



**ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
AND VIABLE PARTICIPATION
THROUGH LITERARY PERSPECTIVE**

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**Dr. Rajan Lal
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*In deep and heartfelt gratitude
this book is dedicated to*

Prof. (Dr.) Shikha Singh

*Professor of English, Department of English & Modern
European Languages, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur
University, Gorakhpur, (Uttar Pradesh) India*

was so polluted that it made him spit more blood" (*The White Tiger* 48).

River Ganga is a source of irrigation for farmer and also used for domestic and industrial purposes. Moreover, it is a holy river, large number of people take bath in the river as a part of religious rituals. On the banks of river, dead bodies are cremated and the ashes are immersed in the river which according to Hindus, take the soul to the heaven. The wood used to bury the dead cause air pollution. A few families who are not able to afford sufficient wood, burn the bodies partially and dump it into the river which causes water pollution. The great river that is worshipped as the goddess is polluted because of industrial waste and religious offerings. The author through the narrator says, "India is two countries in one: 'An India of Light, and an India of Darkness. The ocean brings light to my country. Every place on the map of India near the ocean is well off. But the river brings darkness to India – the black river'" (*The White Tiger* 8). Balram visited the Ganga River to do funeral rites for his mother. When he reached the bank of the river, he smelt a "stench of decaying flesh stung and a pale-skinned dog was crawling and sniffing through the beads and satin and charred bones" (*The White Tiger* 17). Aravind Adiga explored the reason for the environmental crisis on the banks of river Ganga and the critical state of the people living near the river.

Conclusion

Man and Nature are interdependent. Literature acts as a tool to connect and create a harmonious bond between mankind and nature. Arundhati Roy, Amitav Ghosh and Aravind Adiga explored the environmental issues and challenges by using ecocritical elements in their writings. Preservation of nature from pollution is essential for mankind to survive on the earth. In accordance to that, the Indian writers have used their writing as their tool to explain the impact of the environmental issues and created awareness.

Work Cited and Consulted

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CHAPTER 8

Ecocriticism and its Perspective: Interdisciplinary Study of Literature and Environment

Rajib Sarkar

Abstract

In this paper entitled "Eco-Criticism", an attempt is made to discuss ecocriticism which emerges as separate discipline in the 21st century. 'Eco' is a short of 'Ecology' which is concerned with the relationship between living organisms in their natural environment and their relationships with the environment. Despite an undeniable development, ecocriticism, by analogy, has a close link and relationship between literature and environment. It is absolutely a combination of a natural science and a humanistic discipline. Besides interdisciplinary combination of the physical and the spiritual can be seen in terms of ecology and ecocriticism. It is found that the relationship between man and physical environment had always been interesting to literary critics. The present paper seeks to explore the ecocritical perspectives as envisaged in some select world literature as well as Indian writing in English. This environmentally oriented study of literature brings about an ecological literacy among the readers who in the process become ecoconscious, thereby taking good care of Mother Nature.

Keywords: Environment, Literature, Nature, Ecocriticism, Indian Novels, Man-nature relationship, Ecological.

Introduction

The word ecocriticism is a semi neologism. Eco is short of ecology, which is concerned with the relationships between living organisms in their natural environment as well as their relationships with that environment. The relationship between man and nature is not just interdependent but also interrelated. By analogy, ecocriticism is concerned with the relationships between literature and environment or how man's relationships with his physical environment are reflected in literature. The term Ecocriticism has a broad area and has been expressed through many literary genres. Some of the most