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The Melting Sky captures the anguish of Mother Earth as she faces havocs created by men in the name of modernization. The exploding sky is shattered and pouring down with Mother Earth writhing in pain and despair.  
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-Editor

## Edward W. Said and W.B. Yeats: Theories of Post-Coloniality

Nitai Saha

Hailed as Irish nationalist, occultist, romantic, modernist, and postcolonialist, Yeats's life and work are open to many interpretations. As a writer who devoted himself to build Irish culture and literature, Yeats's position as a postcolonial figure seems obvious. At the same time, he was a member of the Anglo-Irish Ascendancy and flirted with fascist ideas in his old age. The question of Ireland's place as a postcolonial nation also demands a critical overview in this regard. Post-colonial theory, a mode of thought which accepts European Imperialism as a historical fact and attempts to address nations touched by colonial enterprises, has as yet failed to adequately consider Ireland as a post-colonial nation. Undoubtedly, Ireland is a post-colonial nation (where 'post-'colonial refers to any consequence of colonial contact) with a body of literary work that may be read productively as post-colonial. Although colonialism, as a subject for Irish criticism and theory, has been tentatively broached, Ashcroft, Griffith and Tiffin, in *The Empire Writes Back*, exclude Ireland from the list of postcolonial nations (though Canada and the United States are included). Their *Postcolonial Reader*, however, includes discussions of Ireland. David Lloyd's essay, "The Poetics of Politics and the Founding of the State," explores the connections between Yeats's poetry and nationalism. Interrogating Yeats's position as both postcolonial and colonialist, Seamus Deane's *Celtic Revivals* raises important questions about images of nation and history. Jahan Ramazani uses Yeats to interrogate postcolonial studies, and vice versa. He comes to the conclusion that Yeats's work as a nation-maker qualifies him for inclusion as a postcolonial (Ramazani prefers the term "anticolonial") poet.

Born in Dublin in 1865, Yeats was the son of Pollexfen Yeats, whose family lived in Sligo in the Northwest of Ireland. Yeats spent much of his childhood in Sligo, and repeatedly returned to those memories in his work. His homesickness when the family moved to London and his sense of isolation in an English school resurface in his *Autobiographies*: "When I was ten or twelve years old and in London, I would remember Sligo with tears, and when I began to write, it was there I hoped to find my audience" (Yeats 1966:18). Further, he was "delighted with all that joins" his "life to those who lived in Ireland" (Yeats 1966:22). After briefly attending art school, Yeats devoted himself both to Irish literature and to his own literary development. Hence, Declan Kiberd