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Adab Al-Rafidayn Journal

A refereed journal concerned with the publishing of scientific researches in the field of arts and humanities both in Arabic and English


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Editor-in-chief
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Major themes in Conrad’s Victory
Iyad Muhammad Ali Al-Jubouri *
libab altayib almakshufi *

Abstract
Joseph Conrad was one of the greatest novelists of English Literature (Frederick R. Karl (2018), Victory was a novel which was released after a long gap of his previous novel the secret agent. This has been appreciated by the critics, teachers and general readers of the contemporary times of Joseph Conrad (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) pp.56-68). The novel was basically about a morally sensitive individual who was thrown into the corrupted world. The author described his character as the destroyer systems of hopes, of beliefs (Conrad 1995:175 Page). In this research we will talk about the most important themes in this novel. The significance of the proposed study was to reveal the dominant themes of Joseph Conrad Victory novel. Anyway, this work was expected to contribute to the studies in the English literature field. However, It was hoped to be of interest and value to researchers, university studies and those who were concerned with literary studies.

Key words : pain, ivory, sources

FUNDAMENTAL PESSIMISM
In this novel the fundamental pessimism has been inherited by Heyst. Heyst’s father was an embodiment of pessimism who was betrayed by his wife. He did not know who was his mother. He led the life without knowing his mother. The influential words and conditions of his father made him to lead the life with fundamental

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Major themes in Conrad’s Victory

Iyad Muhammad Ali Al-Jubouri & Libab Altayib Almakshufi

Joseph Conrad has depicted the power of fundamental pessimism inherited by the environment with the pessimistic fathers and guides of the life. Generally, children will be led by their parents. In this novel the young boy will be guided with the pessimistic thoughts and way of life which is pessimistic oriented. This made him to lead the life with lack of spontaneity. He was made up with the life where no goals and attachments are need to be considered as an essence of life. The pessimistic influence of his father affected him and made his life with isolated environment with no achievements and goals. In this story Heyst the hero could not respond properly when his wife was in danger with the influence of his group of friends. This has happened just because of his ideology to destruct the active movements when desperately needed to execute. Finally the fundamental pessimism which could not made him to react when his friend is in danger and when his love is in danger. Finally with the influence of fundamental pessimism the hero lost his friend and lover in the story. Joseph Conrad wants to initiate the society that the influence of fundamental pessimism spoils the younger generations. The message was injected into the society with the novel. The novel has become very popular because these conditions are richly prevail in the contemporary world of England. The novel was greatly appreciated to initiate the moral values against the pessimistic mentalities prevail in the society. The novel has represented the theme that the fundamental pessimism can destroy the movements which were essentially made in times of urgency and need. The novel has replicated with great clarity how the fundamental pessimism can destroy the human activities and how it will affect the human relationship in the world (Mara Kalnins (2009) P.P.1-156).

In the 20th century, the new generation’s thoughts have initiated in the modern families. The middle class families and lower class have struggled with the pessimistic thoughts. The replication of fundamental pessimism can spoil the life of youngsters where they have to show their social responsibility towards the fellow human.

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beings is depicted in this novel well. The bad consequences demonstrated in this novel have repented the minds of the people with fundamental pessimism. This novel is read by the young as well as the middle aged people who are treating and imposing the fundamental pessimism to their children. The novel has reopened the doors of the mind of the pessimistic parents to behave properly towards the children to prevent the bad effects of pessimism. This novel initiated the ideology to suppress the fundamental pessimism even though they have been suffered with bad consequences and betrayal in their lives. The critics have appreciated the novel in depicting the fundamental pessimism which could realize the parents and affected youth to come out of the pessimistic thoughts and ideology (Mara Kalnins (2009) pp.167-178).

MELANCHOLY
The novel, Victory, released in the year 1915 (Mara Kalnins (2009) pp.190-208). Initially it was distinguished as the artistic failure because all the characters were ended with death. But when the sales was increasing at record breaking collections it was regarded as the master piece of work to give a message against the ill characteristics. In this novel Joseph Conrad has depicted the power of Melancholy and its bad effects on the hero Heyst. Melancholy is presented in the character of Heyst and Lena in a fantastic way which has ruined their active life. The influence of his father made him to feel always in melancholy. A sort of apathy is always surrounded by Heyst from his childhood. The same was continued as soon as his father was died. Some of the friends of Heyst suggested to go for a travel to be away from the melancholy. The melancholy feelings were surrounded by Heyst even when he was travelling in a ship. When he observed himself with the help of a captain Mr. Morrison he could realized himself he is in melancholy and losing all enjoyment in the life. Then he started seeing the beauty of the life. Joseph Conrad has depicted the theme of

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melancholy which is going to spoil the recipes of life. When Heyst started the journey there was a deep agonizing struggle going on between his habit of detachment and his instinctive need to involve himself. He was forced to participate in the process of life and tried to come out his melancholy. He slowly tried to go away from his self-chosen isolation on the island of Sambouran in the Malaysian Archipelago (Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas. (2011) pp.103-117)\(^5\). When he decided to come out of his melancholic feelings with the association of his love Lena he started his rejuvenation of his essence of life with the beauty and love. Heyst was in the position of Melancholy and not conscious of surrounded people are friends or enemies. With the melancholy Heyst achieved the solitary state of life. His complete silence and immobility was the replication of his past feelings and impressions inherited by his father. He has continued his journey with restless wandering by the detachment of an impermanent dweller amongst changing scenes. Victory is a novel which has bestow the full costs of an attitude rooted in cynical and selfish indifference to hide to abstain to do nothing by the character Heyst (Mara Kalnins (2009) pp.231-245)\(^6\).

Joseph Conrad has effectively demonstrated the state of melancholy in the character of Heyst which has ruined his life. He wants to send the message to the public and readers by showing the effects of melancholic feelings will spoil the creativity and essence of life. People were observed with great melancholic feelings in the society who feels they have lost everything and no need for further life. Thinking about the bad incidents of the life and leading lifeless dry life in the society should be changed and realized by reading and seeing the character who have lost everything and feeling sad for ever. He wants to show the public how the melancholic feeling should be given up and needs to life in realistic life. Joseph Conrad has depicted the Victory with the replicating the bad effects of the feeling of sadness and its movement less activities of Heyst in times

of reacting against the people who are doing harm. The sadness feeling has immortalize Heyst not to distinguish the friends and foes. Though he could realize the foes are doing disastrous activities in his life and in his love life he could not stop them. Finally, he attempted suicide and died at the end. This story replicate how a feeling of melancholy will ruin the life of human beings (Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas. (2011)pp/234-246).

*Victory* is compared with the great work of Shakespeare called “Hamlet”. *Victory* was appreciated and called as the Hamlet of the South Seas. Because of the description of Melancholy depicted in the novel as equaling to the description of “Hamlet”. Shakespeare’s Hamlet was famous for his description of Melancholy and peace and grandeur. Similarly *Victory* of Joseph Conrad. The shade of melancholy was reduced by the interaction of Morrison’s friendship. His solitude and nature of keeping himself with sad feelings and isolated environment was gradually reduced by the participation as a manager to the Belt Coal Company belongs to Morrison (Amer, et.al.(2011) pp.25-38).

**THE POWER OF REDEMPTION**

*Victory* is the novel which is notably appreciated by the general public and gained popularity for its themes. This novel has been filmed multiple times by different directors of different countries namely Hollywood and Germany. This novel was enriched with different themes predominantly criticized the attitude of the parents to treat the children. This novel was greatly appreciated for demonstrating the bad in the society with traditional and unwanted qualities of human nature. In this novel the power of redemption is demonstrated by the characters greatly. In this novel Axel Heyst was a man of sensitivity. He was thrown into the sourly troubled derelict world. Axel Heyst was Swedish baron will have a self-examination and self-discovery. Joseph Conrad stamped the characters of this novel with predominant qualities. In this novel the

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power of redemption is skillfully depicted by the author with high range of twists and modifications of life path (Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas (2011) pp. 137-142). Axel Heyst will obey the decisions and actions of God with high obedience. He honored every action of the life is gifted by the God and simply follow the consequences innocently. Because he did not exposed to the sourly troubled world and did not know how to do the reactions for the attacks of the life. This character demonstrated the deep, agonizing struggle between his detachment nature and instinctive need to involve himself in the process of life. Axel Heyst was picturised as the person gifted with power of redemption. In the climactic violence Axel Heyst demonstrated the redemption and destruction at the same time (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) 33-46). This climactic violence was demonstrated in Conrad’s words: “The thunder growled distantly with angry modulations of its tremendous voice, while the world outside shuddered incessantly around the dead stillness of the room where the framed profile of Axel Heyst looked severely into space.” At this juncture the author demonstrated the two symbols of themes in single scene in an effective manner. Joseph regrettably told the effective instances in his latest novel Victory. In this novel Joseph Conrad has demonstrated the stylistic and narrative innovations of twentieth century literature ((Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas (2011) pp. 137-142).

Joseph Conrad has created a new way of writing literature for the 20th century literature with good themes and novel narrative styles. In this process the power of redemption is the theme which is essentially required by the society and get change in the humanity with credible characteristics (Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas (2011)

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10 Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) MEN AVOIDING LOVE IN JOSEPH CONRAD’S VICTORY AND YUSUF ATILGAN’S AN IDLE MAN published in Uludağ University Faculty of Arts and Sciences Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 20, Iss. 36, p. 287-305.
He created most heinous situations in the novel with the plot of different characters and keep the hero Axel Heyst and demonstrated the power of redemption to initiate the human values and characteristics. When the power of evil is taking its fullest stretch by the other characters the hero demonstrated the power of redemption as well as destruction. The destruction has been done on his own life not harmed others. This incident made the readers to get tears and shock the hearts of the people. This novel has established the social obligation with virtues and good qualities towards the fellow human beings. This novel has initiated the moral values in the society with the introduction of characters which are naturally seen in the sourly troubled world in day to day life. In Victory the author demonstrated the vision that embraces every walk of life. He depicted the mantra for redemption and salvation for human life in the hypocritical life styles and models (Joseph Conrad (1915) pp.245-254). Joseph Conrad has depicted the theme of redemption in his novel. He strongly believed in moral values of life. He incidentally developed the plots for the stories which can give the way for exaggerate the power of redemption in times of troubles. Redemption of human soul at the universal level and depicted in the heroic character Axel Heyst with true love and innocence. This novel has embodied the critical situations of human values in killing his friend Morrison and Lena in different situations and tested the power of redemption of the character Axel Heyst (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) pp.123-134). By telling this situations the author wants to initiate the human values when the times of testing surrounded us. Initially the concept of Conrad was not understood by the readers. Slowly the themes and writing style was understood.

14 Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) MEN AVOIDING LOVE IN JOSEPH CONRAD’S VICTORY AND YUSUF ATILGAN’S AN IDLE MAN published in Uludağ University Faculty of Arts and Sciences Journal of Social Sciences,Vol. 20, Iss. 36, p. 287-305.
by the readers and given rise to the sales of the book in a huge quantity. The theme is predominant in Joseph Conrad novels and initiated the interest from the directors of Hollywood and Germany to film this novel (Sambit Panigrahi (2016) pp.234-246)\(^\text{15}\). The novel was filmed to demonstrate the themes and unexpected twists with attractive dialogues. The filming of the novel has increased the popularity of the author and the novels were elected for literature learning for the students of English literature. The directors have taken the theme of power of redemption society and manner into consideration and developed the films with good actors. The actors of 21\(^\text{st}\) century has given life to the themes and spread across the world. The name and fame of the author has spread across the world and the theme of redemption has been highlighted in the movies (Patrick Sherry (2000) pp.34-48)\(^\text{16}\).

**ISOLATION**

Isolation is another theme of *Victory* which was the virtue of Axel Heyst. From childhood Axel Heyst was habituated to spend his time with isolation. He used to play with his solitude. His father has kept him in isolation and never entertained him to join with his friends and relatives. He was kept alone and made him to continue with this education with sincerity and honesty (Amer, et.al.(2011) pp. 89-103)\(^\text{17}\). The nature of Axel Heyst is developed from his childhood and continued in his voyage. Isolation from evil is symbolically demonstrated by the author with this nature. The character Axel Heyst was created with the isolation at every part of the novel and incidents. While he was travelling in ship Axel Heyst was loving his isolation and keeping himself alone. This nature and untouchability has been attracted by Morrison and made him to perform the friendship. The qualities demonstrated by Axel Heyst ware attracted

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\(^{16}\) Patrick Sherry (2000) NOVELS OF REDEMPTION Published by: Oxford University Press Vol. 14, No. 3 (September 2000), pp. 249-260 in the segments of Literature and Theology

\(^{17}\) Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas. (2011). Society and Manner in Joseph Conrad's Victory. 22. 162. published in esearchgate wide publication/327691331
Morrison and made him as the trusted friend. Because of this trust he made Axel Heyst as the manager of his Coal Mines in Sambouran. Even in the job as a manager of Coal Mines he spent his most of his time with isolation (Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) pp. 47-53)\textsuperscript{18}.

Joseph Conrad was famed for his narration of alienation and isolation in his novels. The emotional estrangement of man in the alienated circumstances the man with self-imposed personality will always loves to be in the isolated environment. Axel Heyst was brought up by his father with great constraints and Dostoevsky environment which is kept him away from his friend and neighbors. He missed lots of recipe of life and enjoyment with the union of his age group neighbors and friends. The innermost heart feelings are rich with melancholy and a sort of unexplainable sadness. This modes have made Heyst love the isolation from normal life with his associates and friends and colleagues. Though he was mingling with the lovable friend Morrison he could not make such movements with his other group of friends. They could not show the behaviour as Morrison has showed towards him. The indifferences between the other group of friends been with him could not win the heart of Axel Heyst. So when he was working as the manager of Coal Mines he loved to be with solitude and isolated (Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) pp. 47-53)\textsuperscript{19}.

Isolation is a theme which could not be practiced by modern English writers. Because they could not describe as this can be described by Joseph Conrad. When he was explaining the power of Solitude and Isolated mind he used to unpredictable way of writing style to lure the hearts of the readers. The readers also loves to be with solitude to taste the sweetness and calmness of the Isolation state. Joseph Conrad strongly believes that the self-willed egotists and self-seekers love to be isolated to safeguard the moral values and principles with their regulated conduct (Levin, Y. (2008) pp. 10-}

\textsuperscript{18} Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) The theme of Isolation in the work of Joseph Conrad published by the University of British Columbia
\textsuperscript{19} Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) The theme of Isolation in the work of Joseph Conrad published by the University of British Columbia

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They feel fear that the regulated conduct would be spoiled when they mingle with others and join hands with ill cultured people. The association and friendship with the ill-mannered people will influence the heart and may get change and become immoral fellow in the world. This was the idea that Axel Heyst could not join the hands with the group of people who always talk ill of others and demonstrate the supremacy and domination. Axel Heyst felt that dominating others was a bad quality and demonstration of the supremacy with the fellow human beings. God has created the world with equal opportunities and equal rights. Suppressing others and talking ill about others may harm others soul. This was observed by Axel Heyst when he was travelling places as soon as his father died. Hence Axel Heyst loves to be isolated and spend his time lonely to protect his chastity and good qualities (Danielle Staudte (2014))

This theme was skillfully depicted by Joseph in this novel Victory with self-created ideals and personal visions. The ultimate goal of escaping from the influences of others is to keep himself in loneliness and despair. While describing the value of loneliness and despair the readers have got the social obligation to the novels as they also like the opinions of the author (Amer, Subhi & Subhi, Enas (2011) pp. 89-103). The modern writers of English dare not do this experiment to describe the power of loneliness and despair is sweeter than spending time with most lovable persons (Danielle Staudte (2014) pp.35-42). In this novel Axel Heyst character has played with his solitude and loneliness (Ruth E.Mc Connel

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Axel Heyst has felt lot of individual liberty while he was spending time loneliness and despair (Joseph Conrad (1915) pp.45-57). The loneliness mostly liked by the people when they experienced the betrayal. They don’t want to invite the same situation when they want to be with the people and open for betrayal. Joseph Conrad’s finest illustrations of emotionally lonely beings remorse stems from earlier acts of betrayal. The people with loneliness untrust the people around them (Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) pp1-13). They were trained from the childhood and the parents could warn them not to mingle with other which leads to betrayal. Similarly the situations happened for Axel Heyst from childhood were given great evidence that her mother did leave his father. Similarly when Axel Heyst was making travel he witness the murder of his friend Morrison for the sake of property looting where the coal mines are situated. The association of bad gang who influence him to kill his friend Morrison and take the entire property of Morrison after death. Apart from the betrayal and deception towards the musical lady Lena was rude and cruel. He witness these incidents and characteristics of humans around him. This made Axel Heyst to love loneliness and spend his most of the time in Solitude and despair. He did not try to come out of the isolation state willfully to enjoy the relation with others (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) pp.45-59).

**ORGANIC INTERACTION**

Joseph Conrad skillfully depicted the organic interaction of Heyst in the novel with sudden time shifts and truncations. The novel structure was predominantly demonstrating the scope for organic

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24 Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) The theme of Isolation in the work of Joseph Conrad published by the University of British Columbia
26 Ruth E. Mc Connel (1958) The theme of Isolation in the work of Joseph Conrad published by the University of British Columbia
27 Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) MEN AVOIDING LOVE IN JOSEPH CONRAD’S *VICTORY* AND YUSUF ATILGAN’S AN IDLE MAN published in Uludağ University Faculty of Arts and Sciences Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 20, Iss. 36, p. 287-305.
interaction with his lover Lena. The author’s narration to depict the organic interaction in peculiar circumstances Heyst struggling to free himself from the influence of this late father. His father was a Swedish philosopher of disenchantment lived in London. He did not have any organic interaction with anybody in his life until he started the travel with Morrison. Joseph Conrad the novelist has created a sequence to have the organic interaction with a lady when she was in a deep shit of troubles. At that juncture Heyst had a conversation to save her from the danger arranged by the hotel owner where she was singing and acting like musician. He eloped with that lady Lena to a island. In this island the author could create a scenario where Heyst and lena could have a great organic interaction with each other (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) pp.56-67).

Joseph Conrad has named the interaction with Heyst in a vivid way of presentation when he is struggling with the fear of interacting with anyone in the island. The author has skillfully named and created the interaction with Lena who has become his lover. The circumstances where Heyst could get relief with her honest words to take care of him with her love and affection. Heyst was always thinking about his conduct even in his silences. The organic interaction with Lena made him to think about the sin and sought for the redemption. The man with the good conduct and God fearing nature could not accept the sinful activities. But the circumstances and human relationship when two persons are united with love and affection should be taken as a god gifted relationship. But Heyst was feeling that the organic interaction with Lena was a sin without getting into marriage. Though he had good amount of love and affection towards her he could not react when she faced the death accidently by the group of his friends in the island. At that juncture he could not tolerate the separation from him by the cause of death. He himself suicide and take the death. In the novel Victory the theme organic interaction has demonstrated the spirits of Heyst and

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the nullification of his fears. The organic interaction has provided the peace and harmony in his walk of life. The new relationship with organic interaction has rejuvenated his spirits and human values. The humanity and mankind is exhibited in organic interaction (Levin, Y. (2008) –pp. 25-32)\textsuperscript{29}.

**INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM**

Heyst was brought up by his father. His father was a philosopher and could not provide sufficient space for enjoying the freedom for the boy. Heyst was brought up with pessimism and isolation state where no interaction and association with his friends and neighbors. When his father died he could not enjoy the intellectual freedom. Heyst was totally dissatisfied with his home and even his country. He developed a sort of angry with his own country and angry with the word. He was in a mental state where hatred and disastrous moods are surrounded him. His father advised him to cultivate a form of contempt. The name of the form of contempt was pity. He developed a pity on him. He vexed with the pity and wants to cut the threads around him which could tie him with traditions and disastrousness. He desperately wanted the intellectual freedom from all his bondages and traditional forms of his sadness. When he decided to go for travelling overseas he was associated with the captain Morrison. The voyage has provided the intellectual freedom to think and mingle with others. Even when he was in solitude and isolation he was enjoying the intellectual freedom. He loved his intellectual freedom to be isolated from evil people and not to interact with all groups. He struggled very much with the friction of his traditional values and the way of world how it behaved towards the humanity and mankind. At that movement he desperately sought for intellectual freedom from all the troubles and intellectual friction. He still heard the words of his father that “the last words of the man who had spent his life in blowing blasts upon a terrible trumpet which had filled heaven and earth with ruins, while mankind went on its way unheeding” (Sambit Panigrahi (2016)

Joseph Conrad has demonstrated the mental state of Heyst with heist intellectual freedom to with his friends more than his solitude. He did not believe that the mankind existence was always questionable when it was coming and judging with the value of money. He has seen the worst characters who were planned to kill his friend and master Morrison. When he died with the cruel plan of his friends he struggled and sought for intellectual freedom. (Hatice Övgü Tüzün (2019) pp.87-92)


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References


The main themes in Conrad’s Victory

Iyad Muhammad Ali Al-Jubouri & Libab Altayib Al-Makshufi

Summary

The writer and Polish novelist Joseph Conrad, one of the most influential authors, was born in 1857 in Austria and passed away in 1924 due to a heart attack. He wrote more than seven and a half novels and twelve short stories. His most famous novel is Victory, which he published after a long period of time from his previous novel, The Secret Agent. It received great praise from critics and teachers at the time, and it depicts the political and social reality of the character who finds himself in a corrupt world. The writer in this novel has added some severe and painful events to the main characters, who are characterized by a constant feeling of dread and loss. This is where the novel’s learning can be seen in studying the Polish literature field on the whole. We hope that this study will contribute to other aspects of this important novel and the themes of this work in this research. The main theme is a woman of the beach (Marko), a man of the sea, and (The Secret Agent), (A Night on the Town), and (The Secret Agent). Conrad’s novel has been translated into several languages and published in many countries. The writer's work has been studied by many scholars and writers, who have written many articles and books about his works. Conrad’s novel has been translated into several languages and published in many countries. The writer's work has been studied by many scholars and writers, who have written many articles and books about his works.