



**O'ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI
OLIY TA'LIM, FAN VA INNOVATSIYALAR VAZIRLIGI
MAKTABGACHA VA MAKTAB TA'LIMI VAZIRLIGI
BUXORO DAVLAT PEDAGOGIKA INSTITUTI**

FILOLOGIK TADQIQOTLARNING YANGI BOSQICHI: ZAMONAVIY TENDENSIYALAR VA ISTIQBOLLAR

III XALQARO ILMIY-AMALIY ANJUMAN MATERIALLARI

2025-yil, 21-OKTABR

BUXORO – 2025

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To'plam O'zbekiston Respublikasi Oliy ta'lim, fan va innovatsiyalar vazirligining 2024-yil 27-dekabrda "2025-yilda o'tkazilishi rejalashtirilgan xalqaro va respublika miqyosidagi ilmiy va ilmiy-texnik tadbirlar ro'yxatini tasdiqlash to'g'risida"gi 496-sonli buyrug'i rejasida belgilangan tadbirlarning bajarilishini ta'minlash maqsadida Maktabgacha va maktab ta'limi vazirligi Buxoro davlat pedagogika institutida o'tkazilgan "Filologik tadqiqotlarning yangi bosqichi: zamonaviy tendensiyalar va istiqbollar" mavzusidagi III xalqaro ilmiy-amaliy anjuman materiallari asosida tuzildi.

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ECOCRITICISM – INTERDISCIPLINARY FIELD BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT AND LITERATURE

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Abstract. Ecocriticism is an interdisciplinary field that explores the dynamic relationship between literature and the environment. It examines how literary texts represent nature, ecological crises, and human interaction with the natural world. By bridging literary studies and environmental science, ecocriticism encourages readers to reconsider the ethical, cultural, and philosophical implications of environmental issues through artistic expression. This approach not only broadens the scope of literary analysis but also contributes to environmental awareness and sustainability discourses, emphasizing the role of literature as a transformative medium.

Keywords: ecocriticism, literature, environment, nature representation, sustainability, interdisciplinary studies.

Ecocriticism is one of the youngest revisionist movements, which has swept the humanities over the past few decades. The present world is facing eco-disasters and our environment is now at stake. Only science and technology are not enough to combat the global ecological crisis. We should make change in our attitude to nature. Literature does not float above life, so it has its role to play. For a long time nature was not given due consideration by the literary critics, so ecologically oriented literature pleads for a better understanding of nature in its wider significance. Ecocriticism has developed as "a worldwide emergent movement" during the last three decades. The scholars are still engaged in developing its nature and scope.

The term ecocriticism was first coined by William Rueckert in his critical writing "Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism" in 1978. The word '*eco*' comes from the Greek root word '*oikos*' which etymologically means household or earth and '*logy*' from '*logos*' means logical discourse. Together they mean criticism of the house-the environment as represented in literature. According to Rueckert, ecocriticism applies ecology or ecological principles into the study of literature. And Lawrence Buell defines ecocriticism "as a study of the relationship between literature and the environment conducted in a spirit of commitment to environmentalist's praxis" [The Environmental Imagination, 430]. Further ecocriticism does not simply mean nature study; it has distinguished itself from conventional nature writing, first by its ethical stand and commitment to the natural world and then by making the connection between the human and the non-human world. According to Joseph Wood Krutch, Thoreau's work is not about plants or animals or birds; it is about his relation to them; one may almost say about 'himself in connection with nature.' [Henry David Thoreau 1948] Patrick D. Murphy is right in saying that Ecocriticism is literary "criticism that arises from and is oriented toward a concern with human and nonhuman interaction and interrelationship.

There are two waves of ecocriticism as identified by Lawrence Buell. The first wave ecocritics focused on nature writing, nature poetry, and wilderness fiction" [Buell 138] They used to uphold the philosophy of organism. Here environment effectively means natural environment. [Buell 21] The aim of the wave was to preserve 'biotic community' [Coupe 4] The ecocritics of this wave apprised "the effects of culture upon nature, with a view toward celebrating nature, berating its despoilers, and reversing their harm through political action" [Howarth, 69]. So ecocriticism initially aimed at earth care.

The second wave ecocritics inclined towards environmental justice issues and a 'social ecocriticism' that takes urban landscape as seriously as 'natural landscape' [Buell 22]. This

wave of ecocriticism is also known as revisionist ecocriticism. It seeks to locate the vestiges of nature in cities and exposes crimes of eco-injustice against society's marginal section. The Ecocritic interprets nature writing texts. At the same time, they use them as a context for analyzing the principles and customs of our society in relationship to nature. Often, the result is a critique of how our culture devalues and degrades the natural world.

Nature and Culture in environmental literature. One of the implicit goals of the ecocritics is to rethink the relationship between culture and nature (Barry 252). The present ecological crisis is a bi-product of human culture. Since his inception, man started living in close proximity with nature in the natural environment. Culture is associated with the geography of a landscape. For example, Synge's Aran Island, Hardy's Wessex, R.K. Narayan's Malgudi etc have their impact on characters of their writings. Culture is something which has been created over the years by the people who have been living in an environment for ages. So long as man lived in close association with nature there will be no ecological threat. But with the advancement of science and technology man has got alienated from nature putting his own survival in a question. The natural environment is now replaced by the built up environment.

Our global crisis is not because how ecosystems function. It is because how our ethical systems function. Getting through the crisis requires understanding our impact on nature. It requires understanding those ethical systems and using that understanding to reform them.

Sustainable Development. Ecocriticism advocates sustainable development for a better future of mankind in general. All organisms have their right to survive in their own way. The plants, the animals, the women, the marginal, the tribal - all have their role to play to keep up the earth's basic life support system. Limited use of resources will ensure the safe and secured future of the generations to come. "The most common measure to tackle environmental crisis is sustainable development" [Frederick 128]. This categorically means the required use of natural resources without endangering the whole environment and the well-being of all human beings [Essays in Ecocriticism 36].

Therefore, Ecocriticism which was synonymous with the American nature writings as well as the British Romantic literature has now gained its momentum with worldwide eco-literature. It has changed its colour from local to global perspectives in view of the present ecological crisis around the globe. The humans have only one earth to live in and we are at the brink of our forthcoming destruction unless we are careful of the blue planet. If we want to hear the song of the earth, we should change our anthropocentric vision without any delay. The world literature abounds in ecological perspectives. Environment being an inseparable part of human culture is paramount in all major canonical writings. An ecological insight may lead them into several new perspectives. Uzbek philosophy and writing is not an exception to this. From the ancient to the cyber age, Uzbek literature is thronged in environmental concern.

World environmental literary works beautifully deal with human nature relationship and interconnection- the key note of eco-literature. The common message is keep nature in her pristine beauty; let not destroy what we cannot create. The more ecocritical writings will come into focus, the more man will learn to behave with nature in a proper way keeping in tune with the present environmental crisis.

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