

## Ecology -

The poem Ecology is taken from Ramanujan's first volume of poems 'Second Sight', Published in 1986. The poet seems to be loyal to his mother. He is very angry because his mother has a severe attack of migraine caused by the fragrance of the pollen of flowers of the red champak every time it is in bloom. The loving son therefore decides to cut down the tree but is prevented by his mother who sees the positive side of the tree in the garden.

The poem portrays Ramanujan's strong interest in his family as a very important theme of his poetic life. His memories of the past would inevitably bring pictures of the family, especially his mother who is self-sacrificing. There is also a reference to his hindu heritage as he mentions the gods and the ancient beliefs in the poem. The sense of irony is indicated when the mother very angrily protests the idea of cutting down the tree even though she is suffering very badly from the migraine caused by it. She has a kind of emotional attachment to the tree, saying that it is as old as herself.

Ecology is a poem which could be read as a single sentence. However, each stanza has one main idea. There is a causal connection b/w the ideas & they flow from one stanza to the next. 'flashed temper' is an instance of the use of irony because she is very angry at the idea of having the tree cut down. The actual meaning of the word 'ecology' is not followed here but the poet seems to convey negative & positive factors.