

KASDI MERBAH UNIVERSITY-OUARGLA
Faculty of Letters and Languages
Department of Letters and English Language



Dissertation
Academic Master

Domain: Letters and Foreign Languages
Field: English Language and Literature and Civilization
Specialty :Anglo- Saxon Literature

Submitted by: Miss Benesseddik Zohra
Mrs. Manane Karima

Title:

The Use of History in Cooper’s Novel

“The Last of The Mohicans”

Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements of

Master degree in Anglo- Saxon

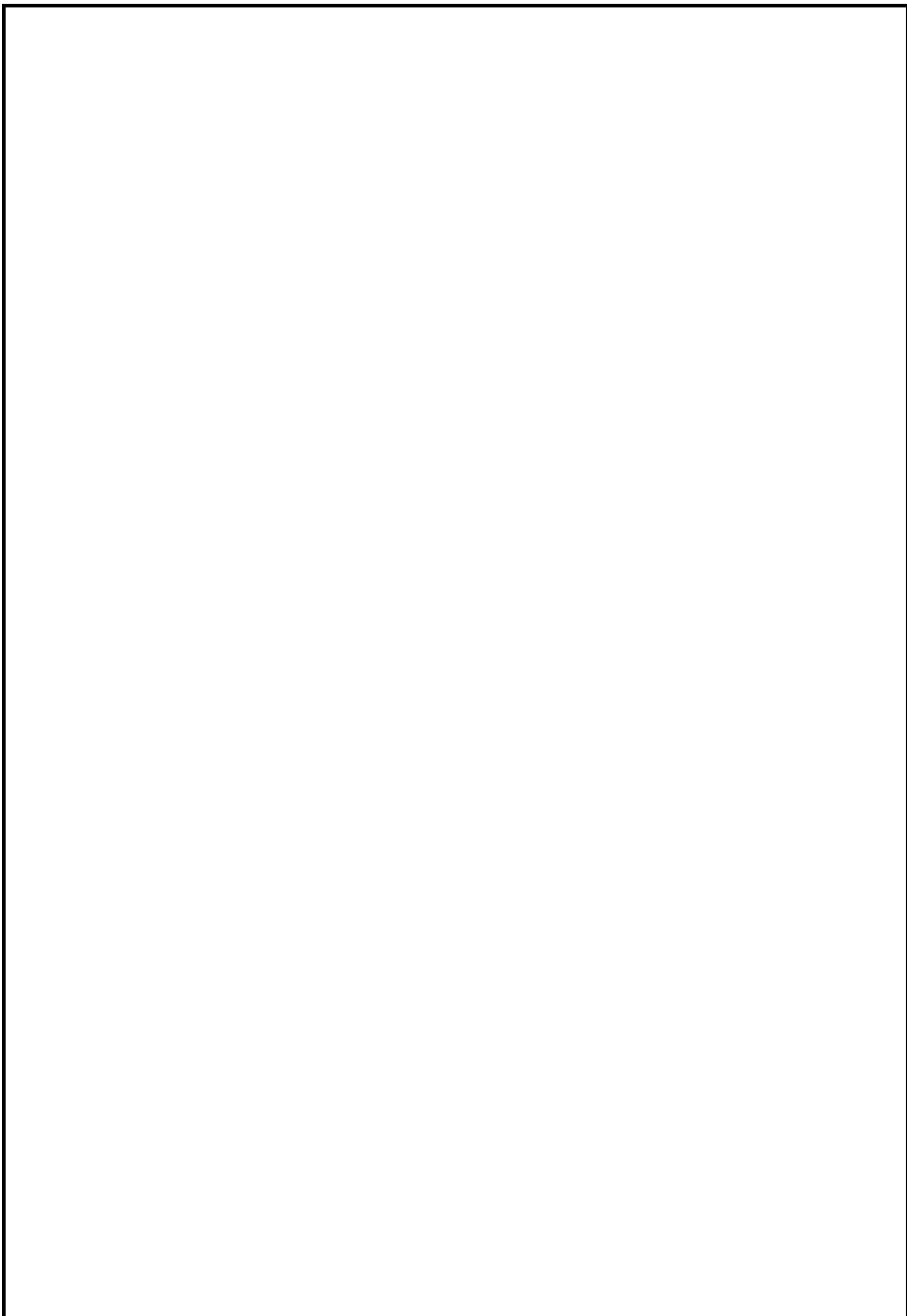
Publically defended On:

06/05/2017

Before the Jury

Mrs. SAYAH LEMBARK Samira:	President	UKM Ouargla
Mrs. KADDECHE Assia:	Examiner	UKM Ouargla
Ms. BAHRI Fouzia:	Supervisor	UKM Ouargla

Academic Year: 2016 – 2017



Dedication

*This humble work is honorably dedicated to the memory of my father,
to my beloved family, my mother; my sons: Amine, Yanis, and Rayane, and
to my husband, for their endless patience, and support,
To my brothers, sisters and nephews specially Yanou ,
To my friend Houria and her family
To my partner Zahra, for sharing this work with me.*

karima

Dedication

To my dear father may Allah bless him

*To my dear mother may Allah reward her, and I would thank her for
all supports that she gave me.*

To my dear brothers and sisters.

To all my friends and especially Jiji and Imey.

I also dedicate this work to my partner Ms. Karima for sharing me the work

Last but not least, I would thank everyone who helps us in this

Zohra

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our supervisor Miss BAHRI Fouzia, for her insightful and invaluable remarks, and her patience for this work

Particular thanks are owed to the jury members for proofreading our paper and Examining us.

We address our specific thank to the English Department staff.

We are immensely grateful to all those who have taught and trained us throughout our studying career.

Abstract

The aim of this study is to clarify the relationship between history and fiction in Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans*, to depict to what extent does James Fenimore Cooper contribute to this historical events. Also this study aims at showing that literature can represent the reality and provide contextual and cultural information of any society in a given time, in this regard, the existing body of this research includes two chapters; the first chapter presents an overview about the early American history and colonization, the second chapter explores the historical events in this fictional story through applying the New Historicism theory which is concerned in studying a literary text with relation to its time, place, and historical circumstances. In addition to that, in this dissertation we have chosen a descriptive analytical method. In this work, we have found that Cooper's novel *The Last of The Mohicans* proves to be an excellent tool in providing various historical elements such as the massacre of Fort William Henry in 1757, as well as native American life, tribes, culture, origin, names, and presenting them in fictional story which made the novel more vivid.

Key words: History, Fiction, Native Americans, Colonialism, Historical events,

Table of Contents

Dedication	I
Acknowledgements.....	III
Abstract.....	IV
Table of Contents	V
General Introduction	3

Chapter One: An Overview of Early American History

1.0 Introduction	7
1.1 The Indians Life and Culture.....	7
1.1.1 Tribes.....	8
1.1.2 Traditions and Customs.....	8
1.1.3 Religion	9
1.1.4 Language	10
1.1.5 Food.....	10
1.1.6 Houses	11
1.1.7 Transportation	11
1.2 Native Americans and Colonizers.....	12
1.2.1 The Dutch Colonizers.....	12
1.2.2 The English Colonizers	12
1.2.3 The French Colonizers	13
1.3 The Impact of Colonization on Native Americans.....	13
1.3.1 Indian Conversion to Christianity	14
1.3.2 Indians Response to Christianity.....	15
1.3.3 Colonial and Native Relations.....	15
1.3.4 New Colonial System.....	16
Conclusion.....	17

Chapter Two: Historical Themes in Cooper's Novel

The Last of The Mohicans

2. Introduction	20
2.1 Plot Summary	20
2.2 Characters.....	21
2.3 Setting.....	22
2.4 Themes	23

2.4.1 Friendship and love	23
2.4.2 War	23
2.4.3 Interrelationship and Love.....	24
2.4.4 Hybridity	24
2.5 Exploring Historical events in <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>	25
2.5.1 Human and Nature.....	25
2.5.2 Indian Names and Tribes.....	26
2.5.3 Good and Bad Indians	27
2.5.4 Races	29
2.5.5 The Massacre of Fort William Henry 1757.....	31
2.5.6 Indians Gods.....	32
2.5.7 Civilization and Savagery.....	32
2.5.8 Indians Life.....	33
2.5.9 Colonizers and Indian Materials.....	35
Conclusion.....	36
General Conclusion.....	39
Glossary.....	44
ملخص.....	45
Résumé	46
Appendix 1	47
Appendix 2	48

General Introduction

General Introduction

History is a field that contains facts and events happened in the past, through which people can learn about their identity, religion and culture. Writing history is a difficult task and complex process, some authors use history with fiction in their writings to attract their readers and make the work more enjoyable, also they allow the readers to learn easily history through fiction.

Authors use imagination in fictional work in creative way by manipulating characters, and plot structure within the story. Moreover, authors use history or memorable events in literature in order to clarify the real facts, events, cultures, and civilization of early generations. The purpose of using imagination and memorable events is to entertain, and enlighten the reader. This study explores the question of relationship between history and fiction in James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of The Mohicans*.

James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851), is considered as one of the earliest writers in American literature, he was regarded as pioneer of American National literature. Cooper's writing helps to reformulate the early American history for the new generation (Cooper, 1994).

The Last of The Mohicans, published in 1826, is the most popular novel of James Fenimore Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales. It takes place in 1757 during the French and Indian war, the war of foreign nation between French and England colonizers battled for the American and Canadian land. They come to expend their empires in the wilderness of North America, which exterminate the Native Americans tribes who live on the continent for centuries. The novel recounts specially the story of an unarmed massacre of Fort William Henry, also *The Last of The Mohicans* symbolizes the death of Uncas who is the last generation of the Mohicans tribes (ibid).

Moreover, this novel represents a story of two sisters, Cora and Alice Munro, the English commander's daughters. Which they make a journey with Hawkeye; a frontier scout, and his friends Chingachgook and Uncas, but they face some troubles with Magua, who pretends that he could guide them to their destination. In fact, he take them to a trap, he wants Cora to be his wife (ibid).

After a long struggle between Uncas and Magua about Cora, the latter kills by an Indian savage, then Magua kills Uncas with his knife, and Hawkeye kills Magua (Cooper, 1994).

In Cooper's novel, there are hints that resemble the history of the Native Americans with the British and French colonizers. Cooper describes nature and some characters by using the Indian names, tribes and traditions with the colonizer culture to make a mixture of two nations. Moreover, *The last of The Mohicans* is a fictional and historical book, that can be used by some historians as a source of getting information about American history (Skipp, 1992).

Furthermore, today teachers use *The Last of the Mohicans* as a literary book that help them to teach students the American history, because it contains real events and evidence about the Native Americans history, also it provides them with many aspects and information about race, culture, and gender. Moreover, it facilitates learning history through fiction with the possibility to make them learn how to differ between history and fiction (El-Shami, 2014).

Cooper uses history in his novel to depict the early American past, especially the French and the Indian war, the battle of Fort William Henry. In addition, Cooper's style creates complicating events and historical background, which makes the novel more vivid, without forgetting the use of description of nature in all chapters; Cooper's work is a mixture between land, people, and history (Li, Wang, 2015).

In this current study, we are investigating the use of history in Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans* as well as examining to what extent Cooper depicted historical evidence that can help readers to understand better the American history. In this respect, we explore it in this following question:

-To what extent does James Fenimore Cooper succeed in using history in his novel *The Last of the Mohicans*?

In order to answer this question we hypothesized that:

In *The Last of the Mohicans*, Cooper mentions in this narration some historical

events for example the war between the French and the British, or what is called The Seven Years War.

- The novel is a mixture of history and fiction, where Cooper interfered Indians culture, tribes, names, life and various historical elements.

This study is about the use of history and fiction in Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans*, and in order to prove our hypotheses and answer this question, we have adopted the New Historicism theory. This theory is concerned more with the study and analysis of a literary text with relation to its time, place and its historical events such as political, religious, race and so on.

Since Cooper used history in his novel, we are going to use a descriptive analytical method study, and extracting passages from the novel, then analyzing them to clarify the relationship between history and fiction, in which we divide our work into two main chapters. The first chapter tackles the Indians life, culture, and their struggle with the colonizers. While the second chapter presents the plot summary, characters, themes, setting. Furthermore, it explores the historical themes in Cooper's novel with the use of New Historicism theory.

The conclusion discusses the historical themes in Cooper's novel, in which he writes about the American history with a literary sense, where we seek to clarify the relationship between history and fiction; as well as, to show that literature can represent the reality of any society in a given time. Furthermore, it offers recommendations to study Cooper's style, language, stylistic features or literary devices.

Chapter One:
**An Overview of Early
American History**

1.0 Introduction

When Christopher Columbus sails from Spain to find way from Europe to Asia, in order to open up a shorter route between the two continents. However, he fails by the geographical misunderstanding. He does not land in Asia but in the new world which is America. Christopher Columbus thinks that he finds a new world, but it is an old world long inhabitant by early civilization that arrive from Asia long years before him. He names these inhabitants “Indos” under which Native Americans are called “Indians” (O’Callaghan, 2004). As it is explained in this passage:

Columbus first sailed South to the canary Islands, then he turned West across the unknown waters of mid Atlantic Ocean. Ten weeks, after leaving Spain. On the morning of October 12, he stepped ashore on the beach of a low Sandy Island. He named the Island San Salvador – Holy Savior. Columbus believed that he had landed in the Indies, a group of islands close to the mainland of India. For this reason he called the friendly, brown-skinner people who greeted his “Los Indos” – Indians (ibid. p. 4).

This chapter explores the Native Americans life and culture before the coming of the Europeans such as their tribes, traditions, customs, religions, languages, food, houses and transportations. In addition, this study sheds light on the main invaders who colonized the Indians lands, the relations between each other, and the Impact of Colonization on Native Americans.

1.1 The Indians Life and Culture

Waldman (2006) states that the diversity or the wilderness in Indians life and culture refers to environment and the huge number of tribes. Indian people believe more in nature and consider it as a religious concept. They also consider it as a source of food. The Indians work in farming lands and

hunting animals to provide their food, this work is divided between women and men; while women have to farm and prepare food, men have to hunt and to get involved in wars.

1.1.1 Tribes

The Indian tribes have many names, they spread over the American continent especially in the North. There are other tribes such as the Algonquian tribes which means, at the place of spearing fish,. Also the tribe of Lenni Lenape, the people, or the Delaware; this name was given by the English to this tribe, because they live besides the river called the Delaware (Waldman, 2006).

Another Indian tribe which is the Mohicans, this tribe is a subgroup from the Pequot tribe. But another man called Uncas rebelles against the Pequot's chief, and he makes another tribe with the name Mohigan on The Thames river near Long Island Sound. They live in the forests and bring their food from lakes, rivers; they live in rectangle houses covered by some plants from trees. This tribe titled in James Fenimore Cooper's novel *The Last of The Mohicans*, during the French and the Indian wars in 1700s (ibid).

Moreover, the Pueblo tribe or the people who were living in Arizona and New Mexico now, they are the first farmers in America. The same as the Iroquois people or nation, because they are group of tribes. They are hunters and fishermen, but the Apache tribe who are the Pueblo's neighbors; they are not farmers and have no idea about plantation, they just hunt and steal food from the Pueblo tribe. In addition, there is another tribe that live in the Mississippi River to Rocky Mountains area which is the Dakota and it means "allies", also they called the Sioux tribe and this name was given by another tribes which means the "enemies" (O'Callaghan, 2004).

1.1.2 Traditions and Customs

Indian people use sea materials in making clothes such as seal intestines, the skin of sea lion, whiskers or gut, which is composed from very large double layers reaching the knees. They decorate them by using hair bristles or skin in different colors. Some of the Indians use the buckskin in their

clothes, these clothes are appropriate to rains and cold. Moreover, they use rye grass that growing on the beaches to make their baskets they use the hide of white-tailed deer, moose, elk, and caribou to make soft leather (Waldman, 2006).

Where women wear skirts, blouses, dresses, and moccasins; men wear shirts, leggings, and moccasins (Waldman, 2006).

Additionally, they put some fur to give them warmth and decorate them with colors, quillwork, some paint, shells, and moose hair. After the coming of the Europeans, the Indians start using glass and shells, they replace shell and stone by beadwork to make their jewelry (Waldman, 2006).

All Native Americans consider the hair as a symbol of selfhood and strength for instance women decorate their hair by using shells or small cup. All Indian products is a manual facture such as weapons, clothes, they use wood, bark, plants, stones, clay, shells, and quills. Furthermore, the Indians have many festivals for example festivals of peace and war, festival for farming and hunting, and festival for boys and girls who passed from childhood to adulthood, they celebrate in these events by dancing surrounding fire, and singing all to gathers (ibid).

1.1.3 Religion

All Native Americans believe in nature, spirits, and supernatural power of all living and non-living things like animals, plants, water, rocks, sun, moon, and weather. They believe in all things that are related to nature. They have many spirits that believe in like the Algonquians tribe, who believes in the Great sprites called Manitou and Thanderbird, or Bringer of Rain however, the Aztec tribe believes in other Gods:

An important God for the Aztec was Quetzalcoatl, the Great Plumed Serpent, who was central to the religions of earlier Mesoamerican civilizations as well. But Quetzalcoatl was a benign figure who, according to tradition showed mercy. It was the war god Huitzilopochtli who demanded the most blood. Priests sacrificed thousands of prisoners to

Huitzilopochtli in the temples at the top of the massive tone pyramids. Earlier Mesoamerican civilizations had practiced human sacrifice, but the Aztec carried out their bloody rituals on the largest scale (Ibid, p.31).

Moreover, there are many Gods and spirits of Native Americans with different names and tasks. In addition, the native Americans wear special clothes for religious concepts like when they want their Gods to forgive them on their sins, they put masks to please their Gods (ibid).

1.1.4 Language

According to Cooper(1994), some philologists claim that the Native Americans speak just two or three languages properly despite the huge number of tribes, and they have many dialects that used to communicate with special members of tribes (Cooper, 1994).

However, some studies state that the Native Americans have many languages and differ from one place to another as it is stated in this passage:

It is not possible to determine exactly how many languages were spoken in the New World before the arrival of Europeans or how many people spoke these languages. Some scholars estimate that the Western Hemisphere at the time of the first European contact was inhabited by 40 million people who spoke 1,800 different tongues. Another widely accepted estimate suggests that at the time of Columbus more than 15 million speakers throughout the Western Hemisphere used more than 2,000 languages¹

1.1.5 Food

The Indian tribes have different skills in gathering their food for instance, the Pueblo and the Iroquois tribes are famous in farming crops of maize, beans, squash and peppers, however, the Apache tribe are famous in hunting deer, eating plants like nuts and roots (O'Callaghan, 2004).

¹<http://www.encyclopedia.com>

The Native Americans live in different places in North America, they spread over the North, the North West, the West and the South, because of the specific weather the Indian life become more difficult, but they use to live there. The native Americans have different ways to get their food. For instance, in the North most of time the country is covered by ice, so they hunt fish, birds, whales, seals, moose, bear and other animals. In the North-West, people eat the solemn that they hunt from rivers. Moreover, people of the West hunt animals from forests, fish and berries. In addition, in the south the weather is drier so they live on farming and hunting animals².

1.1.6 Houses

Native Americans live in different types of houses, because the climate differs from one place to another. They use different materials in building their houses like the wigwam that made from trees and cover by birch bark or cattail reeds to preserve them from rain, wind and snow (Waldman, 2006).

In addition, they use swamp grass and animals fur to cover floors and beds, they make hole in the roof to make the smoke out. Some other tribes build their houses according to their social class for example the chief, the wealthy men, or the nobles their houses made from stones, walls, log and plaster roofs, and the commoner live in houses made from clay birch and contains one room (ibid).

1.1.7 Transportation

The main ways that Native Americans use in transportation are walking, dugout canoes and animals like horses and dogs. They walk for far places before using horses and dogs, and they use dugout canoes that made from redwood logs when they travel in the sea for hunting, also they use small and round bull boats which are used by the Mandan tribe (ibid).

In addition to these ways of transportation, the Indians use sleds called a *komatik* made from wood and bone, Indians also use snowshoes to walk on the ice (ibid).

² http://www.glenceoe.com/sec/socialstudies/ose/tra05_nat/docs/chap03

1.2 Native Americans and Colonizers

Many colonizers invade the American land such as the Dutch, the English, and the French (Cooper, 1994). They come for resources like gold, fur and lands; but they struggle with Native Americans that lead them to many wars, diseases and massacres; because the Indians refuse to use or steal their lands and life. While the Indians lose many people in many wars with the Dutch, the English, and the French colonizers.

1.2.1 The Dutch Colonizers

The relationship between the Native Americans and the Dutch at first is very friendly, after that the Indians refuse to use their lands and farms which lead to many wars, such as the wars of (1643, 1645, 1655, 1658, 1663) and the main war is the 1643 war in which the Dutch massacre 150 Indians most of them are women and children, this war controlled by William Kieft at Pavonia or New Jersey now. Continuously these wars make the Dutch very weak which facilitate the way for the English colonizers to take control in 1664 (Beck, 2006).

1.2.2 The English Colonizers

The English colonists settle in the Powhatan lands, and build Jamestown colony when they come to America in 1607. They suffer and die by diseases, the freeze weather, and hunger in the first year (Hoffman, 2009).

They do not know how to farm lands, for that they get some help from Indians who know how to cultivate these lands. After a period, the Indians bother with the English settlement in their lands. In 1622, the Powhatan tribe kill 347 men, women and children, what lead to the wars between the Indians and the English colonizers. On the other side, the pilgrims of Massachusetts live with the Indians in peace and they learn how to grow corns and other plants, they respect the Indians for helping them, and they celebrate by this occasion called it thanksgiving (ibid).

The English colonists believe that they could work better in farming lands by using (the European agriculture techniques and livestock) (Beck, 2006).

Moreover, they apply segregation on the Indians, and brought with them many diseases such as measles, mumps, malaria and others that reduce the Indians population. In addition, the English colonists attacked many Indian tribes by killing, kidnapping and selling them into slavery (Beck, 2006).

1.2.3 The French Colonizers

The French colonizers discover Quebec in 1608, and they become concerned with fishing and fur trade. The relationship between the French and the Indians is friendly unlike the others colonizers, they respect them, live with them, and learn their traditions and languages. Even though, the French are more interested in Catholicism and try to convert people to it, but they do not oblige the Native Americans to change their religion or take off their lands.³

The French colonizers at the first time show the Indians how to use some tools such as axes, guns and knives, but the Indians are afraid from these tools and consider them holy things, beside that the Indians show the French how to smoke tobacco, from that time the Indians exchanged fur and tobacco with the French products⁴

1.3 The Impact of Colonization on Native Americans

European colonization of North America had a devastating effect on the native population. Within a short period of time their way of living has changed forever. These changes are caused by a number of factors, including loss of land, disease, enforced laws violating their culture and much more.

Hamby (2010) declares that some of the effects that colonization brought unintentionally to the Native Americans are the diseases that destroyed most of population of these tribes, no one think about the immunity to diseases, or that would kill off the entire population. However, things changed and a determined effort was made to complete banish the Native culture; this active of banishment takes many forms.

³ www.glenceoe.com/sec/socialstudies/ose/tra05_nat/docs/chap03.pdf

⁴ <https://www.gilderlehrman.org>

Additionally, certain tribes have freely supplied with guns, so that they could wipe out their neighbors, and old problems between tribes bring them back into the open, for causing wars. Therefore the army and many settlers treat the Natives as nothing more than pests to be get rid of. Moreover, they banned certain ceremonies; the intention is to deny them on their cultural identity, which has the same effect as wiping them out (ibid).

Furthermore, The European colonizers brutally try to eradicate the native culture, Anderson argues that the Native Americans have been forced to learn different linguistic and education of the colonizers from Spanish, French, and English language (Anderson cited in Dalal, p.5 2011).

In addition to that, Children are also victim to the European colonizers strategy of their culture domination, the colonisers are forbidding the converse in the native languages, they also separating them from their families, and place them in distant boarding schools, in order to minimise parental influence and reduce the chance of community survival (Palmiste cited in Dalal, p.5, 2011).

1.3.1 Indian Conversion to Christianity

As more Europeans start arriving and expanding their colonialists, they become less interest in the Indian tribes, however they are more interested in acquiring the Indians land. And the method that the European use to achieve their aim is the conversion to Christianity by sending missionaries to proselytize the Native Americans, thus some of Cherokee tribe and Lakota tribes reconciling both to Christianity (ibid).

For some of Native American's people attraction to Christianity is more practical, they view this conversion as a way to gain respect and recognition from powerful whites, with education and integration into the European dominate culture (Martine cited in Dalal, p.4, 2011)

But the European's aims is completely to eliminate the Indian culture, thus the method that is used to achieve this culture domination involve massacring great numbers of natives to reduce resistance (ibid).

1.3.2 Indians Response to Christianity

white technology and culture attract the Indians to the conversion of Christianity. They find it possible and their beliefs base on identifying similarities between the two religion. However, among members of the same tribe are completely opposing to this conversion, and also are opposing in any influence of the white doctrine, and want to deserve their own belief systems (ibid).

Thus, Native American people have a great impact in psycho cultural marginality, not just on their spiritually, but their mental and physical wellbeing, the loss of cultural identity along with social and personal disorganisation, bring about when people deny access to their traditional culture values, which lead to low self esteem, extreme poverty, oppression, depression, loss of identity, abuse violence, limited employment, poor housing and numerous other (French cited in Dalal, p.7, 2011).

1.3.3 Colonial and Native Relations

In 1640, the British colonizers have solid colonies establish along the New England coast and the Chesapeake Bay where the Indians live. The relationship between colonizers and Indians is sometimes friendly, sometimes hostile. Moreover, the western tribes become no strangers to the Europeans, and Native Americans benefit from access to new technology, trade and the conquest of land, that the early settlers bring a serious challenge to Native Americans life. Additionally, the European settlers bring advantages like weapons, cooking utensils, knives, axes, fishhooks, and other goods (Hamby, 2010).

Moreover, early colonizers and Native Americans relations is a mix of cooperation and conflict, on the one hand there are the exemplary relations, and on the other are a long series of wars which result in an Indian defeat and loss of land (ibid).

Furthermore, the first important Native American uprising occur in Virginia in 1622, that 347 whites kill among them a number of missionaries who are recently come to Jamestown (ibid).

In the eighteenth century, there are several wars between Britain and France, because France claim to own Canada and Louisiana in North America, extend north from the ST Laurence River and the south towards the frontier areas of the English colonies on the Atlantic cost. Louisiana named for the French King Louis XIV situated across the centre of the Mississippi river, most of the forest and plains of these vast areas are still unexploited by Europeans. The French claim to own them, and the first of these explorers is Samuel de Champlain who explore the lands on the both sides of St Laurence River (ibid).

The second French explorer is René le Salle who explore the valley of the Mississippi. The lands are so beautiful and so fertile, that the colonies can find all what is needed, the soil will produce everything that grown in France. In the 18 centuries, the British colonies develop vastly in economical and cultural attainment and population in 1700 (O'Callaghan, 2004).

1.3.4 New Colonial System

After the French and Indian war, London government look for a new imperial design that needs more freedom. They eliminate the French menace; they feel less need for a strong British presence.

The organization of Canada and of the Ohio Valley would not alienate the French and Indian inhabitants, British were justily increasing in population. They needed more land for settlement; they needed to extend their boundaries as far west as the Mississippi River (Hamby, 2010).

The British government fear series of Indian wars and believe that the lands should be open on more gradual basis; restricting movement is also a way of ensuring royal control over existing settlements before allowing the formation of new ones (ibid).

Moreover, the royal proclamation of 1763 reserve all the western territory between the Allegheny Mountains, Florida, the Mississippi River and Quebec for the use of Native Americans (ibid).

The British repercussions are the reserve policy because London need more money to support the growing taxpayer for its growing empire. For that the colonies should pay for their own defence (Hamby, 2010).

Furthermore, the Native Americans are not re-socialize adequately after the fail into the dominant culture or that the Euro-American society, this has lead to historical trauma and cultural alienation resulting from colonialism, acculturative stress, racism, and genocide that generalised ,internalize, and institutionalize. These negative impact to the Native Americans are cumulative unresolved historic, and the colonial abuse increases the difficulty of rebuilding their own Native Americans and personal wellbeing (Grandboise and Sanders, 2009).

According to Anderson “ Taking all these challenges into account, their culture has survived despite everything the native people have endured spirituality, ceremonies, rituals, tribal identity, oral tradition and family were all affected by contact with European colonisers, but they suggest that what remained of these was protective strategies of Native people strength”. Anderson claims that the native culture still existing by different languages. Also, he agrees that “because of their passive adaptation and native resistance their culture has continued to survive” (Anderson cited in Dalal, p.7 2011).

Conclusion

Native Americans are living in tribes, they have their culture that specify and make them different from the others, and they have specific names, traditions, customs, religions, languages, food, transportations and houses. On the other hand, the land is very rich and fertile which turn the European attention of the benefit from these treasures, this attention has changed later, the Indians land invade by the French, the Dutch and the English colonizers, they face numerous war, they attack and destroy by the colonial settler, they also suffer by many diseases such as malaria and measles that caused a big lose in the Indians people.

The colonialism change many aspects in the Native Americans culture, with the European civilisation, such as traditions, languages, clothes, houses, religion and the Native Americans' new way of living.

Chapter Two:
Historical themes in Cooper's
Novel
The Last of The Mohicans

2. Introduction

This chapter investigates the use of history in Cooper's novel, *The Last of The Mohicans* and it provides a description of American history through the plot summary, characters, setting, themes, as well as the analysis and interpretation of some passages to explore the relationship of history in this fictional novel. In studying this work, we conduct the New Historicism theory.

2.1 Plot Summary

Cooper's novel *The Last of The Mohicans* takes place in 1757 in Lake George, during the French and Indian war in New York colony, when the British and The French colonizers fight each other to take control of Indians land. The story start when Cora and Alice arrive to the new land to meet their father Colonel Munro in Fort William Henry. They accompany with an officer called Major Duncan Heyward, and a Huron man named Magua as a guide in the forest, while they are starting their trip, they face a man called David Gamut, who is a religious man, and they enjoy his company with his songs during this journey (Li, Wang, 2015).

When they are passing through the forest, they meet Hawkeye and his companions; Chingachgook and his son Uncas. Hawkeye know that they misguide in their way to Fort William Henry, and Magua makes a trick for them, meanwhile, he escape when he knows that they discover his trick. The journey is continuing and every time Magua and his savages attack them, Hayward offer for him a reward if he takes the girls to their father, but Magua refuses and insists to take Cora as his wife, because he wants to revenge from Cora and Alice's father, but Hawkeye and his companions help them to reach Fort William Henry in peace (Ibid).

By the coming of the friends to Fort William Henry, the latter surround by the French army, and colonel Munro send a message of reinforcement to General Webb at fort Edward with Hawkeye, but the French army get

Hawkeye in his return with the answer of general Webb and know that there is no reinforcement for the English army. For that the general Montcalm suppose for Colonel Munro to give up and leave the fort. The colonel leaves the Fort with his army, but Magua and his savages with the order of the French attack the English soldiers, women, children kill many of them in this war, which make a big massacre called by the name of the Fort. Meanwhile, Magua kidnap Alice, Cora and David, keep Alice and David in his tribe and took Cora to the Delaware tribe. Hawkeye, Hayward, Munro, Chingachgook and Uncas go after them to the Huron tribe, and meet David who tell them about Alice and Cora's place (Li, Wang, 2015).

Hayward is caring about Alice, he change himself as a doctor to find her in the Huron tribe and rescue her, in the other side Magua go to the Delaware tribe to took Cora as it is shown in appendix 1, p 47. Whereas, Uncas and the Delaware tribe fight with the Iroquois and won the battle. Unfortunately one of the assistants of Magua sheathes Cora by his knife and Magua kill Uncas, then Hawkeye revenge for his friends by shooting Magua. In the last, Hawkeye and Chingachgook stay together without the brave Uncas; who resembled the last generation of the Mohicans tribe (ibid).

2.2 Characters

Cooper uses many characters in his novel, some of them are fictional and some are real such as the General Montcalm, Munro, And General Webb. Those characters are:

Hawkeye: a Scottish man rose in the Indians tribe, his real name is Natty Bumppo, and friend of Chingachgook and Uncas; he is also a hunter and the protagonist of the story.

Major Duncan Hayward: a soldier in the English army and the complainer of the two girls Cora and Alice.

Uncas: a courageous Indian gay and son of Chingachgook , his tragic death marks the death of the entire tribe of Mohicans, he is called Le Cerf Agile.

Chingachgook: old man and Uncas father, known by other names Le Gros Serpent, or The Big Serpent, the Great Snake.

Magua: the villain of the story, he has other names Le Renard Subtil or the Subtle Fox, and he is from the Huron tribe.

Cora: The darker and older sister is involved in miscegenation. A far more convincing characterization than Alice, and the oldest daughter of Munro from African American wife.

Alice: the youngest daughter of Munro from Scottish wife.

Colonel Munro: the commander of the English army in Fort William Henry, and father of Cora and Alice.

David Gamut: He functions as a comic personal and as a partially developing character reacting to conditions of the frontier and a religious man, and singing master.

General Montcalm: a French commander his real name is Marquis Louis Joseph de Saint Veran, Huron called him the great white father of Canada.

General Webb: a commander of the English army at Fort Edward.

Tamenund: He appears late in the novel he is a wise and chief of Delaware Indians Tribes, he reflects all qualities of Indians values, he has a certain authority over the tribe, and his judgment is the most powerful.

2.3 Setting

The story takes place in summer of 1757 during the third year of the war between England and France in North America between Canada and the borders of New York “...*The lengthened sheet of the*

Champlain stretched from the frontiers of Canada, deep within the borders of the neighboring province of New York (Cooper,2010, p2).

2.4 Themes

Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans* tackles many themes such as friendship, war, love, hybridity.

2.4.1 Friendship and love

Cooper presents friendship between some characters in some chapters, and we find it between Hawkeye, Chingachgook, Uncas, Hayward as it is clarified in some scenes for instance in chapter 8 when Heyward be astonish from Uncas's behavior when he helpe him from a foe's bullet

I cannot permit you to accuse Uncas of want of judgment or of skill,' said Duncan; 'he saved my life in the coolest and readiest manner, and he has made a friend who never will require to be reminded of the debt he owes.' *Uncas partly raised his body, and offered his hand to the grasp of Heyward. During this act of friendship, the two young men exchanged looks of intelligence (Cooper, 2010, p.85).*

2.4.2 War

The main theme in this novel is war, where Cooper mentions it many times approximately in all chapters for instance chapter 1,17, and 18, in which Cooper introduces the two powerful countries England and France, which they fight for the American lands and it is clearly mentioned in these passages “*It was in this scene of strife and bloodshed that the incidents we shall attempt to relate occurred, during the third year of the war which England and France last wage*” (ibid, p.3).

Also in chapter 17 and 18, he mentions the real war that happened between the English army and the Indians or what called The Massacre of William Henry

More than two thousand raving savages broke from the forest at the signal, and threw themselves across the fatal plain with instinctive alacrity. We shall not dwell on the revolting horrors that succeeded. Death was everywhere, and in his most terrific and disgusting aspects. Resistance only served to inflame the murderers, who inflicted their furious blows long after their victims were beyond the power of their resentment (Cooper, 2010, p.187).

Cooper describes in this quote how this war happened between the savages and the English soldiers, also he describes the inhumanity of this war “*The bloody and inhuman scene rather incidentally mentioned than described in the preceding chapter, is conspicuous in the pages of colonial history by the merited title of ‘The Massacre of William Henry’*” (ibid, p.192).

2.4.3 Interrelationship and Love

Cooper presents in this novel a romantic story between Cora and Uncas, also between Alice and Heyward, this passage demonstrates their relationship “*lowering her eyes under the gaze of the Mohican, and perhaps, with an intuitive consciousness of her power; ‘go to my father, as I have said, and be the’*” (ibid,p.79).

This quote demonstrates that Cooper shows how much Uncas care about Cora when she asks Uncas to leave with his friends, but he refuses that and insists to stay for protecting her from the Huron savages.

“*I too can play the madman, the fool, the hero; in short, any or everything to rescue her I love*” (ibid, pp.245-246) while in this passage Hayward was caring about Alice and was afraid from the Huron to hurt her and Cora, he confesses that he loves Alice.

2.4.4 Hybridity

Hybridity is the most important theme in this novel, by which explorations of family and race become possible, also Hybridity is the combination of

different elements into one whole , for example Cora is Hybrid because her mother is African American woman and her father is a Scottish man, and it is very clear in chapter 16.

There it was my lot to form a connection with one who in time became my wife, and the mother of Cora. She was the daughter of a gentleman of those isles, by a lady whose misfortune it was, if you will,' said the old man, proudly (ibid, p.168).

Moreover, Hawkeye is a Scottish man in the Indian spirit act like an Indian man and wore like them , we find clear description for him in chapter 3: “*the brighter, though sun-burned and long faced complexion of one who might claim descent from a European parentage*” (Cooper,2010, p.21).

2.5 Exploring Historical events in *The Last of the Mohicans*

The last of The Mohicans is concerned with the birth and development of American society, in this novel Cooper manipulates different genres to create a literary form about American history, he attempts to convey the story of that moment, and gives meaning to the historical process, who takes the reader back to a time, in order to clarify the Indian history especially the French and British war which is called the narration of 1757. Cooper's writing seek to promote America cultural independence, also he completed a sense of literary potential of Native Americans material, the developed themes, structure, characters and situation destined to have a profound influence of American fiction.

2.5.1 Human and Nature

The Last of The Mohicans is a narrative with the historical allusion, in which Cooper explains racially and geographically places.

From the beginning he emphasizes on the creation of the United states, Indigenous inhabitants, and nature. Cooper's portrayal of the frontier adventure during the French and Indian war, the wilderness is a place for

gallantry, and worthy sacrifice for patriotism, and the growth of American character (Cooper, 2010) as he explains in this passage

It was a feature peculiar to the colonial wars of North America that the toils and dangers of the wilderness were to be encountered before the adverse hosts could meet. A wide and apparently an impervious boundary of forests severed the possessions of the hostile provinces of France and England. The hardy colonist and the trained European who fought at his side, frequently expended months in struggling against the rapids of the streams, or in effecting the rugged passes of the mountains, in quest of an opportunity to exhibit their courage in a more martial conflict. But, emulating the patience and self-denial of the practiced native warriors, they learned to overcome every difficulty; and it would seem that, in time, there was no recess of the woods so dark, nor any secret place so lovely, that it might claim exemption from the inroads of those who had pledged their blood to satiate their vengeance, or to uphold the cold and selfish policy of the distant monarchs of Europe (ibid, p.1).

In this quote, James Fenimore Cooper explains the sense that both land and the Indigenous population pay for a numerous crimes and massacres, for Cooper the war of Fort William Henry is a stupid and tragic futility that have been committed against the land and the Indians, Cooper demonstrates that this action is frequently put into historical perspective.

2.5.2 Indian Names and Tribes

From this extract, it is apparent that Cooper claims that the names of Indian tribes are confused, and any obscurity in the novel will be think to clarify this fact, by using the Indian names Cooper's aim is not the result of confusion but it is only his imagination, he wants to show how the Indian nations stood in their actual historical relation, also he establishes approaches to early American fiction, and material circumstance in which explains it in this passage:

In these pages, Lenni-Lenape, Lenape, Delawares, Wapanachki, and Mohicans, all mean the same people, or tribes of the same stock. The Mengwe, the Maquas, the Mingoes, and the Iroquois, though not all strictly the same, are identified frequently by the speakers, being politically confederated and opposed to those just named. Mingo was a term of peculiar reproach, as were Mengwe and Maqua in a less degree (Cooper, 2010, p. xv).

Cooper's novel is a narrative with historical allusions in which he describes the Native Americans history, he emphasizes on racially and geographically, in which he places the Mohicans as a disappearing tribes on the Leni- Lenape and Wapanachki who bound by the Penobscot and the Potomac, the Atlantic and the Mississippi river, in the north are the Mengwe or the Iroquois these tribes compose of six major nations.

2.5.3 Good and Bad Indians

Cooper has two positions in this novel which are the good Indians and the bad Indians, the bad Indians is the Iroquois with the color of one's skin, he changed the Iroquois from friendly to hostile Indians in the author's introduction, we can understand the role of the Iroquois in history, in which Cooper describes in this passage:

Few men exhibit greater diversity, or, if we may so express it, greater antithesis of character, than the native warrior of North America. In war, he is daring, boastful, cunning, ruthless, self-denying, and self-devoted; in peace, just, generous, hospitable, revengeful, superstitious, modest, and commonly chaste. These are qualities, it is true, which do not distinguish all alike; but they are so far the predominating traits of these remarkable people as to be characteristic (ibid, p. xiii).

Cooper demonstrates in this quote that the English colonialists suffer from various massacres, in which the Native Americans savage or from the forest where the principal actors, Cooper describes Magua as a savage Indians.

Also In this novel, Cooper represents that the Iroquois as the enemies of British during the war, they have launch a series of bloody attacks before being destroyed by the American force. Cooper imagination seems more agreeable to represent the Iroquois as being the enemies, he wants to show the historical fact of the battle of Fort William Henry, in the following passage Hawkeye explains to major Heyward that Magua is a traitor:

A Huron!" repeated the sturdy scout, once more shaking his head in open distrust; "they area thievish race, nor do I care by whom they are a doped; you can never make anything of them but skulks and vagabonds. Since you trusted yourself to the care of one of that nation, I can only wonder that you have not fallen in with more. "Of that here is little danger, since William Henry is so many miles in our front. You forgot that I have told you that our guide is now a Mohawk, and that he serves with our forces as a friend. "And I tell you that he who is born a Mingo will die a Mingo," returned the other, positively. "A Mohawk! No, give me a Delaware or a Mohican for honesty; and when they will fight, which they won't all do, having suffered their cunning enemies, the Maquas, to make them women –but when they will fight at all, look to a Delaware or a Mohican for a warrior!" (Cooper,2010, p.31)

In this passage the Hurons condense into the same entity as Maguas, Mingos and Mohowks, who mean the hostile Indians or savage Indians, and contrast with the superior of Delawares and Mohicans, Cooper in these displacements is to give the impression that the British fight an alliance of

the Iroquois, the Huron and the French at the historical moment when the Iroquois are on the British side.

However, the good Mohicans nobility which help the white in this passage, Cooper presents the status of Hawkeye who is an innocent white man admirable and pure.

I am not a prejudiced man, nor one who vaunts himself on his natural privileges, though the worst enemy I have one art, and he is an Iroquois, daren't deny I am genuine white[... .] and I am willing own that my people have many ways of which, as an honest man, I can't approve. It is one of their customs to write in books what they have done and seen, instead of telling them in the villages, where the lie can be given to the face of the cowardly boaster, and the brave soldier can call on his comrades to witness for the truth of his words (ibid, p.23).

This quote demonstrates that Hawkeye is the extremely opposed from Magua, he is innocent white man assimilated to the forest, and has to insist that he is a man of unmixed blood without a cross ,and he warns everyone in his party for success and survival. He is also partial in his judgments.

2.5.4 Races

In James Fenimore Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans*, racism plays a complex role between the white character and Indian character, settler colonialism involve the idea that land can be inhabited even there are people living in this country, thus native Americans were exterminating and being physically eliminated by the Europeans settlers

There is reason in an Indian, though nature has made him with a red skin!" said the white man, shaking his head like one on whom such an appeal to his justice was not thrown away. For a moment he appeared to be conscious of having the worst of the argument, then, rallying again, he

answered the objection of his antagonist in the best manner his limited information would allow (Cooper, 2010, p.23).

In this passage, Hawkeye's response to Chingachgook's of racial equality that he has equated red skin with the absence of intelligence, Hawkeye wants to insinuates that Indians are inferior to whites, he also wants to show the differences between them, he does not understand why Europeans denigrate the Indians simply because their skin is not white, Cooper depicts that Indians and whites have common humanity but irreconcilable differences have developed over the centuries, and the European background does not available to the Indian wilderness .

The Last of The Mohicans is also about mixing blood of different races and continents, the different coloring and African ancestry of the half sister Cora Munro who is dark, and Alice Munro who is fair and blonde, she is morally and racially pure, in contrast to Cora's impurity who her mother is African American as Cooper describes in this passage.

As her dark eye followed the easy motions of the savage. The stress of this lady were shining and black, like the plumage of the raven. Her complexion was not brown, but it rather appeared charged with the color of the rich blood, that seemed ready to burst its bounds. And yet there was neither coarseness nor want of shadowing in a countenance that was exquisitely regular, and dignified and surpassingly beautiful (ibid, p. 10).

Cooper's description to Cora's color and her physical appearance, that she has dark skin, and her hair like the plumage of the raven, he wants to show in this quote not only different skin of the Munro's daughter with Alice who is white and fair, but also he depicts the union between the British officer and a woman from the West Indies, that is Cora's mother, she is African American in contrary to Alice mother who is Scottish.

2.5.5 The Massacre of Fort William Henry 1757

In this massacre of 1757, a lot of soldiers and people among them children and women are kill by the Indians savages who are under the French control besides the Fort of William Henry. This massacre consider as a horrible event that happened at that time, Cooper mentions this events in chapter 17 :

At that dangerous moment, Magua placed his hands to his mouth, and raised the fatal and appalling whoop. The scattered Indians started at the well-known cry, as coursers bound at the signal to quit the goal; and directly there arose such a yell along the plain, and through the arches of the wood, as seldom burst from human lips before. They who heard it listened with a curdling horror at the heart, little inferior to that dread which may be expected to attend the blasts of the final summons (Cooper, 2010, p187).

Cooper presents in this passage how Magua and his savages attack the English army with the horror yells.

In addition, the huge number of the savages when they attack them is clear in this passage “*More than two thousand raving savages broke from the forest at the signal, and threw themselves across the fatal plain with instinctive alacrity. We shall not dwell on the revolting horrors that succeeded*” (ibid).

In this scene, Cooper mixes history with fiction when he describes the abandon of colonel Munro with his daughters, Hayward and David from the fort, where Magua and his savages attack the English army what lead to the bloodshed and a lot of dead people among them women and children. Cooper makes more suspense this scene ; when Magua kidnapped the two sisters and David “*In such a scene none had leisure to note the fleeting moments. It might have been ten minutes (it seemed an age) that the sisters had stood riveted to one spot, horror stricken and nearly helpless*” (Cooper, 2010, p.187) his aim is to attract the reader and to inform them more about this war

and what happened exactly during this scene as it was illustrated in the appendix 2, p.48

2.5.6 Indians Gods

Cooper did not write his novel without mention the Indians God that we can find it in chapter 31 :

'Manitou!Manitou!

*Manitou! Thou art great, thou art good, thou art wise:Manitou!
Manitou! Thou art just. 'In the heavens, in the clouds, oh, I seem
any spots — many dark, many red: In the heavens, oh, I see many
clouds.'* *'In the woods, in the air, oh, I hear the whoop, the long
yell, and the cry: In the woods, oh, I hear the loud
whoop!'* *'Manitou! Manitou! Manitou! I am weak — thou art
strong; I am slow; Manitou! Manitou! Give me aid. (ibid, p.347)*

Cooper interferes his imagination in this scene when Uncas performs his war- song by addressing the Great Manitou to help him and give him power to face his enemy, in this passage Cooper wants to inform the reader about the traditions of Indians in war or their religious beliefs and practices; in which they sing to declare the war. As we mention before that Indians people worship spirits in occasions such as wars or peace, birth, death, and marriage.

2.5.7 Civilization and Savagery

Through description, Cooper shows the reader the clash of cultures between two nations; the new world resembles the French and English colonizers, and the old one resembles the Indian tribes, where there is a conflict between civilization and savagery , these two parts meet each other in the forest for instance the scenes of *"A very good name, and, I dare say, handed down from honest forefathers. I'm an admiration of names, though the Christian fashions fall far below savage customs in this particular"* (Cooper, 2010, p.53). Cooper in this quote shows that Indians names differ

from whites name, through the speech of Hawkeye with Gamut about the way that Indians called themselves with names that reflect their personality.

Another quote shows that Cooper mixes civilization with savagery in his character Hawkeye“ who served for years afterward as a link between them and civilized life”(Cooper, 2010, p.380). Cooper creates in his narration Haywkeye in order to matches characters in the two part, with physical and personal descriptions that can identify their race, in which the European part resemble Munro, the two girls, Hayward, David. While Magua and his savages, Chingachgook and Uncas represent the Indian tribes, thus the interaction between these cultures resemble in the existence of Hawkeye; who is considered as a link between the Europeans culture and the Indians one “*I am the man, however, that got the name of Nathaniel from my kin; the compliment of Hawkeye from the Delawares, ... whom the Iroquois have presumed to style the ‘Long Rifle’*” (ibid, p. 322).

All these passages contain names of the two nations that are used in Cooper's characters such as civilized world or the European people. At the same time, the savage world use to qualify Indians people; because they live in forests, tribes, villages, and simple life as Cooper shows in this extract, the savagery of Indians when Uncas told his friend about their habit in eating their food raw unlike them.

*Uncas, drop the blanket, and show the knaves its dark side.
This is not such a supper as a major of the Royal Americans
has a right to expect, but I've known stout detachments of
the corps glad to eat their venison raw, and without a
relish, too (ibid, p.49).*

Thus, there are wide differences between Indians and Europeans culture, that Cooper 's novel gathers through his characters and their habits.

2.5.8 Indians Life

Cooper describes how Indians look like ; such as their cloths and hair, painting their body, that we can find those descriptions in chapter 1 when

Cooper describes Magua “*The colors of the war-paint had blended in dark confusion about his fierce countenance*” (Cooper,2010, p.9). In addition, the description of Chingachgook in chapter 3:

His body, which was nearly naked, presented a terrific emblem of death, drawn in intermingled colors of white and black. His closely shaved head, on which no other hair that the well known and chivalrous scalping tuft was preserved, was without ornament of any kind, with the exception of a solitary eagle's plum, that crossed his crown, and depended over the left shoulder. A tomahawk and scalping-knife, of English manufacture (ibid, p.21).

From these extracts, it is apparent that Cooper provides many things about Indians life and their costumes such as body painting with colors for war or death. In addition, the materials that they use in wars such as tomahawks ,rifles, knives, also the materials that used in their cloths like the moose skin or the buckskin “*his under-dress which appeared below the hunting frock was a pair of buckskin*”(ibid, p.22).

Furthermore, Cooper mentions that Indians used to live with each other as Chingachgook told his companions about their life before the coming of the colonizers:

we were one people, and we were happy. The salt lake gave us its fish, the wood its deer, and the air its birds. We took wives who bore us children; we worshipped the Great Spirit; and we kept the Maquas beyond the sound of our songs of triumph (ibid, p.25).

Historically speaking, Cooper shows how Indians live as hunters, warriors, and how they worship their God or the Great spirit, which helps the reader to understand the Indians life at that time by his fictional characters such as Chingachgook, Magua, Hawkeye.

2.5.9 Colonizers and Indian Materials

Through reading the novel, we notice that Cooper points to some materials that used by Indians and European people in normal life and wars such as, tomahawks, guns, rifles, firewater, smoke, pipe which are obvious in the narration. Therefore, there are some influence on the both sides as we can notice in some illustrations from the novel "*the Dutch landed, and gave my people the fire- water; they drank until the heavens and the earth seemed to meet, and they foolishly thought they had found the Great Spirit*" (Cooper,2010, p.26) this quote demonstrates that Indians affected by the fire-water that the Dutch give it them. In addition, Cooper describes Chingachgook's appearance by the tools that he hold them "*knife of English manufacture, were in his girdle; while a short military rifle, of that sort with which the policy of the whites armed their savage allies*" (ibid, p.21). Also his description of Magua: "*The native bore both the tomahawk and knife of his tribe*"(ibid, p.9).

Another objects that presented in this quote which are the pipe and the weed, with the description of the pipe, from what it composes and how to smoke the weed

After a short and impressive pause, Chingachgook lighted a pipe whose bowl was curiously carved in one of the soft stones of the country, and whose stem was a tube of wood, and commenced smoking. When he had inhaled enough of the fragrance of the soothing weed (ibid, p.212).

Cooper presents materials that are use by the Indians and colonizers through performance of his characters, in which he allows the reader to know more about origins of these products. For instance Indians have no idea about fire-water or wine till the Dutch bring it with them to their lands, and how this product was harmful for Indian people, for example when Chingachgook said to his friends that the Dutch bring to them fire-water or wine that makes them loose their minds and neglect by their tribes like Magua when his tribe punish and neglect him from the tribe "*Then his Canada fathers came into the*

woods, and taught him to drink the fire-water, and he became a rascal. The Hurons drove him from the graves of his fathers, as they would chase the hunted buffalo” (Cooper, 2010, p.104).

“*He made a law, that if an Indian swallowed the fire-water, and came into the cloth wigwams of his warriors, it should not be forgotten” (ibid).* In this extract, Cooper provides the reader with real evidence, the way that colonizers interact with the Indians such as the wine that they use for corrupting their minds, thus helps the colonizer for the domination of their lands. Besides that, the native people use knives and guns made by the English colonizers. On the other side, the Indians provide the Europeans with drug and weed, and then show them how to smoke it by using the pipe.

Through reading Cooper's novel, we notice that Cooper presents evidence of various historical elements of early Native Americans that show the interaction between Indians and colonizers at that time, especially in their life. These facts are enough enlighten and make generalities about Europeans and Indians materials.

Conclusion

This chapter concludes that, Cooper provides information about the American history in his novel *The Last of The Mohicans*, by interfering the historical events such as French and Indian war, the Indian tribes and names, life, race, also Cooper shows the reader the interaction between civilization and savagery by composing relations with the Europeans and Indians in which we can notice that he uses history in a literary sense by using imagination that can enlighten the readers about historical events and make them enjoyable, and allows them comprehend better the American history through creating a vivid story.

As we mentioned before, Cooper combine history with fiction through the incidents of the story which is the journey in the forest, the romance story, kidnapping, war, the description of characters, and defining the nation's relationship to its colonial past that attract the readers, and provide them with historical element of early native Americans.

General Conclusion

General Conclusion

To sum up, this present work answers the question raised previously, and attempts to demonstrate how Cooper uses history through fiction in *The Last of The Mohicans*. To reach this aim, this work is divided into two main chapters, the first chapter deals with the early American history and colonization which tackles the Indian life and culture covered in tribes, language, religion, food, houses, and transportation. Moving on to the Native Americans and colonization which tackles the main colonizers such as the Dutch, English, and French, then we conclude this chapter with the impact of colonization on Native Americans and discussing the relationship between Indians and colonizers, and finally the new colonial system.

The second chapter entitled the historical themes in Cooper's novel *The Last of The Mohicans*, and it is concerned first with an overview about the novel; plot, characters, setting and themes. Then it deals with the analysis of history, where we conclude that Cooper has depicted this historical evidence such as French and Indian war, the massacre of William Henry which takes place in 1757, also Indian names and tribes, race, the use of actual names and the clash of cultures, these historical events related with Cooper's own imagination.

The relationship between history and fiction is prove in this novel, things are combined in many aspects such as characters, the connection between tribes and race we find the use of tribes' names such as the Delaware, Mohicans, Huron, Lenni- Lenap, the use of Indian characters as Chingachgook, Uncas from the Mohicans tribes who qualifies as good Indians , also Magua from the Huron tribe who qualifies as hostile Indians , all these tribes are real tribes, that Cooper presents them in historical fiction. Moreover, the use of many types of race which are the red, the white and the color skin; in order to help the reader to discover the rightness of white American continent, the Indian cultures and the white civilization, and portraying the Native Americans tribes who live on the continent for centuries at the same time.

Also he gives the real names to the colonizers' characters such as the colonel Munro, general Montcalm, and General Webb. Additionally, he adds to his narration some hints about the Indians life and their religious practice for instance, the description of Chingachgook's physical appearance, such as cloths, body painting, work, and how they live before the Europeans settlement, the tools that they use like the tomahawk, the rifles, the weed, besides that what the colonizers bring for them such as guns, firewater. Additionally, the God that they worshiped; the Great spirits or what they called Manitou.

Cooper's vivid narration is concerne with massacre of William Henry in 1757 or the French and Indian war, between the English army and the Indian savages controlled by Magua, at the same time interferences his characters in this scene by the abandon of Colonel Munro with his army the Fort William Henry and the kidnapping of his daughters by Magua. All incidents and events in the novel are designed to be sensational, and more suspense to the reader.

Thus, Cooper tackles the potential of Native Americans history and the struggle of identity, that led to the birth and development of American society of early and future nations, Cooper's novel depicts the idea that literature is the representation of reality in a given time through this fictional novel.

As readers , we found that Cooper's novel can be a corpus study id many different aspects such as language, Cooper's style of writing, and literary devices .

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

- Cooper, J. F.(1994). *The Last of the Mohicans*. United Kingdom: The Penguin Group.
- Cooper, J. F.,(2010). *The Last of the Mohicans*. London: Hyper press
- Hamby, A. L.(2010). *Outline of U.S History* .United state :A. J. Cornell Publications.
- O’Callaghan, B.(2004). *An illustrated History of the USA*. China: Longman Group UK limited 1990
- Skipp, F.E. (1992). *American Literature*. Florida: BARRON’S.
- Waldman, C. (2006).*Encyclopedia of National American Tribes*. China: Check marks Book An infobase publishing

Webography

- Beck, S.(2006). English,French, Dutch Colonization 1643-1664.
<http://www.san.beck.org/11-5-Colonies1643-64.html> (retrieved 16/12/2016)
- *Colonial America, 1587-1770*. (n.d) .[http://www .glenceoe.com /sec/socialstudies /ose/tra05_ nat/docs/chap03.pdf](http://www.glenceoe.com/sec/socialstudies/ose/tra05_nat/docs/chap03.pdf) (retrieved 05/12/2016)
- Dalal, N. (2011).The Impact of Colonial Contact on the Cultural Heritage of Native American Indian People. *Diffusion: the UCLan Journal of Undergraduate Research*. V (2).URL: <https://www.uclan.ac.uk/courses/assets/rcs-dalal.pdf>(retrieved 03/02/2017)
- Dictionary. Com.(2017). <http://www.dictionary.com/browse> (retrieved 22/04/2017)
- El-Shami, Z.(2014). *Teaching History Through The Last of the Mohican*
URL:<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/43557149.pdf> (retrieved 01/02/2017).

-Grandbois, D.M & Sanders, G.F.(2009). The Resilience of Native American Elders’.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1965787> (retrieved 16/12/2016)

-Hoffman, k. (2009). *Native American History at glance.*

http://www2.klett.de/sixcms/media.php/229/GL4_History_USA_Native%20American.

(retrieved 02/ 12/2016)

- Li, Xi., & Wang, P.(2015,March) *Analysis of Cooper’s writing Style in the Last of the Mohicans.* Theory and practice in language studies,5 No 03, pp (625-630)

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/1017507/tpls.0503.24> (retrieved 20/09/2016)

- Native Americans language. (2016). <http://www.encyclopedia.com> (retrieved 15/12/2016)

-*Perception of native Americans.*(2012).<https://www.gilderlehrman.org> (retrieved 05/12/2016)

- [https://www.google.fr/search?q=image the last of Mohican by james fenimore cooper](https://www.google.fr/search?q=image+the+last+of+Mohican+by+james+fenimore+cooper)

Glossary

Algonquian: a family of North American Indian languages whose speakers ranged over an area stretching from the Atlantic between new found land and Delaware to the Rocky Mountains.

Apache: a member of a North American Indian people, formerly nomadic and warlike, inhabiting the south western US and N Mexico.

Aztec: a member of a Mexican people who established a great empire, centered on the valley of Mexico, that was overthrown by Cortés and his followers in the early 16th century.

Delaware: a member of a grouping of North American Indian peoples, formerly occupying the drainage basin of the Delaware river, the lower Hudson River valley.

Huron: a member of an Indian tribe , the North western member of the Iroquoian family, living west of Lake Huron .

Komatik: an Eskimo sled made by binding crossbars to wooden runners with rawhide.

Iroquois: a member of any of a group of N American Indian peoples formerly living between the Hudson river and the St Lawrence and Lake Erie.

Mohican: a member of a North American people formerly living along the Hudson river and east of it.

Manitou: a supernatural being that controls nature; a spirit, deity, or object that possesses supernatural power.

Tomahawk: a light ax used by the North American Indians as a weapon and tool.

Quetzalcoatl: the feather serpent god of the Aztec.

Wigwam: an American Indian dwelling, usually of rounded or oval shape, formed of poles overlaid with bark, mats, or skins.

ملخص

تهدف هذه الدراسة الموسومة بالتاريخ والأدب في رواية آخر رجال الموهيكان للكاتب الأمريكي جيمس فينيمور كوبر، إلى تحليل النص تاريخياً و التحقق من كيف أن الكاتب استطاع المزج بين التاريخ والأدب في هذه الرواية ، وأيضاً تهدف إلى تأكيد فكرة أن الأدب يساهم في إبراز تاريخ وحضارة المجتمعات في أي زمان كان.

و بهذا الصدد تضم هذه الدراسة فصلين الفصل الأول يقدم لمحة حول التاريخ السكان الأصليين و نزاعهم مع الاحتلال، و الفصل الثاني خصص لإبراز الأحداث التاريخية المشار إليها في هذا النص وذلك بتطبيق نظرية التاريخية الجديدة و التي تسمح بدراسة علاقة النص الأدبي بالزمان و المكان و الأحداث السائدة آنذاك ، وبالإضافة إلى ذلك تعتمد هذه الدراسة على المنهج الوصفي التحليلي في دراسة هذا النص.

الكلمات المفتاحية : التاريخ، الأدب، الاحتلال، السكان الأصليين، الأحداث

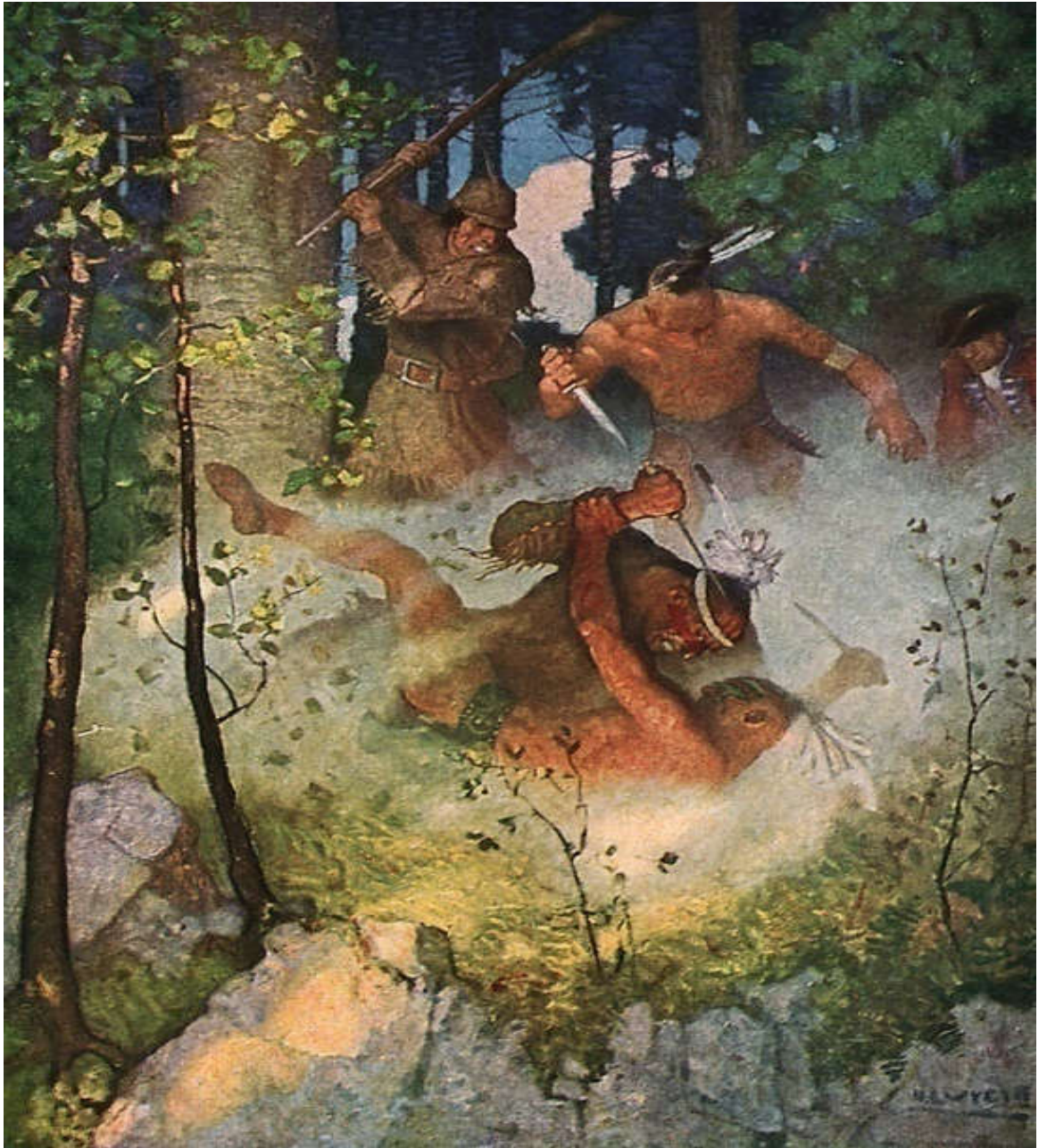
التاريخية.

Résumé

L'objectif de cette étude est de jeter un nouveau regard sur la relation entre les événements historiques et les événements de fiction illustrés dans l'œuvre « Le dernier des Mohicans » de James Fenimore Cooper. Il s'agit également de relater comment l'auteur James Fenimore Cooper a su parfaitement combiner l'association histoire et fiction dans le Time line des événements ayant marqué cette période avec un fil conducteur historique romancé. Cette étude vise à démontrer comment la littérature peut illustrer la réalité contextuelle et la donnée culturelle dans toute société humaine à un moment précis de son histoire. Le document relatant cette recherche inclut deux chapitres : Le premier introduit la période préhistorique américaine pour éclairer le lecteur sur l'avènement de la colonisation de ce nouveau continent. Le second relate les différents événements historiques réels et/ou imaginaires de ce récit de fiction auquel nous avons tenté d'appliquer la nouvelle théorie de l'historicisme. Cette théorie concerne l'étude des textes littéraires relatant des faits durant des périodes et des endroits analogues et leurs circonstances historiques. Nous avons également opté dans cette dissertation pour la méthode des descriptifs analytiques pour étudier et comprendre l'œuvre de Cooper « Le dernier des Mohicans ». Cette méthode nous a permis de démontrer la suprématie de cette œuvre littéraire majeure mettant au jour et explicitant les différents événements historiques ayant marqué l'époque des faits. Tel est le cas du massacre de Fort William Henry en 1757. Les arguments distingués au fil des péripéties du roman font découvrir au lecteur les détails de la « vraie » histoire de la colonisation des Amériques, la vie des populations autochtones américaines, les différentes tribus, leurs origines, leurs noms, leurs us et coutumes, bref, la vie sur le continent américain de l'époque et la douleur de la colonisation. Tout cela est présenté dans une belle histoire de fiction palpitante de vie et de passion.

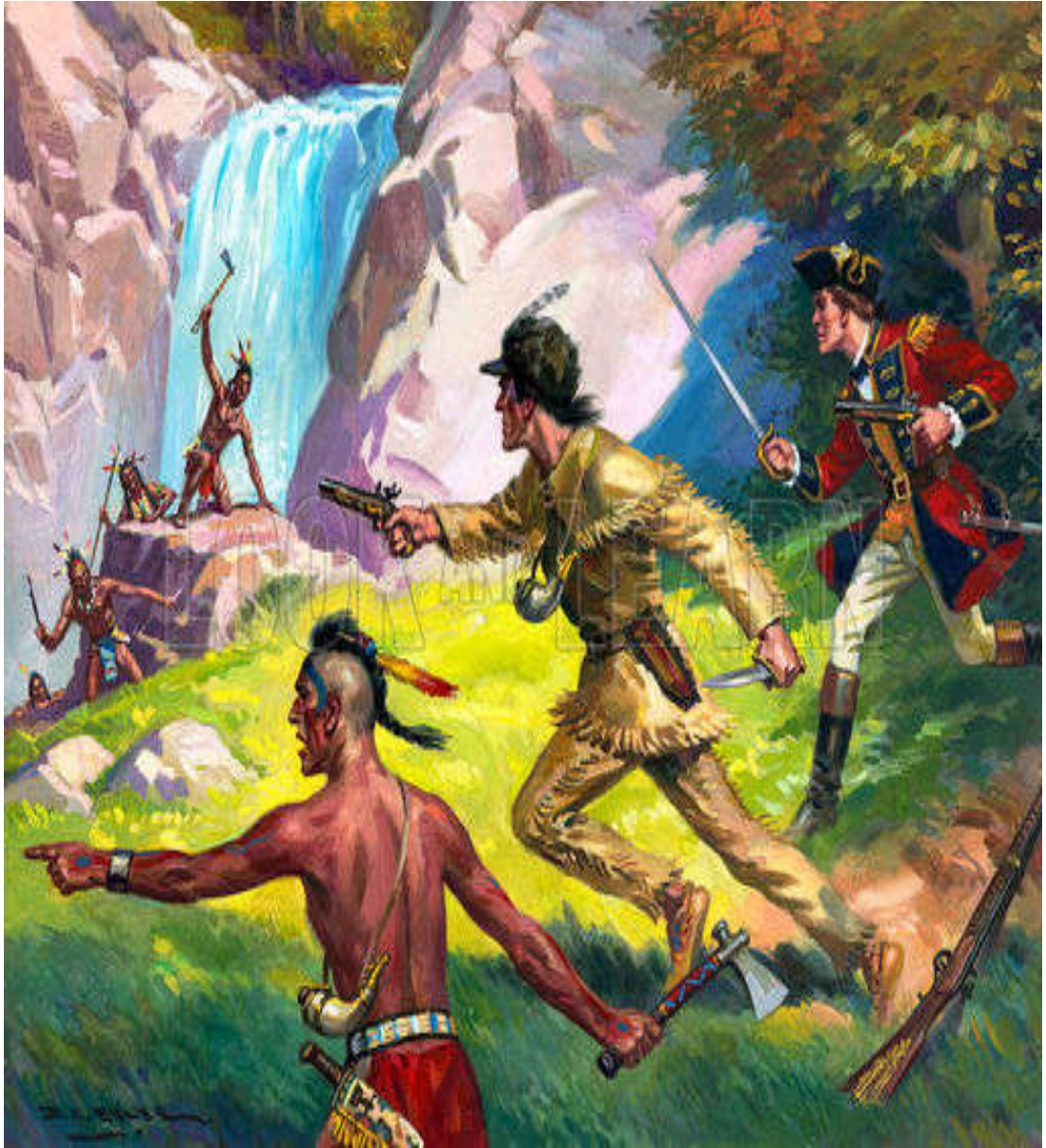
Mots clé : Evénements Historiques, Autochtones d'Amérique, Histoire, Littérature, Colonisation.

Appendix 1



Appendix 1: Chingachgook fighting with Magua Adapted
from <https://www.google.fr/search?q=image> the last of Mohican by james fenimore
cooper

Appendix 2



Appendix 2: The massacre of William Henry 1757

Adapted from

<https://www.google.fr/search?q=image> the last of Mohican by james fenimore
cooper