

## Essay On Kashmir Disaster

The highly admired, the heaven on Earth. Kashmir is famous for its pleasing scenic beauty. None would have thought that the serene beauty would take its toll on humanity and would prove so utterly dangerous. In September 2014 when the residents of Kashmir were enjoying the pleasant weather in the valley, none would have thought that the pleasantness would be so short-lived. Jammu and Kashmir region saw a deadly flood caused due to heavy rainfall. The whole state got, submerged underwater which brought life to a standstill.

Hundreds of people died, millions got homeless after continuous rains that lasted for almost five days. About 400 people died in both Jammu and Kashmir and a lot of- roads, bridges, houses, schools, hospitals got damaged. Flood disrupted electricity, water supply and means of communications.

Many residents lost their family members, others got parted with them. People had to starve for days and were deprived of basic necessities. The patients who needed a regular dosage of medicines for diseases like diabetes; thyroid, blood pressure saw grave situations. The flood also destroyed the agriculture and handloom industry in the region. For Jammu and Kashmir, this is their worst flood in 100 years, according to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.

Monsoon is usual in the area but this time weather would havoc such devastation was not predicted. Environmentalists say that last year's devastating flood of Utrakhand and this flood in Jammu and Kashmir have the same cause-urbanization deforestation, unpredictable and variable monsoon. Satellite images rev al another contributing factor that led to floods; according to them, lakes and catchment areas of rivers are reduced to half over the decades, which left flood water with no place to go but into people's homes. Clearly, the fact that Earth is in the midst of global warming has become acute.

Surprisingly, Bollywood (The Hindi Film Industry) stars flew down to Delhi for "Hum Hain' "Umeed-e-Kashmir" charity concert. Which was later held in many other cities. Lots of celebrities and other eminent people contributed lakhs of rupees for the cause of charity. The money generated through the sale of tickets, donations and sponsorships will see

relief in restoring life in the state. Along with this state governments have also contributed towards the reconstruction of the state. Natural disasters are unpredictable but influence everyone equally. As a nation what we need is rightly put by Amir Khan. "we aren't equipped with disaster management. We should always be prepared to deal with such calamities. "India

needs preparedness and disaster management plans and effective mechanisms to ensure that all these are functional.

India needs much better rainfall prediction, flood forecasting. The other form of caution is to pay close attention to weather forecasts and act on time. Like in Odisha, when the cyclone hit the coast, the government was prepared after the weather forecast. It ensured the minimum loss of life and property.

Efforts are being done to rebuild the state and restore its scenic beauty. The state profited hugely from tourism, but unfortunately, it too has a gloomy future now. Citizens hope that the state which served as the perfect beautiful crown of mother India is re-established back at the earliest. Let us all reduce the burden on Earth before such megafloods and other natural calamities become 'the new normal'.

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