

Reflections of Imperialism in Twentieth Century English Novels

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1. Abstract:

Reflection of Imperialism in twentieth century English novels obviously becomes a popular and treated topic to the people related to literature or to them who are the innocent victims of the whims of the imperialistic countries, particularly by the Europeans and Americans. The novels like **“A Passage to India”**, **“Heart of Darkness”**, **“The Grass is Singing”** and **“Beloved”** etc. focus close eye on the stubborn practices of the imperialists of the Ninetieth and twentieth Century Europeans and American rulers. In these novels, the authors have pragmatically delineated the vicious practices, slavery, financial plundering, military attack, racial conflict, superiority complex, sexual exploitations, cultural assault, adverse weather, landscape, etc. of the colonized countries. Imperialism, though despised, has not stopped even now. But the novels, mentioned above, definitely discourage us not to be imperialist. Imperialism is now rampant in the form of capitalism, land grabbing, cultural assault, linguistic colonialism, slavery, creed, cust, colour and missionary imperialism. The purpose of this study is to raise awareness against the base practices of imperialism. It is worth mentioning that post-colonial period is not free from this heinous curse. Imperialism has now become a hideous and mal-practicing system in modern time due to some war monger- rich countries and it seems that we have no remedy for this.

2. Keywords: Reflection of imperialism, whims, stubborn, delineate, exploit, superiority- complex, capitalism, post-colonial period.

3. Introduction:

The four twentieth century modern novels- **“A Passage to India”** by E.M.Forster(1879–1970), **“Heart of Darkness”** by Joseph Conrad(1857–1924), **“The Grass is Singing”** by Doris Lessing (1919–2013) and **“Beloved”** by Toni Morrison(1931–2019), reflect the impact of imperialism in the lifestyle of the people of victim countries of Asia, Africa and America. **‘A Passage to India’** highlights the plight and sufferings of the Indians and the oppressive misrule of the British authority, while **‘Heart of Darkness’** and **‘The Grass is Singing’** reflect the pain and sufferings of the Africans by the European people, particularly by the British and the Dutch. The **‘Beloved’** depicts the intolerable grief and agony of the black Americans and it is the illegal internal imperialism of the White over the helpless Black. It is an established truth that Empire is built on violence, bloodshed, greed, prejudice, oppression and its reflections are enduringly destructive and unpleasant. These novels remind us that- imperialism is not only a political unhealthy system but also a human tragedy for the downtrodden and weak human race, confirming their sufferings even after the imperialism is over rooted. If we discuss briefly the above mentioned novels, the theme ‘Literary Reflection of Imperialism in Twentieth Century English Novels will be clear to us.

3.1: Purpose of this study:

Four modern novels- “A Passage to India”, “Heart of Darkness”, “The Grass is Singing” and “Beloved” are especially chosen to find out the reflections of imperialism in twentieth century in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. The authors of these novels have very faithfully depicted the imperialistic behaviours of the Europeans and Americans and these novels have earned the reputation of ‘Novels on Imperialism’ to the twentieth century- modern people. So, the purpose of this study is to find out the literary reflections of imperialism in twentieth century English novels.

3.2 Background of this study:

This study aims to find out the in-depth impact of imperialism indicated in the twentieth century modern novels especially in “A Passage to India” by E.M.Forster, “Heart of Darkness” by Joseph Conrad, “The Grass is Singing” by Doris Lessing and “Beloved” by Toni Morrison. Imperialism is obviously a heinous, hideous, blood shedding, unwanted, and substandard practice that should be stopped at any rate. Only the colonies know the pains of imperialism. If we try to give a glance on the above mentioned novels gradually, the target of this study that is the ‘literary reflections of imperialism in twentieth century novels’ will be clear to us.

3.3 Imperialistic traits in ‘A Passage to India’:

‘A Passage to India’ written in 1914 by E M Forster, is a renowned English novel against the direct interest of the imperialist English. In this novel, the author has highlighted the themes- racial conflict, cultural misunderstanding, administrative authority, resistance and alienation, and moral liability as human being. Here the author has aptly and convincingly depicted the rigid racial boundaries established by the imperialist- British rulers everywhere in the life of the Indians. The clubs, courts even individual get-together and dealings were not exempt from this. Everywhere the English proved superiority and they thought that they are here to rule not to love. Though there are some exceptional characters. If we think about Ronny Heaslop, Major Calendar, Turton, Mrs. Calendar and the like, they all are influential, egoistic and proud of being English. On the other hand, Mrs. Moore, Adela Quested, Mr. Fielding and Ralph all belong to genuine human beings because they are not rulers or administrators. Edward W. Said in his “ Introduction to Culture and Imperialism” has perfectly depicted the character of the imperialists-“ If you were British or French in the 1860s you saw, and you felt, India and North Africa with a combination of familiarity and distance, but never with a sense of their separate sovereignty.”

3.4 Cultural Misunderstanding:

The cultural misunderstanding was another point to be noted. The English as ruler or imperialist always thought their culture fine, sophisticated and superior and showing disrespect and ignorance to the Indian cultural beliefs and language was a part of their ego, sophistication and practice. The incident that said to happen in the Marabar Caves, (though nothing happened really but hallucination) became a prestige issue to the British and they became united and concerted to punish the Indian doctor Aziz to prove them superior. It was definitely unexpected and inhumane. Their way of speaking, application of language, behaviour, food habit, socialization system, even religion erected a great wall between the two nations(literally one) and that’s why they could not consider the Indians as friends; rather they took them (Ind.) as opponent and enemy. So, Dr. Aziz, Cyril Fielding, Professor Narayan Godbole, Mrs. Moore, Adela Quested,Hamidullah, Mahmoud Ali, The Nawab Bahadur and Mohammed Latif all are amiable character and Rony Heaslop, Mr. Turton, Mrs. Turton, ,Major Calendar, Mr. McBryde-all belong to ruling class. In the crisis moment, all the English characters except Mrs. Moore and Cyril Fielding became antagonist and stood against the Indians all together. This is because of cultural difference, self-prestige and misunderstanding.

3.5 Administrative complexity:

Rony Heaslop, Mr. Turton, Mrs. Turton, Major Calendar, Mr. McBryde all became unbearable and subject to hatred to the Indian people because of administrative complex attitude. If any British had shown any sympathy and love for the local Indians, the admins would have forgotten the national identity, colour, religion, blood relation and tried all their best to dissuade him/her from the Indians. Mrs. Moore, a benign lady became the victim of this administrative egotism and she had to leave

India and die in the sea. Even Mr. Fielding and later Adela became alienated because of being sympathetic and friendly with the Indians. Rony Heaslop, the city magistrate, became a villain to the Indians for administrative complexity. Rony tells his mother about his duty-**“I am out here to work, mind, to hold this wretched country by force. I am not a missionary or a Labour Member or a vague sentimental sympathetic literary man. I’m just a servant of the Government;”**

3.6 Resistance and alienation-result of Imperialism:

Mr. Fielding, the Principal of Chandrapore College, Adela Quested and Mrs. Moore tried to establish friendship with Doctor Aziz and with the local Indians but they failed and got alienated. Fielding tried his best to re-establish friendship with Aziz but did not get support because the cultural gap and disbelief stand between them. Mrs. Moore and Adela became isolated and Mrs. Moore died in the sea; while Cyril Fielding’s love and feeling for the Indian particularly for Aziz faces resistance and they became separated and alienated. Aziz, even changes the location to avoid Fielding and Adela. The Indians believe that nature does not want the two nations to become friend because one is ruler and another is ruled. In the last chapter of this novel, Forster tells us with his neutral soul-

“-they didn’t want it, they said in their hundred voices, ‘No, not yet,’ and the sky said, ‘No, not there’.”

3.7 Imperialism begets disbelief and injustice:

Forster in this novel has tried to show human morality through the characters of Mrs. Moore, Mr. Fielding and Adela Quested. But time and situation spare nobody. Doctor Aziz cannot believe the English and refuses their friendship because the English are naturally fond of injustice, misbehaviour and selfishness. Here, Forster has very nicely depicted the English and Indian characters as they are. About this novel Forster said -

‘I tried to indicate the human predicament in a universe which is not, so far, comprehensible to our minds. This aspect of the novel is displayed in its final chapters.’

4. Reflections of Imperialism in ‘Heart of Darkness’:

Joseph Conrad's **“Heart of Darkness”** describes the political hypocrisy of imperialism through its portrayal of economic exploitation, physical torture, and moral degradation. The author here has portrayed the vivid picture of the European colonialism. Belgium, a rich European country, extends its territory and political influence to Congo, a dark African country. This country is overtaken by the Belgians to prove their ability to rule the savage country. Mr. Kurtz, the Manager of the inner station of the Belgian company, the Manager of the central station, the Chief Accountant, Brick maker, The French war ship, the local girlfriend of Mr. Kurtz and the total environment of this novel, reflect the bad impact of imperialism. If we put our glance on the following practices-like-political hypocrisy, economic exploitation, physical torture and moral degradation of the Belgium Company, the imperialistic attitude of the imperialist will be clear.

4.1: Political Hypocrisy:

In the name of ruling the African countries, the French ship, just entering into the river Congo, starts firing without any target. Their purpose is to create terror in the mind of the local people. It is nothing but hypocrisy. The name Mr. Kurtz is an ugly manifestation of imperialism. He would kill the local people for a slight cause of disobedience. Ivory collection was the prime target of the Belgium Company. This is nothing but plundering and standing against Nature. Geographically, Africa is not suitable place for the European people for its hot weather and adverse nature. Even though, the Europeans occupied this continent for its natural wealth in guise of political help and development. The Europeans also hate imperialism if it is imposed upon them. In the beginning of this novel **“Heart of Darkness”**, the narrator gives us the reference to the ancient Roman imperialism against the British people. Marlow the second narrator and the protagonist of this novel uses this reference to indicate the bad impact of the Roman Imperialism upon his own country. In Page number-30, Para-iii, he tells-

“I was thinking of very old times, when the Romans first came here, nineteen hundred years ago”-

In Page number 31, Para-ii, he again tells-

“They were no colonists; their administration was merely a squeeze, and nothing more, I suspect. They were conquerors, and for that you want only brute force- nothing to boast of, when you have it, since your strength is just an accident arising from the weakness of others. They grabbed what they could get for the sake of what was to be got. It was just robbery with violence, aggravated murder on a great scale, and men going at it blind- as is very proper for those who tackle a darkness.”

4.2 Europeans, the symbol of Imperialism:

When the people of Asia, Africa, Latin America, Australia and other colonies of the world think of imperialism, all of them naturally think about England, France, Belgium, America, Germany and Russia. In this novel, when we get the information that the Belgium Company is going to Africa to collect ivory, it becomes clear to us that the African country Congo is definitely going to be exploited. In **“ Heart of Darkness”**, some European names are associated with imperialism and they are-Mr. Kurtz, the central character, the Manager of the Central Station, The Brick Maker, The Accountant of the Company Station, the Russian and Marlow himself. Mr. Kurtz and the Manager of the Central Station are the best agents of the Belgium Company and they are the executives of European imperialism and oppression in Africa. Marlow, the narrator, a British young man, a university graduate, also becomes the agent of oppression and fear to the helpless people of Congo.

4.3 Violence, Dehumanization- the ugly appearance of Imperialism:

Violence and Dehumanization are the open manifestations of imperialism. Many human skulls, hanging on the polls around the residence of Mr. Kurtz, symbolize the open cruelty of imperialism. If any African refused or betrayed Mr. Kurtz, he/she would become the subject to death and the skull got hung on the poll around his (K) residence. Even friends were not spared because nothing is important than the interest of the Belgium Company. For example- Mr. Kurtz wanted to shoot his Russian friend for keeping a little bit of ivory with him without the cognizance of Kurtz. The description of the following scene by Marlow bewilders us and shows the hideous demonstration of dehumanization of the imperialists.

“Then went carefully from post to post with my glass, and I saw my mistake. These round knobs were not ornamental but symbolic; they were expressive and puzzling, striking and disturbing- the food for thought and also for the vultures-----”

Before it, when Marlow went to the Accountant’s office, he could see some poor, downtrodden, tortured and inhumanely oppressed natives of Congo being punished. It seemed to Marlow that they were not human beings rather insignificant little ants roaming in line. Marlow narrates-

“A lot of people, mostly black and naked, moved about like ants.”

The narrator again tells about the dehumanization of the rulers as-

“They were dying slowly- it was very clear. They were not enemies, they were not criminals, they were nothing earthly now, -nothing but black shadows of disease and starvation, lying confusedly in the greenish gloom-----”

4.4 Metaphoric Imperialism in ‘Heart of Darkness’:

Conrad’s **‘Heart of Darkness’** not only highlights the apparent imperialism in Congo but also shows the negative impacts of it in the mind and attitude of Europeans and the African people along with the environment. The Brussels, head office of the company, also reflects the imperialistic environment. The two ladies kitting wools in Brussels’ office, the doctors taking the measurement of heads of the Congo going people etc. are all the traits of imperialism. All the evils are mostly associated with imperialism. Like-the heart of white people, the activities of Mr. Kurtz, General Manager, Accountant and the others. So, imperialism is here present both physically and metaphorically and the impact of it lies everywhere in Africa and Europe.

5. Reflections of Imperialism in the novel “The Grass is Singing”:

“**The Grass is Singing**”, the debut novel of Doris Lessing (1919-2013), written in 1950, deals with imperialism, racial segregation, loneliness, abuse of power, decaying message of imperialism in Africa and the psychological effects of colonial society. The setting of this novel is Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). Here the author has very carefully delineated the ugly visages of imperialism through the characters of Mary Turner, Dick Turner, Moses, Charlie Slatter, Tony Marston and Sergeant Denham.

5.1 Isolation and Alienation due to colonialism and racism:

Dick Turner comes to Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) to earn money through agricultural production like many other British farmers (businessmen). It is their economic exploitation in guise of business. The English believe that -they have no scope to behave well with the local people. The lands of Rhodesia belong to them as it is their colony. On the other hand, it is established that- the ruler should not behave nicely with the colony people because there should be a gap between the rulers and the black skinned ruled. So, all the European people, including the English, would think in the same way. We can see that the English in Southern Rhodesia are isolated and alienated because of their imperialistic nature. The natives do not believe the English and they try to make any possible harm to them (Eng.) whenever they get chance. The local people are mostly poor -day labourers and they are often inhumanly tortured, flogged for a simple mistake. Moses, a Negro servant, was seriously lashed by Mary Turner for neglecting his duty in the field. The Negro servants had no scope to stand against the imperialists; so they kept everything in mind and waited for the opportunity to come for taking revenge. In the same way, most of the English people are hated and avoided by the local people. That's why, the English in Southern Rhodesia, are isolated and alienated as also found in “**A Passage to India**”. Mary Turner, Dick Turner, Charlie Slatter, Tony Marston and Sergeant Denham all are living monotonous segregated life for their own imperialistic behaviour. The author tells about the life of Dick and Mary-

“The Turners were disliked, though few of their neighbours had ever met them, or even seen them in the distance. Yet what was there to dislike? They simply ‘kept themselves to themselves’ that was all. They were never seen at district dances, or fetes, or gymkhanas.”

5.2 Economic Exploitation in the Colony:

The English would exploit the local labours as they were not properly paid. The poor payment given by the English to the native labours made them frustrated and demoralized. Dick Tanner became loser repeatedly because he would not get right service from the native labours. He would not pay the labours as they should be. So, there was the scarcity of labour and house servant. Mary and Dick were often short of house servant because of low payment and misbehaviour. The English as colonists try to take the cream from Africa depriving them in all extends. So, the economic exploitation through low payment of the colony workers made the peace impossible and it drew a permanent gap between the two groups.

5.3 Gender and Women's role:

Though this novel is modern, its background reminds us of the early anti-colonial novels. The African tribes are mostly male dominated and women are subordinates to them. But, in the novel-“**The Grass is Singing**”, Mary Turner dominates the local male labours and sometimes assaults them physically. It becomes unbearable and dishonouring to them. When Mary takes Moses as her house servant and takes help in most cases, even in dress setting, Moses takes the thing seriously in two ways. Firstly, he finds love in Mary's attitude and tries to get comfort there but Tony Marston's misbehaviour and Mary's previous behaviour make him psychologically unstable and instigate him to kill the lady ruler. **“She felt she had only to move forward, to explain, to appeal, and the terror would be dissolved. She opened her mouth to speak; and, as she did so, saw his hand, which held a long curving shape, lifted above his head; and she knew it would be too late. All her past slid away, and her mouth, opened in appeal, let out the beginning of a scream, which was stopped by a black wedge of hand inserted between her jaws. But the scream continued, in her stomach, choking her; and she lifted her hands, claw like, to ward him off. And then the bush avenged itself: that was her**

last thought. The trees advanced in a rush, like beasts, and the thunder was the noise of their coming. As the brain at last gave way, collapsing in a ruin of horror, she saw, over the big arm that forced her head back against the wall, the other arm descending. Her limbs sagged under her, the lighting leapt out from the dark, and darted down the plunging steel.”

6. Imperialism in “Beloved”:

“**Beloved**”, by Toni Morrison (1931-2019), is a renowned novel in the twentieth century American literary world. Toni Morrison is a Black American- who has openly disclosed the inner history and practices of American society particularly the irregularities in the Negro communities. She has so vividly depicted the inner and unknown, unflushed negative things of the American society that the readers cannot but get astonished. Some of her mentioned bad practices bewilder us. The author in this novel has mentioned the serious, unbearable and unspeakable practices of the internal imperialism. The Negroes, the black citizens of America, have to face inhuman torture and economic exploitation in their own country. The author’s horrible, dreadful and unimaginable description of torture against the Black citizens has created awful negative impact in the mind of the readers.

In “**Beloved**” imperialism is not explicitly introduced as it is seen in other novels on imperialism. Imperialism is basically imposed by a foreign power upon another land or country to make it of their own colony. Morrison in this novel mentions internal imperialism- the systematic, colonial mindset of white supremacy -operating its evil practices within the borders of the United States upon the helpless Afro- American black citizens by making them slaves and exploited in different dimensions. Instead of a country or colony, the white treated the Black body, mind, and culture as territories to be conquered, mapped, and extracted for profit, business, sex and mental satisfaction and thus the white have proved themselves imperialists though being the citizens of the same country. The imperialism in the form of racism and exploitation of the white American surpass the torture and oppression of the foreign rulers. The torture, exploitation, suppression and sexual harassment implemented against the black Americans by the White Americans cannot be described in words. In this regards, the black Americans, in the areas of Ohio, Cincinnati, Kentucky, Georgia and Delaware are so seriously and inhumanely tortured and exploited by the local white Americans as if they were the citizens of a foreign colony. The history of Sweet Home- slave torture makes it clear to us.

6.1 Historical Background of the Novel:

The novel “**Beloved**” begins in 1873 but the narrative starts from 1795, the time when Baby Suggs, a slave, was born. Toni Morrison fictionalized the historical fact that slave mothers sometimes killed their children so that they need not become slaves like their own; because slavery is associated with physical and mental torture, economic exploitation and inhuman sexual exploitation. The story of Margaret Garner, appears in “**The Black Book**,” also gets published in newspaper excerpt, blues, photographs and other memorabilia to produce a history of anonymous black men and women, is conceived by the author and she represents Sethe- who kills her daughter and tries to kill the other babies only to save them from the untold sorrows and sufferings of the slavery -in the same country. Morrison tells that, she has written the novel “**Beloved**” with the idea that- “**this has got to be the least read of all the books I’d written because it is about something that the characters don’t want to remember. I don’t want to remember, black people don’t want to remember, white people don’t want to remember. I mean, it’s a national amnesia**” (B. Angelo, ‘The Pain of Being Black’)

Slave trade between Africa and English-North American colonies began in the early seventeenth century. Merchant ships of New York and New England imported slaves regularly from Africa for Maryland, Virginia and Carolina. Both law and custom declared all the Africans as slave by the year 1670. The system of slavery became a subject of criticism in the Eighteenth century. Toni Morrison was moved by the cruel realities of the black American Slaves and wrote many of her novels to bring the grim things to the notice of the world. ‘**Beloved**’ is such a creation of her self-realization.

6.2 Inhuman torture implemented on the Afro-American slaves in Sweet Home:

Sweet Home is without any doubt a very nice, sweet and comfortable name for listeners because of the word-‘sweet’. But, were the slaves of the Sweet Home -happy or in sweet environment? ‘No’, because the slaves of this house were black Afro-Americans and the owner of this house were white

Americans, the rulers, the imperialists and the racists. Baby Suggs, Halle, Paul-A, Paul-D, Paul-F, Sixo and the protagonist Sethe were the slaves in Sweet Home. The owners of this house are- Mr. and Mrs. Garner and as long as Mr. Garner was alive, the servants were in tolerable atmosphere. But after the death of Mr. Garner, the farm went to the control of the School teacher, brother of Mr. Garner. The school teacher along with his two nephews tortured the slaves so inhumanly that cannot be described. The slaves became impatient and thought of fleeing away from the house-but the two nephews of the school master caught and tortured them inhumanely. **Baby Suggs**, in her youth, was exploited physically and sexually and she was released later because of her old age and her son's duty guarantee. **Sethe**, the protagonist was violently tortured physically and sexually- though she was pregnant. Sethe was chased and forcefully sucked of her breast milk, kept for her babies, by the two nephews of the School master. When she complains to Mrs. Garner, She(S) was savagely whipped that caused permanent scars on her back which Amy Denver later referred as '**chokecherry tree**'. **Halle**, the husband of Sethe, was trapped in the hayloft of the barn and before him Sethe was being physically and sexually tortured. He tried to save his wife but failed and at last became mad. **Paul-A** and **Sixo** were trying to escape from the farm Sweet Home but they were caught by the school teacher and his two nephews. Later both the servants were severely punished. Paul A was dismembered while they blinded **Sixo** and later they were shot and burnt to death.

6.3: Imperialism in other domains:

The white authority of America treated the black slaves as their land and property. They were the owners of the flesh and blood of the black slaves. Slave women, to them, were like factories to produce future labour and that's why they used them for agricultural activities and child reproduction. Sweet Home was a place of comfort at the time of Mr. Garner but after his death, it has turned into a hell. The freedom of living, sleeping, sex-making, baby feeding, marrying and even leaving the station was unimaginable. The Sweet Home became a symbol of imperialism for the all tortured Afro-Americans in America. It seemed to the black slaves that the whole world belongs to the white people and they have no place to escape. Sethe flees away but fails to keep her safe because she was caught in another state by the school maser and his two nephews. All the slaves are psychologically in trauma and they are not in them. Paul-D, though, lives with Sethe fails to enjoy love because her feeling is not like a common lady. Thus the slaves are tortured by the white Americans in U.S.A. Toni Morrison has just depicted this practices in her novel 'Beloved'.

7. Research Methodology:

This article follows qualitative, comparative, textual analysis as well as primary method to detect the target theme-"**Reflections of Imperialism in Twentieth Century English Novels**" in the four renowned novels namely "**A Passage to India**", "**Heart of Darkness**", "**The Grass is Singing**" and "**Beloved**". This study is based on a close and meticulous observation of the themes, characters, nature and imperialistic traits of these novels. As, all these four novels are not of same type, a multi-dimensional focus demanded this study to keep in track.

The methodology adopted here are:

7.1 Textual Analysis:

Textual analysis of the four novels are carefully done. The novelists of these four novels belong to four countries and their attitude and way of treating the same subject in their novels were not equal and direct. So, critical evaluation, appreciation and metaphoric application of imperialism are minutely observed and compared to keep in topic. "**A Passage to India**" and "**The Grass is Singing**" reflect near about similar type of imperialistic nature but "**Heart of Darkness**" reflects greed, business, economic exploitation and European behavior. "**Beloved**" an American novel, focuses on slavery, torture, racism, sexual exploitation and internal imperialism. So, textual analysis was meticulous and target oriented.

7.2 Thematic Approach:

Identified themes like-imperialism by foreign and internal agents, Economic exploitation, racial treatment, sexual harassment, physical torture, psychological trauma, historical back ground, political

hypocrisy, dehumanization, female rule, Isolation and alienation, evils in different forms, human body treated as land, horrible murder, disbelief, violence and metaphoric imperialism.

7.3 Comparative Character Study:

A wide range of characters are introduced in these four renowned novels of different writers of different countries. Rony Heaslop of “**A Passage to India**”, is a single character who cannot be compared with any other character of these novels. But as authoritative agent, he is like- Major Calendar, Mr. Turton and Raja Bahadur in “**A Passage to India**”. Mr. Kurtz, a unique character, is individual one and he cannot also be compared with anyone except with the School Master of “**Beloved**”. Physically tortured and sexually exploited characters of “**Beloved**” are special case and they are not found in other novels. The Manager of the Central station, the Brick maker and the crafty Accountant of the Company’s station in “**Heart of Darkness**” are personally enriched and their characteristics are not found in other novels. Mary Turner, the heroine of the novel “**The Grass is Singing**” is a self-effusing character who loses her identity as an imperialist and as a settler outside of Britain. Dr. Aziz, Mahmud Ali, Professor Godbole, Mr. and Mrs. Garner, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Fielding, The Russian, and Adela Quested are the characters, common in every country. They are the universal characters representing human nature. But the round characters are not equal and parallel and that’s why they are complex and they are very agents to be compared.

7.4 Secondary Sources:

Reviewed several relevant literary criticism, online-articles, and related books on imperialism to get information on it and its bad effects. ‘The Tempest’, ‘Hamlet’, ‘Macbeth’ by William Shakespeare, ‘Burmese Days’ by George Orwell, ‘Things Fall Apart’ by Chinua Achebe, ‘Waiting for the Barbarians’ by J M Coetzee, ‘Robinson Crusoe’ by Daniel Defoe and ‘Oroonoko’ by Aphra Behn are read to keep in right track. This methodology helps us understand the comprehensive nature of imperialism in different forms and how these different practices in one banner are reflected in Twentieth Century English novels of Europe and America.

8. Conclusion:

Imperialism is reflected in many novels of 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Century novels and dramas. Many of William Shakespeare’s plays deal with imperialism, like- ‘The Tempest’, ‘Hamlet’, ‘Macbeth’ etc. ‘Oroonoko’, a novel on imperialism, by Aphra Behn was published in 1688, ‘Robinson Crusoe’ a famous novel on imperialism by Daniel Defoe, was published in 1719, ‘Burmese Days’ by George Orwell was published in 1934, ‘Things Fall Apart’ by Chinua Achebe, was published in 1958, ‘Waiting for the Barbarians’ by J M Coetzee are the other famous novels dealing with imperialism. But the novels “**A Passage to India**”, “**Heart of Darkness**”, “**The Grass is Singing**” and “**Beloved**” are the best examples in which imperialism is reflected in different visages.

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