

Ecocritical of Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 Documentary Film: The Relationship between Human and Environment

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Abstract

*This study explored the ecocritical dimensions in the documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*, focussing on the complex relationship between humans and the environment, types of ecocriticism, and the documentary's message through an ecocritical lens. This study used a qualitative descriptive methodology to analyse the narrative in the documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*, utilising Greg Garrard's ecocritical theory. The research findings showed the relationship between humans and nature in the representation of various ecocritical themes, including pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, shelter, animals, and the earth. Also, it identified the types of ecocriticism presented in the film, including postcolonial ecocriticism, wilderness ecocriticism, ecofeminism, material ecocriticism, and postmodern ecocriticism. These findings, highlighted the extent to which human activities and climate change affect natural ecosystems and the urgency of sustainable action, which is the message in this film documentary. It was concluded that the documentary did an excellent job of conveying important ecological challenges of the moment and encouraging audiences to consider their own involvement in protecting the environment. By highlighting the significance of incorporating ecological perspectives in literary and media analysis, this study offered insightful information for further environmental research.*

Keywords: Climate Change, Documentary Film, Ecocriticism, Environmental Sustainability, Human-Environment Relationship



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1. INTRODUCTION

The documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* highlights the severe droughts in 2023 and the impacts of climate change on the environment, economy, and society. According to Xiang et al. (2019), they highlight the need for more action to combat climate change, driven by global warming and natural disasters. According to Altschuler (2023), climate change deniers believe it is a natural phenomenon, not caused by human activity. According to Orr (1990), environmental education is essential for students to understand their connection to the natural world and to promote sustainable practices across various fields. Jylha et. al. (2022) noted that science denial, including climate change denial, is often linked to ideological beliefs and socio-political identities.

Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 is a documentary that examines the severe droughts in 2023 and their effects on the environment, economy, and society. Through interviews, field recordings, and expert analysis, the film highlights the urgent need for action against climate change and emphasises the connection between humans and nature. Garrard (2004) explains that ecocriticism studies the relationship between literature and the environment, often linked to a 'green' moral and political agenda. Bernard (2022) describes documentaries as factual works that use images and artefacts to convey real events, while McLane (2022) notes that documentary filmmakers aim to show complex realities and educate viewers. The researcher analysed *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* using Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory and a

qualitative descriptive method, focussing on climate change and drought through an ecocritical lens.

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2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter presented the previous related studies and related theories, such as the definition of ecocriticism, types of ecocriticism, Greg Garrard's ecocriticism, documentary film, human and environment, and climate crisis.

2.1. Previous Studies

Aslan & Bas (2020) the study uses eco-criticism to analyse Hasan Ali Toptas's children's book *I Am a Hornbeam Branch*. The objective is to explore how the book depicts human-nature relationships and to understand these depictions through an eco-critical lens. The method involves examining how the book represents nature, considering it not just as an environmental issue but also from sociological, psychological, and cultural perspectives. The results reveal that the book challenges the human-centred view of nature and promotes an ecological consciousness through material transformations and the integration of various problematics.

Sultan & Anshari (2021) examined environmental ethics in three novels by Indonesian women, aiming to explore their perspectives on environmental issues. Using a qualitative-interpretative approach, the research analysed novels published in the last decade. The results revealed that these novels depicted diverse environmental ethics, reflecting the authors' knowledge, attitudes, and awareness. This finding indicates a shift in the environmental ideology of women writers in developing countries.

Guanio-Uluru (2021) studied building on Jane Suzanne Carroll's view of landscapes as intersections of culture and terrain, utilises game studies and game design theories to analyse the landscape and avatar design in the games *Journey* and *Unravel*. By introducing the term "semiotic register" as an analytical tool, the study aims to identify how each game influences players' attitudes towards their natural environments. It positions itself within existing ecocritical game analyses and examines aspects of indirect player management before offering a detailed comparison of the two games.

Mazid (2021) examined poetic responses to the Covid-19 pandemic in English and Arabic, focussing on how these "viral verses" reflected human values and attitudes towards nature and the environment. Using ecocriticism and ecolinguistics, the study analysed how these poems addressed themes of isolation, sickness, and death while also exploring opportunities for empathy and appreciation of normal life. The research highlighted how these poetic responses quickly gained widespread attention and offered insights into human-environment interactions.

Awal (2021) analysed Rabindranath Tagore's writings through ecocritical lenses, including deep ecology, ecofeminism, and eco-Marxism. It explored how Tagore's literature and personal life reflect his eco-consciousness and address the conflicts between civilisation and the environment. By examining Tagore's works and paintings, the study highlighted his critique of environmental exploitation and the potential of literature to promote ecological awareness and sustainability.

Torres & Lupinacci (2021) the study examined how ecojustice education often casts

humans as saviours in climate crisis narratives and proposed using Darren Aronofsky's film *Mother!* (2017) to challenge this perspective. It explored how film can disrupt the human-as-saviour narrative and instead promote ecological democracy principles such as intelligent communication, recognised identity, and critical agency among multiple species. The authors shared their methods for integrating these ideas into teacher education courses and provided examples of how film can be used to address these issues in the curriculum.

Michael (2021) the paper explores how ecocriticism uses rhetorical elements to support environmental persuasion. It analyses Greta Thunberg's *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference*, a collection of her speeches on climate change and global warming. Thunberg's impactful speeches, delivered at significant global forums and protests, have inspired millions of students to advocate for environmental protection and have led to her Nobel Peace Prize nomination. The paper discusses how ecocriticism interprets such eco-activist literature to influence readers' perceptions of human-environment relations.

Widiasmoro (2022) this study analysed the lyrics of two songs, "Hancur" and "Tinggalkan Aku Terdiam," by the Indonesian heavy metal band Burgerkill to explore representations of environmental destruction in Indonesia through heavy metal music. Using ecocriticism and a qualitative-interpretative method, the research found that "Hancur" depicts the neglected state of the environment after resource exploitation, while "Tinggalkan Aku Terdiam" expresses nature's disappointment and anger towards irresponsible actions. The study highlights the role of music in promoting environmental awareness and preservation.

Shakoor & Ahmad (2022) this paper aimed to analyse anarcho-primitivism in Lawrence's post-war fiction from an eco-critical perspective. It explored how Lawrence's work critiques modern industrial civilisation and favours pre-colonial, primitive cultures. Using qualitative research and the theories of anarchist, primitivist, and ecocritical thinkers, the study found that Lawrence's fiction reflects his disdain for industrial society's impact on the environment and his preference for more vital and harmonious non-European cultures.

Seckin-Kapucu (2023) conducted a qualitative analysis of the documentary film "Marie Curie," aiming to examine it in terms of the nature of science (NOS) themes, and found that the film highlights four key NOS themes, including the influence of social and cultural environments, as well as the roles of change, imagination, and creativity in the development of scientific knowledge.

Juanda & Azis (2023) studied environmental themes and the importance of environmental education in Linda Christanty's short story "Pengelana Laut," focussing on dolphin preservation. Using a qualitative design and Greg Garrard's ecocritical approach, data were collected from the story through literature study techniques and analysed with NVivo software. The results revealed various environmental phenomena, including pollution and dolphin exploitation. The study concludes that environmental education is essential for dolphin conservation and should be integrated into literacy education to foster concern for marine life.

Bose (2023), the paper aimed to analyse Mohsin Hamid's *How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia* through an ecocritical lens, focussing on water contamination and the socio-economic divide caused by the Capitalocene. Using close reading and Rob Nixon's theories, the study found that the novel highlights the severe impact of environmental degradation and resource scarcity on the poor in an economically advanced yet ecologically compromised setting. The analysis revealed how the novel portrays the struggle of the impoverished to escape poverty amidst the ecological

crisis.

Onanuga (2023), the study analysed 10 poems from two collections by Niger Delta poet G'ebinyo Ogbowei to explore eco-consciousness and environmental awareness. It argued that Ogbowei uses erotic love, directed towards women, to highlight environmental issues and advocate for the restoration of degraded landscapes in the Nigerian Niger Delta. The study examined how the poet connects body love with love for the land, emphasising the role of self- and other-love in ecocritical discourse to promote responsibility and environmental renewal.

Devi et. al. (2023) examined Anita Desai's *Fire on the Mountain* through an ecocritical lens, highlighting the environmental threats posed by overuse of natural resources, deforestation, depletion of fossil fuels, and ecological disasters. It emphasised the growing movement of ecocriticism, which critiques anthropocentric attitudes and aims to foster ecological literacy. The study explored how literature, including world and Indian writings in English, can raise environmental awareness and encourage eco-consciousness among readers. It framed ecocriticism as a tool for interpreting nature writing and related fields such as environmental critique, animal studies, green cultural studies, ecosophy, deep ecology, ecofeminism, and eco-spiritualism.

Thayyib & Zamruddin (2024) analysed "Avatar: The Way of Water" using eco-critical analysis and AI insights to explore environmental themes and Islamic perspectives within the film. By examining the portrayal of nature, spirituality, and socio-political dynamics, the research aims to reveal themes related to Islamic environmental ethics and inspire dialogue on stewardship and cultural sustainability. It critiques the idealisation of nature in the film, challenges anthropocentric views, and evaluates the balance between the Na'vi's interaction with other species and the potential for a more impartial environmental perspective.

Caesarine et. al. (2024) analysed the short stories "Ia Tahu Cara Memusnahkannya" by Sandi Firly (2021) and "Simuladistopiakoronakra" by Seno Gumira Ajidarma (2020) to explore themes of environmental crisis, including water and land as life-givers, nature controlled by humans, ecological repentance, and apocalyptic narratives. Using qualitative methods and an eco-critical perspective, data were collected through library study. The results revealed that the stories depict nature as both a life-giving force and an object of human control, and they present apocalyptic visions and characters' responses, encouraging readers to reflect on ecological conversion.

Baghban & Poursanati (2024) explored how Shaun Tan's *Tales from the Inner City* changes the way humans and animals relate to each other. By analysing stories like 'Fox,' 'Eagle,' 'Hippo,' 'Lungfish,' and 'Frog,' the study showed that Tan presents animals as independent beings, challenging traditional human-centred views. Using biopolitical theory, Donna Haraway's ideas on human-animal relationships, and visual analysis, the paper found that Tan's work redefines human-animal dynamics and shifts power in these interactions.

Based on the above studies, some differences and similarities can be obtained. The similarity between this research and the previous studies above is that it aims to find out the relationship between humans and nature based on the ecocritical approach. Meanwhile, this research focuses on documentary films to fill the void left by previous studies so that ecocriticism can be used to analyse various media. The difference of this research lies in the theory, type, and ecocriticism depicted in the documentary film script *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*. This research seeks to provide practical implications in the real world by analysing contemporary

environmental issues depicted in the documentary. This research aims to provide a complete and meaningful explanation of the relationship between humans and the environment by using descriptive qualitative methods. In addition, this research contributes to the diversity of theories by applying Greg Garrard's ecocritical theory.

2.2 Related Theories

Ecocriticism is a literary approach that focusses on the earth-centred nature of literature rather than the human-centric or anthropocentric aspects. Moreover, Mishra (2016) explained that William Rueckert coined the term '*ecocriticism*' in his 1978 critical essay '*Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism*.' The term '*eco*' was derived from the Greek root word '*oikos*,' meaning '*household or earth*,' and '*logy*' from the Greek root word '*logos*,' meaning '*logical discourse*.' Further, ecocriticism transcends nature studies by promoting ethical stance and devotion to the natural world and establishing a connection between human and non-human worlds. According to Bernard (2022), a documentary film is a factual literary work using images and artefacts to accurately convey facts about people, locations, and actual events. According to McLane (2022) states that "*documentary*" comes from the word '*document*,' derived from the Latin '*docere*,' which means to teach. As an artistic form, documentary is a technique and style that originated in motion pictures.

A documentary film is a non-fiction motion picture that captures real aspects of life, often for educational or historical purposes, unlike fictional films with scripted characters. The researcher discussed various types of ecocriticism—postcolonial, wilderness, ecofeminism, material, and postmodern—to analyse how literature relates to the environment. Ecocriticism, as explained in Greg Garrard's (2004) book *Ecocriticism*, is a literary and cultural approach that explores the connection between literature and the environment, focussing on themes like pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, and animals. In order, combining ecocriticism with documentary film analysis offers a nuanced perspective on the interaction between humans and the environment. Collectively, these viewpoints emphasise the critical role that literary and documentary formats play in promoting a moral and knowledgeable approach to environmental stewardship and calling for swift action to lessen the urgent problems that confront our world.

3. METHOD

The primary data source is the documentary *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*, directed by Roxane Schlumberger. The analysis focusses on identifying and interpreting the ecocritical themes present in the documentary, using Greg Garrard's framework as a guiding lens with a qualitative descriptive approach in this research because it aimed at examining the relationship between humans and nature in the *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* documentary film. The researcher conducted research on the documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* by analysing its themes, narrative, visual images, and rhetoric. The next step was to read the script, find narrative and dialogue, and classify the data into study sections. The data was analysed using Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory, which identified key concepts like pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and the earth. The qualitative descriptive method was used to describe the information.

4. RESULTS

The results of the study showed the relationship between humans and the environment in several categories and the types of ecocriticism in the *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* documentary

film script.

4.1 The Relationship between Human and Environment

Greg Garrard's ecocriticism theory categorizes the relationship between humans and the environment into pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and the earth.

Pollution

The phrase *'we are causing the world to heat up'* succinctly captured Greg Garrard's concept of pollution as a direct result of human actions causing environmental damage. It underscored the idea that human activities, such as greenhouse gas emissions, were responsible for global warming.

Wilderness

'The Chinese Eden of biodiversity,' the sentence highlighted its status as an extremely important and biologically rich ecosystem supporting an extraordinary variety of life forms.

Apocalypse

The phrase *'extinction levels are accelerating faster than that of the dinosaur'* depicted an apocalyptic scenario by highlighting a rapid increase in the number of extinct species.

Dwelling

'We didn't have enough land, so if there was no harvest, then we wouldn't have had enough food,' explained dwelling by highlighting the direct impact of environmental conditions on human habitation and sustenance.

Animals

The sentence *'all China's wild animals, including the Snow Leopard and the Giant Panda,'* described the Yangtze basin's role as a habitat for various wild animals.

The Earth

'Mankind was accelerating the cycle' explained the Earth by highlighting human influence on natural cycles. Over the years, planet Earth has gone through many natural cycles.

By discussing themes such as pollution, wildlife, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and the Earth, Garrard's framework highlights the profound impacts of human activity on natural systems and the urgency of addressing these issues. The documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* clearly illustrates these concepts, showing how our actions are driving environmental change and affecting ecosystems, wildlife, and human well-being.

4.2 The types of ecocriticism in the Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 documentary film script

The research focused on five ecocriticism types: postcolonial ecocriticism, wilderness ecocriticism, ecofeminism, material ecocriticism, and postmodern ecocriticism.

Postcolonial Ecocriticism

'Dry conditions in the western horn of Africa have left as many as 22 million people at risk of starvation' explained postcolonial ecocriticism by highlighting the environmental injustice faced by marginalized communities.

Wilderness Ecocriticism

'The Arctic is melting, coral reefs are dying, forests are burning, rivers are drying up,' explained wilderness ecocriticism by highlighting the severe damage to the natural environment.

Ecofeminism

'We had to walk far to fetch drinking water, and the flow out of the tap was pretty weak' explained ecofeminism by highlighting the disproportionate burden on women during environmental crises.

Material Ecocriticism

'The Arctic is melting, coral reefs are dying, forests are burning, rivers are drying up, and extinction rates are increasing faster than those of the dinosaurs,' explained material ecocriticism by highlighting the tangible physical impacts of climate change on the environment.

Postmodern Ecocriticism

'Dry conditions in the western horn of Africa have put 22 million people at risk of starvation' explained postmodern ecocriticism by highlighting the impact of complex and interconnected environmental issues on human populations.

The results of *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* through various ecocritical lenses reveal the depth and complexity of the climate crisis. Perspectives on ecocriticism that emphasize the interconnectedness of environmental issues, the disproportionate impact on marginalized communities, and the serious ecological damage are postcolonial ecocriticism, wilderness ecocriticism, ecofeminism, and material ecocriticism.

4.3 The message of Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 documentary film script about the relationship between humans and the environment

Based on the data found previously, the researcher classified the data to obtain the message in the film documentary *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*.

Accelerated Environmental Change

'We are causing the world to heat up.' These data clearly stated that human activities were accelerating environmental change and causing global warming.

Widespread Impact on Ecosystems and Species

'So as soon as one of those species' experiences anything even remotely like an extinction even if it's a large amount of the population decreasing then it impacts the entire ecosystem.' This data underscored the importance of each species in maintaining ecosystem function and how their decline or extinction disrupted the ecosystem as a whole.

Human and Ecological Vulnerability

'It drove animals out of their natural habitat for their endangering species.' This data highlighted how reduced rainfall forced animals out of their natural habitats, endangering species.

Urgency and Scale of the Crisis

'Without urgent action, such events would continue to get worse.' This data warned that rising temperatures were already leading to environmental disasters globally and stressed that without immediate action, these events would become more severe.

Global and Local Impacts

'The Yangtze basin, regarded as the Chinese Eden of biodiversity, was a major source of life in China and home to nearly one-third of its population.' This data underscored the local impact of climate change on the Yangtze basin, which was crucial for both biodiversity and the livelihoods of a significant portion of China's population.

Need for Systemic Change

'But at the same time, it was very clear that the changes we were witnessing were unequivocally due to human activities.' This data reinforced that the current changes were specifically due to human activities, indicating the need for systemic changes to reduce the impact of these activities on the climate.

With the above data explaining the direct impact of human activity on global warming, the far-reaching impacts on ecosystems and species, and the vulnerabilities facing nature and humans alike, the documentary underscores the need for immediate systemic change. It calls for a global response to mitigate these impacts, while also emphasizing that our current trajectory necessitates urgent and comprehensive action to protect our planet's future.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 The Relationship between Human and Environment

Greg Garrard's ecocriticism explores the intricate relationship between humans and the environment, focusing on themes such as pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, dwelling, animals, and Earth.

Pollution

This theme focusses on how human activity directly affects the environment, especially when it comes to trash and greenhouse gas emissions. Garrard's ecocriticism emphasizes that pollution is a result of human behavior that upsets Earth's systems rather than just a natural occurrence. The paper's discussion shows how pollution caused by humans affects ecosystems and human health by causing global warming, climate change, and the depletion of natural resources.

Wilderness

According to Garrard's concept, a wilderness is a natural area that has mostly escaped human habitation. The need to protect these regions for keeping ecological balance is emphasized throughout the paper. The survival of species and the integrity of wilderness regions are threatened by human activities such as habitat loss and decreased rainfall. These habitats' vulnerability emphasizes the necessity of conservation initiatives to save biodiversity.

Apocalypse

The terrible effects of ignored environmental degradation, when human activity pushes the earth towards disastrous ends, are reflected in this theme. The narrative explores scenarios that add to an apocalyptic future picture, including melting ice caps, dying coral reefs, and harsh weather. Garrard's ecocriticism cautions that these tendencies will cause irreversible harm to Earth's ecosystems if immediate action is not taken.

Dwelling

The relationship between humans and the environment in terms of residence and food is examined by the theme of dwelling. The report demonstrates the direct effects of environmental changes, like natural disasters and droughts, on human settlements and food security. In order to ensure that human societies remain stable in the face of environmental changes on a global scale, sustainable practices and environmental stability are essential.

Animals

Another theme of Garrard's ecocriticism is how human activity affects animal species. The study highlights how sensitive wildlife is to environmental changes that cause species to become vulnerable or extinct, such as habitat loss and climate change. It is stressed that safeguarding wildlife and their habitats is essential to preserving ecological balance.

The Earth

The wider impact of human activity on the planet's natural systems is the topic of the final theme. The study explains how natural cycles are accelerated by human-caused climate change, resulting in extreme weather, global warming, and environmental degradation. To preserve the future of the Earth, it is imperative that global action be taken to address these changes.

Greg Garrard's ecological critique provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the complex dynamics between humans and the environment. By exploring themes such as pollution, wilderness, apocalypse, wilderness, animals, and the Earth, Garrard highlights the profound impacts of human actions on natural systems. By emphasizing the theme of pollution more prominently in this documentary film, *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*.

5.2 The types of ecocriticism in the Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 documentary film script

The research focused on five ecocriticism types: postcolonial ecocriticism, wilderness ecocriticism, ecofeminism, material ecocriticism, and postmodern ecocriticism, each offering unique perspectives on human-environment relationships, based on the documentary *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023*.

Postcolonial Ecocriticism

According to Roos (2010) explains that this method examines the impact of colonialism and imperialism on the environment, including landscapes, ecosystems, and indigenous knowledge. It focuses on how colonial and neocolonial exploitation has harmed the environment and disproportionately affected marginalized communities. The documentary illustrates environmental injustice by showing how severe droughts in areas like the American West and western Africa threaten millions and argues that historically high-emitting nations should lead climate change mitigation efforts.

Wilderness Ecocriticism

Wilderness ecocriticism emphasizes the cultural and ecological importance of wilderness areas, challenging the notion that they are untouched by humans. It highlights the interconnectedness of human and ecological systems, and the impact of climate change on these areas.

Ecofeminism

By addressing the simultaneous exploitation of women and the natural world, ecofeminism explores the relationship between feminism and environmental issues. It promotes related fixes that are advantageous to both. The documentary highlights the ways in which gender inequality is exacerbated by climate change, with women frequently having to shoulder the weight of acquiring vital resources like water. In addition, it emphasizes the part played by women in the movement for environmental change and the necessity of taking action to guarantee a brighter future for future generations.

Material Ecocriticism

The documentary illustrates how climate change is having a real-world effect, with examples including major rivers in Europe drying up and millions of people being affected by extreme heatwaves. The largest freshwater lake in China, Poyang Lake, has seen significant shrinkage due to protracted droughts, which highlights the tangible effects of environmental degradation on natural resources and human existence.

Postmodern Ecocriticism

Postmodern ecocriticism combines postmodern theory with environmental criticism, highlighting the interconnected nature of environmental issues. The documentary demonstrates how socioeconomic variables and climate change's effects affect human populations and ecosystems. *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* explores climate change from various ecocriticism perspectives, highlighting historical colonialism, wilderness value, gender dimensions, and natural resource impacts.

5.3 The message of Climate Crisis: Drought 2023 documentary film script about the relationship between humans and the environment

The message in this documentary film can be seen in the previously collected data, which is classified into six points, namely accelerated environmental change, widespread impact on ecosystems and species, human and ecological vulnerability, urgency and scale of the crisis, global and local impacts, and need for systemic change.

Accelerated Environmental Change

The documentary script highlights human activity accelerating climate change, primarily due to greenhouse gas emissions, emphasizing the urgent need to address the underlying causes of global warming to prevent further environmental damage.

Widespread Impact on Ecosystems and Species

The documentary script highlights how pollution and climate change harm ecosystems to a great extent. The disturbing occurrence of the sixth mass extinction of species, which is being caused by environmental changes, is brought to light. The documentary points out the interdependence of all life forms and the importance of protecting biodiversity by demonstrating how the extinction or decline of a species affects entire ecosystems.

Human and Ecological Vulnerability

The documentary highlights the vulnerability of both the environment and human populations to climate change, highlighting the displacement of animals from their natural habitats, threatening food security and water supply.

Urgency and Scale of the Crisis

The documentary highlights that the climate problem is worsening faster than anticipated, creating a sense of urgency. It stresses the need for immediate action, using phrases like '*we are running out of time*' and '*a race against time.*' The film warns that failing to act will only make things worse, leading to more frequent and severe environmental disasters. It shows that this crisis affects both human societies and ecosystems worldwide.

Global and Local Impacts

The documentary highlights the global impact of climate change, particularly in China, where prolonged droughts exacerbate local environmental issues like Poyang Lake, highlighting

the personal and pervasive nature of the problem.

Need for Systemic Change

The documentary advocates for systemic change to combat climate change, emphasizing the need to stop deforestation, reduce emissions, and implement sustainable practices globally. It emphasizes the responsibility of historically high-emitting nations to lead these initiatives.

The documentary's portrayal of the crisis's scope, intensity, and local and global effects serves as a potent call to action. The documentary makes it abundantly evident that systemic, global reform is necessary to combat climate change, not simply small, incremental changes. Therefore, the documentary film *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* highlights the impact of human activities on the environment, focusing on pollution as the dominant theme. The film uses various ecocriticism styles, including postcolonial, wilderness, ecofeminism, material, and postmodern, to illustrate the interconnected impacts of climate change on natural landscapes and human-environment interactions. It calls for immediate action, systemic change, global cooperation, and sustainable practices to prevent further mass extinctions.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The documentary *Climate Crisis: Drought 2023* highlights the impact of human activities on the environment, particularly pollution. It highlights how pollution accelerates climate change, causes mass extinctions, and degrades water quality. The documentary film calls for urgent action to protect the planet and emphasizes the interconnected impacts of climate change on natural landscapes and the material interactions between humans and the environment. The documentary highlights wilderness and material ecocriticism as dominant ecocriticism genres, each with five data points. These pieces highlight the interconnected impacts of climate change on natural landscapes and human-environment interactions, making them a dominant genre in documentary film. The message calls for immediate action, systemic change, global cooperation, and sustainable practices to prevent further disasters. The researcher suggests future researchers adopt an interdisciplinary approach, compare climate documentaries, analyze narrative techniques, apply ecocritical frameworks, and examine documentary films' role in policy and advocacy to deepen the analysis and understanding of documentary films and contribute to ecocriticism and environmental literature study.

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