

MIDDLE FLIGHT (2319-7684) (Print)

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A UGC-Approved Peer-Reviewed Journal of English Literature and Culture

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Call for Papers

Theme - Health, Environment, and Humanity in Literature

Human beings have achieved unrestrained material advancement but at the cost of their symbiotic relationship with the environment. In his persistent efforts to redefine irreversibly his relationship with the environment, man has committed ecocide and has brought about multiple disastrous consequences, particularly the health hazards. Health is a vital indicator of growth and happiness, and the World Health Organization (WHO) rightly defines health as the state of complete physical, mental, and social wellbeing. The environment is the complex and dynamic interrelationships among the multiple biotic and abiotic components, and human health is intimately associated with the biophysical and ecological factors. But today, human health, like that of the whole planet, is in serious jeopardy on account of environmental degradation and anthropogenic activities. Human health is a global issue and it is dependent upon the planetary health. Hence, restoration of the environmental equilibrium is urgent for the sustenance of humanity. But, unfortunately, ever since the origin, human species has evolved as the super-dominant species in the global biosphere. Human activity had radically transformed the Earth's biosphere that resulted in manifold malevolent consequences: climatic change, destruction of natural habitat, food insecurity, wealth inequality, biodiversity extinction, and zoonosis. The present global crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has once again foregrounded the issue of environmental degradation. However, the advent of the Anthropocene presents a bleak and uncertain future, not only for the biosphere but also for humanity itself. The environment should no longer be deemed a marginal discourse. Environmental humanities, an emerging discipline, believe that environmental degradation is more threatening than war and civil disturbances, as it can affect the whole of humanity as a biological species. Science and technology cannot solve all the problems related to environment and health; what is needed is the interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches that meet and merge in 'environmental humanities' – a field that incorporates such areas of Eco-aesthetics and Eco-ethics as Anthropocene, sustainability, ecographics, climate change, language ecology, environmental activism, eco spirituality, literary ethnobotany among others. Literature, apart from being a source of entertainment and amusement, has its significant value as the repository of popular wisdom and environmental praxis. Unlike other branches of Humanities, literature, because of its wider appeal, can easily disseminate its messages for creating a mass consciousness and can look into the politics of 'development' and the construction of 'nature'. Thus, literature can play a decisive role in transforming social and cultural values for developing bioethical principles for an ecologically sustainable

future for mankind. The present issue of *Middle Flight* invites research articles that focus on the representations of the issues of Health, Environment, and Humanity in Literature.

Areas may include, but are not limited to:

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| 1. Bioethics and Culture | 2. Anthropocene |
| 3. Health, Sustainable Development and Literature | 4. Eco-poetics and Life |
| 5. Health and Humanity in Science fiction | 6. Different Branches of Medical Humanities |
| 7. Eco-aesthetics | 8. Environmental Health |
| 9. Eco-ethics | 10. Ecographics |
| 11. Climate Change and Literature | 12. Language Ecology |
| 13. Environmental Activism | 14. Eco-spirituality |
| 15. Literary Ethnobotany | 16. Environmental Philosophy |
| 17. Ecocriticism | |

Instructions for the Contributors:

- ✚ Send your paper in two word-documents (MS 2007) –
 - **Word-doc. No.01:** Abstract, Keywords, and the paper written in the English language only.
 - **Word-doc. No.02:** Brief bio-note containing your name and designation (verifiable from your institutional website), complete mailing address, institutional address (with website details), Research area/Specialization (if any), mail-id, contact details (including WhatsApp) and a duly signed declaration that yours is an original work and has not been sent anywhere else in part or full for publication.
- ✚ **Paper size:** A4; Font type & font size: Times New Roman, 12; Spacing: 1.5; Margin: 1 inch on all four sides.
- ✚ **Documentation:** The authors are to follow the Eighth (8th) Edition of the MLA handbook. This is important in view of the fact that many of the papers are rejected on grounds of poor documentation. A paper without a duly prepared works-cited list will not be accepted. **Don't use computer generated Footnotes or Endnotes. Manual numbering of notes and references (if required) at the end is highly solicited.**
- ✚ **Word – range:** 3000- 5000 (including Works Cited List)
- ✚ It is imperative that authors follow strict ethics of writing papers and duly acknowledge borrowings in any form.
- ✚ Rejected papers won't be sent back to the contributor. Only the message of rejection will be communicated through mail and it is not obligatory for the editors to send any detailed review report. The editors reserve the right to introduce any type of change in an accepted paper/reject any paper if it is not in harmony with the requirements of our journal.
- ✚ Send (electronic version only) to middleflight@gmail.com no later than **10th September 2020.**

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