

## Study links increase in violence to climate change

Submitted by [Aaron Ross](#) on Sun, 08/04/2013 - 10:51 **Featured** **TNM**

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According to the findings of a new study published in Science, the increase in violence all across the world is apparently an upshot of the shifts in climate; and the present projected levels of climate change will probably make the world an even more violent place in the future.

The US researchers behind the study are of the opinion

that even small changes in temperature or rainfall can be correlated with a spate in violent incidents, such as assaults, murders and rapes, as well as group conflicts and war.

For their study, the US researchers carried out a comprehensive analysis of 60 studies on historic empire collapses, recent wars, and violent crime rates in the US. In addition, they also conducted lab simulations which tested police decisions



on when to shoot, and also baseball-game cases in which pitchers threw deliberately at batters.

The 'common thread' which the researchers – led by economist Solomon Hsiang of the University of California, Berkeley – found over the centuries was that violence was more rampant during extremely hot and dry weather conditions.

Noting that there is a "substantial" correlation between climate and conflict, Marshall Burke - from the University of California, Berkeley – said that the mentioned correlation had been observed "across time and across all major continents around the world;" and added: "The relationship we find between these climate variables and conflict outcomes are often very large."

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