



Research Paper Review

Title:

Reification of Economy and Society, Climate Change and Covid-19: SDGs as Adaptation.

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A. TITLE AND ABSTRACT

In this article, Abu Saleh Mohammad Noman critiques the relationship between the capitalist economic system, climate Change, and the covid-19 pandemic. The central theme of the article is “Reification” which Author defines as the prioritization of economic activities and profit maximization over human well-being. Rooted in Marxist theory, The author argues that the abuse of human in a capitalist economy contributes significantly to Climate disruption and health crises. The paper calls for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a means of adaptation and insists that only a human-centered approach, respects both labor and nature, can prevent the collapse of civilization.

B. Main Arguments:

- Reification and Its Dangers:
- Human Labor: The Root of Human Progress and Crisis :
- Climate Change: A Man-made Disaster:
- Covid-19: Not Just a Health Crisis:
- The Role of SDGs in Solving These Problems:

➤ ***Reification and Its Dangers:***

Reification means treating people as things. In capitalist systems, workers are often seen as tools or machines, not as human beings. Products and money become more important than people. The article says this is very dangerous. When society puts economy above everything else, it forgets that the real goal should be the well-being of humans and nature. This kind of thinking has led to *overproduction*, *overconsumption*, and serious harm to the environment.

➤ ***Human Labor: The Root of Human Progress—and Crisis:***

The article begins by explaining that human labor is what separates us from other animals. Unlike animals, humans can think creatively and use their labor to build societies and solve problems. This labor powerful groups. This overuse of labor creates problems for society and the environment has led to great progress—cities, industries, and technologies. But this same labor is now being abused. In a capitalist economy, human labor is used not to help people, but to make money for.

➤ ***Climate Change: A Man-made Disaster:***

The author strongly connects climate change to human activities, especially those driven by capitalism.

Industries, factories, and large-scale farming release gases that warm the Earth. This warming leads to floods, droughts, and other extreme weather. The author notes that these disasters are no longer rare—they're happening more often and more severely. He uses data and references to show that human actions are clearly making the planet hotter and less stable.

➤ **Covid-19: Not Just a Health Crisis:**

One of the most interesting parts of the article is how it connects *Covid-19* with *climate change*. The author says that diseases like Covid-19 are the result of humans disturbing nature. As forests are cut down and animals are pushed out of their habitats, they come into closer contact with people. This increases the chances of viruses jumping from animals to humans. The article points out

that Covid-19 is a **“dress rehearsal”**—a warning of bigger problems to come if we don’t change our ways.

➤ ***The Role of SDGs in Solving These Problems:***

The Role of SDGs in Solving These Problems*To solve these complex issues, the author recommends focusing on the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** set by the United Nations. These 17 goals cover important areas like poverty, health, education, climate action, and clean energy. The article argues that we must stop seeing the economy as the center of everything and instead build a **balance between economy, society, and environment**. Proper use of human labor—not abuse—can help us achieve the SDGs and build a better world.

B. METHODOLOGY:

This qualitative study used secondary data from books (notably Karl Marx), journal articles, reputable websites research (WHO, UNFCCC/IPCC), organizations, Worldometer, and newspapers. Personal observations and searches on Google Scholar provided additional insights on capitalism, climate change, COVID-19, and SDGs. Data were collected from June 2020 to September

2022. Some quantitative data supported the qualitative analysis.

➤ ***The Article Sends A Strong Message:***

- ✓ ***Stop putting profit before people.***
- ✓ ***Take care of nature.***
- ✓ ***Use human skills to build a better, fairer world.***
- ✓ ***Follow the SDGs to protect the future.***

It's a deep and serious piece, meant for those who want to understand the root causes of the crises we face today — not just climate change or pandemics, but the way we live and work in modern society.

C. Weaknesses:

➤ **Overgeneralizations and Causal Ambiguities:**

- ✓ The claim that Covid-19 is a direct result of climate change is oversimplified and not conclusively supported by scientific consensus.

➤ ***Lack of Empirical Data:***

✓ The methodology relies mostly on secondary sources and qualitative observations, with little original or field-based data.

➤ ***Language and Clarity :***

✓ The paper uses complex, sometimes awkward phrasing, and suffers from grammatical issues.

D. Final Thoughts:

This article is not just about problems— it's also about hope. It shows that if we use our human creativity and labor in the right way, we can fix many of the issues we face today. But this requires a big change in how we think and act. We need to stop treating people like machines and nature like a resource to exploit. Instead, we must focus on *human dignity, fairness, and sustainability*.

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