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***Representation of Imperialism in Joseph Conrad's
Heart of Darkness:
Marxist Approach***

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Dedication

I would like to dedicate this modest work to my dear mother for her patience, encouragements, and continuous help during the years of the study.

This work is also dedicated to my sisters Chaima and Imane and my brother Youssef and his Wife .

May Allah bless them.

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And to all my friends who helped me and encouraged.

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Dedication

I dedicate this work from my deep heart

*To my dearest parents, who gave me the inspiration to
fulfill this dream with*

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my old sister Nadia for her help, guidance and*

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beloved friend "Housseem" and my Aunt*

*To my cheerful and dearest friends and my better half
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To all whom I love and respect.

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Abstract

The present study attempts to explore the impact of Imperialism on the main characters Marlow and Kurtz as it sheds light on class struggle in the Victorian Era , Hence , the study focuses on providing instances pf Imperialism and social struggle from the corps analyses fased on Marxism tenets. Finding show the obvious impact of imperialism on individuals and its effect on reinforcing racism domination and social classes struggle. Characters lives witness the impact of whites over natives and the hegemony of bourgeoisie over proletariat

Keywords: imperialism, racism, Marxist theory, class struggle, *Heart of darkness*.

ملخص

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى التطرق إلى تأثير الامبريالية في رواية الكاتب جوزيف كونراد "قلب الظلام" 1899 على شخصيتين الرئيسيتين مارلو و كورتز بحيث نسلط الضوء على أهم القضايا الاجتماعية المتدهورة التي برزت في الرواية ، عبر استغلال الفقراء و المعاناة التي كان يعيشها سكان الكونغو خلال القرن التاسع عشر ، والصراع الطبقي الذي قسم المجتمع إلى مجموعات من طبقة برجوازية و الطبقة العاملة ، كما ان الرواية تظهر الامبريالية و العنصرية التي قمعت السكان الأصليين من الطبقة السفلى ، حيث ركزنا على تحليل الرواية وفق النظرية الماركسية التي أظهرت عيوب نظام الطبقة في المجتمع الفيكتوري ، تظهر في شخصية مارلو الشخصية الأساسية في الرواية الذي سافر في رحلة عبر نهر الكونغو محاولا إيجاد كورتز أين شهد على حياة السكان الأصليين للمنطقة و ما يفعله البيض لهم .

الكلمات المفتاحية : الامبريالية، العنصرية، النظرية الماركسية، الصراع الطبقي، قلب الظلام .

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General Introduction

Background

Imperialism is a policy or ideologies extending the route over people and other countries, for extending political and economic access power often through employing hard power, especially military force, but also soft power. While related to the concepts of colonialism and empire, imperialism is a distinct concept that can apply to other forms of expansion and many forms of government. Conrad's story powerfully illustrated the special influence and cruelty of such exploitation. It implies a further judgment against all types of imperialism, even England, because of their complicity, belligerence and arrogant disruption of indigenou.

In *Heart of darkness* by Joseph Conrad's most read novella Marlow , the main character describe how Europeans dominated the Africans during their imperialism, reducing the natives of their country to a status only equal to that an animal , Marlow witnesses the inhumane slavery of Africans at the hands of whites .

Research problem

Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* explores how can racism contribute some societies, especially the African ones, who the victims. Thus, this research is carried out to investigate the issue of imperialism of Africans in Joseph Conrad's novel *Heart of darkness* by examining the case of Marlow and his affected by the personality of Kurtz which represents imperialism itself. The study investigates how Joseph Conrad shows the Imperialism in his novel *Heart of darkness* through Kurtz character.

Research questions

This problem raises three questions that the following research paper aims to answer:

- 1: how does Joseph Conrad represent imperialism in *Heart of Darkness* from a Marxist approach?
- 2: how Darkness impact in Kurtz's soul? And what is its influence in Marlow and Congo's natives?
- 3: what aspects of class struggle in Conrad's novel?

Hypothesis

This research questions direct us to hypothesis that Marlow sees Kurtz ways that he followed to access his purposes of power and decent position was wrong.

Research objectives:

To answer these questions, it is necessary to put forward the following statements:

1/The aim is to discover the impact of racism and imperialism on the characters.

2/The aim is to identify imperialism norms through Kurtz and Marlow and its impact on them.

Significance of the Study

Joseph Conrad has great influence in literature where he dealt with the issue of racism and imperialism in his novel *Heart of Darkness*, especially the Africans. Conrad is a great writer who aims to expose the suffer side of Africans. Therefore we wanted to understand the puzzle that's Marlow wanted to solve through his journey and what he discover at the end.

Methodology and the general approach

Heart of Darkness is a novel that deals with issue if imperialism and racism on Africans where were slavers in the hands of the white people even in their countries. Marlow represents conscious and subconscious thoughts were also based upon his own reactions to what he himself witnesses in the course of his travels through the Congo River.

Joseph Conrad adopt Marxist approach to his novel *Heart of Darkness* to provide a better understanding the concept of imperialism in the case of Marlow impact on Kurtz personality and his life in Congo. Another theory is also adopted and interests with other theory are psychoanalytical approach to help in understanding and to improve the mind and behaviors of Kurtz and Marlow moreover, we could adopt racism analysis to expose the main characters reasons behind admiration to imperialism.

Structure of the Dissertation

This dissertation is divided into three main chapters; chapter One is tackles the theoretical and methodology framework we present the Marxist Approach includes its definition and historical background and principles with criticism forward the influence of the theory in literature. Chapter Two represents the Victorian Era and its major themes of it with the reasons of writes "*Heart of Darkness*" in that period. Chapter Three discuss the analysis of imperialism using the main theory Marxist approach the effects on Marlowe's life and thinking by Kurtz's personality and his darkness.

Chapter One

Marxsim: historical background

Chapter one

1 The Marxist literary theory

Introduction

• *“the Marxist analysis has got nothing to do with what happened in Stalin’s Russia it is like blaming Jesus Christ for the Inquisition in Spain “ (Benn , 1925, 79)*

Marxist theory is one of the most important theories in the whole world political environment. Many countries are adapts this theory to guide their rules, especially the third world and Asia. In literary theory, a Marxist interpretation reads the text as an expression of contemporary class struggle. Literature is not simply a matter of personal expression or taste. It somehow relates to the social and political conditions of the time. How it relates is of course up for debate. In this chapter we will give the big importance to this theory to define it and to learn more about it.

1.1 The Father of Marxism Karl Marx

His full name is Karl Heinrich Marx I was born in the southwest German city of Teier in 05 May 1818, at the end of three decades of revolutionary upheaval and counterrevolutionary response that shaped the lives of his parents, strongly influenced his upbringing and education, and created political passions and political enemies that would remain with him throughout his life. He was philosopher, economist, historians, sociologist political theorist, journalist come up socialist revolutionary. He studied law and philosophy at University of Bonn and Berlin. Karl Marx traveled down the Moselle from Terier to Koblenz, and then by steamboat north along the Rhine to Bonn to begin his university studies in October 1835, he could have seen Halley’s comets, high in the night sky. In mystical thinking, comets are portents of great deeds, although an ever rationalist Marx would have rejected any connection between astral sings and his own destiny. His best-known titles are the 1848 The Communist manifesto and the three-volume das capital (1867- 1883). (Sperber , 2013)

1.2 Definition of the Marxist theory

Marxism is a social, political and economic theory originated by Karl Marx which focuses on this struggle between capitalists and the working class. Marx wrote that the power relationships between capitalists and workers were inherent exploitative and would inevitably create class conflict. Marx believed that the meaning of Marxism is to examine the effect of capitalism on labor, productivity and economic development and argues for worker revolution to overturn capitalism in favor of communism. Also we can define Marxism that it is a method socio-economic analysis that uses a Marxist interpretation of historical development, to understand class relations and social conflict as well as a dialectical perspective to view social transformation. (Chambre, 1947)

1.3 The principles of Marxism approach

It has been asserted that Marx followed certain principles to declare his works, let us briefly state these fundamental principles.

First, Hegel and Marx have dealt with the basic question how is man to be reconciled with himself and the world? Hegel gives his opinion that the mind of man passes through history and finally comes to realize what is the world for this relation between man and the world is truth. But Marx did not support this concept; for him he sees the opposite view of Hegel, he tries to understand and explain in the background of his own life. He interprets the world around him. Next, Both Hegel and Marx thought that man was the product of self-knowledge. But Hegel's concept of self-knowledge is associated with Spirit or absolute idea; Marx has rejected it but he tries to understand himself or the world around him through alienation. Alienation took a very important place in Marxist theory. Moreover, Marxism bases it on the alienation and exploitation of the majority, a system whose purpose is to get profit for some people rather than satisfying the needs of all. This describes capitalism, but one can imagine other systems that would present similar essential characteristics. Also, "The emancipation of workers must be the task of the workers themselves" this principle is inherent to real Marxism, which is democracy; it also means that democracy is the foundation for a new society. This society will have to be fairly constructed by its members. And, Internationalism is recognition of the common interests of the workers of the whole world and all of the need to struggle on a world scale. Then, the new list and analysis of history (the materialist conception of history). Finally, The recognition of the existence of social classes; the recognition of the profound inequalities and injustices; and the recognition that divided society into classes.

- These principles or some of them will be impressed by other political and social tendencies. Marxism did not is Olathe itself but the goal is to contribute to the constitution of movement of all of society. We're in the development of each will affect of all.

1.4 The History of Marxism

Marxism in the 19th · in the thoughts of the German radical philosopher and economist Karl Marx, with important contributions from his friend and collaborator Frederich Engels.

Together with Marx and Engels co-developed communist theory, they first met in September 1844 when they find out that they had similar views of philosophy and socialism they collaborated and roads work such as the holy family, which then primitive greater freedom of expression those other European countries. In January 1846, they returned to Brussels to establish the communist of correspondence committee.

In 1847, they start writing the communist manifesto 1848, based on goals the principal's of communism. After 6th week they probably should the 12000 word pamphlet them and they moved to Cologne where they publish Rheinischezeitung a political radical newspaper. In 1849, they had to leave Cologne for London. The Prussia authorities pressured the British government to expel marks and angles but Prime Minister Lord Jonah Russell refused it. After Marcus's def in 1883, and goes become the editor and translator of Marcus's writing, wiz his origins of the family private property and the state 1884 analyzing monogamous marriages dancing mail social dominating of women, a concept on the logs in communist, to do capitalist glasses economic domination of the working class and goes made intellectual significant contributions to feminist theory and Marxist feminism. After Marcos is def angles it it sad the second and the third volumes of Marcus's analysis and critic of capitalism. (Richard Ormerod? 2008)

1.5 Major Themes of Marxism

1.5.1 Social class

For Marx, communist manifesto Marx and Engels comments that history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle. The analysis of class divisions and the class struggles are important in developing the understanding of nature of capitalism. For Karl Marx, classes can define and structured by the relations concerned work and labor and

ownership or production. This economic factors control the social classes in capitalism in general more it was in the earlier societies. While earlier society is combined on different classes and groups, this classes can concerned not as economic factors for instance, priesthood, knights, or military elite .Marks, did not finish the manuscripts that would show this Vision so social class. Where he's writing concerned the social structure of capitalism the relationship between classes the dynamic struggle, the political power and classes, and the development of society, throw this it can develop the Marxism approach. Note that Hidden did not discuss the class, although the class structure of capitalism is implicit in the labor theory of value and can be derived from this theory.

1.5.2 Classes in capitalism

The main classes in capitalism are the bourgeoisie and the proletariat. However, there are other classes such as landlords, pity bourgeoisie, peasants, and lumpenproletariat but are not primary in terms of the dynamics of capitalism.

a/ Bourgeoisie

The capitalists are the owners of capital, who buys and exploiting workers, using the surplus value from employment of this labor power to accumulate or expand their capital. What is necessary, is the effective uses of this wealth to make itself expensive throw employment and exploitation of labor. Hysterically, the bourgeoisie began cities in European in the Middle Ages, with the industrial revolution, traders, crafts persons, industrialists, manufacturers and others who economic survival and ability to increase wealth come from trade commerce or industry. In order for each of these to expand their operation, they need greater freedom to market products and expand economic activities. In the struggle against the federal authorities (church and secular authorities) this class formed and took on a progressive rule. Which mean they helped in undermine the hierarchical and federal order and create historical progress. For someone's from this class, welcome by employing labor(industrial capital) , but for other it's come from trades(trade capital) , banking and finance (finance capital) industrial capitalist employ labor to create capital that become the leading sector of the bourgeoisie, whose economic activities ultimately changed society. In Britain, this class becomes dominant politically and ideologically by the 19th century. By employing workers, industrial capital created the surplus value that could take on the various forms such as a profit, interests and rent. (Tom 1983)

b/ Proletariat

They were the owners of labor power (they have the ability to work), and the just owners of labor power, with no other sources than the ability of working by their hands, bodies and minds. Considering these workers have no property in order to survive and obtain an income for themselves and their families, they must find employment work for an employer. This means that working for an employer in an exploitative social relationship.

This exploitative work relationship repeats or reproduces itself. If the capitalist employees have to achieve profits and accumulate capital, wages must be kept low. That means the proletariat is exploited, with the surplus less time (above that required for creating subsistence) worked by workers creating surplus products. While the workers produce, the products created by this labor are taken by the capitalist and sold, producing surplus value or profit for the capitalist but poverty for workers. This happened in everyday of labor processes, preventing workers from gaining ownership of property and recreating the conditions for further exploitation.

The antagonistic and contradictory nature of this system is evident as capitalists or something to reduce wages and make workers intensively, while workers have opposite sets of interests work and the labor processes in the capitalist mode of production are organized so that workers remain propertyless members of the proletariat. The surplus products and values created by workers turn into capital; which is accumulated.

Consequently, the proletariat's emergence began when the aristocracy began to suffer financial difficulties in the later of Middle Ages. Many who supported that you work for aristocracy class lost their livelihood. Using enclosures, chasing in agricultural products, and denying peasants access to common land and resources, landowners transformed land into pasture land for raising sheep, or lands for the farmers who start to develop grain and livestock production.

Also the population grew considerably, and in some areas forced labor (slavery, endangered servants, poor, and prison) was used. Why some people are living in a rural industry and the craft production, factory production began to endearment this as well in the 18th and 19th centuries. Together, these changes created a large class of landless and the propertyless people who had no choice but to be members of the proletariat. These people become free wage laborers. Today we still talk of free labor markets. Why is the relationship between workers and capitalists or between work and capitalism might be not seem more than economic relation between of equal meeting equals, markets shows how it is exploitative relationship not just exploitative, but also social contradictory, with the interests of the two

partners in a direct relationship. In the same time, the contradictory also work side by side which mean those are needed for production.

The conductor relationship has a struggle, leads to periodic Brewster of strikes, crisis, political struggles and ultimately to the overthrow of bourgeoisie rule by the proletariat. Class conflicts of this sort results in a historical change and is the motive force in the history of capitalism. (Tom 1983)

C /Landlords

Beside bourgeoisie and proletariat , in Britain very important historically, and there are some families still keep their wealth till today (the Royal family) , for marks, they considered the marginal class, one powerful and dominating but also it's a central rule in production and social organization. For keeping their welfare, some owners transform their wealth in land into landed capital. Labour may not be directly employed by landowners, but the land is used as a means by which capital can be expanded. (Hedls and Giddens, p 1982)

d/ Betty bourgeoisie and middle class

Constitutes "the small manufacturer", the shopkeeper, the artisan, the peasant. What distinguishes these characteristics is that own some property, but not enough to make all workers by employees or workers. Members of this class should work for surviving which has double existing such the employers and workers. Because this double rule, member of this class has divided interests, usually wishing to preserve private property and property rights, but with interest mostly opposed to those of the capitalist class. This characteristics injury splits well, being geographically disappeared, so that is difficult for it to act as a class. Mark's expected that this class would disappear with capitalism development, with members moving into the bourgeoisie or into the working class, depending on whether or not they were successful. Many of the members of this class have done this, but at the same time, this class keeper recreating itself in different forms. (Giddens and Held, p 1983)

e/ Lumpenproletariat

Marx has mentioned the dangerous class or the social scum. Among this group are ruined and adventures offshoots of the bourgeoisie, vagabonds, discharge jailbirds, pickpockets, brothel keepers, and beggars....ect. He did not concern this class as that terms which creating socialism, if anything can consider it has conservative effects. Some writers and analysis have considered them as Revolutionary power. The main reasons for mention that is to confirm the

capitalism use's for people and discards people, not treating them as human. Today's representatives are the homeless and the underclass (Boottomore p292).

f/ Peasantry and farmers

Marx considered the peasantry to be recognized, dispersion and incapable of carrying out change. Marx also expect this class to disappeared, with move most of them from the land to proletariat. It might be more successfully the landlords or the capitalist farmers. With respect to family farmers as a group come up much the same could be said with that marks did not have much to say to these things as a group. (Boottomore,p 292)

1.5.3 Racism

One of the greatest errors in Fraser's examination of Marcus's theory is that she does not address Marcus's conception of race.(Marx , Capital p 932). That means for fosters to Marcus's theory that her focuses on expropriation. Full marks like virtually all 19th century thinkers, holds a biological conception of race, for instance Marx contention that" a negro is a Negro, and it is only certain relations that he become a slave" (Marx p 932) . According to this view, it determined the person gender biologically, objective facts about that person. For sure, marks understand the meaning of the consequence of being a member in a race stops upon a wider set of socially constructed relations, such as the mood of production. Besides that, the race according to Marx is a financial fact considering as a hair color. We can conclude that, Marcus's theory needs a concept of race in a place. (Joseph Murphy p 13) .

1.5.4 Equality

For Marx, economic and political thinking, it is a found that he refers to the identical social position of man in a classless societies. This concept leads to discuss equality from the realm of the state to realm without classes. In this way, Marx position concerning equality does not indicate a defense of everyone's equality in terms of their personal needs; but defense to deny the social classes ; as a result for that, the equality between everyone according to the economic and social position. This is equivalent to saying that only with the socialization of the means of production, and that's for Marx, the private property that should be suppressant is that of the means of productions with free people to maintain their differences and maintain cultivate habits and values that better correspondent to stimulate and material income of electivity that gives the priority to the satisfaction of social needs. In this way, the concept of equivalent related to concept of freedom considering that of Liberty that

only in a society of economic and social well-being, free from the stress of existing whether man has the ability to conveying the culture with ethics for everyone. Only in a society free of social classes can the state become extinct and thus. Also for Marx, equality and Liberty can be measured based on the realization of labor as a vital and internal need. (Jonthan Spreber, 2013)

1.6 Marxism theory in literature

In 20th century, literally criticism has witnessed influences by many schools of critical. One of the major schools is Marxist theory. In this title we will highlight the main points of Marcos sister literally criticism and studies the Marxist approach to literature.

For many philosophers Marxism and literature are work side by side to look at life as its leave the by the human in this world. Marxist has analyze the fact of existing societies is the history of class struggle. In Marxist approach to literature we have the following factors which need to be discussed:

- This discussion is for class history and glass struggle in literary text.
- Struggle means there is a domination and depression. Where that is someone has to win and someone has to lose. It belongs to particular society and culture.
- There are influence factures like political much is behind the production of a text like the texts is for whom? And why ?

This approach it took the life struggle of working class, whether of farming or factory or any other field. It describes them when they wear working, struggling or achieving their goals. Such ideas of socialist realism inspired literature and in Russian, it believes that writing is influenced by both the author's subjective factors and the influence she or he receives from her or his surroundings. For Marx and Angles considered literature as a production of the bay structure according to marks the base tractor determines the super structure predominantly. The boys includes all the necessary conditions behind a production , according to Terry Eagleton , the English critic and cultural theorist, is too much only concerned with how novels gets publish it and whether they mentioned the working class but also to give her a sensitive attention to its forms , styles and meanings as the product of particular history, Terry says that at text cannot know itself, so the Marxist criticism tries to explore about the hidden necessary conditions which make the text possible. (Terry, 1976)

Marxist approach also study is the social closet to which and other belongs and the effects of the author on her or his society. it explorer how the other has interpreted the society,

culture and political systems. It emphasize on the social reality, it does not give important to the aesthetics of the text.

1.7 Criticism of Marxist theory

Some philosopher and historian of ideas such as LesokKolakowski have criticized of the Marcus's theory and they see it easier and complete or ambiguous in many places. It took could be applied in many ways without money first early inferring its principles. Also San Marcos sister have criticized the academic institutionalization of Marxism for being too shallow and detached from political action.

In predicting and advocating devotion Marx underestimated the ability of capitalist states to absorb and adapt to the demands of the working class. Marx's arguments that revolution and bloodshed were inevitable disturbed many who might otherwise have been sympathetic; Marxism for instance, rejects the Greco-Roman-Christian tradition which insists on the primacy of the individual conscience. Marxist responds that, when the bourgeois interests of trade and empire were under threat. Whatever the merits of the argument, many found the ideas and activities of the revolutionary abhorrent.

Marx's vision of a post-revolutionary society was at best vague. For those leading the butting of new societies to develop their own interpretation in the face of particular issue they faced. The reality of Lenin's and Stalin's Russia and later Mao's china have provided plenty of evidence for the critics claim that hopes of Marx and his followers were ill founded and utopian. (Rj Ormemod, p 1581)

In sociology the two other founding father of the modern discipline, Max Weber (1864-1920) and Emile Durkheim (1858-1917), elaborated their own ideas to some extent in conscious opposition to the Marxist theory of society. When Marx interpreted the development of capitalism in terms of "alienation", Weber developed the concept of "rationalization". Also his general criticism of historical materialism was that it constituted only one possible perspective on history. He argued that people were also affected by the ideas they used to interpret their economic conditions. Rationalization promotes principled reasoning so that people can discuss and debate issues in terms of rational principles.

Durkheim placed less emphasis on economic conditions. For him the crisis of modern society was a moral one. His famous studies of increase the suicide rate that accompanied industrialization demonstrated that they struggling to do so. This crisis from a lack of social cohesion: a stable set of meanings and values is prerequisite for a people's healthy existence. People must be integrated into groups in order to feel fulfilled. Thus Durkheim emphasizes

what holds society together whereas Marx's emphasizes the forces that blow in apart. (Rj Ormerod p 1582)

Another critic of Marx's theory was Eduard Benstien (1850-1932), he sees that a polarization of classes was not taking place because of the rising levels of living and growth of the middle class. This line of thinking has developed into debates about new classes and structures and the study of the role of non-class groups such as ethnic groups and the women's movement. (Gidden and Held, 1982)

These criticisms and different perspectives have been met by the Marxists theoreticians with counter arguments. Despite political setbacks and historical developments, Marxists continued to believe that the Marxist conceptions of human nature, the role of classes in social change, revolution as a vehicle for change, and the structure of socialist society are major component of a very distinctive and powerful theory of society. (Bottmore, 1991, p126)

Marxists have attempted to come to terms with rise of new social movement particularly those inspired by an ecological or feminist perspective. (Mc Lellan 1995, p 527)

Conclusion:

So this part, we think the truth that the deepest historical source of Marxism is the humanistic. Protest against the enslavement and oppression of the human person. This means that Marxism is one of the most important results I would even say the supreme achievement of the entire preceding development of progressive social thought.

Chapter Two

Victorian Era: a Historical Context

Chapter two

1. The Historical Context

Introduction

Great Britain has known several eras and among all the historical periods that England had passed through, the Victorian era is considered one of the most important period that Changed the history of Britain and the world; through this chapter we try to present those essential events that effects the Victorians and the whole society.

2.1The Victorian Era

The term "Victorian" was first used in 1851, the Victorian era was the period of Queen Victoria's reign, it was the second-longest reign of the British monarch after the Elizabeth monarch. Queen Victoria ruled Britain over 60 years, from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901; the Victorian era plays an important role in the history of Great Britain. According to E. Burns, England from 1827, until 1901 was so powerful and strong and it reached the height of its power (154), England witnessed a lot of changes at all levels economy, policy.....etc. And the nineteenth century was a watershed in Britain's history and Great Britain became a world imperial power. (Asa , 1988),

The period that precede the Victorian was not famous and great as the Victorian age, the Victorian era has known remarkable shifts, it was a period of rapid growth in urban Scale and population and the number of population was about 2 million in London and then the number of population increased to become about 6 million; also, Britain Became the most powerful country in the world (Carter and McRae, p 27, 2016) because of the inventions in manufacturing, economy and the development of railways that related between the big towns and the steam-powered vessels used for trade. However, many events and problems ended the Victorian age like the Crimean War (1854-6), the Indian Mutiny of 1857 and the death of Prince Albert, the husband of Queen Victoria, in 1861. (Williams, p 239, 2004)

However, man protestants opposed and rejected the monarchy because they claimed that Queen Victoria cannot rule Britain anymore "The monarchy experienced a republican crisis in the 1870s, the Queen having become unpopular though her seclusion after the death of her husband in 1861" (Williams, p104, 2004).

The Victorian era witnessed several successive and rapid events that change the society, especially in terms of economics, politics and religion; some of those events contributed to its development and progress and some other events caused many problems and struggles that reflected the bad image of development and industry on society. According to that, Burgers Wilson said that: The Victorian age thus had a large number of problems to face. In many ways, it was an age of progress of railway-building, steamships reforms of all kinds but it was also an age of doubt. There was too much poverty, too much injustice, too much ugliness and too little certainty about faith or morals thus it became also an age of crusaders and reforms and theorist.

Moreover, England was the homeland and the birthplace of the industrial revolution and then it became a top nation due to the development in trade and industry. As a result, for this revolution, the Victorians and England as a country had known a great change in their daily life because of the development brought about by the industrial revolution; it was a great revolution that gave the Britons a newly developed life and created a new technological world that facilitates the life circumstances of the Victorians, also the developed inventions in different fields that debuted in England such as the Liverpool and Manchester Railway which Opened in 1830 to be the first public railroad line in the world.

2.1.1 Social Life during the Victorian Age

The Victorian era was a period of extreme social inequality where the English society was divided into three classes; the nobility, upper class, composed of Aristocrats, nobles, Dukes and other wealthy families, they were having a better living condition. The middle class was spreading and expanding in society, and the lower class was mostly called the working-class which includes the destitute people.

The Victorian period was very prosperous for the two first classes, "it made up about fifteen per cent of the population in 1837and perhaps 25 per cent in 1901"(Mitchell, p 19, 2016). The middle class was highly regarded as a group of merchants, bankers, doctors, shopkeepers businessman, manufacturersetc. The working class was the weakest and the poorest class in the society; these three classes had political, economic and social differences. Especially between the upper class and the lower class, the upper class was the superior and the ruling class because it has power, authority and dominance among the other two classes. Consequently, throughout Victoria's reign, Victorian society witnessed dangerous and serious conditions. Within this regard, Sharpe and Handerseson reported that "the sixty-three years of Victorian reign were marked by momentous and intimidating social changes"(451). As a

result of the industrial revolution, the upper class was getting more rich and wealthy; they were investing their wealth in factories and agriculture while the working class was living in extreme poverty. Several reforms have been taken by the British political system to give broad categories and classes of British society their electoral and political digested rights by the aristocracy. These reforms were undertaken by the parliament to avert any kind of political rebellion; the major goal of those three reform Bills was to extend the franchise, the first Reform Bill 1832 was a response to many years of people criticizing the electoral system as unfair, the act resulted in the right to vote to all males having a property, it raised the number of individuals to vote, increasing the measure of the electorate by 50-80 percent and admitting a total of one out of six adult males to vote. The working class also has the right to vote by the second act of the Reform Bill 1867 and the third reform act of 1884-85 extended the vote to agricultural workers.(Cody, 2002)

2.1.2 Women in Victoria Era

In the 19th century, women lived in an era of gender inequality; they had few legal and social rights and were expected to remain subject to their father or husbands. They were still dominant in many ways; for example women were confined to the home where they seek for freedom and self-respect. So it was the Victorian period of progress, reform, industrialization, and social upheaval that saw England Radical changes through the Victorian era. These changes affected England society in culture and politics, economics and social norms. However the impact of the Industrial Revolution in which England became the first Industrial nation. Although it was an era of growth, it was also a period of trouble and anxiety. Thus, the Victorian period was a period of transition.

Working Women

Women throughout the Victorian Era were treating them as secondary citizens to men in Society. Where they were very limited within their classes and they were even more restricted in the work place. Working-class women held many positions, but they were not paid the same wages as male's colleagues in work (even if their production were higher in number and quality); middle and upper class life was different from the working class life. The women of these high- classes had different job options and could even be found an unemployed woman, they has different working roles within the Victorian Era. However, all of these women have issues in society that it restricts them from making progress and

advancing their lives (or their families). The roles of these women failed, were some of the most common roles that women could be found working during this era.

Beside that there were the factory girl, the idle women, the future nun or convent girl, and even different classes for some women. However; all these roles were dictated to them and for them by men. The women were never in charge of their own fate within the working roles because of the fact that they were Women. During this period, society made it impossible for women to make any progress “Whatever their social rank, in the eyes of the law women were second-class citizens” (Gallagher, p57, 1985).

The law which society produced and the expectations as whole, discouraged women in the labor field at all. Victorians believed that a woman’s proper and only place was to be within a household environment. The women were expected to marry, have children, and keep a nice household. Those were the only acceptable roles for women during that era. They were involved in the work place were viewed as being damaged and somehow less worthy. In this period women’s have sharing in Many things also as writers, they enjoys a good life and a good reputation from those women who are often excused from brutal labor circumstances and hours encountered by women. They worked to death not only because they were subject to lower wages and less profitable jobs, but because once women entered the working-class, there was no way to advance out of it because society will always view the working women as below them. So the women within the novels struggled daily to make it through the day without being harassed or taunted by men.

Women were second-class to men that were open to more crimes against them without any consequences for the man who commits the crime. This made rapes, sexual harassment in the workplace, sexual threats while going to and from work, and even physical threats common to women workers. So although the women in the texts come from different classes and hold different working roles, they all face the same issue, they are all working women. And in this era working women did not have a fair chance in society. These women workers of the factories, idle women, prostitutes, governesses, and even mothers all were forced into these positions by what options were available to them. The women during The Victorian Era (if even they had different titles) were all working because their income and wages would not suffice to support their family. This was not limited to just unmarried women, when the men did not have a sufficient income the women had to work in order to help and support their families. This extra effort and help from the women did not have a large impact on the

household income; however, because they were paid less than the men because they were female workers.

This literature shows women during the Victorian Era were unable to make any true advancement because they were already in their pre-determined class at birth. Women were in a position where they had to work to survive and to put into an even worse situation of the other women of their class would shun them and make their lives very difficult on a daily basis. (Barrett, 2013)

2.1.3 Victorian Literature

The Victorian literature is the literature written in England during the reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 -1901; the literature of this era was preceded by romanticism and was followed by modernism and realism. The nineteenth century is often regarded as a high point in European literature and Victorian literature, including the works of Emily and Charlotte Bronte, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Thomas Hardy and Oscar Wilde. However, the novel becomes the leading form of the English literature "the novel as a form became hugely popular and it was the novelists rather than the poets who became the literary representatives of the age" (Carter and McRae, p 244, 2016).

The novels had dominated the literary marketplace in form three volumes, because it reflected the great social changes of this period, it was famous for the middle class especially for the educated class; it received widespread attention and it was very popular. Most writers often represented social reality through describing and delivering messages about social problems; besides, adventure tales, science fiction, detective fiction and fantasy. However, the novel and its events convey the issues and the suffering of the Victorian society "novels were valued for being a fictitious meditation on and the meditation of reality" (Brantlinger and Bothering, p 388, 2002).

Charles Dickens exemplifies and expresses the Victorian problems better than any other writer "the richness of the picture, drawing as it does from all aspects of Victorian life, provides a seemingly endless resource for understanding issues of class, gender, race and nationality in Victorian England and for examining the fitful processes through which changes affected or stalled"(Brantlinger and B.Thesing, p 396, 2002). His novels were a variety of vivid characters and plot complications; he was known by his famous novels such as *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield* and *Hard times* which shows the negative aspects of social

class on the Victorian society and the inequality between people in rights and the miserable life of the poor families and the child labor.

2.2 Industrial Revolution (1837-1901)

The industrial revolution began about 1780 in Britain; it is defined as "a wave of gadgets that swept Britain" (Mokyr, p 17, 1985). It is also defined as "a revolution in men's access to the means of life, in control of their ecological environment, in their capacity to escape from the tyranny and niggardliness of nature [...]it opened the road of men to complete mastery of their physical environment, without the inescapable need to exploit each other "(Mokyr, p 5, 1985). The term industrial revolution was first used by the English economic historian Arnold Toynbee to describe the economic evolution in Britain. The term is taken to mean a set of changes that occurred in Britain between about 1760 and 1830 that irreversibly altered Britain's economy and society"(Mokyr, p 6, 1985).

The industrial revolution was known and marked as a period of development that transformed largely rustic, Agricultural communities in Europe and America into industrialized , urban ones.

Great Britain was the homeland of the industrial revolution when it was appear for the first time in 18th century and then it speed to Europe and other countries of the whole world. The industrial revolution is comes as a result of agriculture revolution and then it moved the way to grow the industrial revolution of the British economy throughout the Victorian age rushed its climax, Britain become a leading industrial power; Britain mastered and managed all industries from easiest to the difficult; by 1830 Britain had become a leader in a variety of industries, from papermaking to engineering to chemicals. (Mokyr, p 30, 1999)

Moreover, the industrial revolution did not only involve the development of industries but it also affected the society, and it was a powerful force for social change. It increased the overall amount of wealth and distributed it more widely than had been than case in earlier centuries, helping to enlarge in middle class, however, the crafts work in or near their homes, with factory system and mass production send large numbers of people including woman and children, it too long hours of dangerous and hard in work in most time their miserable conditions give rise the Union movements in the mid -19th century.

2.2.1 Causes of the Industrial Revolution

The industrial revolution began in Britain first in the 18th century it quickly spread causes for the industrial revolution, including: the emergence of capitalism, European imperialism, and the effects of the agricultural revolution. (Levine, p 97, 2010)

Capitalism

Was a central component a basic for the rise of the industrialization .the historians indicate capitalism was popular in the industrial revolution as laissez-faire capitalism was laissez-faire it also market as free living us alone. That's mean the government must be out of the capitalism economics affairs.

The next major factor that helped the development of the industrial revolution was the impact of European Imperialism, was not a directly cause of the industrial revolution. (Crunch 2017)

Imperialism

Is generally defined as when one nation controls another region through military, political or economic control. After the age of exploration the powerful states of Europe (Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Belgium...etc.). These states have to expand and create vast imperialism, large sections vast empires. During this period the period the historian was refer to as the age of Imperialism , a large sections of the world came under European control , including : north America , south America , Africa , India , Australia and China. In general, the age of Imperialism occurred before and during the rise of the colonies of this era in this era in the late 19th century and 20th century. (Alam, M. Shahid, 1998)

As result , historians often view the industrial revolution as a cause of the later stages of the age of imperialism the final cause of the industrial revolution was the effects that created by the agricultural revolution.

Agricultural Revolution

To have begun in the 17th century and continued throughout the centuries that followed a long side the industrial revolution. In general this cause included new farming techniques, the use of machinery and the increase of private land ownership .the agricultural revolution was one of the most important causes of the industrial revolution. where it grow up in Britain in 17th s it involved inventions and innovations which led to increase in the production of food as it contributed to the increase in the population this benefitted the industrial revolution in two ways :

- First: was the increase in the population, as it helped produce the labor force that contributed to the revolution.
- Second: the large population has created a market for highly sold goods which helped the owners of the factions to make a profit of the sale of their goods. (Crunch, 2017)

2.3 Imperialism in Literature

“His Majesty’s dominion, on much the sun never sets” John Wilson.

During the 18th century , of gait Britain to the big –scale industries , and with this started to establishing commercial competitive companies , the companies of East India and others to searching for material from an other countries , where the British began being absorbed in to the trade communities , and finally take it steps to bypass governments .

As the British impaireer developed, however it was not without a great opposition and conflict one of the largest challenges came when the African colonies revolted in the end of independence, and after losing.

Therefore, native population remained poor and did not share in colony’s . In addition a lost of newly independent countries find themselves under authoritarian rule or “inheritance rule” , in countries control the economy, and implementing various protective measures, such as high duties on goods . Under these regimes , the economies of the newly independent countries have become stifling, which led to wide resentment among the citizens , this colonialism was characterized by building the infrastructure of its colonies like (i.e. roads , schools, and hospitals), however, from its remnants, some countries are suffering from monitory capability and coherent leadership to keep them running efficiently.

“Britain and France insisted on the use of their languages in their colonies. Following independence, however, most of the former colonies attempted in varying degrees and with varying success to replace the imperial language with indigenous ones” (Huntington). While indigenous languages were preserved and often used in literature as a “backlash” against colonialism, English became the first or secondary language of most former colonies. In many countries a “blending” of English and indigenous languages has occurred and has evolved into its own dialect over time “nation and language”.

In addition, English is used almost universally at the university level and throughout the world for intercultural communication (Huntington). Since missionaries were usually among the first “settlers” of colonized areas, religious conversion also occurred. Missionaries established churches, schools, and hospitals, and introduced Christianity, “modern” education and health care. The conversion to Christianity also affected the traditional society and religious practices of the colonial regions.

In the aftermath of British colonialism, many citizens of the former colonies shared a cultural association with the former mother country, England. In the post-colonial decades, a phenomenon called “reverse colonialism” occurred in Great Britain. As labor shortages persisted after World War II, immigrants from the “New Commonwealth” settled in England results an increasingly diverse and multicultural Great Britain.

Among the settlers were a number of immigrant writers from India, Africa and the West Indies. These writers were not writing about the post-colonial experience or the experience of colonial immigration, they also highlighted to the “identity struggle” of colonized peoples and created a new kind of British literature. (Gandhi, 2012)

2.3.1 Literature from the Age of Imperialism

The conquest of the earth, which mostly means the taking it away from those who have a different complexion or slightly flatter noses than ourselves, is not a pretty thing when you look into it too much.

Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness

We feel now that our rule over these territories can only be justified if we can show that it adds to the happiness and prosperity of the people, and I maintain that our rule does, and has, brought security and I maintain that our rule does, and has, brought security and peace and comparative prosperity to countries that never knew these blessings before.- *Joseph Chamberlain*, the True Conception of Empire

The literature of the British Empire is mainly divided into two different camps that reflect the different opinions of the time. One camp believed that it was the Empire's duty to expand its borders to improve the quality of life in the world, and it saw that colonialism had a positive effect in literary terms.

The other camp believed the Empire's betterment of the world was a front to conceal the exploitation of the indigenous population by foreign citizens in the colonies. Where Conrad in *Heart of Darkness* gives the reader a very vivid picture of what is wrong with imperialism. *Hobson's Imperialism: A Study* also points out the flaws of the imperial system, noting that the system does not improve the quality of life of the colonies, but instead that they are exploited for their wealth. (Hunter, 2015)

The literature from the Post Colonial Era

With the end of World War II, the British Empire fell, which the colonial countries were gaining the independence of one country at a time. The writers of these colonies began to compose their literary works in English. This was the most dramatic geographical transformation of English literature in history. These writers recount their local traditions while describing their experiences in their time in the British Empire.

Some examples of these post-colonial writers are:”Whole Soyinka, Nadine Grimmer, Derek Walcott, V.S. Naipaul, and J.M. Coetzee, all of which were winners of the Nobel Prize”

Postcolonial literature dealt with many issues. Some common themes might be: the influences of the Empire on the way of life of the colony, how a person educated at the time of the British colonies relates to his previous generation , or the psychological state that resulted from other experiences of the influence of the Empire. (Boehmer, Elleke 1986)

Past Colonialism released that even though the colonies era has Finishing yet, but the practices have not come to an end now has turned it face into neo-colonialism.

In past colonialism perspective, literary works emerged to unveil subjugation, injustice, violence, discrimination, inequality, to the marginal and subaltern people, so that from postcolonial production yielded social and political products. Postcolonial literature is a kind of literary work which describes realistic experience of what really happens around us and to remind doesn't just shut our future and society. (Greenblatt, 1832)

Conclusion

In conclusion the Victorian Era is the great change in world , had a huge impact on England . This period set the stage for the higher classes of England. It was a big difference from the earlier years. Which many important people and inventions came out of the Victorian Era that still help us today. People fail to realize that things they use everyday , were invented in the Victorian Era. So not only was the Victorian Era important to England, but everywhere else in the world as well. The era ended in 1901, when Queen Victoria died. It still lives on today through music, literature, and art. This era will always be remembered as a great time in history when Queen Victoria ruled

Chapter Three

Heart of Darkness: A Marxist Approach

Chapter Three

1. Practical Part

Introduction

In this chapter, we focus on Joseph Conrad's novel *Heart of Darkness*, through this part we intend to uncover several points and to spotlight on the heart of imperialism itself the route of darkness according to Marxism because the truth commodity's the people and Charles Marlow that have been exploited under imperialistic rule and the personality of Kurtz.

Joseph Conrad biography

Joseph Conrad was born on December 3, 1857 near Berdichev, in the Russian-ruled Polish province of Podolia. Christened Joseph Teodor Conrad, he was the first and only child of Apollo and Evelina Nalecz Korzeniowski, whose marriage in May 1856 celebrated the ultimate triumph of Apollo over the objection of Evelina's family to his suit.

When Joseph was quite young, his father was exiled to Sebirai on suspicion of plotting against the Russian government. After the death of Conrad's mother, his father sent him to his uncle in Krakow to be educated, and it was the last time he saw his father.

He traveled to Marseilles when he was seventeen and spent the next twenty years as a sailor. He signed on to an English ship in 1878, and eight years later he became a British subject.

In 1889, he began his first novel, *Almayer's Folly*, and began actively searching for a way to fulfill his boyhood dream of travelling to the Congo. He took command of a steamship in the Belgian Congo in 1890, and his experiences in the Congo came to provide the outline for *Heart of Darkness*. Conrad died in 1924. (Meyer, p 396, 1967)

3.1 Plot summary of "*Heart of Darkness*"

Heart of Darkness centers around Marlow, an introspective sailor, and his journey up the Congo River to meet Kurtz, reputed to be an idealistic man of great abilities. Marlow takes a job as a riverboat captain with the Company, a Belgian concern organized to trade in the Congo. As he traveled to Africa and then up to the Congo, Marlow encounters widespread inefficiency and brutality in the Company stations. The native inhabitants of the region have

been forced into the Company's service, and they suffer terribly from overwork and ill treatment at the hands of the Company's agents. The cruelty and squalor of imperial enterprise contrasts sharply with the impassive and majestic jungle that surrounds the white man's settlements, making them appear to be tiny islands amidst a vast darkness.

Marlow arrives at the Central Station, run by the general manager, an unwholesome, conspiratorial character. He finds that his steamship has been sunk and spends several months waiting for parts to repair it. His interest in Kurtz grows during this period. The manager and his favorite, the brick maker, seem to fear Kurtz as a threat to their position. Kurtz is rumored to be ill, making the delays in repairing the ship all the more costly. Marlow eventually gets the parts he needs to repair his ship, and he and the manager set out with a few agents (whom Marlow calls pilgrims because of their strange habit of carrying long, wooden staves wherever they go) and a crew of cannibals on a long, difficult voyage up the river. The dense jungle and the oppressive silence make everyone aboard a little jumpy, and the occasional glimpse of a native village or the sound of drums works the pilgrims into frenzy.

Marlow and his crew come across a hut with stacked firewood, together with a note saying that the wood is for them but that they should approach cautiously. Shortly after the steamer has taken on the firewood, it is surrounded by a dense fog. When the fog clears, the ship is attacked by an unseen band of natives, who fire arrows from the safety of the forest. The African helmsman is killed before Marlow frightens the natives away with the ship's steam whistle. Not long after, Marlow and his companions arrive at Kurtz's Inner Station, expecting to find him dead, but a half-crazed Russian trader, who meets them as they come ashore, assures them that everything is fine and informs them that he is the one who left the wood. The Russian claims that Kurtz has enlarged his mind and cannot be subjected to the same moral judgments as normal people. Apparently, Kurtz has established himself as a god with the natives and has gone on brutal raids in the surrounding territory in search of ivory. The collection of severed heads adorning the fence posts around the station attests to his "methods." The pilgrims bring Kurtz out of the station-house on a stretcher, and a large group of native warriors pours out of the forest and surrounds them. Kurtz speaks to them, and the natives disappear into the woods.

The manager brings Kurtz, who is quite ill, aboard the steamer. A beautiful native woman, apparently Kurtz's mistress, appears on the shore and stares out at the ship. The Russian implies that she is somehow involved with Kurtz and has caused trouble before through her influence over him. The Russian reveals to Marlow, after swearing him to

secrecy, that Kurtz had ordered the attack on the steamer to make them believe he was dead in order that they might turn back and leave him to his plans. The Russian then leaves by canoe, fearing the displeasure of the manager. Kurtz disappears in the night, and Marlow goes out in search of him, finding him crawling on all fours toward the native camp. Marlow stops him and convinces him to return to the ship. They set off down the river the next morning, but Kurtz's health is failing fast.

Marlow listens to Kurtz talk while he pilots the ship, and Kurtz entrusts Marlow with a packet of personal documents, including an eloquent pamphlet on civilizing the savages which ends with a scrawled message that says, "Exterminate all the brutes!" The steamer breaks down, and they have to stop for repairs. Kurtz dies, uttering his last words—"The horror! The horror!" the presence of the confused Marlow. Marlow falls ill soon after and barely survives. Eventually he returns to Europe and goes to see Kurtz's intended (his fiancée). She is still in mourning, even though it has been over a year since Kurtz's death, and she praises him as a paragon of virtue and achievement. She asks what his last words were, but Marlow cannot bring himself to shatter her illusions with the truth. Instead, he tells her that Kurtz's last word was her name.

3.2 *Heart of darkness* in Victorian Age

During the Victorian age, named after the reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901) Great Britain seized overseas territories in order to increase its own holdings and enhance its prestige, to secure trade routes, to obtain raw materials and to produce a market for its own goods. Gained speed colonies, particularly in Africa. However, the European countries were also interested to taking over most of African colonies this resulted many problems in African colonies. During this period, many writers tried to give an image about the colonizers.

In 1902, Joseph Conrad wrote his novel "Heart of Darkness". He writes about Congo and what happened when it was under the control of European settlers. Who were trying to exploit people and take advantage from the natural resources in their lands? Joseph's work on this novel has been famous around the world as an outstanding piece of writing that students and professors alike will study. It got much fun and so much attention, Conrad had a goal to write such a novel. Where he wanted to expose people's evil, uncensored and believable. He wrote mostly from his own experience when he explored the Congo in 1890. He wanted to show that evil is a human entity, which anyone acting without the requirement or moral restraint can become so degenerated that anything is possible. Remember the old doctor, - "It would be interesting for science to watch the mental changes of individuals, on the spot."

Joseph Conrad, p. 162). In this case Conrad spoke of how people's minds change. People can become imperceptible monsters, killing innocents without a single thought.

Everyone is capable of evil. When reading *Heart of Darkness*, there are thoughts that most of those actions depicted by the characters must undoubtedly be exaggerated. When our society is really more comfortable talking about evil as something outside of people than acknowledging that it is within us, and that we are just as good at becoming monsters as those we consider evil.

Joseph Conrad wrote to expose the baleful operations happening all the time in our world. He wanted to expose the ugliness on the planet that all people are responsible for. *Heart of Darkness* is only shocking to readers because it isn't edited to make people look true and fair. Joseph wrote to be honest about what he saw in the Congo. Conrad presented an alarming but forthright story that reflected what he saw in society, and that divulged the darkness wrapped in our hearts. (Buchroth, 2015)

3.3 Imperialism in *Heart of Darkness*

The thought of being the superior race played an important role in many scenes and dialogues in "*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad". He shows the imperialist exploitation of a backward. Conrad's treatment of the theme of white imperialism was influenced by his own visit to the Congo and his exploration of that dark country; and his rendering of Marlow's conscious and sub-conscious thoughts was also based upon his own reactions to what he had himself witnessed in the course of his travels through the Congo. Here are some great examples of imperialism:

here was a touch of madness in the proceeding, a sense of lugubrious drollery in the sight; and it was not dissipated by somebody on board emphasizing me seriously there was a camp of— enemies!— (Section 1, Page 7)

Here we can see an example of imperialism, since they refer to them as "*their enemies*". It shows the competition between the Europeans and the natives. As we can see, they call them their enemies, which is why we can infer they want to take over Charlie Marlow •

As Marlow travels from the outer station to the central station and finally up the river to the inner station, he encounters scenes of torture, cruelty, and near slavery.(Section 1)

The example above shows racism and imperialism; the way Belgians treat the natives so they can surrender to them. Also, slavery is commonly attached to imperialism and here we can see how people were treated like slaves. They are treated this way so they can see that the Belgians are stronger.

3.4 Imperialism on the Main Characters

In Joseph Conrad novel, imperialism played an important role in spreading its influence on the most important characters, as it was embodied through their behaviors and speeches.

Marlow

He symbolizes the positive side of imperialism, Marlow as the main character realizes the evil that negative imperialism has caused and decided, it is truly unnecessary, when Marlow states 'had got a heavenly mission to civilize you', he expresses his good intentions to help the Africans progress and advance, furthermore, when he says 'I was importer', Marlow recognizes the fact that he is an invader into a foreign land yet he sticks to his moral values. Also, Marlow has experience in the Congo clearly, show that the white man that Hatfield to perform his function.

Kurtz

He symbolizes a larger more abstract antagonist; European imperialism Marlow makes the connection between Kurtz and European explicit when he reveals Kurtz's parentage: 'his mother was half English and his father was half French' all you ever contributed to the making of Kurtz. Here Marlow refers to more than just Kurtz's family pedigree. Kurtz who descends into madness makes him the clear stand but I meant of corruption and evil in the novella. All this norms helped make Kurtz the man he became in the Congo by extension the corrosion of psychology also mirrors the breakdown of the logic behind European imperialism. This logic of imperialism is black and white similar contradiction supposedly civilizing mission yet; supposedly enterprise based on the efficient extraction of resources. In the end, Kurtz fully embodies the moral bankruptcy of Europe as a whole.

Whites (the Company)

They symbolize evil in the novel; they see themselves as superior and civilized more than Africans which Europeans consider them as primitive and inferior. Conrad submits the idea of racism by presenting the cruel treatment by Europeans towards Africans by presenting the

idea of colonization. We interpret the novel that Europeans not only colonize Africans but also, their land. They colonize Africans under the purposes of civilization while in reality the only want is to dominate them and their land “the conquest of the earth “ and make them their slaves, they think that they have the right to do this because the natives Africans differ from them in the appearances and behaviors.

3.5 Class Struggle in Heart of Darkness

In Joseph Conrad's novella *Heart of Darkness* considered as the most richness with problems of classism which highlights the class struggle between the company, its workers and the Congo-Natives. In this title we will spotlight on the main points of this classism:

3.5.1 The company or the bourgeoisie

It is a central theme including Kurtz's primary reason for traveling to Africa for the company at all. Kurtz originally went to the Congo and entered the ivory trade to make money, so he could marry his beloved described as a woman of “higher class “. Kurtz has since become the heart of Africa, and moving more ivory than the rest of the outposts on the commitment combined. How does not fit quite so cleanly into Marxist philosophy, Kurtz become the embodiment of the all powerful “the company” which was not an outcome that Marx had force in his theory, Kurtz has taken as willing slaves the natives. He has become greed insatiable in his quest for more constantly more. As Marlow remarked and regarding Kurtz in *Heart of Darkness*:” My ivory “,” Oh, yes I need him “, “My intended. My ivory, my station, my river, my -everything belonged to him.

3.5.2 Congo-Natives or proletariat

The native populations in *Heart of Darkness* are represented as savages who are criminals and enemies. The natives described as cannibals are poorly treated and only fed hippopotamus meat, refused food by the Europeans. Ruskin proposes that Conrad uses this description as “an expose of imperialist rapacity and violence.” This description of the natives as savages is underscored throughout the novel with the diction that is associated with savagery. The distinct difference in culture is shocking to the Colonials who can only respond by branding the native as savages. This occurs when the natives run out of food (hippo) on the steamer they eat a strange mixture of flour and water that disgusts the Europeans. There are few positive things that Marlow notes about the natives often remarking on their strange ways. Despite noting the poor care that the natives receive he does nothing to help them

going so far as to agree with the agents when he states that he does not actually blame the agents when they got rid of the cannibals' main source of food.

Most importantly is Kurtz's document on the suppression of savage customs which is a positive document regarding the natives of the Congo, however, Marlow discovers that written on the bottom is a message to exterminate "the savages." Here we see that Kurtz's fall from European civilization into savagery condemns the culture and lives of the natives that ironically he himself has fallen for. This depiction of the natives as savages and brutes that is pushed upon the natives by the Europeans is contradictory as Reid believes that this contradiction between what how the natives are portrayed and the actions of the European Colonials is due to the fear of becoming as savage as the natives. This fear is what leads the Company Agents to want to get rid of Kurtz despite his great success in making a lot of money.

The Natives are also demonstrated as savages due to their distinct lack of technology. Their use of bows and arrows and spears are the primary indication of their lack of advanced technology. Their weapons are clearly inferior to the European muskets. Also there are certain associations and images that are conjured up by such simple weapons such as their wielders being primitive, not advanced (technologically) savage, unrestrained, and primal. This helps to tie in with the idea that the Congo appears to be a prehistoric land lost in time. This association with the old, ancient and prehistoric merely helps to reinforce the idea that the indigenous population of the Congo are savages as without revealing the true depth of their culture the only picture that is given to us is one of cruelty, barbarism and despair.

3.6 Imperialism and Racism in *Heart of Darkness*

Historically, racism has been a common theme in a lot of American and European literature. Racism is a prejudice or discrimination against someone of another race, with the belief that one race is superior. Where we found a lot of examples about racism in Joseph Conrad's novel *heart of darkness*:

She carried her head high; her hair was done in the shape of a helmet ; she had brass leggings to the knee, brass wire gauntlets to the elbow, a crimson spot on her tawny cheek, innumerable necklaces of glass beads on her neck; bizarre things, charms, gifts of witch-men, that hung about her, glittered and trembled at every step....She was savage and superb, wild-eyed and magnificent; there was something

ominous and stately in her deliberate progress.(Section 3, p 110)

This part is when Kurtz mistress appears from the jungle and stares at the boat and makes a sign for the other natives to leave. Is the first time Marlow sees the Princess. Kurtz's mistresses described as a savage; this is an example of racism.

“He was an improved specimen; he could fire up a vertical boiler. He was there below me, and, upon my word, to look at him was as edifying as seeing a dog in a parody of breeches and a father hat, walking on his hind legs”. (Section 2)

In this passage Marlow is describing a native. This is another example of racism because Marlow is comparing the native with a dog wearing feathers. Describe him as an animal.

In front of the first rank, along the river, three men, plastered with bright red earth from head to foot, strutted to and fro restlessly. When we came abreast again, they faced the river, stamped their feet, nodded their horned heads, swayed their scarlet bodies;...they shouted periodically together strings of amazing words that resembled no sounds of human language; and the deep murmurs of the crowd, interrupted suddenly, were like the responses of some satanic litany.(Section 3)

In this passage Marlow is describing the natives' "savage" language. It is an example of racism. It describes their language considering it as non-human noise and as a satanic litany.

He [Kurtz]began with the argument that we whites, from the point of development we had arrived at, must necessarily appear to them[savages] in the nature of supernatural beings-we approach them with the might of a deity. (Section 2, p 90)

This passage describes Kurtz's idea of what natives saw in the Europeans. Because it shows how Europeans are superior to Africans. And they think that, they should help them to develop.

...The conquest of the earth, which mostly means taking it away from those who have a different complexion or slightly flatter noses than ourselves, is not a pretty thing when you look into it too much. What redeems it is the idea only. An idea at the back of it; not a sentimental pretence but an idea; and an unselfish in the idea-something you can set up, and bow down before, and offer a sacrifice to..... (Section 1, p 13)

The only good thing about it is the idea behind it. Not some pretty words you can use to describe it, but a real and powerful idea that men will unselfishly sacrifice themselves for-something that men will bow down to and worship, Marlow is talking about imperialism. About when you take a deep look into it, it is not a positive thing.

It was just robbery with violence, aggravated murder on a great scale, and men going at it blind. (Section 1, p 13)

There is a hint of evil in Marlow's reference to the city of Brussels as a "*white sepulcher*". The phrase "white sepulcher" means a place which is outwardly pleasant and righteous but inwardly empire, full of vices, corruptions and evils. Marlow's experiences in the Congo clearly show that instead of civilizing the savages the white men who went there became exploiters. The colonizers treated the Africans was more like slaves rather than people

Each chief was authorized to collect taxes; he did so by demanding that individuals should work for a specific period of time for a minimum payment. (Section 2)

This, of course, was another name for slavery. The so-called taxpayers were treated like prisoners; their work was carried out under the supervision of armed sentries. This quote sums up the immortality and the misuse of power against the Africans. It also gives insight into the horror of the colonization that was taking place at that time. One critic (Wilson Harris) helps describe Conrad's view and vision of the way that the Africans were treated.

Through the descriptions of Marlow in the novel, Conrad conveys to us the callousness of the white man towards the natives. After getting down from the Swedish captain's steamer, Marlow sees some awful and grim sights. He sees a lot of people, "**mostly black and naked, moving about like ants**". Marlow feels deeply upset at the sight of the Africans.

It is also disgusting for us to watch the manner in which the cannibal crews of Marlow's steamer are being treated by the white owners of the steamer. The cannibal crews are studious and fine fellows. But the pity is that they are properly fed. Their hippo meat was thrown overboard by the white men who could not stand the rotten smell of the hippo meat. Now the Cannibals crews have nothing to eat. But they exercise self restraint and do not attack the white men on board in order to meet their flesh. Thus the white men are absolutely uncovered about the welfare of the cannibal crew on whose labor and toil they depend. (Section 2)

The Company had no qualms regarding the mistreatment of the natives,

I could see every rib, the joints of their limbs were like knots in a rope; each had an iron collar on his neck, and all were connected together with a chain whose bights swung between them, rhythmically clinking.(section 1)

He sees black figures crouching under the trees, leaning against the trunks, and clinging to the earth, dying slowly.

"They were dying slowly – it was very clear. They were not enemies, they were not criminals, they were nothing earthly now – nothing but black shadows of disease and

starvation...lost in uncongenial surroundings, fed on unfamiliar food, they sickened, become inefficient, and were allowed to crawl away and rest.(section 1)

Conclusion

After analyzing imperialism in *Heart of Darkness* by Josephs Conrad, we can conclude that: Imperialism is a selfish affair of greed driven by beastly desire of greed driven by beastly desire of men; the inefficiency, cruelty and moral decay are the evils that emerge in the shortcomings of imperialism. "*Heart of Darkness*" explores the issues surrounding imperialism in a complicated way. Conrad uses Marlowe around character to fulfill the theme of humanity, his curiosity and intelligence motivates him to explore Africa where he experiences the dark side of life.

General Conclusion

Heart of darkness is a novel by Joseph Conrad published serially in 1899. It is one of the greatest works of the Victorian literature which summarized the social issues and problems in many aspects of life; Joseph Conrad is both a great novelist and an influential social critic of the Victorian Era, he had been lauded for providing a stark portrait of the Victorian-era underclass, helping to bring about social change.

Joseph Conrad's *Heart of darkness* is a large and effective critic of imperialism, which exposes the hypocrisy and tyranny of imperialism portrayed through the brutalities in Africa. Conrad in this novel shows the intention of imperialism, which challenged the presumptions of society. His aim in *Heart of Darkness* was to unveil the underlying horror of imperialism.

The keynote of the theme of imperialism is struck at the very outset of Marlow's narration. Marlow speaks of the ancient Roman conquest of Britain; their conquest has always been associated with cruelty and brutality. Conrad's view of imperialism is reflected main through Marlow.

Conrad not only exposes the futility and the failing of the Belgian imperialism over the Congo but also reminds us of British imperialism in various countries of his time. Today white imperialism has crumbled and most of the counties have become independent. Conrad's accusation of imperialist rule in Congo had a valuable message for both the exploiters and the exploited. In the business of exploration, both exploiter and exploited are corrupted.

To conclude we can sum up, *Heart of Darkness* is a poignant account of the horrendous brutalizing effects of colonialism. Conrad here discloses the reality of imperialism and shows this system as corrupting. This story becomes the longing to wring the heart of the wilderness and exterminates all the brutes. It is an excellent portrayal of the evilness and suffering caused by imperialistic powers exercising their powers in wrong ways. The white men are presented as the blood suckers monsters that have on sympathy, human feelings for the barbarisms, and uncivilized natives of distant islands. Conrad's aim in this novel is thus to expose the evilness of imperialism by providing a glimpse of truth.

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