

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Earth, over millions of years, has seen profound climate change, which has caused our planet to act in different ways. In the beginning, it was naturally occurring events, but this time it is different, it's man-made. After a hundred years of industrial pollution, coal-fired power plants, poison fumes from cars, trucks, and heavy equipment exhaust, along with other pollution, it has left the Earth in a bind. This planet must maintain a strict balance to sustain life, any kind of life. Humans have changed this balance and in the future humans will experience more hardships to survive.

As the climate changes, the oceans grow warmer, creating more and larger hurricanes, causing increased flooding and destruction worldwide. Climate change also is causing severe, long-term droughts, which are destroying millions of acres of arable soil globally. The burning of the rain forest for land clearing and the cutting of the trees for timber, if kept at its current pace, will cause permanent damage to our environment, affecting weather patterns in a negative way globally. Men never viewed, even with warnings, problems which could be detrimental in the future, instead ignoring these problems until they became too large to be fixed.

The burning of fossil fuels has pumped carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere, trapping heat, which in turn is melting polar ice and glaciers worldwide. This change will eventually raise water levels, high enough that soon millions of people will be displaced, their land and homes taken by the oceans. Large forest fires will sweep the Earth, spewing more pollutants into the atmosphere, making the problem worse.

Humans have created a series of events which are slowly changing our planet, causing a cascade of problems which cannot be solved. Eventually, the Earth will become uninhabitable, except for insects. It will go back in time to the beginning of life, where all living things, including humans, were given an opportunity to thrive and grow. Current man's future will disappear because of mistakes made by the most intelligent life on the planet.

Humans are an undeniable fact as to the cause of our planet's problems. Just as a small unseen virus can bring the human species to near extinction, our presence, although small, has brought a large planet to its knees. Humans will not come out of this unscathed, but the planet will survive and adapt to changes, as it has done for millions of years. A beginning for new life will advance, and the planet will renew and heal, giving life an avenue to succeed once again.

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