



## COVID-19: Nature is Calling

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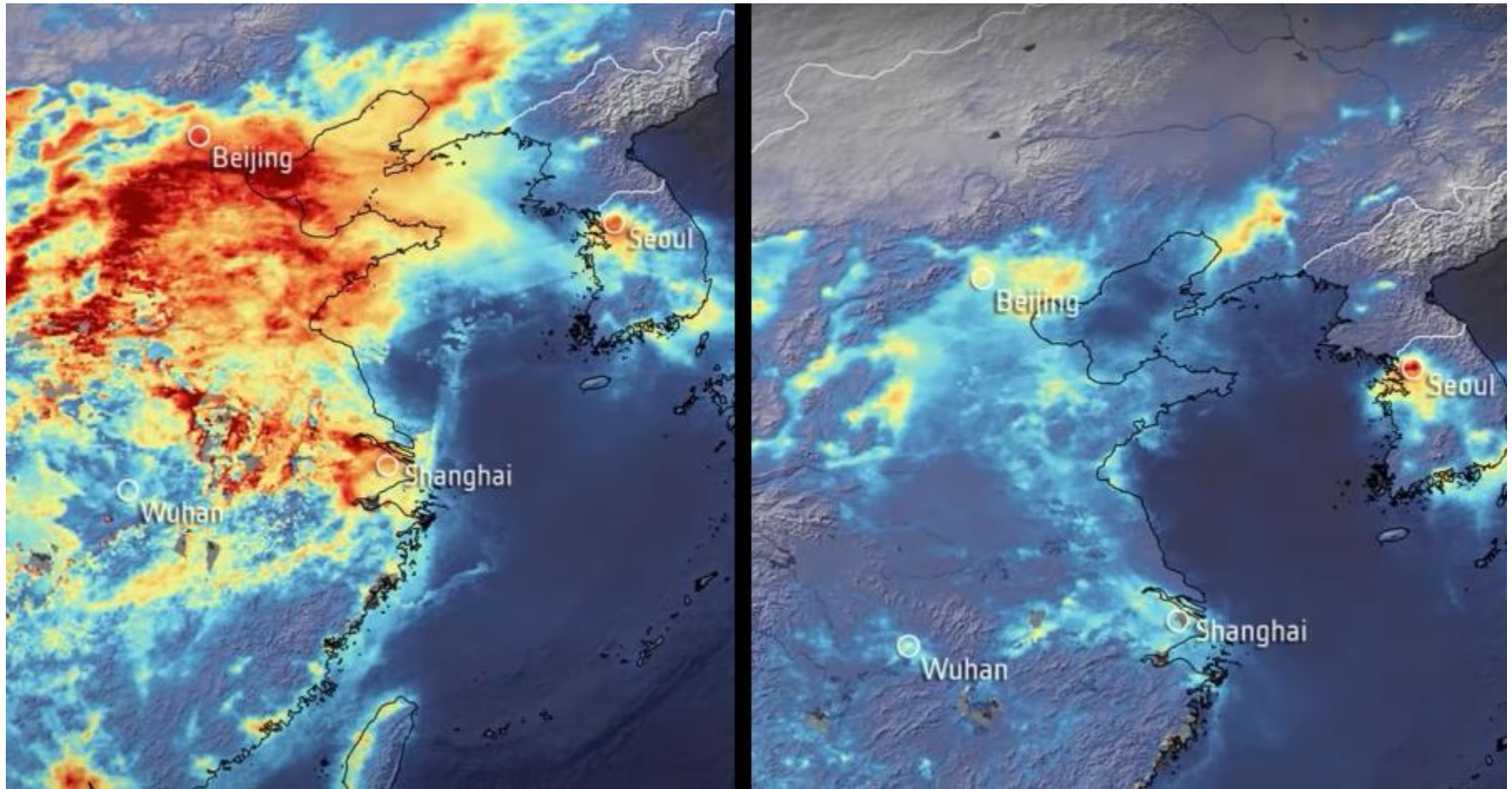
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This week we pause with some observations on the environment before we will soon return to business as usual. The past month offered a good lesson on sustainable development.

Perhaps mother nature is calling.

In April 2020, the Earth paused and even rewound.

Industrial manufacturing ground to a halt.



(Nitrogen dioxide pollution maps of northern China. Source: European Space Agency.)

We limited consumption to basic food and shelter.

And medical needs for some.

Malls were empty; face masks became fashion.



Source: New York Times.

We spent more time jogging, biking, and paddling in the great outdoors.

And enjoyed home cooking with family.



U.S. 290 in southwest Austin, Texas, on March 25, the first day of the stay-at-home order.

Source: Jay Janner, Austin American-Statesman

No more traveling beyond our city limit,  
but we were more connected with parents and friends.  
We found new ways and tools online to stay productive.



Source: Bill Roth, Anchorage Daily News.

We practiced social distancing as a reminiscence of Li (禮),  
a Confucian philosophy of how humans interact with each other and nature.  
We saw our world more clearly ...  
the Himalayas reappeared in northern India after 30 years.  
For one month, we lived closer to the life Homo sapiens once did.

