

# NATURE AT THE PRESENT

Humans impact the physical environment in many ways such as over population, pollution, burning fossil fuels and deforestation. Changes like these have triggered a climate change, soil erosion, poor air quality and undrinkable water. Scientists believe 'pristine nature' or ecosystems untouched by human intervention, no longer exist. Currently around 18 million acres of trees are cut every year to create space for development and to be used in wood products.

Every year an estimated of 14 billion pounds of rubbish is dumped in the world's oceans every year. That is more than 18 million pounds of rubbish dumped every hour. More than 85% of these come from world's merchant shipping fleet in the form of cargo-associated waste.



All of these leave a massive impact on humans and animals. They have negative impacts on human can affect their behaviour and can prompt mass migrations or battles over clean water. It is generally accepted that that air pollution can indeed cause public health problems and harm plants and animal life. It isn't just limited to the air, it can affect soil or water ways and can come from humans waste, industrial chemical and others sources. But when plastic reaches the water it poses threats to animals. To a sea turtle a floating plastic bag looks like a jellyfish. The small hard parts of plastics from which plastic is made of looks fish eggs to birds especially seagulls. Eating these kill the animals.

We can save the environment in many different ways that are simple and have good long-lasting effects. Some of these things include shopping wisely - this means not buying something you know you won't eat because you know it will get chucked out and in to waste. Also recycling things that can be recycled such as glass, and most plastic. Reuse objects to make more beneficial items so they don't get thrown away. And the most simple is to plant a tree. This will last millions of years and could help millions over the next centuries. Educate people on how the environment is useful for us and how it can be saved.



This showed what  
the environment was like before  
human changed, the environment  
is not theirs the environment is

## OUR'S

and we must help save it before  
it's too late

~ Ridandhanani

~ NLSK

# NATURE AT ITS BEST ☺



Around the world many years ago nature was as its best. The air was pure and breathable, carbon dioxide and oxygen levels were equal meaning less polluted air. The amount of water in those days was sufficient for all people around the world to survive on, most animals were extant. The amount of in the past were probably less than half of those present today. The average atmospheric concentration now stands above 410 parts per million (ppm), compared to 280 ppm before the industrial revolution in the 19th century. Now a days each person on average generates 4.5 pounds of waste a day compared with just 3.25 pounds in 1970.

Humans invented agriculture during the new stone age era which occurred between 7,000 and 10,000 years ago. Over 100 years ago 90 percent of the world's population lived on farms and produced their own food to eat. But today, only two percent of the population produces food for the world to consume. Changes in equipment have made a large impact on the way farmers are able to farm and grow food. In the past, farmers would have to do field work by hand or with horse-drawn equipment. This work would take a long time to complete, which meant that farms were smaller because farmers could only so much land. Horses were not very fast, and since they were animals, they would get tired and need rest to recover from their hard work.



The number of wild animals on earth has halved in the past 40 years, according to a new analysis. In the past animals were known to live with people and seen on streets however now most animals with the fear of being extinct. Creatures across land, rivers and seas are being decimated as humans kill them for food in unsustainable numbers, while polluting and destroying their habitats. If half the animals in London Zoo died it would be all over the news however this is happening in the great outdoors. The damage is not inevitable but a consequence of the way we choose to live.

In the past animals were used for basic things like farming or hunting however now animals are abused for things like entertainment or for the use of food and materials like elephant tusks and tiger skins. Animals are mainly used for lab testing that can't be tested on humans. The toxic released in the body causes pain that animals can't express. Because human populations are growing so fast animals are 1000 times faster they've been in the past 50 million years. Wildlife is in threat from humans as they are losing their habitat.



~Ridan Dhanani

~NLJK