



---

**FRANZ KAFKA IN THE AGE OF ANTHROPOCENE**



**KARUNAKARAN B SHAJI**

Assistant Professor, DESSH  
Regional Institute of Education  
Mysuru- 570006

**ABSTRACT**

*Anthropocene is said to have begun when mankind began massive exploitation of the natural resources and hunting out driving many creatures to extinction. When all the earlier ages like the Ice age was created by the natural cycle of evolution, Anthropocene age was human made, as a result of which many organisms were confined to the form of preserved specimens in museums of natural history. This paper is an exploration into Kafka's Metamorphosis. In the history of literature Metamorphosis has often been considered as a seminal writing. But most of the critical studies of Metamorphosis has been revolving around ideas like the truth angst and existential dilemma. Grigor Samsa has been considered as somebody who is caught in the unbearable agony of existence. Gregor's transformation into a huge insect has often been overlooked and was considered to be symptomatic of the unbearable agony existential dread. The paper seeks to read Metamorphosis as offering complex insights into the grave ethical, ideological and existential issues ushered in by the age of Anthropocene.*

**KEYWORDS**

*Holocene, 'otherness', Extinction, Metamorphosis, Existential anguish, Habitat*