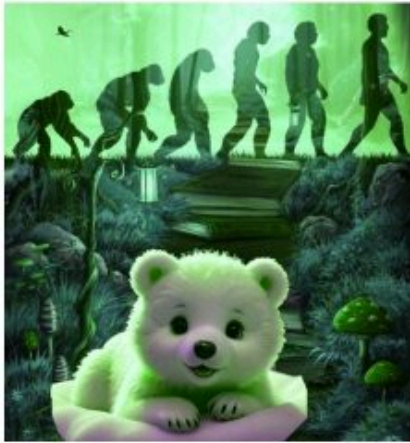




DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

**Title - Human, Animal and Natural History:
An Ecocritical Approach to World Literature**

January 29-31, 2025

CALL FOR PAPERS



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Keynote Speaker

**Prof. Philip Edward Phillips
Professor of English
Middle Tennessee State University
US**



Registration Link

CONTACT US

**+91 97778 08418, +91 93375 21041
conferencerudoe@gmail.com**



In the annals of western humanism, Nature has mostly remained a mute 'presence' rather than a dynamic 'process.' The genealogy of its treatment as a silent 'other' carries us back to the Nature-derogating principles embedded in classical Greek Philosophy and Christian mythology. It is however *The Enlightenment* that attributed man with the capacity for reasoning while delineating Nature and animals as entities bereft of such quality. The rationalist domination of the 'human' over Nature was legitimized and encouraged by Enlightenment pioneers such as Bacon who urged man to attack and vanquish Nature and thereby 'extend the bounds of the human empire.' The anthropocentric imperatives of the philosophical, theological and scientific domains of western intellectual tradition associated the 'human' with the notion of 'progress' while relegating Nature and animals to the margins of civilization.

However, there are strands of western and oriental philosophies that describe Nature as an all-encompassing terrain where humanity is conceptualized as merely one of the several agencies. The Greek notion of the Earth-goddess Gaia as a self-sufficient super-organism operating beyond the narrow confines of human interventions is a prime example. In the domains of oriental philosophy and literature, we find Nature-gods and animal-gods controlling human destiny. In Vedic philosophy, for instance, Nature is conceived as the living manifestation of divinity.

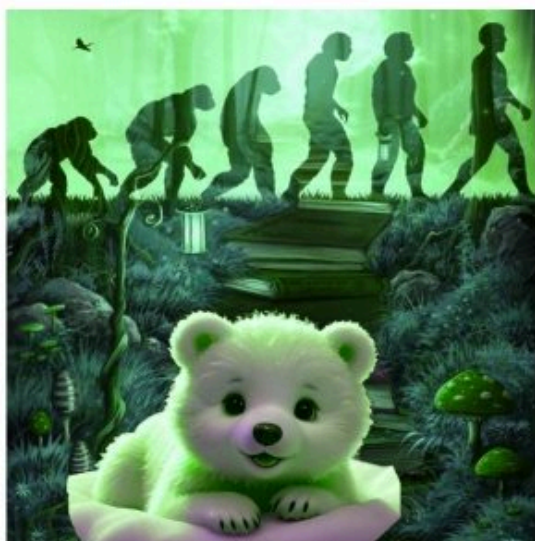
Despite the overwhelming presence of diverse strands of human/Nature and human/animal relationships in the ambit of global literature and philosophy, the dominant strand of thought nevertheless advocates for the conceptualization of Nature and animals as quintessential 'others' to humanity—'others' that are supposedly inferior and irrational in opposition to the so-called superior status of the rational human being. Such marginalization of Nature/animals by humans offers a perspective of their forced departure from the human's self-aggrandizing cultural province. Ecocritical studies pose serious contestation to such established notions of the human's presumptuous sense of superiority in Nature's complex web of life.

There is no denying of the fact, nevertheless, that the representation of the human/Nature/animal dynamics in the realm of world literature is startlingly diverse and variegated. In a text like *Metamorphosis*, Gregor Samsa's metamorphosis into a roach is seen as a despicable phenomenon whereas in *The Chronicles of Narnia* an animal like the lion becomes the symbol of ethical and virtuous qualities of the 'human.'

Based on these precepts, the proposed international conference titled "Human, Animal and Natural History: An Ecocritical Approach to World Literature" invites papers focusing on any aspect of the above-mentioned issues in world literature.

Conference Venue

Seven Pillars of Wisdom
Ravenshaw University
Cuttack, Odisha



We invite Papers in the following and related areas:

- △ ECOLOGY AND LITERATURE
- △ RE(PRESENTING) THE ENVIRONMENT
- △ ECOLOGY AS THE DISCOURSE OF THE "OTHER"
- △ ECOCRITICISM & ECOFEMINISM
- △ ECOCRITICAL DIALOGICS
- △ ECOFEMINIST DIALOGICS
- △ ECOPOIESIS
- △ ECOSOPHY
- △ ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS
- △ PLACE AND SPACE
- △ NATURE VS CULTURE
- △ ANIMAL RIGHTS
- △ PLANETARY ENVIRONMENTALISM
- △ PASTORAL LITERATURE
- △ ANTHROPOCENE HORROR

Submission Guidelines

•Participants are requested to send their abstracts (500 words) along with their short profile to conferencerudoe@gmail.com.

•The full papers in (Latest MLA Style, 3000—5000 words, to be presented within 10 minutes) may be submitted to conferencerudoe@gmail.com. The papers submitted without registration fee shall not be considered for selection.

Important Dates:

CALL FOR PAPERS	15 September, 2024
DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION	30 October, 2024
NOTIFICATION FOR SELECTION	15 November, 2024
DEADLINE FOR FULL PAPER	30 December, 2024
DATE OF REGISTRATION	16 November, 2024– 31 December, 2024