



ECOLOGICAL EXPLOITATION AND RETRIBUTION OF MANKIND IN S.T.COLERIDGE WORKS OF THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER & KUBLAKHAN

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Abstract

Human....this word appears to be very supreme when compared with other living creatures. Though man is also one among the living creatures, yet he is considered to be the special among them. However, in my opinion, man is not an exception before the supernatural power. The nature always takes a lion's share in showing the highest and supremacy over everyone and on anything from the powerful and ferocious animal to intellectual and super brained human. Some may say that the nature is quiet understandable and pleasant, some others say it's very unruly and some may utter it is having supernatural powers. However, whatever the perceptions are, they may vary from person to person time to time or place to place, but it still has some notable and remarkable identity over the periods of time and it remains the same for future generations also. It's universally known fact that the writers of various times and various places write innumerable writings on nature as nature has unlimited powers to explore and the sky is the boundary to say about the nature. Hence, this paper majorly focuses on the ecology, the supernatural powers through nature, the exploitation of nature, the adventures of supernatural powers and the special features of Natural world through the poem of The Rime of The Ancient Mariner and Kubla khan by S.T.Coleridge. This paper traces out the depiction of supernatural elements, human guilt, retribution and tribulations towards nature. It also depicts the psychological curiosity of man, humanity's deepest desires and creative and prophetic powers with the help of these two poems of S.T.Coleridge.

Key words: *supernatural elements, human guilt, retribution and tribulations towards nature. It also depicts the psychological curiosity of man, humanity's deepest desires and creative and prophetic powers.*

Introduction

The style of the poem *The Ancient Mariner* is a romantic poem and based on imagination, fantasy and super natural elements like Skelton ship and water snakes. The major themes of this poem are natural world, human retribution and depiction of super natural elements. In the beginning, the mariner who is very old is curious to tell his adventurous story to the guest who is ready to attend a wedding function. The old man stops the guest and forces him to listen to his flashback, where the guest is reluctant to hear his voice. Somehow, the old man succeeds in making the guest listen to his story.

The beginning of the poem, all the shipmates are happy with their voyage by enjoying their journey with the pleasant nature. But the stories get twisted from the killing of Albatross by the old sailor. The albatross is a symbol for peace and pious candidature. Here, S.T.Coleridge wanted to express the exploitation of ecological perspectives and the mistreatment of the nature in the hands of human nature is narrated in the poem of *The Ancient Mariner*. The



sailor kills the bird without any cause and reason which leads to the chaotic situation in the ship. All the sailors get problems and no water to drink in the ship.

There comes the famous saying water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink. All the sailors are on the death bed because of thirsty. The ancient mariner cuts his hand and drinks his blood to get rid of his thirst so that he can shout out for help. All of a sudden, they could see the ship, which is with leaders of Death and life in death. The rest of the sailors died due to thirst and the ancient mariner is alone. He starts to realize his mistakes that he degraded the nature and killed the bird Albatross. In the regret he thinks of the beauty of nature. He regrets for killing the bird. In his regression, he recollects and finds out the beauty of the water snake that is playing in water in the shadow of the ship. The poet symbolizes that the sailor's realization and regression for his mistakes and errors gives soothing to his life in the form of rain. He realizes that the degradation of nature and belittling the things in the world is nothing but distraction and deconstruction of nature. Its like misbalancing of nature. When he identifies the beauty of nature he appreciates the quality of the water snake and says, "The self same moment I could pray and from my neck so fee. The Albatross fell off, and sank like lead in to the sea." As soon as he identifies the snake and its beauty, the Albatross from his head falls in the sea. He feels like got rid of the bonding pressures.

The moment the Albatross falls in sea water, he gets relaxed with mental tension and filled with relief with blossoming mind he sleeps for a while. Surprisingly, he observes rain with pleasant and cool atmosphere. He could live by taking water. He encounters a hermit who appears like a God before him. The hermit preaches the mariner that the life resembles the forest.

Finally, the sailor came to know the prominence and interconnectivity of life with humans along with the nature. He identifies the value of balanced life together by knowing and identifying the sentence live and let other ecological beings also live together happily for the balancing of this world as a beautiful inn. Otherwise, this inn becomes sinful and no living being will be survived over a period of time because of this break of the cycle.

In the second work of S.T.Coleridge's poem the *kublakhan* Coleridge wrote the poem following an opium-influenced dream. In this particular poem, Coleridge seems to explore the depths of dreams and creates landscapes that could not exist in reality. the first thirty six lines convey the message that the Chinese monarch king Kublakh creation of a beautiful land called *Xanadu* which is very beautiful, pleasant and wonderful inn to live in. the land is filled with full of greenery, canals, rivers and hills like a heaven to the nature lovers. Through this poem, the poet explores with the inquisitiveness of human nature and over curiosity of human beings in order to lead happy and peaceful life. These lines narrate the human's utopia that is the dreamland of every human being in all perspectives.

The king wants to dominate the nature with his creation of the dream land in order to compete with heaven. Out of his curiosity and dominance, he creates the city called *Xanadu* which is pleasure dome with causes of Ice. Its purely like the man made paradise created by him so as to forget get natural god created beauty. It mirrors the solitary life and spontaneity



of man brain and intellectuality. It exhibits the prophetic powers of men by showcasing the beautiful land which is created by Kubla Khan. The sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice exemplifies the extreme fantasy of the world in which Kubla Khan lives.

Finally the second part of the poem which is about eighteen lines narrates the desire to approximate the creation of the pleasure. But it leaves with suspense to the readers with a women singing with pleasant music. He envision himself being spoken of by everyone around, warning one another to Beware! Beware. Coleridge conflates the near-mythic figure of Kubla Khan manipulating the natural world physically, with the figure of the poet manipulating the world "in air" through the power of his words. In either case, the creative figure becomes a source of awe, wonder, and terror combined. But ultimately, that fascinating world and creation is considered to be the dangerous one which is alluring.

Conclusion & Findings:

In this manner, S.T.Coleridge presents the ecological exploitation of humans and fascinating world creation in juxtaposition to the hardships of the world by creating the Xanadu. However, he finally showcases the problems and repercussions of collapsing the nature and interference of nature with violent deeds along with the negative results of the over curiosity of human beings against the God's creation. It finally gives a clear picture to the man that man should obey the nature and God and should not try to overtake the powers of supernatural power influence in the name of advancement or technology improvement. There is a lot of scope to do research in this are, however, I could end up with these examples only.

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