

ABSTRACT

This thesis critically examines Amitav Ghosh's fictional works; *The Hungry Tide* (2004), *The Glass Palace* (2000) and *River of Smoke* (2011) through the lens of eco-criticism to dig out how Ghosh has dramatized climate change as one of the major ecological disturbances in his climate fiction. The fundamental question which lies at the heart of this thesis is how do we visualize the ever changing climate in a literary text? Deeply entrenched in the ecological milieu of man, climate fiction of Amitav Ghosh explores some of the intriguing contemporary environmental issues being faced by the entire globe and helps us cognizing all the intricacies and fragilities of today's climate change. The three major ecological issues discussed in my thesis to establish the ecological standing of Ghosh are the role of topographical and meteorological factors such as rainfall, tides, sea water levels, coastal landscapes and soil erosion, and the imperialist schemes such as deforestation and plundering of natural resources of the colonized lands, and the botanical commercialization and illegal transportation of botanical wealth to the commercial markets across national boundaries. It is attempted to prove that climate fiction of Ghosh aptly cognizes today's earth-shattering challenges of flash floods, forest fires, rising sea levels, tsunamis, cyclones, volcanic eruptions, heavy soil erosions, extinction of species, vibrant torrential rains, rising global temperatures, excruciating industrial wastes, agonizing fogs and sweltering heat waves. All these man-made disasters can be mitigated only by human effort. Thus, climate fiction is an imperative to combat this apocalypse slowly but surely.