

The Manifestations of Humanity's Wickedness Disposition in William Golding's Lord of the Flies

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Abstract

The current study shows the actual feature of human being as an evil by its nature. This wickedness grows when it finds the suitable environment. The environment helps wickedness to remove the control of societies' rules. Thus the writer makes this novel as a remarkable point to manifest the humanity wicked deeds and related them to the sins. The author related the sin to the original sin of humanity's father, Adam, when he violates the regulations of the supreme being. The result is to dismiss out of Eden to establish eternal sufferings on the earth. After the boys coming to the Island, they feel free to do whatever they like. There is no law to curb their desires, they start to kill each other. They become away of civilized society and follow barbarism mood in their actions. This paper is an attempt to show the sense that accustoms the readers with the psychological state of human to be always aware of their dealing with other. The researcher follows a qualitative as a type of methodology for the current article. The researcher follows also thematic analysis. The consequences of the study show that man is an evil in nature and this evil makes man to loose humanity's performance in the society.

Keywords: Wickedness, Disposition, environment, Barbarism, William Golding, Human nature.

تجليات الطبيعة الشريرة للإنسانية في رواية "أمير الذباب" لويليام غولدينغ

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الملخص

مظاهر نزعة الشر لدى البشر في رواية وليام كولدنك " سيد الذباب "

لقد أظهرت هذه الدراسة حقيقة الطبيعة البشرية الشريرة والتي تنمو عندما تجد البيئة المناسبة والتي تساعد في التحرر من قيود وقوانين المجتمع البشري ولذلك ابرز الكاتب في روايته هذه الشرور البشرية وربطها بالخطايا حيث ربط الكاتب وليام كولدنك هذه الخطيئة بالخطيئة الاصلية لأبي البشر ادم عندما خالف الأوامر الإلهية وكانت النتيجة بالخروج من الجنة وخوض معاناة ابدية على الأرض فبعد وصول هذه المجموعة من الأولاد شعروا بالحرية المطلقة في فعل ما يحلو لهم وكذلك غياب القوانين التي تكبح جماح رغباتهم فقد بدأ صراعا مع بعضهم وانحرفوا عن مجتمع متحضر واتبعوا منهجا همجيا في افعالهم وسلوكهم ولقد هدفت هذه الدراسة الى اظهار الحالة النفسية للإنسان وحثت على توخي الحذر في تعامله مع الآخرين. لقد اتبع الباحث

في هذه الدراسة المنهج النوعي بالإضافة الى التحليل الموضوعي وقد بينت الدراسة ان الانسان شرير بطبيعته وان هذا الشر هو الذي يجعل الانسان يفقد دوره الإنساني في المجتمع.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الشر، الطباع، البيئة، البربرية، ويليام جولدنغ، الطبيعة البشرية

Introduction

Lord of the Flies is a novel that is written in abnormal atmosphere. The atmosphere of post-World War II. The world around is full of horror and changes of human behavior. The environment witnesses a kind of human wickedness. All these strange circumstances push the writer to write the novel because wars have their impacts on the people at that time. The writer creates a special world that fit to the events of the novel. Therefore, thematically, the novel has reflected the results of wars that cause violence and attributed to the component of wickedness inside humanity. The novel becomes very famous among the literary readers at the modern era. It shows the defect of society and tries to put an end to the actions that destroyed the habits and customs. This issue makes Golding as a distinguished novelist among his contemporaries (Reiff, 2010).

The major happenings of the novel set on an Island. The island is previously witnessed historical events in *Denial Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, and Travels by S. Gulliver*. The novel displays double sides, the external side shows the actual picture of what modern criminologists call juvenile whereas the internal side shows the hidden level of evil as part of human action (Golding, 1997).

Some readers of the novel believe that *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding conveys Christian metaphysics showing the original sin of man. Other readers believe that the novel represents religious allegory such as Lynn Hynes. The two major characters, Simon and Jack are well created by the writer to give us the kind of people who are living on this planet. For instance, Simon is given a feature of a saint represents Christ-like who is peaceful and tries not to violate the religious regulations. The other character, Jack, and his companions who were hunters represent hedonism and paganism. The conflict started on the island especially when Simon and Jack confront on the island, the traits of civilization are not existed, and finally the boys show their savagery in their behaviors.

Accordingly, *Lord of the Flies* portrayed the withering social facts at that time. (Spitz, 1970) questioned human civilization by shedding the light on the tragic scene of human relations whereas (Zhu, 2020) disclosed human controversy of civilization by showing the fragmentation between outward and reality.

Research Questions

- 1- To what extent does the writer succeed in manifesting human evil?
- 2- Why does the writer create his character of small children?
- 3- What are the main symbols in the novel?

The Significance of the Study

The significance of the current study is to show how much human is a beast-like at the absence of laws and religion. The importance of religion and laws in arrangement of human life. The application of reward and punishment is very much important of human's life. The study is an attempt to find answers to the research questions regarding human nature in the novel.

Limitation of the Study

The current paper chooses this novel and limits the study with the manifestation of human wickedness. The study gives an important concern to the problem of human nature. The study also limits to investigate the man wickedness and concerns with the boundaries of the island.

Literature Review

The appearance of this novel represented as a reaction to the book written by R.M. Ballantyne in 1857. It focuses on a group of small boys who suddenly find themselves on unhabituated place. According to (Barzinji, 2012) who stated that the presence of elements in his storytelling have played a great role in ensuring the enduring embodiment of the work. Hassan (2015) sees that this work introduced the original portrayal of social circumstances during the period of the 20th century. This period represented by the seeming culmination of scientific ongoing progressing of human morals. AL-saidi (2012) stated that Golding shed the light on the conflict between savagery and civilization by portraying by presenting multiple themes such as the man's circumstances during the world wars, brutality, and human evil. For example, Change (2021) mentioning the absence of the female on the island gives the boys the motivation to appear their savagery. This issue signalized the reason behind the demolition of the tranquility island by the behavior of those boys.

Furthermore, Chen(2021) stated that *Lord of the Flies* gives us a blurred vision of human behavior. It shows that human society is no longer follows the humanitarian's tradition by exposing the species of human regarding the human quality of savagery and civilization, Jiang (2022) shows that man's desires was one of the major reasons to destroy the relationship between man and nature. Yet, Anoosh and Oroskhan (2018) showed that the reasons behind the corruption of the

schoolboys was the need of moral and spiritual appreciation which turned them to establish a world of dystopian. Whereas Van Vuuren (2004) discussed that the novel manifests the painful image of post-war pessimism as well as man's failure in establishing law, desire, and hope of solution to build a healthy society.

Moreover, (Hassan & Sharif, 2020) discussed the novel from an allegorical perspectives saying that "*It reflects human lives and society after the World Wars*". In addition to that *Lord of the Flies* discussed human falls from Eden. This study was similar to (Petrosyan, 2022a) and (Petrosyan, 2022b) who claimed that the allegory of Jesus Christ can be traced in Simon's character, this study explores how human nature is manifested in *Golding's "Lord of the Flies"*.

Methodology

The current study is grounded on an interpretative research design as well as the texts of *Lord of the Flies*. It was thoroughly chosen as the primary text. Then, the researcher utilizes the secondary information taken from other studies such as books, articles, and journals. It is clear from reading the text that the writer used literary devices especially allegory to portray human wickedness. These devices support the writer in manifesting the various layers of internal aspects of human nature. The writer attempted to depict the schoolboys on the island and show their fights, conflicts, and killing through the absence of family duty and the law.

Allegory was verse, narrative, or prose where the events, characters, and the space display the external meaning level (Abrams & Harpham, 2014). In this definition of allegory, the writer became able to convey the story and made the reader understand how the story is associated with and implied the society and human nature of its contemporary time.

Synopsis of the Novel

The current novel portrays the very dark side of human nature. The writers tries his best to show the tragic scene inside human being. The novel is also mirroring the intrinsic of man. The author prepares the reader to watch a group of young boys who survive an isolated and uncivilized setting. The group of young boys suddenly find themselves on a tropical island. The group of the small boys are divided into two groups. Their division was according to their ages. At the beginning, they tried to live similar to their life they left behind. Then they decided to choose Ralph as their leader. Ralph gives the priority to save his companions and back home. He orders the others to set a big fire on the island wishing that the passing seamen see and rescue them. The other group led by Jack who is opposing to Ralph's group, they were the followers of Jack who endeared hunting and adventure for his followers.

The conflict between the two forces started, one of them is the savagery force represented by Jack. The other civilized force represented by Ralph and his followers. The children on the island desired that someone come and take them back home. They fed up of isolation so they thought of setting a fire to lead the passers to come to wards the isolated island. The smoke all around them is also a better signal. At the end of the novel, a naval officer saw the smoke and came to save them. They were happy, but cried for the loss of the innocent as well as for the death of Piggy.

Paper's Analysis

The major purpose of the novel is to concern with the problems that are resulted by human evil. The writer attempts to check the problems that destroy human society and turns it into savage, and brutal community. The writer creates small kids on island and gives them freedom. The kids hurriedly forget their civilized life to turn into savagery. Jack and his hunters violate the rules and pretend to be pigs. They gather around the fire and dance every night. The first crime for them is that killing Simon because he tells them about the beast. So the tyranny of Jack and his companions, the hunters, take the full domination on the island. Then they set a fire on the whole island to kill Ralph.

The conflict on the island. At the end, an officer from naval has seen people on the island. He shocked to see such scene of small British boys on the island, and decided to salvage them he says, "A pack of ...then that" (Golding, 1958). They left the harsh life on that island, but they entered crueler world of adults.

From the above analysis, we understand that wickedness is indulged within human nature. Laws and morality can't sometimes control human behaviors. Jack and his hunters left two innocent victims, Simon and Piggy on the island. That was the first crime for them to continue in their savagery. From the investigation of the novel, one can guess that the boys lost their humanity due to the extreme freedom on the island. W. Golding tries to depict the real life of the boys on the island. The boys still wearing their school uniform. The writer also portrays the challenge of hunting pigs.

Jack is a figure of savagery. His aim is to hunt and kill to enforce others to follow his orders on the island. He kills a mother of pigs in a savage way. He shows his persuasive nature in such scenes. The consistency between Jack's attempt to kill the pig first and the absurd try to take charge from Ralph. The preparation of Jack to kill the pig shows a kind of hesitation and that marked for the reader that Jack still has some morality. Thus, the duty of hunting the pigs was determined to Jack and the hunters. It proved that the presence of evil starts to grow inside them.

The big disaster was clear in the novel especially after the demonstration of losing the innocence by the boys. That was clear in the context of the novel namely with Roger who started as a positive, and helpful boy. In chapter for Roger turned into a sadist boy and continued until the end of the novel when he stabbed a pig. At that time Roger makes big boast to confirm his sadism.

Conclusion

The above study manifested humanity wickedness that William Golding portrayed in his novel “*Lord of the Flies*” by creating the setting, happenings, and the characters. This fictional creation displays human wickedness and the reasons for the corruption of human values and morals. The study targets to give answers to the research questions of the study showing that human nature just like a beast within the human being, and how the lack of moral values turned human as equal to animals. “*Lord of the Flies*” is a novel published in 1954 after a critical period of the World Wars. It manifests human civilization, nature, and multiple kinds of violence inside human society. Then, the study shows the defect of humanity to establish order that does not lead the world to the right path in life. The world they created was full of conflicts and enmity. These outcomes are similar to the findings of Alnajm (2015) who concluded that the novel portrays a clash between savagery and civilization. It portrayed their forthcoming quarrel and conflict. Such events lead to a sorrow incident represented by the death of their friends. William Golding creates his characters due to certain purpose, he hopes to inform the world that wickedness is a universal and deeply human. Without laws, and civilization, man turned into moral darkness.

William Golding expresses his thought in a convince way saying that “evil is born with humanity”. He concluded that wickedness is not caused by society of social conditions. The writer set an example through Ralph and Jack and believe that human is naturally good, but violence, cruelty, and savagery are existed within human. They appeared as soon as the law disappear.

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