

Rejuvenating Cultural Energy: Forging Pathways to Alternative Ecological and Development Paradigms

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Abstract : The insights and wisdom of the Alangan Mangyans offer valuable guidance for developing alternative ecological and development frameworks. Their reverence for the sacredness of the land, rooted in their traditional cosmology, guides their harmonious relationship with nature. Through their practice of swidden farming, ecosystem preservation takes precedence as they carefully manage agricultural activities and allow for forest regeneration. This approach aligns with natural processes, reflecting their profound understanding of the natural world. Similar to early advocates like Aldo Leopold, the emphasis is on shifting our perception of land from a commodity to a community. The indigenous wisdom of the Alangan Mangyans provides practical and sustainable approaches to preserving the interdependence of the biotic community and ecosystems. By integrating their cultural heritage, we can transcend the prevailing anthropocentric mindset and foster a meaningful and sustainable connection with nature. The revitalization of cultural energy and the embrace of alternative frameworks require learning from indigenous peoples like the Alangan Mangyans, where reverence for the land and the recognition of the interconnectedness between humanity and nature are prioritized. This paves the way for a future where harmony with nature and the well-being of the Earth community prevail.

Keywords : Alangan Mangyans, ecological frameworks, sacredness of the land, cultural energy

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