Noam Chomsky's Critique of Eco-Imperialism

Boughambouz Mouhamed^{1*}, Lamouri Chahida²

¹Kasdi Merbah Ouargla University (Algeria) boughambouz.mohamed@univ-ouargla.dz

Submission Date 29/05/2022 Acceptance date 30/05/2023 Published date 30/07/2023

Abstract:

The present study aims to identify the new position from Chomsky's critical stances on Western imperialism. Following the discussion on the media, democracy, and human rights, he is now moving on to the ecological disaster. the latter is considered one of the biggest problems the world is currently facing. However, this environmental awareness expressed by contemporary ecological tendencies remains incomplete because it addresses the issue only in terms of industrial damage, and perhaps the most prominent way to overcome this crisis is to sign the Green Deal and preserve its principles and thus enacting the principle of justice for the whole earth.

The study came to the conclusion that the lack of ecological media knowledge puts humanity in grave peril. Signing the Green Deal and upholding its tenets would likely be the most visible method to address this catastrophe while also embodying the idea of fairness for the entire planet.

Keywords: Criticism, imperialism, ecology, the West, the Green Deal.

1. INTRODUCTION:

It is advocated that the effects of colonial ecological confrontation were not only limited to colonial societies but also extended to post-capitalist comprehensive imperialist societies. Climate changes, rising temperatures, and environmental imbalances are intensifying and accelerating on the planet more than ever. Furthermore, it has become a necessity to enlighten the world's public opinion about the terrible practices of the global imperialist industrial powers against the environment, and not being limited to environmental organizations that sometimes turn into a kind of folklore based on the love of nature. Moreover, in recognizing a new stance on Chomsky's criticism of Western imperialism, he argues that after the media, democracy, and human rights, the ecological crisis is one of the world's most important crises. Between the developed world and the third world due to the double

_

² Kasdi Merbah Ouargla University (Algeria) <u>chahidamouiz@yahoo.fr</u>

The sender author.

international standards issued by entities that support Imperialism and glorify Western culture. Finding Chomsky's critique of Western imperialism in its ecological context is crucial to understanding the significance of this work. On this basis, we raise the following question:

- Can the world implement the Green Deal and thus end the environmental emergency?
- This problem stems from fundamental questions, most notably:
- What is Chomsky's criticism of savage Western eco-imperialism?
- And any world that politicians prepare for us?

The purpose of bringing up this subject is to expose the hidden and shadowy sides of Western society and its immoral treatment of the environment, which in Chomsky's perspective led to an ecological disaster.

In order to accomplish these encompassing objectives, we relied on a method that is appropriate for the study's nature: the analytical descriptive approach. This method helps us organize the knowledge material we gathered from Noam Chomsky's texts in the proper framework, analyze and interpret it, and draw conclusions from it.

To answer the questions, we structured the research according to the following elements:

- 1. Ecological Rollover and the Threat of Extinction The Other Side of Imperialism
- 2. The media is a reason for the absence of environmental awareness
- 3. The Green New Deal: Justice for the Earth.

2. Ecological Rollover and the Threat of Extinction - The Other Side of Imperialism:

History is replete with accounts of horrible battles that cannot convey the torture, killings, and other abuses committed against vulnerable peoples, but the current big threat to organized human life is the continuous environmental disaster. (Chomsky, 2020, p. 14); it is a crisis that requires collective of all global efforts to preserve environmental diversity, and even the fate of humanity today is more threatened than ever due to inhuman practices against nature and the unprecedented climate change that the world has witnessed. The best proof of this is that "we have come dangerously close to the temperatures that the global warming prevailed 120,000 years ago... this is what paves the way for the collapse of the slopes and the melting of glaciers in the Arctic due to the phenomenon of global warming that may lead to the flooding of islands and even entire countries." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 14).

The post-colonial Western powers have worked to extend their influence over their traditional colonialism by controlling the environmental wealth of the former and trying to destroy their ecological wealth to make that traditional colonialism dependent on them.

The philosopher and political activist Noam Chomsky sees that Western imperialism has succeeded in destroying ecological diversity in Colonial countries by ignorantly transmitting European diseases which brought dangers to plants and biology And more food items of European origin—grains and meat—than other lands on Earth had no wheat, barley, or plant (..) at all five centuries ago." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 15)or what is known as the Green Deal.

In the same line of thought, on Earth Day, which falls on the twenty-second of April of each year, and in 2016, the United States of America, along with a group of flag countries, signed the Paris Climate Agreement in order to reduce the risks of gaseous emissions and reduce global warming and try to reduce the degree of the Earth's temperature increased from two degrees Celsius to one and a half degrees, and this agreement stipulated that developed countries would help developing countries in efforts to reduce emissions, but with the signing of the agreement, "the contour was greatly discouraged by the insistence of the PA and other countries of the rich world" (Chomsky, 2020, p. 56) to embody once again the dark and hidden side of Western barbarism and imperialism that claims to call for the protection of the environment and the preservation of international conventions.

This agreement did not achieve the ambitions of environmental organizations in combating the global climate emergency, especially when former US President Barack Obama stated: "Now it will not solve the problem." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 56). Of course, to this day, this agreement has not been able to fulfill its promises, especially regarding emission reduction and nuclear danger. Chomsky asserts that the danger of extinction began after Trump was elected head of the WMI. As the world turned upside down and on the verge of ecological collapse as it became governed by the forces of the American hot-headed far-right hostile to climate action." Those fears were realized when, almost immediately after Inauguration Day, President Trump and the entire executive branch began taking action to encourage increased emissions of greenhouse gases and more of pollutants along with the degradation of soil, water, and ecosystems in the country." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 55). Immediately after that, federal agencies began removing the term climate change from documents, and Trump announced his intention to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, to embody this behavior of the dark side of Western civilization, which has always been singing about the protection of environmental, plant and animal diversity from the threat of extinction. The climate crisis has become one of the most important issues that runners address in their campaigns for the White House due to the apparent interest of Americans in this topic; one of the proposals known as the Green New Deal"

(Chomsky, 2020, p. 55). Then this deal was successfully used in the political process without any of the candidates intending to achieve it.

In this regard, Scruton stresses that the global warming phenomenon resulting from gas emissions and the accompanying climate change (Scruton, p. 5), which has become ravaging the world along the lines of pollution and global warming.

Americans have staged protests once more to practice nonviolent protest, and hundreds of people have been arrested in environmental destruction, led by the government, because of the disturbance of the natural order, which benefits rich people socially, economically, and politically. "Switching to renewable sources of energy is not an environmentally conscious decision It is now a hugely smart economic decision (...) Few at the time were questioning the false assumption that the act of building new wind and solar capacity would take fossil fuels off the market and reduce emissions as quickly as necessary" (Chomsky, 2020, p. 62). While in 2019, what is known as the Extinction Rebellion movement appeared, which worked hard to establish the legal rights of the ecosystem and then try to fix the effects of the ongoing environmental genocide to prevent the extinction of humans and all creatures on the planet and then preserve ecological diversity. The streets of City Hall were organized by teenagers and schoolchildren, bringing the crowd to approximately 1.4 million people, and immediately afterwards the federal government was recognized for creating a Green New Deal." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 5). From the technological aspect, it also called for the disposal of biological carbon", there were also calls for expanding forests and pastures in order to withdraw carbon from the atmosphere and store it in the soil. Although the Green Deal does not pose a threat to business, the Trump administration and American companies considered this deal to be Green is a job-destroying deal and a prediction of job destruction Hunted "would indeed require major reductions in car and air travel (...) and many other profound changes" (Chomsky, 2020, p. 70), but this deal did not occur and did not appear anywhere in the Congressional resolution, especially when it came to fossil fuels, it is an unfair philosophy Ethical because it withdraws the truth and divides it based on concessions that help weakness using emotion, it is a democracy of chaos and a rabble culture.

By the same token, the imperialist character is more evident in that the Green New Deal aims exclusively to preserve the internal wealth of the United States of America without other countries, as we witness the un-environmental practices of multinational corporations in the poor countries of the world and marginal communities around the world that are suffering from the consequences of 400 Parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and the US administration has breached its moral obligation to settle climate debt "Climate debt has suddenly gone out and is impossible to ignore (...) In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria three thousand to four thousand people and more may have died and left Puerto Rico devastated." Partially (...) this human tragedy was the problem of some other governments (...) after

they succeeded from centuries of colonialism (...) this incident fits the image of many places around the world that have become highly vulnerable to climate disasters." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 60), Puerto Rico has developed an ambitious scheme based on renewable energies. The Republican Party worked to embody the Green Deal, and the beginning was the popular mobilization in California, which targeted a lot of actions on the ground such as the petroleum industry, mainly hydraulic fracturing methods in gas fields and strip mining in the tar sands, with the construction of oil pipelines for long distances Long Inside Reservations "A small number of Native Americans have set up camp near (...) the pipeline that would (...) Encroach on ecosystems (...) threaten the reserve's water supply and help simplify the extraction and burning of fossil fuels." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 57), increasing the number of protesters in the camp from hundreds to thousands, but with the growth of the "spontaneous, nonviolent society met with an escalation of state violence." (Chomsky, 2020, p. 57), and the US imperialist practices against environmental threats re-emerged, and the police forces launched an attack on the camp, which despite all these The suffering remained steadfast and achieved victory, especially when the Trump administration succumbed to the fait accompli due to the increase in protests throughout the country. Immediately after that, the permit to operate pipes under water was refused, and the term "water protector" appeared as a description of the demonstrators who advocated for more awareness and responsibility.

Moreover, one of the crimes that are truly shaking the world today is the destruction of the Amazon forest and the attempt to exploit it in the most horrific way to transport oil pipelines. The effects of this crime extend to the entire science, not only Brazil and at all levels. This means the inevitable extermination of all humanity. In this, Chomsky says, "we are racing towards disaster under the leadership of social fanatics (...) it is as if some evil demons have decided to take over the human race and push them to self-destruction." (Chomsky N. , 2020), we must all be aware of what America is doing to itself and to the world. There are large protests everywhere and against the use of military force. This is intolerable and cannot be accepted in a country that claims to raise the slogan of democracy.

3. The media cause the absence of environmental awareness:

Byung Choul Han stresses that social media and search engines within the Internet have a great role in directing users to the sectors of the world that they need, and here the individual does not have any form of resistance, then change is not possible. (Choul, 2010, p. 81). Furthermore, we hardly hear, for example, about the damages of shale gas in public television institutions. The transparency society is the information society, which is governed by framing, according to Heidegger in light of the concept of Hegemony, the whole world has fallen into the grip of a surveillance system that is not subject to any moral determinism, because the goal of digital

networks is pragmatic and utilitarian, and its role is not to expose the Western mechanisms used against the ecosystem "where the goal is not moral purification, but the maximum profit possible, attracting attention, absolute transparency promises maximum profits." (Choul, 2010, p. 90). Bourdieu, in turn, launched a campaign against the media in general and television in particular, as they are working to embody their own stakes related to capital and their specific interests. He found in them nothing but a machine of domination, domination and pressure by raising the slogans of neo-liberalism and financial markets (Harab, 2001, p. 49), avoiding talking about topics that harm them, such as the dangers of chemical factories to the universe, and therefore his rejection of them is not a rejection of the language of the times, but rather a rejection of the conditions and mechanisms of their manufacture. Not denying the hegemony of discrimination and exploitation inevitably leads to its doubling. Those who previously denied resistance to the liberal capitalist system are telling us today about the savage capitalism and neo-liberalism that wreaked havoc in the ecosystem. Chomsky refers to the role of the imperialist media, which works to distort the truth and whitewash the image of the imperialist state. In line with that, it emphasizes the active role of American propaganda, which sought to realize the dream of imperialist politicians, represented in its attempt to bury the truth behind a layer of lies, which is a remarkable achievement for it. (Chomsky N., 2003).

It was clear to us that we stress the role of the imperialist media in concealing the shameful practices that are committed against the ecological environment, for nothing but the satisfaction of human instincts, not caring about the consequences of those practices that are committed against the ecological environment. It is beginning to appear in the open as human-caused climate change affects many extreme weather and climatic phenomena in both all over the world scientists are watching changes throughout the planet's climate system; In the atmosphere, oceans and ice floating on land, and the results of this change began through Hurricane Catherine and the California fires, which were the most violent in decades, these fires that did not stop only in America, but recorded the countries of the world in the last two years.

What happened to the environment and what happened to it at the end of the last century, hastened the emergence of the so-called environmental media through its various means, and it is one of the most important means that plays an important role in developing awareness of environmental issues and its problems, and deepening the citizen's sense of his duties and responsibilities towards the environment. Environmental media has become a mechanism One of the mechanisms of overcoming and mitigating environmental problems and one of the elements in preserving the environment, which is based on creating environmental awareness and on humanity's awareness of the danger of tampering with the various elements of the environment (Ben Mahra, p. 86). The United Nations Environment Assembly is the highest decision-making body related to the environment in the world. Through its resolutions

and calls for action, it plays a leading role in this regard and stimulates intergovernmental action on the environment and reliance on environmentally friendly programmes.

4. The Green New Deal is a justice for the Earth:

There is nothing that does not embrace change into its inverse, therefore human conditions must be continually regenerated or they would succumb to decay, fading, and extinction. Man must permanently revive a new existence based on respect for environment (Morin, 2007). Thinking about barbarism is contributing to the revival of humanity, and the revival of humanity means resisting the barbaric tendency that destroyed ecological diversity and threatened human existence, instead of the individual surrendering voluntarily to him by stripping these immoral practices committed against the ecosystem.

Chomsky offers us a set of solutions to try to overcome, or at least reduce, environmental problems. For example, the permissible emissions should be allocated in proportion to the current production of each country, which is a simple but unfair formula called the grandfather rule. There is another simple and fairer plan. Incomplete is the allocation of emissions rights on a per capita basis. Alternatively, a global cap could be set for each individual per year and all countries should place themselves under this ceiling (Chomsky N., 2020, p. 137), the green new deal and it is also possible to develop other standards and hybrid models that preserve the equitable use of wealth in all countries of the world through what is known as the principle of distributive justice, which was of interest to environmental and moral philosophers. The theory of rationalization that governs communicative activity and attempts to establish an interactive ethical standard within the public society affirms that each participant in communication must confront the other in a demonstrative dialogue. And its Arab manifestations, (Afaya, 2014,, p. 77) especially with regard to its dialogue with environmental organizations that aim to reduce factory gases, which makes them lack communicative ethics.

Encouraging self-centeredness is an European nature that has always existed, but it has taken on in the Western present a color that is characterized by a clear contempt for the environment and for every important thing that is contrary to and not similar to man, especially in the light of the new neo-imperialism, making nature and its wealth a target to achieve its economic interests without taking into account the grave damages and frightening changes that It fell on the surface of the world, so the ideological desire that calls for living in luxury at the expense of the environment must be changed.

On the scientific level, the Irish-based Fiesta Group has worked to develop a plan based on selling fuel all over the world in return, and put a price on carbon. As for its discount system, it indirectly addresses the huge differences in economic power and access to Energy between and within countries (Chomsky n. , 2020, p. 137). This is what allows the fair distribution of energy in the world, and it is necessary to note that the people of the United States of America demanded a solution to the imperialist practices that occur against nature and demanded "to put an end to this plunder (...) we can reduce global warming emissions to zero (..) reduce The American army then redirected the rest of it towards disaster prevention and relief and forced twenty-four financial institutions to waive the debts of poor countries" (Chomsky n. , 2020). They exceeded, if with a little something, the destruction caused by the accumulation of nitrogen and phosphorous on the earth, the deterioration of the soil and the melting of the earth's ice due to the increase in the earth's temperature at its natural levels. This threatens an ecological disaster.

Nonetheless, the United States of America still needs more fair mechanisms to suppress fossil fuels. "If the United States of America can free itself from fossil fuels and reduce the volume of production strategically, this example may be a source of inspiration for large countries such as China and India, as well as smaller countries." (Chomsky n., 2020, p. 138), this reduction will, in fact, only disturb the elite who achieve major economic profits at the expense of the ecological environment. The report on global warming issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates that the human cause is the dominant cause of climate change, which has led to rising sea levels, an increase in wildfires, severe storms, and the drought that has hit the world more recently than ever. This is evidenced, and untreated or improperly managed waste and runoff from a variety of sources, including food systems, manufacturing facilities, and human health systems, can contain biologically active antimicrobials, antimicrobial resistant organisms and inadvertent antimicrobials. Metabolites and determinants of antimicrobial resistance (for example; resistance donor genes) are released into the environment, and these residues can contaminate the environment and contribute to the spread of antimicrobial resistance (World leaders and experts call for action to protect the environment from antimicrobial contamination). The most important way to combat the spread of antimicrobials from food and human health systems is to use antimicrobials responsibly and sustainably in the treatment of humans, terrestrial and aquatic animals and plants/crops through appropriate measures for the safe treatment and disposal of waste, including human, animal and manufacturing waste.

Furthermore, many environmental thinkers have declared that we are at a critical crossroads in our historical understanding of nature. In order to get through the era of our current environmental crisis, we must all dispense with the perceptions we inherited from the Western heritage, and there is no doubt that Heidegger would have agreed to this general project, as he says on the one hand that the modern invasion of nature It is the result of the dominance of the modern technological understanding, which he sees as the pinnacle of the western metaphysical heritage (Bami) that the

modern mind must transcend. Hence, we find Heidegger linking human existentialism with natural existence, so man must be responsible towards future generations and towards nature and the universe. in addition to that, if the quality of life is mainly related to the level of science, then life is related to the environment in which we live, and before thinking about the quality of life, it is necessary for us to think about ways that enable us to preserve the environment that we have damaged, and this will only be achieved by weighing morals over welfare and the interest of Man or through the so-called constructivist ethics (Jafal, 2018, p. 110); criticizing the instrumental mind, man has intervened a lot in the environment as a result of his scientific and technological progress, so he set up factories and manufacture cars, which created problems of air pollution in addition to the pollution of seawater and even groundwater because of what is known as the policy of technical backfilling of waste. Therefore, it is worth changing the economic, technological, and cultural policies until conditions improve, and then ideological change is basically a change in outlook and a move away from the desire to live in luxury at the expense of the environment and cosmic nature.

So, as Winon Laddock argues, justice for the whole earth is that one path will be obsolete, but it will burn, and the other path will be green." Instead of being the mortal nation that we are today, we can lead the way toward the environmental stability needed for people and all living creatures to be safer, if poorer. Parts of the world are responsible for only fifteen percent of global warming emissions." (Chomsky n. , 2020, p. 132). However, despite that, they are countries whose wealth and resources are being plundered by multinational companies. This makes them subject to huge environmental and economic losses. The largest amount of emissions, such as China, India, Russia, Japan, and Australia, must pay the bill for this climate change, and their companies are trying to repair what has been destroyed.

Conclusion:

Based on the aforementioned and through our analysis, we draw the conclusion that Chomsky exposed all the structures of domination and forms of injustice and oppression used by Western regimes against the ecosystem in an effort to overthrow tyrannical models and practices and reinstate consideration for the oppressed and marginalized other, who bears the brunt of climate change despite being a minor actor.

It is a decentralized universe for humans in the dilemma of trying to raise them to a place where justice reigns. The end of water wealth and the spread of issues that have a negative impact on all aspects of the environment are therefore environmental threats that the Western imperialist governments must combat in order to protect the planet. These countries, which have a great international influence and were the cause of the ongoing environmental crisis, which is unique in human history, must also initiate the new green deal, which seems impossible to implement due to the economic losses that may be inflicted on industrialized countries.

As a result, it is important to utilize the media's potential to raise environmental consciousness among people, societies, and nations by exposing imperialist agendas that prioritize human welfare and benefit at the price of the environment.

List of References:

Afaya, M. N. (2014,). In Contemporary Philosophical Criticism, its Western Sources and Arab Representations. Beirut: Center for Arab Unity Studies.

Bami, D. (s.d.). Philosophy, Environment, and Earth Ethics - Biology Unit,. *Muhammadiyah League of Scholars Website*. Studies and Research of the Kingdom of Morocco.

Ben Mahra, N. The role of environmental media in protecting the environment, *Journal of Al-Ma* jar in Arts and Humanities, Social and Cultural University Center Tissemsilt, Issue 8 (4).

Chomsky, N. (2020). decades of the neoliberal plague left the U.S. prepared for covid -19 outbreak -. Récupéré sur democracy no.org: democracy no.org

Chomsky, n. (2020). The green new deal and beyond ending the climate emergency. stan cox for word city lights bookshop.

Chomsky, N. (2003). What does Uncle Sam want? (M. Barhoum, Trad.) Jordan: Dar Al-Fikr for Publishing and Distribution.

Choul, H. (2010). The Transparency Society. 1. (M. B. Eddine, Trad.) Kingdom of Morocco: Believers Without Borders.

Ghanem, J. (2019). Imperial Manzoor for Environmental Sciences. Center for Studies in Islamic Sharia and Ethics Qatar Website cilec enter.

Harab, A. (2001). on the war of theoretical idols and spectra Freedom, criticism of Bourdieu and Chomsky. Morocco: Arab Cultural Center.

Jafal, A. (2018). Environmental Philosophy. *New Ethics in the Face of the Negativity of Science according to Hazik Solimovsky*. Camp of Al-Mawqif Magazine for Research and Studies in Society and History: Mustafa Istanbouli University.

Morin, E. (2007). Europe's culture and its goodness. (*1st edition*). (M. Al-Hilali, Trad.) Casablanca, Morocco, Toubkal Publishing House. Scruton. (s.d.).

World leaders and experts call for action to protect the environment from antimicrobial contamination. (s.d.). From https://www.who.int/ar/news/item/29-07-1443-