

Is the World Freezing Over?

A number of extreme and harsh events are happening in our world recently. If you live in Texas, Minnesota, Dakota, Oklahoma, Britain and geographically near places, the below zero harsh weather has probably frozen something of yours or of someone you know – perhaps it has even tried freezing you. Well, good news first, it is not Sub-zero (from Mortal Kombat) leading his Lin Kuei army on an assault against us.

So what's happening? Why is the weather below 0 degree Fahrenheit? What is the cause of the freezing weather? I am quite sure you have heard of the terms climate change and global warming before. Most persons think the resultants of these phenomena is heat, more heat, increasingly unbearable heat. Oh well, extreme cold conditions, increased snowing and freezing weather are also some of their resultants.

Sounds counterintuitive, doesn't it? How does climate change and global warming cause a freezing weather? Global warming causes a hotter earth, this means more water will evaporate, this results into increased precipitation – the water in the atmosphere gets frozen up there in the sky then liquidise and fall back on earth: cold, freezing.

But this is the less scary cause. Sorry to break your heart, there is more. Along the North Pole, is a large area of pressurized cold air called 'polar vortex'. The surge in stratospheric warmings this decade weakened it atypically and this led to a burst of extremely cold and frigid air raging across several countries.