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ECOLOGICAL ASSASSINATION VIA GLOBALISATION: A CULTURAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The hypothesis of this research paper is to signify the impact of globalization in the modern world which has resulted in cultural catharsis and ecological imbalance. The concept is highlighted through the non-fiction of Amitav Ghosh *The Great Derangement Climate Change and Unthinkable*. Ghosh is a prominent ecologist, anthropologist and culturist whose writing frequently portrays his concern for nature, ecology and mankind. Fictional works like *The Hungry Tide*, *The Calcutta Chromosome* and *The Circle of Reason* signify the convergence of science and culture which has resulted in Ecological Assassination. Though globalization has resulted in multiculturalism, cultural diversity and hybridism the permanent loss of Flora, Fauna and lifestyle pattern should be rectified by creating awareness among the global citizens.

Key Words: Cultural Convergence, Globalisation, Ecological Assassination, Hybridism

The world has become an amalgamation of cathartic influences as a result of globalization, technical enhancement, scientific flaws and lifestyle changes. Amitav Ghosh, the most influential writers of the modern day is prominently known as an ecologist, anthropologist and a culturist. Though he has contributed abundantly towards historical ventures, recently his writings portray his concern for nature, ecology and mankind. Fictional works like *The Hungry Tide* (2004), *The Calcutta Chromosome* (1995) and *The Circle of Reason* (1986) signify the convergence of science and culture which has resulted in ecological assassination. *The Circle of Reason* empathetically evokes the reasons behind educational flaws and the change in the education system as an impact of colonization. *The Calcutta Chromosome* focuses on the negative impacts of globalization which lead to cultural diversity in promoting consumer culture, exploitation of workers and its influences on societal values. *The Hungry Tide* is Ghosh's pragmatic vision on ecological assassination, which has resulted in the extinction of various species of flora and fauna. This research paper highlights the exploitation of 'Green Earth' as an impact of globalization through the non-fiction of Ghosh titled *The Great Derangement, Climate Change and the Unthinkable* (2016).

Globalisation has left its footprints at every sphere of life. The interchange of world views and ideas has resulted in a major transformation of the lifestyle and living standard of people globally. Indian culture and our deep rooted traditions have loosened up their hold with the emergence of globalization. Globalisation is the resultant of the interchange of worldly views, opinions and the various aspects of culture everywhere around the world. In today's era, the various means of telecommunication, social media and most importantly the internet has a big role to play in the spread of globalization. It has got its positive and negative impacts on

air, water, soil, climatic changes, cyber crime, pollution, business, trade, work exposure and economic status towards various levels uniformly.

This research paper analyses the consequences of globalization, there by highlighting 'Carbon Economy' and the emergence of an 'Eurocentric Hybrid Culture'. The culture of any country not only portrays the boundary and language of the region, but it starts with the mindset and mentality of the residing citizens. India is a bouquet of flowers with varying religion, dialect, edibles, tradition, customs, music, art and architecture, bundled into a single unit of patriotism and unity. On the contrary, globalization has resulted in the deterioration of family structure, marriage values, social values, food, clothing, dialects, employment, agricultural sector, science and technology.

For instance, the joint families have become a strange surprise to the Indians especially to those residing in the small flat culture in metropolitan cities. The moral and ethical values of the institution of marriage have lost its valour as a result of imbrications of western values in Indian culture. The rise in science and technology over rules the traditional food values, with mushrooming KFCs, Pizza Huts, Mc Donalds and various branded showrooms, exploiting food as well as clothing. The native psyche which interprets the European culture to be superior visualizes globalization as a superior culture. Henceforth, the globalised European culture also seems to have a positive influence on the native psyche.

One such impact is the increased usage of carbon in various industrial and domestic purposes.. Amitav Ghosh highlights the tragic boom in Carbon Economy which has resulted in Ecological Assassination. There are three common naturally occurring forms of carbon: graphite, amorphous carbon and diamond. These are widely used in many products including inks, rubber, steel, pencil etc. Ten millions of artificial carbon compounds are useful for petroleum and plastics. But the carbon emissions raise global temperatures by trapping solar energy in the atmosphere. This alters water supplies and weather patterns, changes the growing season for food crops and threatens the coastal communities with increasing sea levels. Thus, the carbon economy has made a very coarse impact on climate change.

In fact, Ghosh has predicted recently that Himalayan regions, will face a catastrophe as climate change takes hold. *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable* focuses on global carbon-dependent economy and stresses the need to return to traditional methods of agriculture. He talks about the current drought in western India, caused by a shift to water hungry crops, which has caused thousands of farmers to migrate to the cities. He offers a solution in his book by hoping that, religious figures will get involved in climate change, since governments have failed. "I am not sure there are solutions. The problem is of such a scale that we are dwarfed by it" (5).

India is a country which refuses to concentrate on growth until climate reparations are made. Ghosh strongly recommends that our country should concentrate on growth until climate reparations are made. Climate issue should be made alive, in order to prevent a catastrophe. In his non-fiction Ghosh grimly predicts a "politics of the armed lifeboat" where the poor of the global south will be left to their doom while the rich go on unscathed. "In 2003, the European heat wave caused 46,000 deaths. When the power goes out in India, several times a day, no one even notices" (47).

An ardent supporter of climate justice, Ghosh traces the paths to development taken by India, China and the west. Climate justice seeks to look at the historical responsibilities for climate and life style changes. India and China deserve reparations by coming out of the consumerist, carbon-intensive economy. Literary novelists writing in English namely, Margaret Atwood, Kurt Vonnegut Jr, Barbara Kingsilver, Doris Lessing, Cormac McCarthy, Ian McEwan and Coraghessan Boyle have communicated more sensitively about accelerating changes in our environment. In his seminal essay *The Climate of History*, Dipesh Chakrabarty observes that historians will have to revise many of their fundamental assumptions and procedures in this era of the Anthropocene, in which humans have become geological agents, changing the most basic physical processes of the Earth. Thus, the Anthropocene presents a challenge not only to the arts and humanities, but also to our common sense understandings and contemporary culture. The climate crisis is also a crisis of culture, tradition and life style. In a substantially altered world, when sea-level rise has swallowed the Sundarbans and made cities such as Kolkata, New York and Bangkok uninhabitable, natives must adapt to a globalised culture without assassinating the ecological system.

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