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**UNDERSTANDING ECOLOGY: PHILOSOPHICAL, RELIGION AND
LITERARY PERSPECTIVES**



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ABSTRACT

The term ecology or *oekologie* was coined by the German biologist Ernst Haeckel in 1860 as the comprehensive science of the relationship of the organism to the environment. The study of ecology increases our understanding of the world and its life. This is important because our survival and well-being depend on ecological relationships throughout the world. Even changes in distant parts of the world and its atmosphere affect us and our environment. Although ecology is considered a branch of biology, it focuses on the higher levels of the organization of life on earth and on the interrelations between organisms and their environment. A central principle of ecology is that each living organism has an ongoing and continual relationship with every other element that makes up its environment.

Today we are facing ecological crisis which has its deep roots in misguided, anthropocentric attitudes about the dominion of humans on Earth. The deep ecology movement thus can be contrasted with the so-called shallow ecology movement. The shallow approach considers it unnecessary and even counterproductive to take up philosophical or religious questions to solve the ecological crisis.

The paper will highlight and explore the Philosophy of Ecology, Deep and Shallow Ecology. Further it will discuss its importance from religious point of view with reference to Holy Quran and Hadith. Finally the issues will be taken into consideration and concern with the help of literary text.