

# Capitalism vs Nature: Existing Conflict Between Society and Environment

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All of us are more or less familiar with both of these two words – ‘Nature’ and ‘capitalism’. Nature is the originator and basis of all plants and animals as well as human beings. Whereas capitalism is a certain structure of society, existing today. In this column I will try to show the conflicts between these and its reason.

Firstly, we must observe the nature from a broad aspect and its relationship with human society. All the flora and fauna as well as human originated through evolution and is dependent on nature to thrive. In case of human beings, they depended on nature for their basic needs, I.e., foods, cloths and habitation. But with the time, human became civilized and



less dependent on nature as they transformed from collector to producer of their own basic needs, through their thought process, which creates a society and social relation.



Capitalist society is one of this social structure and production system. This system is totally based on profit and operated only by few people with large amount of capital. In capitalist society things are not only produced for consumption as a need but also for exchange as a commodity to gain capital and make profit. In agriculture, this tendency creates the “industrialised agriculture” sector where farming is done by a number of technologies, innovation, and developed steps. Now, for the demand of the food as a commodity, it must be ensured that the natural growing time should be decreased by using excess chemical fertilizers, pesticides and other scientific technologies which destroy the natural processes, soil texture, beneficial biota and microbes i.e., affects the land and water resources with its ecosystem.

It is true that agricultural productivity must be increased by a large amount

to assure food security of the ever-expanding population but, this Situation can be reduced to a great extent or may be overcome by solving the existing mass distribution problem in society through a socialist perspective. On the other hand, in capitalist society the ownership of advanced technologies and knowledge of scientific processes are also, in the hands of a few people, which cannot be afforded by poor classes. This mass distribution and affordability problem creates the social and economic inequality as well as oppression and



exploitation in society. And we all know, there is no chance to restore the nature without social justice in third world or developing countries. Humans are dependent on energies after their basic needs. In this case capitalism always clings to non-renewable energy sources and fossil fuel to keep their monopoly intact. Capitalists use the natural resources as an enormous source of natural capital to make profit and discourage the renewable energy resources, as those are available for common people which can demolish capitalist's



monopoly. Through this they exploit the labour in the factories where consecutive steps of processing of fossil fuel take place. On the other hand they emit poisonous gases in the atmosphere with toxic water in wetlands.

This high amount of emissions from the factories without proper guidelines and safety measures is one of the major reasons of climate change. The mixing of oil and other chemicals in waterbodies affects the most enriched aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem. In addition, deforestation due to mining to extract the natural capital and building factories is a very common thing today. Nowadays we commonly see the blockade on waterbodies to construct the so-called necessary settlements. Often, we see forceful eviction of the tribal or local habitat by the capitalists with the help of state machinery. It again raises the question of social equality and rural economy.

So, we must end this ongoing clash to save our nature, environment and overall whole earth by breaking this social structure.