

ACID RAINS

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Acid rains are harmful precipitations which make us get wet. Acid rains can be in the form of rain, hail or snow. They are very harmful from the ecological, economic and aesthetic point of view. Volcanoes and thunderstorms are natural reasons which cause acid rains. Mineral fertilizers, incineration of fuel, airplane fuel, petroleum refining and motor transport also cause acid rains but these reasons are connected with human activity. Every year about 200 million tons of solid particles are thrown in the Earth's atmosphere. Air pollutants include one billion substances, among them there are sulphur and nitrogen compounds. Being processed sulphur converts into sulphureous gas. These compounds can be partly washed when buildings are repaired. Other compounds are thrown out in the atmosphere. There they unite with water and form sulphuric acid. Another chemical agent nitrogen is contained in many kinds of fossil fuels especially in coal and oil. 93% of nitrogen oxide is ejected into the atmosphere from antropogenic sources and is transformed to a nitric acid. Lightning is a natural source of nitrogen production. Ecosystem balance is broken as a result of acid rains. Another negative phenomenon is the worsening of agricultural productivity and the fertility of soils on our planet. Metal constructions are destroyed as a result of rusting and corrosion. Acid rains ruin marble and limestone buildings, Historical monuments of Greece and Rome which remained undamaged for thousands of years nowadays are being destroyed before our eyes. The same fate threatens Tadz-Makhal, the masterpiece of Indian architecture, the Westminster Abbey in London and Kazan cathedral in St. Petersburg. The limestone layer as destroyed in 2,5 cm. on the surface of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. The statues on the St. Ioann's Cathedral in Holland melt as lollipops. The Royal Palace in Amsterdam is covered with black sediments. We come to the conclusion that acid rains are very dangerous and we should do our best to prevent their election into the atmosphere of our planet.

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