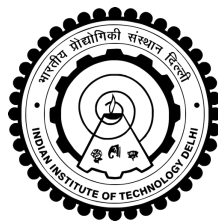


**ELIOT, THE PHILOSOPHER-POET: AN INVESTIGATION
INTO HOMOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ELIOT'S
PHILOSOPHY AND ELIOT'S POETRY**

Mohit Abrol



Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

February 2025

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by

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Submitted

In the fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

to the



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

February 2025

THESIS CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis titled ELIOT, THE PHILOSOPHER-POET: AN INVESTIGATION INTO HOMOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ELIOT'S PHILOSOPHY AND ELIOT'S POETRY submitted by MOHIT ABROL, to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the award of the degree of PhD, is a bona fide record of the research work done by him under my supervision. The contents of this thesis, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other Institute or University for the award of any degree or diploma.



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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work presented here in the thesis has been carried out by me towards the partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of a PhD from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. The work contained herein is my own and is a presentation of my original research work. Wherever quotations from others are involved, every effort has been made to indicate this clearly with due reference to the literature. The content of this report, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other institute or university for the award of any degree.

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(Mohit Abrol)

Abstract

Eliot is regarded as the foremost modernist poet of his era, whose engagement with twentieth-century philosophical debates, though significant, has often been overlooked. This dissertation aims to explore the homological connections between Eliot's philosophy and his poetry, which are essential to understanding his overall development. Eliot's philosophy is not confined to the early period of his life when he aspired to be a philosopher. Instead, as this study demonstrates, it remains intertwined with his poetic journey, enabling him to address various challenges in philosophy, poetry, and religion throughout his career. This dissertation embraces the transformative and evolutionary stages of Eliot's works, highlighting his progression from philosopher to poet and ultimately to philosopher-poet. Eliot's poetry, his critical prose, his views on religion, society, and his own personal needs are all informed by his philosophical outlook. By engaging in dialogue with other philosophers of his time, Eliot situated himself within the philosophical tradition, endowing his own philosophical stance with a dialectical character that shapes the overall trajectory of his development. Centered on Bergson and Heidegger as key philosophical figures, this study investigates Eliot's philosophical interventions in the modernist era, emphasizing the convergence of diverse philosophical ideas that underscore his lifelong exploration of the nature of reality. This study aims to bring a turn in Eliot studies, emphasizing Eliot's legacy not just as a philosopher or poet, but as a philosopher-poet.

सार

एलियट को अपने युग का सबसे अग्रणी आधुनिकतावादी कवि माना जाता है, जिनकी बीसवीं सदी की दार्शनिक बहसों में भागीदारी, हालांकि महत्वपूर्ण थी, अक्सर नजरअंदाज कर दी गई है। इस शोध प्रबंध का उद्देश्य एलियट के दर्शन और उनकी कविता के बीच समरूप संबंधों का पता लगाना है, जो उनके समग्र विकास को समझने के लिए आवश्यक हैं। एलियट का दर्शन उनके जीवन के शुरुआती दौर तक ही सीमित नहीं है जब वह एक दार्शनिक बनने की इच्छा रखते थे। इसके बजाय, जैसा कि यह अध्ययन दर्शाता है, यह उनकी काव्य यात्रा के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है, जो उन्हें अपने पूरे करियर में दर्शन, कविता और धर्म में विभिन्न चुनौतियों का समाधान करने में सक्षम बनाता है। यह शोध प्रबंध एलियट के कार्यों के परिवर्तनकारी और विकासवादी चरणों को शामिल करता है, जो दार्शनिक से कवि और अंततः दार्शनिक-कवि तक उनकी प्रगति पर प्रकाश डालता है। एलियट की कविता, उनका आलोचनात्मक गद्य, धर्म, समाज पर उनके विचार और उनकी अपनी व्यक्तिगत ज़रूरतें सभी उनके दार्शनिक दृष्टिकोण से सूचित हैं। अपने समय के अन्य दार्शनिकों के साथ संवाद में शामिल होकर, एलियट ने खुद को दार्शनिक परंपरा के भीतर स्थापित किया, अपने स्वयं के दार्शनिक रुख को एक द्वंद्वत्मक चरित्र के साथ संपन्न किया जो उनके विकास के समग्र प्रक्षेप पथ को आकार देता है। प्रमुख दार्शनिक शिखरों के रूप में बर्गसन और हेइडेगर पर केंद्रित, यह अध्ययन आधुनिकतावादी युग में एलियट के दार्शनिक हस्तक्षेप की जांच करता है, जिसमें विविध दार्शनिक विचारों के अभिसरण पर जोर दिया गया है जो वास्तविकता की प्रकृति की उनकी आजीवन खोज को रेखांकित करता है। इस अध्ययन का उद्देश्य एलियट अध्ययन में एक बदलाव लाना है, जिसमें न केवल एक दार्शनिक या कवि के रूप में, बल्कि एक दार्शनिक-कवि के रूप में एलियट की विरासत पर जोर दिया गया है।

Table of Contents

Certificates.....	i-ii
Acknowledgments.....	iii
Abstract.....	iv-v
Introduction.....	1
Chapter 1: Eliot’s Philosophy and the Poetic Turn.....	29
Introduction.....	29
1.1. Modernism, poetic art, and Eliot the poet.....	31
1.2. Baudelaire, Mallarmé, and Eliot’s allusive practice.....	39
1.3. Tradition, Bradley, and Eliot the philosopher.....	44
1.4. Eliot’s philosophy and theory of poetry.....	56
1.4.1. Eliot’s poetic conceit, the referential function, and the meaning’s disappearing act.....	61
1.4.2. Eliot and the age of world picture.....	64
1.4.3. Eliot and the age of anxiety.....	70
1.4.4. Eliot, the objective correlative, and Hamlet.....	80
1.4.5. Eliot, Benveniste, and the enunciative act.....	86
1.4.6. Eliot, de Man, and the play of irony.....	94
Conclusion.....	103
Chapter 2: Eliot’s Philosophy and the Religious Turn.....	106
Introduction.....	106
2.1. Eliot’s spiritual steps and Bergsonian duration.....	108
2.2. Eliot’s bewildering moments and Heidegger’s authentic being.....	129
2.3. Eliot’s intenser experiences and Bergson’s moral obligation.....	138
2.4. Eliot’s encounter with the Buddhist tradition.....	152
2.5. Eliot’s humanistic spirit, the liberal tendencies, and the avant-garde.....	163
Conclusion: Thinking beyond the human condition with Eliot and Bergson.....	176

Chapter 3: Eliot’s Philosophy and the Anthropocene Turn.....	180
Introduction.....	180
3.1. Eliot’s <i>Gerontion</i> , new materialists, and the openness to future.....	182
3.2. Bergsonian interventions and the openness to future.....	188
3.3. Eliot’s <i>The Waste Land</i> and the ecological catastrophe.....	194
3.4. From building to dwelling to co-existence.....	201
Conclusion.....	212
Conclusion.....	214
Bibliography.....	222-252
Curriculum vitae of the Author.....	253