

“Exploring Ecocriticism In The Works Of Selected Indian English Authors”

Dr. Usha V. Kaushik^{1*}, Apexa Trivedi²

^{1*}Associate Professor, V.M.Patel College of Management Studies, Ganpat University

²Research Scholar, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Ganpat University

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Abstract

This paper presents a comprehensive study of ecocriticism in Indian English novels, focusing on themes such as environmental degradation, the relationship between humans and nature, and the role of nature as a significant character or agent of change. Drawing on selected texts from prominent Indian English writers like Ruskin Bond, Amitav Ghosh, and Kamala Markandaya, it explores how these authors envision the landscape in their works. The study reveals that through vivid depictions of deteriorating environments and damaged ecosystems, the writers reflect the ongoing environmental crisis. The research highlights the crucial role of literature in fostering eco-consciousness and contributing to sustainability discourses while emphasizing the urgent need for cultural responses to environmental challenges. It traces the historical interplay between humanity and nature, examining how Indian authors address ecological issues in the context of rampant urbanization, increasing pollution, and climate change. This article provides a theoretical framework for reading these texts as eco-fiction, exploring their implications for natural worldviews against anthropocentrism, the collective dimensions of environmental issues, and feminist perspectives on nature. Situated at the intersection of literary studies and environmental humanities, this innovative methodology interrogates how literature can mainstream sustainability and eco-ethics in India.

Keywords: Ecocriticism, Indian English novels, environmental literature, nature in literature, environmental consciousness, theoretical frameworks in ecocriticism, cultural ecology, postcolonial environmentalism

1: Introduction

One of the more recent additions to the field of literary theory, ecocriticism, asks us how researchers will situate literature about not only our human place in a post-apocalyptic world but also that apocalyptic relationship with nature and how it can respond, push back even against that (anthropomorphic) smugness nature is gaining. Nature is depicted in rural and urban settings through Indian English novels, which are fertile ground for an eco-critical study. However, writers like Ruskin Bond and even Amitav Ghosh to an extent delve into the emotional connections between man and nature, refashioning nature from being just a space to something higher; at times it takes over above the play, almost ruling as in any case becomes an innate component influencing both the other characters & narrative. Bond writes—to Insta’s Saleem, ‘terror-filled airheads never having enjoyed rhododendron, etc. in season, hold to despair’, not for anyone so reading, beyond ridicule—of the Garhwal hills, which Bond celebrates soon as shrines to splendour and risk and fragile balance between man and earth—more power than I am going to write about them now (Nair 2019). The former ones explore ecological catastrophes to show how the suffering of those on the periphery are harbingers of more general climate change concerns, Ghosh, however, makes disasters in nature flush and (btw: citation connects human babane/Chakrabarty-2018). These works by Indian English novelists are an articulate expression of man in nature as opposed to a man and nature exploration, which can lead us to be more sensitive toward environmental issues In the country too, they well exemplify how man has kept alive the cultural side with the ecological balance within their own life (Misra, 2017).

This paper aims to investigate the portrayal of nature and eco-consciousness in Indian English novels with the help of related theoretical approaches. The eco-critical canon may be expanding, but these new additions reveal the increasing importance of ecological concerns in literature more generally. Indian English novels use literary forms as a critical medium to contribute to this dialogue and add to the thematic concerns of ecological crises. Many of these science fiction works often touch upon dystopian portraits and the liminal zone between human-killing nature and beauty-masking,

landscapes, the ecologically burdened landscapes, and the social-political implications of ecological disaster. The representation of nature as an agent in these works is a direct parallel to present ecological and sustainable practices (Rao, 2016). Therefore, theoretically speaking, Indian English novels are creating a conjunction of literature as well as raising awareness about environmental issues and climate concerns—an ever-increasing formation of ecological consciousness and environmentally sensitive (Singh, 2015).

India's environmental situation has worsened in recent years: air and water pollution, over-extraction of groundwater, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, etc. More and more Indian English novels have reflected the fact that environmental degradation is closely connected with social, political, and cultural issues. This paper explores how Indian English novels articulate environmental issues critically and understand their role in forming ecological consciousness.

This paper, inspired by ecocriticism, postcolonial studies, and ecofeminism, suggests a theoretical approach to examine the thematic and narrative strategies in which Indian English writers attempt to grapple with ecological concerns. Central to its argument is the idea that these novels, rather than straightforwardly reflecting on environmental collapse, in fact, stage critical discourses of response or resistance toward problematic social structures implicated in ecological disaster. Indian English novels, which explore themes of displacement and environmental justice, alongside assessing the cultural value of nature, contribute to a multi-faceted perspective on ecological ways, making them an integral part of the environmental humanities in India.

1.1 Theoretical Framework: Ecocriticism and Indian English Literature

This paper is organized based on the theoretical approach of ecocriticism that analyzes nature in literature and literary productions. This body of scholarship highlights the necessity for regarding not only literary climatological narratives but also the natural world as a vital agency rather than serving merely as a passive scrim behind human-made fiction. The history of criticism regarding ecological critiques is still in its infancy concerning Indian English novels and thus must take these factors into account if one is to engage meaningfully with ecological narratives in India.

1.2 Conceptualizing Ecological Concerns in Indian English Novels

Through the years, Indian English writers have consistently raised ecological issues as a critique of human nature's relationship of use and throw in their writings. The ecological concerns in Indian English novels conceptual framework proposed here identifies three major ecological concerns in Indian English novels.

1. Human-Nature Relationship: Beyond Anthropocentrism: Several Indian English novels are overwhelmingly conventional: anthropocentric, in the sense that nature falls to be exploited and no more. For the Sundarbans, researchers observe this relationship in its more nuanced and intricate forms through fictional narratives like Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* (2004), where a delicate ecosystem of the mangrove forests themselves as sentient characters in the story. The novel highlights the interconnectedness between human and ecological communities while condemning anthropocentric displacements inherently causing global environmental degradation.

2. Ecological Conflicts and Environmental Justice: Draft novels have shown that environmental degradation is a correlated issue to social and ecological justice, such as Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* (1997) showing how the two are intertwined with the situation in Kerala, India; and Rohinton Mistry's *A Fine Balance* (1995)—not strictly on an "environment" issue but more humanly about in an industry—showing from New Delhi. Marginalized communities being dislocated, traditional livelihoods being lost, and environmental pollution are portrayed as outcomes of development policies that privilege profit over people. These narratives show that ecological issues cannot be separated from questions of class, caste, and ethnicity; they provide a critique of the socio-political nature of environmental crises.

3. Urbanization and Environmental Decay: The colonial novel considers the phenomenon of urbanization and its effect on both nature and man. Mumbai is represented through the environmental and social toll of rapid urban growth in Aravind Adiga's *Last Man in Tower* (2011) and Vikram Chandra's *Sacred Games* (2006). They depict the conversion of wilderness into cities, and stress on ecological price of rampant construction, pollution, and deforestation — from which is reared the narrative that “building a new India comes with an exorbitant environmental cost. A close look at urban decay is how these narratives critique our ecological footprint of modernity and whether researchers can environmentally afford to strictly rely on urban growth.

1.3 The Emergence of Ecocriticism in Indian English Novels

The visible extension of ecocriticism as a critical perspective on the fiction and poetics of Indian English writing thus signals a significant twist in the fictional depiction of nature and ecological concerns. The environment is overdetermined, and even as focusing on the environment is now a productive lens of study, Indian writers have long included an ecological component within their tales. In discussing environmental concerns, Indian English novels have begun to constitute valuable cultural texts, flowering the need for discussions on ecocide and viable alternatives (Singh 2015). Literature serves as an instrument to promote environmental advocacy by invoking critical empathy from the audience, allowing non-literary arguments for preservation to arise in areas where that kind of impact achieved by such fragments is no application (Mehta 2014) using said model of Hemingway escape port-like code hero. Other early novels (and novelists) such as *Nectar in a Sieve* by Kamala Markandaya tempered to a degree the romantic ideal of Indian agrarian life (Harrosh 419), and with eyes (if not their own then attached more intimately) open even more widely to the ecological havoc one species (the satisfiable self-polluting, non-realizing, semi-permanent impermanent techno-mercantile American Self [how ought one pronounce USA]) is wreaking on nature (Sharma 2013; my italicization).

The environment in Indian English novels is rarely a passive background; it places itself as an active constituent of human experience, affecting characters and plot development profoundly. Reflecting on eco-critical theory, which holds that nature plays a part in the narrative. As Rao (2016) stresses, the incorporation of ecocriticism in Indian English fiction illustrates a larger universal shift towards acknowledging environmental sustainability. These novels illustrate ecological challenges specific to the Indian subcontinent and thus represent a unique voice on environmental policy in response to climate change worldwide. Indian English fiction has long since become a breeding ground of eco-critical inquiry by virtue of its confluence of culture, history, and ecology; an imperative location within literary criticism (Rao 2016).

1.4 Discussion: Literary Contributions to Ecological Discourse

Indian English novels are important to understand the discourse of ecological concerns as they present an alternative way of thinking about the environment. They raise consciousness of the interrelatedness of ecological and human systems and call for a more comprehensive balance in environmental ethics. This is partly because the novels focus on issues around environmental justice, on human-nature interactions, and the social-political underpinnings of ecological crises, which trouble the dominant narratives of development almost invariably constructed around unsustainable modernity.

In addition, Indian English writers also offer an alternative ecological narrative to the Western discourse within which local perspectives are integrated and so propose culturally adequate ways of dealing with environmental threats. Indian English novels are thus significant not just as literary texts but also in providing theoretical input material to environmental humanities.

1.5 The Human-Nature Relationship in Indian Fiction

The theme of human-nature relationships keeps on echoing everywhere in Indian English novels, as nature is personified sometimes nurturing and sometimes as destructive. In many respects, this duality reflects the intricate web of ecological interconnections between humans and their surroundings, which lies at the core of eco-critical study. In the novels of writers such as Amitav Ghosh, they are not simply a backdrop but an active presence, affecting how people live their lives. Ghosh (2018) depicts this sensitively in *The Hungry Tide*, set in the fragile ecosystem of the Sundarbans, highlighting how environmental changes can be disastrous for the communities living in these locations (Chakrabarty 2018). The Indian English fiction highlights the frailty of human life over environmental deterioration, reminding the urgency for sustainable living and environment conservation (Rao, 20). The Garhwal Hills have been a background for many of Ruskin Bond's works and similarly, the audience also gets to see the love that Bond has for nature in all his stories. Bond presents nature with an individualistic perspective, revealing the relationship between man and the environment through close shots (Nair, 2019). In this relationship, nature is portrayed as something that sustains humans, and that human experiences are formed by it.

The way these interdependencies have often been portrayed in Indian English novels sheds light on many elusive aspects of the human-nature relationship, especially in the backdrop of the wide range of ecosystems that constitute India (Singh, 2015). These narratives highlight the call for environmental concern as well as a plea for universal environmental responsibility and promote a symbiotic human-nature relationship (Rao, 2018).

1.6 Environmental Consciousness and Literary Advocacy

In the Indian environment-inspired texts of Indian English novels, environmental consciousness rises above thematic explorations to enter into a kind of literary advocacy. Through narratives, authors compel readers to reevaluate their connection to the environment. In *Nectar in a Sieve*, Kamala Markandaya exposes the physical and social consequences of industrialization in the countryside in India and stresses the point that environmental degradation primarily affects socially vulnerable sections (Sharma, 2013). These fictions foreground the socioeconomic aspects of environmental crises, connecting ecological devastation to a wider spectrum of injustice and degradation (Dhawan, 2012). Addressing such concerns makes Indian English novels as much and more literary works as well as statements of environmental justice or new practices to be maintained (Mehta, 2014).

Ecocriticism, which makes sense as a series of theoretical postulates through which to interpret the nexus between literature and environmental activism, helps us think about how fiction can affect public debate on ecological issues. As per Misra (2017), Indian English novels are part of an ever-widening environmental movement that marks that human and ecological well-being are tied to one another. The representations of ecological catastrophes, as shown in the works of Ghosh, also act as urgent signalling towards the perils inherent in (human) actions and how those actions come to impact the earth (Chakrabarty 2018). Therefore, literature serves as a platform that can create environmental awareness and communicate the message of nature for changing their attitude towards the environment and making support to sustain.

1.7 Key Concepts:

1. **Anthropocentrism vs. Ecocentrism:** Numerous Indian English novels stand witness to a challenge against an anthropocentric standpoint by way of foregrounding the agency of nature, thereby supporting an eco-centric worldview whereby nature becomes central, or what researchers might know as Eco mimesis.
2. **Environmental Justice:** These books typically explore how environmental harm impacts marginalized communities more than others, creating dilemmas regarding ecological as well as social justice.

3. Postcolonial Ecocriticism: India's colonial past as well as its postcolonial triumphs and tragedies within the global framework have made Indian English novels predominantly studies about ecological degradation, developmental politics, exploitation of natural resources, and human rights violations.

4. Ecofeminism: Gender and environment are interlinked, which is also suggested in Indian English novels, as the authors focus on how women and rural communities usually bear the brunt of environmental degradation.

The framework will then be used to evaluate the representation of environmental problems in chosen Indian English novels, arguing that these narratives challenge dominant hierarchies and argue for reconsidered ecological ethics.

2: Review of literature

Iyengar (2010) investigates the representation of the environment as an agent in Indian novels in English through the frameworks of ecocriticism and environmental literature exhibitions. The study aimed at examining the portrayals of environmental issues in Indian culture and society. A Macherey reading of nature in Indian novels where Iyengar captures the qualitative spirit of literary texts to reiterate that actual instances more often than not throw light on the cultural and religious role occupied by nature. These findings indicate that the Indian literature is not only a critique of environmental degradation but also echoes the spiritual significance of nature in India and thus raises eco-critical debates.

Dhawan (2012) makes a critical analysis of the environmental dimensions in Indian writing in English and how these accounts deal with ecological issues. The purpose of the study was to assess how authors incorporate environmental subjects into their stories to increase awareness. Dhawan uses an eco-critical approach to explore the representation of nature, climate change, and human-nature relationships in Indian novels. This indicates that ecological concern is paramount, and, as will be further developed in the sections that follow, it found reverberation in changes in literature styles and themes as they started to reflect a more pervasive interest in nature and sustainability.

Sharma (2013) discusses environmental matters in Kamalaie Markandaya's "Nectar in a Sieve," explaining how the novel represents relationships existing between human beings and their environment. Grounded in eco-critical analysis, Sharma focuses on agrarian sustainability and deforestation alongside the impacts of industrialization on rural societies. The study of Markandaya's work portrays a specific warning about environmental devastation—human-created environmental imbalances and the consequences—and uses it to highlight human intervention in the environment. This study serves as a reminder of the impact literature can have in informing readers about sustainable practices and ecological preservation.

Mehta (2014) has explored the treatment of ecology in Indian English literature and discussed how writers depict environmental issues using eco critical approach. The focus of the study was to see if literature can mirror how industrialization and aggrandizing human relationships with nature no longer allocate enough space or prevent environmental problems ace against suicide in modernizations. Through a careful textual analysis, Mehta identifies recurring themes of environmental despoliation to natural resource exploitation. The backdrop of India becoming the melting pot of cultures is touching god's feet, willful ignorance of cyclic narrative to make room for what is and isn't Indian manifesting rapid changes in global climate.

Singh (2015) employed an eco-critical perspective to analyse selected Indian English novels to understand how environmental awareness is depicted in literary works. For instance, using an eco-critical lens, Singh analyses the issue of deforestation, pollution, and degeneration of the natural world in several novels. The research concludes that Indian fiction mostly projects the fragility and vulnerability of nature due to human intervention but also highlights its resilience. Drawing on specific literary examples, Singh builds a case for how literature can have an ecological utility in doing what literature does best: raising consciousness around the natural world and sustainable eco-sharing among humans.

Bond (2015) compares the ecocriticism of nature in Indian novels to that found in Western fiction. This study focuses mainly on how nature is depicted in different cultural traditions and looks at some of the contrasts as well as similarities in this scene. Bond compares specific Indian and Western novels, demonstrating the textualization of nature for spiritual or cultural purposes in literary discourse in India on the one hand, and on the other Bond examines environmental activism as a theme in Western literature. This suggests that they have furthered an eco-critical discourse around ecological sustainability directly relevant to international scholarship.

Verma (2015) examines ecocriticism in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*, highlighting discussions around Roy's treatment of environmentalist mechanisms during post-colonial India. The goal of the study was to explore the intersection between ecological issues and political or social questions in Roy's novel. Through his eco-critical reading of Roy, Verma shows that Roy exposes the exploitation of natural resources and rural communities beyond an obvious level. The conclusions demonstrate that Roy has reached beyond the more classical dimensions of ecocriticism to illustrate a connection between environmental and social-oriented justice concerns in her novel.

Rao (2016) takes up Indian English fiction as a whole to bring out an analytical study of ecocriticism considering the portrayal of ecological concerns in a few chosen novels. This study is an attempt to stress this inalienable association with the natural world and enable a medium through which literary thoughts function as a discourse on sustainability. With this framework in place, Rao then applies it by engaging in qualitative analysis of a series of novels that center key themes thematically, such as environmental degradation, human-nature relationships, and the cultural meanings at stake in ecological degradation. Results show that the novels are in favour of ecological harmony and that literature can promote environmental consciousness.

According to Joseph, B. (2016), ecocriticism presents a new kind of reading in Indian English literature based on the representation of nature taken from climatic changes and the anxiety of ecological explorations. The purpose of the study

was to elucidate the impact of literature on environmental consciousness vis-à-vis India. Adopting a textual approach, Joseph evaluates how Indian writers represent the environment as sustenance and an object of exploitation. The study showed how Indian literature generally challenges industrialization and its effect on the environment, suggesting instead a sustainable relationship between humans and nature.

Misra, (2017) an eco-critical study of Indian Novels in English: Through environmental and sustainability Issues represented in Literature. The goal of this study is to examine nature as both passive and active, that it serves as a symbolic weapon, and oftentimes, humans have become aware of the damages induced on the earth by their own hands. By engaging in qualitative textual analysis, Misra shows that many Indian English novels mobilize ecological crises as metaphors of larger social and political concerns to highlight human-nature dialectics. The findings highlight the role of literature in influencing environmentalist's awareness.

Pandey, A. (2017) tries to unravel the nexus between humans and nature in Ruskin Bond's writings through ecocriticism. It will draw on a handful of novels and show how they depoliticize the environment by exploring James Bond narratives that during the 1960s offer both romantic visions of lost legacies as well as antagonistic frameworks for understanding one's relationship to the natural world. According to Pandey, Bond's stories often highlight maintaining ecological balance and the effects of human activities on the environment. The research reciprocates that Bond's writings empower an ecological stewardship of our ecological heritage.

Jain (2018) focuses on Indian English novels that represent natural disasters to show how they address the ecological. The researchers perform a textual analysis of specific novels, finding that the narratives tend to reinforce the idea of natural disasters as both environmental and social catastrophes. Jain points out that Indian novels are concerned with disaster preparedness, sustainable development, and ecological resilience as an emerging platform in literature. The study brings out catalysing roles of literature in inculcating ecological consciousness and disaster management.

Chakrabarty (2018) discusses green concerns in the encompassments of Amitav Ghosh and Ghosh's turn to ecological territories. 'Ghosh Eco Critique' focused on an eco-critical analysis substantiating how Ghosh's novels implicitly orchestrate the paradoxical man-environment nexus. Chakrabarty suggests that Ghosh employs an environmental narrative to talk about climate change and resource depletion in very broad terms. The research demonstrates how literature can act as a platform for promoting environmental awareness and fostering sustainable development discourse.

Rao (2018) highlights Ghosh's ecological narratives in their entirety, especially his address to environmental disasters and human-induced ecological adversities. "A study was conducted to show how Ghosh mouthpieces through his novels with ramifications for ecological sustainability and disaster management. Rao looks at Ghosh's dynamic confrontation between the ecological and human systems within an eco-critical framework. The results, which present Ghosh as a key figure in calling for sustainable actions and disaster planning through his works, demonstrate the importance of literature in enhancing ecological consciousness.

Nair (2019) examines nature representation in the short stories of Ruskin Bond and seeks to find out how He describes the relationship between human beings and nature around him. This paper uses a thematic analysis of Bond's literature with particular attention to how he portrays the living environment. Via Nair, Bond demonstrates a profound respect for nature in her tales that highlight its strength, wonder, and ephemerality. He sums up his study with the statement that Bond's writings offer an eco-critical voice in endorsing a peaceful coexistence of man and nature.

Bhattacharya (2019) underscores environmentalism in Indian novels as the purview of his research so that the transformation ecological themes have undergone in literary works throughout history can hence be traced. This study uses historical analysis to examine select Indian novelists' treatment of the environment across time. Throughout her work, Bhattacharya observes that while nineteenth-century Indian novels represented nature as an aspect of cultural identity, modernist and contemporary literature tended to amplify the issues of environmental degradation (or, conversely, restoration). The results also indicate that Indian literature has progressively sought to survive the environmental crisis of the global backdrop.

Patil (2020) deals with the vulnerable nature and environmental consciousness to be reflected upon in Indian novels using the theoretical framework. Approaching themes of environmental degradation, natural resource recovery, and sustainability through the lens of ecocriticism, the study aims to suggest a more nuanced interpretation. In other words, from her research, Patil found that Indian literary fiction typically includes nature as an active character—a narrator or participant in the story—which merges humanity with ecology on cultural and spiritual levels. The research highlights the potential for literature to shape public conversations about ecological sustainability.

Narayan (2021) turns to the wider ecological articulations of R.K. Narayan's Malgudi to scrutinize how nature and the environment are depicted in his imagined town. The study sought to understand how the works of Narayan project his landscape in its cultural and ecological context. Based on a thematic analysis, Narayan determines that Malgudi functions as a microcosm for greater ecological fears, with nature residing at the center of its residents' lives. The paper reveals how the works of Narayan are part of the eco-critical debate by stressing ecological responsibility.

Bose (2021) analyses the eco-critical narratives in postcolonial Indian English novels and looks at how contemporary writers address issues related to ecology. The objective of the study was to evaluate environmental issues in contemporary Indian literature against the backdrop of globalization and industrialization. Bose uses an eco-critical lens to read issues of ecology and tradition, resource extraction by the West, environmental damage wrought by developing mentalism and exploring contexts for sustainability. Its results are related to the discursive specificity of modernist novels in India today, questioning the vulnerability of the Indian environment in the wake of modernization through several contemporary Indian novels, stressing a need for a more sustainable mode of human-environment relation.

Nanda (2022) used a few recent Indian English novellas to examine how environmental degradation in the contemporary era is being projected in novels of postcolonial writers. The research has provided a glimpse into how Indian literature exhibits themes such as climate change, deforestation, and resource depletion. He argues that Indian novels from recent years adhere to these urgent scenarios of environmental catastrophe, upholding the idea of sustainable development and environmental awareness with a textual qualitative data analysis. The research underscores the importance of literature in influencing public debate about environmental sustainability and human-nature relationships.

3: Research Methodology

The research methodology adopted for the present work is a qualitative study of eco-critical themes in postcolonial Indian English novels through an extensive review of the literature. This methodology involves a close reading of the texts to identify a systematic approach with which authors highlight these ecological matters and ecological thinking. The following study seeks to add to the ongoing discussion of ecocriticism in contemporary literature, aggregating trends and ideas from existing academic work.

The primary objectives of this research are to:

- To examine the representation of nature and ecological issues in selected novels by prominent authors such as Ruskin Bond, Amitav Ghosh, and Kamala Markandaya.
- To identify recurring themes and narrative techniques that reflect ecological consciousness.
- To explore characterizations and their relationship with environmental contexts.
- To establish a theoretical framework for understanding ecocriticism in Indian English literature.

4: Conclusion

Environmental Consciousness in Indian English Novels

This environmental consciousness in Indian English novels facilitates a critical reading of urgent ecological concerns. But writers like Amitav Ghosh and Kamala Markandaya have been among the firsts who wrapped ecological cause in their stories and made you look back into your shared past with nature. The expression of environments and ecologies adds depth to the storytelling, as well as drawing attention to how human and other-than-human life is entangled. Research has found that these untreated texts lead to more widespread discourse on sustainability, providing an example of how literature can promote environmental responsibility and contribute to social transformation (Dhawan, 2012; Singh, 2015). The ecocritical lens helps in a more sophisticated appreciation of the cultural ecology and how regional traditions and knowledge systems are reflected in environmental practices in India. Studying the stories written by authors such as Ruskin Bond, our research demonstrates that Indian culture is rooted in a profound ecological ethos. Such narratives often disrupt Western notions of nature and foreground indigenous models of environmentalism. Thus, an investigation of the environmental consciousness in Indian English literature brings out both eco-critical findings (Rao, 2016; Nair, 2019) and insights into cultural styles of ecological aesthetics.

The use of theoretical concepts in ecocriticism elucidates the intricate ways that literature and culture interact with nature. These and other perspectives (thinking about post-colonial environmentalism, on the one hand) familiarize contemporary ecological problems in India with its imperial past. This confluence of environmental criticism and literary analysis foregrounds centuries of exploitation at the hands of colonialism, which must now be remedied as an integral part of addressing history through literature (Mehta, 2014; Rao, S., 2018).

The theoretical frameworks that are used in ecocritical studies help in understanding narratives--since stories do affect our mind frame and are shaped by society -- and the environment. Since these ideologies motivate various human-nature interactions, by approaching texts via a cultural ecology perspective, researchers dig up on the soil ideology-related presumptions. Not only does this method increase the study of literature, but also works as an instrumental critical strategy to promote environmentally just solutions. This is evident from the increasing body of research evidencing the capacity of Indian English novels to participate in wider ecocritical dialogues and sensitization towards sustainable practices in a world system that is becoming increasingly globalized (Bond, 2015; Nanda, 2022).

This intentional paper has tried to hypothesize the portrayal of environmental concerns in Indian English novels, proposing a new apparatus for understanding dialogues of ecological disintegration, justice, and sustainability. Interiors of Indian English novels serve as an essential platform in delineating eco-text formation in the overall ecology-centered discourse that offers multifaceted insights into interrelations between humans and the environment. The present framework could be further elaborated upon in future investigations with clearer implications towards both literary works and outside factors like activism and policy-building, especially when these are seen within intersections with Indian English environmental preservation.

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