

Work Plan and Methodology

The present study is tentatively divided into six chapters. The following plan of study is envisaged:-

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

The first chapter will serve to introduce the background of the topic of the thesis, its history, and its critical importance by apprising the readers to the world of travel literature and ecocriticism followed by the explanation of the relevance of travel writings in literature and criticism especially eco-criticism. The readers will be briefed about the problem taken up in the thesis along with the objectives of the research and the methodology of the research to achieve its objectives. In a general estimate the centre stage will be occupied by a study of the history of travel literature and ecocriticism in detail, their classifications, and the various stages of their development. Quotes and references will be culled from all possible sources to generalise the importance of ecocriticism in travel writings in literature.

CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter will glance upon the major travel writers of the world, their writings and their contribution to the green studies. Besides, allusions will be made to critical books and reviews on travel literature which will be followed by a chronological study of the most important travel literature on India till the last century keeping ecology in the centre.. These writings will be discussed exhaustively in this chapter which will make the readers aware of the various kinds of ecological concerns about India up to the last century as perceived by these

writers. Important critical comments and reviews will be an integral part of this chapter. Besides, references to the related material will be made to enrich the chapter.

CHAPTER THREE: INDIVIDUAL VIS-A-VIS ENVIRONMENT

The third chapter will deal with the critical study of the most important travel writings on contemporary India which deal with the role of individuals vis-a-vis ecology of India and the nature of role of the former in relation to the latter like *Holy Cow* (2003) by Sarah Macdonald, *The Penguin Book of Indian Journeys* (2004) by Dom Moraes, and *India with Sanjeev Bhaskar* (2007) by Sanjeev Bhaskar. These writings will be discussed exhaustively, analytically and comparatively in this chapter which will make the readers aware of the relation that an individual bears to his/her environment. A plenty of references will also find a mention from some major travel writings from the later part of the last century like *Slowly Down the Ganges* (1983) by Eric Newby, *Chasing the Monsoon* (1990) by Alexander Frater, *Travels on my Elephant* (1992) by Mark Shand, and *Om: An Indian Pilgrimage* (1993) by Geoffrey Moorhouse. Important critical comments and reviews will be an integral part of this chapter. Besides, references to the related material will be made to enrich the chapter.

CHAPTER FOUR: SOCIETY VIS-A-VIS ENVIRONMENT

The fourth chapter, like the fourth one, is fundamental in understanding the nature of relation that a particular society bears to its environment through a comprehensive, analytical and comparative study of some of the other important travel writings on contemporary India that are relevant to the present research so as to make a generalisation and comparison. These writings include *City of Djinns* (2004) by William Dalrymple, *The Penguin Book of Indian Journeys* (2004) by Dom Moraes, *India's Unending Journey* (2008) by Mark Tully, and *Nine Lives: In*

Search of the Sacred in Modern India (2009) by William Dalrymple. Another major work that will be taken for considerable references is *No Full Stops in India*(1992) by Mark Tully. These books give really good insight into the working of different societies vis-a-vis environment in India, in both the cities and the rural areas. The chapter will bring into its fold various related critical reviews and pieces of critique.

CHAPTER FIVE: GOVERNMENT VIS-A-VIS ENVIRONMENT

The fifth chapter will discuss critically in detail the kind of role played by the Government vis-a-vis environment by the close and analytical study of books like *India in slow motion* (2003) by Mark Tully, *The Age of Kali* (2004) by William Dalrymple, *The Penguin Book of Indian Journeys* (2004) by Dom Moraes, and *Maximum City* (2006) by Suketu Mehta. *An Area of Darkness* (1964) by V.S. Naipaul will also be dealt with at length. In this chapter also, important and relevant critical remarks will be taken into account to support the facts.

CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The sixth and the concluding chapter, as always, will provide us with a balance sheet of the nature of role played by the individuals, different societies, and the Government vis-a-vis environment in the contemporary India as presented by various travel writers in their writings and how these writers are similar or dissimilar in their approach with regards to the idea explored in this research, so as to reach a conclusion that may support the point of view presented in the synopsis.

The present study aims at achieving its end through the analytical, exploratory and chronological eco-critical study of important travel writings on contemporary India by various

writers who visited India purely for tourist purpose. Both the primary and secondary sources will be studied extensively and analytically in this research project to come down to a conclusion.