



The Thematic Study of Psychogeography in Joseph Conrad's "The Heart of Darkness"

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Abstract— *The geography and psychophony of the journey executed in the frame of the novella "The Heart of Darkness" by Joseph Conrad has been discussed in the present paper identifying the physical journey into the African woods and the equally significant psychological journey conducted in the characters. This paper exposes how the geography of the African settings is entangled with the characters' thoughts and conflicts. In the analysis, the emphasis is made on such aspects as the Congo River, both, the European and the African contexts of the colonizers and colonized, and colonial engineering. The paper will discuss the specificity of the cable area and place as seen by Conrad and how that adds to the stories' meaning together with an analysis of the way colonialism reduces the human identity. Consequently, this research establishes how Conrad's work conveys the concept of psychogeography, particularly with respect to colonialism and its influence on mentality. Thus, in relation to the processes of discussing, the psychogeographic theory study offers new insight into the multilayered construct of environment and human subjectivity of consciousness.*



Keywords— *Geography, Psychogeography, Colonialism, African Setting, Human Identity*

I. INTRODUCTION

Therefore, during the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries, the British colonial and imperial consolidation is normally viewed as a period of strong European colonial invasion, economic integration, and cultural domination. Such eras are considered as the British Empire in India up to the highest level. One terrible deed of imperialism which took place during the period when the so-called 'Age of imperialism' accompanied by the 'Scramble for Africa' was carried out- this divided Africa into colonies. It is also evident that the colonial economy highly depended on the exploitation of African labor. Some African people were forced into demanding working environments in the mines, on plantations and building other structures. This British colonialism in Africa recast the African history and having created a diverse story that is greatly experienced in the post-modern African societies and the relations between the African continent and the rest of the world.

Jozef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski also known as Joseph Conrad was a British writer of Polish origin, and such aspects as imperialism, spirit and consciousness of the human being, and many other aspects of morality and

internal contradictions. Some of his notable works include; novel of Lord Jim which revolves around the life of Jim, a young Englishman, who faced various existentialist crises on a voyage at sea. "Nostromo" was also his novel which is based on the fictitious country in South America and there he shown politics, its corrupt form, imperialism and so on. There was another famous novel known as "The secret agent" – here calmly and vividly Scheiner described the problems of anarchism and spying. All his novels are characterized by schematic structure of the main plot and rather high degree of psychological depth of the characters.

Joseph Conrad a writer, was first and foremost a seaman and that is why his works include realistic scenes of sea and realistic outlook of seamen. His uncle whose name was Tadeusz Bobrowski suggested that should leave for France so that he could begin his career on the sea. He founded merchant marine in 1874. These are for instance being an ordinary seaman, an apprentice, a steward; others are third mate in a ship, second mate, first mate and eventually attaining the position of being a Captain of a Ship. This strategy of his helped him gone-through with life

at sea and to be able to include them into his novels perfectly well.

This was mainly brought out by the ways and manner he described the sea, the ships and the ports, which without doubt was grounded on the sea domain. Moreover, as a pariah, such places offered him a feel of the various cultures and the geographical nature, which was a typical aspect in his stories; they also offered realism and discovery which are feel that is still fascinating to the readers.

Heart of Darkness is a novel written by Joseph Conrad and was published in 1899 The main motifs in this story can be regarded as imperialism racism and the Dark side of society and people.

The plot of the novella is presented in the second narrative level. Problems of colonialism, isolation, people's essence, and insanity were demonstrated in the course of the novella. Conrad employed rich symbolism to evaluate such themes as the Conradian message in the story. Captain Marlowe, a seaman who in his story relates events throughout the play to a group of men in a small boat on the River Thames. He recalled his experiences on his sojourn to the Congo river in Search of Kurtz; an enigmatic ivory seller. The plot is traced from the desire for power and greed that resides in people's souls along to the colonization of Africa by Europeans.

II. METHODOLOGY

Psychogeography, a concept originated by Situationist International inside mix of Marxism and surrealism. It also looks at the influence of topographical environment on feelings and practices of populace. With refer to this thought, in Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness" it is possible to use to find out how the African setting influences Marlow and other characters, particularly Kurtz, along with the general mood of the entire story.

Additionally, the physical and mental scenes the movie portrays become deeper and grimmer as Marlow delves further into the heart of the Congo, mirroring the author's exploration of the dark areas of the human psyche. Primordial darkness of the woods, the river, and severe weather inhibited recognition as well as action, which corresponds to the feelings of warning and confusion in Conrad's "Heart of Darkness" It is thus clear that the African scene is not just part of the played picture background, but as an active participant contributor to the picture. The waterway Congo is often depicted as a serpent-like constrain The Congo river is described as a "...mighty big river...resembling an immense snake with its head in the sea, its body at rest curving afar over a vast country." (Conrad 18)

A physical and mental journey to the core of vagueness. It gets to be an image of Uncertainty and Smoothness. In the case of the Congo River, the meanders symbolize the uncertain and winding nature of Marlow's path. It too broaches the issue of the fluidity of the divide between the civilized and the savage, the sane and the mad. Historically, psychogeography can be defined as a crossing point of brain research, geology, and urban arranging. With psychogeography, one comprehends how one surroundings affects feelings, ways of behavior, and judgments.

It illustrates both the urban spectator who happily strolls the city while carrying its sights, sounds and energies "- nothing more than black shadows of disease and starvation limbs entangled, lying indistinguishably in the greenish haze." (Conrad 30) makes it clear that how the wild folds with their inaccessible and clandestine nature mirrors the often mysterious and, hence, frightening aspect of the human mind's landscapes. Just as effectively, psychogeography links up with such topics as colonialism and alienation. The colonisers treated the dark individuals as enemies and even made it a point to must carry a 'six-inch gun' with them to use on the local Africans.

The Colonisers assaulted the innate individuals mercilessly and slaughtered them unfeelingly. "I saw the black people run. A heavy and dull detonation shook the ground, a puff of smoke came out of the cliff, and that was all. (Conrad 27)

The colonial foundation built a genuine temperament in the novella. The physical investigation of Marlow into the woods of the African nation drove him to the crushed minds of African men. He saw Africans being treated more awful than anything around the world. He clarified their pitiable state where they were cuffed by hand chains.

"Black rags were wound around their loins and the short ends behind waggled to and fro like tails. I could see every rib, the joints of their limbs were connected with a chain whose bights swung between them, rhythmically clinking." (Conrad 28)

Taking the contrast between the European metropolis and the African bush, European civilization is portrayed as insignificant while the indicating Savage impersonations give primeval Western characterizations of the characteristic world. The differentiation points to the slim sleekness of civilization that pointlessly collapses in front of the vagueness. Marlow described the way in which they slipped past the colonisers without saying a single word. "They were within six inches of me without a glance, with those complete, death like indifference of the unhappy savages." (Conrad 28)

They imperialised the local individuals and unscrupulously traded in ivory and Marlow saw how his men took all the wealth of Africa Africa "...a stream of manufactured goods, the rubbishy cottons, beads, and beads, and brass wire sent into the depths of darkness, and in return came a precious trickle of ivory."(Conrad 31)

Mental showed that Segregation and Franticness can be found as motifs in the movie through Kurtz. Established in the womb of the wilds, Kurtz's station updates an original focus on the convergence of the two antithetical forms of topography: mental and actual.

His segregation from European society and submersion in the wild contributes to his plummet into franticness and ethical debasement. Kurtz's mother was half-English his father was half-French. In German the word Kurtz implies 'short'. When Marlow met Kurtz, he was out of commission and anticipated to offer assistance from his specialists. At one point his well-being condition got more awful and Marlow carried him to the specialist who portrayed Kurtz as "he was not much heavier than a child." (Conrad 100)

Through the eyes of Kurtz, peruses can get how mentally he was aggravated which drove him to pass. In his last minutes, Kurtz caught on to his unfeeling exercises towards the locals and figured out his botches. He expressed "The horror! The horror!" (Conrad 103) and died.

III. CONCLUSION

Using psychogeography to examine "Heart of Darkness" gives a nuanced understanding of how Conrad intertwines topographical settings with the mental and ethical ventures of his characters. This approach uncovers how the environment is not just a scenery but a dynamic member in forming the story and subjects of the novella. By looking at the exchange between put and mind, researchers can gain more profound experiences into the complexities of Conrad's work and its persevering significance to talks of human nature, colonialism, and mortality.

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