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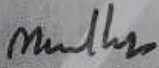


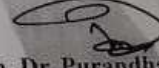
ONE DAY MULTIDISCIPLINARY INTERNATIONAL e-CONFERENCE ON
"CHALLENGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA TO COMPETE WITH GLOBAL LEVEL"

Monday, 12th JULY 2021

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This is to certify that Dr./Prof./Mr./Ms./Mjss Ramdas Vitthal Barve
From Radhakali Kale Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Ahmednagar
has participated/Presented the Research Paper entitled Ecological Concern in Anita
Desai's 'The Village by the Sea' in the International e-Conference held on
12th July 2021 at Night College of Arts and Commerce, Ichalkaranji.


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Ecological Concern in Anita Desai's 'The Village by the Sea'

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Abstract:

The present research paper focuses on reflection of nature in *The Village by the Sea* through an ecological perspective. Nature is a part of ecological system. Ecology is a discipline which focuses on the interactions between an organism of same kind and its environment. In other words it is an understanding of how biodiversity affects ecological function. It also shows the threat of ecology to human beings. It also reveals the successive development of ecosystem and the abundance and distribution of biodiversity in the context of environment. This study shows that the nature is an integral part of ecology. It highlights the narrative techniques, style and the language of novel through ecological perspective. It shows the importance of ecology, nature and other non-human world. It also teaches us about different aspects of ecology. It focuses life processes and adaptations, and motivates the readers to protect environment and ecology as they have to survive.

Key Words: Ecology, environment, adaptations, ecosystem, habitats, ethology etc.

Introduction:

Anita Desai was born on 24 June 1937 to German mother Toni Neme and a Bengali businessman, D. N. Mujumdar in Mossoorie, India. She is a distinguished Indian novelist and popular short story writer. German is her first language, besides it speaks in Bengali and Urdu languages and English is her literary language. She began to write in English at the age of seven and published her first story at the age of nine. She married Ashwin Desai and gave birth to four children. She wrote eighteen novels and awarded by Sahitya Akademi Award for *Fire on the Mountain* in 1978. She was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Her novel *The Village by the Sea* awarded Guardian Children's Fiction Prize.

Aims and Objectives:

1. To understand the concept of ecology.
2. To highlight the major issues pertain to the threat of ecology.
3. To focus on relationship between man and nature.
4. To show nature as an integral part of ecology.

Ecology:

The "Ecology" is the study of interactions among organisms and their environment. It includes biology, geography, and earth science; and the diversity and ecosystems. Ecology is the study of organisms in relation to the surroundings in which they live. This environment is made up of many different components including other living organisms and their effects, and the climate and soil type. Ecology is not synonymous with environment, environmentalism, natural history, or environmental science. It is closely related to evolutionary biology, genetics, and ethology. An important focus for ecologists is to improve the understanding of how biodiversity affects ecological function. (Google)

Definitions of Ecology:

1. Ernst Haeckel defined ecology as 'the domestic side of organic life' and 'the knowledge of the sum of the relations of organisms to the surrounding outer world to organic and inorganic conditions of existence'.¹
2. Woodbury (1954) treated ecology as "a science which investigates organisms in relation to their environment, and a philosophy in which the world of life is interpreted in natural processes."²

Ecology in the Village by the Sea:

Anita Desai depicts the rural and urban settings of contemporary India, Thul, a small village near Alibagh. Her writings are featured by an essential conflict between and among her characters who are challenged with the inevitable realities of life. In this novel, Desai depicts a story of poverty ridden family in which there are six members: Hari, the protagonist, his sisters Lila, Kamal, Bela, their drunkard father, and ill mother. Hari and Lila are teenagers though they support their house by hard working, Hari at Bombay and Lila at the house of de Silvas. The installation of factories and colonies create damage to the nature, environment and ecology. At the end of the novel, Desai portrays reunion of the family.

S. P. Swain correctly says that "It would be a misnomer to classify the novel as a book for children since it is concerned with the life of teen ages like Hari and Lila. The problem it elaborates centers round the issues of the eternal and the adult world."³