of pollution because they are investing more in pollution control. Developing counties are suffering from both regional and global level of pollution because they do not have enough money to decrease even their ground level of pollution. Developed countries environmentalists say that developing countries follow us and industrialization increases in those countries day by day because we are providing them ideas and technologies. But they are wrong because they also become developed nations due to this industrialization. Developing nations also have right to increase their national income and decrease poverty. According to Kuznets curve there is positive relation between increase in per capita income and decrease in environmental degradation (first increase in environmental degradation with increase in income when turning point reach after this point the increase in income will lead to decrease in

Environmental degradation) like developed nations. Developing nation can also follow Kuznets.

Pakistan is also developing country and most of the people are poor it is true that regional level of pollution is high in big cities; such as, Peshawar which is more polluted city due to small level of industries, population and transportation. In villages outdoor pollution is very low and indoor pollution is high due to solid fuel consumption but it does become the reason of melting glaciers because people used solid fuel from thousands of years. Now the question is raised that why climate changes occur in these villages?

There are *two* reasons.
Biomass consumption increases deforestation and;
Global Warming

PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

A sensitive indicator of global warming is melting glaciers. Such as, Parachinar, near to the border of Afganistan, is a cool and beautiful place. In summer, temperature is very low as compare to other places like Peshawar, and people enjoy that season. In winter, weather is very cool but the climate is changing slowly and gradually.

As we heard from our elders that in early times snowfall was started from November and continued till to the end of January. People many time cleaned the roof of their houses two times in a night because their homes were made of mud and were afraid of destruction of their houses. People stored flour and other food items because after snowfall roads were blocked. They were enjoying the heat of Angeethi(brazier) and there were no outdoor activities. The duration of winter was from November to April. Koh-e-safid was covered by snow all the years. People called it Koh-e-Safid. In summer this glacier provides water to people for irrigation and other uses. Due to, on the time of snowfall and precipitations, people were to cultivate their own crops and there was no need to buy wheat, rice, meat, ghee and other food stuff from the market because the stuffs were available at their homes. Average life expectancy was 75 years and people lived long and healthy life. But

unfortunately, now this is just an interesting story for us. Everything has changed. Winter starts from November but snowfall starts from the middle of December to middle of January. Alarming situation is that the Koh-e-Safid glacier becomes smaller and thin with the passage of time and it is a good forecaster of water scarcity in future in summer season. Most of people (75%) are directly related with agricultural activities. From past few years, there is dramatically decrease in wheat and rice production due to climate change. It indicates that climate change have negative relationship with income and positive with poverty. Now, again this question arises that why climate change occur in Parachinar? There are no industries and not very populated area.

Following are the *few* reasons:

Afganistan war and war in Kurram Agency from 2007 to2010 against terrorism.

Deforestation, which is decreased to some limit when government imposed ban on tree cutting.

Global warming which is more responsible factor for climate change.

CONCLUSION

From the above discussion, we concluded that the Parachinar which is still a cool and beautiful region and their regional level of pollution is very low (outdoor) as compare to other region. Now it becomes the victim of global warming which is like a cancer disease. Cancer disease is treatable at first stage; like that global warming is treatable now if cancer disease reach to last stage then it is not treatable and now, if global warming reaches to that stage then situation will be very worst. Like in Pakistan, due to this climate change thousand of acre cultivated land destroyed due to flood which further increase in prices, unemployment and poverty.