

People Perception Regarding Possible Impact of Urbanization on Environmental Degradation in Islamabad

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Abstract: *Urbanization is the process in which green space (fields, trees, wetlands, etc.) is converted into black space (concrete and asphalt). Urbanization occurs because people move from rural areas to urban areas. This usually occurs when a country is still developing. Slums and its consequences of overcrowding lack of sanitation, global warming, air pollution, water pollution and loss of forest cover, agriculture land and depletion of wildlife are the major outcome of urbanization. This present study is a quantitative research entitled "People Perception Regarding possible impact of Urbanization on Environmental Degradation in Islamabad". The environmental challenges are primarily associated with rapid urbanization and this urbanization is mostly unplanned and haphazard and rises to environmental issues such as; pollution, poor drainage system, poor quality of drinking water and hygienic conditions. Researcher collected the data from three different sectors of Islamabad city through multistage sampling technique. A self-administrated questionnaire was used as a tool of data collection. From the investigation of the data it was found that there is a strong relationship between the urbanization and increasing environmental issues in the cities, such as poor sanitation and drainage system, hygienic problems, air pollution and deforestation etc. The results of the research show that there is a critical linkage between urbanization, environment, pollution growth and pollution. Provision of basic facilities in rural areas, awareness campaigns, education, health, food and employment can reduce this problem.*

Keywords: *Urbanization, green space, black space, slums areas, global warming.*

Introduction

The Background

History of Urbanization

Urban phenomena attract sociological attention primarily for two reasons. First, such phenomena are relatively recent in human history. Compared to most other aspects of society-e.g., language, religion, stratification, or the family-cities appeared only yesterday, and urbanization, meaning that a sizable proportion of the population lives in cities, has developed only in the last few moments of man's existence. Second, urbanism represents a revolutionary change in the whole pattern of social life. Itself a product of basic economic and technological developments, it tends in turn, once it comes into being, to affect every aspect of existence. Kojima (1996) urbanization is a relatively recent development in the history of mankind. Although many less-developed countries have experienced very rapid urbanization along with industrialization (e.g., Korea and Taiwan), others (e.g., Thailand and Malaysia) have experienced urbanization without significant industrialization.

Sharma (1992) refers to urbanization "the movement of the people from rural to urban areas and the resulting increasing proportion of a population that resides in urban rather rural places". Tompson (1956) called urbanization "the movement of people communities concerned chiefly or slowly with agriculture to other communities, generally larger, whose activities are primarily centered in government, trade manufacture or allied interests".

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Before 1850, no nation was urbanized. As recently as 1900, only one country was (Britain). United Nation (2012) in 1800 less than 2% of the world's population resided in cities of 100,000 or more; by 1850 this percentage was still only about 2.3%. By 1900 the percentage had reached 5.5%, and by 1950 it had grown to 13.0%. In 1800, 20 cities had a population of 100,000 or more, and, except for Peking, China, no city had a population of 1 million. By 1950, 900 cities had populations of over 100,000 and 50 had populations more than 1 million; by 2009, 476 cities had a population more than one million. By 1975, five metropolitan areas had reached 10 million (Tokyo, New York, Shanghai, Mexico City, and São Paulo), and by 2000 the number of mega-metropolitan areas had grown to 16. PPC report (2009) described Tokyo is presently judged to be the world's largest metropolitan area with a population of 26.4 million in 2000. During the twentieth century Tokyo's population grew by a factor of 17.7. Over the same period, Mexico City, currently the second largest metropolitan area grew by a factor of 52.5. Several metropolitan areas had extremely high growth factors.

According to UNCHS (1992) in 1990, more than 75 per cent of all South Americans were living in urban areas, the highest degree of urbanization in the world. The highest urban growth rate between 1960 and 1990 was in Africa at 4.9 percent, compared with a global annual rate of 2.8 percent. World Health Organization (2014) one hundred years ago, 2 out of every 10-people lived in an urban area. By 1990, less than 40% of the global population lived in a city, but as of 2010, more than half of all people live in an urban area. By 2030, 6 out of every 10 people will live in a city, and by 2050, this proportion will increase to 7 out of 10 people.

Urbanization in Asia

In 2010, the Asia region's urban population amounted to 754 million people, which is more than the combined population of the United States of America and the European Union. United Nation (2012), 1.1 billion people will be added to Asia's urban population in the next 30 years. From 1980 to 2040, every year more than half of the increase in the world's urban population has been or will be in Asia. Described the report of United Nation (2012) almost 537 million were added during the 35-year interval of 1950 to 1985. But in the following 15 years, 1985–2000, 465 million were added.

Urbanization in Pakistan

Pakistan like other developing countries in the region has witnessed accelerated process of urbanization. Jan et al. (2008) during the senses of 1972 and 198, the urban population of Pakistan grows at 4.4% annually, while the population growth rate of the rural areas was 2.6%. During the second half of the century, the total population of the Pakistan increased over four-fold and urban population increased over seven-fold, from 18% in 1951 censuses up to 32.52% in 1998 censuses. Pakistan is the second most urbanized country in South Asia. Urban population is estimated to constitute about 36% of the total and it is expected to reach 50% in 2030.

According to Jan et al. (2008) Pakistan biggest city of Karachi constitutes 21.7% of the total urban population. It is followed by Lahore constituting 12.7% and next 7 biggest cities of Faisalabad, Multan, Quetta, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Hyderabad and Gujranwala. These 9 urban centers alone constitute 54.6% of the total urban population. Iftikharuddin (2008) migration is another factor of urbanization. People migrate for better and prosperous life, are less fertile area, less production, no availability of health facilities and sanitation problems, lack of quality education, no availability/ non- existence of social system based on justice and equality.

Air pollution

Air pollution is a main environmental health problem disturbing the developed, under developed and un-developed countries equally. Habitat (1996), different environment exposures including diet, hygiene and infections, allergens and air pollution, in combination with genetic factors could account for the observed variability. Nicolaos (2005), in this issue of journal, he presents the data from a population based study investigation the prevalence of clinically defined allergic disease in urban areas. According to the UNEP (1999), report various developing countries have experienced a liberal degradation in air quality as a consequence of rapid development over the last two decades. The heights of air pollutants

are increasing rapidly in urban and peri-urban areas in many mega cities of the developing world. The report of United Nation (2012) all over the world 60% people are affected due to air pollution. Every year's 335,000 people died in American for the reasons of lung cancer, which is a direct result of air pollution.

According to the report of United Nations Environment Programmed (1999) and Global Environmental Outlook (2000), these environmental health problems in developing countries are now intensified by developing problems of industrial pollution. In this time 30-60 percent of the world's urban population is living in low-income countries and shortage suitable housing with sanitary facilities, drainage systems, and clean piped water.

Water pollution

In this time water pollution is important and very common problems in all over the world. Dead fish, crabs, birds and sea gulls, dolphins, and many other animals often wind up on beaches, killed by pollutants in their environment. UNEP (1999), the lack of sanitation and sewage treatment is the biggest factor regarding water pollution. Local water bodies are used as a dumping ground for untreated water from urban areas or industries. UN-Water and urbanization (2010), 141 million people do not have access on improved drink-water.

World Health Report (2014), one billion people do not access to the pore drinking water. Two million people annually died for the reasons of water pollution. More than 50 countries still report to Cholera and millions of people face the different disease for the reasons of water pollution. Pakistan Council of Research and Water Resources (2014), 40 percent of all reported illnesses are water-related in Pakistan. It is estimated that water-related diseases cause yearly national income losses of USD 380-883 million or approximately 0.6-1.44 percent of GDP.

Sanitation and Waste Water treatment

Water sanitation is the method of cleaning water to make it harmless for drinking, bathing, cooking, and other uses. World Health Organization (2013), virtually two thirds (64%) of the world population relied on improved sanitation facilities, while 15% continued to evacuate in the open. End of 2011, there were 2.5 billion people who lacked access to a better-quality sanitation facility. Of these, 761 million use public or shared sanitation services and another 693 million use facilities that do not meet minimum values of hygiene (unimproved sanitation facilities). The remaining 1 billion (15% of the world population) still practice open evacuation. The majority (71%) of those without sanitation live in rural areas, where 90% of all open evacuation takes place. Habitat (1996) as a direct result of urbanization, great threat to health and safety in cities from water and air pollution, especially at the households and community levels. Henderson (2006) waterborne diseases are found most commonly in low-income neighborhoods because of inadequate sanitation, drainage and solid waste collation services.

Shortage of Housing

Population Census (1998), in maximum of the urban areas there is a growing problem of housing provision. There are, on average, two rooms in every house in major cities of Pakistan. Each housing component, on average, accommodates more than six persons in cities. Ghani (2012) stated that, Pakistani cities suffer from housing deficits of about 3 million units (while nearly 50% of Pakistani urbanites live in slums).

Global report on human settlement (1996), estimated 100 million people have no home and sleep open-air or in public buildings (for instance railway or bus stations) or, where available, night shelters. Far more people are homeless in the sense that their accommodation is very insecure or temporary-for instance squatters or those living in impermanent shelters (for instance the 250,000 pavement dwellers in Bombay).

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the impacts of urbanization on the quality of drinking water.
- To find out the impacts of urbanization on the drainage system in urban areas.

- To observe how urbanization impacts hygienic condition of the people living in urban areas.

Literature Review

- Bilsborrow (1998) many migrants are environmental refugees from badly depleted rural areas. In developing countries, industrial growth in urban areas offers employment and trading occasions for rural people which are faced with declining living standards. Nowadays the urbanization is increasingly occurring also without any substantial opportunities for new migrants and it is fastest in Africa.
- Weinryb (1957) Israel has experienced a rapid process of urbanization. At the time of the 1922 census there were 83,780 Jews in Palestine. In the next few years (1923-26) over 67,000 new immigrants entered the country, almost doubling the Jewish population, for the reasons of urbanization (Census Nov. 1948: 716,678). Parkinson and Tayler (2003) describe that the urbanization is one of the most important demography trends of the twenty-first century, and growth is particularly rapid in lower income countries.
- Brennan (1999) described in his study that in the case of total population; there will be a significant redistribution for the world urban population between the developing and the developed regions. Between 1950 and 1972, 32 million new urban dwellers were added annually worldwide about two-thirds in the developing countries. Currently, 59 million new urban dwellers are added annually 89% in developing countries. By 2025-2030, 76 million will be added annually 98% in developing countries.

Air Pollution

Air pollution is one of the most serious environmental threats to urban populations (Cohen 2005) causes of air pollution an estimated 400 deaths from all causes, more than 800 hospital admissions and more than 4,000 emergency department visits among children and adults. Reducing ozone levels by 10% could prevent more than 80 premature deaths, 180 hospital admissions and 950 emergency department visits annually.

World Development Report (1999/2000) explains that Rapid and often unplanned, urban growth is the source for many of the environmental hazards faced by cities within the development world. Substandard housing on marginal land, crowding, increasing levels of air pollution solid waste collection, and motor vehicle traffic and traffic injuries are all associated with rapid growth of urban centers. World Bank (1997) described that in cities, household use of biomass fuels contributes approximately 30 percent of the outdoor particulate and sulfur dioxide air pollution, with industrial use contributing an additional 50 percent.

Heinrich (2004) described that by rapid urbanization the city's traffic go on a terrible level and that high levels of vehicle emissions has been correlated with the increasing prevalence of respiratory allergies. Bruce et al., (2000) describes that the indoor air pollution in the developing world is most often associated with the use of biomass fuels coal, wood, animal drug, and kerosene, although indoor tobacco smoke is also an increasing contributor. Indoor air pollution affects both urban and rural areas. Wang (2013) urbanization is the processer of social and environmental change. Fast urbanization in 1990s, air pollution appeared in Beijing. The main energy that Beijing city consumes include: coal, gas, electricity and natural gas. Burning of coal gas could generate thoughtful air pollution.

- End of April 2013, Beijing has eliminated 88,000 old motor vehicles.
- To control the urbanization process.
- The introduced the water transport vehicles.

Water Pollution

Khan (2013) water pollution is a major problem in the international perspective. Pakistan's current population is growing rapidly. Pakistan has now essentially tired its available water resources and is on the verge of becoming a water deficit country. Poor drinking water quality and sanitation lead to major occurrences of waterborne diseases. Butt (1996) Pakistan is one of the largest urbanized countries. Its

level of urbanization is one of the highest among the Asian and South Asian countries, except for Malaysia. Pakistan urban population grew from 6.9 million in 1950 to 45.3 million in 1993. The ambient urban environment will be seriously degraded through air, water, soil, and noise pollution, and due to extensive suburb in every city. For the reasons of urbanization, water pollution became a major problem. AD et al. (2007) in Pakistan, the water pollution dilemma is quickly propagating, presently 82% of the people do not have an access to safe water, 30-40% hospitalized patients are due to water borne diseases, and about 80% of the infant death is only because of the polluted water that causes diarrhea, cholera, dysentery, gastro-intestinal problems.

EPD (2007) explains that the clean drinking water is scarce in cities. Most of the population in cities never drinks clean water. Epidemiology Laboratory Institution of Public Health (ELIPH) under the Punjab government took sample from 222 locations and it was found that almost 80% of them are contaminated. The poor quality of water makes people switch bottled water but because of its demand prices goes up and it reaches to such an extent that milk, water and soft drinks are of almost the same price.

Sanitation and Waste Water treatment

World Health Organization and UNICEF (2013) end of 2011, there were 2.5 billion people who lacked access to an improved sanitation facility. Of these, 761 million use public or shared sanitation facilities and another 693 million use facilities that do not meet minimum standards of hygiene (unimproved sanitation facilities). The remaining 1 billion (15% of the world population) still practice open defecation. The majority (71%) of those without sanitation live in urban areas, where 90% of all open defecation takes residence.

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Shortage of Housing

Cook (1987) it has been reported that, even by moderate estimate, one- to two-thirds of a big city's population in Asia must be considered to live in slums areas. The living conditions are also at an unbelievably low level compared with Western standards. In Seoul, for instance, "a ten by ten foot" room, shared by four adults, is used "as a market place during a day and a combination kitchen-dining room-bedroom at other times."

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Economic Commission for Africa (1996) describes that the rapid urbanization in African cities has resulted in acute shortage of urban housing due to lack of financial resources to expand housing facilities. Some African cities have more than 70% of their housing supply as rental units and often there is less than 8 m² floor area per person revealed that 71% of the poorest and 34% of the wealthiest households in Accra occupied less than 4 m² person in the sleeping room. Pendall (1999) defines sprawl

as the change in country population between 1982 and 1992 divided by the change in urbanized acres of land over the same period. Global report on human settlement (1996) this report estimated that 100 million people have no home and sleep open-air or in public buildings (for instance railway or bus stations) or, where available, night shelters. There are many street-children among this vagrant population. Far more people are homeless in the sense that their accommodation is very insecure or temporary-for instance squatters or those living in impermanent shelters (for instance the 250,000 pavement dwellers in Bombay).

Theoretical Framework

Cities have different zones

Park and his fellows give a division of cities into five concentric zones. Each zone is differentiated to their population size, their social, economic and physical characteristics. The dramatic effects of rapid urbanization are very clear in the cities and peri-urban areas. As the cities expand, the main zone of direct impact is the peri-urban area, and those living in the peri-urban interface face many new challenges and opportunities in meeting their needs and accommodating the by-products of the urban populations (Rees 1992; Rees and Wackernagel 1994). Four regional growth regimes that incorporate the policies those are useful in generalizing the discussion of development alternatives. The first, which can be considered the status quo, is called unlimited low-density growth. In this regime, local zoning and building codes alone define market provision of housing and job, the dominant residential pattern is owner-occupied, single-family detached homes, transportation is almost exclusively provided by private automobile. Edge cities and the extreme free-market approach listed above would fall under this planning scheme. The next regime, a modern alternative to the status quo, is called limited-spread, mixed density. Local governments have limited cooperation in land-use planning. The third regime, incorporating more aggressive planning initiatives, is called new greenbelts and communities. Here, growth boundaries are designed and enforced, but only for contain corridors, new towns, and metropolitan areas. Residential growth is concentrated in a few planned communities featuring mixed-use, mixed-density development. Regulations and incentives encourage jobs to cluster in new centers and encourage municipalities to plan for growth in a regional framework. The last regime, called bounded high-density growth, incorporates extensive land-use and employment planning to achieve four goals.

Research Methodology

In this research, the data was collect as the basis of quantitative research because the quantitative research uses numerical analysis. The study is conduct in the urban area of Islamabad; areas include F, G and H sectors. The researcher is conduct 150 face to face interviews through close handed questionnaire. The researcher developed a structure (close handed) questionnaire to gather the data on the environmental problems are increasing due to rapid urbanization in the urban areas. Statistical method (SPSS) used for data analysis and hypothesis test through chi-square test. This is commonly used in sociological research.

Major Findings

1. In this research 75.3 percent of the respondents are male and 24.7 percent are female.
2. Migration rural to urban area, (66.0%) of the respondents are migrated and (34.0%) respondents are non-migrants.
3. Response regarding to their satisfaction in urban life, (63.3%) of the respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (36.7%) respondents are response in 'No'.
4. Respondents opinion about the urbanization create problems in the cities. (35.3%) respondents are in the category 'Strongly agree', (36.0%) respondents are in the category 'Agree', (12.7%) respondents are in the category 'Neutral', (11.3%) respondents are in the categories 'Disagree' and (4.7%) respondents are in the categories; Strongly disagree'.
5. Rapid urbanization creates slum areas in the cities and the table consists of five different categories. (39.3%) respondents are in the category 'Strongly agree', (45.3%) respondents are in the category 'Agree', (6.7%) respondents are in the category 'Neutral', (5.3%) respondents are in the categories 'Disagree' and (3.3%) respondents are in the categories; Strongly disagree'.

6. Respondents opinion that the health facilities affected by the urbanization and this table contains two different categories. (74.7%) of the respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (25.3%) respondents are response in 'No'.
7. Respondents response that they face the problems of drinking water and this table contains two different categories. (74.7%) of the respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (25.3%) respondents are response in 'No'.
8. Respondents regarding to their response about from where they get drinking water and it consists of three categories. (62.75) respondents are in the category 'Motor pump', (11.3%) respondents are in the category 'WASA', (4.0%) respondents are in the category 'Pond' and (22.0%) respondents are in the category 'Other'.
9. Respondents regarding to their response that have the facility of pure drinking water and this table contains two different categories. (50.7%) of the respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (49.3%) respondents are response in 'No'.
10. Respondents regarding to their satisfaction with the quality of drinking, 38.7% of the respondents are satisfied and 61.3% are not satisfied.
11. Urbanization effect the quality of drinking water; 76.7% respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (23.3%) respondents are response in 'No'.
12. 78.0 percent said that, they are affected by poor sanitation system and only 22.0 percent said they are not affected.
13. Respondents regarding to their response that health affected by poor sanitation it contains two categories. Majority of the respondents (76.0%) respondent's response in 'Yes' and (24.05) response in 'No'.
14. Response regarding to their point of view which type of health issues raised by poor sanitation and contains four categories. (32.7%) respondents answer in the category 'Infections disease', (9.3%) respondents answer in the category 'Parasitic disease', (17.3%) respondents answer in the category 'Vital disease' and (40.7%) respondents answer in the category 'Above all'.
15. Opinion about Govt. pay attention to solve the sanitation problems. 37.3 percent of the respondents are responses in 'Yes' and (62.7 percent respondents are response in 'No'.
16. Respondents opinion about issue of air pollution where they live and this question contains two different categories. The table describe that (70.0%) face the problems of air pollution and (30.0%) respondents have not face this problem.
17. Urbanization have any role in increasing the air pollution, 81.3% percent responses in 'Yes' and 18.7 percent respondents are response in 'No'.
18. Urbanization decreases the trees and greenery in the cities. 82.0 percent respondents agree that urbanization decreases the tree and greenery in the cities. And 18.0 percent respondents disagree to this statement.
19. Respondents regarding to their opinion that source of air pollution in the cities and this question have four different categories. (49.3%) respondents are answer in the category 'Industries', (39.3%) respondents are answer in the category 'Motor vehicles', (6.7%) respondents are answer in the category 'Smoke' and (4.7%) respondents are answer in the category 'Any other' options.
20. Respondents regarding to their response which types of disease are by air pollution and this question contains three different categories. (16.0%) respondents are answer in the category 'Skin disease', (30.0%) respondents are answer in the category 'Respiratory disease' and (54.0%) respondents are answer in the category 'Both'.
21. Respondents opinion about the house is costly as compare then the rural areas, 50.7 percent 'Strongly agree', 37.3 percent 'Agree', 10.7 percent 'Neutral', 0.7 percent 'Disagree' and 0.7 percent 'Strongly disagree' to this statement.
22. Response about the people face the problems of shortage of houses in this time. So, 66.7 percent despondence face the problems of shortage of houses and 33.3 percent respondents not face this problem.
23. Reason of shortage of houses in citers, 34.0% respondents said that urbanization, 46.7% said that larger population, 18.0% said that poor governance and 1.3% respondent said that any other reason.

24. Respondents opinion about the type of steps should be taken to stop the urbanization. 26.7 percent respondents are in the category 'Health and medical facilities', 22.0 percent respondents are in the category 'Education facilities', 10.0 percent respondents are in the category 'Better employment', 5.3 percent respondents are in the categories 'Modern facilities' and 36.0 percent respondents are in the categories 'Above the all'.
25. Respondents opinion about the which type of facilities should be provide to the rural people to stop the process of urbanization. 26.0 percent respondents said that "Awareness that migration is not the solution of problem", 13.0 percent respondents are in the category 'Health and medical facilities', 18.0 percent respondents are in the category 'Educational facilities', 10.0 percent respondents are in the categories 'Economically empowered them', 30.0 percent respondents are in the categories 'Above all', 1.5 percent respondents are in the category 'Rural development' and 1.5 percent respondents are in the category 'don't know'.

Discussion and Conclusion

Discussion

The present research presents that there is a critical linkage between urbanization, the environment, population growth and pollution; issues addressed include migration to urban centers, the immediate environment and health impact on the urban population. This research consisted on one hundred's fifty (150) respondents which are selected from the three different sectors of Islamabad using convenient sampling technique. The data will be collected by using self- administrated questionnaire. The hypotheses formulated for the present study were;

- a. Rapid growth of urbanization is causing ecological decay in the cities.
- b. Higher the rate of urbanization greater will be change from joint to nuclear family.
- c. The quality of drinking was affects the opinion of the people towards urbanization.
- d. Urbanization is a major cause of poor sanitation system in the urban areas.
- e. Higher rate of migration from rural to urban greater will be threat of increasing air pollution in cities.

Relationship of variable and statistics analysis was done thought Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Data was presented in tabular form in the frequency distribution and use Binary logistic regression test to verify the hypothesis. According to my finding the rapid urbanization is creating environmental issues in the urban areas as air pollution, poor water quality, sanitation and waste water treatment, increased the temperature of Earth, increasing slums areas etc. The data was compared the complex linkage among the environment, city size and rates of urban growth.

Conclusion

Urbanization is a great and important issue in this time all over the world. Urbanization impacts our social, political, economic and family life. Reasons of urbanization our life, our living standard is totally changed. It creates many dangerous diseases and problems. It effects on human health, human behavior and on the social life of the human.

Air pollution is a main environmental health problem disturbing the developed, under developed and un-developed countries equally. The special impact of air pollution on health is very difficult as there are many different sources and their individual effects vary from one to the other. Water sanitation is the method of cleaning water to make it harmless for drinking, bathing, cooking, and other uses. Clean water is important to people in every country because dangerous materials in water can cause illness and even death. There are, on average, two rooms in every house in major cities of Pakistan. Each housing component, on average, accommodates more than six persons in cities. This conclusion is timely, stimulated and practical. To coup-up with this situation, it is the role and duty of the government to come forward and take some critical stances relating to the urbanization. Because in this scenario. Government is also required to lead from the front and guide the nation and international organization to perform their duty properly.

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