



**SRI RAMAKRISHNA**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE  
FOR WOMEN



# **NARRATIVES OF NATURE: LITERATURE, ECOLOGY, AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**இலக்கியமும் இயற்கையும்:  
சூழலியல் மற்றும் நிலையான வளர்ச்சி**

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# Preface

The growing urgency of ecological crises—manifested through climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental injustice, and unsustainable modes of development—has necessitated a re-examination of humanity's relationship with the natural world. Within this context, literature assumes renewed significance as a critical, ethical, and imaginative space through which environmental consciousness can be articulated, questioned, and re-envisioned. *Literature, Ecology and Sustainability: Rethinking the Human–Nature Relationship* emerges from this intellectual imperative.

This volume brings together a diverse range of scholarly perspectives that examine how literary texts, traditions, and critical frameworks engage with ecological thought and sustainability discourse. Drawing from ecocriticism, environmental humanities, postcolonial studies, ecofeminism, indigenous knowledge systems, and contemporary climate narratives, the chapters collectively foreground literature's role in challenging anthropocentric paradigms and in imagining more responsible and reciprocal modes of coexistence between humans and the non-human world.

As editors, our role has been primarily curatorial and collaborative. We have sought to bring coherence to a multiplicity of voices, approaches, and contexts while respecting the intellectual autonomy of each contributor. The editorial process involved conceptual framing, thematic organization, academic review, and stylistic standardization to ensure scholarly rigor and accessibility for students, researchers, and educators across disciplines. At the same time, we have consciously preserved the diversity of critical standpoints that enrich and complicate contemporary ecological debates.

The chapters included in this volume reflect the individual research orientations, interpretative strategies, and critical arguments of their respective authors. While the editorial team has worked to ensure academic quality and ethical standards, the views, interpretations, and conclusions presented remain those of the contributors alone. Additionally, in keeping with evolving academic practices, contributors may have employed a range of research and writing tools during the development of their work; responsibility for the originality, accuracy, and integrity of the content rests with the respective authors.

We hope this book will serve not only as a scholarly resource but also as a catalyst for dialogue—encouraging readers to think critically about literature's capacity to respond to ecological challenges and to foster sustainability-oriented thinking within and beyond the humanities. If the volume succeeds in prompting deeper reflection on the ethical dimensions of the human–nature relationship, it will have fulfilled its purpose.

We extend our sincere gratitude foremost to the Management of SNR Sons Charitable Trust, Dr.K.Chitra, Principal, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts & Science for Women for the guidance and to all the contributors for their intellectual engagement and commitment, to the readers whose critical inquiry continues to sustain meaningful academic conversations in literature and environmental studies.

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