



# Sustainable Life – Style Of People With Stable Population – Need Of The Human On This Planet

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Earth as a home of many known or unknown species is gradually becoming only homo sapiens' s home. Human population is increasing on a very high rate and count as if it occupies the home of every other species on the Earth very soon. From Industrial revolution till now we increased in great numbers (from 1 - 2 billions to 9 billions today), thanks to technological and medical reforms.

But there is a big question to solve whether this planet (Earth) has any limit to support increasing population and how can we decide that limit?

In 1798, English cleric Thomus Malthus gave a solid understanding about the population that it increases in geometric way while food production increases in arithmetic way perhaps he was the first who attract scholars' attention to this problematic side of population.

Anyway, Malthus was criticized on many fronts, but today when there is the time of technological innovation, scholars think that Malthus failed to recognize dynamic nature of human population.

“Malthus however failed to consider characteristics of humans that make their carrying capacity more fluid and dynamic than other species.” (Finnin, Michael S. , 2016)

Human can trade Food (as any other species on Earth cannot do this) whenever they need and also can alter their Food habits whenever they need/ feel and can switch from Non-Veg diet to Veg and vice-versa. For example, when overfishing limits the number of Cod in Atlantic Ocean on North American coast, governments

of related countries can act and can stop fishing or slow down it.

Industrial revolution and technological development may blurred the Malthusian thought but Neo - Malthusian theories re-established it in a different way. These theories not directly question about food shortage but put in place pollution, food & environmental contamination and changing of climatic condition of different regions which can ultimately create food shortage too. “Many Neo-Malthusian theories have sprouted in which the side-effects of our modern globalized society are contributing to an eventual collapse of food resources. For example the effects of polluted resources, land degradation and decreasing biodiversity on the environment may eventually affect human food production. (Finnin, Michael S.,2016)

According to Neo-Malthusian theories, there are many problems related to climatic contamination, land degradation, land, water and food shortage, bio-diversity reduction are because of increasing population. But, I think, these problems are not the after-effect of only over population but also the life style of human race which is on the name of economic development only exploit the natural resources with no limit.

On the one hand, the world population is increasing in great numbers in very short span of time and on the other hand human population is becoming very consumptionist in a very quick and easy way that today is 'Internet'.

Internet revolution which ease the life of humans by many ways, increase the quantity of problem which needs attention. Today by media, Social media and other type of sources, People of any part of the world know about of the life style of the people of the other part of the world.

"The growing global middle class predominantly in today's emerging and low-income countries, is likely to repeat the unsustainable production and consumption pattern of the rich countries. In the coming ten years, another two billion people will adopt the same resource - and - energy intensive life- style as the one that has led to today's greenhouse gas accumulation" (Leisnger, Klaus M., 2014).

The similar type of thought is given by an Indian scholar in last decade of 20<sup>th</sup> century. "The rich will not accept anything less than what they currently enjoy. On the other hand, unlike in the past, the poor are quite familiar with the life-style of the rich, thanks to today's global communication network, specially television. The poor are no longer content being poor. God's will and destiny notwithstanding, they now aspire a standard of living at par with the rich." (Chakraverty, Chiranjit, 1996)

In recent years, Internet users increased by many folds in many developing countries. According to Economic Survey, 2022, India had the second highest number of mobile-app downloads in the world after China. And on an average 70.8% of user's time is consuming by social media and communication apps.

According to the world bank, By 2019, 41% of India's and 56.73% of world's population has internet access.

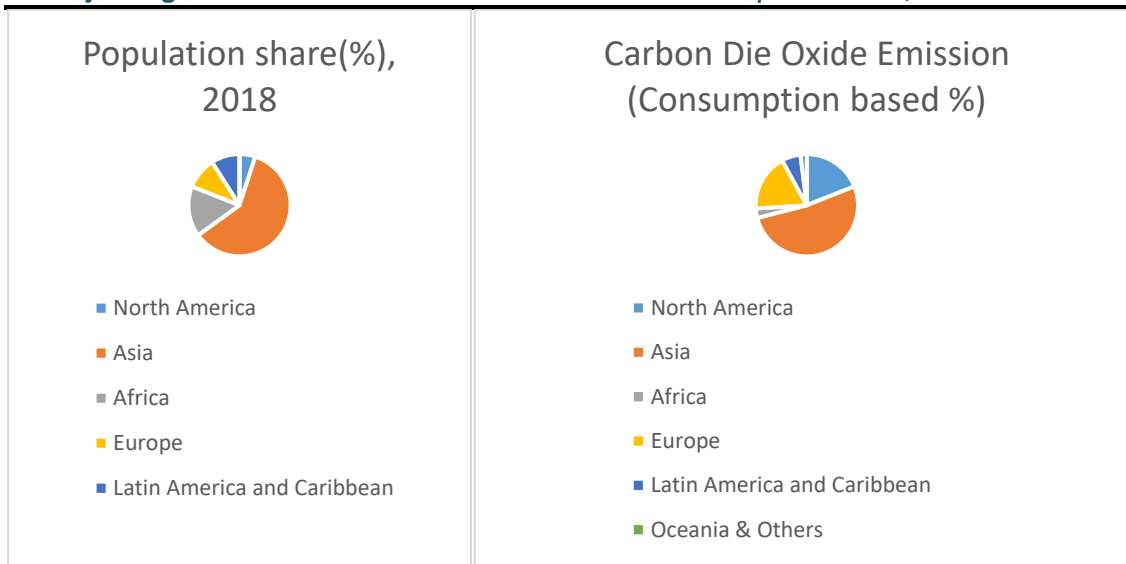
There are many problems such as land-use and land-cover change, soil-degradation caused by over use of pesticides and insecticides, shrinkage of farming-land, water and ground-water pollution, shortage of drinking water, bio-diversity degradation, shortage of non-renewable resources - all because of overpopulation but if we think only by controlling population, we can solve these problems, then we have to rethink about that.

Firstly, as we all know, there is strong positive relationship between income and energy consumption. In the case of a country or individual person, it is true.

Secondly, we all know that total energy generation of world, generation by fossil-fuel has largest share.

Carbon Die Oxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission, primarily caused by burning of fossil-fuels, is the main reason for Global Warming which, further, is in the root of many problems generated by anthropogenic reasons.

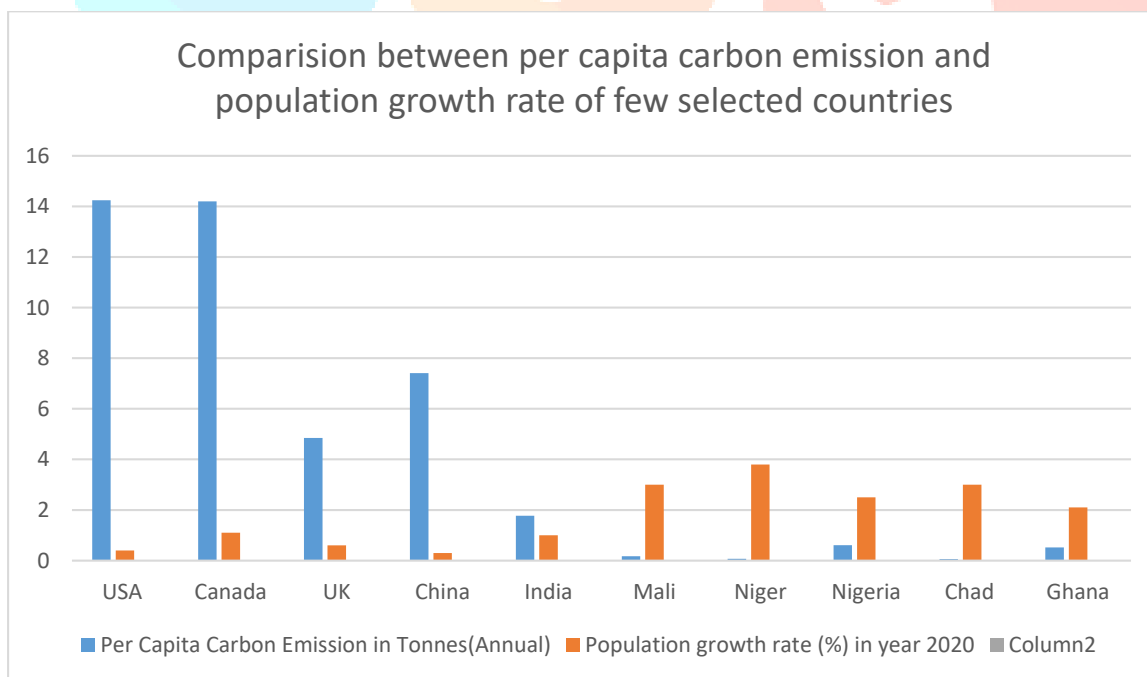
It is alarming that world's total Carbon Die Oxide emission, which was 6 billion tonnes before seventy years, in 1950, today, it is above 34 billion tonnes each year. This Carbon Die Oxide emission is caused by power generation and cement production (Source: Our world in data based on Report by Global Carbon Project).



Source :Our World in data based on data from the Global Carbon Project , UN Population division (2018) and World bank income groups

Here, the graph shows consumption-based Carbon-emission share of continents and population share of continents in world’s total population, as on / in year 2018. Consumption based emissions derived by production-based emission minus(-) embedded Carbon Die Oxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in exported goods plus(+) embedded CO<sub>2</sub> in imported goods.

As we all know , most of the developed countries of world are located in North America, Europe and Oceania with much lesser population but we can see their consumption- based emission is greater than their population share. On the other hand Africa has a greater share in world’s population but it’s consumption - based emission is much lower.



Source: World bank and Our World in data based on Global Carbon Project UN

**Conclusion** – ‘Homo-sapiens’ - Human with brain, now needs to think that the Earth with its environment is our home. If we harm it, It harms us back. We need to understand that as much it is necessary to reduce / stabilize the population, it is necessary to change the consumption habits as well. If efforts are made for these two together then the expected results may be achieved. If we cannot go back from the indiscriminate consumption and exploitation of the environment being done in the name of development, then even by stabilizing the population, we cannot get the solution of the problems which we are going to face in much risky way in the near future.

## References-

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