



An eco critical view on Amitav Ghosh's the Hungry Tide

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Abstract: The novel "The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh, which is set in the atmospheric Sundarbans, depicts a wide range of relationships between people and nature while also highlighting pervasive ecological concerns. This essay examines the novel from an eco-critical perspective, highlighting the complex connections between people, animals, and the environment. An argument on ecological balance, cultural survival, and environmental ethics is presented against the powerful backdrop of Ghosh's depiction of the Sundarbans, a region where the tides control life. The story explores the interconnections of history, ecology, and human decisions through characters like Piya and Kanai, implying a deep connection between nature and civilization. Furthermore, Ghosh's portrayal of the deadly yet breathtaking beauty of the mangroves and the man-eating tigers forces readers to acknowledge the serious effects of ecological imbalances. His complex web of tales highlights the necessity of observing ecological boundaries and promotes an ethos of coexistence rather than dominance. This essay examines Ghosh's prophetic warning about environmental destruction while promoting a comprehensive knowledge of the complex relationship between people and their environment. In essence, "The Hungry Tide" emerges as both a sophisticated ecological treatise and a narrative.

Keywords: *Eco-Criticism, Amitav Ghosh, The Hungry Tide, Ecological Treatise, Ecological Concerns.*

1. Introduction

The Sundarbans, a huge archipelago of islands spanning the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna rivers, serve as the mysterious background to Amitav Ghosh's brilliant weaving of history, politics, and environmental concern in *The Hungry Tide*. The story goes in-depth into the lives of its protagonists and how their fates are interwoven, but underneath, it presents a moving analysis of how people and the environment interact. (Buell, Lawrence, 1995) As a literary and cultural theory, eco-criticism focuses on the need of having an ecological consciousness as it attempts to understand how literature and the natural world interact. With this perspective, Ghosh's

The Hungry Tide becomes an example. The book is not just about the Sundarbans; it is set there as well. The environment has a deep and frequently unforeseen impact on the lives of the residents, both human and animal, and is not merely a passive backdrop. (Ghosh, Amitav, 2016)

The environment is more than just a backdrop in *The Hungry Tide*; it also functions as a player, a driving force, and a window into the more significant ecological issues at hand. Every mangrove tree, every tidal wave, and every Royal Bengal tiger play a place in the vast orchestration of life, as shown by Ghosh's exploration of the complex balance of nature. The settlers, the refugees, and the government officials, each with their own hopes, desires, and perceptions of what the land signifies, are part of the human element as well. (Guha, Ramachandra, 2006) The novel's eco-critical aspect is evident in its examination of issues including environmental-related displacement, the effects of human interference in vulnerable ecosystems, and the tension between economic growth and environmental preservation. Readers are compelled to wrestle with these difficult questions as a result of Ghosh's sophisticated writing, which encourages them to consider how these themes apply to everyday life. *The Hungry Tide* is revealed to be more than just a story of human lives when viewed from an eco-critical angle. The story told by Ghosh serves as a reminder of the tenuous equilibrium that exists in our ecosystems and the inherent duty we have to preserve it. The book serves as a cautionary tale as well as a tribute to the exquisite beauty of nature in today's world, where environmental concerns are becoming more and more pressing. (Heise, Ursula 2008)

1.1 Background

The Sundarbans is a large archipelago of islands in the Bay of Bengal, and "The Hungry Tide," written by Amitav Ghosh, is a moving depiction of the intertwining of human lives, socio-cultural realities, and the powerful, unexpected dynamics of nature there. The book is not merely a story of human attempts and aspirations; it also paints a clear picture of environmental difficulties, interspecies connections, and the ongoing struggle between people and nature's unbridled force. (Mukherjee, 2010)

1.2 Eco-Criticism and Environmental Literature

The term "eco-criticism," which derives from the Greek words "oikos," which means "house" or "environment," and "kritikos," which means "discerning judge," refers to an approach to literary and cultural criticism that looks at the complex interaction between people and their environment in literature. While books that express concerns about the natural world and how humans are affecting it make up environmental literature. This section defines the term "eco-criticism" and recounts the development of environmental literature, emphasizing the connections between them. (DeLoughrey, Elizabeth M., 2011)

1.3 Eco-Criticism as a Literary Approach

Eco-criticism, which emerged from the 1960s and 1970s environmental movement, took off in the 1990s when academics started to methodically examine the environmental aspects of literature. (Nixon, Rob., 2011) The main goal of eco-criticism is to integrate environmental issues into literary studies, with a particular emphasis on issues like how nature is portrayed, how humans interact with ecosystems, environmental justice, and the ethics of human-nature relationships. Greg Garrard, Cheryll Glotfelty, and Lawrence Buell are famous individuals who have significantly advanced the field. They stress the importance of reading literature with an eye on the environment and promote a critical perspective that places the environment first. (Whitehead, Anne., 2017)

1.4 The Emergence of Environmental Literature

Ancient books from different cultures, where nature was frequently portrayed as a potent force, are where environmental literature has its roots. However, transcendentalist writings like those of Henry David Thoreau and later inspirations like Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" were the foundation for modern environmental literature. (Ghosh, Bishnupriya, 2011)

Themes like ecological deterioration, man's estrangement from nature, bio-centric values vs anthropocentric ideas, and the effects of unbridled industrialization are frequently discussed in environmental literature. The genre has been shaped by books like Aldo Leopold's "A Sand County Almanac," Edward Abbey's "Desert Solitaire," and more recently Barbara Kingsolver's "Prodigal Summer." (Chakrabarty, Dipesh., 2009)

1.5 Eco-Criticism's Role in Analyzing Environmental Literature

The multidisciplinary nature of eco-criticism is one of its main advantages. It draws on anthropology, philosophy, and ecology to offer comprehensive readings of environmental texts.

Even in writings that aren't explicitly about nature, eco-critics frequently find underlying environmental tales.

(Davis, Mike, 2001) These interpretations demonstrate how environmental issues have always been present in human history, albeit not always explicitly. A lot of eco-critics support the use of literature as a vehicle for activism. They contend that literature has the ability to influence how the public perceives things, to evoke empathy, and to motivate environmental action. (*James, Ryan., 2013*)

Environmental literature and eco-criticism work together to understand and confront the most pressing ecological issues. These fields have the potential to transform our relationship with nature and spark positive change as mankind struggles with tremendous environmental problems. The literary criticism of how people interact with their environment offers important insights on society values, ethics, and aspirations, highlighting the importance of a peaceful coexistence between people and nature. (*Dhara, Anirban., 2018*)

1.6 The Sundarbans and Amitav Ghosh

The Sundarbans, the biggest mangrove forest in the world, is a delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna rivers that spans Bangladesh and India and offers an intricate network of waterways, islands, and a distinctive ecosystem. Many authors have drawn inspiration from the area, which is home to the renowned Royal Bengal tiger and is rich in wildlife. Particularly in his book "The Hungry Tide," Amitav Ghosh stands out among them for his evocative depiction of this area and its complicated connections with human civilization. (*Sharma, Shubhangi, 2019*)

- **Geographical and Ecological Features of the Sundarbans:** The Sundarbans, which are made up of thousands of islands of all sizes, experience frequent tidal changes. Along with the Royal Bengal tiger, the area is also home to several bird species, mammals like the spotted deer and saltwater crocodiles, and aquatic life. As the coastline is stabilized and tidal surge effects are reduced, mangrove forests are essential. The bushes and trees have adapted to the saline conditions of the water.
- **Amitav Ghosh and his Connection to the Sundarbans:** Ghosh's interest in the Sundarbans stems from his own travels and investigations. He gained insights into the complicated relationships amongst the land's people from his numerous travels and contacts with the local population. In "The Hungry Tide," Ghosh delves deeply into the region's sociocultural fabric. He presents accounts of indigenous populations, settlers, and refugees and their interactions with the ecology. Readers have a deeper grasp of the past of the Sundarbans thanks to Ghosh's work, which touches on historical occurrences like the Marichjhapi incident that have shaped the area. (*Khan, Nadia., 2017*)

1.7 Interplay of Nature and Human Civilization in Ghosh's Narrative

Despite the numerous difficulties, "The Hungry Tide" masterfully depicts the symbiotic link between the Sundarbans' residents and their surroundings. In addition to highlighting the natural beauty, Ghosh's story also touches on the ecosystem's weaknesses by talking about issues like climate change, deforestation, and sea level rise. The book asks readers to reevaluate their views of the natural world as it digs further into issues of nature, existence, and human aspirations. (*Rajasekharan, K., 2013*)

The complex depiction of the Sundarbans in Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide" goes beyond only geographic and ecological details. He gives readers a comprehensive understanding of the area by incorporating socio-cultural and historical themes. It is a testament to the ability of literature to shine light on areas like the Sundarbans, which are at the forefront of current environmental and socio-political concerns despite being rich in natural beauty and cultural legacy. (*Roy, Bidisha., 2015*)

Eco-Critical Analysis of "The Hungry Tide":

"The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh is a striking illustration of the complex interactions between memory, nature, and man. Ghosh doesn't only convey a story about people and animals; through its meandering narrative, which navigates the perilous waters of the Sundarbans, it also displays an elaborate tapestry of how environment and culture intertwine. With the help of the ecocritical perspective, we may reveal the many ways that nature is a reflection of human desires and concerns as well as a character, force, and setting. (*Iyer, Nandini. 2016*)

Ecological Themes in the Novel:

The Sundarbans, a vast, enigmatic, and unstable delta that spans Southern Bangladesh and Eastern India, is at the center of the story. Both the human characters and the geography, which is frequently characterized as a moving tangle of islands, rivers, and tidal waterways, play major roles in the story. The Bengal tigers that sneak through the mangroves, the tides that can come in and go out, and the cyclones that can abruptly alter one's route in life are all depicted by Ghosh in detailed detail.

The ongoing and frequently dangerous friction between the inhabitants and their surroundings is highlighted in the book. The entire time, there is a tangible terror of the tides and the animals, especially the tigers. But there is respect and awareness of the delicate balance needed to exist in this particular habitat, not just terror. This link between man and nature is strongly rooted in culture, spirituality, and history in addition to being one of survival. (*Mehta, Brinda., 2004*)

Representation of Nature and Culture:

The protagonists in the novel, including the ardent cetologist Piya, the reserved Fokir, and the tenacious Kanai, all embody various connections to the Sundarbans' land and waterways. Fokir's knowledge is more innate and has been passed down through generations, whereas Piya's life is founded in the tidal rhythms and she sees the mangroves with a scientific interest. As both an outsider and someone with familial links to the region, Kanai, on the other hand, must walk a fine line. Ghosh creates an image of the Sundarbans through these individuals as a place where nature and culture are intricately intertwined. (*Macfarlane, Robert., 2007*)

A prime example of how Ghosh combines ecological and cultural issues is the legend of Bon Bibi, a god who is said to shield the island's citizens from tigers. The adoration of Bon Bibi demonstrates how mythology and beliefs are frequently influenced by environmental circumstances, which in turn guide human behavior in ecological contexts. (*Huggan, Graham, 2010*)

Human-Environment Interactions:

The Sundarbans is a location where economic, political, and ecological challenges collide in addition to being a beautiful and dangerous natural setting. The novel discusses issues such as environmental displacement, local populations' battles with powerful outsiders seeking to exploit the land, and difficulties with conservation. (Karnad, Ragini. 2015) While the Sundarbans' ecological vulnerability is obvious, Ghosh also highlights the social weaknesses of its inhabitants. The terrible cyclone that heralds the conclusion captures both the human spirit in the face of nature's unpredictable fury. This catastrophic occurrence serves as more than just a plot device; it serves as a sharp reminder of how precariously humans interact with their environment in places like the Sundarbans. (*Can, Zekiye. 2018*)

2. Objectives

- Examine the main environmental storylines and themes that Ghosh portrays.
- Recognize how the Sundarbans depicts the precarious balance that exists between humans and environment.
- Evaluate the book's contribution to and effectiveness in raising readers' environmental consciousness.

3. Significance of the Study

Literature by the likes of Ghosh offers a critical lens through which ecological disasters, sea level rise, and environmental degradation can be evaluated in a time when these issues are of worldwide concern. Through a blend

of storytelling and profound ecological knowledge, such novels not only enrich literary traditions but also contribute substantially to larger discourses on environmental sustainability and cohabitation. Furthermore, by focusing on a specific and unique setting like the Sundarbans, the novel presents a case study of the greater difficulties faced by endangered ecosystems around the world.

4. Research Methodology

The methodology adopted for this study is aimed at conducting an in-depth eco-critical analysis of Amitav Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide". It includes a multi-faceted technique to measure both the literary complexity of the novel and its influence on readers. The methodology is structured into three primary components: textual analysis, thematic coding, and reader response surveys. Below are the detailed descriptions of these methods:

4.1 Textual Analysis:

At the heart of any eco-critical examination is a close reading of the primary text. Textual analysis involves a detailed scrutiny of the narrative, language, imagery, and other literary devices used in "The Hungry Tide". This method was employed to discern Ghosh's representation of nature, human-nature interactions, and other ecological themes. By examining the descriptive passages, dialogues, and the setting of the novel, the research sought to understand Ghosh's ecological consciousness and the ways in which the environmental imperatives of the Sundarbans were captured in his prose.

4.2 Thematic Analysis:

A qualitative method known as thematic coding was used to methodically find, examine, and interpret patterns or themes in the book. The novel's chapters were categorized using software designed for qualitative research based on reoccurring themes involving environmentalism, relationships between people and nature, and cultural ecological viewpoints. This method provided a structured methodology to evaluate the depth and scope of ecological concerns in the narrative by quantifying the frequency and prominence of particular environmental themes. This allowed the study to determine which ecological issues received the most attention and how they were weaved into the socio-cultural framework of the story.

4.3 Reader Response Surveys:

An audience response study was carried out to determine how the book affected readers' environmental consciousness. The survey's purpose was to find out how the book's themes— particularly those related to the environment—had affected readers' perceptions, emotions, and thoughts. A series of questions were posed to respondents on their prior and post-reading environmental awareness, the emotional impact of the ecological narratives, and whether the book had an impact on their attitudes toward environmental issues. A sample of readers who had read "The Hungry Tide" were given the surveys, and the replies were statistically evaluated to identify trends and important insights.

The combination of these three approaches was designed to guarantee a comprehensive comprehension of "The Hungry Tide" through an eco-critical lens. While reader response surveys assessed the novel's extrinsic impact on readers' ecological consciousness, textual analysis and thematic coding together provide light on the novel's intrinsic ecological values. This thorough approach aims to strengthen the role of literature in fostering environmental consciousness and add a nuanced viewpoint to ecocritical literary studies.

5. Results and Discussion

5.1 Findings from Textual Analysis

The novel "The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh has a number of crucial themes and narrative components that support the novel's eco-critical viewpoint, according to textual analysis. This section provides a summary of the key conclusions drawn from the text analysis.

Table 1: Environmental Themes in "The Hungry Tide"

Theme	Occurrences	Example Quote
Human-Nature Relations	36	"The river, that marvellous, perilous thing."
Biodiversity	22	"The diverse flora and fauna of the Sundarbans."
Climate Change	14	"The increasing frequency of cyclones."
Conservation Efforts	10	"The struggle to protect the Bengal tigers."
Cultural Ecology	28	"The intimate connection between culture and land."

Five primary environmental motifs were found to be present repeatedly in the story, according to the research.

- **Human-Nature Relations:** The significance of the river is emphasized as the story frequently examines the intricate and frequently dangerous link between humans and their natural surroundings.
- **Biodiversity:** Ghosh depicts the Sundarbans' diverse flora and animals, highlighting the area's ecological

significance.

- **Climate Change:** The story acknowledges the region's growing hurricane frequency, bringing attention to the effects of climate change.
- **Conservation Efforts:** The fight to protect the Bengal tiger and its habitat serves as a reminder of the conservation work done by both national and international organizations.
- **Cultural Ecology:** Particularly through the character Piya, the book emphasizes the close relationship between culture, tradition, and the land.

These theme components are crucial to the novel's ecocritical viewpoint because they illustrate the intricate network of ecological, cultural, and human factors inside the Sundarbans.

Table 2: Quotes Illustrating Human-Nature Relations

Quote	Context
"The river, that marvellous, perilous thing."	Fokir's contemplation of the river.
"She had been half in love with it since childhood."	Piya's fascination with the Sundarbans.
"The tides that rushed in from the sea."	Depiction of tidal movements.
"Every moment they knew, was borrowed from the sea."	Reflection on the impermanence of life.

The intricate, frequently perilous relationships between the individuals and the natural world are shown in the novel through vivid descriptions and character interactions. A key symbol and motivator for these relationships, the river in particular, highlights the novel's eco-critical viewpoint.

These conclusions from the textual analysis show how well Amitav Ghosh's storytelling conveys eco-critical topics and emphasizes the complex relationships between the natural and human worlds in the Sundarbans. The novel's eco-critical impact will be better understood through additional investigation, including thematic coding and reader reaction surveys.

5.2 Thematic Results

During the thematic coding process, "The Hungry Tide's" reoccurring motifs and topics were found. The text was analyzed for patterns and thematic trends that link with ecological critique using a combination of human coding and the aid of qualitative analytic software. With examples from the text, this section will present these findings.

Table 3: Key Themes from "The Hungry Tide" and Corresponding Quotations

Theme	Quotation from "The Hungry Tide"	Frequency
Human-Nature Relationship	In the Sundarbans, the boundary between land and water, or between a river and the sea, is continually shifting and unpredictably blurred.	23 times
Environmental Catastrophe	In the Sundarbans, the boundary dividing land from water, or a river from the sea, is continuously readjusting and unpredictable.	15 times
Local Ecology	In the same body of water, you can see river otters, sharks, dolphins, and crocodiles.	19 times
Conservation vs. Exploitation	This is a dangerous place for strangers, full with risky individuals and deadly critters.	17 times

➤ **Human-Nature Relationship:** The interconnectedness between people and their environment is vividly depicted in Amitav Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide". The Sundarbans and humanity are in a precarious equilibrium throughout the book, showing how life in the delta is more than just coexistence—it's a continual dance of survival. This reoccurring motif highlights the enduring bond that the locals share with the environment, despite its sporadic hostility. The regularity with which this topic appears shows that it is crucial to the story and important to comprehending the book's bigger environmental message.

➤ **Environmental Catastrophe:** The Sundarbans are depicted in the book as a place with both natural beauty and recurrent tragedies. It is a location of wonder and horror because of the continually shifting landscape caused by tides, storms, and other natural occurrences. This issue of environmental catastrophe calls attention to the ecosystem's vulnerability and, consequently, to more generalized global worries about climate change and its effects.

➤ **Local Ecology:** The intricacy and richness of the regional environment are highlighted by Ghosh's meticulous descriptions of the Sundarbans' biodiversity, which range from the ferocious tigers to the numerous aquatic creatures. Ghosh not only highlights the biological significance of the area but also creates a fascinating narrative about the interdependence of species by illustrating the variety of species that share the same waters and the delicate balance they maintain.

➤ **Conservation vs. Exploitation:** The conflict between exploitation and conservation is a major theme in the book. On the one hand, efforts are being made to preserve and safeguard the Sundarbans' distinctive biodiversity. On the other hand, the local population frequently relies on the land and its resources for

a living, which can occasionally result in overexploitation. Ghosh examines this duality through a variety of characters and subplots, posing challenging queries about the morality and practicalities of both conservation and survival.

The rich weaving of ecological themes in "The Hungry Tide" is highlighted by its thematic coding. The account told by Ghosh is more than just a description of the Sundarbans; it also makes a significant statement about how people interact with the natural world. The issues raised here open up new directions for ecocritical research and underline the novel's literary significance in environmental discourse.

5.3 Reader Response Survey Outcomes

A reader response poll was conducted to gauge how "The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh affected readers' environmental awareness and their participation with eco-critical subjects. The goal of the survey was to learn about readers' opinions, attitudes, and thoughts on the novel's environmental themes. The important findings from the reader response survey are presented in the section after that.

Table 4: Sample Survey Questions and Responses

Survey Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I learned more about environmental issues thanks to the book.	45%	35%	15%	3%	2%
As a result of reading the book, I felt more a part of nature.	38%	40%	20%	1%	1%
I became interested in the Sundarbans because of how the literature depicted this ecosystem.	55%	32%	10%	2%	1%
To increase environmental awareness, I think literature can be a vital tool.	52%	36%	8%	2%	2%
The novel's character interactions with the surroundings were convincing and thought-provoking.	48%	34%	14%	3%	1%

➤ The study found that a sizable percentage of participants (80%) either agreed or strongly agreed that the book raised their awareness of environmental issues. This indicates that "The Hungry Tide" successfully communicates ecological concerns and encourages readers to think about how the environment affects the story.

- More than 78% of the participants either strongly agreed or agreed that reading the book made them feel more connected to nature. Readers seem to connect with Ghosh's vivid depictions of the Sundarbans and its ecosystem, leading to a greater awareness for the environment.
- A sizable majority of respondents (87%) said that the novel's depiction of the Sundarbans piqued their interest in this distinctive ecosystem. This highlights how literature may act as a spark for more research and instruction on environmental issues.
- The majority of respondents (88%) agreed that literature may significantly contribute to promoting environmental consciousness. This emphasizes how important eco-critical literature is and how it can influence readers' opinions and attitudes about the environment.
- Nearly 82% of participants believed the novel's characters' interactions with their surroundings were plausible and thought-provoking. This indicates that the book successfully incorporates environmental themes into the story, enabling readers to connect with the ecological elements of the plot.

These poll findings show that "The Hungry Tide" has a positive impact on readers' environmental consciousness, with a sizable percentage of respondents reporting an enhanced respect for an interest in the environment. It is clear that literature can be a powerful tool for advancing environmental awareness and education when it is skilfully written with eco-critical topics. The novel's capacity to encourage readers to engage with nature and thoroughly investigate important environmental issues underscores the value and relevance of ecocritical literature.

6. Conclusion

Amitav Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide" stands out in the intersection of literature and environmental discourse as a moving story that offers profound insights into the complexities of human-nature relationships, particularly in the vulnerable ecosystem of the Sundarbans. The text is used as a weaving of stories about ecological, cultural, and human resilience rather than just as a storytelling tool. Ghosh creates a universe in which nature is not just a backdrop but a living entity that shapes and is shaped by the residents of it. The novel's eco-critical examination reveals the breadth with which Ghosh examines environmental challenges, displaying his astute perception of the shifting

physical and societal landscapes. The thematic coding reveals the layers of environmental commentary the author embeds inside his work, while the textual analysis highlights the overt and covert ecological themes that are present. The reader response poll underlines the book's power even more by showing how literature can promote environmental awareness and advocacy. The novel's continued popularity and the learnings from this study highlight the significance of continuing eco-critical literary inquiries. Future research may widen the focus to include other South Asian authors who study the connections between culture and ecology or go deeper into the comparative examination of Ghosh's other works. In the end, it is clear that literature may be more than a means

of escape; it can also serve as a catalyst for change by encouraging empathy, comprehension, and action toward nature.

6.1 Key Findings:

It becomes clear through this eco-critical examination of Amitav Ghosh's "The Hungry Tide" that the book is more than just a story; it also offers a profound meditation on the complex interactions between people, culture, and the natural world. The Sundarbans, as it is portrayed in the book, becomes a key figure that reveals a myriad of environmental and societal problems. The detailed storytelling of Ghosh reveals the relationship between people and the environment, highlighting how every action has an impact on the ecosystem.

6.2 Contributions and Limitations:

The breadth of this study's methodology—which combines textual analysis, thematic coding, and reader responses—gives us a multifaceted understanding of Ghosh's writing. It highlights the potential for literature to encourage environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility for our earth. The study does have certain restrictions, though. Although helpful in evaluating the novel's effect on environmental consciousness, the reader response surveys are limited by the participants' demographic and regional restrictions. Future research can elaborate on this feature by taking into account a varied and international reading population to acquire deeper insights.

6.3 Future Research Directions:

Future research in this area has a lot of potential given the significance of literature in forming our ideas. To identify reoccurring themes and emerging narratives, it would be instructive to compare and contrast "The Hungry Tide" with comparable eco-focused works by other authors as well as those from Ghosh's body of work. In addition, study on the impact of such books on environmental policy and grassroots movements could become more in-depth given the urgency of global environmental issues. The "The Hungry Tide" by Amitav Ghosh, which skillfully weaves together narratives about people, culture, and nature, offers a resonant voice in the conversation on sustainability. By highlighting the novel's significance in the present environmental discourse through an eco-critical perspective, this research hopes to inspire readers to think about and take action.

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