

An Ecosophical Reading of J.G. Ballard's *The Drought* and Mahmoud Dowlatabadi's *Missing Soluch*

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Abstract

Arne Naess, the Norwegian philosopher, coined the word *Ecosophy* in 1970. His philosophy is the basis to a political movement called The Deep Ecology Movement. The emphasis on the word “deep” is to indicate that the movement is after fundamental changes in the way people think and act toward nature. Also, Ecosophy assert that its followers can permanently review and revise their thought and action. The ultimate goal of the Deep Ecology Movement is Self-realization through nonviolent resistance. Each member of the movement can create her own Ecosophy as long as they include Naess-Sesseions' platform. Naess's personal ecosophy is Ecosophy T.

Ecosophy is not a literary approach but the researcher believes that it has the capacity to become one. It can fill the gaps where Literary Ecocriticism does not know in its territory. Accordingly, the researcher has applied Normative System and some of the key concepts introduced by Arne Naess on the novels *The Drought* and *Missing Soluch* by J.G. Ballard and Mahmoud Dowlatabadi. Naess puts *diversity*, *complexity*, and *symbiosis* under the umbrella term *Self-realization* while *truth* and *fearlessness* go under *nonviolent resistance*. These concepts are tightly interwoven and interdependent as the two novels prove them to be. The research shows that all the introduced concepts can be more or less found and discussed in the two novels and a System of norms can be written according to the concepts and personal experience and

observation of any researcher. In this sense, the two literary texts are capable of being read through Ecosophy.

Key words: Ecosophy, the Deep Ecology Movement, Self-realization, Diversity, complexity, symbiosis, nonviolent resistance, truth, fearlessness, J.G. Ballard, Mahmoud Dowlatabadi, Arne Naess.

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