

CHAPTER V

Conclusion

All living beings take birth and end in the nature. It makes us to accept the fact that there is close, intimate relationship between literature and nature. Literature reflects human attitudes towards nature and environment. Ecocriticism applies ecological principles to literature in order to understand inextricable link of human culture to the physical world. According to Michael P. Cohen ecocriticism focuses on literary [and artistic] expression of human experience primarily in a naturally and consequently, in a culturally shaped world : joys of abundance, sorrows of deprivation, hopes for harmonious existence and fears of loss and disaster.

In both novels Kiran Desai foreground ecological elements through orchid and Kanchenjunga. Both novels get importance from ecological perspective. Nature is there with its seasonal changes but when human being interferes in its cycle it becomes disastrous, beyond control. Thus ecocritical study of novels of Kiran Desai enables us to examine the textualizations of the physical environment in literary discourse. In both of her novels she uses different nature scenes and landscapes as a background to different events and moods of character. The plot of *The Inheritance of Loss* shifts between the landscapes of India and America.

Hullabaloo in Guava orchard is set in an Indian backwater named Shahkot. It is a pacy, fresh, look at life in the sleepy provincial town of Shahkot in India. The central character of the novel Sampath Chawla failed postal clerk and pathological dreamer escapes from his work and enters in orchard in search of loneliness and resides in guava tree where hullabaloo is created by liquor drinking monkeys. In orchard he spends his life snoozing, musing and eating the ever-more exotic meals, cooked for him by his sociopathic mother. He begins to

amaze his fellow townspeople by revealing intimate details about them, gleaned from a bit of lazy letter opening whilst still working at the post office. He becomes known as guru. This can be said as pastoral idyll. He disturbs life of orchard and its animals.

Kiran desai confronts in *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard* a serious issue of environmental crisis. Desai makes strong statements throughout the book regarding the problems inherent in man's encroachment upon the natural order of things. At the start of book the newspaper from which Mr. Chawla reads aloud reports all manner of explanations for the drought that Shahkot is experiencing. The monsoons have not yet come and the people fear for their crops and their livelihoods and so seek solace in dreaming up reasons for the monsoon's absence. They look for something or someone to blame, to fill up the space of worry.

Nature in *Hullabaloo in Guava Orchard* is symbol of freedom where Sampath feels peace and contentment. For him it was king's life. Orchard became source of pleasure and happy solitude. Beautiful trees birds, cool breeze in the orchard created a desire to swallow all scenes so that he can become permanently happy. This is comic novel of eccentric characters. Gentle satire also exposes hypocrisies of so-called baba and their false wisdom. All characters have obsession of certain things. Kulfi, mother of Sampath Chawla is obsessed with food ingredients spices, herbs, birds. By using all types of spices she used to cook nutritious food for Sampath. Hysterically she wanders in the forest in search of birds, leaves, plants, vegetables to cook. Sampath escapes from world of responsibilities into orchard. He is unsuccessful in real life as he could not understand difference between real life and imaginary life. He could not fulfill expectations of his father. He could never adjust domestic circumstances. In search of loneliness and peace he entered in orchard. His sense of gratification with the trees, parrots, guava suggests his desire for absolute stillness and

escape from confine suffocating human world. He enjoyed various soft and soothing sounds from nature.

Orchard provides ecological base and setting to this novel. All characters wander and live in orchard which is main place of all events and hullabaloo as suggested in the title. When Samapth, protagonist enters into orchard comedy starts. Desai spins a hilarious tale. Novel is rich in ecological wealth of various nature scenes and landscapes of forest and orchard. It plays crucial role in development of theme. Orchard gives Sampath identity as tree-baba. Orchard gives monetary wealth to Mr. Chawla. Kulfi could foster her obsession of cooking due to orchard which became main source of ecological wealth. Brigadier was obsessed with watching various types of birds. Pinky has strong obsession about herself and her appearance..

Though there is gentle satire on so called gurus novel underscores encroachment of careless, indifferent, eccentric gurus in the nature. *Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard* is excellent example of human's attitude towards nature. Here one can notice that how human being for selfish motive intrudes in heart of nature and what happens when animals enter in human colonies. To control animal man can use nets, guns and other weapons but to control ungrateful human being animals can't do anything. But nature always maintains natural balance. Army and police failed to capture violent monkeys. Man always becomes helpless in front of mighty nature. They creates hullabaloo not only in human colony but in orchard also. Orchard is core of theme and important setting of novel. Comic hullabaloo is created by eccentric characters in orchard and natural hullabaloo is created by monkeys and bird. Novel depicts how human attitude, destructiveness of human being is responsible for ecological disturbance and ruin.

The Inheritance of Loss opens with a teenage Indian girl, an orphan called Sai. She lives with Jemubhai Patel who is Cambridge educated anglophile grandfather. After retirement judge wants to live peaceful life.

Arrival of Sai makes him restless. There is symbolic use of nature imagery to suggest life in north-eastern Himalaya and happenings in the life of characters. At the beginning mist was moving like water creature across the great flanks of mountains. Mountain refers to the judge stern, egoist, person and water creature is Sai which creates little restlessness in judge. His lonely life is disturbed. His guns are robbed by Gorkha boys.

Gorkhas are fighting for their Gorkhaland where they can rule and will get freedom. They are being treated as minority. Immigrant Neps become settlers and they demonstrated for the possession of land. Beautiful peak of Kanchenjunga attracted tourist. Teesta valley is rich with various butterflies enchanted tourist but occasional incidents of landslides created great disturbance in life of people living there. Human beings were fighting, making demonstrations, morchas, roadblocks, strikes, kidnapping animal, gun robbery all sort of things were happening in foothills of Himalaya. Beauty and vastness of nature get curse of greedy people and they could not live peacefully in that beautiful nature. Thus from eco-critical perspective this novel focuses on certain environmental issues. Forest was being cleared away and stones from Teesta bed were being picked away. All illegal things were happening. Kiran Desai shows human beings with lack of awareness of environmental preservation of its wealth. But same human being becomes tiny creature when there was natural disaster like famine, landslides, mist, cold, rain. It becomes difficult for them to get daily bread.

Kiran Desai is great craftsman of human emotions, history and real picture of fate of human being. Nature is witness of historical events of Gorkhas and their movements for Gorkhaland. Scenes and landscapes of Kanchenjunga and Kalimpong played pivotal role in elevating ecological importance of novel. Desai has done dexterous use of nature imagery to explore past of north-eastern India and fate of human being in the world of globalization. History is witness of inheritance of loss. There is loss of not only of human life but loss of nature

also. Dissatisfaction of human being creates deep impact on harmony of ecology. Its result is in exploitation of natural resources. Invasion of human being is resisted by natural weapons of nature like storms, landslides, cold. In foreign, natural and man-made environment Indians face a lot of problems to adjust. It is depicted through example of Biju. Globalization created adverse effects on nature and life of human being. Thus we see that Desai's both novels cover almost all different concepts and definitions that have been put forth by various critics of eco-criticism. Her novels are rich with eco-critical references.

To sum up, eco-critical perspective towards these novels highlights interdependent relationship of environment and organism and nature. It shows the way in which animals and people are related to each other and their environment. Monkeys drink liquor because of human being and Mutt is kidnapped by trespasser to take revenge. Culture of human being creates disastrous impact on culture of nature and its cycle. From the beginning the writer has pictured different scenes of nature and landscapes. It gives aesthetic pleasure. Ecologically everything is interconnected with each other and still human being doesn't realize it. This non-realization creates ecological imbalance which is called as '*Hullabaloo*', and '*Loss*'. Without nature scenes and landscapes this novels could not have got skeleton to make body of novel. Ecology is core of both novels which keeps fresh and inspiring atmosphere always and among recent fictions it can be most aptly given an ecocritical reading.
