

**PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA**

**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**

**Abou Bekr Belkaid University of Tlemcen**



**Faculty of Letters and Languages**

**English Department**

**A JOURNEY TOWARD THE SELF IN CONRAD'S  
HEART OF DARKNESS(1899):  
A FREUDIAN PSYCHOANALYSIS STUDY.**

An extended essay submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for a Master's  
Degree in English Literature and Civilization

**Presented by:**

Ms. Maghnia Roumachi

Mr. Muhammed Bousmaha

**Supervised by**

Mrs. Badra Menouer

**Board of Examiners**

Pr. Faiza SENOUCI (President)

Mrs. Badra MENOUEUR (Supervisor)

Dr. Fatiha BELMERABET (Examiner)

*Academic Year 2021/2022*

**A JOURNEY TOWARD THE SELF IN CONRAD'S  
HEART OF DARKNESS(1899):  
A FREUDIAN PSYCHOANALYSIS STUDY.**

## ***Dedications 1***

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Beneficent , the Sustainer

With all my love I dedicate my thesis

To the dearest person in my life, «my mother »,

All the words cannot express my gratitude and my recognition for your devotion and your sacrifices, guidance, encouragement, you have always been as pillar in my life to support me.

To « my father» Allah mercy his soul, I would have liked your presence at this time to share my joy. You have always shown me love and affection, you are always present in my mind and in my heart. Also in this moment of joy, you are with me. May your soul rest in peace

To my adorable little sister "Ikram", who always knows how to bring joy and happiness to the whole family.

To all my Dear Family Members who feed me with their extreme love, attention and care.

For my Friends who were with me from the beginning of this trip, and help me however they could and last but not least my partner “Mohamed” who was the best pair, friend and brother.

**Maghnia**

## ***Dedications 2***

In the name of Allah,

I dedicate this work to my closed people, my family and friends, specially my parents who have done a great work raising me and struggled to get me where I am today, thank you for all the support you gave me throughout these years, thank you for the strength and belief, for all the sacrifices you have done for me, thank you for guidance and kindness, thank you for being there for me when i was about to give up, without my parents, i would not have been here today.

I would also like to thank my partner Maghnia for corroborating and make such good work, we have been together in this the whole way, and managed to help each other to get to this point.

Big thanks to my friends who helped and gave me tips to get this work done, and wished me luck and all the best, and a special thanks to students of psychology department who guided me in this field, and showed me the right path to finish my work.

**Muhammed.**

## **Acknowledgements 1**

Before all, I thank Almighty Allah, my creator, my force, my source of revelation, vision and knowledge, for giving me strength, perseverance to complete this work.

I would like to thank my supervisor **Dr. Badra MENOVAR** for all she has done for us, her precious advices, the right guidance, strong support, and the encouragement to do better. With valuable comments, unlimited patience and full confidence. Thank you so much Miss.

I would like to express my gratitude to the honorable jury teachers **Pr. Faiza SENOUCI** and **Dr. Fatiha BELMERABET** for reading my dissertation, providing me the important information and instructions, and give me their time and efforts to evaluate and examine my work .

I want to say thank you to all loving and supportive people in my life, May Allah bless you.

## **Abstract**

Joseph Conrad wrote *Heart of Darkness* in 1899 as a frame narrative, one of the finest novels in English literature. It is considered a modernist work being influenced by the theories of scientists such as Charles Darwin, Sigmund Freud, and Albert Einstein. Conrad was profoundly influenced by Sigmund Freud's theories. The latter was the first to work in the field of psychoanalysis. He focused on the concept of personality development, which he regarded as one of his most important contributions to psychoanalytic theory. He also introduced the Id, Ego, and Superego theories of inner consciousness, as well as Dream Interpretations, the Theory of Drives (Life and Death Instincts), and other theories. *Heart of Darkness* might be interpreted through a Freudian psychoanalysis. The latter would effectively disclose Kurtz's and Marlow's stronger roles as id and ego, respectively, as well as provide an opportunity to reach a conclusion about the work as a whole. Our thesis is to examine self-consciousness in Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* in order to show how this modernist writer's emphasis on the main characters' self-discovery is enhanced by early twentieth-century autobiographical elements. Using the Psychoanalytic literary theory, we try to demonstrate that Conrad effectively explores self-discovery by the inclusion of various aspects of his real-life experience in his novel. In other words, the experiences of the protagonist in his work reflect those of his author.

**Keywords:** Freudian psychoanalysis, Ego, Id, and Superego.

## Table of Contents

Dedication1 .....	II
Dedication 2.....	III
Acknowledgement .....	IV
Abstract.....	V
General Introduction.....	1
<b>Chapter One</b>	
<b>Heart of Darkness: Historical and Theoretical Issues.</b>	
Introduction.....	8
1-1- Biography of the writer “Joseph Conrad” .....	9
1-1-1 Early life.....	9
1-1-2 His works.....	9
1-2- <i>Heart of Darkness</i> : The book.....	10
1-2-1 Colonialism.....	10
1-2-2 Imperialism.....	11
1-2-3 Racism.....	11
1-3 Summary of the book <i>Heart of Darkness</i> .....	12
1-4 <i>Heart of Darkness</i> is Conrad's autobiography.. .....	15
1-5 Victorian Era.....	18
1-6 Modernism.....	19
1-6-1 Characteristics of Modernist literature.....	19
1-6-2 The impacts of Modernism on writers.....	20
1-6-3 The influence of Modernism on Joseph Conrad.....	22
1-7 The Relationship between the Writer Joseph Conrad	25
and the Psychologist Sigmund Freud.....	
1-7-1 Sigmund Freud Psychoanalysis Theory .....	25
1-7-2 The Influence of Freud’s Psychoanalysis on Conrad’s <i>Heart of</i>	29
<i>Darkness</i> .....	
Conclusion.....	31

## Chapter Two

### Heart of darkness: A Freudian Analysis

Introduction.....	36
2-1 Kurtz’s Character.....	37
2-1-1 Introduction of Kurtz’s character.....	37
2-1-2 Kurtz’s no self-control.....	37
2-1-3 Freudian Psychoanalysis of The main character Kurtz .....	39
2.1.3.1 Kurtz’s id .....	39
2.1.3.2 Kurtz’s superego.....	40
2.1.3.3 Kurtz’s ego.....	42
2-1-4-From an Agent in Company to a God in Native’s Eyes.....	43
2-2 The Analysis of the Superego, Id, and Ego in the Character Marlow.....	46
2-2-1 Introduction of Marlow’s character.....	46
2-3 Common point between Joseph Conrad and the characters “Kurtz and Marlow”....	51
2.3.1 The Difference in Switching Roles.....	52
2-4 Symbolism In Heart Of Darkness .....	53
2-4-1 Introduction.....	53
2-4-2 Setting.....	54
2.4.2.1 Time.....	54
2.4.2.2 Space.....	54
2.4.2.2.1 The Congo River.....	54
2.4.2.2.2 Africa.....	55
2-4-3 The Whited Sepulcher.....	55
2.4.4 The Ivory .....	57
2-4-5 “The horror, the horror”.....	59
2-4-6 Kurtz’s character.....	59
2-4-7 Marlow’s character.....	60
2-5 Theme.....	61
2.5.1 The hypocrisy of Imperialism.....	61
2.5.2 Darkness.....	62



Conclusion.....	62
General Conclusion.....	67
Bibliography.....	70

# **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

## General Introduction

---

*Heart of Darkness*, by Joseph Conrad, was published at the start of the nineteenth century and occupies an interstitial space that explores early conceptions of a modernist Self. Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* is a psychological tale that reveals the link between subconscious life and conscious motivations. He reminisces on his voyage to the Congo in the text, mixing personal nightmares with his own psychological complexities. He's seeking for self-awareness and displaying his own mental picture of the savagery-civilization conflict. It has been dubbed the finest short novel written in English by several critics. It immerses the reader in a series of dramatic and decisively difficult moral judgments that match the two characters, Marlow and Kurtz. *Heart of Darkness* is often regarded as a partly autobiographical work that reflects Conrad's own experiences, adventure story, physiological odyssey, comedy, religious drama, and a symbolic text. It's a story about the discovery of a heretofore unknown Africa and the vagueness that lurks within the human psyche. It is a journey to the inner self and a story about identity. The story is divided into two journeys: one into the heart of Africa, and the other into the human psyche, both of which are fraught with ethical and psychological darkness. "For Conrad, the world as we experience it is not a sort of place that can be reduced to a set of clear, explicit truths. Its truths—the truths of the psyche, of the human mind and soul—are messy, vague, irrational, suggestive, and dark"<sup>1</sup>.

When *Heart of Darkness* was released in 1899, many critics praised it for its psychological depth. They characterized it as an exploration of the spiritual darkness that exists within the human being, particularly the European individual, rather than as a portrait of colonialism. *Heart of Darkness*, on the other hand, should be seen from the perspective of its socio-historical context, as many contemporary critics have suggested. This is certainly relevant given its autobiographical nature. Conrad did not live to see this novel become a critical and commercial success. *Heart of Darkness* was first studied in the 1940s and 1950s,

---

<sup>1</sup> Conrad's style in Heart Of Darkness

## General Introduction

---

at a time when literary studies were dominated by a psychological approach to literary interpretation. I would not say that the novel was ahead of its time, the novel received a lot of critical attention and was even accredited in schools.

*Heart of Darkness* can certainly be studied in terms of its historical period, Imperialism, colonialism and cultural events. In the text, which had a broader social and aesthetic reach, the theme of Europeans traveling to impoverished, barbarous, and uncivilized nations is apparent. Conrad's works, in particular, serve as a bridge between Victorian values and Modernist aspirations.

Although, in comparison to Conrad's time, this story sounds frightening to readers in the twentieth century. It has an exciting adventure mood located in the heart of an unexplored continent. *Heart of Darkness* was the perfect title for a magazine serial originally published in *Blackwood* magazine. It is really Conrad's most in-depth investigation of the self, as well as a chronicle of human consciousness and geographical exploration. The story seems to be about Marlow's journey into the unconscious, and the confrontation of an entity with the self, rather than Kurtz or the brutality of the Belgians. Kurtz is a ghost in Marlow's nightmare and has a symbolic function. This is apparent in Marlow's sayings; "No, it is impossible; it is impossible to convey the life-sensation of any given epoch of one's existence -- that which makes it truth, its meaning -- its subtle and penetrating essence. It is impossible. We live, as we dream -- alone."(Conrad, p. 24)

*Heart of Darkness* has thus far been an attempt to achieve the impossible: it provides meaning to a dream. The story has a double-fold message in this context: the first is Marlow's dream, and the second is Marlow's journey to Africa. After three months, Marlow goes upriver with the aim of relieving Kurtz at the inner station. His journey is both literal and symbolic:

## General Introduction

---

Going up to that river was like travelling back to the earliest beginnings of the world, when vegetation rioted on the earth and the big trees were the kings. An empty stream, a great silence, an impenetrable forest. The air was warm, thick, heavy, and sluggish. There was no joy in the brilliance of sunshine. The long stretches of the waterway ran on, deserted, into the gloom of overshadowed distances. On silvery sandbank hippos and alligators sunned themselves side by side.<sup>2</sup>

Marlow's voyage to the Congo River is a journey of self-discovery. His aim is to acquire self-knowledge, and understanding of the mystery of existence, but Kurtz affects him. Kurtz's centrality in the novel resides in his symbolic value in the significance of his history, in his position as the embodiment of darkness, and as a potential reflection of Marlow's selfhood. To the natives, this mysterious man was acting as if he were God. Marlow came face to face with two types of truth; ethical reality and dark reality. As Marlow recounts his adventures, the tale feels like a dream. Conrad introduces alertness from silence and stillness to noise in the story's theme:

...a cry, a very loud cry, as of infinite desolation, soared slowly in the opaque air. It ceased. A complaining clamor, modulated in savage discords, filled our ears. The sheer unexpectedness of it made my hair stir under my cap. I don't know how it struck the others: to me it seemed as though the mist itself had screamed, so suddenly, and apparently from all sides at once, did this tumultuous and mournful uproar arise.<sup>3</sup>

The novel follows Marlow as he journeys up the Congo River in search of ivory from morally depraved men like Mr. Kurtz who live in the jungle. When Marlow tries to convey the intensity of the expedition to his crew, he describes the "utter savagery that had closed around him—all that mysterious life of the wilderness that stirs in the forest, in the jungles, in

---

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Conrad. *Heart of Darkness with the Congo Diary*, 59.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* 68

## General Introduction

---

the hearts of wild men," foreshadowing the real meaning of "Heart of Darkness." (Conrad, p.10)

*Heart of Darkness* is typically considered as a psychological journey into the depths of (un)consciousness and an exploration of human thought, not just a journey into the literal heart of the continent, but also into the figurative heart of Marlow and humanity. Many people see the story as a "journey within," as John Tessitore puts it, "and [Tessitore] suggests that this journey is not merely one of Marlow's self-discovery, as is often assumed, but the much greater journey of all civilization from its present (western European) state of development back to its primitive origins" (Tessitore 91). Here, we'll present our own interpretation of the novel as a study of human psychology via the lens of Freudian analysis.

The tale of Marlow involves a hazardous journey into the unknown. Advances in psychology have shaped, more than any other factor, the new image of man in the universe, as well as the artist's conception of him. Sigmund Freud's theories revealed the different facets of the human psyche. Man is not easy to understand in Freud's analysis until one considers his multidimensional make-up and so Marlow's journey into the 'heart of darkness' depicts his journey through Freud's theory of the superego, ego and id of the psyche, where the id is the pure innate desire of man, devoid of the limitations and moderation of the ego and superego

The novel has been divided into two parts: psychological analysis and political interpretations. Our thesis will strive to provide its own interpretation of the psychological analysis using Freud's techniques.

We'll focus on Sigmund Freud's theory that the human psyche is split into three parts. Simply put, Sigmund Freud believed that the processes of the human mind could be classified into three parts: id, ego, and superego. The id is the "savage within"—basic, unrestrained human impulses that are unconscious and instinctual. The ego is more conscious, and it is our

## General Introduction

---

self that keeps the id in check with the reason (McLeod). Finally, because it is a direct product of societal expectations, the superego helps in the control of actions. When studying *Heart of Darkness*, the id and superego are the most crucial, and lend themselves perfectly to the Dark vs. Light motif, as we will see later throughout our analysis. The present work attempts to answer the following question:

- How did Conrad explore the inner life of his two main characters Kurtz and Marlow to reveal how they feel and think?
- Why Conrad's two main Characters behave the way they do?

The approach used in this dissertation is the psychological approach since we're dealing with Freud theories to mainly interpret the human psyche.

Our research then consists of two chapters. The first chapter entitled "Heart of Darkness: Historical and Theoretical Issues", related to the major theoretical concepts of our research. It envelops the theoretical ground used to make such a study possible, focusing specifically on an alternative historical account of the Congo, and its connections with imperialism. We'll first give a brief introduction to the author, his life and his works, then, we move to the novel *Heart of Darkness* as a book and as a summary, lastly we try to connect Joseph Conrad to Sigmund Freud and his psychological theory.

The second chapter entitled "*Heart of darkness: A Freudian Analysis*", is mainly devoted to the practical side of our study. As such, it seeks to the study of Freud's analysis of the human psyche as well as the study of Conrad's main characters.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **HEART OF DARKNESS:**

### **HISTORICAL AND THEORETICAL**

#### **ISSUES.**



## Introduction

1-3- Biography of the writer “Joseph Conrad” .

1-1-3 Early life

1-1-4 His works

1-4- *Heart of Darkness*: The book

1-2-4 Colonialism.

1-2-5 Imperialism.

1-2-6 Racism.

1-7 Summary of the book *Heart of Darkness*.

1-8 *Heart of Darkness* is Conrad's autobiography.

1-9 Victorian Era.

1-10 Modernism.

1-7-1 Characteristics of Modernist literature.

1-7-2 The impacts of Modernism on writers.

1-7-3 The influence of Modernism on Joseph Conrad.

1-7 The Relationship between the Writer Joseph Conrad and the Psychologist Sigmund Freud.

1-7-1 Sigmund Freud Psychoanalysis Theory .

1-7-2 The Influence of Freud’s Psychoanalysis on Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*.

Conclusion.

### Introduction

*Heart of darkness* witnessed or included many aspects such as political, economical, historical, and literal proceedings. *Heart of darkness* is based on political terms, like colonialism and imperialism, where the author mentioned the imperial dependencies and their returns on people's life. The novel talked about how European society had seen Africa and the reasons behind the intentions of the white man. By moving to Africa, the only aim was to gain profits from ivory and enslave the natives, it is well shown in the novel how the Europeans moved quickly to Africa and were driven by absolute greed. Conrad was a clever man, he managed to link the events of the novel with reality, Psychology was applied within the novel to a broad extent, when it came to how people think or how they behave, Conrad somehow used the Freudian theory to analyze the character's behavior, by going through the subconsciousness of the character, the attitudes can be recognized through the id, ego, and superego, these elements were what Freud came up with, it allows the reader to notice or to know why the character did this and did that, and how it reacted or became at the end. Conrad based his writings on a new era, the era after Queen Victoria, he's one of the modernist writers, who introduced a new way of writing, a way which contrast with the one before, the criticism of the European society and revealing the truth about colonialism and the plans for conquering other lands, this was not mentioned in any novel in the Victorian era, as a matter of fact, this was against the norms of society, even if it is right, to tell the truth.

Joseph Conrad was influenced by Freud's thoughts, he make a mixture of his personal experience in Africa as a seaman and Freud's psychoanalytic theory to create the famous piece of Modernist literature "*Heart of darkness*".

## 1-1 Biography of the writer “Joseph Conrad”

### 1-1.1 Early Life

Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski, (December 3, 1857 - August 3, 1924), one of the greatest leaders in modern literature, was born in the Polish Ukraine town of Berdivhev. His parents were Polish, from a Nobel class. His father was a Polish politician who was exiled to Vologda, Russia, with his family. When his parents died he was raised by his uncle in Poland

### 1-1.2 His Works

Conrad's childhood was not so great, for he faced many problems as a result of a lack of adequate education and of being tortured by his teacher. Conrad, at an early age, began his marine career in the port city of Marseilles, France. His life was based on traveling the sea, then, he joined the British merchant marines and spent sixteen years in service to get his citizenship. During that period of time, he traveled to India, Australia, Africa, and Singapore, and plenty of experiences he used later on in his fictional writings. After his retirement, he married Jessie Emmeline George in 1896 and had two sons. His first novel was *Almayer's Folly*, 1896, and at the beginning of the new century, he wrote *Lord Jim* in 1900, and his famous, outside novel, *Heart of Darkness* in 1902, which was about a journey of a British man in the deep jungle of Africa, Congo. *Heart of Darkness* was what distinguished Conrad's work. He showed the inner self of humans and the ugly side of nature, and how humans behave violently, in addition to racial issues. Conrad had an interest in dealing with psychology within his novel by showing the inner self and its consequences, the reality of human nature, and the political side, where he showed the expansion and the will to impose power over new territories. Conrad wrote other novels such as *The Secret Agent*, 1907, and *Nostromo*, 1904. Conrad made some gains by reprinting his novels and selling them to filmmakers. After a busy life in the sea and writing about his experiences, Conrad died on August 3rd, 1924 in England, from a heart attack, leaving a history speaking of himself and

his work, which powered many writers in the 20th century, such as Virginia Woolf and William Faulkner, and his books were and still are taught in many universities around the world.

## 1-2 *Heart of Darkness*: The book

*Heart of Darkness* is a colonial, imperial novella written by Joseph Conrad that deals with racism. It was initially published in volumes in Blackwood's magazine in 1899 and subsequently as a book in 1902. It witnessed both the Victorian and the modern eras.

The book may undeniably be analyzed in terms of its historical period, imperialism, colonialism, and cultural events of the time. *Heart of Darkness* which had a broader social and aesthetic scope has a theme of European travel to underdeveloped, barbaric, and uncivilized countries. Conrad's works, in particular, serve as a bridge between Victorian values and modernist ideals. Despite that the story is set on the Congo River, Conrad opens the narrative by referring to the Thames River in London, emphasizing that Imperialism and colonialism affected every nation in some way. In addition to the beginning of the novel, Marlow narrates the story like a dream which is associated with the neuroses of the writer.

### I-2-1 Colonialism

The novel dealt with the process of making the illegal legal such as exploiting others' lands and torturing their people. Conrad showed his view of colonialism throughout the detailed events and characters in the novel. He illustrated his thoughts through Marlow and his passion for exploring new places. When he arrived in Congo, he faced the reality of European colonialism, which damaged the nature, culture, and traditions of the Africans, and taking their natural resources was the main aim of colonizers. Marlow described the Africans as animals and primitives. He was not the only one who used such terms: "It is not only Marlow describing the natives in animalistic terms but also other characters do the same"

(Ali, Mumtaz). Conrad showed in his novel the cruelty of colonialism, which was not described in the other Victorian novels. Through Marlow, the truth of colonialism is revealed in the novel for the colonizer's activities and their morality have exposed what Europeans did to Africans, and this was embodied in the character of Kurtz, who looted and exploited everything, destroyed the natural resources, and broke the traditions of the natives for the sake of ivory which brought to him the full dominance. As a result, the Europeans failed on their mission to civilize the Africans, as they said, but they turned into savages and uncivilized human beings.

### I-2-2 Imperialism

Imperialism is about human brutality and human greed, it played a role in the novel, and it affected both the colonizers and the natives. The results of imperialism were unpleasant for the colonizers as it turned them into savages, just like the natives, and drove them mad like Kurtz in the novel, while for the natives, it produced slavery which was the main reason why the natives were owned and controlled by the colonizers. In *Heart of Darkness*, Conrad always justifies the importance of transporting civilization to other lands. It becomes a burden to the white man, and this justification is set up for colonialism and Imperialism. Marlow saw the results of Imperialism as slavery and greed taking over Africa because the darkness in Africa was Imperialism itself which meant that Africa was immersed in European darkness. "It was nothing but violent robbery, aggravated murder on a massive scale, and men going in blind as befits those who take on darkness. The conquest of the land, which mostly means taking it away from those with a different complexion or a nose a little flatter than ours, is not a pretty thing when you look too closely." (Conrad, p. 4). This is how Marlow saw European Imperialism over Africa and how he experienced its darkness and saw its consequences.

### I-2-3 Racism

Joseph Conrad portrayed the Congo in the nineteenth century as a dark place due to the evils of colonialism and Imperialism. The conflict between blacks and whites was present throughout *Heart of Darkness*, and according to Joseph Conrad's description, black Africans were criminals or backward people, which meant inferior, whereas the whites were superior empires who justified their presence in the Congo through missions of civilization and modernity. Because European countries felt that Africa was a dark continent with no culture or religion, then, Africans were considered animals, savages, or criminals. As a result, colonialism in Africa was based on racism, racial prejudice, and segregation so that colonizers may gain wealth and raw commodities.

*Heart of Darkness* portrayed the hypocrisy of the colonizers, who were fully materialistic and beneficial. Racism is one of the key features of the novel in which colonizers treated the Africans like animals or even worse, that is what colonialism in Africa used to be as extermination and enslavement of the natives, and this was an excellent way to highlight how racist the colonizers were in the novel while being in Congo. Colonialism was absolutely based on racism, and it is illustrated through Marlow in the novel. Congo was an example of how much colonial power was racist. The black people were forced to do hard work and heavy duties without any mercy for colonialism was founded on racist roots. Those motives that already existed in the European society are reflected in the Europeans in Africa.

### I-3 Summary of the book “*Heart of Darkness*”

*Heart of Darkness* is Joseph Conrad's colonial novel. It was set during the European colonialism movement in Africa. The book is considered a story within a story in which the novella started with five friends looking for the tide to change in Thames Stream for sailing in the ocean. The storyteller "Marlow" in the middle of the conversation began to speak about

the background of Britain and went back to the Roman conquest of Britain: "And this also... has been one of the dark places of the earth." From the beginning, he sets the story's symbolism and atmosphere as; "darkness".

The story is told from Marlow's first point of view, i.e. from his own perspective and personal experiences. When he was a child, he had a big passion for maps and the discovery of new lands. Marlow had sailed for six years in the Pacific, then he returned to London, and by coincidence, in a shop window, an outline speaks about a trading company settling in Congo. Then, his aunt intervened for him to take a job in Africa as captain of the steamboat in that company.

Before he went to Congo, he signed contracts at the Company's head office in Brussels. Then, he took his road toward the African jungle. The first stop was 'the outer station, and from that moment, all his expectations fell down as he faced the dark side of Imperialism, which is the evil of the white man; hence the natives were transformed into slaves which satisfied the Europeans.

Marlow stayed at the station for ten days, he meet the chief accountant, and he was all the time hearing one name « Kurtz », the famous agent of the Belgian Company who collected ivory more than anyone in Congo as the chief told him. The day after, Marlow went to the Central station with a procession of sixty men(natives) and one white man, Lack of the spirit of life on that road along the two-hundred mile, the only thing of life Marlow witnessed in the jungle, it was a dead body of an African man shot in the head. When he arrived at the central station, he knew that the steamboat is on the bottom of the river, the general manager of the Central station who is a conspiratorial person, told Marlow that two days before he had been permitted to go to the station upriver with a volunteer captain leading the ship, but they ran over stones in the riverbed which left holes in the frame of the boat. The manager started

to speak about the situation in Inner station and Kurtz as he described: “an exceptional man, of the greatest importance to the Company”. (Conrad p 35. ).

During the months, Marlow spent at the central station waiting for the ship to be repaired, he learned that the company’s employees are idiots, greedy, and racists who care about bickering and jealousy among themselves and show no interest in business, one day a fire breaks out and an African man is accused and beaten for no reason and with no mercy from the white man. Marlow meets the brickmaker and there is a dark sketch on its wall of a blindfolded woman holding a lit torch, agent told him that Kurtz painted it. He said about Kurtz “He is an emissary of pity and science and progress”. Marlow’s curiosity to meet Kurtz increased. Finally, Marlow found the parts that they need to repair the steamboat and started their journey in the Congo River to meet Kurtz with the brickmaker, some agents as Marlow called them ‘the pilgrims’ and cannibals but the rumors said that he was very sick.

With his team, Marlow reached a cabin with stacked kindling, with a remark telling that the wood is their property but that they ought to take it Carefully. After a light mist surrounded them, it slowly began to disappear but a group of aborigines suddenly attacked them. The African helmsman was killed before Marlow scared them with the steamer whistle of the ship. After a brief period, Marlow’s crew reached the Inner station, they thought that they would find Kurtz dead but they come across a Russian trader who looked like a harlequin. He guaranteed them that everything was on the right path and educates them that he is the one who cleared out the wood. The Russians assumed that Kurtz has abandoned his morals and cannot be considered a typical individual who respects their ethical judgments. Kurtz has set up himself as a God in the native’s eyes and has taken cruel raids against surrounding tribes to look for a large amount of Ivory, the severed heads over a fence confirm Kurtz’s brutality, then the natives come with Kurtz on a stretcher and surround him, then he talked to them and they went and disappeared toward the middle of the jungle. The manager



took Kurtz, who is very sick, on the edge of a steamer. A nice local woman seemed like Kurtz's mistress standing on a beach and looking at them, the Russian suggested that she had a big influence on Kurtz's acts and troubles.

After Marlow swore to the Russian, he told him that it was Kurtz who ordered the attack on a steamer so that they would believe that he was dead and that he would stay to complete his plans of collecting Ivory. The Russian left in a boat because of his fear of the manager. At night, Kurtz vanished and Marlow went out to look for him, Kurtz crawled out towards the camp but Marlow stopped him and persuaded him to return to the ship, and in the morning they left the place, but Kurtz's situation was deteriorating.

While Marlowe was steering the ship, Kurtz was telling him and gave him his personal documents including a pamphlet calling for civilizing the savages which ended with a message "Exterminate all the brutes!" They stopped to repair the steamer need after its collapse in some parts. Kurtz died saying his last ambiguous words "The horror, the horror", with the confusion of Marlow from this. Marlow gets sick after that and scarcely survived, then, he went back to Europe and visited Kurtz's Intended (the fiancée). She stood in Mourner, in spite of the fact that it had been a year since Kurtz's died and because she saw him as a symbol of civilization and integrity. She asked what his final words were, but Marlow choose to do not to tell her the truth, instead, he told her that Kurtz's last word was her name.

#### I-4- **Heart of Darkness is Conrad's autobiography:**

Conrad's novel *Heart of Darkness* is sometimes seen as a partly autobiographical work that mirrors his own experiences. Joseph Conrad has stated several times that his literary works accurately reflect his view of life and that the majority of his fiction is at least semi-autobiographical. Conrad was obsessed with the sea life during his lifetime, to the point where

he traveled to exotic locations on a regular basis. This explains why his writings are filled with so many adventures and maritime excursions. Conrad was fascinated by geography as a child and dreamt of visiting the planet's seas. Conrad began studying maps and had an atlas at the age of nine. He wanted to go to exotic countries and learn about different cultures, one of which was Africa. He grew intrigued with the urge to visit Africa and find its treasures after seeing a map of the continent. Conrad afterward chose to leave Poland and pursue a career as a sailor.

Before becoming a naturalized British person in 1886, he served as a seaman aboard French and British ships. He spent twelve years in the British merchant marines. He rose to the rank of captain and traveled to India, Africa, Asia, and Australia. The novel *Heart of Darkness* is based on Joseph Conrad's travels across Africa. In 1890, he traveled to the Congo River. He got to work on a riverboat with the support of his aunt in order to travel to the Congo, where he witnessed the horrors of human depravity.

In Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, the novelist used the first person method by creating a character and employing them in the story to express his thoughts and principles. During the journey, some problems interfaced with Conrad's mission which is similar to the events of the story that happened to Marlow.

“Heart of Darkness Background While traveling from Boma (at the mouth) to the company station at Matadi he met Roger Casement who told Conrad stories of the harsh treatment of Africans Conrad saw some of the most shocking and depraved examples of human corruption he had ever witnessed. He was disgusted by the ill-treatment of the natives, the scrabble for loot, the terrible heat, and the lack of water. He saw human skeletons of bodies left to rot – many were bodies of men from the chain gangs building the railroads. He

found his ship was damaged. Dysentery was rampant as was malaria; Conrad had to terminate his contract due to illness and never fully recovered.” (slide player.)

The quote above expresses that through the events of the story, the reader notices that Marlow’s life is similar to what Conrad had experienced in his life. For example, to get a job in Congo, both Conrad and Marlow sought help from a family member their aunt, Conrad’s aunt was a novelist and Marlow’s aunt had a friend in the administration of a Belgian Company.

Conrad started his work with the trading company as a captain of a steamboat, he was going on an expedition journey under the leadership of Alexandre Delcomon. The writer and the character were very satisfied to achieve their childhood dream. However, Conrad’s pleasure did not continue long because he entered into a struggle with Alexandre Delcomon’s brother, who was working as a manager of the same company but in another trading station. In the story, the brother is the manager of the Central Station who was a liar and wily person, he did not want Marlow to reach Kurtz and gave him the supplies that he needed.

In Congo, Conrad’s mission was to bring a sick agent of the company called “Klein” but he died on a steamship with Conrad, in the novel, the character Kurtz became the agent, Klein. Joseph inspired the characters and the events of the story from his personal experience in Congo, what he had seen from savage and racism helped him to create this literary work.

Conrad mirrored his real life in the form of a fictional novel, projecting subjective facts in the form of a fictional novel, which means he was making projections. Conrad projected himself as the character of Marlow, they are fairly the same, their view on life and thoughts, people, troubles, love of adventure, and circumstances are similar.

One of the reasons for doing this is his inability to express the realities he lived, or his intolerance of the realities he lived in, his lack of acceptance of private daily life, and his non-acceptance of European standards and the standards of society, or in another way his desire to unmask the illusory European stereotype which is mean, perhaps the writer had a desire to reveal the true face of the European colonizer, as well as Conrad's desire to express the reality of the suffering experienced by the African individual, and most likely, Conrad's desire to embody his fears or to embody his ambitions.

Conrad wanted the reader to picture the vivid life and way of thinking at that time of the colonizer, by entering people's minds and their consciousness which let the reader decide what is right or wrong about the colonizer's actions and the native sufferance.

### **1-5 The Victorian Era**

The United Kingdom, or in other words, the British Empire is an empire that spread out power over many places of the world, including North America, Australia, New Zealand , Africa, and Asia. It was the largest empire in the Ninetieth Century. The first aim of its extension is to achieve more economic growth and add more colonies to make strong its lines of defense. For a century, it was the global superpower, having colonies all over the world as they called "... the sun never sets...."

Britain boasted of European hegemony over the most of the world, for it had navy strength and had ruled the world with imperial colonial force. However, it did not rely just on armies to extend its dominance; it also exploited the natives. All of this resulted in Britain that became a superpower, a rich country, an economic development, and a stable society.

The country was under the control of Queen Victoria for 64 years (1837-1901) after the death of her uncle, King William IV.

"During the Victorian period, Britain was a powerful nation with a rich culture. It had a stable government, a growing state, and an expanding franchise. It also controlled a large empire, and it was wealthy, in part because of its degree of industrialization and its imperial holdings."(Steinbach).

The British Empire was aiming at higher standards, and by expanding its territories, its global standing was highly increased. Britain gained a place among the top nations to establish its dominance over the world.

### **1-6 Modernism**

Modernism is a new art that appears in the late nineteenth century, and the beginning of the twentieth century, as a reaction against Realism. It is "The creative work or genre of art and literature that breaks from the classical mold, or that is considered cutting edge" (yourdictionary.com).

It spread all over Europe and America and was like a revolution in culture and literature for it rejected the traditional way of writing, forms, and techniques. It came to express the real image of European society at that time. "Modernist literature or literary Modernism came in the late 19th and early 20th century. Mainly in Europe and North America. Modernism in the arts is a radical break with the past and a concurrent search for new forms of expression. (Slideshare)

#### **1-6.1 Characteristics of Modernist Literature**

- One of its prominent figures is the use of symbolism, a new literary technique that makes the word or the language sharp and thick and has multiple meanings in one sentence.
- The writer employs colloquial language instead of the formal and typical one.

- Individualism: the individual is more important than society, and writers show the society and its culture as a challenge to the character's morality.
- The writers focus on experimentation to portray the image of European society.
- The use of an open ending, the demise of the traditional plot and characters (the hero, anti-hero)
- Interiority has appeared as inner psychology and thoughts and the Stream of consciousness.
- Since then, the term has been used to define a storytelling approach that aims to reflect a character's consciousness by depicting the flow of sensations, sentiments, ideas, and experiences as directly as possible without relying on objective description or traditional speech.
- The new term self-consciousness had not been talked about before in other novels. Conrad came up with this new mechanism that eliminated the old traditional ways of narrating since this new hazy mechanism of writing had become the center of readers' attention which made the reader imagine the story from the character's perspective and then share it with his own.
- 
- Epiphany is borrowed from the Greek word 'epiphaneia': which means 'appearance'.
- In literary meaning, epiphany is a literary device that appeared in Modernist literature. The focus was on the individual when the character changed through the different events of the story.
- Epiphany is the turning point when the character realizes something, it's like a moral lesson that changes his view and thoughts.

### 1-6.2 The Impacts of Modernism on writers

The writers recognize that the traditional forms, methods, and the traditional chronological order of the story are not suitable anymore. Writers reacted by abandoning the fundamental notion, so they created a new formulaic style of writing, which represented the society of the nineteenth century where the writer had the total freedom to express his thoughts and emotions clearly through the individual character. Modernist writers narrated their stories in the first-person point of view with different characters to emphasize the subjectivity of each character and to add more complexity and meaning to the events of the story by employing different points of view. They also used new techniques for writing novels that broke all the conventional writing styles so as to differ from the previous literary works in form and content. They abandoned the close ending stories and started using themes and symbolism to describe the events of the story and to add more complexity to the individual to attract the reader, for example, Joseph Conrad employed symbolism in his book *Heart of Darkness* to portray every character. Besides, the writers were interested in stream of consciousness to deliver their ideas and convey the reader.

For the first time, authors introduced the racial issues in their writing, as well as the search for the self. They were more interested in the psychological side to express their ideas through the inner thought of the character. Modernism allowed writers to create different creative literary art to portray the human experience, in other words, they described the reality of humans through two sides 'good and evil' the authors discovered in themselves to answer their questions about their truth and that of others for they are interested in the inner or the individual rather than society. The modernist author used the technique of stream of consciousness not only to express the character's thoughts, in fact, but it was also as a way to visualize the experience of the events as lived, and that helped the reader dive deeper into the character's mind and his own world so that to understand his behaviors and reactions. It

created a rich, new experience for the reader to get inside the human mind rather than the traditional prose (such as long dialogues, accounts, and detailed descriptions).

The authors introduced the racial and class issues with deep analysis for the first time in their writings and the search for the self. They were more interested in psychology and they expressed their ideas through the inner of the character and people's awareness of what really happened in society and the cruelty of people rather than issues related to reality, religion, war, monarchy, and poverty. Writers represented the stereotype of modernity and the new realization of the Ninetieth and Twentieth Century through the self and consciousness. They focused on the relationship between individual and nature, individual and society, individual and himself; a sick relationship.

### **1-6.3 The Influence of Modernism on Joseph Conrad**

Heart of Darkness is one of Joseph Conrad's best literary works created during the modernist period when he was touched by modern writing and innovative narrative techniques. The public introduction of a new style was like a turning point in the history of novels. He wanted the reader to see, observe, analyze, feel, and most importantly, live within the narrative as one of the characters. This new era of writing made a huge change in people's perceptions of novels. Conrad gave a new dimension to his literary writings for he portrayed fiction mixed with psychological science, consciousness, and unconsciousness. And because he was a sailor, most of his writings were based on adventures and sailing. In an article written by Pericles Lewis about Heart of Darkness, he states that: "Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness (1899) is an early and important example of modernist experimentation in English fiction. In the voice of his frame narrator, Conrad provides a crucial image for understanding the symbolism of modern literature when he explains that the stories of Marlow, the narrator of most of the novella, differ from those of other sailors." (PaperOwl.com)



In Conrad's interior monologue, there was internal telepathy between groups of opinions. One group went in direction A, and another in direction B, which means one went on the positive side and the other on the negative side. The summation of these groups of opinions constituted a dialogue that took place within Conrad's consciousness and subconsciousness and revolved around basics, including going to the jungle, taking Kurtz's path, or saving himself and going back to the civilized world. These were the decisions resulting from the internal dialogue. From this point of view, a conflict was formed for Conrad, which was the contradiction between point A and point B.

Point A is his observation of what is happening around him and his attempt to address the issue within his consciousness, and point B is the presence of an obstacle that prevents him from solving this problem, such as the lack of an appropriate environment or conditions to solve this problem, and this is exactly what constituted a conflict. He had a desire of some kind, and that desire was already satiated, and that is why he did not want to be oppressive. Conrad went from a part to a whole and from a whole to the part.

The author used the literary device stream of consciousness in order to express his inner feeling about different things, for example; he expressed his big passion for the sea through Marlow's consciousness when Marlow meditates: "there it is before you – smiling, frowning, inviting, grand, mean, insipid, or savage, and always mute with an air of whispering, 'Come and find out.'" (Conrad 23). From here, the reader knows how the writer is fond of the sea and the beauty of water without saying any words, just with the inner thoughts of the character, and this technique appeared in the modernism period. This technique had appeared in the modernism period. Another example was the curiosity of the reader to meet the famous agent Kurtz before being introduced in the story that is because Marlow's consciousness offered information about his interesting personality and his notable influence on the Company.

Modernism builds a new generation based on its own new ideas and breaks all the classical forms for writing a new piece of literature. When Conrad used the elaboration of the character and gave the favor to individuality in the novella, he opened the door to the effect of modernist ideas, which is something new and distinct from the realism or romanticism period.

Conrad used one of the notable characteristics of modernism in his novel *Heart of Darkness* which is the thick language because he did not employ just simple words, but when you read the novel, you'll notice the complexity of the meaning such as; 'inscrutable, inconceivable, mournful, somber, gloomy, and brooding'. The writer then chooses this heavy language to express the darkness of Imperialism in Africa and particularly in Congo, in a way to make the reader imagine and live the events of the story in Marlow's narration.

Modernism writing pieces are famous for one event interrupting the other, Conrad used this method through the character Marlow, narrating past incidents 'the flashback technique' when he had a big ambition of reaching 'the blank space' and 'The North Pole'; the writer did not follow the chronological order of the old forms, but he was influenced by the new way of the twentieth century in writing his novel.

*Heart of darkness* is a literary masterpiece that is full of symbolism, the journey of self-discovery is a symbolic figure in the novella where Marlow's character gets inside his inner mind and consciousness. Conrad believes that the appropriate literary work should contain a hidden and complex meaning of words and events, as he states: " a work of art is very seldom limited to one exclusive meaning, and not necessarily tending to a definite conclusion".(Ahmad Yasir Dhain p 488).

Conrad used the symbolism to portray European colonialism in a palpable manner and the reality of what the greed of the white man was able to do to the Africans through the use of

objects like Ivory, Setting, and characters. It facilitates the reader to get inside the events of the story and live with Marlow on his journey of self-discovery in the deep Congo River.

To develop the main theme of the novel, the writer used symbolic elements to explain the dark side of colonialism and the darkness of the Congo River to help the reader understand it as well as the message throughout Heart of Darkness's writing.

Joseph Conrad tried to describe his personal experience in Africa as a vivid picture in the reader's eyes because he wanted the reader to take a lesson from Heart of darkness's characters since his novel talked about the wrong path and decisions that most people took but suddenly, in a moment, they discovered that they were in the wrong road, and if they remained like this, death or loss of the self would be their end. For that, Conrad used the new literary device «Epiphany» to get deep into the character Marlow his thoughts and inner mind in order to understand better his attitude and behaviors. In the novel, the epiphany associated with Marlow in the emotional moment when Kurtz died, he realized what the Darkness was able to do to any human being, for he knew that if he stood in his job in Congo, he would turn to another version from Kurtz or any white man working in the African jungle, just a savage and greedy man who wanted to fulfill his desires.

Joseph Conrad is considered a modernist writer who benefits from his previous job as a sailor to produce one of the greatest literary works: Heart of Darkness, in which he shows the reader what European Imperialism really did to the Africans in the dark continent when he created a worth story that characterized the modernism period of the English novel in the Twentieth Century.

## 1-7 The Relationship Between the Writer Joseph Conrad and the Psychologist

### Sigmund Freud

#### 1-7.1 Sigmund Freud Psychoanalysis Theory

Freud (1856-1939) was an Austrian neurologist, one of the most remarkable figures of psychological leaders and theorists in history. His theories carried many things that appeared for the first time, consisting of psychoanalysis, dreams, emotions, and personality. Psychoanalysis obtained the dynamic principle of personality and the psychosexual levels of character development. Freud's description of the mind's structure was outstanding. How the tip of an iceberg shows little ice, the ego, it's the part under the water that contains the sum of the berg's mass, the id." (Shakow, David. Pp, 111-185".)

For Boag, "The id is the source of all psychic energy, making it the primary component of personality" (Boag, p ). Freud gave huge importance to the unconscious mind because it is the big hidden part that controls the desires of human beings that is more likely what humans prefer. It is considered a part of the unconscious since it is what motivates people to follow their own desires and lusts without the feeling of guilt. According to Pulcu, "The ego was described by Freud as it develops from the id and ensuring that the impulses of the id can be expressed in a manner acceptable in the real world". (Pulcu , p 5- 8).

The ego works in both the conscious and unconscious mind, for it is the link between the id found in the unconscious part and the reality; it always tries to balance between the two, for it tries to fulfill the id in the most suitable and adequate so that to be acceptable by reality. For instance, sitting in a long class and getting hungry, suddenly, the id tells you to get out of class to have something to eat; this is where the ego interferes and tells you to be patient and warns you that you might get expelled while waiting in class, the ego, though, makes you

patient by making you imagine eating your favorite food when the class is over, you can go to have your meal in a normal and acceptable way.

As stated by Boag: "The superego holds the internalized moral standards and ideals that we acquire from our parents and society (our sense of right and wrong)" (Boag, S. 2014). Hence, the superego is the big boss found in both unconsciousness and consciousness, for it is the one who guides the person to behave correctly by making the ego force the id's disobedience, and the person goes by ideal manners.

- Sigmund Freud placed most of the defensive mechanisms within the unconscious mind because they are made in an involuntary method. Phebe states that "Defense mechanisms are unconscious psychological responses that protect people from feelings of anxiety; threats to self-esteem and things that they don't want to think about or deal with". (Phebe Cramer, November 2015)

#### **- Repression:**

For Freud, "The essence of repression lies simply in turning something away and keeping it at a distance from the conscious"(Standard Edition, p. 147, *italics in original*. Sigmund Freud 1915). When there is a desire, and it's being fulfilled, it is considered repression, and this repression is embodied in the subconscious and thus, becomes obsessions. It is like someone who craves sweets, but he is on a diet and cannot have them, and he starts to remember them all the time.

#### **- Denial:**

For Freud, "Denial is a defense mechanism that involves a refusal to accept reality, thus blocking external events from awareness. If a situation is just too much to handle, the person may respond by refusing to perceive it or by denying that it exists". (Freud, S. (1894),

41-61). For instance, someone who has anger disorder and is being told he is angry, but he keeps rejecting that and says; he is not claiming he is calm.

**- Projection:**

According to Gerald is "attributing to others one's own unacceptable desires and impulses. (GERALD COREY, 2009. p, 67). When someone was hit by someone recently and saw someone sitting in a corner alone and crying, he will directly assume he was beaten by someone else.

**- Displacement:**

For Corey, is "directing energy toward another object or person when the original object or person is inaccessible". (Corey, G. p.67). For example, getting a severe reprimand from the manager at work, and of course, you cannot argue with him, so you take out that aggression on slamming or hitting the door so hard to empty out that anger within. This part is classified in the section of the ego defense mechanism because it doesn't follow the desire of the human being.

**- Regression:**

According to Corey, is "going back to an earlier phase of development when there were fewer demands." (Corey, G. P.68). When encountering someone on a particular topic, the person takes the position of regression and switches the direction of the subject; for example, someone hates going to parties, and when he is offered to go to the party he refuses and claims that he is busy.

**- Sublimation:**

In Kim and Co's view, it "is a defense mechanism that allows us to act out unacceptable impulses by converting these behaviors into a more acceptable form." (Kim E, Zeppenfeld V, Cohen D. 2013) For example, when someone is stressed out or mad, he eats to not make any decisions he might regret later: it is a way of self-relaxation

**-Dream analysis:**

Freud gave much importance to the unconscious mind, where all the repressed feelings can be pleased. He considered the dream such as; "the royal road to the unconscious." (Zhang, Wei, and Benyu Guo. August 2018) Through analyzing the dream, it is easy to know what the person is thinking about or what he wants when decoding the steps within the dream; the desired thing presents in reality. Freud divided the dream into two parts: the manifest content is what the dreamer remembers in his dreams, like images, actions, events, and people. While the latent content is the fulfillment of the desires that could be fulfilled during waking, or it is the symbolic meaning in the dream, where the desires have conversed into less threatening shapes, like someone who wants to try drugs but in his dreams, he sees it as candy. In this case, his desire is satisfied and keeps him away from drugs in real life. In other words, according to Freud, the dream is about satisfying desires and lusts, for example; a woman who wants to get married will see herself in the dream as a bride or a child who wants to play, will he see himself getting toys gift?

In the psychological process, there is always a conflict between the ego and the id; the ego always tries to stop the id from satisfying his desires, so the id looks for another way to do so. He applies his desires in the unconscious, in the dream.

### 1-7.2 The Influence of Freud Psychoanalysis on Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*

At the beginning of the 20th century, Freud stated his theories on psychoanalysis. For Freud: "We have two different kinds of the unconscious – the one which is latent but capable of becoming conscious, and the one which is repressed and which is not, in itself and without more ado, capable of becoming conscious" (Freud 335). He added: "... whereas the ego is essentially the representative of the external world of the reality, the super-ego stands in contrast to it as the representative of the internal world, of the id. Conflicts between the ego and the ideal will, as we are now prepared to find, ultimately reflect the contrast between what is real and what is psychical, between the external world and the internal world." (Freud 376).

Since Sigmund Freud published his theories that had a big impact on that era when the novel was written, that is what affected Conrad to write this story and create the two main characters 'Kurtz' and 'Marlow' for they represent the approach in their conscious mind.

What did they do to follow their morals and ethics? Or would they show their real truth?

How did the white man react to the total freedom in Congo?

For Freud, the person's disorder shrinks if he achieves an inner balance between the id, ego, and superego at the same time Heart of darkness reflects his human psychology, and Marlow starts his journey of self-discovery to reach the point of exploring the self, it is a psychological journey where the main characters Kurtz and Marlow fascinated by the African jungle represent the two different personalities of the human being for Marlow appeared in the story as a white man with intellectual and rational thoughts representing the European's ego, whereas Kurtz is the individual who follows his 'Id' since he obeyed his innate desire with no self-control in the primitive African society.

At this point, Freud suggested that: "... much of human behavior is controlled by forces outside our awareness, and the relationship between a person and society is controlled



by primitive urges buried deep within our unconscious as he argued that most of our psychic energy is used in trying to find expressions of unconscious ideas that are acceptable or failing that keeping them unconscious".(Steve Earlam). In the story, Conrad created the two agents similar to Freud's theory, for he showed the deep dark side of the mind and the heart of each person since they were not able to behave as they wanted in a strict society until they were in total freedom far from the conservative society.

Freud, in his theory, explained the 'denial' which rejects reality. Conrad, through the character Kurtz, applies it; the agent was not able to face the person full of evil he turned to. He cannot confess to his inner self about what made the jungle and the Id to his soul. On the other hand; at the last moment of his life, he says: "the horror, the horror"; here, he denies all that Africa offered to him as a European, as a white man and agent; he forgot the power, wealth, and dominance, that the jungle and ivory gave to him. He reached an inner point in his self-denial of the good and bad about Africa. In the novella, Conrad creates a plot based on Marlow's curiosity to meet the genius Kurtz; it is a projection of Freud's theory, Marlow searched for the truth of the self through meeting different mentalities in Africa, but he was very shocked when he realized that the native Africans treat Kurtz as God; he imposed the 'repression' on them in order to reach his desires and celebrate with his 'Id'.

Conrad's writings, as a result of his multiple experiences of life in different countries, helped him to create his view on the human psyche adopting Freud's psychoanalytic theory to write the famous piece of literature; Heart of Darkness, a novella that reflects the approach of psychoanalysis in which the theory separated human mentality into three main branches; "the id, ego, and super ego." Conrad's characters represent these components in the primitive society "Of Africa" and help the reader understand clearly the human mind (especially the colonizer) and how to protect the self from the danger of the "Id."

**Conclusion**

To conclude, Heart of Darkness mixed the reality of Europeans in both Europe and Africa and linked the individuals with Freudian theory to create a masterpiece in uncovering facts about what was happening at that time from brutality and savageness; that led to such circumstances. Conrad posted his real life in the form of a novel to highlight what he saw and witnessed in people's behavior during his life experience. He wrote in a modern way that had never been seen before in Victorian society and made a revolutionary in world literature, which made him one of the greatest leaders in modern literature. Writing against the society's norms at that time was a challenge, but Conrad managed to do so; and talked about negative aspects, which made a huge conflict, within the society itself. Conrad wanted people to know about his life experiences; he wanted his legacy to continue and be taught to the next generation; that was why he wrote Heart of Darkness, to share his experiences and thoughts with his audience and let them live their own life while reading the novel.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

# ***HEART OF DARKNESS: A FREUDIAN ANALYSIS***

Introduction.

2-1 Kurtz's Character.

2-1-1 Introduction of Kurtz's character

2-1-2 Kurtz's no self-control

2-1-3 Freudian Psychoanalysis of The main character Kurtz :

2.1.3.1 Kurtz's id

2.1.3.2 Kurtz's superego

2.1.3.3 Kurtz's ego

2-1-4-From an Agent in Company to a God in Native's Eyes

2-2 The Analysis of the Superego, Id, and Ego in the Character Marlow

2-2-1 Introduction of Marlow's character

2-2-2-The Analysis of The Superego, Id and ego in the Character "Marlow"

2-3 Common point between Joseph Conrad and the characters "Kurtz and Marlow":

2.3.1 The Difference in Switching Roles

2-4 Symbolism

2-4-1 Introduction

2-4-2 Setting

2.4.2.1 Time

2.4.2.2 Space

2.4.2.2.1 The Congo River

2.4.2.2.2 Africa

2-4-3 The Whited **Sepulcher**

2.4.4 The Ivory

2-4-5 “The horror, the horror ”

2-4-6 Kurtz’s character

2-4-7 Marlow’s character

2-5 Theme

**2.5.3 The hypocrisy of Imperialism**

**2.5.4 Darkness**

Conclusion

## Introduction

Marlow's self-discovery is the most noticeable part of the whole novel, it brings many facts within the novel, and how the novel reflected the reality of that time which is the hypocrisy of western imperialism. Marlow represented the theory of Sigmund Freud (1856/1939), id, superego, and ego. These three main elements are all featured in the novel, it is like Joseph Conrad was the psychologist who wrote the novel. It was a journey of self-discovery for Marlow to recognize the truth of European colonizers who think that he is able to do whatever he wants against the natives because he is a white man. Marlow, The European young man, who loved adventure, and exploring new places, had faced a new world he could never imagine, a completely different world, where lusts and desires were not bound by anything. In his journey, he discovered his true self, the devil inside him, which he never thought he had. In the end, he got back to his consciousness, and made it out of the jungle "ALIVE".

The typical white man in Africa is Kurtz, the famous agent who everyone knew at the company, he had a quiet reputation. He was transformed from a civilized European man to a savage primitive man, the only thing that distinguished him from the natives was his color, he became one of them, or even worst. He was so focused on collecting ivory, till the point that he lost control of himself. At last, he regretted everything, and said his famous word: "the horror, the horror". Here, his ego appeared at the last moment because he saw the devil he had become. Kurtz followed completely his Id and turned into a man with no self-control than a God in the native's eyes. He abandoned the social norms of the Victorian era. When imperialism was associated with the jungle, it created something much worst than anyone can ever imagine, a Darkness was born and raised to dominate everything and everyone, It was a whirlpool that was hard to survive from.

## 2.1. Kurtz's Character

### 2.1.1. Introduction To Kurtz Character

Kurtz is the central character in Joseph Conrad's 1899 novella Heart of Darkness. He is an excellent ivory trader in the Belgian Company in Congo and also the manager of the inner station deep in the African jungle. This personality is considered a dialectical figure because it combines moral and human critics that reflect in its innermost the internal criticism that this person experiences.. the principle of internal conflict can never be separated from it.. it is always in a spiral of conflict between the 'ego' which represents the reality of society and the 'id' emanating from his lusts.. and the super ego that manifested itself in the embodiment of the worst.

As he is an opportunist, he is also a narcissist... The first aspect is the exploitation of the local population under penalty of labor or servitude as a better term. This can explain his narcissism and self-centeredness to the point of the divine, as he views slaves as creatures (God) of class B, while he represents the foundation, religion, civilization, money, and European power.

### 2.1.2 Kurtz's no self-control

The ability to control oneself is the most notable attitude of any human being. Kurtz wants to collect as much Ivory as possible to spread his power over the natives without any boundaries, he can pillage, and even kill black people for the sake of achieving his self-satisfaction, this is a white man's behavior, obtaining what belongs to the other just for his wishes under the cover of civilization.

When he entered the jungle everything changed his mind, his attitude, and his principles, he became the white man who reflects the European power over the weak people

in order to fulfill his desire. The ability to control oneself is the most notable attitude of any human being.

From the perspective that he is a white European man and with his imperial ideas, Kurtz has reached a point where he can no longer control himself and his desires, He gathered ivory more than anyone in the company with whatever it takes, treat people as slaves or kills them, the essential thing for Kurtz was power and dominance, that Ivory gave it to him. Day after day, his greed grow and his willingness to fulfill his desire let him lose his self-control in Congo, He thought that he owned everything and that seemed clear in the novel when they heard him say “My intended, my ivory, my station, my river, my..... ”(Conrad p 82).To reach his desire of possessing everything around him, Kurtz changed into an enigmatic character, no one has the ability to predict his next step, he became obsessed with the power and superiority that Ivory offered to him but at the same time, his sense of no self-control increased, close people were afraid of his attitude, for example, his Russian friend.

“You can’t judge Mr. Kurtz as you would an ordinary man. No, no, no! Now—just to give you an idea— I don’t mind telling you, he wanted to shoot me, too, one day— but I don’t judge him.’ ‘Shoot you!’ I cried ‘What for?’ ‘Well, I had a small lot of ivory the chief of that village near my house gave me. You see I used to shoot games for them. Well, he wanted it, and wouldn’t hear reason. He declared he would shoot me unless I gave him the ivory and then cleared out of the country, because he could do so, and had a fancy for it, and there was nothing on earth to prevent him killing whom he jolly well pleased. And it was true, too. I gave him the ivory.” (Conrad, p. 93,94).

The jungle was the turning point in Kurtz’s life, nothing stayed as it used to, his attitude and principles. The forest took out the Evil from his heart, which he had not the ability to control his behaviors, instead, he followed his desires with whatever it took even his



self-control, he shifted to the typical white man who wanted just power and wealth, the natives in Congo were suffering from his cruelty because he did not think about the others, he just wanted Ivory, Ivory and a big amount of Ivory, and didn't see anything else. Kurtz became the worst person more than ever, even with his friends no one could have stood against him, because he couldn't control his desire so his harshness and danger reached his close people.

### **2.1.3 Freudian Psychoanalysis of The main character Kurtz:**

According to psychoanalysis, Kurtz is the antagonist, the one with the worst dark side, he represents the negative side.

#### **2.1.3.1 Kurtz's Id**

Heart of darkness is not just a novella or long tale which deals with the impacts of imperialism and colonialism in the jungle of Africa but it goes further to explore the psychological effects on the European white man's character when they go to Congo far from the civilized, restricted society and how their personality adapts deeply in the savage, primitive environment. In the book, Kurtz changes from an employer in the company and director of the station to a dictator imposing his power over the natives with violence and cruelty, Kurtz followed his emotions without taking others' feelings into consideration, he just wanted to reach his aim of controlling the other. As a result, his Id rose and his values disappeared.

Kurtz came to Congo as a manager of the inner station of the company, an ivory collector, and an energetic and intelligent person imbued with Western European restricted thoughts and principles but what happened in the Congo is that Kurtz found absolute freedom, a freedom that did not exist in the Victorian society, he found a people that feared the European colonizer, so he controlled them in the most horrific ways. Kurtz followed his desire to dominate the others at any cost, and his European thoughts and ideas vanished in the

jungle, he forgot that he represents the European civilization in the Congo, he just wanted to control and force the natives to do what he wants. This has led him to do horrible things and actions, such as killing anybody for the sake of Ivory, he killed the locals, dragging them to death in cold blood, he even threatening one of his colleagues simply he became a blind person who sees nothing but power and tyranny. Kurtz's feeling of power has increased through the oppression of natives because he did not find anyone or any laws that could stop his greed and tyranny, and enslaving the locals made it easier for him to show and bring out his worst in order to satisfy his desires and achieve his reward. Kurtz, The Congo was truly the perfect place where his id was rising dramatically, and he completely unleashed his lusts and wild desires.

### **2-1.3.2 Kurtz's Superego**

Superego is the contrast of the Id. It represents the social norms that govern the society in the case of the character Kurtz, he must follow the European rules and the restricted civilized behaviors of the white man.

“His mother was half-English, his father was half-French. All Europe contributed to the making of Kurtz”(Conrad, p81-82). When Kurtz arrived in the Congo his principles vanished leisurely till all the values of western man disappeared in the middle of the jungle.

Kurtz started to follow his desire and the pleasure that the power and dominance offered to him, he adapted to the savage environment with the native inhabitants and forgot the superego that he grew up with. Kurtz's id controlled his behaviors, his love of power grew up day after day, and he was no more a civilized white man. He was very brutal to everyone in the company even his slaves who considered him a God because he was a greedy, violent, barbarian, and savage agent who used cruel ways and methods to collect the biggest amount of Ivory.

“You can’t judge Mr. Kurtz as you would an ordinary man. No, no, no! Now—just to give you an idea—I don’t mind telling you, he wanted to shoot me, too, one day—but I don’t judge him.’ ‘Shoot you !’ I cried ‘What for ?’ ‘Well, I had a small lot of ivory the chief of that village near my house gave me. You see I used to shoot games for them. Well, he wanted it, and wouldn’t hear reason. He declared he would shoot me unless I gave him the ivory and then cleared out of the country, because he could do so, and had a fancy for it, and there was nothing on earth to prevent him killing whom he jolly well pleased. And it was true, too. I gave him the ivory. What did I care! But I didn’t clear out. No, no. I couldn’t leave him. I had to be careful, of course, till we got friendly again for a time.” (Conrad, p. 94-95).

The quotation above shows how Kurtz is so obsessed with collecting Ivory because he related to the power and dominance of the white man who follows his passion and desire with whatever it takes this led to dramatically raise of Kurtz’s Id. His id got out the worst version of his personality, and what the white man is able to do when he has extreme freedom, he will simply lose all his principles related to civilization and enlightenment. Kurtz became completely blind and sees nothing but ivory, power, and dominance which satisfies his desire.

This was the main reason behind his violence and tyranny, he totally changed into a person with no self-control, leaving behind his European social norms, and the strict values of the white man, he was like an Apex predator in the jungle, hunting everything around him, showing no mercy, the animal instinct was obvious on him. So, Mr. Kurtz lost his superego in the dark jungle and let his Id win.

“The wilderness had patted him on the head, and, behold, it was like a ball—an ivory ball; it had caressed him, and—lo !—he had withered; it had taken him, loved him, embraced him, got into his veins, consumed his flesh, and sealed his soul to its own by the

inconceivable ceremonies of some devilish initiation. He was its spoiled and pampered favorite". (Conrad, p. 79).

Kurtz is the best example of a white man who does not respect the dark continent and its inhabitants, he entered the villages tortured people and killed rebels then take what he came for in order to get wealth, power, and superiority. Kurtz had walked in this way to achieve success in the jungle at the same time he wasted the most important thing of the European man his Values and morals of Western society simply he lost his "superego".

### 2.1.3.3 Kurtz's Ego

The ego is the realistic figure in of human's mind, it works to make a balance between a person's desire and the real world, in other words, the Ego is the line between the Id and the superego ." The ego is the synthesizer and executive that chooses strategies and tactics that best balance these competing needs "(Holland p.8).

In *Heart of Darkness*, when Kurtz arrived in Congo he was far from his social life, he lived between the Africans for a long period where he spread his power over the natives for more power and dominance in the Jungle. Kurtz followed his desire of possessing whatever he admires to satisfy himself, for that his social European norms gradually vanished. After all the clamoring of tyranny, killing, despotism, and making trouble in the company, Kurtz had come to his final destination, he knew his end was close, the id was reduced, suddenly he started feeling guilty, he was recalling all that he did, he realized he was mistaken, he was waking up from the coma, his ego was rising significantly, sorrowfully was eating him from the inside out, remembering every detail of what he did, every word he said, the truth was prevailing slowly, making him see what he could not see before, that he was nothing but a weak man, alone by his own in the deep dark crucial jungle, that it was impossible to get out from where he lost his "ego".

Leading him to say “the horror, the horror”, this was his final destination, the end of a journey full of savagery and brutality, unforgettable events in the jungle, made him see the dark side of himself, which led him to this point, miserable, sorrowful, and most of all scared to death. This is the turning point in Kurtz’s life his ego woke up to control his thoughts and behaviors but it was too late.

#### 2.1.4 From an Agent in Company to a God in Native’s eyes

Kurtz was introduced as a character in Heart of Darkness in the last part of the novella. He is a multi-talented man, he is a painter, writer, musician, and a promising politician.

The General Manager says: “Mr. Kurtz was the best agent he had, an exceptional man, of the greatest importance to the Company.” Kurtz is a central character in the book, he is the manager of the inner station deep in the heart of Congo, simply, he is an ivory trader who collects ivory material more than any other trader in Congo in different ways. The chief of account says: “He is a very remarkable person.....Sends in as much ivory as all the others put together... ” (Conrad p 28. )

In the beginning, Kurtz wanted to explore the land and make his own adventure in Congo, he wished to spread the European values of civilization in this primitive society as he writes in his initial report to the Company « humanizing, improving, instructing. » However, when he entered the jungle everything changed, Kurtz became a monster and a devil who wants superiority and power over people. The jungle brought out the worst and dark side of his heart, the first thing his no self-control made him insane was he believed that everything belongs to him and he turned into a man obsessed with the dominance, Kurtz’s feeling of divinity did not come by coincidence but it appears due to several reasons and psychological problems he suffered from the no self-control of his desires led him to a point where he considered everything he saw or admired was made for him and he took it with whatever it

requires. As Watt says: “capable of a fearless acting out of the whole past of human barbarism”. (Watt, p.226).

After he did all the horrible and immoral things in order to collect a large amount of Ivory and spread his absolute power in Congo, he reached a point where the primitive natives saw him as God, besides his strong character and his magical personality the naive inhabitants thought that this European white man has the ability to control the thunderbolt because they thought that the weapons and shooting from guns are lightning bolts. From a civilized European man to a God in the inner station is not an image in Kurtz’s mind because the chiefs of many tribes prostrated Kurtz and also the natives who attacked Marlowe’s steamer did not want Kurtz to leave them even though they suffered a lot from slavery.

In addition, Kurtz started attacking towns with his tribes or followers who admired Kurtz, searching for ivory in different villages and he murdered anyone acts against his desire. The jungle affected Kurtz in a negative way, he turns from a European civilized man to a symbol of evil in the middle of Congo. Kurtz represents what the white man is able to do when he has extreme freedom and the best example is the relationship between Kurtz and the natives in Congo. The agent explored the jungle in the name of civilizing ignorant people in Congo and spread his social standards in the middle of Africa but the real reason behind it, is the individual benefit of gathering as much Ivory as possible and extreme power with violence and savagery, simply his desires to “exterminate all the brutes”. Kurtz is the most significant symbol of the evil side that everyone has deep in his heart.

In the moment of weakness, an imbalance occurs in the defensive mechanisms that make the individual feel reassured. Kurtz revolves around a circle of his personal fears and no self-control, he was no longer able to control his desire and feeling of dominance over the natives, emanating from his previous actions and from the enslavement and exploitation of

individuals. The ego is drowning him in a sea of remorse sorrowfully and mind-conscious remembering heinous acts. The id almost controlled his personality and his life because of his greedy, savage, moral weakness and love of power while his superego disappeared in the deep jungle. This psychological conflict would not have ended except with his death.

After he did all the horrible and immoral things in order to collect a large amount of Ivory and spread his absolute power in Congo, he reached a point where the primitive natives saw him as God, besides his strong character and his magical personality the naive inhabitants thought that this European white man has the ability to control the thunderbolt because they thought that the weapons and shooting from guns are lightning bolts. From a civilized European man to a God in the inner station is not an image in Kurtz's mind because the chiefs of many tribes prostrated Kurtz and also the natives who attacked Marlowe's steamer did not want Kurtz to leave them even though they suffered a lot from slavery.

In addition, Kurtz started attacking towns with his tribes or followers who admired Kurtz, searching for ivory in different villages and he murdered anyone acts against his desire. The jungle affected Kurtz in a negative way, he turns from a European civilized man to a symbol of evil in the middle of Congo. Kurtz represents what the white man is able to do when he has extreme freedom and the best example is the relationship between Kurtz and the natives in Congo. The agent explored the jungle in the name of civilizing ignorant people in Congo and spread his social standards in the middle of Africa but the real reason behind it, is the individual benefit of gathering as much Ivory as possible and extreme power with violence and savagery, simply his desires to "exterminate all the brutes". Kurtz is the most significant symbol of the evil side that everyone has deep in his heart.

In the moment of weakness, an imbalance occurs in the defensive mechanisms that make the individual feel reassured. Kurtz revolves around a circle of his personal fears and no

self-control, he was no longer able to control his desire and feeling of dominance over the natives, emanating from his previous actions and from the enslavement and exploitation of individuals. The ego is drowning him in a sea of remorse sorrowfully and mind-conscious remembering heinous acts. The id almost controlled his personality and his life because of his greedy, savage, moral weakness and love of power while his superego disappeared in the deep jungle. This psychological conflict would not have ended except with his death.

## 2.2. The Analysis of The Superego, Id, and Ego in the Character Marlow

### 2.2.1. Introduction of Marlow's Character

Charlie Marlow is the storyteller of the *Heart of Darkness* novella, he explains and describes the events that he witnessed from the beginning till the end of his journey in the dark jungle. Marlow is a sailor intelligent, brave, independent, a lover of adventure, and open-minded because of his desire for pleasure and adventure, he started to work for the Belgian Company in Congo.

At the beginning of the tale, the writer speaks about his childhood interest in maps and his desire to discover the world and especially the heart of Africa, year after year, the dream became true for Marlow with the help of his Aunt, he is able to join the Belgian Company to work in steamboat.

Marlow is a thirty-two-year-old who has always loved adventure and Discovery, there was always something deep in his heart encouraging and telling him to go out and seek for a new adventure . “when I was a little chap I had a passion for maps.” (Conrad p 09).

Marlow arrived at the central station in Congo then he meets the manager who is a braggart person, after every long talk with the manager, he draws a vacant and empty smile. Then he describes Congo as follows: »\_True, by this time it was not a blank space any more. It had got filled since my boyhood with rivers and lakes and names. It had ceased to be a



blank space of delightful mystery— a white patch for a boy to dream gloriously over. It had become a place of darkness. » (Conrad, p. 10).

### 2.2.2 The Analysis of The Superego , Id and Ego in the Character Marlow

Marlow's journey into the heart of the forest actually turned into a voyage of his self-discovery and what the man is able to do when he has total freedom. After he spoke to Kurtz, the sick agent, he saw what the jungle did to his soul, he became blind without any moral or social norms just a slave to his desires, even after his death Kurtz really affects Marlow's life in his ideas and principles because he recognized the real image of the European imperialism. Marlow came back to Brussels but he never forgot his experience with Kurtz in the dark continent rather he became the protector of his papers and diary.

Marlow was a white European man who embraced the basis of the Western world and reflect the conservative Victorian age, he believed that his race was superior to the black folks, for him, being white meant you are civilized, educated, intellectual, and master, besides, you should follow and respect the values of Europe that you grow up on. He portrayed his trip to Congo as “traveling back to the earliest beginnings of the world...you lost your way on that river as you would in a desert...till you thought yourself bewitched and cut off forever from everything you had known once-somewhere-far away-in another existence perhaps” (Conrad p 105-106). From that moment he discovered that he was far from the civilized restrictions of European society, where he was able to do whatever he wanted simply no one could have judged his actions.

Marlow started his Journey of self-discovery as an intellectual European man in the middle of the jungle riding the steamer in the Congo river that he dreamed of since childhood, he began the journey to discover his soul and his truth. Marlow's curiosity to meet the genius,

the famous agent of the Company « remarkable person » Conrad, led him to enter deeply into the jungle but what he discovered is the darkest side of the human mind.

Marlow was a white man full-field with ideas and cultures of European society, he was always with his country in the process of colonizing different countries for the sake of civilization and educating them properly. He was very proud to hear facts about Kurtz who was the best agent in the Company in collecting a large amount of Ivory, he could not wait to meet him personally, his name was known to all the workers and the Africans. Here Marlow's superego was in the highest degree because he was proud and happy with the accomplishments of a white European man like him.

The most important thing for Marlow was his ethical principles, and the European morals that governed the Victorian society for centuries, his discipline prevented him from any unethical behavior, with all this, he was totally stunned when he saw the white men leave his Values and turned into a savage, corrupted, liar and a killer in the deep of Congo. For instance, Marlow describes The manager as « He was obeyed, yet he inspired neither love nor fear, nor even respect. He inspired uneasiness. » (Conrad p 33).

For Freud, if one's true feeling is repressed into the unconsciousness and one lives by rules that they do not stand by, it gets to adjust to the Superego resulting in a person seeing himself as pathetic, guilty, and obliged to do certain things. In the case of Marlow, during his journey to discover the self he tried to conserve his morals and principles inside the darkness of the Congo, but the savagery instinct got over him just with a varying degree because he left Congo forever and go back to the civilized society.

When Marlow started his psychological journey on his way to meet the sick agent Kurtz his subconscious mind goes through many events and challenges and changes, on the river, he has not just passed through a new experience but he recognized the dark side of a

human beings. Marlow was far away from the conservative society in the middle of the jungle where he was free without limits, he arrived for adventure, for his childhood dream but what happened is he started to live with unbalanced psychological trouble between his "superego, id, and ego".

When he was attacked on the steamboat by the Africans, the helmsman died, Marlow blame him because he tried shooting men on the riverside so he would be steel alive, he took him out from the pilot-house and threw him into the sea. Then, he changed his shoes and socks which were stained by helmsman's Marlow says: "Perhaps you will think it passing strange this regret for a savage who was no more account than a grain of sand in a black Sahara". (Conrad p 83). From this moment, the darkness started running to his soul and the Id began taking place in his heart and behaviors, he just wanted to achieve his goal to meet the genius, Kurtz.

In a primitive society like Congo, man must choose a way to survive in the middle of the jungle with cannibals, pilgrims, and even European agents, Marlow began to adapt to the savage environment because of the brutality of the white man over the native in order to fulfill their desire and get the extreme power in this isolated jungle. Freud observed, that we cannot escape from a desire as one leaves a noisy house for a quiet garden; the process here is useless, and the only way to get rid of the craving is to find a way to satisfy it.

After the death of Kurtz, Marlow returned to Belgium, he went to visit his fiancé and she asked him about Kurtz's last words, in this moment, Marlow choose to lie on the intended as Kurtz called her, he said that he pronounce her name instead of facing her with the new version of her fiancé how he became savage without the ethics of European society, his last words were very far from what he had said "the horror, the horror". (Conrad p 116.)

He told her about his achievement with the natives to civilize Africa and how he was a great, respectful man in Congo he did not want to change his image in her eyes. However, Marlow at this point does not realize that he abandons one of his essential values is genuineness. "I hate, detest, and can't bear a lie, not because I am straighter than the rest of us, but simply because it appalls me."(Conrad p 42). However, he follows his Id in order to make his consciousness blissful.

Marlow runs away from the evil of human nature toward the civilized world after Kurtz's death, it is the turning point in Marlow's self-journey because his Ego guides him toward the right decision as a white man. So that Marlow did not let his lusts in the jungle control his behavior, he didn't unleash the complete beast inside his soul or become a slave to the Id, he woke up from being a typical white savage man in the heart of Congo. Marlow's ego started doing its job early, he returned to the sepulchral city as an independent, wise, and intellectual man who respects his European values. Unlike Kurtz, Marlow was very lucky, because if he didn't do so, he would have ended up exactly like Kurtz, or worst. For Holland, the ego is the synthesizer and executive that chooses strategies and tactics that best balance these competing needs" (Holland p.8).

The quotation above, explains Marlow and his ego when Kurtz was uttering his last words: "the horror, the horror" (Conrad, p. 116). The quotation above explains Marlow and his ego; Marlow's ego kicked in directly at that exact moment; it was a last-minute save when he saw Kurtz dying. He saw himself in the future, a greedy, violent white man who ended up weak and alone, from the top predator to the weakest prey; at that moment, Marlow knew he will end up the same as Kurtz if he continued being a slave to his id, considering he knew the darkness of the jungle and what it is capable of doing to men.

‘Joseph Conrad ‘s novella "Heart of Darkness" is the best example that adopted Freudian psychoanalysis theory where the storyteller Marlow implied his theory of psychoanalytic "superego, id and ego" during his journey of self-discovery in the middle of the Congo River where the character started his journey as a man that followed his superego, but the id appeared suddenly to fulfill his personal desire at the end. Marlow took control and let his ego guide him toward the right path; this is how Marlow explored his truth. He found out the reality of colonialism, the truth of the white man in the Congo, and what absolute freedom can do to them. It could bring out the worst in the human soul.

### **2.3 The Common Point Between the Writer Joseph Conrad and the Characters: “Marlow and Kurtz”**

Joseph Conrad is a Polish British novelist, he is a modernist writer, and one of the greatest writers in the English language. The Characters in Conrad’s heart of darkness are mainly depicted from his experience as a sailor and captain of the steamboat in Congo with a Belgian trading Company for three years. His mission on the Congo River led to the creation of the famous piece of writing«%Heart of darkness%». The main characters of the book Marlow and Kurtz have a lot in common, they’re connected by many links that show how similar they are. Like Joseph, both are «%white man%» this term refers to the European man and his duty towards civilization, and enlightening the primitive societies, both Marlow and Kurtz are educated men, they came from a background where education and manners take place. Also, they are both adventurous, and their love for exploring the new land, in fact, was about their self-journey. They are both colonists, which means when they came to Congo they had one thing on their mind, which was profits, Kurtz treated the natives in a brutal way, and Marlow did not care about themselves when he saw how they were tortured or murdered. The thing is that their attitude in the Congo was almost similar, that was what the colonists did, and it was something regular for them. Their view on the darkness of the jungle was the same,

they both knew how crucial and dangerous to get deep in the jungle, and what could happen. For that, Conrad wrote *Heart of darkness* to describe the dark reality of the European authority in Congo, at the same time, he shows what the Id is able to do to any human because he takes out his darkness from his heart. To some extent, their moralities are the same, the only difference is that Kurtz discovered the truth after it was too late, and Marlow took precautions, and did not get his hands dirty in the mud, while Conrad changes his life and became one of the famous writers for centuries ago.

### **2.3.1 The Difference in Switching Roles**

When Kurtz lived in the deep of the Congo, especially in the inner station, he turned to his true nature, admitted the darkness of the jungle, and confessed his guilt. However, in the end, Marlow turned into a liar, even though he said "I hate, detest, and can't bear a lie" (Conrad p42), but after the death of Kurtz, he met his fiancée, and instead of telling her the truth about Kurtz, he lies to her "The last word he pronounced was—your name." (Conrad p 129)

Another difference between the two is their personalities, it is true that they are both European and colonists, but Kurtz went way too far from his European nature and social norms, and converted to primitivism in order to fulfill his desire for dominance and power or simply his Id, as he said: "Exterminate all the brutes!" (Conrad p 83). While Marlow stood by his manners and came back to his home in Brussels.

## **2.4 Symbolism**

### **2.4.1 Introduction**

Symbolism employs to express an idea, image, person, event, place, or object in an indirect way to make the reader more interested in the story and also excited to discover the real meaning beyond the literal sense. In *Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad uses the literary

device « symbolism », a small detail in the novella that has implicit significance in order to create deep meaning.

### **2.4.2. The setting**

#### **2.4.2.1 Time**

Joseph Conrad choose the exact period to write his novel because he was in a time that had all the possibilities and opportunities to reveal the truth about the event that was occurring in the dark continent in the late ninetieth century and the beginning of the twentieth century. It coincided with thorny events, which formed a series of plots and climaxes, the Europeans controlled almost all of Africa, and Congo was under the control of the Belgian Crown, that period was awful in terms of profits and expanding powers, but at the same time it was perfect for a focal point for changing the concept of imperialism and the real image of colonialism which were under the name of education and civilization, They acted violently and brutally with the natives and treated them as slaves, and even kill them with the most savage ways for their object, the taking of a large amount of Ivory from their country. Conrad selected the decade of the power of colonies in Africa to show the truth to his audience which is the injustice and hypocrisy of the European colonizer.

#### **2.4.2.2 Space**

##### **2.4.2.2.1 The Congo River**

The river was the main instrument of the Belgium company to do its business, it benefited the company for moving its ivory to the Central station towards Europe, and it face lifted their work to avoid the dangerous jungle. For that, Marlow chose to sail his journey on the steamboat but he did not recognize that the river is like a mirror, the deeper you go, the more you see your real soul. For that, Marlow's trip to meet Kurtz turned into a journey of self-discovery. Marlow described the river as Snake. “it fascinated me as a snake would a

bird—a silly little bird.”( Conrad, p.10), and also "The snake had charmed me”. (Conrad, p. 10).

The snake is simply a wild animal, it changes its skin with sloughing, It symbolizes the ability to transform in the conditions of life force. Another point, the snake represents venom, once that snake bites, the venom runs in the body quickly, and contains Anybody who can trust the snake. When Marlow was cruising on the river, he got deep into the river, everything around him was a mystery and dangerous, and the edges of the river were full of natives. This river makes the European man give up the principles that he grew up on without feeling it because it's a tough environment that imposes its domination and brutality over a person but at the same time the flow of water which symbolizes the movement, this water makes the journey easy and rapid than the jungle. This gave Marlow the opportunity to not go through the same path as Kurtz did, considering Kurtz lost his self-control in the jungle, but Marlow was on the river for most of the time.

The river was elongated in the shape of a snake, it symbolized the rebirth, from his journey on the river, he discovered himself, he kept getting deep inside himself, and he learned a lot from this experience. In his journey, he experienced different events that allowed him to discover his reality, sometimes the river Created horror in Marlow's mind, it created fear of the unknown and of what will come next. "When the sun rose there was a white fog, very warm and clammy, and more blinding than the night" (Conrad p47).

When Marlow was on the river, there was a heinous fog, it was nearly impossible for Marlow to see anything, he did not know where the boat was going, he was so confused and worried about what lies behind the fog, it was a mysterious moment for him. For that, the river represents the Ambiguities of the dark continent.



## 2.4.2.2.2 Africa

In *Heart of Darkness*, Conrad used Africa as an image of the dark side of European imperialism at the same time symbolizes an image of primitive society. The company headed to Africa, especially to Congo, because the headquarters knew what the jungle contained, it was a great opportunity for the company to grow their economy and spread their power, and expand their territories. However, Africa was the bait, it shows the good things, from ivory and free working slaves, and taking over everything, but what was hidden inside Africa was the complete opposite, it consumed the human minds, turned good, Nobel men into savages and tyrants, it seduced the Europeans with its fortunes and treasures, but in return, it took the most precious thing in men, which is humanity, they became a slave to their Id and to the process of making their Id satisfied. Many men lost their way of humanity in Africa, some of them got to the point of divinity, which was Kurtz, but in the end, he knew all he had, from collecting ivory, enslaving the natives, threatening other workers at the company, and spreading power over everything, was an illusion, all of a sudden everything faded like it was nothing, there is where he confessed that Africa is true darkness "the horror the horror". However, Africa represents evil, primitiveness, and ignorance. Marlow described, "It had ceased to be a blank space of delightful mystery— a white patch for a boy to dream gloriously over. It had become a place of darkness."(Conrad, p. 10) Darkness covered the dark continent, there was no means of living a comfortable life. The Africans were primitive, innocent, and backward, they lived in closed-shell in the deep of the dark jungle; "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" (Conrad, p. 25) When Marlow was in the jungle, in the heart of Africa, he discovered a reality that is inside every human being's heart, and it is the darkness hidden under the name of civilization.

### 2.4.3 The Whited Sepulcher

The first sign of hypocrisy is hiding behind mask, showing good attention, whereas the hidden ones are horrific. Brussels was the company's center, it is referred to as whited sepulcher because it's a place where hypocrisy was made. The company occupied Congo under the name of civilizing primitive people, but in fact, it went there for its own profit, which is the natural resources. The company used horrible and savage ways of treating the natives, causing many deaths in Congo through its corrupted agents. Marlow recognized that the "Whited sepulcher" is the appropriate symbol of the hypocrisy of imperialism of Belgium in Congo because they use civilization, education, and good manners to conquer the weak nation. Marlow visited whited sepulcher, and saw it in a different way this time because during his experience in the Congo, he saw what the company did, Marlow says :

"I've seen the devil of violence, and desire; but by all the stars!

There were strong, lusty, red-eyed devils, that swayed and drove

Men – men, I tell you. But as I stood on this hillside, I Foresaw

That is the blinding sunshine of that land I would become

Acquainted with a flabby pretending, weak-eyed devil of a

Rapacious and pitiless folly." (Conrad, p. 44).

During Marlow's journey of self-discovery, he witnessed the hypocrisy of colonialism and imperialism, that he didn't even think he would see such thing exist in his European society.

#### 2.4.4. Ivory

European entered Africa to steal their natural resources, and Congo for its precious material the « Ivory », and not for the goal of civilizing and educating the natives as they said. Ivory played a major role in Heart of Darkness, it's one of the most important plot twists in the novel because if it wasn't for ivory, the story would have taken another ride. In Heart of darkness, Ivory represents the avid of the white man who was always ravenous for wealth and personal benefits.

Attachment to ivory is the same as an attachment to power. There is a strong link between these two, and both lead to dire results. At the first, the experience is satisfactory and sweet, so that the subconscious enters a state of hypnosis, thanks to its strong effect, but with the passage of time that effect turns To an internal torment, where there is a severe psychological conflict, and this conflict leads to a loss of the sense of humanity, and the person ends up at the point of no return, which is the failure to remedy the matter, and he can not go back to the first psychological nature.

Ivory brought out the worst in the white man, greediness, savagery, violence, and enslavement. Which was their true nature. It is like a drug, once you are addicted to it, you can not rid of it easily you just follow your Id to fulfill your desire. AS proof, Kurtz was so obsessed with collecting ivory, he collected ivory more than anyone in the company because he saw the power, dominance, and money in that white material.

This is how Ivory played with the subconscious of the white man, According to Freud (1915), the unconscious mind is the primary source of human behavior. Like an iceberg, the most important part of the mind is the part you cannot see. The same case for the white man in Congo, the ivory consumed their minds and made them slaves to collecting it and doing

anything for it, even killing since you tasted, it could not be stopped from leaving that pleasure.

Ivory represents the greed of the white man, they come to Congo and immediately they turned into various human being without morals or ethics and follow the evil that comes from the obsession of Ivory. It is the only cause for the white men to be in the middle of the African jungle.

#### 2.4.5 The horror, the horror

The last expression from Kurtz to Marlow. When Kurtz was dying, he felt an indescribable sigh, this was preparation for what was coming, when he was taking his last breath he said: horror! the horror! it contains various implied meanings. The first point, the word is symbolic to the evil that Kurtz has become, this expression has an eloquent psychological significance in the novel, because the transformation from a state of tyranny to a state of weakness in a short period of time, and realizing the truth after it is too late, he went behind many psychological changes during his residence in Congo, he went from bad to worst, from wise man to a savage and greedy who was treated by the primitive natives as God. All this was a prelude to Kurtz's end, but he did not discover the horror of himself and the horror of the jungle until it was too late.

The second point, "the horror, the horror" (Conrad, p 129) symbolizes imperialism and colonialism in Africa. At that time The Europeans occupied the country « Congo », plundering its wealth, taking its land, enslaving its citizens, treating them in the most horrible ways, murdering or killing without mercy anyone against the Belgian agents. At that moment, Kurtz's mind remembered all the actions of Europeans: racism, injustice, hypocrisy, selfishness, and greed.... Under the name of « civilize « the dark continent as they called it, Kurtz had described the real image of Europe in one word ., »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. The conquest of the earth, which mostly means taking it away from those who have a different complexion or slightly flatter noses than ourselves, is not a pretty thing when you look into it too much. » (Conrad p 08.)

#### **2.4.6 Kurtz's Character**

Kurtz is the central figure in heart of darkness, he symbolized the white European man who was obsessed with power and dominance. During his residence in the jungle, Kurtz at first lost his self-control, he could not control his barbaric behaviors toward the natives, and he was insane about the process of collecting Ivory, from that point, his greed gradually increased, and the white man is able to do horrific things to achieve his object. Kurtz became a God in the African's eyes who lived in tribes, He was not able to handle all that power at the same time because he turned into a ruthless savage in order to fulfill his Id, if the novel had an antagonist, it would have been Kurtz, all the negative attitudes were represented in him, he was the sinner who enslaved the natives, hang heads on top of sticks so everyone can see them, taking advantage of his color to reach his aim.

Kurtz portrayed the sample of white men who occupied a country, take their natural resources, murdered, and kill without any mercy because their skin color is white. He represented the occupier who didn't respect the Africans and enslaved them in order to take their wealth from them, they came to their land under the pretext of civilizing these people but they eliminated them in the worst ways that any human can imagine. Simply, Kurtz exemplifies the hypocrisy of European colonialism.

#### **2.4.7 Marlow's Character**

Marlow is the British sailor in Conrad's story, he was the one who fought the struggle between the good and the evil, considering Africa was a hazardous place, and could not be

trusted. Marlow came to Africa as a Nobel man with the norms of the western society, but when he witnessed many horrible events, his morals began to be shaken, he fought for his manners for a while, but that was a period of time where he got loose a little, the temptations were everywhere and hard to resist. However managed to get out of the jungle alive, with his full mindset, because if he didn't fight his lusts and desires, he would have ended up dead or lost his mind. Marlow symbolized the clash between the good and the evil (id and superego), which were the highlights of the novel. Marlow's journey was about ups and downs, his fight with his self (subconscious) was very severe, and the biological and psychological factors were a huge obstacle to his self-awareness. Likely it ended by the win of his goodness.

## **2.5 Theme**

### **2.5.5 The hypocrisy of Imperialism**

Congo, Marlow traveled from the outer station to the inner station to meet the famous agent Kurtz, it was a journey of self-discovery at the same time it was the turning point in his life where he recognized the truth of colonizer and the hypocrisy of imperialism. The Europeans came to Congo and declared that their purpose is to provide an appropriate lifestyle to the Africans to go out of their ignorance, but no one spoke about the white man's cruelty, murder, and savageness. The European ethic of the colonizer vanished in Congo for the pleasure of his Id, they tortured the natives in an inhuman way, and they took their ivory by force.

Marlow saw what imperialism did in both Europe and Africa because the imperialism changed the European into a greedy murderer who became unconscious men without morals. In Brussels, no one would tell you that you will be a monster from the moment you entered the jungle but they encouraged you to spread the light of civilization on the dark continent. Marlow was not innocent because he did not do anything when he saw natives going under

harsh conditions, getting tortured, and getting killed. No one was innocent in Congo, everybody was looking for his own profits in any possible way, and that is what imperialism is all about gains. Luckily, Marlow was able to give the image of imperialism from an opposite view, through his telling in the novel, it is noticeable how the hypocrisy of imperialism covered all of Congo.

### 2.5.6 Darkness :

Another theme in *Heart of Darkness* is darkness itself, darkness went from the deep jungle of Congo to the minds of the company members, and no one was spared. Darkness was everywhere, from the people's thinking, the natives were black, the boat on the river when it entered the fog, to the hearts of people. Kurtz who was the Nobel, honorable man, turned into a savage because he got in touch too much with the natives, so the primitiveness got control of him, Marlow on the other hand, was like Kurtz at first, but on his journey along the jungle, he started to shake from the inside, he started to give up on his European manners, he said: "I was getting savage." In addition, how the "white man" treated the natives, was terrible, it was dark. The darkness exposed the real human nature in them, it was obvious when Kurtz placed the heads of the natives on top of poles, this show's that there's no mercy in him, and the show's how inhumane he is. The darkness found freedom in the isolation of the Congo, where no one can judge or stop the brutality of the colonists, and being far from the civilized world was even perfect for it to get much worst.

However, in the end, Kurtz actually knew the truth about that darkness he was living in, when he was dying, he said: "the horror the horror". this was an alarm warning to Marlow because he saw how Kurtz was struggling in his last breaths, he knew what he went through and how he became, and he took advantage of his experience in "darkness".

**Conclusion**

Joseph Conrad's novella "Heart of Darkness" is the best example that adopts Freudian psychoanalysis theory, the storyteller Marlow implies his theory of psychoanalytic 'superego, id and ego' during his journey of self-discovery in the middle of the Congo river, the character starts his journey as man follow his superego but the id appeared suddenly to fulfill his personal desire at the end, Marlow takes control and lets his ego to guide him toward the right path, this is how Marlow explores his truth.

Heart of Darkness, the representative of Freudian theory, was one of the most remarkable novellas of the twentieth century. The perception of its broad context made it famous and showed the events that were occurring at that time, and how people reacted to them, to make a masterpiece of psychology in revealing facts and how the human mind reacts to the outside temptations.

The novella also dealt with the image of imperialism and colonialism, and how they affected other societies in both the short and long term, but more importantly, how they affected the individuals when they arrived in new lands, and how their attitudes changed to adapt around the new environment and what symptoms they had in the new world, and the resulting psychological disorders.



# GENERAL CONCLUSION

## General Conclusion

---

### General Conclusion

Throughout our analysis, it has been shown that Joseph Conrad's view of the human psyche is almost identical to that of Sigmund Freud in some aspects. These are particularly evident in Freud's concepts of id, ego, superego, consciousness, and unconsciousness. Although there is some difference in wording, Conrad's concepts of human darkness, "primitive honor" and his characters assert these concepts influence the human mind or psyche. And although the ideal state of the human psyche is balance and harmony between these concepts, this balance may not be achieved in reality. If this happens, 'madness' appears, as shown in Conrad's short story, through the event of imperialism where 'primitive honor' has dissolved into nothingness. In the real world, Freud argues that the absence of this healthy balance between id and superego in the ego can lead to mental anguish or disorder in extreme cases. Furthermore, as Conrad's view of the human psyche was reflected in his writings, it can be said that he saw it as a product of life processes.

For him, it involves maturation by ridding oneself of the illusions of the youth, followed by an actual 'test' that will lead the individual to revise his beliefs and his identity. In addition, he will be able to acquire moral ideas based on the recognition of his weaknesses and those of the people around him. This will lead him to believe that interdependence is necessary for human life (Galloway, par1)

Freud, in contrast, explains that the human psyche is the outcome of the development of the physical apparatus or brain, as well as the development of innate impulses or the id in reaction to external factors. He claims that at birth and throughout childhood, the id is the only part of the human psyche (Roberts, paragraph 1.3).

The id then undergoes biological and conceptual adaptations as a result of the external world, giving rise to the ego (Roberts, para. 1.4). This evolved component will then operate

## General Conclusion

---

for self-preservation and will continue to develop through stored memories or experiences, adaptation to moderate stimuli, and active efforts to make the external environment helpful to the individual. Internally, the ego will preserve the individual by controlling the id (Roberts, para. 1.5a). Similarly, the superego will cause development through external moral influences (Roberts, para 1.7b).

*Heart of Darkness* then is a reflection of Freud's psychoanalysis theory. The reader notices that Charlie Marlow's journey into Congo is regarded as a journey of self-discovery. Marlow, the main character of Joseph Conrad's novel "Heart of Darkness": considers that "the mind of man is capable of anything because everything is in it, all the past as well as all the future." (Conrad, p.58).

From the first moment, he reached the coast of Africa and his journey began, he entered a world that make you feel that you come back to earlier centuries, it was alien and primitive. He experienced strange challenges and events there, especially in the middle of jungles, and he tried different strategies to adapt to the savage environment, and he continued this even after his return from Congo. *Heart of Darkness* is a sample of the three parts of Freud's psychoanalytic theory the id, ego, and superego. The id represents the man's desire of possessing whatever he wants, whereas the superego is the limit that governs people's behaviors, Ego plays an important role because it is the mediator between the id and superego to make a balance in human's character.

*Heart of Darkness* made a huge impact on modern literature, it combined literature and psychology, in addition to other aspects such as colonialism and imperialism. Marlow was a key feature of the psychoanalytic perspective in Heart of Darkness, where he represented the good man who had to fight with his own unconscious mind in order to survive. Marlow had shown how a good man can be turned into a villain, from a society that

## General Conclusion

---

seems to be well structured from the outside, And well mannered, to a brutal place where only the fittest can survive. Cruising from Europe to the deep jungle of Africa, Marlow felt excited at the beginning, because he had a passion for exploring new places. However, when he arrived in Congo, he started to notice new things, and new behaviors that prevailed at that time, he had seen how white men transformed from nobles to savages, enslaving natives, and unleashing their lusts. In the novel, it is clear how Joseph Conrad engaged psychological approaches, id, superego, and ego, and each character has these elements, especially Marlow and Kurtz. For Marlow he was the one who had to fight his id along his journey, and at the same time he had to activate his superego, in order to stop him from making dangerous and unwanted things, whereas the ego is the one who saved Marlow from being a victim to his id, he did not go deep in his unconscious mind and swim in his lusts and desires to end up savage like the natives, he always hangs on his European norms, even though sometimes he got little deep in his desires, but somehow he survived from the savageness of his id.

Unlike Marlow, Kurtz on the other hand, is the complete opposite, he was a victim to his id, he fulfilled his desires without any caution, his id was too strong, and he could not even think of making the right thing, from the first moment he noticed the power that Ivory would give it his superego vanished in the jungle, he became blind without his European morals and ethics, just a greedy and savage person, in the last moment of his life his ego stood up to make him go back to his conscious and admit his mistakes against natives and against himself but it was too late.

*Heart of Darkness* is based on the hypocrisy of imperialism and the effects of European colonialism on the Dark Continent, but it also deals with the aspects of Freudian theories "id, ego and superego", dream analysis. The object of the research was to find out the id, ego, and superego in the two characters Kurtz and Marlow. The study reached a result that Kurtz failed in the trap of the Id and he did all the horrible things and ways to control the

## General Conclusion

---

natives and get a large amount of Ivory, whereas he abandoned the European morals of his strict society. However, Marlow had the aspects of the superego than the id as he began his journey in Congo where he passed through many horrific events with corrupt and cruel people and the hypocrisy of Imperialism, and even the brutality of the company. He was far from the European society, he sometimes followed his id. At that moment, his id dominated his superego, but after a short time, Marlow took control of his Id. Kurtz only followed his desires, he was a savage man who tortured and killed the natives in order to gain dominance and Ivory.

Thanks to literature, we, as readers, take a lot of lessons for free. It depicts many stories from people's life experiences, the best example of literary work that describes the reality as it is the novel "*Heart of Darkness*". The reader learns how the world is governed and how people behave and react by going deeply into their unconsciousness, it teaches us how to control ourselves from the greed of our id. It portrays the real image and truth of the human being. Through Conrad's novel, the miserable slavery situation that the Africans experienced and the European man occupied their lands, natural resources, and even themselves, the author Conrad tried to portray this reality through the journey of self-discovery of the main character, Marlow, who shows what the man able to when he has the extreme power to dominate the weak people, and what his greedy led him to do, he became a savage and uncivilized person without self-restraint.

To conclude, the psychoanalytic study is the appropriate way to analyze *Heart of Darkness*. The novel deals with the most important and basic elements of life such as the hypocrisy of man, love of power, imperialism, lust, greediness, and self-consciousness.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

## Bibliography

---

### References

#### Primary Source

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*. Free eBooks at Planet eBook.com, January 2019.

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness with the Congo Diary*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; Penguin book, 1995.

Tessitore, John. Freud, Conrad, and *Heart of Darkness*, College Literature, 2011.

Schwertley, Marc D. *The Interdependence of Setting and Character in Select Conrad Fiction*, United State, Drake University, 1972.

#### Secondary sources

- Cherry, Kendra. 20 Common Defense Mechanisms People use for anxiety. *Mechanisms used for anxiety*. ..—2795960 (2021) : <https://www.verywellmind.com/defense-mechanisms-2795960>.

- Cramer, Phebe. "Understanding Defense Mechanisms." *Psychodynamic psychiatry* vol. 43,4 (2015) : 523-52. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26583439/>

- David Shakow and David Rapaport, *The influence of Freud on American Monograph*. Psychological issues, Intl Universities Pr Inc, November 1, 1998 P 111.

- Dhain, Ahmed Yasir. *Journal of Social Science and Humanities Research*. Research Publish Journals Symbolism. (2015) : 488. [www.researchpublish.com](http://www.researchpublish.com). Web. 20 January 2017.

- Earlam, Steve. « Why did Freud see human nature as being motivated solely by instincts for pleasure ? » *Counselling Directory*. (2010) <https://www.counselling-directory.org.uk/memberarticles/why-did-freud-see-human-nature-as-being-motivated-solely-by-instincts-for-pleas>

- Erdum Pulcu, « Hypothesis and theory article », »An evolutionary perspective on gradual formation of superego in the primal horde.*Frontiers in psychology* volume 5 January 2014 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00008>

- Freud, Sigmund. *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. .Vintage Classics ; New édition. Volume 14. (20 septembre 2001). Page 147

- Freud, Sigmund, James Strachey, and Angela Richards. *On Metapsychology: The Theory of Psychoanalysis: 'beyond the Pleasure Principle' 'the Ego and the Id' Andother Works*. Harmondsworth : Penguin, 1991. Page 335, 376.

- Gerald, Corey. *Theory and Practice of Counseling and Psychotherapy*. Brooks/Cole,2008. (January, 2009).

- *Heart of Darkness and modernism*. PaperOwl, 2021 <https://papersowl.com/examples/heart-of-darkness-and-modernism/>.

## Bibliography

---

- *Heart of Darkness A Brief Look at Conrad's Life and Works, Themes and Motifs in Heart of Darkness, and Apocalypse*. Slide Player, (n.d.) <https://slideplayer.com/amp/14623969/>.
- Holland, Norman. *Holland's Guide to Psychoanalytic Psychology and Literature-and-psychology*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1990. Page 08.
- Kim Zeppenfeld Cohen, Emily Veronika Dov. *Sublimation, Culture, and Creativity*. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. 10.10370033487 . (July 2013).[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/247770710\\_Sublimation\\_Culture\\_and\\_Creativity](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/247770710_Sublimation_Culture_and_Creativity)
- McLeod, Saul. 10 Defense Mechanisms: *What Are They and How They Help Us Cope*. » Simply Psychology. (2020).<https://www.simplypsychology.org/defense-mechanisms.html#:~:text=Denial%20is%20a%20defense%20mechanism,by%20denying%20that%20it%20exists>.
- Watt Ivan. *Conrad in the Nineteenth Century*. London : Chatto & Windus Ltd, (1980) p 226.
- Steinbach, Susie. « Victorian era ». Encyclopedia Britannica, 12 Mar. 2021,<https://www.britannica.com/event/Victorian-era>. Accessed 8 June 2022.
- Part VIII 20 th Century Literature. Slideplayer, (n,d) <https://slideplayer.com/amp/6610009/>.
- Yourdictionary.com
- Zhang W and Guo B *Freud's Dream Interpretation: A Different Perspective Based on the Self-Organization Theory of Dreaming*. Front. Psychol. (2018) .



## Résumé

Joseph Conrad a écrit *Le cœur des ténèbres* en 1899 sous la forme d'un récit-cadre, l'un des plus beaux romans de la littérature anglaise. Il est considéré comme une œuvre moderniste, influencée par les théories scientifiques tels que Charles Darwin, Sigmund Freud et Albert Einstein. Conrad a été profondément influencé par les théories de Sigmund Freud. Ce dernier a été le premier à travailler dans le domaine de la psychanalyse. Il s'est concentré sur le concept de développement de la personnalité, qu'il considère comme l'une de ses plus importantes contributions à la théorie psychanalytique. Il a également introduit les théories du Ça, du Moi et du Surmoi de la conscience intérieure, ainsi que l'interprétation des rêves, la théorie des pulsions (instincts de vie et de mort) et d'autres théories. *Heart of Darkness* pourrait être interprété par le biais d'une psychanalyse freudienne. Cette dernière permettrait de révéler efficacement les rôles plus forts de Kurtz et de Marlow en tant qu'id et ego, respectivement, et donnerait l'occasion de tirer une conclusion sur l'œuvre dans son ensemble. Notre thèse consiste à examiner la conscience de soi dans *Le cœur des ténèbres* de Conrad afin de montrer comment l'accent mis par cet écrivain moderniste sur la découverte de soi par les personnages principaux est renforcé par des éléments autobiographiques du début du vingtième siècle. En utilisant la théorie littéraire psychanalytique, nous essayons de démontrer que Conrad explore efficacement la découverte de soi par l'inclusion de divers aspects de son expérience de la vie réelle dans son roman. En d'autres termes, les expériences du protagoniste dans son œuvre reflètent celles de son auteur.

### ملخص بالعربية

كتب جوزيف كونارد رواية قلب الظلام في 1899 كسرد إيطاري، واحدة من أرقى الروايات في الأدب الإنجليزي. تعتبر كعمل معاصر كونها متأثرة بنظريات العلماء مثل شارلز داروين، سيغموند فرويد، و البرت اينشتاين. كان كونارد متأثراً بشدة بنظريات سيغموند فرويد. كان هذا الأخير أول من عمل في مجال التحليل النفسي. ركز على مفهوم تطوير الشخصية، التي اعتبرها واحدة من أهم مساهماته في نظرية التحليل النفسي. كما قدم نظريات الهو، الأنا و الأنا الأعلى للوعي الباطن، بالإضافة إلى تفسير الأحلام، نظرية الدوافع (غرائز الحياة و الموت)، و نظريات أخرى. يمكن تفسير رواية قلب الظلام من خلال نظرية فرويد للتحليل النفسي. يكشف هذا الأخير بشكل فعال عن الأدوار القوية لمارلو و كورتز كالهو و الأنا، على التوالي، بالإضافة إلى إعطاء فرص للوصول إلى خاتمة العمل ككل. المغزى من أطروحتنا هو فحص الوعي الذاتي في رواية قلب الظلام لكونارد، من أجل إظهار كيفية تركيز هذا الكاتب المعاصر على اكتشاف الذات للشخصيات الرئيسية التي بدورها معززة بعناصر السيرة الذاتية في أوائل القرن العشرين. باستخدام نظرية تحليل النفس الأدبية، نحاول وصف كونارد و هو يبحث بشكل فعال عن اكتشاف الذات من خلال إدراج جوانب مختلفة من خبرته في حياته الواقعية ضمن رواته. بمعنى آخر، خبرة البطل في عمله تعكس خبرة مؤلفه.