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## ECOLOGICAL GLOBALISATION

### ABSTRACT

The main concern of this article is to deal with Ecological globalization which refers to global environmental issues including population growth, access to food, worldwide reduction in bio diversity, gap between rich and poor ,human –induced climate change and global environment degradation.

**Keywords:** Ecological globalization, environmental issues, biodiversity, climate change

Ecosystems are constantly exchanging materials through the movement of air in the atmosphere, the flow of water in rivers and the migration of animals across the landscape. The world is also becoming highly interconnected through the movement of people and the transport of goods locally to globally .Among Ecologists, there is an increasing realization that these connections can have profound influences on the long-term dynamics of ecological systems.

Because of increasing globalization, people often inadvertently introduce non-native plants, animals and diseases into new locations. Ecologists hope that understanding the patterns of connectivity within and among ecosystems will lead to more accurate predictions of future ecological change. Hence an understanding of ecological principle is essential for the sustainable use of resources and to evolve strategies for the mitigation of Environmental problems at local, regional and global levels.

Today our planet is on fire with global warming, species extinction, terrorism, fear, toxic pollutions etc. For that WE are to blame, our greed is the cause and we as individuals must change our consumer habits. If we try to deal with these crisis individually, we will not get very far. Every living species of plants or animals influences its environment and in turn gets influenced by it. But compare to any other organism man is an exception .ie, with increasing scientific knowledge, man is able to modify the Environment to suit his immediate needs much more than any other organism; this enables man to improve the quality of his life.

Since the very beginning of human civilization, some thousand years ago, man started interfering with the environment. He devastated forest by cutting trees for wood and for other household needs. He killed animals –the gentle animals for food and the fierce ones for safety. But at the sometime the natural self-purifying and self-cleansing capacity of the environment was un-deteriorated.

With the advancement in technology ,explosive increase in human population, scarcity of space and food, deterioration of hygienic condition, depletion of natural resources and socio economic problems, one needs extensive and exhaustive study of the environment, particularly in relation to human survival and benefit.

Globalization is the process by which the world is becoming increasingly interconnected as a result of massively augmented trade and cultural exchange. No nation on earth is endowed with all the factor of production-while some countries have skilled and cheap labour, other possess knowledge and technology. The comparative advantages help to establish trade between them. When factors of different origin are mixed in a judicious manner, the production of goods and services can be done more efficiently. That in turn paves the way for technological development, product innovation, best business practices and elimination of waste and inefficiency.

The overall index of globalization significantly increases the ecological footprint of consumption, exports and imports. The de-composition of globalization into different domains reveals that apart from the political dimension, all dimensions drive human pressures and demands on the environment. The stresses created in society by globalization are adding to human security, looking at the environment or ecological dimension from a scientific perspective, it is clear that life has always been globalized- the human race is also single species and therefore by definition globalized. However the rapid development of transportation ,communications and information technologies has removed all physical barriers to human integration. Hence globalization is a normal and natural process in the development of human society, even if its present form leaves much to be desired. We have become aware of the environmental dimension because science itself is globalized.

Through the article “Lessons for sustainable and beneficial co-existence” by Dr Cristobel P J, we get an idea of the history of globalization. There is a misunderstanding that globalization happens in 1991. But it is not true. We can said that it begins from the time Columbus discovered America. Begins with Germinal phase-Incipient phase-Take off phase-Struggle for Hegemony-Uncertainty phase-and the last Consolidation phase –which is characterized by deregulation, privatization, and more rigorous communication including the

evolution of a unique global media culture. Also created new markets in services, the financial sector and consumer segment. It also involves the growth of new actors such as MNC, WTO, NGO's. Also laid foundations of new political alliances and policy coordination groups such as BRICS, G7 and OECD.

Even though globalization has many advantages, it has many disadvantages also. Globalisation operates mostly in the interests of richest countries at the expense of developing nations. The role of LEDC's is mostly to provide north and west with cheap labour and raw materials. When profits are sent back to the countries where MNC was based, at the same time they pollute the environment, run risks with safety or impose poor working conditions and low wages on local workers.

Helena Nordberg Hodge, a pioneer of new economy movement through the article "Going Local" says that localization is antidote to the environmental and social breakdown that accompanies globalization. i.e. localization is a process of decentralization as it shifts economic activity back into the hands of local businesses, away from the devouring greed of Mega Corporation. She says that food is a clear example of the multiple benefits of localization. Local food diminishes food miles and we get fresher and more nutritious stuff than canned or tinned food. Moreover local food costs less as we do not pay for excessive transport, wasteful packaging and chemical additives.

For these grassroots efforts to succeed these sweeping changes require policy backup at National and International levels. Hodge calls government to adopt a break away strategy – forming an international alliance of nations to leave the WTO to protect human rights and environment. It is a formidable task, but sustainability will become a reality only in this context.

Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel laureate in Economics cautions us against pro-globalization policies in his book "Globalization and its Discontents". According to him the policies have the potential of doing a lot of good if undertaken properly and if they fit into the nature and the country concerned. Nations should accept the policies on their own terms taking into account their economic conditions as well as the historic and cultural background.

Thomas Picketty has written a voluminous book entitled "Capital in the 21st century". He collected a large historical database on the structure of national income and wealth distribution. Picketty said capitalism started out unequal flattened inequality for much of the 20th century. So he accepts that the fruits of economic maturity – skills, training and education of the workforce – do promote greater equality.

Avinash Jha through the essay “The globalized world” features in his book Background to globalization argues that the process of globalization does not benefit the developing countries of the Third world. He suggests that an alternative plan of development should be implemented in countries like India instead to preserve their economic independence.

In Globalisation and Education :Third world Experience, Amit Bhaduri points out the negative aspects of globalization that will distort the cause of our economic development and prevent the realization of the aspirations of the poor for an egalitarian and equitable society.

Ecology refers to the various principles that govern the relationships between organisms and environment and an understanding of ecological principles is essential for the sustainable use of resources and to evolve strategies for the mitigation of environmental problems at local, regional and global levels. There is a Chinese proverb

“If you plan for one year, plant rice

If you plan for 10 years, plant trees

If you plan for 100 years, educate people”

If we want to manage our Mother Earth, we must make people environmentally educated.

## References

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