



From Despair To Hope And Down To Earth: Discoursing The Uncanniness Of Climate Crisis In The Selected Works Of Amitav Ghosh

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Abstract:

Ecocriticism has grown into a study of literature and environment from multidisciplinary point of view. The ecological crisis sends us back to a general crisis of society, politics, and existentialism. In an age of environmental crisis, This is now-a-days affecting every country in the world. Humans changing relationship in the natural world have become a matter of big concern to focus on natural disasters. Amitav Ghosh takes us into a world where desperate to hope and down to earth are supposed to be comprehended globally. But refugees trickle through borders like melting ice, but where mass animals find no scopes to ensure their existence.. Amitav Ghosh's works highlight the limits of human consideration when the environmental disaster is apprehended and thought globally. He says that the ongoing ecological disaster recognizes the changes the Earth is facing in view of collision of political, economic and environmental disasters. Climate change, illegal migration, human trafficking and refugee crisis stand as sole factors in view of ecological imbalance. The deranged attitudes for the environment are allegedly discoursed to mark the ecocritical status of the earth. In this paper, I would like to study on eco-critical issues reflected in Amitav Ghosh's **The Hungry Tide, The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable and Gun Island**. The main objective of this work is to portray the reasons for environmental degradation in view of ecological crisis.

KEYWORDS: Environment, Ecological Issues, Recognition, desperate, Crisis, Earth, Disaster, Derangement

1. Introduction:

Literature and Ecocriticism are interrelated to each other. This relation results in recognition of environmental issues. Language and literature carry ethical values identifying ecological implications. In the name of capitalism and industrialization, the relationship between nature and humans is curtailed. This will destroy the Earth and the environmental slaughter has never been accurately assessed. Ethical responsibility is ignored by landlords and capitalists. Instead of thinking seriously about the aesthetic beauty of the environment, human beings are clearing forests. Natural vegetation which has grown naturally without human aid has been left disturbed for long time. The future generation will meet an imminent crisis of survival.

All the plants and animals are interdependent and interrelated in their physical environment. The vegetation cover of India in large parts is no more natural in real sense because most of the areas at some places have been degraded by human activities. In view of alteration in vegetation, the nature of the plants, to a large extent, fails to determine the animal life. At present, this has come to the knowledge of ecocritics, researchers, environmentalists and fictional writer.

Ecocriticism is an interdisciplinary study of literature and environment. Literature responds to global climate change. The environmental awareness becomes the main agenda to reflect on excessive modification of the earth by humans. To put back the environmental condition and think of finding the solution should be the strong united voice of human beings. Now the moral duty of human society is to stand against such unexpected crisis of the earth. The future generation will suffer a lot in view of our reckless activities for gaining our targets. This is the belief of Ecologists that we have failed to reinstate the face of the climatic condition.

In an age of environmental crisis, we should re-think over nature and take the best shot to keep the earth in better order. The modern environmentalist movement emerged first in the late-nineteen century. Ecocriticism is foregrounded in man-nature relationship that brings both the human and non-human world together. It an umbrella term used to analyze the intimacy between literature and the environment. It highlights ecological concerns detected in the environment.

Ecocriticism comes after structuralism. So, It can be read with post-structuralism. William Rueckert, an American critic first used the term Ecocriticism in 1978. But after 1990, this term developed as a school of criticism in America with the foundation of an organization called the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE) in 1992. Richard Corridge in an article titled "Environmentalism and Ecocriticism" defines Ecocriticism in the following words:

Ecocriticism is a Literary and cultural criticism from an Environmentalist view point. Texts are evaluated in terms of their environmentally helpful or harmful effects. Ecocritics analyze the history of concepts such as

'nature' in an attempt to understand the cultural developments that have led to the present global ecological crisis (Waugh, 530).

Two important texts of ecocriticism in recent times are *Ecocriticism* by Greg Garrard and *The Ecocriticism Reader Landmarks in Literary Ecology* edited by Cheryll Glotfelty and Harold Fromm. Ecocritics deny the binary opposition between nature and culture but seek to establish the intimate relationship between man and nature.

Jonathan Bate is the first British critic to use the term ecocriticism in *Romantic Ecology* in 1991. Bate treats ecocriticism as a theory that moves away from the Marxist and New Historicist criticism for their lack of interest in nature.

1.1 Climate Crisis:

“Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future.”

Niels Bohr, Danish physicist (1885-1962)

As early as 1990 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) noted that the greatest single impact of climate change might be on human migration—with millions of people displaced by shoreline erosion, coastal flooding and agricultural disruption.³ Since then, successive reports have argued that environmental degradation, and in particular climate change, is poised to become a major driver of population displacement—a crisis in the making.

In the mid-1990s, it was widely reported that up to 25 million people had been forced from their homes and off their land by a range of serious environmental pressures including pollution, land degradation, droughts and natural disasters. At the time it was declared that these “environmental refugees”, as they were called, exceeded all documented refugees from war and political persecution put together.

The 2001 World Disasters Report of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies repeated the estimate of 25 million current “environmental refugees”. And in October 2005 the UN University’s Institute for Environment and Human Security warned that the international community should prepare for 50 million environmental refugees by 2010.

A few analysts, of whom Norman Myers of Oxford University is perhaps the best known, have tried to estimate the numbers of people who will be forced to move over the long term as a direct result of climate change. “When global warming takes hold” Professor Myers argues, “there could be as many as 200 million people overtaken by disruptions of monsoon systems and other rainfall regimes, by droughts of unprecedented severity and duration, and by sea-level rise and coastal flooding

Put simply, climate change will cause population movements by making certain parts of the world much less viable places to live; by causing food and water supplies to become more unreliable and increasing the frequency and severity of floods and storms. Recent reports from the IPCC and elsewhere set out the parameters for what we can expect: By 2099 the world is expected to be on average between 1.8°C and 4°C hotter than it is now.²¹ Large areas are expected to become drier—the proportion of land in constant drought expected to increase from 2 per cent to 10 per cent by 2050.²² Meanwhile, the proportion of land suffering extreme drought is predicted to increase from 1 per cent at present to 30 per cent by the end of the 21st century.²³ Rainfall patterns will change as the hydrological cycle becomes more intense. In some places this means that rain will be more likely to fall in deluges (washing away top-soil and causing flooding). Changed rainfall patterns and a more intense hydrological cycle mean that extreme weather events such as droughts, storms and floods are expected to become increasingly frequent and severe.²⁴ For example, it is estimated that the South Asian monsoon will become stronger with up to 20 per cent more rain falling on eastern India and Bangladesh by 2050.²⁵ Conversely, less rain is expected at low to mid-latitudes; by 2050 sub-Saharan Africa is predicted to have up to 10 per cent less annual rainfall in its interior.

Less rain would have particularly serious impacts for sub-Saharan African agriculture which is largely rain-fed: the 2007 IPCC report of the Second Working Group estimates that yields from rain-fed agriculture could fall by up to 50 per cent by 2020.²⁷ “Agricultural production, including access to food, in many African countries and regions is projected to be severely compromised by climate variability and change” the report notes.

According to the same report crop yields in central and south Asia could fall by 30 per cent by the middle of the 21st century.²⁹ Some fish stocks will migrate towards the poles and colder waters and may deplete as surface water run-off and higher sea temperatures lead to more frequent hazardous algal blooms and coral bleaching. Compounding this, climate change is predicted to worsen a variety of health problems leading to more widespread malnutrition and diarrhoeal diseases, and altered distribution of some vectors of disease transmission such as the malarial mosquito.³¹ Meanwhile, melting glaciers will increase the risk of flooding during the wet season and reduce dry-season water supplies to one-sixth of the world’s population, predominantly in the Indian sub-continent, parts of China and the Andes.

Melting glaciers will increase the risk of glacial lake outburst floods particularly in mountainous countries like Nepal, Peru and Bhutan. Global average sea level, after accounting for coastal land uplift and subsidence, is projected to rise between 8 cm and 13 cm by 2030, between 17 cm and 29 cm by 2050, and between 35 cm and 82 cm by 2100 (depending on the model and scenario used).³³ Large delta systems are at particular risk of flooding. ³⁴ The area of coastal wetlands is projected to decrease as a result of sea level rise. For a high emissions scenario and high climate sensitivity wetland loss could be as high as 25 per cent and 42 per cent of the world’s existing coastal wetlands by the 2050s and 2100s respectively.³⁵

Climate change is a real and an urgent challenge for the environmentalists. It goes on affecting people directly and indirectly. Climatic changes are taking place on the Earth due to over use of resources. Natural events and human activities are the key issues for bringing climate change. The earth has been warmed remarkably over the last hundred years and particularly over the last two decades. Global warming is the acceleration of earth's average surface temperature. This results in changing climate globally. Climate change is the long-term shift in the Earth's average temperatures and weather conditions. Over the last decade, the world was on average around 1.2C warmer than during the late 19th Century. It has now been confirmed that global warming exceeded 1.5C across the 12 month period between February 2023 and January 2024. That followed 2023 being declared the warmest year on record. The temperature increase was driven by human-caused climate change and boosted by the natural El Niño weather phenomenon. This long-term climate change has been caused by human activity, the IPCC says, mainly from the widespread use of fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas - in homes, factories and transport.

According to Nicholls and Lowe (2004), using a mid-range climate sensitivity projection, the number of people flooded per year is expected to increase by between 10 and 25 million per year by the 2050s and between 40 and 140 million per year by 2100s, depending on the future emissions scenario.

" The avalanche of statistics above translates into a simple fact—that on current trends the “carrying capacity” of large parts of the world, i.e. the ability of different ecosystems to provide food, water and shelter for human populations, will be compromised by climate change".

Anthropogenic climate change exacerbates existing environmental, economic and social vulnerabilities. It follows that adaptation to climate change has to be broader than tackling the marginal increased impact of anthropogenic climate change. Focusing on the impacts of climate change without factoring in the local context is leading to some bizarre policy distortions.

When fossil fuels burn, they release greenhouse gases - mostly carbon dioxide (CO₂). This traps extra energy in the atmosphere near the Earth's surface. It has caused the planet to heat up. Since the start of the Industrial Revolution, such changes have taken place. When humans started burning large amounts of fossil fuels, the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere has risen by about 50%, external. The CO₂ released from burning fossil fuels, external has a distinctive chemical fingerprint which matches the type increasingly found in the atmosphere. Climate change has made natural disasters a seasonal phenomenon in India. Climate change is once again on everyone's mind in India as rain wreaked havoc in several states over the past few hours. While New Delhi received heavy downpour, unusual for this time of the year, there has been massive damage to human lives in the southern state of Kerala. On Oct. 17, up to 27 people, including several children, died in rain-related incidents in the birthplace of monsoon in the subcontinent. Flash floods triggered by heavy rainfall have struck the northeastern state of Assam, too, like those that witnessed in the Himalayan state of

Uttarakhand only a few months ago. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has now issued a red alert again for Uttarakhand. It has also forecast “light to heavy” rain in states such as West Bengal, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh over the next few days. Southern Arabian Sea is becoming warmer, causing the atmosphere above this region, including Kerala, to become thermodynamically unstable. Wayanad land slides are linked to warming of Arabian Sea.

Climate change is a global phenomenon. It has become burning issues at hands. Developed nations must come together to fight against climate change. Russia-Ukraine war and emissions from Israel’s war in Gaza have ‘immense’ effect on climate catastrophe. The analysis, which is yet to be peer reviewed, includes CO₂ from aircraft missions, tanks and fuel from other vehicles, as well as emissions generated by making and exploding the bombs, artillery and rockets. It does not include other planet-warming gases such as methane. Almost half the total CO₂ emissions were down to US cargo planes flying military supplies to Israel. Hamas rockets fired into Israel during the same period generated about 713 tonnes of CO₂, which is equivalent to approximately 300 tonnes of coal – underscoring the asymmetry of each side’s war machinery. Russia’s war with Ukraine has accelerated global climate emergency. Most comprehensive analysis ever of conflict-driven climate impacts shows emissions greater than those generated by 175 countries in a year.

1.2 Climate Migration:

Climate migration is not new. Archaeological evidence suggests that human settlement patterns have responded repeatedly to changes in the climate. There is evidence that the emergence of the first large, urban societies was driven by a combination of climatic and environmental desiccation. Migration is (and always has been) an important mechanism to deal with climate stress.

The impact of climate change as a driver of future forced migration depends on several factors:

- the quantity of future greenhouse gas emissions;
- the rate of future population growth and distribution;
- the meteorological evolution of climate change; • the effectiveness of local and national adaptation strategies.

According to John Ashton, the UK’s climate change envoy, “Massive migrations, particularly in the arid or semi-arid areas in which more than a third of the world’s people live, will turn fragile states into failed states and increase the pressure on regional neighbours – a dynamic that is already apparent in Africa”.

The nexus between migration, the environment and climate change has been increasingly recognized as a key global policy issue over the past decade. Issues related to climate and environmental migration are high on the global policy agenda, both from the perspective of climate change policy and of migration policy. Consequently, policy processes dedicated to migration on the one hand, and to climate change and environmental issues on the other hand, have integrated questions of migration, environment and climate

change. . There is improved understanding of the linkages between environmental and climate change and migration as evidence reveals that both slow changes in the environment and sudden-impact events directly and indirectly affect the movement of people.

Indian writers in English willingly accept canonical English writers, but their ingenuity cannot be ignored. They have craving for global visibility but they are not crammers or mere imitators. They have their own ideals and ideas. They write with an artist's ambition, but never get recognition in their own land. They get recognition from the west. Then India identifies them as creative artists. Writers like Vikram Seth, Rohinton Mistry and Amitav Ghosh started writing about India as a country which is globally interlinked with other nations and activities of the world. Amitav Ghosh is a writer whose style of writing effectively combines the rigours of social research with the masterly ability of spinning a yarn. We all recognize that the story element has been a strong part of Amitav Ghosh's writings. Amitav Ghosh has earned his recognition for his first fiction *The Circle of Reason* from the west. Then Sahitya Academy of India recognizes him as a fictionalist. His body of writing includes seven full fledged novels and some non-fictions.

In the contemporary Indian English fiction writing, Amitav Ghosh's position ranks high. He is unquestionably one of the pioneers in crafting fiction and non-fictions in English today. Amitav Ghosh certainly occupies an important place among them. He is highly acclaimed for his literary style and content. He has written consistently good novels and non-fictional prose works. His works have earned considerable critical acclaim in the Indian sub-continent, Europe, America and indeed much of the world. His novels have been translated into a number of languages and rewarded with literary prizes. He puts forth realistic platform in every character.

Amitav Ghosh's writings comprise of eight major fictions and non-fictions works. The six novels of him namely *The Circle of Reason*(1986), *The Shadow Lines*(1988), *The Glass Palace*(2000), *The Hungry Tide*(2004), *Sea of Poppies*(2008), *River Smoke*(2011), *Gun Island* (2019) are noted to cover the environmental problems at wider range with respect to different global changes that took place during that period. Ghosh began working on the l**ib**s trilogy in 2004. Set in the 1830s, Its story follows the build-up of the F**ir**st Opium War across China and the Indian Ocean region. The trilogy consists of S**e**a of Poppies (2008), R**iv**er of Smoke (2011), and F**l**ood of Fire (2015).

His nonfiction works include *Kinship in Relation to the Economic and Social Organization of an Egyptian Village Community* (1981), *Dancing in Cambodia, At Large in Burma* (1998), *Countdown* (1999), *The Imam and the Indian* (2002), *Incendiary Circumstances: A Chronicle of the Turmoil's of our Times* (2005), *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and The Unthinkable* (2016), *The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Plant in Crisis* (2021), *Uncanny and Improbable Events* (2021), *The Living Mountain*(2022), *Smoke and Ashes: A Writer's Journey through Opium's Hidden Histories*(2023) . Besides these, he has published a

number of short stories, essays and articles in various national and international magazines and journals. Ghosh's writings amazingly blend the real historical facts and environmental issue as its core theme. He usually interlinks human world and natural world in all his novels. He is an outstanding climate change activist.

Ghosh has received several awards, honours and due recognition for his exceptional and exemplary endowment in the field of fiction, non-fiction, travelogue, history, anthropology and journalism. He is one of the few Indian writers in English who constructs nature in his fictional works by interweaving legends, experience, myth and history. He blends fiction with history. He has brought out the nature and man from his perspective in an eco-centric world. The dimensions of ecocriticism are reflected in Amitav Ghosh's writings.

2. An Ecological Approach in The Hungry Tide:

"The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh has won the 2004 Hutch Crossword Book Award. The novel reflects the author's expertise as a sociologist. This novel "The Hungry Tide" is set in the atmospheric Sundarbans. It depicts the relationship between people and nature highlighting the pervasive ecological concerns. This paper examines the novel from an eco-critical perspective. This is highlighting the complex connections between people, animals, and the environment. An argument on ecological balance, cultural survival, and environmental ethics is presented against the powerful backdrop of Ghosh's depiction of the Sundarbans. It is a region where the tides control life. Ghosh beautifully observes the river dolphins, landscape, the flora, the fauna and the people who inhabit the Sundarbans.

Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* is set in the mangrove islands of Sundarbans, West Bengal. It depicts the resettlement of the refugees in the forest reserves of Marichjhapi, Sundarbans. The novel has shown the complex relationship between man and nature in the archipelagos ecosystem. It is an ongoing tension between humanity and the environment in the Sundarbans. The inhabitants keep facing unexpected problems in view of natural hazards. They are frequently warned to ensure their resettlement. Life in Sundarbans was fully challenging for them. The Sundarbans went on experiencing killer waves, tigers, crocodiles and natural catastrophes. The novel highlights the spotted issues of conflict between environmentalists and humanists.

This novel creates a hostile environment where every character is in equal struggle to survive in the unfriendly environment. Sundarbans is the largest mangrove forest in the world. It has already seen the impact of climate change. The endangered species like the Royal Bengal Tiger and Irrawaddy dolphins are the inhabitants of Sundarbans. The animals keep facing a lot of problems due to environmental issues. There is struggle between human and non-human for survival.

Jacques Derrida basing on "Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences" points out that the novel highlights the binary forces of man and nature. This text of nature is presented in Sunderbans, which is the milieu of the novel. The land defies human understanding.

At the beginning of the novel, Ghosh has pointed out that there is ongoing barrier taking climatic issues between man and nature, humans and non-humans. sometimes nature has been defeated and sometimes it has shown its dominance upon man. Man becomes a Helot while dealing with nature. Man has been thinking for long time as it has become a major concern for the human world. The hide and seek between man and nature becomes the prominent portrayal in the global world.

Amitav Ghosh addresses an environmental issue of the conflict of conservation of natural world and the human rights in the novel. Sunderbans stand as one third in India and two-thirds in Bangladesh. The well-known story of vibrant violence recognized on the Sunderbans is an awareness at the national and international level. The efforts to conserve the forest are marked as tragedy and hypocrisy. Nature runs to fulfill human's desire but they are exploiting Nature to accomplish their wants. For the better self living, humans forget their duty to keep the balance of nature. Nature is the destroyer and preserver of human society. Keeping this in mind, the human beings deface the harsh reality of nature.

Human lives are under threat because of hungry of the tigers. . The tigers keep attacking and killing Islanders. In the Sunderban, the environment has been changed due to frequency of tides. Hundreds of people have been dispossessed in view of tigers and tides. The tide country breaks the vision of the Islanders. **Sarat Chandra Chatterji** has rightly said in his essay "Drought" that: In this world it is not only futile for the small to appeal to authority, it is dangerous as well. Fortunately, the tiny voice of the victims seldom reaches to big ears or who knows what might happen".

The Earth has been changed by the climate change which is reflected in the novel. Due to climatic disorder in Sunderbans ,the species like Dolphins and other fishes are languishing. The number of tigers is reducing day by day. The ecosystem felt at Morichjhapi Island is at alarming level. The Sunderbans are running under dangerous conditions in view of ecological change. Submersion of Islands in real ecosystem are the prominent part of the environment. The people of the Sunderbans, their history, and their struggles with natural world are well focused by the novelist.

Amitav Ghosh depicts the cruel cycle of nature. The cyclone had taken place in the year 1970. All the characters keep struggling to survive in the hostile environment. The characters in the novel are Nirmal, Nilima, Kanai, Piya and Fokir. The story revolves around the said characters. The adverse situation is constantly faced by them. The nature stands against them in different situations. Life for them has become meaningless. The impact of natural disaster has been felt globally. The climatic crisis in sunderban has put the

lives of humans and non-humans into hopeless condition. Fokir, Piya and other islanders have faced the severe cyclone. It has brought destruction and turmoil in Sunderbans at immense level. The extreme alarming rate of climate crisis has undergone chaos on the chest of Sunderban.

Somewhere Ghosh cautions the Islanders to carry the decorum of life. He suggests to bring change in our life style. Nature is on the way to take its revenge. It is caused by man in the name of tiger reservation for making profit. Ghosh wants the people to be well aware regarding the change of natural calamities of environment in future. It is the consequence of man's reckless decision towards nature. The inhabitants of Sunderbans keep searching for the proper place in the world. In view of frequent cyclones, the human lives are under threat.

Amitav Ghosh creates a hostile environment. The novelist has set the novel in Sundarbans where every character is in equal struggle to survive in the hostile environment. It dominates the novel from the very beginning to the very last. People in Sundarbans become the prey of tigers daily. No strong action is taken to sort out this menace. According to Ghosh, the tide raises in mind of people of the Sundarbans, the beautiful forest. Ghosh reflects the environmental issues of the conflict of conservation of natural world and human rights meant for better living in the novel.

The complex depiction of the Sundarbans in Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* goes beyond only geographic and ecological details. The novelist gives readers a comprehensive understanding of the area by showing socio-cultural and historical themes. It is a testament to the ability of literature to highlight the areas like the Sundarbans, which comes to the front of current environmental and socio-political concerns in spite of being grown in natural beauty and cultural legacy. **(Roy, Bidisha., 2015)**

"The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh presents intricately the interactions between nature, and man. The novelist here exposes the real picture of so called feminist society. He makes a long conservation for the women's welfare and talks about equality with her counterpart. In a conversation with with Konai, Nilima says about the miserable condition of women. The dire poverty of tide country becomes remarkable when Kanai had chosen to dedicate his life for the betterment of the people. Kanai is owner of a successful translation business. He comes to the Island of Lusibari to visit his aunt, Nilima. He also lives in a hostile environment. Geeta Chhabra pasturizing the scene of Sunderban described in Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide" regarding losing of many species in order to protect the one particular race.

The Hungry Tide is set in the Sundarbans meaning "beautiful forest" which comprises of more ten thousand square kilometers. Climate change in the Sundarbans affected both human being and Animals. Flora is also in danger. Due to increase in the population mangroves of Sunderbans begin to wrinkle. Sudden, rising of water level increase the possibility flood and Tsunamis. People of the islands are uneducated and lack of awareness which leads to imbalanced biodiversity in Sunderbans- tide country.

The novel recounts the event of the Morichjhapi incident that took place in 1979 and it depicts the exploitation faced by the refugees from Bangladesh. The Government of India has taken steps to preserve its natural resources which include the endangered species like the Royal Bengal Tiger and the Gangetic Dolphins called as Oracella.

In Amitav Ghosh's fourth work of fiction, it is clear that Piyali Roy is a young marine biologist in America. She has come to study over the extinction of Irrawaddy dolphins. She arrives at Sundarbans, the archipelago of islands where the Ganges merge into the Bay of Bengal. She comes to conduct an ecological survey on dolphins. Piya is fully westernized and does not know any Bengali. She is an efficient researcher who confidently sets about her task. A drowning accident leads her to become reliant on a boatman as a guide and protector in the violent Sunderbans. An interaction between them has taken place. At the end of the novel, Fakir is also killed in a cyclone, while guiding piya on one of the tide country's many remote waterways. In an odd resolution, Piya decides to continue her aquatic research in the tide country, asks Nilima to help her set up a research trust, as memorial to Fokir. She also asks Kanai to be her partner in this venture.

In this novel, Ghosh has illustrated the miserable condition of people living around the Sundarbans. The novelist shows that the people become a prey of wild animals like Tiger. Their voice is crushed under the tyranny rule of Government. The inhabitants become the prey of Tiger. Life is tremendously insecure in Sundarbans. Attacks by deadly tigers are common. Turbulence and deportation are regular intimidation. The land has been ruined by tidal waves. The lives of the people have been highly affected due to unexpected climatic disorder.

The inhabitants live in apprehension because they feel that they may be dragged and drowned by tides. The tigers will kill them at any moment.. Piya Roy takes the help of Fokir to continue her research. Fokir saves her from drowning her from the Irrawaddy dolphins as the boat overturns. Piya immediately gets rid of the guard. She decides to engage Fokir's services even though they do not share a common language. They communicate through gestures. At the end, Fokir has lost his life on the Island of Garjontola due to severe cyclone.

Norwegian philosopher **Arne Naess in his Deep Ecology (1973)** has viewed that humans are neither the rulers nor the centre of the universe, but they are embedded in a vast living matrix. This novel focuses on man's indomitable struggle with nature. Life is precarious in the marshy land of Sunderban, an archipelago of islands. It is spread between the sea and plains of Bengal.

3. A Recognition of Obliviousness towards Earth's Ecological Imbalance in The Great Derangement: Climate Change and The Unthinkable:

The currents of global warming seem to be too wild. But it is a striking fact that the novelists are not focusing on climate change. It is almost always outside of fiction. Arundhoti Roy's writings are in various forms of non-fiction. Paul Kingsnorth's much admired historical novel "The Wake" set in eleventh century England has highlighted about climate change because he dedicated several years of his life to climate change activism

before founding the influential Dark Mountain Project, 'a network of writers, artists and thinkers'. Citing Dipesh Chakrabarty's seminal essay, 'The Climate History', Ghosh says that the Anthropocene presents a challenge to the arts of humanities and to our common sense understandings when Chakrabarty has stated in his essay that humans have become geological agents. He has reflected some handful of names who are prominent novelists, but no attention is given towards climate crisis by them. Increased participation and rising sea levels are the major impacts of climate change. Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai are always at risk of climate change.

The history of the present climate crisis has resulted from capitalism and industrialism. The continent of Asia is conceptually critical to every aspect of global warming: its causes, its philosophical and historical implications and global response. Bengal has faced the effects of sea level rise. The ongoing changes in climate become a threat to the interior of the continent because of droughts periodic flooding and extreme weather events. India, China and Pakistan keep facing heavy losses due to severe climate changes. The reality is that the continent has also played a crucial role in changing the present cycle of climate change. Ghosh says that the planet would have faced a climate crisis sooner or later.

In *The Glass Palace*, Amitav presents regarding European greed and the brutality of colonization. The British came to India and Burma who drained all the resources. When the end of the royal way of life came, the whole idea of maintaining luxurious life died. In *Countdown*, The novelist presents that the people forget their real problems. This book is an account of his journeys towards Pokhran, Siachen, Pakistan and Nepal. It portrays a detailed illustration of fatal consequences of nuclear explosion to hold its position at the international level. This writing knocks out the peace, prosperity and sustainability of people. Ghosh requests readers to set up peace out of love, but not by prosperity.

Climate poses a powerful challenge which is the single most important political conception of the modern era. The taste of freedom is not only central to contemporary politics but also to the humanities, the arts and literature. Amitav Ghosh portrays the awful reality of apathy of politicians who ignore the earth and atmosphere. The writers like Margaret Atwood, Dorris Lessing, Barbara Kingsolver, Mc Carthy, Boyle have raised seriously about the world Environment. Amitav Ghosh has merged himself with them. He says a lot of discussions have been made on religion, gender, caste and so on, but the issue of environmental disaster is ignored. Not the time has knocked the door of consciousness to explore the issues and find out solutions. It is a political issue in South Asia.

Amitav Ghosh discovers that civilisation is now facing the major force of anthropocene during which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate change and the environment. It is a new geological era that is on the way to reshape and reorganize the globe. Human beings, according to Ghosh, act as ecological agents who change the physical processes of the Earth. Anthropocene becomes the important challenge for climate change. Amitav Ghosh argues that "The climate crisis is also a crisis of the culture and

that of the generation." According to him, the writers at present are not focusing on climatic conditions of the earth. They are traditionally writing for the readers instead of reflecting the environmental issues.

Recognition of climate change from the extreme ignorance of the modernity is truly our well focused knowledge. Ghosh's true spirit towards environmental change is unthinkable. His literary creation is dealt with the issues of environmental and social advocacy and "catalyst for social action and exploratory literary analysis into a full-fledged form of engaged cultural critique". (**Huggan and Tiffin**).

Present -day politics has not attention for human survival. According to him, the natural events will disrupt food and energy markets. The fossil fuels is at present keeps searching for alternative energy route. Climate change is an recognition which is exposing the ignorance of the modern society over the earth. Politics of climate change is a major concern for the human civilization. It's time to address climate change to wipe out cry of the poor.

4. Climate Crisis and Immigration in Gun Island: Rethinking Connection

Noted fictionalist and Climate activist Amitav Ghosh has stated that climate change is a challenge due to landslides, urban flooding and extreme weather conditions. People pay less attention towards climate change. It is creating everlasting issues for India. Both Local and community based initiatives are necessary for controlling climate change to some extent. The grim reality of climate change is our reckless attitude towards the earth. The government should allocate money to different levels to challenges arisen in view of climate change. The climate change crisis has become a prominent issue in Ghosh's "Gun Island"(2019). The novel has addressed the planetary scale of the climate crisis. Here Ghosh has displayed the parallel between human and animal migrations because of global climate change. The novel has brought social, racial and historical injustices. The term planetary environmentalism has been identified in this novel. Now the planet is at threat. It raises a cry for multispecies caused by planetary crisis. As a result, It has become a challenge for multispecies for survival on this earth. Ghosh's Gun Island is developed by two chapters such as The Gun Merchant and Venice. In the novel, Deen or Dinanatha Datta has played a crucial role as narrator and main protagonist who was staying in Brooklyn. He came to Bengal to his aunt Nilima. He is a dealer in rare books and Asian antiquities. He has also met his distant relative Kannai Dutt where he has been introduced to a story of 'Bonduki Sadagar' and myth of 'Chand Sagar and Manasa Devi'. Here Deen's character is portrayed as an important medium to connect all the disparate climatic phenomena of the distant places. Ghosh wants to say that Climate crisis affects humans and nonhumans. He builds the concept of planetary environmentalism through this novel. Deen's visit to Sunderbans, the largest mangrove forest develops the plot of the story. The forest encompasses the borders of India and Bangladesh along with the shores of Bay of Bengal

.Deen takes interest to visit the Sunderbans to see a shrine built by legendary figure of Bengal called Bonduki Sadagar. His name is wrongly translated by Deen as "The Gun Merchant". This was built by him to appease Manasa Devi, the snake Goddess of Bengali folklore, "who rules over snakes and all other poisonous creatures"(Ghosh,6). The journey of Deen moves to different places eventually. In the process, the novel

shows the planetary scale of the climate crisis. Deen has met Nilima Bose and collected data about The Shrine. He has been introduced to Piyali Roy, a teacher in Oregon and cetologist. While visiting the shrine in the Sundarbans, Deen's uncanny experience of encountering a king cobra opens a new world of mystery to him. He faces a challenge to understand the connection between the human and nonhumans.

In **Salman Rushdie's Midnight's Children**, the protagonist Saleem Sinai takes refuge among the non-humans who don't have linguistic sense. The nonhuman environment constantly responds to environmental stimuli in agential ways in order to survive". Similarly, there are several instances in **Gun Island** when the nonhuman environment seems to "speak," and the king cobra's bite incident that leads the character Tipu to have mystical visions. For Deen, nonhuman agency appears to be supernatural. Gradually he begins to respond to the nexus relationship between humans and nonhumans. Through Deen's progression towards understanding the entangled relationship between humans and nonhumans, Ghosh calls for multispecies as planetary environmentalism. He addresses the importance of symbiotic relationships during a time of climatic upheaval.

Here Ghosh's objective is to highlight the issue of multispecies which have led to today's climate crisis. Deen is a translator between two species. But Manasa Devi had no language in common and no shared means of communication. Without her mediation there could be no relationship between animal and human except hatred and aggression" (Ghosh, 167). Accordingly, as the goddess of snakes or of the animal world, it is the responsibility of Manasa to ensure that humans understand the consequences of their actions on nonhumans. The extra greediness of humans for natural resources has caused havoc for nonhumans. They are now fighting back for their existence.

Ghosh's treatment of the climate crisis reiterates the imperative for humans to show respect for the natural world, his emphasis on the question of multispecies environmental justice highlights the need for planetary environmentalism. The novel reflects on the scientific perspectives of the climate crisis through the character of Piya. She is a Bengali American marine biologist based in Oregon. For carrying out her research project in the Sundarbans, Piya often visits Kolkata. She often stays with Nilima in the city. Deen meets Piya at Nilima's place before his visit to the Sundarbans. Piya acts as a counterpoint to Deen's long-term friend Cinta, an Italian academic and renowned scholar of Venetian history. While Piya offers scientific interpretations of the climate crisis, Cinta presents historical and cultural analyses.

Apart from the mythical rendering of the climate crisis, the novel represents scientific interpretations of climate change to offer further insights into the notion of planetary environmentalism. Deen comes to know that all the living beings of the forest are being affected by climate change. During the visit, he knows about the impact of the Cyclone Aila, which hit the Sundarbans in 2009. Moyna shares everything. She exposes her anxiety and frustration about the environment. She says about people's struggles to survive in the changing

environments. Even fishermen face a lot of unexpected climatic situations while continuing their profession. They cannot go for fishing in view of frequent threatening of cyclones and floods. Moyna observes that a life in the Sundarbans has become fully hard. The boys and girls kept borrowing and stealing to pay agents to find s elsewhere. Moyna has described about the uncertainty of life in the Sundarbans. The novel begins with climate migration, as well as the question of planetary environmental justice.

Moyna's son Tipu, a youth in his late teen, informs to Deen about the connections between climate change, migration, human trafficking, and the flow of refugees to the West. Deen wanted to know the reason of migration of the people of the Sundarbans. Tipu offers, like his mother Moyna, throws a picture of the effects of climate change in Sunderbans. He says that:

"Now the fish catch is down, the land's turning salty, and you can't go into the jungle without bribing the forest guards. On top of that every other year you get hit by a storm that blows everything to pieces. So what are people supposed to do? What would anyone do? If you're young you can't just sit on your butt till you starve to death. Even the animals are moving – just ask Piya. If you've got any sense you'll move and to do that you need someone who can help you find a way out". (Ghosh, 65)

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The stunning impacts of climate are extremely found reflected in Sunderbans. The facilities at Sunderbans attracted the industrialists to utilize the place to gain more profit by establishing industries over there. The water and other scopes drew their attention to carry on their business. As a result, human beings forgot their

limits of exploitation of nature. Nature, as a mark of giver, turns into a destroyer. Nature shows its terrible reaction against the anthropocentric man. It has built migration, human trafficking, poverty and displacement of human beings. The illegal activities have made man pathless and created a season of hope to despair. Now the present society is on journey of desperation in view of climate change on this earth. Displacement of human beings become an acute issue for human beings because of climate change.

Nature's reaction against the earth has caused hollowness and dejection in the mind of the human beings. Fast industrialization in Sunderbans stands as a major issue to bring displacement. Tipu puts this situation more clearly as:

... I did have a passport back then. But it expired and I haven't renewed it. Who needs to spend all that time government offices? Money you can choose whichever kind you want- Bangladeshi, Indian, Malaysian, Sri Lankan, you name it... The people moving, industry, pops, he said, grinning. It's already one of the world's biggest and still growing fast (64)

Nilima and Piya are the social activists. They managed the NGO 'Badabon Development Trust' to help the displaced. The trust tried to co-operate the people who were living below the poverty line. Some of them out of poverty engaged themselves as sex workers and victims of human trafficking. The trust, later, failed to help the rehabilitated victims. As a result, they decided to return to their old places. Nature turns to be the destroyer whereas no one can fight against it. So, a mass movement is required to protect Mother Earth.

Amitav Ghosh has warned to humanity to take care of nature. He tries to pass a message that it is high time to evade colonizer's attitude of dominating nature. Piya's concern for the displaced people as well as the aquatic animals shows that both humans and non-humans will suffer a lot in this eco system. Piya is disturbed when she lost contact with dolphin Rani. It is in the mind of the people that they are the sole rulers of this universe. The materialistic attitude of human beings towards nature has fully affected human's existence. In Sunderbans, the living organisms in the river like dolphins, crab and other organisms are badly stricken by climatic crisis. Migration is terrible for aquatic beings, especially dolphins like Rani and her Pod.

Amitav Ghosh has suggested that one can revive the fury of nature through the legend of 'The Gun Merchant'. In the novel, when the cyclone 'Bhola' hit Sunderbans in 1970, the particular hamlet where the dham of 'The Gun Merchant' protected the people by alarming the people. The novelist focuses on ecological crisis in Sunderbans. The west had been affected by global warming. The attack of bark beetles in the vicinity of Oregon city, the appearance of yellow-bellied snake in the beaches of California due to warming up of seas in the west and forest fire are all part of the crisis. This crisis is seen in the west too. Colonizer's aggression although ended geographically, but new situations have taken different forms.

In the part two of the novel, 'Venice', climate changes lead to migration of the people to faraway lands. Millions of people are forced to leave their homes due to soil erosion, coastal flooding, agricultural disruption, droughts and natural disasters. The Sunderbans is facing various climatic conditions. Man made issues in the form of extra greediness, technological extension and aggressive attitude towards nature have defaced the Mother Earth. The inhabitants of Sunderbans are supposed to migrate in search of better habitat. Due to climatic disasters, people had to be displaced and gone back to their old places. The experience of Tipu and Raffi explores that migration becomes very horrifying in the forest. Their illicit movement from one place to another place in search of better habitat has brought unexpected situations. Their life gives us a picture of how climate change brings disruption in the human population. Tipu and Raffi migrated to distant lands to avail better future to build up their better living.

3. Conclusion:

Climate change and climate migration are the two important components in climate fictions. Intolerable extremes and threatening the livelihoods of millions of people are imposed by climate change on many parts of the world. Extreme events like floods, heat waves, droughts, and wild fires as well as slower-moving challenges such as rising seas and intensifying water-stress are the focal reasons that force people to leave their homes. This has been caused by ecological imbalance. Recognition from ignorance to knowledge is an exploration of global climate crisis. Amitav Ghosh concerns over the survival of human life. Climate change can be discussed in the forum of diverse perspectives. It is an interdisciplinary conversation to detect the movement of climatic change. Collective responsibility is highly essential to sort out environmental issues. Human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily in view of burning of fossil fuels. The incredible heat wave has impacted the natural atmosphere. Amitav Ghosh argues that modern fiction and literary criticism tend to ignore the threat of climate change, neglecting texts which address the topic to subgenres like fantasy or science fiction. The artists are ignoring climate change. This is a mark of great derangement. The novel's characteristic focus on the local and regional is incompatible with the challenges of the climate crisis.

The Hungry Tide considers not only the issue of environmental conservation but also the issue of diversity of the human. It is a readjustment between different kinds of human societies and values, the rich, the poor, the developed, the under developed, the articulate and the silenced. Amitav Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide" stands out in the intersection of literature and environmental discourse as a moving story. It offers profound insights into the complexities of human-nature relationships. It is particularly in the vulnerable ecosystem of the Sundarbans. The text is used as a weaving of stories about ecological, cultural, and human resilience rather than just as a storytelling tool. The novel's eco-critical examination reveals the breadth with which Ghosh examines the environmental challenges for survival of human existence.

Amitav Ghosh's 'Gun Island' is a climate novel which highlights migrations, myth, folktales, and the deepening crisis of climate change. The novel connects human and non-human, past and present, natural and super natural. Island projects unprecedented climatic conditions as the primary cause for these natural disasters. It becomes a clarion call for climate induced migrations as it skillfully portrays people and entire communities being uprooted from their native land and the drastic changes in the migratory patterns of different species due to changing climes and warming waters. Instead of projecting warnings of impending doom and apocalypse Gun Island focuses on giving the readers hope for a better tomorrow. The plot of the novel centers on a Bengali immigrant rare-books dealer from Brooklyn, Dinanath Datta. During one of his annual visits to his native Kolkata, Dinanath becomes fully involved in an old legend Gun Merchant, who was spotted in a legend involving the snake-goddess Manasa. His search to know the hidden meaning behind the Gun Merchant's legend has driven him from Kolkata to the swamp of the Sundarbans, to New York, to Los Angeles, and finally to Venice. Dinanath's mysterious journey shows the marks of cyclones and tornadoes as well as encounters with dolphins, poisonous snakes, shipworms, and venomous spiders. Ghosh's skillful use of the legend of Manasa, which acts as connective tissue in holding the different parts of Dinanath's journey together, allows him to address issues as diverse as climate change, mythology, Venetian history, and animal and human migration. Gun Island is an intricate tale about climate change, environmental devastation, commerce, human aspirations, ambitions and desperation.

Amitav Ghosh's fiction extremely interweaves current affairs with little known events of the past. This is an important novel of this current world. On a visit to his birth place, Kolkata, a Brooklyn-based dealer, the novelist finds his life becoming entangled with an ancient legend about the goddess of snakes, Manasa Devi. While visiting the vast mangrove, the Sunderbans, he has encountered snakes and witnesses the the impact of natural disaster on it. The book shows the catastrophic processes of displacement which is unfolding across the earth, at an ever-increasing pace.

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