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Investigating the Consequences of Climate Change and its Impact on Afghanistan's Security

Mazloum Yar Fayaz Gul[*1] and Zarghani Sayyed Hadi[2]
[1]Department of Geography, Faculty of Education, Nangarhar University, Nangarhar, Afghanistan
[2]Department of Geography, Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran
*Corresponding author: fmazloumyar@gmail.com

ABSTRACT
Today, climate change poses a threat to global security. Security is crucial in all areas and for all individuals. Therefore, this study identified the important and effective factors of climate change on Afghan security and categorized them. this study applies an exploratory method because of the nature of identifying factors and its purpose. This article provides an overview of the potential impacts of climate change on Afghanistan across economic, political, environmental, and social dimensions. This using the definitive definition of security, aims to address whether the transformations of the Taliban are advantageous to Afghanistan's survival and security. Research findings show that climate change is caused by changes in rainfall patterns, especially in arid regions, exacerbation and continuity of drought, reduced rangeland levels, decreased production of agricultural products, widespread migration, food security threats, and environmental challenges.

Keywords: climate change, security, global warming, environment

INTRODUCTION
Climate change alters the weather and has widespread impacts on human life and the environment (Hayes et al., 2018). In addition, the economic and social consequences include reduced production, increased healthcare costs, income reduction, higher unemployment, increased poverty, and escalating social and political tensions (Chausson et al., 2020). The political and security ramifications include heightened political tensions, an increase in the number of migrants and displaced individuals, greater ethnic and tribal tensions, and heightened security threats. To address these consequences, it is essential to implement climate adaptation strategies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, along with international cooperation to mitigate the impacts of climate change (Niles et al., 2016).

Climate change presents various challenges for Afghanistan. Being a mountainous country, a substantial portion of its water supply comes from glacial meltwater and mountain snow (Essar et al., 2021). However, rising temperatures and shifting precipitation patterns are causing a gradual reduction in glacial meltwater, leading to decreasing water resources and shortages in Afghanistan. This has significant implications for agriculture and food security. In addition to water scarcity, climate change has exacerbated droughts in Afghanistan. Repeated droughts result in reduced agricultural and livestock production, thereby exacerbating economic and security problems. Poverty and unemployment increase, forcing people into internal and external migration, further contributing to social and political tensions and threatening the country's stability(Herrero, 2017). Furthermore, climate change can intensify various natural phenomena in Afghanistan, such as floods and heavy rainfall. Floods can devastate rural areas, causing significant damage to the country's economic foundations and infrastructure. Additionally, political and ethnic tensions may intensify due to competition for access to water resources and recurrent droughts (Blöschl et al., 2017). Climate change therefore poses a serious threat to Afghanistan's livelihoods and security. To address these challenges, it is necessary to improve climate change and water resource management policies. It is also necessary to increase international cooperation and provide financial and technical resources for climate change projects. National security is of paramount importance to every country. Research shows that climate change can threaten the security of countries. In Afghanistan, climate change has always been ignored and officials believe that these crises are caused by other factors. Therefore, this study attempted to address this issue. To examine the consequences of climate change and its impact on Afghan security, this issue has not been addressed in Afghanistan. The national government will be better able to manage and prevent crises caused by climate change. This research is of particular importance; since no one has addressed this issue before, and this study has attempted to use authentic, up-to-date, and new sources, this study could help relevant policymakers and authorities to plan for and manage crisis-related crises.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
This is a review article using the research method. The information required for this study was gathered through the documentary method and by referring to library resources and reputable articles.
This study investigated climate change and its impact on Afghan security. The main question of this research is how climate change affects Afghan security. The research hypothesis is that climate change and its consequences and impacts threaten Afghanistan's security and lead to security challenges.

To achieve the research objectives, information on climate change and security in Afghanistan was first gathered from library resources and reputable articles. This information was then analyzed to examine the linkages and impacts between climate change and Afghan security.

In this study, the analytical method was used to examine the communication and impact of climate change on Afghan security. The analysis of the data and the results were rational and scientific, and the results were reported accurately and comprehensively. Finally, the findings and conclusions of the research on the impact of climate change on Afghan security were carefully and scientifically expressed by examining the issues at stake.

Research Findings

Economic and social consequences of Climate change in Afghanistan*:* Climate change in Afghanistan has profound economic and social implications. For instance, increased droughts and reduced precipitation can lead to diminished agricultural production and heightened unemployment, consequently resulting in increased poverty and insecurity within the country(Pecl et al., 2017). Furthermore, climate change can contribute to a surge in the number of migrants and refugees, fostering social and security challenges for Afghanistan (Figure 1) and the broader region(Mukherjee et al., 2018). Additionally, climate change may exacerbate political and economic tensions, particularly concerning water and energy resources. Consequently, climate change in Afghanistan can lead to various economic and social challenges(He et al., 2021).

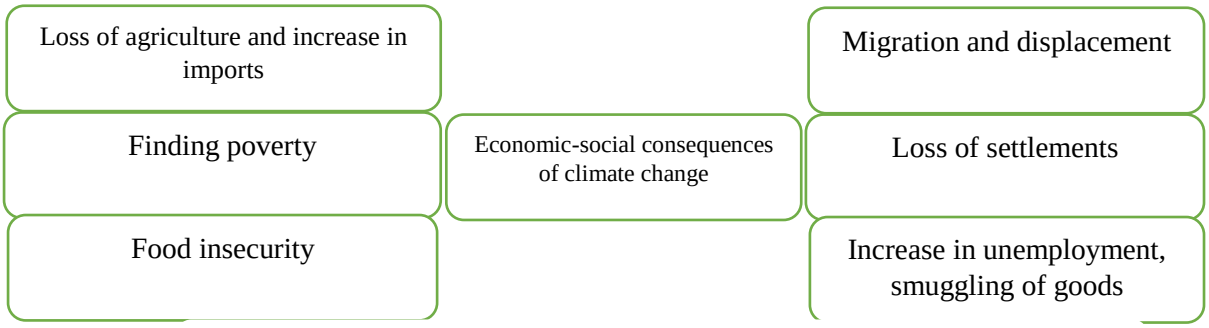

Fig.1. Investigating the economic-social consequences of climate change
Source: ((Lewis et al., 2011))

Political and security implications of Climate change in Afghanistan: Climate change in Afghanistan has significant political and security implications (Figure 2). For instance, heightened droughts and decreased precipitation can lead to reduced agricultural production and increased unemployment, which can subsequently fuel poverty and insecurity within the nation(Vicente-Serrano et al., 2010). This, in turn, can drive a surge in the number of migrants and refugees, posing security challenges for Afghanistan and the region. Moreover, climate change can contribute to heightened political and economic tensions, especially regarding water and energy resources. Consequently, climate change in Afghanistan can lead to numerous challenges in politics, security, and economics(Cinner et al., 2018).

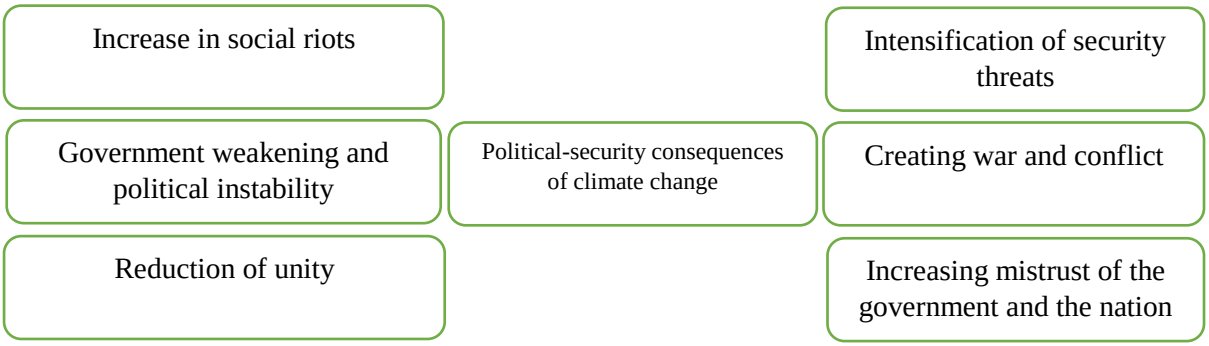

Fig.2.Investigating the political-security consequences of climate change
Source: ((Campbell et al., 2022))

Environmental Consequences of Climate Change in Afghanistan: Climate change in Afghanistan has various environmental consequences, including a reduction in Water Resources: Climate change leads to decreased precipitation and increased temperatures, resulting in a reduction in water resources in Afghanistan. This, in turn, reduces agricultural and livestock production and, consequently, people's income(Shepherd et al., 2018).

Increased Droughts: Climate change has exacerbated droughts in Afghanistan, leading to decreased agricultural and livestock production and increased prices. This, along with reduced income, results in higher poverty and unemployment(Owusu & Asumadu-Sarkodie, 2016).

Decreased Biodiversity: Climate change has diminished biodiversity in Afghanistan, reducing the number of vital species and increasing the risk of their extinction(Vicedo-Cabrera et al., 2021).

Air Pollution: Climate change has increased air pollution in Afghanistan, leading to respiratory diseases and higher mortality rates(CHANGE, 2019).

Natural Disaster Risks: Climate change elevates the risks of natural disasters such as floods, droughts, and hurricanes in Afghanistan, causing economic damage and human casualties(Hasegawa et al., 2018).

Reduced Energy Production: Climate change has reduced energy production in Afghanistan, affecting the government's ability to meet the population's energy needs(Shepherd et al., 2018). See the effects of climate change on the environment in Figure 3.

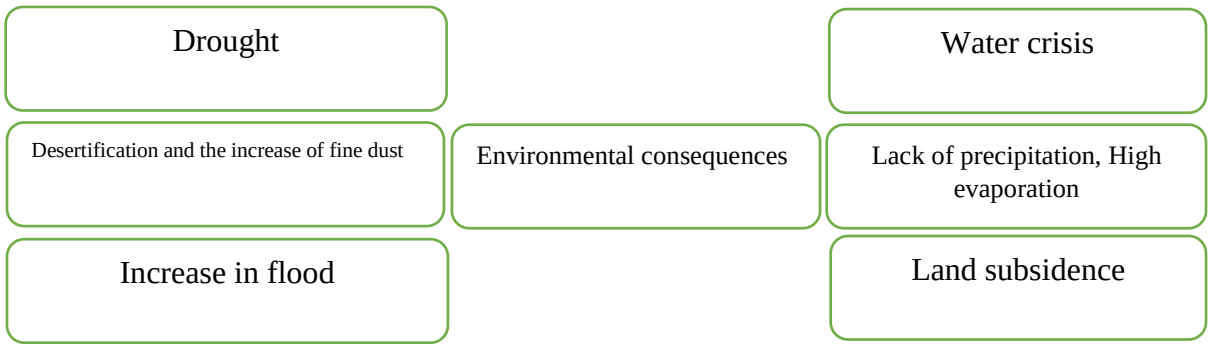

Fig.3.Investigating the environmental consequences of climate change
Source: (Campbell et al., 2022)

DISCUSSION

This study investigates the consequences of climate change on Afghanistan's security and its impact on the country's economy, social, political, and environmental aspects. The research reveals that climate change in Afghanistan leads to increased droughts, reduced precipitation, and reduced agricultural production, resulting in increased unemployment, poverty, and insecurity. This can also lead to a surge in migrants and refugees, posing social and security challenges. Climate change can also exacerbate political and economic tensions, particularly concerning water and energy resources. To mitigate these consequences, effective adaptation measures and strategies must be implemented.

Political and security implications are also significant(Sesana et al., 2021). Increased droughts and decreased precipitation can lead to reduced agricultural production, increased unemployment, and poverty, posing security challenges for the country and the region. Addressing these challenges requires political stability, effective governance, and international cooperation(Vitali et al., 2017).

Environmental consequences are also significant. The reduction in water resources due to decreased precipitation and increased temperatures directly impacts agricultural and livestock production, affecting income and livelihoods. Sustainable water resource management, conservation efforts, and climate adaptation strategies are necessary to mitigate these adverse effects and ensure long-term ecological sustainability(Molla et al., 2023). According to the research background and review of literature by various researchers, the consequences of climate change and its impact on the security of countries cannot be fully applied to the Afghan environment because the geographical, political, economic, and natural conditions of Afghanistan are different from those of other countries. According to my research, the geographical environment of Afghanistan and the political management of the government can be affected by climate change in the areas of temperature increase, soil erosion, reduction and destruction of vegetation, freshwater shortage, reduced rainfall, drought, reduced agricultural production, pollution, and dust. Note dust, increased salinity of rivers, freshwater pollution, land subsidence, desertification, heavy rainfall and destructive floods, desiccation, and fire. The major impacts of climate change in Afghanistan can directly and indirectly threaten Afghanistan's national security.

CONCLUSION

Climate change is a significant global challenge that impacts human life and the environment, leading to increased temperatures, reduced precipitation, intensified droughts, floods, and severe hurricanes. These changes have significant implications for the security of nations and regions, including Afghanistan. Studies show that climate change can lead to decreased agricultural production, increased unemployment, and higher poverty, contributing to dissatisfaction and insecurity within Afghanistan. Additionally, climate change can

increase migrants and refugees leaving Afghanistan due to water scarcity, drought, and other environmental challenges, which may face security and economic challenges in neighboring countries, potentially escalating security tensions in the region.

To protect Afghanistan from climate change, extensive and coordinated efforts from the government, local communities, international organizations, and the global community are necessary. Strategies to protect Afghanistan include developing national policies and plans that improve resilience and adaptation to climate change, strengthening infrastructure with climate-resilient systems, promoting renewable energy resources like solar and wind energy, enhancing education and public awareness about climate change and mitigation strategies, and collaborating with international organizations and other countries to share experiences, technical knowledge, and financial resources through joint projects.

A multi-faceted approach that integrates policies, investments in infrastructure, education, and international cooperation is essential for Afghanistan to enhance its resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts. By implementing these strategies, Afghanistan can enhance its resilience and reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

Suggestions

Based on the text presented in the research "Investigating the Consequences of Climate Change and its Impact on Afghan Security", I will present the following suggestions:

1. Create education and awareness plans: To combat climate change and increase Afghan security, it is necessary to implement education and awareness plans on the consequences of climate change and ways to deal with them at the community level. These projects can include training farmers on changing agricultural patterns, water resource management, and optimizing water use in different sectors.
2. Strengthening capacity for water resources management: To address declining water resources and increasing droughts in Afghanistan, the country's water management capacity needs to be strengthened. This includes developing water infrastructure, improving managed irrigation technologies, and promoting sustainable water management practices.
3. Develop climate-resilient infrastructure systems: Creating water-resilient infrastructure systems can increase Afghan security. This includes the construction of dams and water supply systems, the development of drought and water harvesting systems, the strengthening of transport infrastructure, and sustainable energy supply.
4. Develop crisis management programs: Developing crisis and emergency management programs are essential to mitigate the risks of climate change, such as floods and droughts. The programs should include educating and preparing the community to
5. Strengthen international cooperation: International cooperation is critical to addressing climate change and enhancing Afghan security. Efforts should be made to provide international cooperation and financial and technical resources for the implementation of projects related to water change in Afghanistan. Sharing experience and knowledge on climate change with other international countries and organizations can help improve Afghanistan's capacity and security.

Future research in this area can further investigate the impact of climate change on Afghanistan's biodiversity and natural ecosystems, examine the direct impact of climate change on food security, examine the role of climate change in creating social and ethnic stress, and study resource management strategies. Water points to climate change.

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