

From Industrial Revolution to COVID-19 Pandemic— Lessons Learned and Path Forward †

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† Presented at International e-Conference on Green Chemistry and Engineering towards Sustainable Development – An Industrial Perspective (16-18 June 2021), Surat, Gujarat, India

Received: 5.06.2021; Revised: 10.06.2021; Accepted: 12.06.2021; Published: 15.06.2021

Abstract: The industrial revolution has resulted in an abundance of useful things that have made our lives much more convenient than before. At the same time, rapid industrialization has led to urbanization, environmental pollution, resource depletion, and climate change. As our population approaches 8 billion, it is time for us to seriously review our conventional development models and reconsider our relationship with the environment. What lessons can we learn from the COVID-19 pandemic? What should our path forward be? Thoughts on these and other questions we all may ponder are presented in this keynote address.

Keywords: environmental impact of industrialization; COVID-19 pandemic; eco-friendly development models.

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Funding

This research received no external funding.

Acknowledgments

This research has no acknowledgment.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.