

Chapter -VII

Conclusion

The genre of climate fiction renders prospective dimensions and “discursive realms that allow readers and viewers to affectively relate to the future are of utmost importance.” (Mehnert 2) The canon of Anthropocene fictions produced traces the mutations in natural and anthropocentric systems from the age of the Holocene to the Anthropocene and predicts the plausible consequences of climate degradation. The nuances of climate change representations include the differences between the geological and human-scale time, the process of extinction of species, the erasure of vulnerable communities, the threat of border security, and the distributive injustice of climate change.

Climate fiction plays a crucial role in offering a “Multioptic vision” that provides “a simultaneous engagement of multiple vantage points from which to engender new ways of seeing, imagining, and being in relation to other Others.” (Chao et al. 6) Imagining the futurity of the planet through this framework redefines “the threshold of (in)justice, who gets to determine it, and in whose interests.” (6) The purpose of climate fiction is to educate the readers about the magnitude of the impact of the climate crisis and also functioned as “effective cures of myopia” through “their presentations of undesirable futures.” (Anderson 141)

Climate fiction is primarily viewed as an act of resistance as the writers deconstruct the scientific, Eurocentric and capitalistic representations of data by exploring the ethical and political horizons of climate injustices. The climate fiction writers counter the overarching dominion of the scientific discourse of climate change by putting forth storytelling that expresses the consequences of climate events. The writers take up the duty of helping readers imagine the plausible reality of climate events and curate effective solutions to cope with the same. The role of the writers is to employ the genre as a

medium to raise awareness, educate readers about the political, social and economic issues related to climate change, and to raise empathy for the victimised species. The publication of diverse plots of climate change that addresses certain futures and nuances of political, social and economic complications of climate change is a form of activism that counters the negligence of international political organisations that resort to climate inaction and also subverts any unitary form of discourse on climate change that marginalises and isolates the vulnerable sections of the population. The select climate fiction demonstrate potential for activism both in the structure of the plot, and also in sequencing of the events as well as through the characters' mobilising protests, campaigns, awareness programmes, social media activism, subversion and various kinds of resistance.

The thesis discusses the mobilisation of collective efforts to combat climate change and the disparities caused due to climate events as well as the unethical coping mechanisms taken up to address the same. The research addresses the multitudes of resistance taken up against the erasure of communities due to climate change and each chapter takes into account the activism advocated by the characters against climate injustices. The chapters are methodologically structured based on the genre and the kind of climate justice measures adopted. The novels are selected based on their potential to promote climate awareness and representation of the global crisis. The fictions portray the restricted mobility of the climate refugees and their resultant victimisation. The chapters are methodologically structured based on the role of the political and social institutions in formulating the necropolitics of the Anthropocene, and the subsequent measures of activism and resistance taken up to establish climate justice for the climate refugees. The thesis sheds light on the significance of representation of climate refugees from the Global South, third world countries, and more-than-human climate refugees. The findings are

formulated through a carefully structured theoretical framework that is non- Eurocentric, species inclusive and equitable.

The thesis explicates on the spectrum of climate disasters that are exacerbated due to anthropocentric actions thereby leading to a momentous amplification in the number of climate refugees who are victimised due to the range of climate injustices. The research also discusses the resultant activism and resistance undertaken by the characters to promote survival and resist the erasure of communities. The thesis accommodates the representation of both the human and the more than human climate refugees through an equitable, multispecies inclusive and non-anthropocentric framework. The significant findings of the research are as follows:

- The climate activism put forth by the characters amidst the transient geopolitical topography of disparities caused due to climate change is investigated as a call to seek multigenerational and equitable justice for the climate refugees.
- The focal concern of environmental and climate racism is addressed through the analysis of the migration trajectory of the characters from the Global South as well as through a scrutiny of the internal disparities within the Global North.
- The need to re-evaluate the concept of climate justice by decentring the figure of the human is assessed through the plight of the more than human climate refugees to strive for multispecies inclusive climate justice.
- The impact of community engagement in promoting the conservation and rehabilitation of the human and the more than human victims of climate change is explored through the diverse climate coping measures advocated and undertaken in the select novels.

- The significance of passive resistance put forth by the characters in a climate regime is explicated through its impact and consequence in resisting the discourse of necropolitics.
- The diverse forms of collective mobilization and activism through ways of resistance, social media protests, community uprising, media engagement and other public demonstrations are reviewed based on their impact in securing the collective futures of climate refugees: human and the more than human.

After the introductory chapters: Introduction and Theoretical Perspective, the third chapter titled “**Environmental Justice Activism: Disparity in Displacement amidst Disproportionate Impact of Climate Change in Amitav Ghosh’s *Gun Island***” traces the migration trajectories of the climate refugees: human and the more than human. The chapter connects time, space and species portraying the universality of the anthropogenic crisis. The activism put forth by the characters through illegal border crossing and protests are analysed from the theoretical perspective of environmental justice ecocriticism and climate criticism for the Global South that combats postcolonial racism.

The fourth chapter titled “**Community Based Activism for Conservation and Sustenance in Barbara Kingsolver’s *Flight Behaviour***” elucidates the crisis of the multigenerational migration cycle of the monarch butterflies endangered due to climate change. The chapter brings out the process of understanding the phenomena of climate change and the vast range of psychological responses it evokes from climate denial to climate trauma. The collective efforts taken up by the community through protests, climate action, and various activist measures of biodiversity conversation is justified to bring about the resultant kinship and multispecies justice. The research objective is warranted

through the theoretical foundation of kinship, multispecies justice and the agency of the more-than-human.

The fifth chapter titled “**Countering Ecofascism: Subversion and Survival in John Lanchester’s *The Wall***” examines the complications of mass displacement in a climatically altered imaginary. The injustices faced by the climate refugees due to the totalitarian regime, anti-immigration policies, border surveillance and other unethical climate proofing measures are analysed. The characters in the novel subvert the wide range of injustices of the totalitarian regimes through resistance and other radical acts of subversion. The resistance of the characters are analysed from the theoretical framework of ecofascism, mobility of climate refugees, and climate racism.

The sixth chapter titled “**Resisting Technocapitalism: Security and Rights of Migrants in Paolo Bacigalupi’s *The Water Knife***” explores the crisis of the climate induced water scarcity and anthropogenic politics of technocapitalism. The characters in the novel resist the disparities caused due to the technocapitalist regime and the consequences of the climate proofing technological solutions that favour the rich. The characters express activist tendencies for free mobility, access to basic resources, security, and survival. The efforts to mobilise solutions to establish climate justice are analysed from the theoretical lens of technocapitalism, capitalocene and climate justice.

Limitation:

The scope of the research is limited to climate fictions that portray the growing concern of mass displacement of the human and the more-than-human due to climate change. The researcher has focussed on diverse genres and representations but the focus has been narrowed down to the issues concerning climate migration and the other injustices that victimise the climate refugees. The research is limited to an analysis of

textual medium and the theoretical focus has been narrowed down to climate justice criticism.

Scope for Further Study:

The select works of the present research: Amitav Ghosh's *Gun Island* (2019), Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behaviour* (2012), John Lanchester's *The Wall* (2019), Paolo Bacigalupi's *The Water Knife* (2015) exhibit scope for further literary and interdisciplinary research. The psychological impact of climate change can be studied by shedding focus on climate trauma and Anthropocene disorder. The discourse of examining the Anthropocene as capitalocene by addressing the crucial impact of development, fuel consumption and pollution can be attempted. The trajectory of climate events in the climate hotspots of the Global South from the Holocene to the Anthropocene can be done to trace the growing complexities of climate change and climate migration. The theoretical focus of multispecies justice in the Anthropocene has immense potential as it can raise awareness on the agency, conservation and representation of the more-than-human thereby decentring the human.

Research Findings:

Through meticulous focus on the theoretical area of research and the literary analysis of the select primary texts, the thesis has brought out the role of socio-political tensions, geographical and intergenerational disparities and psychological transformations that propel the need for climate awareness and activism. The primary research finding is the politics of the Anthropocene and the challenges ranging from inequities, disparities, discrimination and victimisation of the climate refugees. The issues faced by human and non-human climate migrants in terms of mobility and discrimination are investigated with respect to the global and regional conflicts that are produced.

The transient geopolitical terrain of disparities caused by climate change as well as the coping measures undertaken to prevent it is investigated as a potent situation contributing to the emergence of climate activism seeking multigenerational and equitable justice for climate refugees.

Another significant research finding is the examination of the kinds of resistance against forms of environmental totalitarianism and their impact in bringing about climate justice for the climate refugees and the futurity of the displaced. The thesis expounds the pivotal concern of climate racism emerging due to the disparities between the Global South and the Global North and due to differences ranging from economic status, political influence and technological security. The role of climate racism in determining the migration trajectory of the climate refugees and in influencing the border security is scrutinised.

The political, ethical and ecological ramifications of climate events are elucidated through the motives and outcomes of climate activist measures undertaken in the novels. The expression of activist tendencies to subvert ecofascism, technocapitalism and environmental racism in order to enable free mobility and ensuring livelihoods of victims of climate change is scrutinised. The forms of resistance displayed to bridge the gap of financial, economical, geopolitical, and social disparities to promote unrestricted mobility of climate refugees are discussed.

The legal status of climate refugees has been contested and widely debated due to various reasons like the lack of an appropriate framework, risk of overgeneralisation, legal complications and so on, but the major gap that has not been addressed is the plight of more than human climate refugees. The concept of climate justice for climate refugees has been largely anthropocentric and has excluded the climate altered migration trajectories of

the more than human species. Hence, the major research finding of the research is to re-evaluate the concept of climate justice by decentring the figure of the human thereby putting across the pivotal concern of multispecies inclusive climate justice.

The significant finding of the research is analysing the role of climate activism in providing rehabilitation for climate migrants, and preventing another climate crisis based on the collective action performed by the characters in the select climate fiction. Its impact is emphasised through the justification of the research objectives from the theoretical and literary perspectives. The research also elucidates the impact of community engagement and community based resistance to promote conservation and continuance of the more-than-human communities. Such an approach is based on the theoretical framework of biocentrism and multispecies kinship.

The significance of community engagement through educational interactions within the community, intellectual discussions, protests, social media protests, campaigns, and the numerous acts of resistance against unjust activities and various measures undertaken to promote conservation and rehabilitation of the species is brought out. The aim of such activism and resistance is not only to establish ecological stability but also political stability as the characters express passive resistance against destructive climate regimes and the coping measures advocated that further victimises the refugees. The impact of the climate activism expressed in the novels is traced through the effective resistance of the discourse of necropolitics.

One of the prominent research findings of the thesis is the outcome of climate activism and resistance in subverting and resisting the hegemony of climate regimes and the inefficiency of the political institutions. The diverse forms of collective mobilisation questions the necropolitics of the Anthropocene determined by the political institutions in

the novels. The resistance expressed by the characters are reviewed based on their impact in securing the collective futures of the human and the more than human.

The thesis lends primary emphasis on the kinship and linkages between the human and the more than human through an inclusive view that takes into account the reciprocal relationship, interconnected migration pathways, and the symbiotic futures. The select climate fictions are not merely imaginaries but visionaries that aid the readers to be equipped with climate wisdom, not only through scientific data and statistics but also through cultural symbols, history, ecological kinship, ethical technological advancements, and on the tenets of biocentrism. Through equitable representation, effective analysis and an inclusive theoretical framework, the thesis brings to the forefront the crux of ecological thought: kinship, coexistence and multispecies inclusive justice.

The research attunes to the multispecies communities: human and the more than human, that undergo displacement: with movement and sans movement, and are susceptible to the shifting terrains of the Anthropocene. The vulnerability to climate change events and the threat of erasure of species is addressed through an equitable representation in the thesis by accentuating the symbiotic ties between the human and the more than human. The research finding of the thesis is the multispecies inclusive, equitable and inclusive representation of the climate refugees and the climate activism in select literature as a means “to transcend the isolation in which humanity was entrapped in the time of its derangement; that they will rediscover their kinship with other beings, and that this vision, at once new and ancient, will find expression in a transformed and renewed art and literature.” (Ghosh 216-217)