

Meanings of Green: The Varied Perceptions of Nature

vol. 1 no. 2

The focus of this volume is on conflicting visions of the natural world, of greenery and environment. Authors may find in the following topics and themes useful points of inquiry.

1. Creation stories – nature as a gift e.g.: Genesis, Shinto, Buddhist, animist, pantheist, secularist, etc.
2. Instrumental – nature as mere object to be developed and manipulated for human use; humans possess inherent subject status that affords them the self-proclaimed right to exploit e.g.: drilling for oil, *fracking* for gas, removing mountain tops for coal, diverting and damming rivers, displacing communities
3. Warehouse – storing genetic materials for present and future human use; rainforest and other eco-systems as repositories of presently and conceivable value for future human need, e.g.: drugs, medications, new strains of plant life for human consumption
4. Cathedral-Holy place – nature as a source of inspiration and worship e.g.: Nature parks, national parks; also literary productions extolling oneness with other forms, etc.
5. Holistic – nature as a value in itself, independent of human need or desire e.g.: Every life form has its own reason for being, independent of human use or intent. Every life form—at least sentient life—has an interest in living, etc.

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