ISSN 1993-8233 ©2011 Academic Journals

# Full Length Research Paper

# Need to implement the environmental ethics to protect the society: A study on global perspectives for sustainable development

### **Noor Mohammad**

Faculty of Business and Law, Multi Media University 7545 Melaka, Malaysia and President, Humanity Research Foundation Jhenidah (HRFJ), Bangladesh.

E-mail: noormmu2011@gmail.com. Tel: 06-252 3493. Fax: 06-2322 764. H/P: 0162504687.

Accepted 18 July, 2011

Environmental ethics is one of the most important modern environmental conservation and sustainable development tools and involves in the early history of human civilizations. It has already been a global issue due to its implications in the development discoursed. But most of the people in the underdeveloped and developed countries people are not aware about its importance. Considering the environmental ethics, it is very easy for all to carry out their duties and responsibilities properly that may lead to the sustainable development which we could not hope for; a peaceful and happy environment for our generations on this earth. It is in fact a human virtue supported by the religions on this earth. It is interlinked with the sustainable environment and development. It teaches us to be healthy and friendly to the global environment and development. This virtue is basically based on the international humanitarian law, international human rights, and course the international environmental law under the public international law. The modern societies including the United Nations Organization (UNO) and its specialized agencies, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other national and regional organizations, etc; have been playing critical role in the process of implementing on the need for the environmental ethics for our society in order to attain the sustainable development. The compliance with the existing laws and policies along with the environmental ethics are also crucial for our existence on this earth, our home. It deals with the environmental rights, moral education, traditional knowledge and the environmental conservation issues, etc; which are very important for our sustainable development on this earth. This study will provide a critical overview of the environmental ethics in our daily life linking with the moral educations for sustainable development as mentioned in the international legal foundations as well as in the religious considerations with other relevant mechanisms based on the primary and secondary sources consisting of 25 respondents in the different criteria such as lecturers, students, professional peoples, businessman, etc. in Melaka, Malaysia.

**Key words:** Environmental ethics, sustainable development.

### INTRODUCTION

The paper could start with the remarks made by Wayne Jackson as follows:

Let us make a little exercise in logic, "No wickedness, no Flood; No Flood, no change of earth's environment; no change of earth's environment, no geological disasters. Thus, no wickedness, no geological disasters." There is need to discuss about the nature and scope of the environment representing society to understand the

range of the environmental ethics based on the environment (Wayne, 2004). The 'concept' and foundation of the environment is very much connected with the human civilization on the earth. From the creation of this universe, some ideas may be formed in relation to the environment. This concept is also observed in the different religious books such as the Holy Quran, the Hadith, the Ijma the Qias, the Gita, the Bible, etc. These books focused the importance of the

environment in different angles in various forms. Considering the gradual development of the human civilization, the idea relating to environment is also expanded and flourished. At the present globe, the concept of environment is quite different than the other previous periods. Now the environment is understood in a very micro based. Environmental law and its functions are closely related to environment. Its functions depend on the environment. So, at first it requires wide understanding of environment. The environment is very vague and vast term and it requires a wide range of understanding to know the environment. Its normal meaning relates to surrounding's but obviously it is a concept that is relative to whatever object it is which is surrounded. It is very vague, vast and it requires a wide range of understandings. The world 'environment' is a very broad term. It is the totality of the world around us, including plants, and different scientists of different disciplines under different references have defined domesticated animals, but it. It is originated from the French word "environ" which means encircle or make surroundings. To define environment is not an easy task. The world 'Environment' = Environ + ment, the action of environing; the state of being environed. The conditions under which any person or thing lives or is developed; the sum total of influences which modify and determine the development of life or character. Its normal meaning relates to surrounding's but obviously it is a concept that is relative to whatever object it is which is surrounded. In fact, environment is an integral part of human life. In brief, it is defined as the surroundings of inhabitation and economic activities of the people. Broadly, it is composed of three different components such as natural, techno sphere and social environment. It refers to the "sum total of conditions which surround man at a given point in space and time." Environment as a productive system provides basic supports that are required for flourishing all forms of lives. Once Einstein's defined the environment as 'everything that is not us' to that of the European Union: 'The whole set of elements which form the frameworks, the surroundings and the living conditions of man and society, as they are or as they are perceived'. In fact the notion of environment includes always nature and culture. Nature can be seen as beautiful and harmonious but it also inspires fear in man who has had to fight it in order to survive. Now, nature is threatened by man who has become detached from it. Technology has endowed humans with the power of a major geological agency, which may act on a continental or even planetary scale for example, acid rain, photochemical smog, radioactive contamination, stratospheric ozone depletion, climate change (Bourdeau, 2004).

### **BACKGROUND**

Many existing literatures support that the concept and idea of the environmental ethics was discovered since

the 1960s. But it seems that it may not exactly be done. Firstly, it is a fact that this idea may be observed in the sources of Islamic law including the holy Quran along with many other religions on this earth. Islam and Islamic Law bear a unique foundation for environmental ethical exercise issue (Mawil, 2011). Environmental ethics is a multidisciplinary activity. It draws on expertise in physics, biology, economics, law, sociology, psychology and philosophy. Roughly speaking, we can distinguish between descriptive and normative environmental ethics and has been dealing with the wildlife conservation, forest preservation, water use, clean-air protection and mineral extraction (Envethics, 2005). The descriptive aim is to describe and explain the attitudes of the people. This part is usually made in line with the philosophical context. The field of environmental ethics concerns human beings' ethical relationship with the natural environment. Numerous philosophers have written on this topic throughout history. The environmental ethics developed based on the specific philosophical discipline in the 1970s. The reason for this emergence was no doubt due to the increasing awareness in the 1960s of the effects that technology, industry, economic expansion and population growth were having on the environment. The development of such awareness was aided by the publication at this time of two important books. Rachel Carson's Silent Spring, first published in 1962, alerted readers to how the widespread use of chemical pesticides was posing a serious threat to public health and was also leading to the destruction of wildlife. The similar significance was Paul Ehrlich's 1968 book, The Population Bomb, which warned of the devastating effects on the planet's resources of a spiraling human population (ISE, 2006). The sources of Islamic Law, including the Quran, dealing with these issues (Ibrahim Ozdemir, 1983). The environmental ethics almost depend on the human virtues and natural virtues. It is essential for our sustainable future and environment (Simon, 2010).

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The topic of this research work needs to highlight the philosophical issues on the different aspects of the environmental conservation and development for the welfare of the mankind in the earth. Some of the relevant issues may be discussed here:

# Influence of environmental ethics and the acts of God

The study has identified that a lot of natural disasters have been occurring in the third world countries including Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, etc. The consequences are also severe. Someone think that it is the acts of God upon the people of those countries. They have been

destroying the environment for a long time. There are some theories dealing with these issues. There are some common theories dealing with the causes consequences of the natural disaster. One idea thinks that, there are continents, ocean basins, mountains, and plains that are in a state of balance. Thus, these masses keep their balance by slowly adjusting. Another idea is that the earth is cooling off, hence, shrinking. As it shrinks, quakes occur. A third theory speculates that convection current takes place inside the earth's core, so that the warmer, lighter parts rise, while the cooler, heavier regions fall. These variables allegedly initiate quakes. Finally, some scientists argue that the continents are gradually drifting apart as a result of an original, onecontinent breakup. The movement is believed to cause disturbances within the earth. It is the only cause that people have been creating these problems and injustice towards the environment. It is the consequences of the environmental destruction on this earth.

### The relationship between humans and the nature

The impacts of dishonor towards nature are one of the core issues on the environmental ethics in the global environment. Never dishonor the nature. There is need to exercise this issue in our daily prayer. Regarding the environment and environmental pollution along with the environmental degradation, who is responsible? It seems that the answer is guite known to us. The humans are responsible for it. All sections of humans including education, uneducated have been injustice to the nature since the industrial revolution. The industrially developed countries in the world are absolutely responsible for it. They have been doing capturing the money and profits from the people of the earth. The acts towards the nature need to be realized. The self control of daily life is a vital towards the environmental development conservation. We need to follow a link as 'speak little but works more.' Additionally, the social contract theory on the different aspects such as nature and humans, humans and the society etc.; that we also consider the issues on the environmental ethics. We also need to rethink about the existing relationship between man and nature

#### Impacts of technology on the nature

Modern age is a contribution of science and technology and the society has become dependent on the technology. The severe impacts of technology along with information technology on the natural environment are also observed (Thomas, 2006). Society is more reliant on technology than ever before. Most of the human services are provided by this instrument but of course there are some unpleasant works that have been done on the

environment and bears tremendous impacts on it. While technologies have their advantages there is a negative effect to all this technology as well. The negative impacts on the environment of the internet communication is notorious thereby leading to internet hacking. It changes the outlook of the people on the environment as a whole. We should not destroy the ecological ethics but to preserve the nature. We humans have a duty to respect and preserve them (Velasquez, 2006).

### Law, ethics, morals

Most of the authors on these issues think that there are many overlaps among the laws, ethics and morals including the business (Brooks and Paul, 2008). It is argued that, morals are the basis of law, test of law, end of law and part of law. While ethics stress a social system in which those morals are applied. It is applied in the different perspectives in different manners. It is applied in nature and business. Many authors in the world have contributed much on the environmental justice and ethics. The morals include all religions, conscience, justice, self consciousness, natural law theory and the massages of the theologists. It also means justice to all including the flora and fauna. Ethics deals with the principles that guide human behavior. It includes what we ought to do and what we ought not to do in issue including environmental matters. Nobody could be satisfied provided by the appropriate authorities. There are many findings and directions given by the research works on these issues. We need to consider those works for our healthy and prosperous environment on this earth. Particularly, these are very critical on the natural environment and arrangements in sphere of our daily life.

#### Globalization and environmental ethics

So far, it is observed that everything in the world has been commercialized rather than the humanity. It has become a crisis in the world and most of the findings suggest that it is a great problem on the global environment and development. The impacts of the globalization on our society bear negative impacts due to lack of broadened outlook and thinking.

#### The role of judiciary and the environmental ethics

Some judiciaries and the governments of the global family such as India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, USA, EU, UK, etc. are quite concerned about the environmental pollution and degradation. The judiciary of these countries is quite active in environmental conservation and development issues. Some directives

towards the governments and judgments on the different issues on the environmental matters including the ethics have been made. The role of the international court of justice along with other relevant judiciary has been working in this regard (Eckard and Demetrio, 2001).

# The environmental justice and government's initiatives

At present, the government levels in the different regions of the world as mentioned earlier are quite active in their environmental conservation and development issues of the respective country of the world. The different governments have been establishing environmental courts in the country to protect the environment in the name of the environmental justice. For example, the government of Bangladesh passed the Bangladesh Environment Conservation Act 1995 and its Rules 1997 and the Environmental Court Act 2000 etc., as a greening initiatives have been passed for the interest of our present and future generations in Bangladesh as well as the global family. Not only that, but also the different governments been trying to revise the existing laws incorporating some environmental provisions in their constitutions and other relevant issues on environment. They have been trying to find out the lacuna and gaps on the environmental conservation issues and investing their money and time for research work on these issues.

The environmental justice needs to be done at flora and fauna levels without such the sustainable development is quite impossible (Karen, 1999). In fact, the environmental justice looks at environmental harm as an issue of environmental concern and as an issue of civil and human rights (Mijin-Cha, 2007) and tries to establish legal remedies for all through environmental laws including the public interest litigation.

#### Climate change and environmental ethics

The global environment issue has been discussed and the world community developed some important instruments to protect the environment. In fact, climate change is one of the global concerns due to its direct impacts on the environment and development. It is said that, the outcome may lay on the non compliance with the climate change laws and policy such as Kyoto protocol, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Definitely. and Copenhagen accords etc. environmental ethics have been ignored and obviously, the impacts have been observed throughout the world.

## **Environmental ethics and sustainable development**

All ethics including the environmental ethics seek an

appropriate respect for life. The comprehensive environmental ethic needs the best, naturalistic reasons, as well as good, humanistic ones, for respecting ecosystems. Ecosystems generate and support life, keep selection pressures high, enrich situated fitness, and allow congruent kinds to evolve in their places with sufficient containment. It teaches us appropriate respect for all living and non living beings in the earth. It saves and protects the nature from all kinds of interventions caused. It may play an important role in influencing the growth of ideas and opinions, representing something new in global governance for the benefit of humans and the rest of the living world. The concept of sustainable development was popularized by the Brundtland Report thus: 'Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own need'. The 'humanity' used in the concept that may ensure the environmental ethical issues. If the people exercise and practice the environmental ethics that may influence to the removal of the poverty alleviation and to establish equity, public participation and culturally appropriate strategies, ethical values of equity, justice and wisdom etc. concerning the environment. Every citizen in the world has the right to sound health and healthy environment for all living and non living beings on the earth. But these rights are destroyed by the most of the empowered people in the earth. They can ignore everything for only the personal interest and happiness. They have been doing whatever they like. We need to rethink in the name of environmental iustice against their polluting environmental politics (Hesperian, 2010).

#### Code of ethics and the environmental ethical issues

It is a vague and vast issue that may vary from one organization to another organization based on some guidelines designed to set out acceptable behaviors for members of a particular group, association, or profession. A code of ethics often focuses on social issues and the environment based on to abstain from causing harm, stealing, sexual activity, wrong speech, intoxicating drinks and drug, killing living things, un-chastity, intoxicants etc. which are quite relevant in line with the environmental ethics. The term "ethics" is used very broadly to cover almost anything that benefits others or the common good. Moral norms are directed at promoting good and avoiding evil, at encouraging virtue and discouraging vice, at avoiding harm to others and promoting their wellbeing or welfare. In general, moral norms are concerned with the interest of others or the common interest rather than just with the individual's self-interest. Moral norms to promote the well-being of others or the common good can be adhered to at the individual level, the group level or at the level of states.

### **Environmental ethics and religious context**

Islam strongly supports the environmental ethics which is based on the sources of the Islamic philosophy and laws. It teaches us to be healthy and never makes any damage on the nature. The wrongdoer will be punished anyhow externally and internally. Nobody can escape from facing the punishment that comes from damaging nature. In the Judeo-Christian tradition, man is set apart from nature and called to dominate it, although this attitude has been revised to become one of stewardship. Oriental religions, on the other hand, have a more holistic view and consider humans as an integral part of nature. Modern philosophers have views ranging from anthropocentrism to biocentrism and egocentrism. It is suggested to take a pragmatic. This issue has been discussed in many ways in Islam and we need to follow the ethics as laid down in the holy Quran (Mollah and Dastagir, 2010).

### Philosophical point of view

According to the classical Greek philosophy, the world is simple and the rational structured and they would like that there is no complexities of ecological composition and its importance. According to Plato: 'The natural world is an illusion' that the medieval attitude that 'Love of nature detracts from love of God' was derived. There are some exceptions as made by Aristotle and Theophrastus. Theophrastus understood the interactions between living organisms and their habitats and could thus be considered as the first ecologist. The emperor and stoic philosopher Marcus Aurelius, on the other hand, stated that the universe was a single living being, possessed of a single substance and a single soul, and that, what was good and right in itself was to live in harmony with nature. It bears significant role towards the sustainable development. In fact the role of moral philosophy is noteworthy (Susan and Botzlor, 1993)

#### Good governance and environmental ethics

Good governance is one of the core organs of the democratic society dealing with the sustainable development and environment. lt has several components such as participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law. It may be called greening governance. The development of a government depends on these elements as exercised in the society. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society. Truly, the environmental ethics and good governance interlinked directly or indirectly that also deals with these issues for the welfare of the society.

### Environmental rights and the ethics

The global family has been facing the environmental pollution and its consequences are alarming and threat to all living and non living beings on this earth. The right to healthy living has been a debatable issue and every one is guite worried about it along with the environmental rights. Environmental rights and its ethics are correlated and interlinked. Generally, the environmental rights defined as a bundle of rights relating to the environment and development. The environmental right includes the rights of every being on the earth. It deals with the Aarhus Convention 1998. It means to have access to the clean and pure with unspoiled natural resources that enable survival for all including the flora and fauna. They also include more purely ecological rights, including the right for a certain beetle to survive or the right for an individual to enjoy an unspoiled landscape. All of this leads to environmental and human rights violations such as the confiscation of land, evictions, pollution. destruction of natural resources, police presence, militarization, violence, intimidation and worse, Some legislation on the different issues has been developed. All of these rights are equally important, and they are all interdependent. Environmental rights are human rights, as people's livelihoods, their health, and sometimes their very existence depend upon the quality of and their access to the surrounding environment as well as the recognition of every person in every community has the right to health, and to a safe and healthy environment. Unfortunately, these rights are often not respected. Many people suffer from serious health problems caused by a scarcity of basic necessities and an excess of harmful substances. The most vulnerable people are those who have low status because of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, class, caste, poverty, or for other reasons. They usually suffer first, and worst. The struggle to live in a healthy, safe, productive, and enjoyable environment by communities whose rights are not well respected by people in power is sometimes called the struggle for environmental justice. There are many stories from around the world of communities suffering unjustly from environmental health disasters, just as many stories can be told of people organizing to protect and defend their right to health and environmental justice in the wake of these disasters.

# The traditional knowledge and the environmental ethics

The traditional knowledge on the environmental issues is very important and quite relevant to these fields. It can be defined as knowledge which is acquired and preserved through generations in an original or local society, and is based on experience in working to secure subsistence from nature. According to Berkes (1999), traditional

ecological knowledge is cumulative body of knowledge, practice, and belief, evolving by adaptive processes and down through generations transmission, about the relationships of living beings (including humans) with one another and with their environment." It makes sense as to the preservation and conservation of the environmental ethical issues. The world research community has been dealing and doing research activities on the traditional knowledge and its environmental implications on the issues development without which the sustainable development is quite impossible. In order to sustainable development, the environmental ethics and rights may play critical (Faust, 2001).

## Human rights and the environmental ethics

The study may consider some issues to some extent in relation to the environmental ethics as made in the preammble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) 1948 along with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966 and the International Covenant on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966 etc. as follows: the core values of the UDHR such as, inherent human dignity, non-discrimination, equality, fairness and universality etc. have been applied to everyone, everywhere and always. It ensures to promote the development of friendly relations between nations (Darryl, 2005). It works as a common standrd for all nations. Many legal issues have been developed for dealing with these values. It tries to estbalishes the peac in the world. The United Nations charter confirms their responsibilities to it. Human beings are one of millions of species alive on the planet Earth, and in our interactions with living organisms and our natural environment we have developed environmental ethics. Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Bioethics declared by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) General Conference in 2005 recognized this in the statement: "Due regard is to be given to the interconnection between human beings and other forms of life, to the importance of appropriate access and utilization of biological and genetic resources, to respect for traditional knowledge and to the role of human beings in the protection of the environment, the biosphere and biodiversity."

# Environmental ethics international organizations, international law, international environmental law, etc

Some principles as underlined under the various international environmental laws and policies are quite relevant to the spirit of the international human rights and humanitarian laws based on the ethical context. We need to crtically understand the philosophy of the principles as

applied with regard to the environmental development and conservation context. The international environmental law teaches us as follows: this human beings will live in harmony with nature- the human being must live in harmony with the nature. We should never go against the nature and the natural environment should be respected and protected. Within the environmental context, the natural resources must be safeguarded and environmental protection is to be maintained. In order to have a sustainable decision, the pparticipation of all forms is needed for environmental development. The general rule on access to information on the environmental education is essential, etc. The idea of duties and responsibilities towards nature is quite made here. The Cahrter of the UNO confirm not to have any war to mankind and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom. Some purposes of the UNO that may relate to maintain international peace and security and to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and universal peace and harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends and to achieve international co-operation in solving international problem of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion etc. Regarding the role of the IUCN, it has been dealing with the nature that directly or indirectly, provides our clean air, food, water, shelter, energy, soil, medicines and protection from natural disasters, as well as recreation, inspiration, diversity and beauty. It protects and conserves the nature value and norms. Its main aim is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has been dealing with the fauna and flora, the landscape, water, soils, air and other natural resources, with particular emphasis on the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems, and on the preservation of genetic, species and ecosystem diversity, and on ensuring that the utilization of wild species and natural ecosystems is sustainable including developing worldwide moral and financial support for the conservation of nature and to conserve the natural environment and ecological processes worldwide. In fact, the philosophy of the environmental ethics has been implemented by the international humanitarina bodies and organizations at large. Friends of the Earth International are very much concerned with the promotion

of the environmental rights and environmental justice and of course environmental ethics. They have been contributing towards the respects of the nature and natural conservation. They have numerous projects on the nature conservation and development (Friends of the Earth, 2004). In order to attain the global sustainability, we need to deal with the sustainable tourism, sustainable practices, and planning and management issues including the ethical issues (Nicholas, 2010). Besides, most of the important law schools such as the Pace Law School, National University of Singapore (NUS) Environmental Law Centre, and Macquarie Law School, etc. have been playing critical role on the environmental ethical issues at home and abroad.

# The theme of the environmental ethics and the Millennium Development Goals

If we study the declaration of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG, 2000), we can find some important issues as follows related to the environmental ethics on the development context including the commitment to the nature conservation and preservation initiatives without which we could not achieve sustainable development and environment for our present and future generations on this earth such as values and principles, freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, shared responsibility, peace, security and disarmament, development and poverty alleviation, protecting our common environment, human rights, democracy and good governance, protecting the vulnerability and fight against the degradation and destruction of our common home.

### Little care, little efforts

We are living in an age of information technology. Most of the activities depend on the use of technology such as internet, computer and other instruments. Normally, we need to care about its uses. It is quite related to our daily life and practices. If we care a little about the exercise of ethical issues in any matters including the environment on daily basis, it may solve our 90% problems and above.

#### Some case studies

Environmental ethics has been dealing with some important issues and questions such as how we could be very friendly to the use of the the natural environment and the extent to which man must exercise certain moral and ethical bindings in his relations to the natural environment (Timothy, 2004). Some of the relevant research questions and results are given below (Appendix 1).

In Malaysia, the idea and practice of the environmental ethics is quite excellent compared to some other

developed countries of the Asian in the global family. These ideas have been made here based on the people's understanding and their perceptions on the environmental ethical issues prevailing in Malaysia. The statistics show that the result is quite excellent for the wellbeing of the people in Malaysia.

#### RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

It is a fact that we have been living in an environmental crisis and degradation. Former US Vice President Al Gore said that it is an inconvenient Truth (Beauchamp, 2009). The matters relating to ethical issues, of the human behavior and values on the nature must be controlled and respected and never be neglected (Jose et al., 2011). We need to understand the nature and scope of the nature. As a human being as a part of nature, we need to realize our limitations and capacity. We are the best of all the creatures of the nature based on the sources of the Islamic Law and philosophy. We are given so many powers to do in the earth. But we need to be restricted in its application. If anything goes against the nature directly or indirectly, that must go against him or her naturally. Newton's theory, everything has its own reaction. If we show love to other people in the society and community, they will also show love to you. We need to consider the needs and demands of the society. We should not deny our spiritual relationship. We need to lead our life based on the principles of all religions including the Islam along with the philosophy and dreams of the national and international human rights and humanitarian laws with relevant policies along with the practices in our daily life. We need to adopt these mechanisms to make our earth happy and beauty.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The author would like to express his sincere gratitude to all concerned authors and authorities particularly, in science direct, google search, google scholars, emerald and other related different sources along with the organizer etc. in this respect.

Abbreviations: IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature; UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; IPCC, Panel on Climate Change; UDHR, Universal Declaration of Human Rights; UNESCO, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization; WWF, World Wildlife Fund; NUS, National University of Singapore.

#### **REFERENCES**

Beauchamp TL, Bowie NE, Arnold DG (2009). Ethical Theory and Business. Pearson Educ. Int., pp. 512-513.

Bourdeau P (2004). The man-nature relationship and Environmental ethics. J. Environ. Radioact., 72: 9-15.

- Brooks LJ, Paul D (2008). Business & Professional Ethics. South Western, Cengage Learning. Retrieved on 3 February 2011 from the http://smtbs.blogspot.com/2010/07/solution-and-testbank-list-of-thomson.html.
- Darryl M (2005). Asia Pacific Perspectives on Environmental Ethics. Bangkok, Thailand: UNESCO-Bangkok.
- Eckard R, Demetrio L (2001). Legal Protection of Environmental Rights: the Role and Experience of the International Court of Environmental Arbitration and Conciliation. Environ. Policy Law, 31/6.
- Environmental Ethics, Educator Guide (2005). Retrieved from the www.videoproject.com/www.envethics.org. The Goldman Environmental Prize.
- Faust S (2001). Introduction and Overview: environmental knowledge, rights, and ethics: Co- managing with Communities. Environ. Sci. Policy, 4: 147-151.
- Friends of the Earth International (2004). Rights, Our environment, our rights. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Hesperian.org (2011). Environmental Rights and Justice. Retrieved on 2 January, 2011 from the www.hesperian.
- Ibrahim O (1983). Towards an Understanding of Environmental Ethics from a Quranic Perspective. Retrieved from the www. http://www.ibrahimozdemir.com/Makaleler/EnvironmentalEthics.pdf.
- Jose AB, Candeias F, Ferrira MAM, Manuel FPC (2011). Ethical Issues and Social Dilemmas in Knowledgement Organizational Innovation. Utilization of Resources: An Ethical Issues- the Anti- Commons and the Aquaculture Case, p. 64
- Karen JW (1999). Environmental Justice: Some Ecofeminist Worries about a Distributive Model. Environmental Ethics, 21. Low, Nicholas (ed). (2010). Global Ethics and the Environment. Retrieved from the www.pencith.city.nsw.gov.au.isp.

- Mawil YID (2011). Islamic Environmental Ethics, Laws and Society. Retrieved on 3 February from http://www.mbcru.com/Texas%20Tech%20Mypage/Conservation%20Biology/Assignment%202/Izzi DeenIslamicEcol.pdf.
- Mijin-Cha J (2007). Increasing Access to Environmental Justice. Katmandu, Nepal: ICIMOD.
- Millennium Development Goals (2000).Retrieved on 3 February 2011 from the http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml.
- Mollah RI, Dastagir G (2010). Faith-based Ethical Reform for Social Stability and Sustainable Development.
- Simon PJ (2010). Human Virtues and Natural Values. Retrieved on 3 February, 2011 from the http://www.cep.unt.edu/ISEE2/2006/James.pdf.
- Susan JA, Botzlor RG (1993). Environmental Ethics Divergence and Convergence. Mc Graw-Hill, Inc.
- Thomas SP (2006). Environmental Ethics. Retrieved on 2 January 2011 from the online systems of the Blackwell.
- Timothy S (2004). Human Nature and Sustainable Development: A Strategic Challenge for Planners. J. Plann. Lit. (August).18: 3-16.
- Velasquez MG (2006). Business Ethics. Pearson Education, Inc. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, USA.
- Wayne J (2004). Natural Disasters: Why Do They Happen? Retrieved on 2 January 2011 from the http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/939-natural-disasters-whydo-they-happen.

# Appendix 1.

SL	Some environmental ethical indicator	Level of practices (%)
1.	Environmental ethics is a moral issues on the environment	90
2.	Environmental ethics makes the task easy for all	85
3.	Environmental ethics saves the humanity	90
4	Any idea on the environmental ethics	80
5.	Any problems in the environmental ethical Issues in Malaysia	60
6.	Any problems in the environmental ethical issues in the global family	85
7.	Human rights and environmental NGOs working towards the environmental ethics	85
8.	The civil societies have also been playing critical role on this issue	75
9.	Awareness program on this issue is important	95
10.	The level of thinking on the welfare of the people living in the society	80
11.	The role of different religions on the environmental ethical issue	95
12.	The level of duties and responsibilities on the environmental ethical issues	70
13.	Creation of the environmental pollution due to non-compliance on the environmental ethics	75
14.	Morals, laws, philosophy, environmental ethics are co-related and equally important to all	85
15.	Any moral obligations to non-living beings on the earth	80