



ISSN NO. 2320-5407

ISSN(O): 2320-5407 | ISSN(P): 3107-4928

# International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56610

Title: **Ecofeminist Interconnections: Mutual Domination of Women and Nature in Anita Desai's "Where shall we go this summer?" and "Clear Light of the Day"**

	Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>Recommendation:</b>					
Accept as it is .....	Originality		...		
Accept after minor revision.....	Techn. Quality		...		
<b>Accept after major revision</b> .....	Clarity			...	
Do not accept ( <i>Reasons below</i> ) .....	Significance		...		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-180

### Detailed Reviewer's Report

The research paper titled "Ecofeminist Interconnections: Mutual Domination of Women and Nature in Anita Desai's *Where Shall We Go This Summer?* and *Clear Light of the Day*" examines the relationship between gender oppression and environmental exploitation through an ecofeminist framework. The study attempts to analyze how the novels of Anita Desai depict the parallel domination of women and nature under patriarchal and anthropocentric systems. By employing ecofeminist theory, the paper argues that the subjugation of women and the degradation of nature originate from similar structures of power and control. The author situates the discussion within the broader theoretical context of ecofeminism, referencing the ideas of Françoise d'Eaubonne, who first coined the term ecofeminism, and Vandana Shiva, whose postcolonial ecofeminist perspectives inform the study's theoretical orientation. Overall, the introduction effectively establishes the conceptual link between feminist theory and ecological criticism while contextualizing Desai's fiction within Indian environmental and social realities.

The paper highlights how Desai's novels integrate psychological depth with environmental symbolism. In *Where Shall We Go This Summer?*, the protagonist Maya retreats to the island of Manori while grappling with an unwanted pregnancy and emotional alienation. The paper interprets the island's threatened natural landscape as a metaphor for Maya's violated body and inner turmoil. Similarly, in *Clear Light of Day*, the character Bim inhabits a deteriorating house and garden in Old Delhi, which symbolizes emotional stagnation and the lingering trauma of the post-Partition period. The study effectively shows how Desai merges environmental imagery with the psychological experiences of her female protagonists, thereby illustrating the ecofeminist idea that women and nature are subjected to comparable forms of exploitation and neglect.

From a methodological perspective, the research employs a qualitative literary analysis based on close reading of the primary texts. The paper states that it interprets symbolic and thematic elements in order to reveal the ecofeminist connections between environmental degradation and women's oppression. The methodology section explains that specific passages from the novels are examined to demonstrate how Desai constructs parallels between bodily experiences and ecological conditions for instance, Maya's pregnancy and the polluted sea, or Bim's emotional stagnation and the decaying garden. While the qualitative approach is appropriate for literary analysis, the methodology remains somewhat brief and could benefit from a clearer explanation of analytical procedures, theoretical categories, and the selection criteria for textual examples. In the analysis section, the paper explores how Desai symbolically connects women's bodies with natural landscapes. The study argues that the deterioration of natural spaces mirrors the psychological struggles of the female protagonists. Maya's nausea and anxiety are interpreted as reflecting the environmental destruction caused by rapid urbanization in Mumbai, while her retreat to the island represents a form of ecofeminist resistance. Likewise, Bim's flooded garden and neglected surroundings symbolize emotional paralysis and suppressed female agency. The paper also suggests that Desai portrays women as

# International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

*www.journalijar.com*

---

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

potential protectors of nature, implying that ecological balance can be restored through a reevaluation of women's roles and experiences. This interpretive approach highlights Desai's ability to blend personal, environmental, and socio-historical themes.

However, while the paper presents an interesting ecofeminist interpretation, several aspects could be improved. Some sections contain grammatical inconsistencies and unclear phrasing that occasionally disrupt the academic flow of the argument. The analysis also tends to repeat similar ideas without providing sufficient textual evidence or detailed close reading from the novels. Additionally, the discussion could be strengthened by engaging more extensively with secondary scholarship on ecofeminism and Indian English literature. A deeper theoretical engagement with ecofeminist thinkers and more systematic comparison between the two novels would further enhance the scholarly rigor of the paper.

In conclusion, the paper provides a meaningful exploration of ecofeminist themes in the fiction of Anita Desai. It successfully highlights the symbolic relationship between women's experiences and environmental degradation while situating the novels within a broader theoretical framework of ecofeminism. Despite certain stylistic and analytical limitations, the study contributes to understanding how Desai's narratives reflect the interconnected struggles of gender oppression and ecological crisis. With clearer methodology, stronger textual evidence, and more polished language, the research could become a more compelling and academically robust contribution to ecofeminist literary criticism.