

NATURE'S CALL FOR HELP

by:

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Have you noticed that despite being in the summer season, typhoons are already coming to us when they usually come in August? The supposedly all-hot summer has now instances when it can be cold as a rainy season. I am no scientist or expert, but I can say that something is now obviously wrong. Climate change has always been a hot topic and a lot of scientists have already joined forces in the hope of reversing its effects dealt with our planet.

Rising sea levels, unpredictable weather, inconsistent temperatures, and stronger typhoons are some of the usual indicators that our planet isn't as it was then. According to studies, we don't exactly know what will be presented to us when our ice caps melt further. They contain organisms (viruses, bacteria, etc.) that are unknown to us because they are trapped there for centuries if not millennia. We are unprepared for what disease they might cause us because we don't have the technology or knowledge to counter them. It is only an example from the experts but there is so much more that we might get if we are not to reverse the alarming effects of the global temperature rise.

These signs are clearly nature's call for help. I like to believe that our planet is an organism consisting of multiples organisms thriving in it. And just like another organism, Earth has health and systems for its body to make living possible. Let us make an analogy. Our body has antibodies to protect us from diseases that may endanger us. When foreign bodies enter and abnormalities occur, these antibodies will work to eliminate the problem resulting in fever. That's why fever is an indicator that vaccines work. Like our planet, when something is wrong with it, natural disasters and other abnormalities are likely to

occur to try to correct its abnormal condition. The only difference is that the cause is the rise in temperature that is also caused by our abusive work.

We should all be striving for development, but we must also be responsible and commit ourselves to balance the effects of work. We can't afford to portray parasitism in which we are the only ones who benefit and cause destruction to our planet. It should be commensalism if not mutualism. Commensalism is one benefits while the other is unaffected, which is impossible for our relationship with Earth because there is a necessity to destroy something for us to create. We must strive for mutualism, in which both of us benefit. We take care of our planet, and our planet provides us with what we need.

At our level as normal citizens with no direct participation in Earth sciences and research, we can also help this cause. If we are to build our homes where there are currently trees standing, we must make sure to plant trees of the same number if not more of what we will be sacrificing. We are consuming materials that are not healthy for our environment if not disposed of properly; it is our responsibility to see to it that we disposed of them correctly. Let us conserve energy by turning off unnecessary illumination and appliances. Let us save water. Avoid burning.

Who would know that changing our diet can help too? By minimizing the livestock (beef, pork, etc.), we consume and choosing to depend on a plant-based diet, we can help the Earth recover. High demand for livestock means more land to be used for them, less land for agriculture, and fewer plants that help cool the Earth. These studies guide us so we can help whatever industry we are from and whichever generation we belong to.

These are only some of the things that we can do to greatly help Earth to recover. It may be all just a hassle and nonsense cause many of us are not doing it, but let us all not be conformed and take a stand for the place we all live in. We must choose between

what is easy and what is right. The signs to act are there. The means to help are also already existing. We just must start participating.

References:

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