

॥ ज्ञान हेच अमृत ॥

Daulat Vishwasth Sanstha's

Yashwantrao Chavan Mahavidyalaya, Halkarni

Tal. Chandgad, Dist. Kolhapur

Reaccredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade (CGPA 3.08)

(Affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur)

Department of Humanities and IQAC

Organize

National Conference

ON

Advanced Trends in Humanities

Sponsored by

Shivaji University, Kolhapur

Guest Editor

Prin. Prof. (Dr.) B. D. Ajalkar

Executive Editor

Dr. M.V. Jadhav

Co-Editor

Dr. V. V. Kolkar



Akshara Publication

Plot No. 42, Akshara Publication
Gokuldharm, Wanjola Road, Bhusawal, Dist.Jalgaon [M. S.] India 425201

Editorial Board

:- Chief & Executive Editor:-

Dr. Girish Shalik Koli

Dongar Kathora

Tal.Yawal, Dist. Jalgaon [M. S.] India Pin Code: 425301

Mobile No: 09421682612

Website:www.aimrj.com Email:aimrj18@gmail.com

:-Co-Editors :-

- ❖ **Dr. Sirojiddin Nurmatov**, Associate Professor, Tashkent Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent City, Republic Of Uzbekistan
- ❖ **Dr.Vivek Mani Tripathi**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Afro – Asian Languages and Cultures, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Guangzhou, Guangdong, China
- ❖ **Dr.Maxim Demchenko** Associate Professor Moscow State Linguistic University, Institute of International Relationships, Moscow,Russia
- ❖ **Dr. Wajira Gunasena**, Lecturer, Dept of Languages, Cultural studies & Performing Arts University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
- ❖ **Shiv Kumar Singh** , Lecturer, Indian Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Lisbon Portugal.
- ❖ **Dr. Vijay Eknath Sonje**, Associate Professor, (Hindi) D. N. College, Faizpur [M. S.]
- ❖ **Mr. Nilesh Samadhan Guruchal**, Assistant Professor (English)Smt. P. K. Kotecha Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Bhusawal, Dist. Jalgaon [M. S.] India.
- ❖ **Dr. Shaikh Aafaq Anjum**, Assistant Professor (Urdu) Nutan Maratha College, Jalgaon. [M. S.] India.
- ❖ **Mr. Dipak Santosh Pawar**, Assistant Professor (Marathi)Dr. A.G.D. Bendale Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Jalgaon [M. S.] India.

PEER REVIEW POLICY

AMRJ will send a copy of research work to the editorial board. The board will verify the same according to the rules of research methodology. Then plagiarism in the work will be checked. In case if the research methodology is not followed properly by the researcher, message will be given to the researcher and he/she will be asked to revise the work in a stipulated period. After checking research methodology and plagiarism, the work will be sent to the Peer Review Committee.

SINGLE BLIND PEER REVIEW BY EXPERT PEER REVIEWERS

AMRJ adopts the Single Blind Peer Review Method. After checking research methodology and plagiarism, the work will be sent to the Peer Review Committee for review through email. AMRJ do not disclose the details of researcher to Peer Review Committee. The Peer Review Table will be displayed online according to the criteria decided by the Editorial Board. After the approval by Peer Review Committee, the research work will be published in the Issue. In case if any instructions received from Peer Review Committee, the same will be forwarded to the researcher and he/she will be asked to clear the matter. Editorial Board of AMRJ will be the final authority to decide whether a research work is to be published or not.

AMRJ Disclaimer:

For the purity and authenticity of any statement or view expressed in any article. The concerned writers (of that article) will be held responsible. At any cost member of Akshara's editorial Board will not be responsible for any consequences arising from the exercise of Information contained in it. AMRJ is an online research journal. It is printed only for the convenience of reading and archiving its online content. (Applicable in Jalgaon jurisdiction)

Index

No.	Title of the Paper	Authors Name	Page No.
1	Climate Collapse in Robinson's New York 2140: An Ecocritical Perspective	Dr. Namdev Kashinath Patil	11
2	Tides of Survival: An Ecocritical Reading of Climate, Ecology and Human Vulnerability in 'The Hungry Tide'	Dr. S. A. Tambade	14
3	The Power Of Mother Bond In Marilyn French <i>Her Mother's Daughter</i>	Adv. Dr. Baliram Anant Sawant	17
4	Nature As Metaphor: Reading The Pasture And The Mopuntain By Robert Frost	Mr. Babu Gopal Patil, Prof. (Dr.) I. R. Jarali	21
5	Feminine Sensibility in the Select Poems of Kamala Das and Mamta Kalia	Dr. Mohan.S. Gholase	24
6	"Cultural Alienation in Cormac McCarthy's Novel <i>The Orchard Keeper</i> (1965),	Mr. Raviraj Uttamrao Patil	27
7	The Ecofeminist Dialectic: A Comparative Analysis of Margaret Atwood and Alice Walker in North American Contexts	Mr. Kamble Mukesh and B.T. Lahane	31
8	Eco-feministic elements in Gita Mehta's <i>A River Sutra</i>	Dr. V. V. Kolkar, Prof. (Dr.) I. R. Jarali	34
9	A Study Of Feminism And Gender Equality	Dr. Vinaya Keshav Kamble	37
10	Reflection of Culture in Shashi Deshpande's <i>That Long Silence</i>	Miss. Jyoti Janardan Buwa, Prof. (Dr.) I. R. Jarali	43
11	Advanced Trends in English Language and Literature	Sagar Ramu Sawant	46
12	Ecocritical Views in the novella <i>Blue Umbrella</i> of Ruskin Bond: A study	Mr. Niranjan Prabhakar Arondekar	48
13	Environmental Racism in Jesmyn Ward's <i>Salvage the Bones</i>	Mr. Sushen Dnyanu Kamble Prof. Dr. B.S. Lokde	50
14	Impact Of E-Resources On Information-Seeking Behavior Of Library Users	Mr. Yuvraj Jotiba Patil	52
15	E-Resources in Library	Mr. Mahadev Nagnath Chavan	56
16	The Factors Affecting Linguistic Assessment Process with Reference to English Language Development at School Level	Mr. Shailendra Narayan Shevkar	61
17	Innovative Library Models	Mahesh Kalasappa Mutnale	65
18	E-Resources in Libraries	Shivaji Maruti Shinde	68
19	Access And Quality Of Education Facilities In Chandgad Tehasil Of Kolhapur District, Maharashtra, India	Dr. Uttam Dasharath Patil	70
20	Digital Literacy for all	Kelkar Vandana Govind	74
21	पर्यावरणीय इतिहास: वाटचाल व महत्त्व	प्रा. (डॉ) सुरेश मारुती चव्हाण	77
22	विंदा तथा गोवि करंदीकरांच्या लघुनिबंधांतील वैविध्यता व वैचारिक दृष्टिकोन	प्रा.डॉ. आर.डी. कांबळे	80
23	मराठी भाषेतील स्त्रीवादी, दलित आणि उपेक्षित साहित्याचे नव्या दृष्टीने पुनर्मूल्यांकन	नविजन गुंडू कांबळे	84
24	चंदगड तालुक्यातील महिला बचत गट : आर्थिक स्थैर्य आणि महिला सबलीकरण	प्रा. गणपती जानबा गावडे प्रा. उमाजी शंकर पाटील	87
25	नवमाध्यमे आणि मराठी भाषिक बदलांचे नवीन प्रवाह	प्रा. मनिषा हेमंत मोरस्कर	89

Mr. Sushen Dnyanu Kamble

Shivaji University, Kolhapur

Dr. Patangrao Kadam Mahavidyalaya, Ramanandnagar (Burla)

Prof. Dr. B.S. Lokde

Savitribai Phule Mahila Mahavidyalaya,

Satara

Abstract

*Environmental racism refers to the unequal exposure of environmental dangers and risk placed on marginalized communities as a result of unfair historical, racial and economic systems. In the United States of America, colored people have often experienced more exposure to environmental hazards. During large-scale natural disasters, they are more vulnerable to loss of life, destruction of property, displacement, and lack of timely government support due to social and economic inequalities. Jesmyn Ward's novel *Salvage the Bones* (2011) is set in a poor Black community called Bois Sauvage in Mississippi during Hurricane Katrina and clearly shows this problem. This paper studies how Ward presents environmental racism through poverty, poor housing, social isolation, lack of government support, and the unequal effects of Hurricane Katrina on Black communities. By telling the story of the Batiste family, Ward shows that disasters are not only natural events but become worse because of racial inequality and neglect by institutions. This novel highlights the voices of black people who are usually ignored in the documents of natural disaster and shows how environmental injustice affects their daily lives. This study argues that *Salvage the Bones* is an important work of modern American literature because it clearly reveals the strong links between race, poverty and environment.*

Keywords: Environmental Racism, Hurricane Katrina, African American Literature.

Natural disasters are often seen as unavoidable natural events that affect everyone in the same way without any discrimination. However, real-life experiences show that their effects are not equal. Factors like race, poverty, and place decide who suffers the most during such disasters. The concept of environmental racism shows how and why marginalized communities like African Americans expose to greater environmental risk and receive less help and protection during disasters. Jesmyn Ward's *Salvage the Bones* is set in Bois Sauvage, a poor rural Black community in Mississippi, just before Hurricane Katrina. The story is told by Esch, a teenage girl living with her family in deep poverty. Even before the hurricane, they struggle to get enough food and are neglected by government authorities. Katrina does not cause their suffering but makes it worse. This paper argues that Novelist shows environmental racism as part of everyday life, not just an abstract theory and also explains how social inequality turns a natural disaster into a human tragedy.

Understanding Environmental Racism:

Environmental racism describes the systematic ways in which environmental hazards are unevenly distributed along racial and economic lines. As Robert D. Bullard observes, communities of color are more likely to live near unsafe land, inadequate housing, and environmentally vulnerable zones due to long-standing social and economic exclusion (Bullard 3). These conditions become especially dangerous during environmental emergencies. In *Salvage the Bones*, Bois Sauvage clearly shows this kind of vulnerability. The people living there do not have strong buildings or proper disaster preparation. Ward does not explain environmental racism as a theory; instead, she shows it through the everyday struggles of her characters. This makes inequality feel real and experienced, rather than distant or academic.

Bois Sauvage and Spatial Injustice

The Batiste family lives in an area known as the Pit, a former clay excavation site abandoned and later occupied by poor residents. The land is low, unstable, and highly susceptible to flooding. Esch remarks that their home exists there because the land had once been dug out for clay (Ward 4). This detail, offered without commentary, carries deep significance.

The Pit represents spatial marginalization. It is land that has already been exhausted and discarded, yet it becomes the only available shelter for impoverished Black families. Wealthier communities are absent from such locations. Through this setting, Ward illustrates how geography itself can function as a form of inequality, exposing some bodies to risk while protecting others.

Poverty and Constrained Choices

Poverty is central to the operation of environmental racism in the novel. The Batiste family lacks the financial means to prepare for the hurricane or to escape its path. They cannot afford emergency supplies, repairs, or evacuation. Esch notes that there is barely enough money to last through the month (Ward 18), underscoring the family's economic fragility.

As the storm approaches, those with resources leave early, while families like the Batistes remain behind. Their inability to evacuate is not a personal failure but a structural limitation. Ward shows how environmental racism

functions by limiting choice, trapping marginalized people in dangerous circumstances with no realistic alternatives.

Hurricane Katrina as a Social Crisis

In *Salvage the Bones*, Hurricane Katrina is portrayed not only as a violent storm but as a social event that exposes inequality. The devastation becomes deadly because poor Black communities are left unprotected. As the storm draws closer, Esch realizes that there will be no rescue coming for them (Ward 140). This recognition reflects a broader awareness of abandonment.

The family endures the hurricane without reliable shelter, food, or medical assistance. Ward's depiction closely echoes the real experiences of many African American communities during Katrina, when delayed responses and inadequate relief revealed deep racial disparities in disaster response.

Government Absence and Institutional Neglect

One of the novel's most striking features is the near-total absence of governmental support. Bois Sauvage receives little warning, no meaningful preparation, and no immediate relief after the storm. In the aftermath, Esch describes a landscape soaked, broken, and ruined (Ward 171), yet there is no sign of rescue workers or organized aid.

This absence highlights how environmental racism often operates through neglect rather than overt hostility. The failure to act becomes as damaging as active discrimination. Ward presents silence and inaction as powerful forces that prolong suffering and deepen inequality.

Housing and Environmental Vulnerability

Housing conditions play a critical role in shaping the impact of natural disasters. The Batiste family's home is poorly constructed and unable to withstand a major storm. This vulnerability is not the result of individual neglect but of economic hardship and long-term exclusion. In contrast, more affluent populations live in structurally safer environments.

Ward's portrayal emphasizes that inadequate housing turns environmental threats into life-threatening disasters. Housing inequality thus emerges as a central mechanism through which environmental racism is sustained.

Nature, the Body, and Risk

Nature in *Salvage the Bones* is presented as both sustaining and destructive. Esch reflects that "we are the bones of the earth" (Ward 195), expressing a deep connection between human bodies and the natural world. Yet this connection becomes dangerous when people are forced to live in unsafe environments.

Environmental racism reshapes the relationship between humans and nature. For some communities, nature becomes a source of nourishment; for others, it becomes a persistent threat. Ward captures this tension by showing how social conditions determine whether nature is survivable or deadly.

Gender, Pregnancy, and Exposure

Esch's pregnancy adds another layer of vulnerability to the narrative. Her personal fear intensifies as environmental collapse approaches, captured in her statement, "I am pregnant, and the world is ending" (Ward 136). The line connects bodily uncertainty with environmental instability.

Women and children often face greater risks during disasters, and Ward foregrounds this reality through Esch's experience. Environmental racism in the novel is thus intertwined with gender, revealing how overlapping forms of marginalization increase exposure to harm.

Silence, Community, and Survival

Bois Sauvage represents communities that are often ignored and unheard. Esch notes the silence surrounding their suffering (Ward 201), a silence reinforced by institutional neglect. Yet Ward's novel itself breaks this silence by bearing witness to lives usually excluded from public narratives.

Despite immense loss, the community survives through mutual support. Neighbors help one another, sharing labor, food, and care. Survival becomes an act of resistance rather than passive endurance. As Esch reflects, living itself is necessary and defiant (Ward 208). Ward refuses to depict marginalized people as helpless victims; instead, she emphasizes resilience and collective strength.

In a nutshell, *Salvage the Bones* demonstrates that environmental racism is not an abstract concept but a lived reality shaped by race, poverty, and power. Through the setting of Bois Sauvage, the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, and the experiences of the Batiste family, Jesmyn Ward exposes how natural disasters are intensified by social inequality. Poor Black communities suffer disproportionately because they are forced to live in unsafe spaces and are repeatedly neglected by institutions meant to protect them.

By giving narrative voice to these communities, Ward challenges dominant disaster narratives and demands ethical attention to environmental injustice. *Salvage the Bones* thus stands as an important literary work that deepens our understanding of environmental racism and its enduring consequences in American society.

Works Cited

- Bullard, Robert D. *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class, and Environmental Quality*. Westview Press, 2000.
Ward, Jesmyn. *Salvage the Bones*. Bloomsbury, 2011.