

Prejudice and Racism in The Jewel in the Crown and Heart of Darkness

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Racism in The Jewel in the Crown and Heart of Darkness

The effects of British colonialism are reflected in literature from both early modernism and post colonialism. Racial discrimination tainted both eras portrayed in the British morale of white supremacy over non-European countries unfolded. Heart of Darkness exemplifies early modernism in the British explorers viewed African natives of the Congo as incapable of human equality due to perceived uncivilized savagery. Personal interaction between races was little to none, as the freshly conquered Africans were still viewed as alien. Likewise, [Jewel](#) in the [Crown](#), exemplifies of post colonialism, echoes racism from the British Rule in India. Postcolonial literature evolved from early modernism as the focus was of the interactions between the British and the people they conquered in modernism. Racism was still prevalent in post colonialism, yet the literature offers a slightly less subhuman view of the Indians. The characters in both literary works express reactions to "learned [prejudice](#)" as white people in

"control of a black man's country" (Jewel of the Crown, P.150). Furthermore, the theme

common human bonds between blacks and whites develop as British characters reject racism in " the critique of the traditional values of the culture" (Modern Literature handout, P.4). Through the recognized human bond, the need to bridge the gap between black and white people develops.

The modernism theory of British " awareness of primitiveness and savagery civilization built, and therefore an interest in the non-European peoples" (), was still evident in Post colonialism literature. The British explorer of uncivilized Africa, Marlow in Heart of Darkness, has...

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...ived in early Modernism and Postcolonial Literature. The British value of learned prejudice produced a fear of dark skin, especially when curious attraction and primitive instinct felt natural to the British. However, as values are questioned, and basic human emotion is shared, human bond become blind to skin color. The theme in both literary pieces reflect Carl Jung's theory that " all humans share a common spiritual/psychic heritage, collective unconsciousness, racial memories"(English 103 handout HofDEarly Modernism, p., 2).

Works Cited

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