

Engaging Nature in the Era of Globalization: Environmental wisdom and the Nature-Aesthetic

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I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.

— H. D. Thoreau, *Walden*

Earth provides enough to satisfy man's need but not every man's greed.

— Mahatma Gandhi

iyam prithvi sarvesam bhutanam madhu, asyai prithvyai sarvani bhutani madhu

(This earth is like honey for all creatures and all the creatures are like honey for this earth.)

— *Brhadaranyaka Upanishad V brahmana*

If I were to ask anyone assembled here what they would consider as being most significant in today's world, I am sure it will generate a multitude of answers – some would consider wealth and economic security as valuable, others health, some family, still others humanitarian values, many would say peace and harmony across the world – the answers would certainly vary from person to person. However, I am sure most of us would not raise disagreements to the fact that each day our world is becoming