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Colonial Life in Conrad's The Heart of Darkness And Forster's a Passage to India (A Comparative Based on Sociological Perspective)

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Abstract

The Industrial Revolution was a time of great age throughout the world. It represented major change from 1760 to the period 1820-1840. The movement originated in Great Britain and affected everything from industrial manufacturing processes to the daily life of the average citizen. The main industry at the time was the textile industry. It had the most employees, output value, and invested capital. It was the first to take on new modern production methods. The effects caused by the industrial revolution which has mentioned above, can lead to another impact such as the emergence of where the industry must obtain the availability of raw materials, and the next impact is where the result of the raw material processess by the industry will be marketed. For colonialism itself, generally it is the direct and overall domination of one country by another on the basis of state power being in the hands of a foreign power. Spesifically colonialism has two objectives, they are political domination and the second one is to make possible the exploitation of colonized country. This research aims to find out the colonialisms traits of the characters perform in their respective position, and to reveal the impacts of colonialism on characters.

Keywords: *Revolutional Industry, Colonialism.*

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1. Introduction

The Industrial Revolution was a time of great age throughout the world. It represented major change from 1760 to the period 1820-1840. The movement originated in Great Britain and affected everything from industrial manufacturing processes to the daily life of the average citizen. The main industry at the time was the textile industry. It had the most employees, output value, and invested capital. It was the first to take on new modern production methods.

The transition to machine power drastically increased productivity and efficiency. It started in Great Britain and soon expanded into Western Europe and to the United States. The actual effects of the revolution on different sections of society differed. They manifested themselves at different times. The 'trickle down' effect whereby the benefits of the revolution helped the lower classes did not happen until towards the 1830s and 1840s. Initially, machines like the Watt Steam Engine and the Spinning Jenny only benefited the rich industrialists.

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The effects on the general population, when they did come, were major. Prior to the revolution, most cotton spinning was done with a wheel in the home. These advances allowed families to increase their productivity and output. It gave them more disposable income and enabled them to facilitate the growth of a larger consumer goods market. The lower classes were able to spend. For the first time in history, the masses had a sustained growth in living standards. Yet, where people supposed to live being also a problem, Industrialists wanted more workers and the new technology largely confined itself to large factories in the cities. Thousands of people who lived in the countryside migrated to the cities permanently. It led to the growth of cities across the world, including London, Manchester, and Boston. The permanent shift from rural living to city living has endured to the present day.

For colonialism itself, generally it is the direct and overall domination of one country by another on the basis of state power being in the hands of a foreign power. Specifically colonialism has two objectives, they are political domination and the second one is to make possible the exploitation of colonized country (Ocheni, 2012).

In *Post Colonial Study the Key Concept*, Aschroft explains imperialism as the formation of an empire, and, as such, has been an aspect of all periods of history in which one nation has extended its domination over one or several neighbouring nations (2007). As a capitalist consequence, one country should be extended their domination to another so they will keep working this industrialization of mass product being always produced. If they are not invading the others this circulation of capitalist will break up and there is no any income to keep this system of capitalist worked.

This research aims to analyze two novels from Conrad and Forster that each of them the researcher indicates that both novels might be contained colonialism during the colonial life. One of the greatest works from Joseph Conrad *Heart of Darkness* tells us about the hypocrisy of imperialism.

Forster's novel through his novel, *A Passage to India* deals with human relationships, relationship between west and east generally, but here the British are not shown as tyrants, although they do fail to understand Indian religion and culture. They are also convinced that the British Empire is a civilizing force on the benighted "natives" of India, and they regard all Indians as their inferiors, incapable of leadership. And yet, in their own way, the English try to rule in a just way.

There are previous researchers have studied about Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and Forster's *A Passage to India* as object of analysis. The first is a thesis written by Nurprihatna (2012), from Hasanuddin University "Systems of Representation in E. M. Forster's Novel *A Passage to India*". This thesis uses sociological approach. She tried to investigate how eastern and western cultures are portrayed in the characters point of views and identifying how the character of the author's point of view is represented in the novel. The second previous research was done by Berzenji's journal (2013) under the title *The Image of the Africans in Heart of Darkness and Things Fall Apart*. The research examines two opposing images of African culture presented in both novels: Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. *Heart of Darkness* depicts Africans as marginalized, voiceless and primitive, which is considered by many critics as an indictment of the hypocritical civilizing mission of the Europeans; whereas Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*

repudiates the cultural assumptions presented by Conrad and delineates a totally different image of the African society in the process of change, which is aware of its past history and strives to control its future. The third research was conducted by Karim A N from Hasanuddin University (2010). She wrote her thesis under the title *The Roles of Mother in Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen and Little Women by Louisa May Alcott (A Study of Comparative Literature)*. By using comparative and descriptive qualitative method she tried to analyze and review four main researches, they are mothers characteristics in both novels, mothers role in each novel, their significant in managing their family life, and the last is the elements of comparison especially about mothesr characteristics and mothers role in both novel. The fourth is, a thesis conducted by Loureiro (1992), from San Jose University, under the title *Subjective Reality in Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness*. She examines subjectivity as an integral part of perception and judgment. By using formalist approach she demonstrated that personal and social values not only tain judgement partiality. The fifth related research was done by Sulmi (2012), entitled *Imperialism in Central Africa as Revealed in Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness*. This research aims to find out the imperialistic traits of the characters perform in their respective position, and to reveal the impacts of imperialism on character's performance in Belgian Congo. The sixth research from Guven's journal (2013) *Post-Colonial Analysis of Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness* from Karabuk University. In his journal, he used post-colonial perspective by taking European imperialism and colonialism over Africa into consideration in order to clarify how Conrad has deconstructed binary oppositions of colonialism by subverting the general idea of the Europeans towards Africa in the 19th century. The last research from Jajja's journal (2013) under the title *A Passage to India : The Colonial Discourse and the Representation of India and Indians as Stereotypes*. The research aimed to examine the operations of the colonialist ideology in *A Passage to India*, to show that Forster meant to reinforce the colonialist ideology of superiority, along with the representation of India and Indians as stereotypes and marginalized people and culture in his novel. The study also wanted to examine the link between imperialism and culture and the resultant mimicry and hybridity among the Indians and the development of the identity of the Indians. The study was based upon the analysis of the text of the novel in the light of Postcolonial theories. The study found that *A Passage to India* like any imperial discourse privileged the Europe and the European codes, and ideologies while the Indians and their culture were presented as lesser and inferior stereotypes.

2. Research Method

2.1. Type of Research

The researcher employed qualitative research design using document or content analysis research as the method by Wellek & Warren (1956), because the researcher analyzing and interpreted all of conversation language used by the main character in *Heart of Darkness and A Passage to India*.

2.2. Source of Data

The data of this research took from two sources, the primary and supporting data. Primary data were the important data of a research or the data that were directly related to the object of research. The primary data were taken from the Short story and Novel (*Heart of Darkness and A Passage to India*). Supporting data included all sources which supported the main data. The supporting data were taken from other sources, such as

books, article, encyclopedias, internet, and other sources related to this writing as well as from library research.

2.3. Method of Data Collection

In collecting the data, the researcher applied some steps such as follows: reading the novel carefully, taking the note of the data through Sociological theory, providing particular fragments of issues that support in research questions.

2.4. Method of Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzes and process them as follows: the data interpreted, the issue that exist in selected fragments presented, the Qualify data in Sociological issues relating with the research questions explained, and conclusion made.

3. Findings

3.1. Domination

In both novel, it tells about mostly about the way of the western countries dominated the east countries in an objective to control everything in it. And it is depicted in the novel where in it is told the way they dominating country, people and every aspects in it through the daily colonial event.

Hunters for gold of pursuers of fame, they all had gone out on that stream, bearing the sword, and often the torch, messengers of the might within the land, bearers of a spark from the sacred fire. What greatness had not floated on the ebb of that river into the mystery of an unknown earth! (Conrad, 1999:4).

In the quotation above, it clearly shows that the colonizt are described as typical of some people who did the colonial adventurous for the sake of civilization. This is one of the purpose of colonizers that wanted to civillize the “dark” country through their civilization idea. The domination became the first priority for them to conquers anything in that land. In another quotes the attempt to dominate the east by the west.

The roads, named after victorious generals and intersecting at the right angles, were symbolic of the net Great Britain had thrown over India. He felt caught in their meshes (Forster, 1978:17).

Aziz feels isolated since the arrival of British to his land. Here we can see the domination from the British empire over dominate the entire place of India. Because of this Aziz like trapped in his own land due to several principal that made natives like him feel restricted. Here also the rigid angles marked out by the colonial roads stand in for the lines that the English draw to organize and manage their colony. Aziz feels the effects of the British Empire at a deep, feeling personally trapped by colonial life.

3.2. Cultural Imposition

This attempt of colonial power could be the result of a belief in the racial and/or cultural superiority of the colonizing power; an evangelical desire to spread particular religions, education, or cultural practices; or as a mechanism for establishing and consolidating political control.

He was an improved specimen; he could fire up a vertical boiler. He was there below me, and, upon my word, to look at him was as edifying as seeing a dog in a parody of breeches and a feather hat, walking on his hind legs (Conrad, 1999:42).

The way west impose their colonial power is through the Civilization idea. It is mainly emphasized that they are more superior than the east which is inferior. Here, Marlow without any hesitation said that the black is another specimen than him. He even described the black as a kind of dog which is having a hind leg.

The educated Indians will be no good to us if there's a row, it's simply not worth while conciliating them, that's why they don't matter. Most of the people you see are seditious at heart, and the rest 'id run squealing (Forster, 1978:54).

In the quotation above, it shows that even the educated native is typically bad to them. English introduced the modern education to the natives in order they can stand equally but in fact, it is only a discourse they created, they never think the native will be equally same with the British men or women, they will always looking down the natives, even the educated one.

3.3. Exploitation

This exploitation has taken many different forms, but it might mention, among other policies, the exploitation of human and natural resources, the exploitation toward the attitude of human being, the establishment of exploitative trade relations, and the forcible introduction of capitalist forms of production. As will be seen, the legacy of such practices is deeply contested.

I got my appointment of course; and I got it very quick. It appears the Company had received news that one of their captains had been killed in a scuffle with the natives. This was my chance, and it made me the more anxious to go. It was only months and months afterwards, when I made the attempt to recover what was left of the body, that I heard the original quarrel arose from a misunderstanding about some hens. Yes, two black hens. Fresleven that was the fellow's name, a Dane thought himself wronged somehow in the bargain so he went ashore and started to hammer the chief of the village with a stick (Conrad, 1999:9).

Marlow heard some news from the surface about the violence and brutality who has done toward to the natives. Violence and brutality is a general thing that we can found in the colonial period in Africa. It is not only general in colonial period, this is also happen generally in slavery system which is one of the part of colonialism itself.

We're not out here for the purpose of behaving pleasantly! What do you mean? What I say. We're out here to do justice and keep the peace. Them's my sentiments. India isn't a drawingroom. Your sentiments are those of a god," she said quietly, but it was his manner rather than his sentiments that annoyed her. Trying to recover his temper, he said, "India likes gods. And Englishmen like posing as gods (Forster, 1978:71).

When Ronny Heaslop, the City Magistrate, arrives at the residence of Fielding, where Adela Quested is sitting with Professor Godbole and Dr Aziz, discussing the various features of Marabar Caves, India and Hinduism, he at once flares up. "With an annoyance he took no trouble to conceal, he called from the garden: What's happened to Fielding? Where is my mother? I want you and mother at once". Since his mother, Mrs. Moore, is at a round of the college with Fielding, Principal Government College, so Professor Godbole wants to inform him. "Your mother will return shortly, sir, said Professor Godbole, who had

risen with deference. There is but little to see at our poor college. Ronny took no notice, but continued to address his remarks to Adela. Ronny is not only rude with the respectable Indians but also to his native English, just due to his official status.

4. Discussion

In this section it will discuss about the similarity and differences about colonialism perspective in both novels. From the previous section, nothing much different in the way of dominating and exploiting by the west has implemented to the east. Based on the time, Conrad has been created his novel at the 19th century and the time so many colonialisation related to the physical content that happen to the "others" or they are treated like a slave. But the different in Forster's novel, the way he uttered of exploitation is quite different. There is no any physical content anymore but he emphasized more in the way west exploit the east through the negative behaviour, or attitude.

5. Conclusion

Both Conrad and Forster were a numerous author in their own time, both have each characteristics of the way they express ideas about colonialism in their own literary works. In the first research question we can see that most of natives were exploited cruelly like a slave, and they were forced more to work in their own natural land by using their own natural resources. The way west exploit them by physical appearance look so much different, they using a perfect clothes and having an authority for using the gun. Sometimes they use their gun to make the natives became so afraid to them. The way they exploit everything from the land of Africa, treated their human resources like an animal, put the iron chain as a sign of colonial power or to make them different than the colonizers. It is quite different with what has been expressed in Forster's novel, Indian could get a proper education but the idea of superiority has never make an equality for both sides even the idea of dominating and exploiting the east still exist, but practically they have a little bit different style based on above description.

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