

REFLECTION OF GREEN PHILOSOPHY IN THE WRITINGS OF RUSKIN BOND

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Abstract :

Ruskin Bond's stories and essays show a deep love for nature. He often writes about forests, mountains, rivers, and animals, highlighting their beauty and importance in human life. His works encourage people to live in harmony with nature and warn about the dangers of deforestation and pollution. This paper explores how Bond's writings reflect green philosophy, which focuses on protecting nature and promoting a balanced relationship between humans and the environment. By looking at books like Rain in the Mountains, The Room on the Roof, and Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra, this study shows how Bond's stories teach us to respect and care for nature.

Keywords : *Ruskin Bond, Green Philosophy, Nature, Deforestation Environment, Sustainability*

Introduction :

Green philosophy is about protecting nature and living in a way that does not harm the environment. It teaches us that humans and nature are connected and should exist together peacefully. Ruskin Bond's stories show this idea through his love for forests, mountains, rivers, and simple village life. He describes nature as something more than just a background—it is an important character in his stories. This paper discusses how Bond's writings reflect green philosophy and encourage readers to care for nature.

Nature in Bond's Stories :

1. Nature as a Living Character :

Ruskin Bond often portrays nature as a living character rather than just a backdrop in his works. His deep connection with the Himalayan landscape is evident in the way he imbues nature with personality, emotions, and agency. Here are some key aspects of how nature functions as a living entity in his writings: stories, nature is not just a setting; it plays an important role in people's lives. He describes trees, animals, rivers, and mountains as if they have their own emotions and personalities.

For example, in *Rain in the Mountains*, Bond writes about the peace and beauty of the Himalayas. He feels a deep connection with the mountains, as if they are his lifelong friends.



Similarly, in *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra*, he remembers his childhood and the trees that surrounded him, showing how nature shapes our. Personification of Nature. Bond frequently gives human-like qualities to natural elements, making them active participants in his stories. Trees, rivers, mountains, and animals seem to have their own consciousness. For instance, in *The Room on the Roof*, the trees sway as if they are responding to the protagonist's emotions. Many of Bond's protagonists, especially lonely or introspective characters, find solace in nature. In *Rain in the Mountains*, he describes how the hills, the forests, and the wind become constant companions. The narrator often converses with birds, trees, and the wind, reinforcing the idea that nature is alive and communicative.. Nature's Mood Reflecting Human Emotions. Bond masterfully uses nature to mirror human emotions and moods. Storms symbolize turmoil, the rustling leaves create a sense of mystery, and the clear skies bring peace. In *Delhi Is Not Far*, the changing seasons reflect the protagonist's internal struggles. and emotions.

2. The Message of Living in Harmony with Nature

Ruskin Bond's works consistently convey the message that human beings should live in harmony with nature, appreciating its beauty, respecting its power, and preserving its existence. Through his stories, essays, and poems, he advocates for a symbiotic relationship between humans and the natural world. stories teach that humans should not see themselves as more important than nature. Instead, we should respect and protect the environment.

In *The Cherry Tree*, Bond tells the story of a small tree that grows against all odds. The tree's journey is compared to human struggles, showing that nature and people are connected.

Another example is *The Blue Umbrella*, where a young girl, Binya, gets a beautiful umbrella, making others jealous. The story indirectly shows how human greed can disturb the natural balance, reminding us to appreciate nature rather than chase material things. Nature as a Nurturer

Bond presents nature as a provider of peace, joy, and sustenance. In *Rain in the Mountains*, he describes his simple life in Mussoorie, where he finds solace in the hills, trees, and streams. His writings suggest that humans can lead a fulfilling life by embracing nature rather than exploiting it. Bond often contrasts the tranquility of nature with the chaos of cities. In *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra*, he laments the destruction of forests due to urban expansion. His works subtly criticize modernity for distancing humans from their natural surroundings, advocating instead for a slower, more harmonious existence. Many of his stories highlight the importance of respecting and coexisting with animals.

In *The Leopard*, a majestic leopard is shown as a silent companion of the narrator rather than a threat, reinforcing the idea that wildlife should be protected rather than feared. Similarly, *The Blue Umbrella* portrays the bond between a young girl and nature, emphasizing kindness and coexist

3. Protecting Nature and Avoiding Destruction :

Bond's writings also warn about environmental destruction. He talks about deforestation, pollution, and the loss of animal habitats.

In *The Leopard*, he tells the story of a leopard that enters a village because its forest



home has been destroyed. This shows how human activities force animals to leave their natural habitats, creating problems for both humans and wildlife.

In *Tales of Fosterganj*, he describes people living close to nature in a peaceful way. This suggests that human progress should not come at the cost of Eco-Consciousness and Preservation in the Writings of Ruskin Bond

Ruskin Bond's works reflect a deep eco-consciousness, advocating for the preservation of nature and a harmonious relationship between humans and the environment. Through his stories, essays, and poems, he subtly critiques deforestation, urbanization, and environmental destruction while celebrating the beauty and resilience of the natural world.

Bond frequently writes about trees as companions and symbols of continuity. In *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra*, he reflects on the trees he grew up with and mourns the loss of forests due to deforestation. His story *The Cherry Tree* highlights the joy of planting and nurturing a tree, reinforcing the message that individuals can contribute to nature's preservation.

Bond often contrasts the peace of rural landscapes with the chaos of cities. He expresses concern over the rapid expansion of towns at the expense of forests and wildlife. In *Delhi Is Not Far*, he portrays city life as alienating, reinforcing his belief that humans are happier when connected to nature. His writings urge readers to rethink unchecked urbanization and recognize its environmental consequences.

In many of his works, nature is not just a backdrop but an active, living presence. Trees, rivers, mountains, and animals are personified, emphasizing their intrinsic value. This perspective aligns with deep ecology, which argues that nature should be preserved for its own sake, not just for human benefit.

A Spiritual Connection with Nature :

Bond often writes about the peace and happiness that nature brings. He describes simple moments, like watching the sunset or walking through a forest, as experiences that nourish the soul.

In *Why I Love the Mountains*, he talks about the Himalayas not just as a place, but as something that gives him inner peace. This reflects the idea that nature is not just useful—it is something to be respected and loved. Ruskin Bond's works reflect a deep, almost mystical connection with nature, where the natural world is not just a setting but a spiritual presence. His writings suggest that true peace and understanding come from embracing nature as a sacred, living entity. This theme aligns with Indian philosophical traditions, particularly those found in Hinduism, Buddhism, and tribal beliefs, which see nature as divine and interconnected with human life.

Bond often portrays nature as a sanctuary where the soul finds solace, wisdom, and healing. In *Rain in the Mountains*, he describes his life in Mussoorie, where the hills, trees, and rivers provide a deep sense of belonging. He suggests that humans can attain spiritual fulfillment by observing and immersing themselves in nature's rhythms. Seeing the Divine in



nature, Bond's vision of nature resonates with pantheistic beliefs, where divinity is found in every element of the natural world. His descriptions of the silent forests, whispering winds, and flowing rivers suggest that they are imbued with an almost divine presence. This idea aligns with the Upanishadic notion of Brahman—the universal spirit that pervades all living things. The Himalayas, a recurring presence in Bond's writings, often appear as sacred and eternal. In *A Book of Simple Living*, he reflects on the mountains' wisdom, comparing them to ancient sages. This idea aligns with Indian spiritual traditions that regard mountains, particularly the Himalayas, as the abode of gods and a source of enlightenment. We can learn spiritual Lessons from Nature Bond often personifies nature as a teacher. The trees symbolize patience and resilience, rivers teach continuity, and the changing seasons reflect the impermanence of life. In *The Cherry Tree*, the simple act of planting and nurturing a tree becomes a metaphor for life's cyclical nature and spiritual growth.

Conclusion :

Ruskin Bond's stories remind us that nature is important and should be protected. Through his beautiful descriptions of forests, rivers, and mountains, he encourages people to appreciate and care for the environment. His stories teach us that we must live in harmony with nature, not destroy it. By reading his works, we can learn valuable lessons about protecting the planet and living more simply and peacefully.

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