



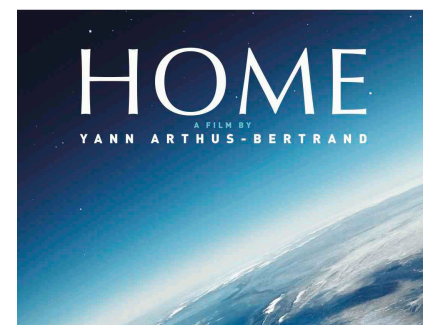
# Home



Hut in the swamps of the White Nile near Bor, Jonglei, South Sudan (Photo Credit: [www.yannarthusbertrand2.org](http://www.yannarthusbertrand2.org))

A film review by Forouq (Zahra) Kanaani

Director: Yann Arthus-Bertrand  
Producers: Denis Carot, Luc Besson  
Film title: Home  
Production Company: Europa Corp  
Production year: 2009  
Country: France  
Language: Many international languages  
Official language: <http://www.homethemovie.org/>



As a result of human industrial activities in recent centuries, the global average temperature increased from 0.6° to 0.9° Celsius (1.1 to 1.6° F) from the early 1900 to year 2005 and according to estimation, it will rise further (NASA). On the other hand, deforestation, over-consumption of natural resources, air and water pollution and all similar activities which lead to environment destruction, are reducing the survival chances for next generation of human beings.

To prevent serious environmental problems in the future many policies should be created; but there are some very

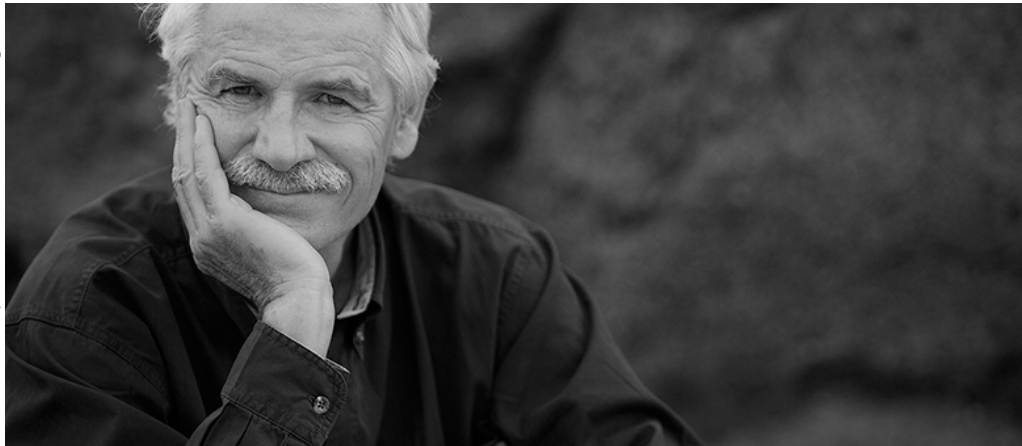
important sections which are common in all these policy making plans and this part is raising public awareness of the ecological issues.

There are many different strategies to inform people about the dangerous consequences of environment ruination, but making documentary movies is one of the best methods, due to the visual perspective which they provide for their onlooker (Norris, 2010). The film is a 93 minutes colorful and harmonious movie which was released in 5 June 2009, World Environment Day, without copy right. It takes a wide





photo credit: <http://www.human-themovie.org/>



**“The key of ‘The Earth from Above,’ and of ‘Home’ is to show the beauty of the planet, and thereby to promote love for it.”**

**Yann Arthus-Bertrand**

look into the vast vision of our environment and the natural resources which is the most crucial basis for all being's life. The director, Yann Arthus-Bertrand is a photographer, journalist, reporter and environmentalist. In his movie "Home", he tries to direct the attention of viewer to the extreme beauty of our planet and the hazards that threaten the resources.

In this regard, he created amazing scenes of places showing wonderful wild life, nature and daily life of various habitats. Extraordinary camerawork, stunning aerial shots and visual effect combining with pleasing music make such a glorious film which gently takes the watchers under its spell. Home starts with a simple scientific explanation about the beginning of life on the earth and gradually goes to depict different elements which our lives are formed from. The documentary emphasizes the importance of atmosphere and the gases it consists of, water and its different resources, diverse biomes like tundra, taiga, desert and rainforest and eventually, the ruinous agricultural and industrial activities of human being and the probable harmful outcome of these practices.

Stated in detail, the film shortly explains many different subjects related to our natural surroundings; for instance, the spectator is informed step by step about the way life started in oceans million years ago; how it turned to more advanced living beings; why plants, soil and other biological chain elements matter; what the importance and function of different ecological biomes is and how all this natural resources should be preserved from annihilation. Meanwhile, the narrator addresses the audience by explaining the history of human civilization and blames the way this civilization devastates the planet. There is a delicate style of narration which observes this demolition process without taking any serious action to stop it.

The film takes a critical stance towards conventional methods of agriculture and husbandry and accurately shows these practices and industrial practices lead to world-wide natural damage. The film puts the blame on the development formation of megacities and their energy consumption pattern, the extra luxury cloned shapes of their suburbs, as well as their contamination impacts, providing the example of Los Angeles in the United States of America and



Chittagong's port, Bangladesh (Photo Credit: [www.yannarthusbertrand2.org](http://www.yannarthusbertrand2.org))



City (Photo Credit: [www.yannarthusbertrand2.org](http://www.yannarthusbertrand2.org))

Dubai in United Arab Emirates. In this regard, the director highlights the inequality of global resources in the term of natural, as well as monetary assets by reminding how capitalist states use (or even better to say abuse) the very-limited natural resources to manipulate their surrounding in the most unsustainable way which is also not necessary at all.

on the film then looks at the fishery industry, and documents overfishing problems and its terrible effects on marine reproduction cycle and life. By showing the simple life of some tribes and the way they value their limited fresh water resources, the film maker gives a profound tribute to these people and their culture. This appreciative point of view and addressing the tough ecological situation they are struggling with, shows consideration for these people and the unfair conditions they have to tackle to survive.

The film maker continuously illustrates various locations in the world and investigates the non-environmentally friendly practices of different people as well as states. Putting condemnatory statements on many inappropriate development schemes shows director's point of view and his sen-

sibility to the challenges our beautiful planet is facing. The film indicates the global warming issues and the problems it may cause worldwide. It provides examples of massive reductions in ice cap thickness over the last 40 years, sea-level rises and catastrophes like flooding to indicate the serious environmental obstacles we should tackle to survive, if we are not going to change our current devastating development strategies, as soon as possible.

### Author information

Forouq (Zahra) Kanaani has obtained a Bachelor degree in "Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and Plant Breeding" from University of Tehran and then, she finished her M.Sc. studies in "Agronomy" in Iran in the year 2013, while in her Master thesis, she investigated the organic practices to suppress the competitor plants on the crop field. Currently, she is pursuing a second Master degree on "Sustainable International Agriculture Science" from University of Göttingen and University of Kassel and tries to make her contribution in agroecological area, hoping to solve global food and water problems.

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Official web page <http://www.homethemovie.org/> and [www.yannarthusbertrand2.org](http://www.yannarthusbertrand2.org)