Application and Classification of Ecology

Ms. Meenakshi Jhanwar

Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Science, Presidency University, Bangalore, India, Email Id-meenakshi@presidencyuniversity.in

ABSTRACT:

A subfield of research called ecology includes the fields of human science, population, community, ecosystem, and biosphere. Ecology is the study of organisms, the environment, and the interactions between the organisms and their surroundings. Numerous levels, including organism, population, community, biosphere, and ecosystem are researched. The main objective of an ecologist is to increase their understanding of the life processes, habitats, interactions, and biodiversity of species.

KEYWORDS:

Applied Ecology, Abiotic Factor, Biotic Abiotic, Living Things, Non-Living Elements.

I. INTRODUCTION

Human science, population, community, ecosystem, and biosphere are all included in the scientific field of ecology. Ecology is the study of species, their environments, and the interactions that occur between them. It is researched on many different scales, including the organism, population, community, biosphere, and ecosystem. The main objective of an ecologist is to gain a better understanding of how organisms' function, their adaptations and environments, interactions, and biodiversity. Let's examine the ecology notes supplied here in-depth and investigate the idea of ecology.

Biological and Abiotic Factors

Ecology's primary goal is to comprehend how the biotic and abiotic components of living organisms are distributed in the environment. The interplay between living and non-living things and their surroundings is referred to as "biotic and abiotic factors. "Biotic elements biotic elements are elements that are living in an ecosystem. Bacteria, birds, fungi, plants, animals, and others are a few examples of biotic components. Abiotic elements might be found in the hydrosphere, lithosphere, or atmosphere. Sunlight, soil, air, moisture minerals, and more are a few examples of abiotic components. In contrast to non-living elements like sunshine, water, and topography, which are categorized as abiotic, living species are categorized as biotic components.

Biotic and Abiotic

The two primary forces influencing the ecosystem are biotic and abiotic. As opposed to the non-living elements like physical conditions temperature, pH, humidity, salinity, sunlight, etc. and chemical agents' different gases and mineral nutrients present in the air, water, soil, etc. in an ecosystem, biotic factors refer to all the living things that are present in an ecosystem. As a result, both biotic and abiotic resources have an impact on how an organism survives and reproduces. These two elements depend on one another as well. Imagine that if one of the variables is eliminated or changed, the ecosystem as a whole will be affected. Abiotic factors unquestionably have a direct impact on how long organisms survive. Continue reading to learn more about the functions of biotic and abiotic resources in an ecosystem. Biotic Definition The words bio and ice, which both refer to similar things, are combined to create the term biotic. Thus, the phrase refers to all of the living things found in an ecosystem and indicates lifelike [1], [2].

Biotic Elements

All the organisms in the ecosystem have a relationship with biotic variables. The biological byproducts they produce and their presence alter an ecosystem's structure. All living things, including people, fungi, and bacteria as well as animals and plants, are considered to be biotic factors. For each species to reproduce and to meet basic needs like food, the interactions between numerous biotic variables are vital.

Typical Biotic Factors

All the living things found in an ecosystem are examples of biotic resources. Producers, consumers, decomposers, and detritivores are some of them.

Abiotic Definition

All the non-living elements that make up an ecosystem are collectively referred to as abiotic. The abiotic factors are made up of the sun, water, and terrain.

Abiotic Elements

All non-living, chemical, and physical elements found in the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere are referred to as abiotic factors. Abiotic variables include things like sunlight, air, precipitation, minerals, and soil, to name a few. These elements significantly affect the persistence and procreation of species within an ecosystem. For instance, autotrophic organisms might not be able to exist without enough sunlight. When these creatures inevitably perish, there won't be enough food for major consumers. Every organism in the food chain is impacted by this effect, which cascades up. The ecosystem becomes unbalanced as a result.

Abiotic Factor Examples

Examples of abiotic phenomena mostly rely on the kind of ecosystem. For instance, abiotic elements in a terrestrial ecosystem include air, water, temperature, humidity, height, soil pH, type, and more. An aquatic ecosystem's abiotic components include the salinity, oxygen, pH, flow rate, depth, and temperature of the water.

II. DISCUSSION

Ecology can be divided into various categories. The various ecological types are listed below:

Worldwide Ecology

It focuses on how the ecosystems, land, atmosphere, and oceans of the world interact. It aids in comprehending global interactions and the impact they have on the globe. The goal of World-Ecology is to understand how human relationships to production, power, and the environment shape the web of life. It is a global debate between academics, activists, and artists. The world-ecology approach unites a critique of Nature-Society dualisms, a world-historical understanding of the current planetary catastrophe, and an emphasis on the confluence of race, class, and gender in capitalism's environmental history. It is a discussion rather than a doctrine. Jason W. Moore, Share Deckard, Raj Patel, Christian Parent, Tony Weis, Neil Brenner, Kerstin Olaf, Andrej Grubacic, and Marion Dixon are important participants in the global ecological discussion. The World-Ecology Research Network has supported a yearly conference since 2015.

Origins and History of the Global Ecological Conversation

The human and physical sciences' Trans disciplinary, critical traditions are all incorporated into world ecology. Jason W. Moore's reinterpretation of Karl Marx, Fernand Braided, and Immanuel Wallenstein is where the phrase world-ecology originates. According to Braided and Wallenstein, the advent of capitalism must be seen as the creation of a global-economy, not a "economy of the world," but rather a division of labor between regions that is confined by a division of labor that is essential in space. As a result, the history of capitalism represents the geographic spread of a world economy that does not become really global until the twentieth century. Moore first proposed that the history of the capitalist world-ecology whose geopolitics and economic life were rooted in a relationship with the webs of life that was exceptionally dynamic and violent. Moore suggested that there were two key ways to see this. A perpetual hunt for new, lost-cost natures, including enslaved people, was necessary for capitalism as a system of limitless capital accumulation. Second, inexpensive natures identified in a previous age were exhausted by the destruction and depletion caused by capitalist monocultures and extractive systems, opening up new areas for violent accumulation [3], [4].

Moore suggested world ecology as a synthesis of world-economy methods with environmental history in the broadest sense, much how Wallenstein had earlier emphasized the capitalist world-economy as a synthesis of geopolitics and transnational commodities networks. World literature and ecology. The theme of world ecology in relation to world literature is concerned with the alteration of the portrayal of capitalism in literary forms, in part because world ecology relates to the correction of previous ideas on capitalism and nature. Academics specifically propose that to include world ecology in world literature, literary works must be restructured to

portray capitalism as a world ecology. Another idea was that because global ecology is defined by the macro interactions of many different systems, the influence of world ecology on world literature should focus attention on world literature where content coverage in world literary forms is extremely comprehensive. Although it is thought that no modern world ecological literary genre has yet fully attained such fullness in topic covering.

When world ecology is applied to a topic, it can be challenging to effectively depict the world ecology in the context of the issue because of the complexity's potential for misunderstanding. It is important for world-ecological literary forms in this context to have the vocabulary that accurately describes the function of the world-ecology as a whole, and this turn should highlight some of the negative processes within the world-ecology, such as environmental damage. For example, the world-ecology might be viewed as the planet, which is made up of sub-systems and environments that produce results that are either positive, neutral, or negative for example, environmental damage. This emphasizes the significance of using language in world-ecological literature and the fact that, if properly structured, global literature may be used to comprehend the developing ideas of world-ecology in the context of the earth.

As opposed to other literary forms, which may narrow their content coverage by focusing on topics particular to those literary forms, world-ecological literary forms may contain a broad totality in their coverage of content describing the complex woven functions of substructures in the world-ecology. This emphasizes the distinction between world-ecological literary forms and literary works of other forms. Some academics believe that such literary genres are texts of lower consciousness since they do not make an effort to include the entirety of the global ecosphere. Academics have argued that inaccurate information conveyance can lead to topics of concern being incorrectly ignored, which can have devastating implications, on world ecological literature. The integration of reading approaches is also claimed to be necessary for readers to accurately comprehend any real information generated by global literary genres. It addresses with the flow of materials, organisms, energy, and other ecological byproducts. The influence of human activity on the structures and functions of the landscape is highlighted by landscape ecology.

Ecology of Ecosystems

It covers the entire ecosystem, including the investigation of both living and non-living elements and how they interact with the outside world. This field of study investigates ecosystem functioning, relationships, etc. Ecology from the Ancient Greek words house and study of the study of interactions between living things, including humans, and their physical surroundings is known. The levels of individuals, populations, communities, ecosystems, and biospheres are all taken into account in ecology. The fields of ecology, biogeography, evolutionary biology, genetics, ethology, and natural history are all closely related. Ecology is a subfield of biology; environmentalism is not the same thing. Ecology is the study of, among other things:

- 1. The distribution, biomass, and abundance of organisms in relation to their environment, as well as the processes, interactions, and adaptations that lead. to life
- 2. The flow of materials and energy through populated areas.
- 3. The evolution of ecosystems through succession.
- 4. Predation, rivalry, and cooperation among and within species.
- 5. Biodiversity patterns and how they affect ecosystem processes.

Social Ecology

It focuses on how interactions between living things alter community structure. An ecology community is made up of two or more populations of various species that are localized in one place. Murray Book chin, an environmental activist, was the first to establish the idea of social ecology. He thought there was a more effective way to do the research because he was an ecology. In his essay He contends that environmentalists are overly preoccupied with examining the specific symptoms of a problem rather than dealing with the issue itself the idea that people can and should govern nature. The foundation for social ecology was laid by this ideology. The social hierarchies, in Book chin's opinion, are detrimental to society as a whole. Human-made hierarchical structures are to blame for many of the problems and dysfunctions in human civilization, whether they are environmental or social. Book chin thought life and society should be viewed as an ecosystem, where all the moving elements are equally necessary to a healthy, stable, and sustainable environment. This is in contrast to a hierarchy. It is thought that upholding these values and applying them to every aspect of society will result in a society that is more equitable and cooperative and where hierarchies do not determine who wins and losses. A vital component of a successful social worker's mentality is understanding the significance of each piece to the system as a whole.

Demographic Ecology

It deals with variables that affect and change the genetic make-up and number of organisms in a population. Ecologists are curious about changes in population size, population growth, and any other interactions with the population. A population in biology is a group of people belonging to the same species who are present in one location at the same time. The main causes that raise population are births and immigration, whereas the main factors that decrease population are deaths and emigration. The distribution and density of populations are investigated by population ecology. The number of people in a particular volume or area is known as the population density. This aids in assessing whether a specific species is endangered, needs to have its population under control, or needs its resources restored [5], [6].

Biological Ecology

The study of an individual organism's behavior, morphology, physiology, etc. in response to environmental stresses is known as organismal ecology. It examines the interactions between certain species and biotic and abiotic elements. Ecologists study how organisms adjust to these living and non-living elements of their environment. Different adaptations, such as morphological, behavioral, and physiological adaptations, are associated to specific species.

Genetic Ecology

The creation of proteins and how they impact organisms and their environments are the main topics of study in ecology. At the molecular level, this occurs. The proteins that interact with the environment and one another are created by DNA. Several sophisticated species are the result of these interactions. The relevance of ecology is demonstrated by the following factors. The protection of the environment Ecology enables us to comprehend the impact of our actions on the ecosystem. It demonstrates to people the depth of the harm we do to the ecosystem. Degradation of the environment and of the land has been caused by a lack of ecological knowledge. Additionally, it has caused the extinction and endangerment of other species. For instance, mammoths, white sharks, dinosaurs, etc. Therefore, understanding the environment and living things enables us to defend them against harm and peril.

Resource Distribution: Ecology enables us to understand which resources are essential for the existence of various organisms. Lack of ecological knowledge has caused these resources to be scarce and underutilized, which has increased competition.

Energy Efficiency: Energy is necessary for all living things to thrive and flourish. Lack of ecological knowledge results in the overuse of energy resources like light, food, and radiation, which causes their depletion. Proper understanding of ecological requirements helps to conserve energy for future uses by preventing wasteful use of energy resources.

Eco-Friendliness: Ecology promotes cooperative behavior among organisms and the adoption of lifestyle choices that preserve the ecology of life.

Here are a few illustrations of ecology:

Ecology of Humans: It focuses on how people and the environment interact. It highlights the negative effects that humans have on the environment and provides information on how we might better ourselves for the benefit of both people and the ecosystem.

Construction Niche: It focuses on the investigation of how living things modify their surroundings for the advantage of both themselves and other organisms. For instance, termites build a 6-foot-tall mound while both feeding and protecting their whole population. A branch of ecology called applied ecology studies how the science of ecology might be used to answer practical typically managerial issues. It is often referred to as a branch of science that focuses on using basic ecological principles, ideas, models, or techniques to solve environmental issues.

Concept

The ecological, social, and biotechnological facets of protecting and managing natural resources are all addressed in applied ecology. Geomorphology, soils, and plant communities are often the main areas of focus in applied ecology since they serve as the foundation for managing vegetation and wildlife both game and non-game. Applied ecology covers not only agriculture, forestry, and fisheries but also worldwide change because it encompasses all academic fields that are connected to human activity. It contains two categories for studies. First, there are those sectors or outputs that deal with how to use and maintain the environment, especially in terms of its resources and ecosystem services.

The second category consists of inputs, sometimes known as those that relate to management methods or human influences on biodiversity or the ecosystem. Because ecological knowledge is necessary for effective management of natural ecosystems, the discipline is frequently associated with ecological management. It frequently employs an ecological strategy to address issues with particular environmental components, which may entail contrasting feasible solutions such as the best management options. Given how changes in global food production affect consumer costs and availability, the importance of applied science in agricultural production has come into sharper emphasis [7], [8].

Approaches

The following methods are frequently used by applied ecologists' observation, experimentation, and modeling instance, a project to preserve wildlife might include observational studies of the ecology of the animals, experiments to uncover causal links, and the use of modelling to ascertain knowledge that is outside the purview of experimentation. Inputs from management techniques such as conservation biology, restoration ecology, global change, ecotoxicology, bio monitoring, biodiversity, environmental policies, and economics, among others, could be incorporated into the ecological method utilised in applied ecology. Since it applies the ideas of restoring and mending damaged ecological systems to their original form, restoration ecology is a particularly well-known method in the field. Many sections of the subject use methods that are based on straightforward statistical and analytic models such as spatial models as well as those with mathematical qualities such as matrix models, similar to those used in ecological theory. Additionally, digital computer simulation modelling is used to solve statistical ecological issues and accomplish bio economic objectives like forecasting and the assessment of the effects of certain actions. Additionally, human interest is necessary for applied ecology, notably the use of judgments about relative values and objectives.

Applications

The process of economic development can benefit from the use of applied ecology. Since environmental issues are cross-cutting and interdisciplinary in nature, the discipline, for instance, can be incorporated into the national economic planning to adequately handle them. Practical aspects of ecology include:

- 1. Yosemite National Park is home to an invasive species called yellow star thistle.
- 2. Management of the agro ecosystem.
- **3.** Conserving biodiversity.
- 4. Biotechnology.
- **5.** Ecological biology.
- **6.** Disturbance control.
- 7. Environmental restoration.
- **8.** Engineering the environment.
- 9. Ecological technology.
- 10. Environment management.
- 11. Managing invasive species.
- 12. Use of the landscape, including planning for development.
- **13.** Managed protected areas.
- 14. Management of rangelands.
- **15.** Recovery ecology.
- 16. Management of wildlife, particularly game.

Significant periodicals in the area include:

- **1.** Applied Ecology Journal.
- 2. Environmental Applications.
- 3. Organizations involved in applied ecology and environmental research.
- 4. The Americas' Ecological Society of America [8], [9].

III. CONCLUSION

Understanding and dealing with the intricate dynamics of the natural world need the application and classification of ecology. Ecology has a wide range of applications in a number of different sectors and academic areas, adding

to our understanding of ecosystems, species interactions, and environmental processes. We may research and categorize several facets of the environment and living things thanks to the classification of ecology. Population ecology, community ecology, ecosystem ecology, and landscape ecology are only a few of the subfields it covers. These classifications allow researchers to concentrate on certain ecological scales and processes, enabling a thorough comprehension of the nuances of ecosystems.

REFERENCES

- [1] D. Fiorentino, V. Lecours, and T. Brey, "On the Art of Classification in Spatial Ecology: Fuzziness as an Alternative for Mapping Uncertainty," Front. Ecol. Evol., 2018, doi: 10.3389/fevo.2018.00231.
- [2] M. Bourel and A. M. Segura, "Multiclass classification methods in ecology," Ecol. Indic., 2018, doi: 10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.11.031.
- [3] A. E. Samuelson and E. Leadbeater, "A land classification protocol for pollinator ecology research: An urbanization case study," Ecol. Evol., 2018, doi: 10.1002/ece3.4087.
- [4] I. Paynter et al., "Classifying ecosystems with metaproperties from terrestrial laser scanner data," Methods Ecol. Evol., 2018, doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12854.
- [5] Z. Liu, C. Peng, T. Work, J. N. Candau, A. Desrochers, and D. Kneeshaw, "Application of machine-learning methods in forest ecology: Recent progress and future challenges," Environmental Reviews. 2018. doi: 10.1139/er-2018-0034.
- [6] P. Legendre, "Numerical ecology," in Encyclopedia of Ecology, 2018. doi: 10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.10595-0.
- [7] V. A. Funk, "Collections-based science in the 21st Century," Journal of Systematics and Evolution. 2018. doi: 10.1111/jse.12315.
- [8] E. Ö. Kurt and M. G. Negiz, "A Study on the Classification of Woody Vegetation in Forest Ecology (Isparta-Yenişarbademli Case)," Bilge Int. J. Sci. Technol. Res., 2018, doi: 10.30516/bilgesci.355493.
- [9] V. H. Gonzalez, J. D. Amith, and T. J. Stein, "Nesting ecology and the cultural importance of stingless bees to speakers of Yoloxóchitl Mixtec, an endangered language in Guerrero, Mexico," Apidologie, 2018, doi: 10.1007/s13592-018-0590-2.