

# The Tribal Voice in Environmental Resistance: An Ecocritical Study of the Works of Jacinta Kerketta and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar

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**Abstract:** *The unique identity of the Indigenous communities of India, who have close intimacy with nature is now under threat because of environmental degradation and due to the loss of land, forests, rivers, hills, minerals and other resources. The communities are already marginalized in every domain of society - social, cultural, economic and political, facing injustice, exploitation, oppression in the name of 'progress and development' executed by the state machinery. This situation is voiced amply in the works of writers such as Jacinta Kerketta and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar who try to expose it very vividly and portray the deplorable state of Adivasi people whose livelihood and sustenance have been direly threatened as all this is impinging on their life patterns. The Tribals revere nature considering it pious and inspirited. This is in line with the development of a worldview which is based on sound principles of ecological preservation and veneration. The commodification of the natural world in the capitalistic worldview leads to its rapid exploitation affecting the various ecosystems which has led to environmental degradation and climate change.*

*This research paper aims to analyse in different ways the environmental crisis which has endangered tribal affinity with nature thus adversely affecting their welfare and wellbeing. Such current and burning issues, which pollute the entire region resulting in sickness, disease and deaths are voiced by the writers in focus by using literature as a powerful platform because literature possess "the energy and power" to appeal to "the human community" thus striving for environmental conservation. The Research paper also looks at various solutions that mankind needs to take up for averting such natural disasters..*

**Keywords:** Degradation, Conservation, Ecology, Ecocriticism, Climate Change

