

3rd FEBRUARY

2024



ISOC
INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC
ONLINE
CONFERENCES

zenodo OpenAIRE



digital
object
identifier

OPEN  ACCESS

NETHERLANDS

INTELLECTUAL EDUCATION
TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS
AND INNOVATIVE DIGITAL TOOLS



info.interonconf@mail.ru

www.interonconf.org



HUMAN NATURE IN "HEART OF DARKNESS" BY JOSEPH CONRAD.

Elmanova Mastura Toshnazarovna

Senior teacher of English Linguistics Department

Shavaliyeva Alina Anvarovna

Student of Bukhara State University

Abstract. *In this article the topic of Human nature will be described as a central theme in «Heart of Darkness». The novella delves into the darker aspects of the human soul. The darker side of human nature, exploring themes of greed, violence, and the capacity for evil within every individual.*

Keywords: *human soul, greed, human nature, journey, violence, Kurtz, evil.*

Greed and violence are deeply ingrained aspects of human nature that have been present throughout history. In "Heart of Darkness" by Joseph Conrad, these themes are explored through the journey of Charles Marlow as he travels deep into the Congo to search for the mysterious and enigmatic Kurtz. The novel vividly illustrates greed through the exploitation of African people and natural resources for profit and power. The European colonizers' desire to extract ivory from the Congo leads to ruthless exploitation and brutal treatment of the native population. This speaks to the inherent greed and desire for material wealth that often drives humans to oppress others.

Violence, on the other hand, is depicted through the brutal treatment of native Africans by the colonizers. The novel's portrayal of the violence and cruelty accompanying imperialism reflects the darker aspects of human nature and the destructive consequences of unchecked power.. "Heart of Darkness" portrays the inherent darkness within humanity that is driven by greed and violence. It serves as a powerful exploration of these themes, prompting readers to question the pervasive nature of these destructive forces in human society. [1.182]

In "Heart of Darkness," Joseph Conrad explores the darker aspects of human nature such as violence and greed, and it is suggested that these elements are deeply ingrained in human society. The novel does not offer a clear path to avoiding or eradicating these dark sides of humanity. Instead, it presents a bleak and cynical view of human nature, especially in the context of European colonialism in Africa.

However, Conrad does provide some faint glimmers of hope and resistance in the character of the Russian trader who expresses admiration for

Kurtz but also recognizes the destructive nature of his actions. Additionally, the character of Marlow, the story's protagonist, grapples with his own moral compass and the realization of the darkness within himself and others. These instances suggest that there are possibilities for individuals to resist the corrupting forces of greed and violence, even in the face of overwhelming systems of power.

"Heart of Darkness" presents a deeply pessimistic view of human nature and society, but it also suggests that there are fleeting moments of conscience and resistance that provide the possibility of change. [2.193]. The exploration of the dark sides of human nature in "Heart of Darkness" and in broader society can be attributed to a variety of factors. In the novel, the environment of colonial Africa serves as a backdrop for the manifestation of greed, violence, and evil. The desire to exploit the native population and their resources, along with the isolation and absence of accountability, contribute to the unchecked and ruthless behavior of the European colonizers.

The novel suggests that the pursuit of power and dominance can bring out the worst in human behavior, as evidenced by the character of Kurtz, whose descent into madness and cruelty reflects the corrupting influence of unchecked power and ambition. [3.67]

In contemporary society, the persistence of greed, violence, and evil can be attributed to a range of complex factors, including the influence of systemic inequalities, the pursuit of wealth and status, and the historical legacies of exploitation and oppression. Additionally, psychological and sociological theories point to the innate human tendencies toward self-interest and competition, which can drive individuals and societies toward destructive and exploitative behaviors.

The enduring presence of greed, violence, and evil in human society suggests that these dark aspects of human nature are deeply rooted and influenced by complex social, psychological, and historical factors. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive understanding of these underlying influences and a commitment to promoting equity, justice, and empathy in order to counteract the negative influences that perpetuate these harmful behaviors.