



# ECOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION IN THE POEMS TIGER-TIGER REVISITED (2009), FOR A COMING EXTINCTION (1967), EXTINCTION OF MAN: NUCLEAR WINTER (2009)

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## Abstract

This study is aimed to expose the issue about the ecological destruction which is done by people toward the nature and to know the contribution of poetic elements; irony, tone, and speaker in revealing the issue of ecological destruction. This analysis is related to the concept of *eco-criticism* by Garrard, Glotfelty, Michael P Cohen, and John Evelyn. The result of this analysis shows that the ecological destruction is done in two ways; exploitation and technological abuse.

Key words: Destruction, Nature, People, Exploit.

# A. INTRODUCTION

People and nature are two elements that cannot be separated. They are closely related. People need resources in nature that gives contribution to keep their lives. They depend on the nature since it supplies them with food, water, air, soil, and shelter. They take a lot of advantages from the nature. When nature is destroyed, it means the end for the living things, including people themselves. Hence, people have to be responsible to keep the nature in balance. In fact, the development of technology has a role in the destruction of the environment. People exploit resources from nature continuously by using technology and recently influence mindset and lifestyle of people. Unfortunately, they tend to ignore the condition of nature around them. As the result, the devastation of the environment cannot be denied.<sup>1</sup>The acts of people tend not to care with the environment lead to the ecological destruction. In Encyclopedia Britannica the relationships between organisms (2010),ecological means and their environment. There are some urgent problems faced by people in their daily life- rapid growth of populations, environmental pollution; global warming, flora and fauna extinctions and all the socio-political problems. In Encyclopedia Britannica (2010), destruction means the action or process of destroying



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something. This action refers to the action of human which harm and destroy the nature.

Ecological destruction is the disintegration of the earth environment through exploitation of resources like, air, water and soil. This destruction is created by people who exploit the resources continuously without considering the effect in the future. When the natural resources are depleted, the environment is in danger. It makes the extinction of species and destruct the condition of environment. The exploitation toward the environment is shown by the overconsumption to the natural resource. The overconsumption toward the resources refers to the illegal hunting of endangered animals and the exploitation of natural product.

Exploitation and technological abuses are two main points which become the focus for revealing the issue of ecological destruction. The issue of ecological destruction is discussed in some literary works, one of them is poems. Some poems which investigate the issue of ecological destruction are Tiger-Tiger *Revisited* by Gordon J.L Ramel, *For a Coming Extinction* by William Stanley Merwin, and Extinction of Man: Nuclear Winter by Pattrick Scott Hogg. These three poems discuss the issue of ecological destruction which is caused by exploitation of human toward the nature. The first poem and second poem expose the exploitation toward fauna. Human hunt the tiger and gray whale which known as endangered animal. The tiger and gray whale existence are almost extinct. Human hunts them because of their high selling value. In addition, the technological abuse point is found in the third poem. This point refers to the misuse of the nuclear weapon which is done by human. Human uses nuclear weapon for war and conquering each other. The effect of using this technology impacts toward the balance of the nature. The three poems reflect the activities of people who damage the environment. This idea makes the three poems interesting to be analyzed in term of ecological destruction.

The three poems: *Tiger Tiger Revisited* (2009) by Gorden J L Ramel, *For* A Coming Extinction (1967) by William Stanley Merwin, Extinction Of Man: Nuclear Winter (2009) by Patrick Scott Hogg reflect the issue of ecological destruction. Ecological destruction in this analysis refers to the act of destroying the environment that is conducted by people and cause the extinction of animals. Ecological destruction means the deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources such as air, water and soil; the destruction of ecosystems; habitat destruction; the extinction of wildlife; and pollution. These destructions are caused by human activities which exploit the environment on the large scale. These activities even harm the microbes which are functioned as decomposer. The decomposer is an organism which decomposes, or breaks down, organic material such as the remains of dead organisms. In this analysis, ecological destruction refers to people (human) activities that destroy and harm the environment within two aspects: exploitation and technological abuse.

In terms of exploitations, people exploit the environment toward the forest and the ocean. Those exploitations refer to the uncontrolled deforestation and illegal hunting. Hence, the act of exploitation affects the ecosystem of the fauna. The uncontrollable exploitation damages fauna and harms the slow reproduction animal. These exploitations cause the extinction of animals such as tiger and gray whale, while people are hunting every single of the living creature without sorting out the ones which are allowed and the ones which are prohibited

In terms of technological abuse, people create nuclear weapons in order to take advantages to fulfill their needs and conquering each other by war. Those nuclear weapons destruct the environment and fauna. These weapons cause the extinction for many numbers of living creatures, destruct the quality of the soil and destruct the food chain in the environment. Then, the negative effects which occur after using the nuclear weapons are ruined the stability of the environment itself. They do not consider the chain effect which will happen in next time. It will infect the plants and the animals which grow on the land. In fact, people need the plants and the animal to fulfil their daily needs. Eventually, it also gives effects for people who consume the infected plants and animals as foods.

The analysis of these three poems that focused on analyzing about ecological destruction has not been found yet. However, there are some analysis with the similar topics that gives contribution and inspiration to this analysis. The study entitled *Environmental Degradation: Issues and Concern in Rabindranath Tagore's selected poem* by Archana Bhattacharjee (2013) which investigates the impacts of interconnection between people and nature. Bhattacharjee analyzed Rabindranath Tagore's poems entitled *The Tame Bird was in a Cage* and *I plucked you Flower* to reveal the issue of environmental degradation and its effects related with people activities and culture. The analysis deals with the concept of ecocriticism by Ruekert and Glotfelty. She uses poetical elements such as diction and imagery in analyzing this poem. The study focuses on the condition of nature related with people activities and culture development.

Another study that gives contribution is an analysis of an article entitled Environmental Terrorism in Peter Wuteh Vakunta's Green Rape by Gamal Elgezeery (2014). Elgezeery analyzed three poems by Vakunta's anthology book of poems Green Rape: Poetry for the Environment (2008) such Cataclysm, Ecotage, Eco-Terrorism, and Genocide. The study deals with the concept of Environmental Terrorism and Eco-Terrorism by Michael Gold-Biss, Timothy Schofield, Peter Gleick, Ganna Kharlamova, and Simon Berkowicz. Elgezeery uses poetical elements such as diction, speaker, irony, symbol, and metaphor to help analyze the poems. He explains that Vakunta's choice of synonymy words such as "eco-terrorism","environmental terrorism","ecotage", and "genocide" is to show a wide range of the terrors done by human being upon the environment. The result of this analysis shows people practices of terrorism toward nature. He divides these terrorism practices and acts into three main categories. The first is represented as outcomes of war, whether they are direct or indirect. The second can be described as corporate or industrial, manifested in the over exploitation of natural resources for satisfying economic or capitalist impulses. The last is related with people's unhealthy lifestyles that do not pay attention to the fragility of the environment, such as overconsumption of natural resources, pollution of the earth, causing global warming and climate change, littering streets, neighbourhoods and parks, and excessive hunting of animal.

The aim of this analysis is to reveal the activities of people that caused the ecological destruction. The analysis of these three poems uses the *Ecocriticism* approach. In this analysis, the application of eco-criticism toward the literary works is used for revealing the issue of ecological destruction. According to Glotfelty in *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology* (1996), he states that eco-criticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. Using Eco-criticism approach in analyzing literary works means to view the relationship between nature and the activities of human being. It investigates activities that cause the ecological problems, and the bad impacts that occur in the nature caused by human. Eco-criticism is one of the tools to reveal human malignity toward the nature. Human exploit nature for fulfil their desire without realizing the effect from their actions. Human is a part of nature. If they do the bad things continuously, then the destruction also comes to human.

The eco-criticism approach in this study refers to the issue of ecological destruction which is caused by human activities. According to Michael P. Cohen quoted by Timothy Clark (2011), eco-criticism reflects a striking feature of the modern crisis of the nature, its challenge to the way human knowledge is organized.

It reveals the concept of eco-criticism against the human perspective about exploiting the resources of the nature to fulfil their needs. These activities of people toward the environment consist of exploitation and technological abuse. In order to fulfil their needs, human exploit all element in the nature without sorting out which one is allowed and forbidden. According to John Evelyn in Timothy Clark (2011) the cause of environmental crisis unintentionally caused by human whom do not realize contributed on crisis meanwhile they try to stop the process. It shows the activity of human being on behalf of helping and rescue the environment sometimes based on the business deal to enrich human themselves. The crisis refers to the activity of helping the nature which based on business deal.

## **B. METHODOLOGY**

The analysis of these three poems entitled *Tiger Tiger Revisited (2009)* by Gorden J L Ramel, *For A Coming Extinction (1967)* by William Stanley Merwin, *Extinction Of Man: Nuclear Winter (2009)* by Patrick Scott Hogg. The analysis of these poems is done through text-based and context-based interpretation. It means these poems are analyzed from the texts with the blend of the poetic elements, irony, tone, speaker, and context based interpretation of the concept of ecocriticism by Garrard, Glotfelty, Michael P Cohen, and John Evelyn. These devices cannot be separated in exploring the meaning of the text since they supported each other. Irony is used to reveal the activities of people which destroy the nature just for their own advantages. Then, the tone in these poems warns human beings for the impact of their unaware activities toward nature. Besides, it is used to show the greediness of human beings that treat the nature just for their advantages. The last element that gives contribution is speaker. The speaker of these poems exposes the activities of destroying the nature which is done by people.

### C. DISCUSSION

This section analyses the poetic elements such as irony, tone, and speaker to reveal the issue of ecological destruction which done by people. In this analysis, ecological destruction refers to people (human) activities that destroy and harm the environment within two aspects: exploitation and technological abuse.

#### 1. Exploitation

This topic focuses on discussing about the exploitation which done by people toward the environment especially the forest and the ocean. Those exploitations are illegal hunting and illegal logging. The illegal hunting is an action of taking wildlife by capturing even killing. Ironically, they capture and kill the animals to their own advantages. They hunt the endangered animal such as tigers and grey whale. Meanwhile, the illegal logging is an action of clearing the land and making industrial area. It leads to the destruction of the ecosystem of nature. People do the illegal logging to expand their residential and production areas. This has a negative impact on the population of the animals which live there. In term of forest, the illegal hunting which found is hunting tigers.

The hunting is done on a large scale which leads to the extinction of the tiger's population. It can be seen in the following quotation:

Tiger-tiger fading fast In the shadow we have cast, What brave law or business deal Can thy future's safety seal. (TTR: stanza 1)

Through irony, the meaning can be revealed that people do the illegal hunting massively toward the tigers. The utterance *//Tiger-tiger fading fast//* indicates that the number of tigers which lived in the forest decrease drastically. The existences of tigers are threatened since people hunt and kill the tigers for their personal advantages. By hunting the tiger, people get much money so that they get the higher status in the society. Then, people get satisfaction of killing the tigers and they feel powerful because they can control the fiercest animal in the forest. This feeling lead people to do more killing toward the animal and makes them greedy. Consequently, people do the hunting not only for money; ironically they do it by the reason of pleasure. They do not distinguish the old and the young tigers and they are freely to do the hunting.

Furthermore, the utterance //what brave law// in TTR line 3 indicates that people do not obey laws that clearly prohibit tiger hunting. They did the hunting just for getting the benefit and for enriching themselves. They bravely enough to defy the law regarding the prohibition of hunting protected animals since they can buy the law. Meanwhile, the utterance //business deal// indicates that people hunt the tiger is based on business interest. They don't think about the life sustainability of the tiger. They hunt and sell the tiger pelts to get money. The tone here is sarcastic which critic people activities of doing the illegal hunting. People think they can hunt the tiger arbitrary without worrying about their future. The speaker in this stanza exposes the crime of people which do the hunting

toward the tigers. If the tigers are endangered, the ecosystem in the forest will not be stable. It causes the imbalances in the food chain so that the population ofherbivorous animals will increase rapidly. This excessive population of herbivorous animal would totally destruct its food source in the vegetation. If the vegetation in the forest was devastated, smaller animals and insects would not survive there. As a result, the insects moved to the crops in farmlands vital food sources could be lost, impacting on society populations.

The other quotation which reflect the illegal hunting toward tiger can be seen in the following quotation

In what sulphurous cauldron groans the mind that lives to sell your bones; and what the moral poverty of those take thy life form thee? (TTR stanza 3)

Irony in this stanza is strongly appears to reflect the greediness of people that just think about profit without caring about the effect of hunting the tigers. The greediness of people exposes through their treatment toward tiger badly. They kill, skinning, and destroy the tiger habitation. The utterance *//in what sulphurous cauldron groans*// shows the desire of people in killing the tiger. People actually have knowledge and intelligence, however they are dominated by their lust and they put aside logic to achieve their goals. In addition, the great price of the tiger forces people to sell the tigers in the black market. People are pleased by the profit so that they become obsessed and make hunting as their main income. Therefore, the tigers hunting become earnings for the people. The utterance //the mind that lives to sell your bones// reflect that people obsession to earn money only focused on hunting the tigers. Ironically, even the priceless part of tigers still has value for them. People think that they are perfect creature that lives in this world. They think more powerful than animals and plants so that they can control the nature. In fact, people have mind, intelligence and morals in every activity they do. This is supported by the sentence in line 3 //and what the moral poverty// which reflect that contradiction of people self-reflection which should have intelligence, mind and morals, but this quotation is inversely proportional to the reality that occurred in this stanza. People have bad morals towards other beings that live side by side with them.

The illegal hunting is also done in the ocean. People exploit the ocean especially the gray whale. People kill the grey whale to take the oil to produce some product for people needs. It can be seen in the following quotation

Gray whale Now that we are sending you to The End That great god Tell him That we who follow you invented forgiveness And forgive nothing (FACE: stanza 1)

Through irony, in quotation above it can be revealed that gray whale is an object to be hunted. People hunt them in a massive scale. Since, they are the easiest target for hunting because it is often spotted from the coast. In addition, the issue of gray whale hunting was very popular in 1967. According to Megan E Marrero and Stuart Thornton in National Geographic, 2011, gray whales tend to give birth in shallower waters. The large body size of this mammal makes the hunters hunt them without much effort. Even, when the time to breeding; gray whale is more accessible by the hunter because it becomes closer to the coast. Furthermore, the phrase //Now that we are sending you to The End// indicates the decreasing number of gray whale which caused by the hunting. It symbolizes the existence of gray whale are endanger. Moreover, the verbal irony is strongly appears in this stanza. The sentence in line 3 // That great god// indicates that people who acts as god in this world, without knowing that their life are depends on nature. People feel powerful because they can conquer such big animal (gray whale). Then, the utterance //that we who follow you invented forgiveness and forgive nothing// reflects that the creatures which live in this world curse and never forgive the people who acts as a god. In fact, it refers to the crime of people who hunt the gray whale.

Other quotation which show the gray whale hunting can be seen in the following quotation

I write as though you could understand And I could say it One must always pretend something Among the dying when you have left the seas nodding on their stalks Empty of you Tell him that we were made On another day. (FACE: stanza 2)

The quotation above explained about people who know about the issue of gray whale extinction but still do not care and still continue the hunting activities. People hunt them for their meat, bones and blubber which are used to make various products and chemicals such as transmission fluid, candles, margarine, jewelry, toys and tools. By the 18th and 19th century whaling became a highly competitive business. The increasing demand for oil used in the industrial era lead people to do the hunting. In the 20th century the concept of whale harvesting began to grow as well as the introduction of factory ships which could be used to hunt, track, capture and transport whales much more effectively. The utterance *//nodding on their stalks//* reflect that people use their intelligence to create the factory ship which can hunt, track, and capture the gray whale easily. The advancement of technology makes the demand for gray whales is increasing. Eventually, this condition caused a decrease in the number of whales in nature. Ironically, their intelligence and knowledge is not accompanied by their awareness and logic in their activities.

The tone here is satirical. It reflects the impact of people unaware activities toward nature. The utterance *//Tell him that we were made on another day//* 

indicates that the nature should be threatened as good as possible because people need the nature. If the nature is collapse, people cannot survive and the next generation of people will face the impact of the nature destruction. In this stanza, the speaker exposes the crime of people toward the creature in the ocean. If one of the living creature in the ocean extinct, it will impact the food chain in the oceanic ecosystem. On the other words, the balance in the ocean will be disturbed.

The other quotation that support the argument above can be seen in the following quotation

The bewilderment will diminish like an echo Winding along your inner mountains Unheard by us And find its way out Leaving behind it the future Dead And ours. (FACE, stanza 3)

Through irony, the actions of people who did the illegal hunting toward the grey whale are ignored by the people. They tend to find a way to cover their crime. The utterance *//the bewilderment will diminish like and echo//* shows the ignorance of people toward the issue of gray whale extinction. Therefore, this cases use to be vanished and gone. The tone here is satirical tone. In this stanza, the speaker is angry and mock people ignorance toward the extinction of grey whale.

The other quotation which support the argument about the extinction of gray whale can be seen in this following quotation

When you will not see again The whale calves trying the light Consider what you will find in the black garden And its court The sea cows the Great Auk the gorillas The irreplaceable hosts ranged countless And fore-ordaining as stars Our sacrifices Join our work to theirs Tell him That it is we who are important (FACE, Stanza 4)

The quotation above reveals that the gray whales are on the verge of extinction and will follow their predecessors, sea cows, great auk, and gorilla. Nature provides space for animals to live freely. In order to see and watch the animal, people can go to nature. On the contrary, people take these animals for collection in museums. The traces of their extinction will be found in the museum. People display these animals in museums to remember their existence, even though they are the cause of the extinction of animals. The utterance *//black garden and its court//* represents the museum which is the end of these extinct animals are preserved and displayed. Then, the utterance *//countless//* exposes the

great number of endangered animals preserved by humans. This aims for the benefit that will be obtained by people by showing it as entertainment.

The next exploitation toward forest is the illegal logging. The acts of illegal logging lead to the destruction of the ecosystem of nature. People do the illegal logging to expand their residential and production areas. They built a residential building and made a society so that there will be no more forest. Indirectly, landslides and loss of fountain will occur in nature.

The issue of illegal logging can be seen in the following quotation

what learning, what the thought that values lives like yours at naught? What the science or machine where beauty such as yours is seen? (TTR: stanza 4)

The quotation above reflects that people is destroying the nature by cutting down the large number of the trees in the forest. People have knowledge to utilize the resources available in nature, but the awareness of the maintenance of natural balance is left behind. The sentence in line 1 //what learning, what the thought// reflects the reality that inversely proportional to the people activities. The knowledge that has been taught to people is distorted by their desire of getting the benefits. This is based on the people's lust that wants to enrich them self by exploiting nature. In fact, the science and intelligence that's possessed by people could have stop the destruction of the nature. However, the contradiction that occurs in this stanza shows the uselessness of science and intelligence of people which is not used wisely in processing natural resources; whereas they can process and utilize natural products without damaging their balance.

Furthermore, the utterance //what the science or machine// indicates that people use their knowledge for exploiting the forest by using the machine. In result, the aftermath of forest destruction is the change of its form. It is strengthens by the utterance //where beauty such as yours is seen?// reflects the natural form of the forest has already lost. The tone which is used here is satirical tone which criticizes the unfriendly activity of human being toward the nature. The utterance //What the science or machine where beauty such as yours is seen?// indicates that the speaker wants to critic the exploitation which cause the disappearance of the natural shape of the nature. Then, the speaker is an observer who criticizes human living for their treatments toward nature which cause depletion of natural resources and extinction of any nonhuman species especially the tiger and the forest.

Another quotation that supports the argument above is:

What future, what the hope that humankind may learn to cope with life and maintenance of breath without this need of needless of death (TTR stanza 2)

The quotation above exposes that people take and utilize natural resources such as wood for their needs. However, they take these resources excessively without reforesting the trees they cut. They do not think about the bad effects which occur if the resource runs out. The depletion of resources would affect the life sustainability of people and animals. People actually can find the best way to explore the nature without destroying it. The sentence in line 2 //humankind may learn to cope// reflect that people are able to resolve the problem of the destruction of the nature, but they do not use their logic and their awareness. They just want an instant way to enrich themselves. Thus, the utterance //needless of death// exposes the victims of natural destruction from both human and natural sides. People can minimize the impact of exploiting the forest by sorting the trees they will use for their needs. So that, the risk of disasters such as landslides could be diminish significantly. Clearly, the poetic elements that give big contribution in this analysis are irony, tone and speaker. These elements expose the destruction of nature which is done by people in two ways. The first exploitation is illegal hunting which refers to tiger hunting and gray whale hunting massively which cause the extinction of these animals. The second exploitation is illegal logging which occurs in the forest. People do the illegal logging for their own advantages.

#### 2. Technological Abuse

In order to simplify their work and fulfil their needs, people develop the technology and create machine. However, some people misuse the technology for certain purposes. They create nuclear weapon to expand their domain and conquering each other by doing war. The arrogance of people to be known as the strongest creature in the world makes them destroy each other. By using nuclear weapon, people humans defeat their enemies without wasting their energy fighting in the battle. Consequently, they affect the surroundings in the nature. There are two effect of the nuclear weapon: the instant effect and the longer effect. The instant effect is when the nuclear weapon is launched a fireball occurs with temperatures similar to centre of the sun rapidly destroy and kill everything in its way. Moreover, the longer effect occurs after the explosion. It destructs the environment and fauna because of the aftermath of nuclear are hazardous for living thing. These weapons cause the extinction for many numbers of living creatures, destruct the quality of the soil and ruined the stability of the environment itself. They do not consider the chain effect which will happen in next time. It will infect the plants and the animals which grow on the land. In fact, people need the plants and the animal to fulfil their daily needs. Eventually, it also gives effects for people who consume the infected plants and animals as foods.

The misuse of technology by humans using nuclear impacts on 3 aspects: future, environment and life. The technological abuse is done by people that lead to the destruction for both the future of people and environment. It can be seen in the following quotation:

> Nuclear winter breezes blow Dream, ambition's dead: Hell beyond redemption comes Destruction's Hydra head. (EOMNW: stanza 4)

Through irony, in this poem it explain that people use nuclear weapon to defeat their enemies even the technology of nuclear destroy everything in the environment. The utterance *//Nuclear winter breezes blow, dream, ambition's dead//* indicates that nuclear is a deadly weapon for nature and even for human itself. There is no future for the victim after the nuclear weapon is detonated. Everything in the nature will be extinguished. Ironically, people still use nuclear as a weapon for war. They do not care for the impact of the nuclear weapon. The word *//Hell//* symbolizes the condition of nature which has been ravaged by the nuclear explosion. There is nothing can stand after the nuclear had launched. Everything will vanish in seconds. In this stanza, the speaker is an observer who discovers that human activity and culture caused much destruction toward the nature. Thus, the utterance *//Destruction's Hydra head//* reflect to something that grows continuously even it is cutting down or annihilated. It refers to the ignorance of people which know the bad effect of their activities, but they still continue to do destruction to nature.

Thus, the quotation that show the impact of using nuclear toward the environment can be seen in the following quotation

Autumnal sky and big red moon Harbingers of portent Wing of Heaven darkly fall The sun's last rays augment (EOFMNW, Stanza 2)

The quotation above shows the circumstances at the time after nuclear weapons detonate. The situation in the radius of the shot immediately changed the shape of the sky and the land. The utterance *//autumnal sky and big red moon//* represent the situation after the explosion of the nuclear weapon. The skies are getting red because of the explosion and the cloud will disappear. Furthermore, the sentence in line 3 *//Wing of Heaven darkly fall//* reflect about the beautiful future that was wanted was destroyed by the use of this very dangerous weapon. There will no future for both human and nature after the apocalypse that caused by the nuclear weapon.

The last evidence of the impact of nuclear weapon is the life of all creatures in the nature will be dead. It kills all the living things. It can be seen in the following quotation

> Microbes deep within the sea Hold life's bold cradle now Vaporized is all of Heaven's blue We made our perfect bow (EOMNW, stanza 7)

The quotation above reflects the destruction of the living thing in the nature. The use of nuclear weapon causes the mass casualties. Not only human, animals, plants and even small creatures such as microbes and other decomposers will also be destroyed by the use of nuclear weapon. The words //Vaporized// shows the evidence that the victim of nuclear weapon is completely destroy.

Clearly, the analysis above use irony to reveal the issue of technological abuse which done by people. They develop the technology and create machine. However, the misuse of the technology for certain purposes leads them to create nuclear weapon to expand their domain and conquering each other by doing war. The arrogance of people to be known as the strongest creature in the world makes them destroy each other. By using nuclear weapon, they can defeat their enemies. They do not care the bad impact that occurs of the using of nuclear for both people and the nature.

## D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

These three poems entitled *Tiger Tiger Revisited* (2009) by Gorden J L Ramel, *For A Coming Extinction* (1967) by William Stanley Merwin, *Extinction Of Man: Nuclear Winter* (2009) by Patrick Scott Hogg reflect the issue of ecological destruction. It is exposed through on text-based and context based interpretation by focusing on poetic elements such as irony, tone, and speaker. Moreover, these poems are analyzed by using the concept of eco-criticism by Garrard, Glotfelty, Michael P Cohen, and John Evelyn. Ecological destruction in this analysis refers to the activities of people that destroy and harm the environment within two aspects: exploitation and technological abuse.

In term of exploitation, the issue of ecological destruction is done by people toward the environment especially the forest and the ocean. Those exploitations are illegal hunting and illegal logging. The illegal hunting is done by people in the forest and ocean to enrich themselves. The next exploitation toward forest is the illegal logging. The acts of illegal logging lead to the destruction of the ecosystem of nature. People do the illegal logging to expand their residential and production areas. The poetic elements that give big contribution in this analysis are irony, tone. Both of these elements expose the destruction of nature which is done by doing the exploitation.

In term of technological abuse, the issue of ecological destruction is done by people. They develop the technology and create machine to simplify their work and fulfill their needs. However, some people misuse the technology for certain purposes. They create nuclear weapon to expand their domain and conquering each other by doing war. The misuse of technology by using nuclear weapon impacts on 3 aspects: future, environment and life. The poetic element that gives big contribution in this analysis is irony. This element exposes the destruction of nature by doing the technological abuse.

The ecological destruction is an action of people that exploit and destroy the nature. People do this destruction by doing exploitation and technological abuse for their own advantages. In fact, people are the smartest creature which has intelligence and knowledge to explore the nature wisely. However, some people misuse their intelligence just for their lust to get as much profit as possible. Finally, this is the power of literary work which able to expose the reality which is sometimes taboo and forbid to be discussed. **Note:** This article is written based on the Rangga Fajriya Tanamal's thesis under the supervision of Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, M.A., 1st advisor, and Dra. An Fauzia Rozani Syafe'i, M.A., 2nd advisor.

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