



The Representation of Globalization in Ernest Hemingway's Indian Camp and James Joyce's After the Race

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Abstract: In literature, globalization is a contentious issue between proponents and opponents. Concerning globalization, this study tends to be more in opposition than in favour. The concept of globalization has been covered extensively in literature, but it has not yet been applied to Ernest Hemingway's Indian Camp and James Joyce's After the Race. Thus, the current paper investigates globalization in Ernest Hemingway's Indian Camp and James Joyce's After the Race in light of Bill Ashcroft's, Gareth Griffith's and Helen Tiffin's book Postcolonial Studies the Key Concepts (2013). The significance of this paper rests in the juxtaposition of these two chosen texts under the overall umbrella of postcolonialism. In addition, it is significant because the concept of globalization is applied to the chosen works for the first time. The study concludes that in both short stories, whether in the Indian Camp or After the Race, globalization is another type of colonialism. In Indian Camp, the native Indians suffered because of the white Americans who controlled almost everything on land to which they did not belong. As for After the Race, Jimmy embodies the Irish ethnicity in the story. Joyce and his insight showed the extent of Britain's control in Ireland to the degree that they were taking over the economy in their interest at the expense of his country.

Keywords: Globalization, Indian Camp, After the Race, postcolonialism.

Introduction

The significance of globalization to postcolonial studies stems from its illustration of the framework of international power relations, which persists as a legacy of Western imperialism in the twentieth century. Globalization is another face of colonialism, but one with a more malicious appearance than what is shared publicly. Individual lives and local communities are influenced by global economic and cultural forces via the process of globalization. Globalization is the process through which the globe becomes a single place. In addition, Globalism is the worldview that emerges as a consequence of globalization processes affecting local communities. In the mid of 1980s, terms such as "international" were more often used. (Ashcroft et al., 2013, P.127-128) Thus, The British and the American colonial powers seek political and economic ambitions to sustain globalization, whether in the short or long term.

The story of the *Indian Camp* by the American writer Ernest Hemingway deals with two groups, one of the white Americans and the other of the Native Americans. Hemingway's short story shows the great differences between the colonizer and the colonized culturally and economically. In addition, the story highlights the suffering experienced by the Native Americans. According to Wagner-Martin (2000), "Indian Camp is one of Hemingway's short stories influenced by the collection of James Joyce's Dubliners [...]" (p.29) from this point of view, the above-mentioned story will be analyzed with Joyce's story *After the Race*.

After the Race is a short story by the famous Irish writer James Joyce. The story focuses on the life of Jimmy, a young Irishman who competes in Ireland against opponents from Europe and the United States. Based on the race in the story, the economic, political and cultural ambitions of the



Europeans, especially the British, appear in Ireland. Joyce, who is recognised for his patriotism, demonstrates the colonialists' aims and reveals Irish concerns. He focuses the attention of the Irish people on the immobilising effects of the British Empire's oppression on them. Consequently, it may be said that the story depicts a facet of globalization which tends to favour the colonizer.

Indian Camp

Indian Camp describes the entry of Americans into a Native American camp hoping to assist an Indian lady in childbirth. It is a short story heavily influenced by Hemingway's childhood in Michigan. The experiences of Hemingway's boyhood pique his curiosity about the primal lifestyle of Indians. Meyers (1988) contends that the story exhibits Hemingway's ambivalent stance toward primitivism and demonstrates his ability to depict the primal. (p.211) Through the story, Hemingway portrays the inferiority of Native Americans and the superiority of White Americans in order to legitimise the colonisation of the primal Indian Americans. Wagner-Martin argues that the story influenced the formation of the American short story, but only several years after its release. (2000, p.29)

The story contains evidence of colonialism ideology and practices. Hemingway highlights the contrast between cultured Americans and savage Native Americans:

At the lake shore there was another rowboat drawn up. The two Indians stood waiting. Nick and his father got in the stern of the boat and the Indians shoved it off and one of them got in to row. Uncle George sat in the stern of the camp rowboat. The young Indian shoved the camp boat off and got in to row Uncle George. (Hemingway, 1987, p.62)

The first sentences of the story in the above quotation show that the prevailing notion of white Americans is that of the master. The Indians do the work while the white Americans do nothing but give orders. Consequently, the Indian Americans were seen as less civilized by white Americans. This strengthens their argument for educating and bringing modernity to the indigenous population, but the truth is the robbery of land and resources.

In the account described by Hemingway, there is a shocking occurrence, which is a crude surgery performed on an Indian lady:

'Inside on a wooden bunk lay a young Indian woman. She had been trying to have her baby for two days. [...] In the upper bunk was her husband. He had cut his foot very badly with an axe three days before. He was smoking a pipe. [...] [Nick's] father said 'But her screams are not important. I don't hear them because they are not important. (Hemingway, 1987, p.62)

The author portrayed the Native American population as primitive and savage in the above quotation. In addition, the woman's husband is a barbarian with a severe foot injury and smoking pipes. In contrast, the white Americans are portrayed as saviours trying to help the Indian woman conceive. Although Nick's father hears the pregnant woman's cries of pain, he does not care, showing the coloniser's indifference to the colonized. The Native Americans think the Whites will assist them. Paradoxically, the white doctor performs the operation on the Indian lady using a jackknife and administers no anaesthesia. He also sews up the wound with a fishing line.

Throughout the story, the Native American Indian characters have no textual evidence that they spoke or had a voice. According to Li-hua (2022), "[t]he fact that none of the Indians spoke English, and that none of their names [was] mentioned [...]" (p. 638). On the other hand, the conversations are all for white Americans, which shows the dominance of the colonizer over the colonized. Taking into consideration the difference in language and mentality between white Americans and Native Americans, the reader cannot find a conversation between the indigenous people. Therefore, Eurocentrism dominates the scene to the detriment of the indigenous people, as it is evident from the previous that the indigenous population treats as the "other".



Another horrific scene in the story is when the doctor finds an Indian man dead, covered by his own blood:

The Indian lay with his face toward the wall. His throat had been cut from ear to ear. The blood had flowed down into a pool where his body sagged the bunk. His head rested on his left arm. The open razor lay, edge up, in the blankets. (Hemingway, 1987, p.63)

Although most of the characters in the story are in almost the same place, the suicide of the Indian youth takes place in silence. None of the other characters, Indians or white Americans, realised what was happening to the young Indian. Wagner-Martin believes that “All parts of his life [(Hemingway)] were laced with his family’s prejudice against Native Americans”. The scene of the suicide of the young man is an indication that the indigenous Indian people have no voice, even in times of great pain. It also confirms what has been said throughout the present study, namely that the sole voice of the coloniser on account of the colonised. In addition to making the image of the original Indians barbaric, the doctor and his son glossily represent the image of the white Americans by trying to save others. But the truth is entirely different. The original Indians were the landowners, while the white Americans seized many lands, goods and even shed blood for their racial dominance and interests.

After The Race

The story strongly connects to the Irish past, obscure by many years of British colonisation and France's active participation in the struggle for its country. In addition, Naas Town is well-known for being the location of the first Irish Rebellion fights. As the alliance's efforts to win the war fell short, Ireland's colonial misery worsened, and Joyce grew up seeing this conflict between nationalism and colonialism. Attridge stated, “Jimmy’s family history includes a commitment to Irish nationalism [...]”. (2004, p.262) The Act of Union prepared the ground for nationalists, who began to advocate for independence. Nationalism was clearly ingrained in Ireland, since most Irish people revolted against British dominance in various ways. Indeed, literature constantly fits the facts and interacts with the context; hence, the Irish Literary Renaissance at the turn of the century increased nationalism.

Moreover, the concepts expressed in Irish literary works around the turn of the century were influenced by reality. Therefore they concentrated on the tyranny of the British Empire and its impact on Ireland. The protagonist faces more meaningful, life-altering choices, and his existence becomes more constrained. As Jimmy represents the Irish ethnicity in the story, the title has racial connotations because the other characters are from different countries. Jimmy's feeling of Irishness connects him to most of Joyce's protagonists and gives an impressively concealed revelation within the story. Derek Attridge stated that “*After the Race* [...] allegorizes the dilemmas of a particular kind of colonial subject, one who is willingly co-opted by the colonial power”. (2004, p. 261) In addition, it portrays a race between nations that is racially competitive. Joyce focuses the attention of the Irish people on the consequences of the British Empire's persecution of them, which left them immobilised. It can be evident in the following:

The cabin shook with the young men's cheering and the cards were bundled together. They began then to gather in what they had won. Farley and Jimmy were the heaviest losers. He knew that he would regret in the morning but at present he was glad of the rest, glad of the dark stupor that would cover up his folly. (Joyce, 2005, p.42)

Joyce's stance toward Ireland is certainly conflicted, if not convoluted. Although there are many characters in the story, Jimmy's the biggest loser. Joyce's insists that Jimmy is the failure and the only Irish in the race indicates the expansion and benefit of the rest of the nationalities from his country's resources. To be more accurate, Britain benefited at the expense of jimmy's country,



Ireland. In addition, it is one of the damages of colonialism and globalization. Jimmy's paralysis is intensifying, and although he may still escape it, it is becoming more complex.

In this manner, Joyce alludes to British imperialism as a dominant power in Ireland, which laboured for centuries to subjugate the Irish and eradicate any remnants of their culture. Andrew Gibson stated, "Joyce repeatedly indicates that, in the Dublin he fled, personal and political failure were everywhere bound up in one another". (2006, p.70) Through cultural institutions, the British Empire assisted to imposing hegemony over the society in *After The Race*. As a Celtic race, the social position of the Irish among European countries was regarded with contempt. Throughout history, the Irish assimilated the notion of being a subordinate race. At the card table, foreigners exploit Jimmy in order to deprive him of the funds he intended to invest:

Jimmy felt obscurely the lack of an audience: the wit was flashing. Play ran very high and paper began to pass. Jimmy did not know exactly who was winning but he knew that he was losing. But it was his own fault for he frequently mistook his cards and the other men had to calculate his I.O.U.'s for him. They were devils of fellows but he wished they would stop: it was getting late. Someone gave the toast of the yacht *The Belle of Newport* and then someone proposed one great game for a finish. (Joyce, 2005, p.42)

In the quote above, Joyce describes the other people around Jimmy as "devils," showing his exploitation and insecurity toward them. In other words, other countries exploit Ireland at the expense of its people, in spite of the Irish people's knowledge of this. Indeed, where Jimmy knows he will lose but despite that continues to play. It is also a sign of the weakness of the character of the Irish people, or in other words, they are helpless. According to Attridge (2004), Jimmy has exposure "by several interlocking forces: economic exploitation, British cultural hegemony, and his own economic and social aspirations".(p.261) In the last line of the quote, the other players also insist on continuing to play as a sign of their cunning and striving behavior to get as much profit as possible. This shows the extent of Joyce's skill in manipulating the story and indirectly refers to the coloniser and the colonised.

James discusses the rationale for his comparison of the growth of Ireland and Europe, which highlights the reality that the development of Europe is dependent on Ireland's exploitation. "The Gordon Bennett Gold Cup Race" provides a possible source of revenue that might put money in the wallets of the destitute Irish. The significance of hosting the race comes from combating its poverty with the expectation of providing a brighter future that secures economic growth and international recognition for Ireland. Ireland is seen as a non-imperial European country, while the card table in the story depicts the international competitive landscape. Owens stated that "After the Race clearly reflects this division of opinion. It draws a clear contrast between the views of its implied author, an advanced nationalist, and those of the Doyles, for whom the business of Ireland is business". (2008, p.31)

Due to a lack of confidence in its capabilities and potential, Ireland is incapable of dominating its foreign affairs, negotiating with other nations, or even handling domestic politics. Jimmy's schooling in England shows the severity of his persecution, as he is accommodated in his inferiority to the coloniser and thus loses his independence and personality. Thus, Ireland's foreign relations are jeopardised by this indifference to politics. The conflict between the colonial powers exemplifies the international game of European diplomacy in which Ireland engages despite it being against its interests. Britain gains political success and economic prosperity with the aid of Europeans by exploiting Ireland.



Conclusion

Globalization yet remains an issue of broad debate between supporters and opponents. Regarding the present research, there appears to be more opposition than support concerning globalization. The current paper investigates globalization in Ernest Hemingway's *Indian Camp* and James Joyce's *After the Race* in light postcolonial approach. The postcolonial theory covers many concepts, one of which is globalization. The postcolonial theory focuses on the colonized and highlights their problems, sometimes also going far and finding solutions.

In the story of *Indian Camp*, the American Indians face forces more prominent than them, represented by the white Americans. As a result of the advancement of white Americans in many areas of life over the indigenous Indians, they were allowed to control the lands and choices. This control comes regardless of the suffering of the indigenous people being the owners of the land in the first place. The Indians faced humiliation, including a woman giving birth in semi-brutal conditions, in addition to the suicide of an Indian man by silently slitting his neck. While concerning the white American group, the matter is quite different, as Nick and his father are on a picnic to explore Indian lands.

As for James's story *After the Race*, it is not different, as Jimmy faces many difficulties inside and outside the race with other nationalities. Jimmy represents the Irish ethnicity in the story. James explains the reasoning for his comparison of Ireland's and Europe's growth, which shows that Europe's progress depends on Ireland's exploitation. Furthermore, the exploitation of Ireland's resources comes due to the lack of resourcefulness of the people, which is one of the essential points that is clear in the story. Thus, in both short stories, the resources on the cultural, economic and political levels are under the control of the colonizer at the expense of the colonized.

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