

Original Article

Nature's voice in Gitanjali : An Ecological Perspective

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Abstract :

The major concern of this paper is to find out the reflection of nature in Rabindranath Tagore's collection of famous poem Gitanjali the (Song of offering) this is the age where ecological degradation is one of the most threatening issue. Rabindranath Tagore's poem Gitanjali represents the bounty of nature rooted in Indian philosophy and Spiritual tradition .Tagore shows an intricate relationship between nature and human consciousness . The paper draws the insights from the modern Echo -critical theory and Indian environmental thought. The analysis of this paper repudiates the anthropocentric view and offers more inclusive eco-centric view. This paper examines how the poem Gitanjali gives poetic insights that promotes an environmental reverence and humility which found strongly relevant in the context of environmental crisis in the modern day .

Keywords: Spirituality, Ecology ,Indian Aesthetics, Eco -Criticism , and Anthropocentrism etc.

Objectives :

- 1] To explore the representation of nature in the poem Gitanjali
- 2] To Identify philosophical and spiritual dimension of nature in Tagore's poem Gitanjali

Methodology

The present study uses qualitative and descriptive and interpretive method to unfold the underlying ecological consciousness in the poem. It also uses close textual analysis and eco -critical framework to examine relationship between nature and human.

Introduction :

Rabindranath Tagore is one of the most famous writer in Indian and World literature. He is known as Gurudev .he was a multi -dimensional personality as poet ,philosopher, novelist playwright, composer Painter and educationist . He is the first non-European writer who received Nobel prize for literature in 1913 for his deeply spiritual and lyrical work Gitanjali(song of offering). He eventually , trust in the unity of human and nature. Tagore finds the divine presence in all the forms of the nature . He thought that nature is a sacred and it needs to be revered . The vision of Rabindranath Tagore deeply grounded in both Indian spiritual thought and environmental consciousness movement. Tagore's Gitanjali, in particular, a magnum opus where the natural and divine blends . The poetry of Tagore underscore the significance of ecological consciousness ,ethical living and spiritual reflection in the 21st century.

Man, God, and Nature are fundamentally One :

Tagore never considered nature to be unfriendly to humans. He firmly believed in the fundamental unity of man and the outside world, as do all mystics. According to Vedantic terminology, nature and man are two facets of the Absolute, Prakriti and Purusha. Realizing God comes from meditating on nature or a particular aspect of it.

In his understanding of nature, Tagore appears to recognize the world's harmony and unity as well as the kindness of nature. According to Tagore, God's melody is found in nature. It elevates man. In the end, man and nature are intertwined. Therefore, according to his metaphysics, the body does not turn into a tomb from which the soul must be freed. The soul expresses itself through the body. The playground of nature is where man has constructed his soul.

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When we silently revere the living presence that manifests itself through the majesty of nature. The poet gives his ecological vision in his poem number- 11 that he shows the harmonious relationship of a man with nature and rejects and anthropocentrism- man-centered view. The poet views the presence of divinity amid the fields, with farmers, and nature and labour .

Poet says, ' **Leave this chanting and singing and telling of beads !whom dost thou worship in this lonely dark corner with doors all shut? [P.11] It is a clear call to locate the sacred in the every day Earth, or life is not in isolated rituals'** .

'The morning sea of silence broke into ripples of bird songs; and the flowers were all merry by the roadside; and the wealth of gold was scattered through the rift of the clouds while we busily went on our way and paid no heed.' (P.55)

This line clearly indicates the sensibility of nature of the subtle sounds of nature. The poet presents the power of communication of nature. Tagore shows that nature communicates with rhythm and grace. This lines also shows spiritual awakening through the nature as he suggest that the 'sea of silence' and 'bird songs' suggest a meditative space and awakening, joy and life's vibrancy respectively. The poet keeps himself as a listener rather than a controller of nature. It shows the humility about ecology.

Tagore poem no, 12 Speak about interconnection between nature and human. He Strongly emphasizes that human can not separate himself from the nature. The life is the part and parcel of nature . All life is a part of one web.

'The traveller has to knock at every alien door come to his own and each foreign shore is nearer to his own '[p. 13]

Tagore in his poem no. 69 affirms the co-existence between human and the planet. He does not show the separate existence of human from the world. he asserts that all life is associated to each other and shares a common flow. Our indigenous ecological philosophies view the planet as a living and interconnected organism. The poet says that , **'the same stream of life that runs through a veins night and day runs through the world and dances in rhythmic measures '(p. 81).**

Conclusion:

In the poem Gitanjali Tagore emphasizes that nature is sacred ,active and vocal. The poet sees the divinity present every aspects of nature like rivers, trees, clouds, mountains and so on. This view of Tagore offers interconnections, reverence and sustainability about nature and gives an alternative to modern ecological alienation. Thus Tagore is an exceptional nature poet in many

respects. He has a broad, multifaceted, and grounded love of nature. His meticulousness of observation and description is what distinguishes his depictions of nature. Since he believes that nature is the primordial repository of all life, he frequently identifies with it and uses it to represent the abstract and the human. This is what makes him special and unique. However, his brilliance as a nature poet has not yet been acknowledged to its fullest extent. A proper understanding of his greatness and contribution in this area has been obstructed by his reputation as a great mystic, philosopher, and religious teacher.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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