

CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT: SECURITY AND CONSERVATION

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
Article History: Received: 20th February 2026 Accepted: 01st March 2026 Published: 07th March 2026 Keywords: Environmental Security and Conservation, Environmentalism, Global Warming, Arms Race, Disarmament.	In the current situation, environmental security and conservation have emerged as a significant political force at the international level. Environmentalist political parties are playing an important role internationally regarding environmental security and conservation. The worst consequences of environmental insecurity include global warming, the problem of acid rain, sulfur and nitrogen oxides from vehicle exhaust, and fuel combustion. The increasing arms race is also impacting environmental security and conservation. Environmental issues such as atmospheric pollution or acid rain are international in nature. That is, they do not remain within national borders but spread everywhere, creating international problems. Environmental degradation is also caused by issues such as specific agricultural practices, soil erosion, deforestation, river pollution due to domestic and industrial wastewater discharge, industrialization, and urbanization. In the 21st century, the issue of national development based on contemporary global environmental security and conservation has become a major cause of conflict between developed and developing nations.

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3. INTRODUCTION:

Every year on June 5th, India and the world celebrate World Environment Day. This day is celebrated at the international level with the aim of stopping deforestation, highlighting the importance of trees, improving environmental quality, and preserving rare animals and medicinal plants. In the 21st century, environmental security and conservation have gained importance at the national and international levels, even in foreign policy at the governmental level. An international rivalry has emerged to gain control over available forests, animals, plants, and natural resources. The military action taken by the United States against Iraq in 2004 was one such instance. Environmental protection and conservation cannot be confined within artificial national boundaries. The issue of environmental protection is crucial to the interdependence of nations. The consequences of failing to protect and conserve the environment are not limited to a single nation but also affect neighboring countries. Therefore, the problem of environmental protection and conservation has emerged as a global issue today. This problem affects every nation, from the largest to the smallest, because it causes significant financial and human losses. Examples include the Bhopal gas tragedy, and the economic and industrial development and loss of life on a global scale after the Second World War. The exploitation of natural resources, the increase in the Earth's surface temperature, the rise in sea levels, water and soil pollution, acid rain, and the depletion of the ozone layer are all negative consequences that humanity will have to bear due to a lack of awareness regarding environmental protection and conservation.

4. RESEARCH STATEMENT AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The research paper's statement is "Contemporary Global Ecosystem: Security and Conservation".

Research Questions

1. What are the uses of forests?
2. What are the important features of ecosystem security and conservation?
3. What are the causes of environmental change?

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH PAPER

1. To study the objectives of the usefulness of forests.
2. To study the important features of ecosystem security and conservation.

6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

When a problem is studied for the first time, descriptive research is used. In this research method, hypotheses are not formulated during the research process; instead, the research work is completed only through the stages of defining the problem, collecting facts, classification, and analysis. Therefore, for this research paper, the researcher has clarified the problem based on the descriptive research method.

7. CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ECOSYSTEM: SECURITY AND CONSERVATION

Usefulness of Forests

1. Trees play an important role in increasing the amount of ozone.

2. Forests protect wild animals, rare animals, medicinal plants, and other vegetation.
3. Dense forests are responsible for absorbing moisture from the air, which helps in maintaining coolness.
4. Trees and forests absorb carbon dioxide from the air and release oxygen.
5. The intensity of rainfall is higher in dense forest areas. The rate of water runoff is less in dense forests, and the groundwater reserves increase.

For several decades, the degradation of the global environment has become an important subject in the study of international relations. The energy crisis that primarily confronted industrialized nations in the 1970s brought this issue to the forefront of global attention. Oil spills in the sea, urban air pollution, toxic residues of pesticides in agricultural produce, and actual and potential radioactive leaks from nuclear power plants have all brought various environmental problems into the discussion of international relations. Globalization has brought the world closer economically. This has increased the interdependence of some nations, and consequently, the threat to the environment posed by increasing industrialization has also grown. The environmental consequences of air pollution or marine oil spills are long-term and geographically widespread; they easily spread from one place to another. Therefore, addressing these issues requires all nations of the world to come together and act with consensus and cooperation. Understanding the changing causes and effects of global environmental problems and developing ways to address them becomes essential. Overall, environmental problems are creating challenges in the discussion of international relations. In fact, discussions and awareness about the changing causes of environmental problems had begun globally since the 1960s. These causes primarily included:

1. The fertility of the soil decreased, and soil erosion increased significantly.
2. Overfishing increased excessively in all the world's oceans.
3. Due to the growing population, forests, especially rainforests, began to disappear.
4. Thousands of species of plants and animals began to become extinct.
5. The problem of pollution became widespread due to the accumulation of various pollutants and waste in the sea, air, and land.
6. The sea was polluted by oil, natural gas, and sewage.
7. Ponds and lakes dried up due to lack of rain or were filled in by humans.
8. Air pollution has led to millions of people facing ongoing health problems.
9. Acid rain is thinning the ozone layer in the atmosphere.

All these factors, along with climate change, have created environmental problems at the global and regional levels. In reality, environmental degradation has been occurring since ancient times, but in those times, its nature was limited to the local level. Today, however, this situation has changed due to industrialization and the growing population. Due to colonialism, developed nations extensively damaged the environment of underdeveloped countries for their own benefit, and its global consequences began to be seen in the twentieth century.

Key Features of Environmental Protection and Conservation

Environmental protection is also known as a green movement or green political ideology. Many pressure groups are actively involved in environmental protection and conservation at the national and international levels. This is because environmental protection and conservation emerged as an important concept at the international level in the latter half of the twentieth century.

1. Environmental protection and conservation opposes indiscriminate industrialization and the approach to economic development. The process of industrial development is fundamentally based on opposing environmental protection and conservation. Natural resources are exploited excessively to achieve industrial development, which is why environmentalism opposes the process of industrialization.
2. Environmental protection and conservation opposes the capitalist ideology. This is because the role of industrialization in the development of European nations has emerged from capitalist policies. Natural resources and forests are exploited to achieve human welfare and benefit. Competition has arisen between nations to achieve economic gain. All of this is impacting environmental conservation.
3. Environmental protection and conservation has to bear the consequences of the irrational approach in the growing human culture and traditions. Land use patterns, family farming systems, agriculture and livestock, wildfires, forest diseases and pests, timber production, and economic development are all disrupting the natural balance of the environment.
4. Human existence is based on nature. If there is a disruption in nature, it affects humans. If an imbalance is created in the environment, human existence can be endangered; therefore, environmental protection and conservation is important.
5. The process of disarmament in Europe and America holds an important place in the environmental protection and conservation program. The process of arms control and disarmament has international support. The nuclear arms race has been opposed.
6. The program of environmental protection and conservation has fundamentally emerged from a reformist perspective. The role of reformists is crucial in reducing the increasing pollution in the environment. Environmentalist political parties have gained entry into the legislatures of some European nations. The government is being held accountable regarding environmental protection and conservation.
7. Environmental protection and conservation refers to the surroundings made up of the air, water, plants, land, animals, and birds around us. Because air, water, and land are important components of the environment.

8. CONCLUSION:

The ideology of environmental protection and conservation is also known today as the Green Movement or Green Political Thought. The program of environmental protection and conservation involves opposing industrialization, capitalism, and free trade, and implementing a nature-centric reformist approach. Along with the growing population, the exploitation of natural resources is also increasing. While implementing the process of economic and industrial development to fulfill needs such as food, clothing, shelter, health, and education, it is important to undertake a program of environmental

protection and conservation. Since the nature of environmental problems such as the thinning of the ozone layer and increasing marine pollution is global, they are addressed in global environmental politics.

This is because their effects are felt everywhere in the world. Environmental issues such as oceans, deep seas and the seabed, the atmosphere, and outer space are related to global common resources. Because everyone in the world has a right to these resources. Therefore, they are to be shared by all, and everyone must maintain them for their own benefit. Although environmental degradation of this nature may be limited to a specific nation or locality, when it occurs simultaneously in various parts of the world, it becomes a global issue. The various processes involving the excessive use of resources or environmental degradation are linked to broader political, economic, and social processes and are an integral part of this global political economy. Overall, most environmental problems are related to the creation and distribution of wealth, knowledge, and power. They are also linked to energy use, industrialization, population growth, wealth, and poverty. From this perspective, the global implications of environmental problems become clearer.

9. REFERENCES

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