CONCLUSION

The present study has attempted to illuminate twenty two short stories of Hemingway from an ecocritical perspective. Even though Hemingway wrote his stories several decades before the advent of the ecocriticism, many of his stories exhibit concerns which are considered typically ecocritical in the present context. The ecocritical examination of the stories has been carried out in seven chapters.

The first chapter Ecocriticism has provided a detailed introduction to the ecotheory. It has also distinguished among the terms “green studies”, “nature studies”, and “ecocriticism”. This chapter has also pointed out how “ecocriticism” differs from other critical approaches and it has also highlighted the application of the theory to study the ecocritical strands in a piece of work. The chapter has described in fair detail, the different subfields of ecocriticism, namely, deep ecology, ecofeminism, ecosphere, oikopoetics and ecocide. The twenty two stories of Hemingway are analysed in the subsequent chapters under these five heads.

The second chapter Ecocriticism and Hemingway has described the ecocritical strands in the short stories of Hemingway. This chapter focused on the biographical details of Hemingway which enable the reader to understand his close association with the natural world. Most of his stories exhibit autobiographical element. Hemingway’s childhood experience at Michigan, adulthood experience at Spain and Italy has shaped the themes of his stories. The Iceberg theory employed by Hemingway and the ecocritical perspectives in his stories are further discussed. The stories are categorized into different sections and analysed accordingly.
The third chapter **Deep Ecology** has analysed the following stories from a deep ecological stand point which emphasizes the interdependence of the human and the non human worlds.

1. *Old Man at the Bridge*
2. *Now I Lay Me*
3. *Cat in the Rain*
4. *A Canary for One*
5. *The Three Day Blow*

Deep ecological insights can be found in all the five stories. One of the functions of a deep ecologist is to trace the interconnectedness of all beings. The emotional bond between the human and the non human members is studied in these stories. The protagonist in all the stories shows an ecological concern in some form or the other. The non-human world in these stories comprises of cat, fish, silkworms and birds. The inseparable bond between the human and the non human worlds is evident from the above stories.

The fourth chapter **Ecofeminism** has examined nine stories from feminist, ecological and ecofeminist perspectives. The female characters in these stories experience suppression and oppression which runs parallel to the destruction of nature in a patriarchal society.

1. *The Doctor and the Doctor’s Wife*
2. *Cat in the Rain*
3. *Mr. Elliot and Mrs. Elliot*
4. *Up in Michigan*
5. *The End of Something*
6. *Hills Like White Elephants*

7. *A Very Short Story*

8. *Indian Camp*

9. *Mother of a Queen*

The stories analysed here represent various aspects concerning abortion, divorce, childbirth, separation, and indifference between men and women. The suffering of women and nature are identified in the above stories. Just as woman has no say, nature too suffers under the clutches of man.

The fifth chapter **Ecosphere** has analysed the significance of place in five short stories. This chapter has focused on the importance of biosphere in shaping an individual. As opposed to the conventional importance given to society or the social sphere, Hemingway focuses on the impact of biosphere on its members in these stories:

1. *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*

2. *The Cross-Country Snow*

3. *Indian Camp*

4. *A Clean Well-Lighted Place*

5. *Soldier’s Home*

The dwelling of the humans in different places is analysed in these stories. The analysis reveals that Hemingway has indeed given primary importance to the place or bioregion in all the stories. This chapter has examined stories which depict the close association of humans with nature.
The sixth chapter **Oikiopoetics** has examined the bond between the human, the nature and the spirit.

1. *Big Two-Hearted River Part-I*
2. *Big Two-Hearted River Part-II*

Nick, the protagonist in both the stories shows his kinship with the landscape. This chapter has made an attempt to study the oikic angle in Nick. The protagonist exhibits his bond with the landscape.

The last chapter **Ecocide** has focused on the ecological destruction caused by man. In total contrast to all the preceding chapters where the bond between the humans and nature was the thrust, this chapter focuses on the ecological destruction caused by man. As a part of civilization man has cleared forests by cutting trees and war has destroyed both man and nature.

1. *The End of Something*
2. *Big Two-Hearted River Part-I*
3. *A Natural History of the Dead*
4. *A Way You’ll Never Be*
5. *On the Quai at Smyrna*

All the five stories analysed in this chapter illustrate how man inflicts suffering on nature and how himself becomes a victim in the bargain. Yet, nature has a regenerative power which can enlighten man to live in harmony with it.
Thus this research project has analysed twenty two short stories of Hemingway by claiming them eco conscious. The study reveals a contrasting feature of Hemingway’s love for nature and his violence towards nature. So there lies a paradox about his attitude to nature. The protagonists in these stories are disturbed and turn to nature for solace and comfort. The emotions and feelings of the protagonist are represented through the description of nature.

The findings reveal that Hemingway’s short stories abound in ecological concerns. The same ecological concerns can also be found in his novella and novels that were written after the short stories. Thus this research arrives at the conclusion that Hemingway’s short stories show ecological holism.

**Suggestions for further research**

The present research has examined closely the multifarious dimensions of ecocriticism that emerge from a close reading of the short stories of Hemingway. In the light of the present study the following possibilities are suggested for further research.

Hemingway’s novella *The Old Man and the Sea* has not been included in the present study, but the novella well lends itself to ecological interpretations.

One can extend this study to his long fiction as well.

Yet another area of research could be to make a comparative study of the stories of Hemingway and the stories from Indian Literature.