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Critical Discourse Analysis of Natural Environmental Conservation in Kenya: A Case of Kakamega Forest

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Abstract

This paper sets out to establish the role of some aspects of the Isukha oral narratives in the conservation of Kakamega Forest as natural environmental resources. It takes a case study of the Isukha, neighbouring Kakamega forest. The paper reveals that African religion has employed various language techniques to conserve natural environmental resources in the said forest. Various methods are used to restrict the utilisation of certain natural resources and to create environmental awareness. In order to conserve the forest, the Isukha sub tribe uses various riddles, legends, songs, myths, proverbs, and tales that demonstrate the relationship between humans and their surrounding environment. Two recommendations are made on how to promote the role of language in enhancing natural resource conservation.

The Development Kiswahili Prose and the Evolution of the Kiswahili Novel

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the development of the Kiswahili novel in East Africa. Prior to this evolution, the Kiswahili literary practice, like other African cultures, had a rich oral tradition followed by an equally rich period of prose writing which was largely influenced by both oriental and European cultures. It was after this period that the novel form evolved as result of Western influence and was later localised by entrenching itself into the Kiswahili socio-political cultural matrix. The development of this literature can be seen across three main periods, namely: pre-colonial, colonial and postcolonial. It is argued in this paper that it is during the postcolonial period that the novel form fully developed owing to many factors like expanded publishing industry, favourable policies that put a premium on Kiswahili teaching and by extension the novel and the widened sphere of operation of Kiswahili language and its literature.

Keywords

Kiswahili, genre, development, novel, literary.

Exploring and Analysing Sentimental Science-Fiction: Sociological Themes in Shawn Levy's *Real Steel*

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Abstract

A conspicuously potent genre of Cinema has been scientific fiction, popularly called "sci-fi movies." Not all but many movies revolving around diverse ideas of scientific fiction have a possibility of being used to bring forth themes which are graver than they appear to be. Shawn Levy's *Real Steel* (2011) is set in a time where human boxers are obsolete and boxing primarily has become more of a violent entertainment than a sport, with the boxers having been replaced with robots. The paper seeks to investigate how the film treats the familiar formula of "Robot and Man" to toss up questions of social responsibility with reference to the predicament of living like an underdog and indulging in a constant negotiation of this identity politics, which is in turn affected by the glaring chasms between the different layers of social and economic standing. It also outlines the theme of blatant consumerism and the human psyche trying to keep itself float amidst it.

Keywords

Studying cinema, underdog resistance, margins and centre, sentimental science-fiction.

Terrible Toll of Child Abuse: An Analysis

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Abstract

This study is an attempt to analyse the nature of child abuse in Kerala reported in print media. Descriptive content analysis was used for this study. Five national dailies of two years, Crime Records Bureau Reports of Kerala and India and even the Report of Child Line Manual too were referred for the purpose of obtaining relevant data. It is found that there has been an alarming rate of child abuse in Kerala. Based on the reports the investigator tries to examine the details of the victim, the abuser/perpetrator, mechanism of reporting, action taken etc. Among the type of abuse, sexual abuse was more commonly reported and the manifestations was mostly physical. The more common patterns of reporting were children who confided in their parents who in turn informed the authorities. The present study also proposes suggestions for the effective utilisation of print media for safeguarding children.

Keywords

Nature, child abuse, Kerala, print media, effective utilisation, safeguarding children.

Girish Karnad's Wedding Album: A Dismantling of Patriarchy

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Abstract

One of the most prominent dramatists of contemporary India, Girish Karnad, has always voiced the concerns of women in his plays. A brief survey of his works, leading up to *Wedding Album*, reveals that they have evolved through various stages. From myths, folklore, and historical subjects to that of modern day tech-savvy Indian society, he has tackled various issues of contemporary Indian society. His female characters have portrayed issues concerning woman's sexuality, her innermost aspirations, her struggles for an independent identity and the ordeals she goes through to survive in the context of a patriarchal society. Whether it be the plight of Chithralekha in *Yayati*, Padmini in *Hayavadana*, or Rani in *Naga-Mandala*, his characters have always highlighted the female psyche with exceptional brilliance. This study looks at *Wedding Album*, a hilarious take on the traditional patriarchal Hindu institutional marriage. His women characters belong to the contemporary world even when they voice the emotional pain they endure. It is on a subtle level that patriarchy is questioned in the play. There is no direct war cry and the female characters are no champions of freedom except when Vidula turns a tigress to defend herself from the Hindu fundamentalist vigilante youth out on moral disciplining.

Keywords

Patriarchy, feminism, marriage, anxiety, resentment, harassment, sexual freedom.

Emergence of Community Organisation in Kerala

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Abstract

At the turn of the twentieth century, Kerala composed of three major religious groups—the Hindus, the Christians and the Muslims and these groups were divided into a number of castes and sub-castes and each community began to experience multiple grievances. Among the Hindus, the Nairs—suffered from internal evils such as taravad system, marumakkatayam, talikettukalyanam, tirendukuli and sambandam system. The Ezhavas were denied entry into public roads, temples, and government schools. Though they formed majority among the Hindus, their representation in the government service and legislature were negligible and accorded a low status in society. The main plights of the Christians were inadequate representation in the government service and in the legislature and outdated inheritance laws. The Muslims largely remained socially and economically backward. This led to the creation of different community organisations to reform the respective communities. These community organisations began to play a key a role in Kerala society in the years to come.

Keywords

Community, Nairs, Ezhavas, Christians, Muslims.

Economic Feasibility of Agriculture under Controlled Environment: A Case Study of Poly House Cultivation of Cucumber and Yard Long Bean

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Abstract

Poly house is an alternative technique in Indian Agriculture for vegetable cultivation. The need to protect the crops against unfavourable environmental conditions led to the development of protected agriculture. The present study examined the economic feasibility of Cucumber and Yardlongbean in a naturally ventilated 400sq.m. polyhouse. Data were generated by cost accounting method from the year 2015-2016. The economic feasibility of investment on production of Cucumber and Yardlong Bean under poly house was evaluated using Project evaluation methods, especially benefit measurement methods such as Benefit-cost ratio(B-C ratio), Internal Rate of Return (IRR), Net Present Value (NPV), Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR). Cultivation of Cucumber and Yardlong bean under polyhouse with initial investment emerged as a profitable and economically viable option to increase the farmers' income, but it is more feasible and profitable when subsidy is added to the production of both cucumber and Yardlong bean.

Keywords

A Study on the Pattern of Share Price Behaviour in the Indian Stock Market

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Abstract

Emerging stock markets have recently been of great importance to the world-wide investment community. For the smooth and frictionless development of the economy, a healthy and active stock market, free from extraordinary volatility and irrational behaviour of the players, is required. Despite the innovation of new financial instruments, equity shares are the most preferred tools of investments in the capital market. To determine what stocks and portfolios are right, an investor must know the level of risk and return behaviour that the stock carries. Capital market has become an integral part of the economies of all countries. Investment in stock market requires the study of share price behaviour and assess how quickly and accurately the market reacts to new events and economic situations. The result of the analysis discloses that monthly market returns and monthly individual security returns are not biased and share prices are independent and random. It can be concluded that there is no serial dependence between successive price returns.

Keywords

Serial independence, monthly market return, individual security return, share price behaviour, market efficiency, randomness of return series, capital market, financial instruments, reasonable return.

Numerical Modelling Studies on Tsunami Characteristics along the Lakshadweep Islands

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Abstract

The disastrous tsunami of 26 December 2004 exposed the urgent need for identifying vulnerable coasts and planning mitigation measures. Historical statistics show occurrence of tsunamigenic earthquakes from locations like Carnicobar, Sumatra and North Andaman in the Bay of Bengal and Makran in the Arabian Sea. The west coast of India is vulnerable to tsunami from Makran as well as from the east. Though the tsunami inundation has been studied reasonably well for the mainland coastline of India, no study has been carried out for the Lakshadweep islands, located in the Arabian Sea. This paper studies the tsunami run up and inundation along the four inhabited islands of Lakshadweep. The simulation results show that Lakshadweep islands are not vulnerable to tsunami as the mainland coast.

Keywords

Tsunami, simulation, inundation, run-up, modelling, TWS.

Extension of Collage Grammar to Cell Works: Context Free Mode

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Abstract

Images or pictures made of symbols constitute an important aspect of human life as humans can remember pictures better than words. Informally, a two-dimensional string is called a picture and is defined as an array of symbols. A two-dimensional language or picture language is a set of pictures. Picture generation and analysis has become a widely investigated field whose various aspects are studied in Theoretical Computer Science as well as in Mathematics. Collage grammars are studied as devices that generate pictures by rewriting based on hyperedge replacement. Each cell is a three-dimensional entity surrounded by one or more faces. This paper focuses on how cell work languages can be captured by collage grammar in context free mode.

Keywords

Collage grammar, cell work, hyperedges, transformations, derivations, context freeness.