



13.ASSESSMENT

Self-check Questions

1. Who coined the term “ecology” in the 19th century to refer to the study of the influence of the environment upon animals?

- a) A.H. Hawley
- b) Ogburn and Nimkoff
- c) Ernst Haeckel
- d) Murray Bookchin

2. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of ecology?

- a) It is a science that studies relations in totality.
- b) It is a branch (special) of biology.
- c) It primarily focuses on the individual organism in isolation.
- d) It is a study of internal relations among human beings with the environment.

3. Which core idea is central to Murray Bookchin’s concept of Social Ecology?

- a) The belief that human mastery over nature is essential for societal progress.
- b) Promoting a hierarchy of lifeforms with humans at the top.
- c) The idea that authoritarian mentalities regarding nature are a root cause of environmental problems.
- d) Advocating for strict separation between human communities and natural ecosystems.

4. Radhakamal Mukerjee’s views on human ecology (social ecology) significantly differed from American pioneers primarily by emphasizing the important role of which factor?

- a) Geological factors
- b) Biological factors
- c) Economic factors
- d) Cultural norms and values



5. Which of the following practices would Radhakamal Mukerjee most likely have cautioned against?

- a) Conservation of forests
- b) Diversification of agriculture
- c) Mindless urbanization
- d) Decentralization of industries

6. The initial scope of ecology was limited to the study of individual organisms' direct interactions with their immediate physical environment, without considering energy flows or material cycles.

7. Murray Bookchin's social ecology suggests that environmental problems primarily stem from a lack of scientific understanding of natural processes, rather than from societal structures.

8. A.H. Hawley's definition of environment within ecology encompasses only topographical, climatic, and drainage conditions, excluding other living organisms.

9. Radhakamal Mukerjee believed that ecological relations among human beings are entirely distinct from those among lower organisms, as human culture completely overrides natural processes.

10. From an ecological standpoint, achieving ecological balance for a community primarily involves mechanically assigning people to a territory, irrespective of their existing social fabric.

Self-Check Answers

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- 1. c) Ernst Haeckel
 - 2. c) It primarily focuses on the individual organism in isolation.
 - 3. c) The idea that authoritarian mentalities regarding nature are a root cause of environmental problems.
 - 4. d) Cultural norms and values
 - 5. c) Mindless urbanization
 - 6. True
 - 7. False
 - 8. False
 - 9. False



10. False

Short Answer Questions:

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1. Briefly explain the core difference between the initial understanding of “ecology” and the expanded “modern emphasis”.
 2. According to Murray Bookchin’s perspective on Social Ecology, what is identified as a root cause of environmental problems, and how does this contrast with a healthy view of life and environment?
 3. How did Radhakamal Mukerjee’s understanding of “ecological relations among human beings” differ from the view of American pioneers in ecological studies?

Long Answer Questions

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1. Elaborate on Radhakamal Mukerjee’s significant contributions to the field of “social ecology,” drawing from his work “Regional Sociology.” Explain how he argued for a balance between economic growth and ecological fitness, providing specific examples of practices he cautioned against or advocated for.
 2. Discuss the evolution of the concept of ecology” into “human ecology” or “social ecology”. Explain how sociology borrowed and adapted this approach, highlighting the key characteristics and scope that distinguish social ecology as a field of study.