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***The Importance of The Sea in The
Colonial Literature , JMSynge's "Riders to
the Sea"***

*Dissertation submitted as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree
of Master in Anglo_Saxon Literature and Civilization.*

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Declaration of Originality

I hereby declare that, the substance and the findings stated in this dissertation , are results of my research and examination . Otherwise , I do acknowledge whatever point through the referencing is made .

Dedication

I didicate this work to my dear parents for their support , understanding and encouragement to finish this work ,and pushing me to keep striving for success.

To my sisters and brothers. To my friends for, the sweet time that we spent.

It is dedicated to all whom I love.

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Abstract

This dissertation attempts to study the importance of the sea in the colonial literature. J.M. Synge's "Riders to the Sea" (1904) is a representative colonial work which is full with the most salient features of Naturalism. Synge strives to shed light on the Irish society in the nineteenth century and concentrates mainly on Naturalism as literary technique to portray the suffering of the daily life of the Irish people at that time. On the other hand, Synge uses Symbolism as a literary device in an effective way to convey his messages to the readers and to clarify the cultural impact of the British rule on Ireland in the nineteenth century. This period in the Irish history was notable with poverty, famine and the colonial literature that was used as tool to express the Irish nationalism. "Riders to the Sea" sum up Synge's personal experience and how he used his writing to express his nationalism and reviving the traditions of Ireland.

Keywords: Colonial literature, J.M. Synge's, Naturalism, Riders to the Sea, Symbolism, The Sea.

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General Introduction

General Introduction

During the nineteenth century the dominance of the British culture and the expansion of the British rule has been increased in Ireland. As a result many playwrights such as Synge came to revive their traditions, their beliefs, and their Nationalism against that empire. The Irish literature, based heavily on the folklore of Ireland and its history, and since J.M. Synge is a colonial playwright his nationalism goes along way with his writings. Synge conveys his message to the readers and describes the colonial period through his finest play 'Riders to the Sea', in which while reading the play the one can get that the playwright draws upon his personal experience and revives the cultural heritage of his own, even he uses the distinctive language for better representation of his nationalism.

Riders to the Sea exposes the struggle of existence between man and the force of nature. This dissertation strives to shed light on an important literary movement in the Irish history that was emerged by the late of nineteenth century through the play which Synge's claims. Naturalism as a literary trend appears through many characteristics in Riders to the Sea. However, the present study identified the use of the naturalistic features, and maintaining symbolism as a literary device in Naturalism.

In Riders to the Sea, the playwright use symbols to manifest Naturalism and to better express the glance of his Darwinism by using the Sea. The Sea itself in the play was presented in transcending way as a symbol of nature in which it take the role of fate and holds disaster to the character Maurya and made her trapped in an oppressive environment.

Hence, this dissertation attempts to rise a number of questions :

_Through what Naturalism appear in " Riders to the Sea" ?.

_what would the sea represent ?

_Does the Sea reflect the harsh naturalistic features in the Play ?.

In order to conduct this research we hypothesizes the following :

Naturalism, In Riders to the Sea appears through the existence of the sea. Indeed, the sea may represent Synge's symbolism..

General Introduction

Thus , the present research paper, divided into three chapters ; the first one is mainly historical deals with the historical part , the second chapter is quite theoretical deals with Naturalism as literary theorie.The third chapter, however ,tries to sheds light on Naturalism in" Riders to the Sea " and the importance of the Sea as a sumbol to conveys the harsh naturalistic features .Hence, aims to take the sea in a naturalist viewpoint . .

Chapter One:
Ireland and the Influence
of the British Empire

Chapter One : Ireland and the Influence of the British Empire

1.1 Introduction

The nineteenth century was the century of the British Empire expansion. It exerted its domination all over the world. Ireland at that time was under the British control whereas the relationship between Britain and Ireland seemed to be a colonial.

The British control aimed to dominate Ireland politically, economically, and culturally. Hence, the literature like any aspect was affected, in which it was produced to indicate the impact of colonialism on the Irish culture and society. In other words, the colonial literature was the tool to express the experience of the Irish community during the ages of that empire.

Thus, the Irish literature has been strongly related to the movements of the nineteenth century, which are Naturalism and Symbolism.

1.2 The British Empire in Ireland

The historical relationship between Ireland and Great Britain was so complex and exceptional. However, it was regarded with the first and the last internal British colony, that was governed through the Dublin Castle.

The British Empire in the Island came into existence by the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries due to the crown in the beginning won't to impose a full control on Ireland. Kenny, maintained that, there was no British Empire either in terminology or in fact; most historians agree that, the British Empire, in the sense of expansion, conquest and settlement, came into existence only in the late of the sixteenth or by the first of the seventeenth century.

Timothy (2010) claimed that, Ireland, was identified with a British internal colony, while its status as a colony was so complex and ambiguous and therefore many contested depicted the Irish as a national group subjugated by the British Imperialism and sought to resist it. Thus, Ireland was identified as a colonised territory and became an official internal part from the United Kingdom, by the Eitheenth century, once Henry VIII surrender the crown, and declared himself a king and the head of church; he was interduce an English reformation to Ireland, with intention to conquer Ireland and ignoring the Irish Parliament.

In this light, the British conquest, brought political and military series, including the arrival of the English settlers to take the lands of the Irishmen, and to spread protestantism instead of catholicism that represent the majority of the native followers. Indeed, Kenny claimed that, the English imperialism was increasingly driven by religious and economic

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concerns, there were no full rights granted to the Catholics and the power was in the hands of the new protestant settlers. Hence, one can understand that the British Imperialism had a great impact on the Irish community; It is true that the Brits brought a civilized life style but they took the rights of the Irish people, and treated them like a national group with the subjugation that was made.

1.3 The Cultural Impact of the British Empire

Ireland as a British territory was subjugated, politically, culturally and economically, its historical relationship with Great Britain was so complex and exceptional. Actually, the subjugation brought nothing, but famine, misery and suffering and intentions to introduce the culture of the coloniser. One of the most catastrophic results of that unfair rule was the Great Irish Famine which led the Irish into poverty and misery. Moreover, the effect of the British colonialism reflected its Traditions and yet its literature.

1.3.1 The Potato Famine

The Potato Famine or the Great Irish Famine, was one of the most great issues in the history of Ireland yet the social catastrophic result of the British Imperialism. It was the memorable social phenomenon; that took the lives of Irish people, children and women.

As a result, it aroused resentment of the general opinion because of that, the English Parliament, had done nothing to prevent the worst famine ever. Furguson (2003) claimed that, 'The subsequent exodus of around six millions Irish men, women and children_ an emigration larger in relative terms than any another aspect in the 19th century in Europe is recalled as a further tragic consequence of the British rule'. By the nineteenth century, Great Britain took all the crops of Ireland and obliged the peasants to work at the Anglo-Irish protestants; the richest Kingdom won't to help them and pretended that the Irish brought misery and famine because of their practice of Catholicism, the Brits created famine for their religious matters in which, they wanted to replace the Catholic practice with protestantism.

The Great Famine of Ireland refers to the representative picture of the further tragic that was done by the British control, "the colonisation of Ireland brought misery in its train. subsistence agriculture __with any surplus pocketed by an alien landlords class_ condemned the Irish to grinding poverty and, ultimately, starvation" (Furguson, 2003). By the late of the

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century, The Irish were helpless and struggled to survive ; most of them were emigrated and others were suffered from bad nutrition and lived in bad conditions .

1.3.2 The Christian Faith and Traditions

The presence of Christianity in Ireland back to the fifth century on the hands of the Saint Patrick , according to , White (2010) , the arrival of the British , Long precedes for Ireland's history as a catholic nation . The arrival of Christianity; most date its back to the century when the Saint Patrick and others played a critical role in changing the Iseland .

When Ireland fell under the British crown ; the English reformation was attempted to produce a protestant reformation to Ireland . The majority of the catholics were suppressed under the British rule ; and this raised a real challenge to the catholics .Actually , The goal of occupation was to obliterate the national Identity by destroying the Irish religion.White (2006) mantioned that, part of the british imperial policy in Ireland went beyond an effort to control the Ireland as a british territory and included an effort to destroy and to transform Its religoin.

The plantation brought some English settlers who were identified with the new church in England ,while the most of the Irish continued to identify with their catholic faith . White (2010) claimed that , In the Irish case the religious independence had brought the political one. The Common people were controlled by the new settlers what had a great anger in the souls of Catholics ;especially the Irish Church and its role in motivating the catholics to rebel against the British rule to seek their political independence . Thus, the rebirth of Nationalism and Catholicism was drived from the reaction against the British rule . It aimed to revive the Gaelic culture and restoring respect and pride to the Irish faith .

1.3.3 The Irish literature

The British conquest in Ireland brought famine , emigratiom , misery ,war and also it influenced the literature . The colonial literature, in its broad sence , refers to any literary work that was produced by the colonised communities,during the ages of the empire.

The British Empire in Ireland was not only for the political matters , but to transform Ireland culturally , so it had a great influence on the Irish literature which is strongly related to it ."The story of Ireland in the nineteenth century must be read as a classical endgame . After the colonial subjugation of the country by an alien power ,and ,indeed , after the earlier plantation of a significant population from that power , the

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nineteenth century saw the cultural and linguistic assimilation of much of the native population into a provincial version of the culture of the coloniser". (Denvir,1997)

The language shifted from Irish to English and the subjugation of the body moved to a subjugation of the mindsets; this shift back to the great famine , the education system..in addition to the the desire of the Irish to abandon the language.The British Conquest experienced anything like the radical , violent revolution that transformed Ireland at that time; destroying its indigenous elites by an alien in culture and religion (Dunne 2003)

The Irish literature , has been strongly related to the colonial relationship with Great Britain in which, the literature was introduced to indicate the impact of colonialism on the Irish culture. Thanks to the renaissance movement and the Gaelic league 's aim in de_anglicising Ireland and reviving the mother language which, "encouraged the Irish writers to react against the British colonialism such as J.M.Synge who reacted against the colonialists derogation of the Irish dialect" (Hogan,1996,p.163) .

1.3.3.1 The Irish Literary Renaissance

The Irish literary Renaissance movement was the rebirth of the Irish literature. Or as it was called with the Celtic twilight that was emerged ,in between the late of nineteenth century and the early of the twentieth century . The Celtic twilight strongly related to the Gaelic revival , which came to revive the Irish language and culture.

The Irish language began to die with the great famine and the emigration of the native native people besides , so many other reasons such as the desire of some Irish to abandon the language . Thanks to the Gaelic revival movement which was dominated by the late of the nineteenth and the first of the twentieth centuries . It was a movement of culture and national identity; it aimed to give rebirth to the Irish mother language.

According to Douglas Hyde , The Gaelic league's aim was to " The de_Anglicising of Ireland" ,the key to which was the restoration of the Irish language"qtd in (Denvir , 1997,p .59) . By the first of twentieth century the Irish literature saw a great jump toward internationally successful works . However, the most high value works were Irish productions. The Gaelic movement , created a feeling of a self confidence in being Irish .

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The republican Irish literature, was based on folk tales , fictional poetry , plays , novels and short stories .Most of works combined the real stories with fictional myths or folk tales. William Bulter Yeats asserts that,the Irish folklore was so wealthy with mythology and folktales as he quoted ‘ to create a whole literature a whole dramatic movement based on’ qtd in (Granville,2004). His imagination was so inspired by the wealth of the Irish mythology.

Pearse (1913),maintained that , the Irish literature with its best excellencies ; a clearer than a Greek vision, a more generous than Greek humanity , a deeper than greek spirituality, this literature has never lost those excellences. A great attention has been given to Irish writers and playwrights such as Jhon Milington Synge ; who had a great credit in establishing the Natinal Irish Theatre .

1.3.3.2 The History of The Irish Theatre

The lack of interest with the Irish literature was the crisis that the stage was suffering from during the ages of the British rule .Cullingford (1997) asserted that, English dramatists created the drunken , stupid and violent stage Irishman . The performance was infected by the gender; in which , the English characters saw themselves superior than the Irish characters in relation to their colonial subjects whereas, they were given secondary roles or comedic ones ,with less importance .. ,

On the stage , the Irishmen were just presented as comical characters ; they were presented as stupid figures at most.. .Thus, in order to revive the Irish language and to best present the Irish society and its capacity in performance W.B .Yeats , the genuis poet came to establish the Natinal Irish Theatre . The Abbey Theatre was their hope to best depict the wealth of the Irish Literature , and to prove that Ireland was a civilized nation with its proper culture.

The Abbey theatre, or the Irish National theatre.. also best known with the school of acting, located in Dubllin , founded by William Bullter Yeats in, 1904 .After a number of years, the foundation of the Abbey in 1904 by Yeats, Lady Gregory,and the Fay’s brothers marked its consolidation as a native traditional theatre .On December 1904, the theatre opened its doors with a series of Yeats’s plays ,Lady Gregory, and John Millington Synge. The Abbey presented ancient works returned to the Irish myths with the aim of presenting Irish characters by Irish playwrights and it hosted the Irish Dramas as it is in Ireland.

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1.4 Naturalism as a literary Movement

Naturalism as a literary movement, has been emerged by the late of the nineteenth century. it's a movement in literature art and theatre. developed out as an extreme of realism. Indeed, it came as an outgrowth to the realist movement. It was a movement in art or narrative that displays natural explanations to the universal phenomena (Bamgbose,2013).

The Naturalists defended that, man is a victim of nature, in which he is determined by his environment; which predetermine his decisions. Naturalism came to justify that the social conditions and heredity have forces to shape the human being's fate, all the naturalists themes are about the natural selection and how human beings are helpless and can do nothing beyond the natural control.

Naturalism is a movement in European dramaturgical works and theatre, aimed to reject the traditional dramas, and based on the darwinian understanding to nature and how the determininig forces of the environment can shape the human character. it aims to revive the impression of reality to depict the real word as it is. It was influenced by two main factors; the theory of Charles Darwin and Zola's essays, such as 'Naturalism on the stage'. "Olutoyin Jegede (2003:26) simply sees Naturalism as a scientific extension of realism this is because Naturalism is influenced by the theories of science, especially the Darwinian scientific discoveries that human beings are human beasts and their being and existence is determined by the force of heredity and environment, the laws of nature are basic determinants of human character".(qtd in Bamgbose,2013 ,p.5). Thus, The Naturalists, were influenced by the theory the theory of evolution; by the application of scientific determinism to their works, they portrayed the situation in a darwinian picture and shedding light on the internal and external forces of nature and how it determined the character's decision. On the other hand, the presence of the naturalist movement back to the French novelist and theoretician Emile Zola. He was the father and the real founder of the Naturalist movement, he defined it according to life, struggle, and nature. Zola was the real promoter of Naturalism, who advocated its use in theatre.

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1.4.1 Naturalism in The Irish Theatre

In generally speaking , the one could define Naturalism , as a movement in the european theatre and a theatrical style started by the late of the nineteenth century. According to Fallon (1937) “ Naturalism has degraded the stage _ it has banished everything that is truly of the theatre, and destroyed the whole sheme on which its existence dependes”(P.542). Zola’s Target in applying the use of Naturalism on the stage inspired many playwrights all over the world in which by the nineteenth century , the number of the Irish Naturalists has been increased . They were striving to build up a natinal theatre , a theatre of their own, a theatre with a language of their own ; by using the old out_ worm naturalitic Anglo_Irish theatre as their own model , a theatre which is far away more than just a national institution (Fallon, 1937)

Synge was advocated the use of Naturalism , after his experience in the Aran Island . Kennedy (2004) claimed that, Yeats perhaps hinted at the importane of ntire to Synge by seggesting the visit to Aran Islands. His experience in the Aran Island helped his creation in "Riders to the Sea" ; he portrayed the value of nature to the islanders and how they were struggling to survive in their harsh environment. Riders to the Sea , depicts the daily life in the Aran Island ; where he spent a priod of time their .The play Itself gone through a naturalistic vision , in which the subject matter was to represent the conflict between man and nature . The presence of the sea in a Darwinian picture , and the journey life that usually ended with death illustrate how much he was inspired by Charles Darwin .

JMSynge , was absolutely a naturalistic playwright , the natural environment of the Island , went a long way to shape his naturalistic vision or his outlook on life as he presented in his play .Keith (1989) argued that ‘ he was a naturalist , not a nature worshipper, as we can see from his boyhood nature studies , and he was an astute observant folklorist’(p.3)., Riders to the Sea portrayed Synge’s Darwinism in which his first reading Darwin’s works Sush as On the Origins of Species had produced a chock on him and affected him to produce his successful play Riders to the sea .

1.4.2 J.M. Synge as Naturalistic playwright

Synge, captures the daily life of the Irishmen in the Aran Islands . His experiences later form the basis for many of the plays of Irish peasant and fishing comminity life (Edebor ,2014) . The play captures the struggle of life between the individual and nature , In other

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words , a person's struggle to survive in a harsh environment, was Synge's Darwinism that appears through the play .Therefore, The presence of the sea in a Darwinian picture and the family struggle to survive ,illustrate how much Synge was inspired by Darwin and his theory of evolution .

Indeed , the joining to Dublin Naturalists field club allowed him to read Darwin's works which resonated deeply with Synge and influenced his writing and psyche in which he started to doubt his protestant creationist upbringing (Bamgbose,2013). He is quoted as saying "soon after I had relinquished the kingdom of God I began to take up a real interest in the kingdom of Ireland. My politics went round to a temperate Nationalism (A Noise within,2009,10: 5)" qtd in (Bamgbose ,2013,p.7) . Synge had struggled from his spiritual beliefs in his life after reading Charles Darwin works which affected his writing. He depicted his characters in a harsh Darwinian nature , where only the fittest survive , and he presented the journey of life that usually ended by death and loss. John Millington Synge , was typically a naturalist ,who wished nothing just to be at once of the pioneer of his age .

Bamgbose(2013) acknowledged that, he had the power of observations and recorded the life of the peasantry with much delight and objectivity , there is strong intricate between Synge's plays and the folk imagination of the Irish peasantry . the natural environment of the Aran islands went a long way to shape Synge's naturalistic creation.

1.5 Symbolism as a literary Movement

Symbolism, is a literary movement emerged by the late of the nineteenth century, based on the art of using symbols.Symbolism can be used to represent feelings, thoughts, objects.. in order to represent ideas . A symbol , is any thing refers to represents or stands for something else ‘ Carl Jung describes symbols as terms or names or pictures that might be familiar in daily life but are loaded with specific connotations in addition to their conventional or obvious meaning’. Qtd in (Fedias,2019,p.7). Thus, a Symbol might be any thing.. object, sign or idea that stands for something else.

The use of Symbols was produced to represent qualities in literature.Therefore, Symbolism is the art or practice of using Symbols. Using Symbols to represent ideas besides their literary meanings became the new interesting literary direction ... Symbolism, according to the Oxford Dictionaries had two meanings first, using symbols in order to depict ideas or qualities or including a representation that had Symbolic meaning refer to natural

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objects or facts . Then, the secondary definition that is symbolism , is an artistic and a poetic movement or style , using Symbolic objects, or any indirect expressions to express ideas, emotions or some mind's states (Bin Abu Bakar,nd).

It was seen as an effective way to convey any message or expression to the reader and to across the meaning more by using symbolic objects which are more significant and much deeper.Symbolism plays a significant role in any culture . Through using symbols authers could convey some hidden messages to the reader ; by indicating some qualities, ideas, or images or thoughts , and by giving them some interpretations that indicate their significance besides their literary meanings

Symbolism had a great importane , especially in the field of literature ; the authors used it in different traditional works and religious contexts which are in line with their requirements and yet evoking the reader's interest to get what in the author's mind and how he viewed the world and his point of view toward the existence . Symbolism in literature , is an artistic and a theatrical movement .According to Olds (2006), it refers to the vital parts of the development of literary modernism first to an artistic movement in France and Belguim during the last decades of the nineteenth century then, its beginning which back to 1850s in French poetry and finally how it was a source of inspiration to the European and the American literature during the first of the twentieth century .

In other words , It is more than a simple term in literature ,and an artistic movement and a school of literature . Symbolism as a literary device and a stylistic movement was introduced to literature by authors with the aim of presenting their dramas on the stage , they had desires to present emotional dramas on the stage and its emergence by the late of the nineteenth century was regarded as respone to the triumph of science (Spinchorn , 1985) . The symbolist movement in France affected many writers and playwrights all over the word.The practice of modernist literature get in appearance in the Irish nation, in which the age spirit movement had widespread a great influence on the Irish literature.The Irish playwrights, were so inspired with the wealth of Ireland's folklore as a source of inspiration , therefore, they worked on using symbols to represent their Irish folklore.

To sum up, Symbolism is a school of literature began by late of the nineteenth century ,also it is a theatrical style depends on the use of symbols .Symbols are often used in drama to convey meanings, massages,.. . symbolism in theatre had its beginning in France. Aimed to represent qualities ,toughts ,messages and so on..

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1.5.1 Symbolism in the Irish Theatre

In generally speaking , The symbols in theatre are usually used to convey meanings and reminding the audience with themes that are in importance. Although such use of symbols in performance ,actually can be so powerful and effective. The authors achieved this use via characters , objects and so on..

Ireland, by the late of the nineteenth century was breathing the shift from a british colony to a independent and a modern state . The presence of Symbolism in the Irish theatre back to the Irish poet W.B.Yeats , who was the first who included the use of Symbols in his works . The troubled conditions in Ireland affected Yeats and J.M Synge , in which they moved from traditional subjects to the reform of a distinct literary Identity; most of their literary works portrayed the every day life of the Irishmen and their bad conditions that they are suffering from . The nationalist crisis was so obvious through the use of symbols , which are relying on the Irish folklore . The Irish authors get used to employ the use of symbols in their dramas till nowadays , that's radically firm in their culture.

Myths and realities best characterised the republican Irish theatre ,in which, the Irish stage set as a symbolic one, therefore it evoke the rural life. Yeats wanted to introduce a symbolic plays for the theatre , besed on the logic of ritual and symbols in order to introduce a mediative ,visionary experience for the audience. Harte and Parker acknowldge that , the Irish fiction keep up with the use of symbols in which they claimed that, use of Symbols embedded to the recent Irish Fiction ,through the experience of the individuals that become a metaphor to the public and the national distiny Atd in (Rein,2014) .John Milington Synge was regarded as the creation of the movement and his best know work 'Riders to the sea', was the finest piece of tragic work ever done in the Irish performance .Synge as a creator of the movement , introduced the use of Symbolism within his finest play ' Riders to the sea' which is full with Symbols for instance , the sea that represent the source of lifeand the destroyer of life . .

Synge ' Riders to the sea', embedded with many symbols , shedding light on the strongest symbol that it employed within , is that of the sea . its importance can be understood throught its inclusion within the title of the play .The use of the sea ,symbolically to represent its importance in the play was Synge's genuis in employing the use of symbols in such naturalistic work ' Riders to the sea'. The complete comprehension to the play which Synge's claimed , basically depends on the understanding of its symbolic content .

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1.6 Conclusion

This chapter is a scope about Ireland as a British colony in the nineteenth century. It dealt with the conceptual framework of that empire and its influences.

Ireland, in the nineteenth century, has been identified as an internal colony under British rule in which the Irish were a national group subjugated by the Brits and their imperialism. Colonization of Ireland was introduced to reflect its religion, economy, and yet the literature.

Thus, the Irish wanted to revive their language, their literature, and their traditions and brought a great attention to their National Irish Theatre and their performance. The Irish literature of the nineteenth century was driven by two movements of that time; Naturalism and Symbolism, which were introduced to the Irish theatre.

Chapter Two:
The development of Naturalism

2.1 Introduction

Naturalism was the literary movement of the late nineteenth century, which aimed to depict the art of nature.

The naturalists believed that behind every thing there is nature, which means that nature is all about and it 's the source of existence of human beings and their natural environment; that represent the whole reality. Naturalism itself was an outgrowth of realism and in fact, it was a reaction to this literary movement.

The development of Naturalism was influenced by two main factors : The theory of Charles Darwin and the influence of the French theoritician Emile Zola. There are many defining naturalistic features the writers depend on to represent the glance of Naturalism

2.2 Historical Context about Naturalism

The development of the Naturalist literary theory was affected first by adopting the Darwinian beliefs and then, by the influence of his founder Emile Zola . The Naturalistic writings focused on the material world ,that is actually governed by certain principles and laws that guid the man in his activities and influence his decisions.

2.3 The Influence of Darwinism on Naturalism

In fact, the foundation of Naturalism based heavily on Charles darwin and his theory of evolution . However, it took its origins from Darwin's theory " On The Origins of Species" (1859) . The naturalists adopt his ideas and depict the society in a Darwinian picture that holds life as a struggle .Zhang (2010) claimed that , the Naturalistic writers were influenced by the theory of evolution in which they believed that one's heridity and social environment determine one's character and influence the actions of its subjects. In Naturalism the characters depicted as they believed that everything happened should be traced by environmental causes by giving an honest depiction to the reality.

Olutoyin Jegede asserts that Naturalism is a scientific extention of realism which is influenced by the scientific theories of existence ;especially the darwinian one included that, human being is a human beast and his being and existence is determined by heridity and his environment.qtdin(Bamgbose,2013).The major Darwinian belief in Naturalism, is that the human being is a victim of his environment, in which the individual is helpless against the basic determinants.

This mode of fiction was developed out by writers and schools; in which the individual doesn't have any mode of participation beyond nature . The modern thoughts in dramas are almost depend on the influence of Darwin. The impact of the evolutionary ideas touched also the theatre. Naturalism on the stage was a tool to create an illusion of reality through a range of dramatic and theatrical strategies

.Therefore,'the theatre is the self _educator of the people'(Mally,1917p.17) which had the capacity to present history of the humanity.; by having the power to represent the darwinian struggle of existence . Darwinism on the stage was regarded with the best experience,in which it's a challenge to dramatise evolutionary theory.By the late nineteenth century Darwin's ideas were introduced to theatre .The playwrights of that time, adopted his beliefs ,which had radically inspired the naturalists and primitivists of playwrights all over the word

To Sum up ,Darwin's theory affected the naturalist playwrights to percieve that, the individual's fate is a product of biological forces (heredity and environment), and the external world of the characters determines their internal world and sheds light on how they act in a particular situations. Naturalism in theatre implicates Darwin's ideas of the absence of God and obtaining a focus on real situations.

Naturalism, is a similar extreme of realism, but with a distinction in determinism and detachment and social commentary. This trend took its shape from the theories of the French writer, novelist and theoritician Emile Zola; who was the founder and the real promoter to this literary movement.

Zhang (2010) , claimed that the term itself came from Emile Zola who shought a new idea to convince the readers with something much new and modern in his fiction , in which he argued that his innovation in fiction and writing is the creation of characters and plots based on scientific methods. Zola was distinguished from the realists of the nineteenth century.He,adopted a revolutionary task by applying scientific methods; according to him, 'it is very much the application of scientific methods to the producton of literature and theatre' qtd in (Dan,2010). Zola's Naturalism ,simply was the way of writing with the use of the Naturalist philosophy that based on how to create the characters under the influence of heredity and environment.In his famous work " The Exprimental Novel" he exposed the foundation of his thinking about Naturalism and how he used Bernard's concept of the experimenting as a basis of his literary method qtd in (Yiu,2016). Oscar Yiu in his essay " The Departure of Naturalism from Realism_ Two of the Same Coin" mentioned that , Zola's

focus, was how the environment acts as an agent and thus lead to the Naturalistic way of extensive description of the environment that acts to show its effects on the characters. The extensive description of the environment allowed to link the characters's development with the environment 's development.

Naturalism in theatre was first advocated by Zola in which he claimed that , the stage will be Naturalistic , or it will not exist at all ; such is the formal conclusion” (Zola, 1881, p.9). Zola explored the idea that dramatic entertainment is going to have to change by the time due to the populace are craving something more natural .In his essay he mentioned critiding to the need of using Naturalism on the stage , he claimed that, : I'm waiting for the environment to determine the characters and the characters to act according to the logic of facts combined with logic of their own diaposition ...” (Zola,1881,p.6), he didn't discount the theatre's brilliance as much as he predicted the need of change through Naturalism on the will take over . Zola (1881), stated that the stage must be naturalistic and holds his view that, the environment had a chief Importance and played an important part in sheping the human character .The naturalistic plays used within theatre to demonstrate and to show to the audience how the real world appear and reach the real forces that determine the characters.

2.3 Displaying Naturalistic features in theatre

Naturalism was used first in theatre by Zola who asserts that human beings are beasts can be studied throught their relationship with their environment .In the Naturalist belief the characters have no free will against the will of nature . The individual usually is the victim who have no chance to participate beyond nature. Naturalism depicted the real situation as it is by depicting the pessimistic tone in their works . Also the Naturalists used symbols to achieve the glance of Naturalism. So here, the one can understand that there are many defining naturalistic features were displayed in theatre.

2.3.1 The Free will and Determinism

In determinism the idea is that the characters don't have any free will, due to they are controlled by internal and external forces .Grillaert (2006) maintains that, the concept of the free will is opposed to determinism .

The Naturalists often,portrayed the deterministic view of the characters who actually don't have much control over their lives ,things happen to them and they don't have a chance to

face ; no matter how hard was their fighting . The Naturalists tend to be deterministic due to they believed we are shaped by our inherent nature and we can't escape from our life's conditions. .

Determinism can be understood through the exclude of the free will .It entails that the characters can't act otherwise than they do and the natural forces usually pre_determined their decisions and making them acting in a particular situation . Yet the characters attempt to seek their free will in their harsh environment, where the free will itself is an illusion .Farrell(1950) claimed that “ what was paramount with Zola was determinism. Paraphrasing Bernard, he declared: “ There is an absolute determinism in the existing conditions of Natural phenomena , for the living and for the inanimating bodies .” (250).Thus, Determinism is an important feature in Naturalism

2.3.2 Fate and Nature

Nature is the raw material and the urban setting for the Naturalists, However, it's the ultimate truth .human being subordinate to natural rules which are unchangeable and govern the entire universe and they try to show nature as an indifferent force acting on the lives of human beings and shaping their fate . therefore the characters lives are governed by the forces of heredity , their attempt at expressing their free will are hamstrung by the environment.

For the Naturalists, the individual is helpless due to the humanity has no control over fate , which is determined by his environment ; this is the major belief in naturalism where the man is a victim of his environment and has no free will to escape from his fate . ‘ Man's fate was preordained through a combination of heredity , environment and history .(Esslin, 69).they believed and depicted the characters as they are victims of their fate ; and their lives decided by a predetermined factors rather than their free will and portrayed them as they are overwhelmed by natural forces that exert a powerful influence in deciding and shaping their fate . the natural environment is powerful rather than the plight of the individual who is small and powerless against nature where the heredity and environment play a major role in their lives .

To sum up, the people are fated in their lives by their social conditions in which the social Darwinism helped the determining of their fates.Naturalism was regarded with a

doctrine which separates Nature from God and set up the natural laws as supreme, in which Zola himself remarked that the environment should shape the humanity characters.

2.3.3 The Pessimistic Tone

Naturalism has been defined as a pessimistic determinism , and yet a pessimistic extension of realism .However, the Naturalists were all determinists in that they believed in the abstract of forces . they were pessimists so far as they believed that human beings are absolutely inscapable of shaping their own destinies (Cowley,1947 ,p.414) . Naturalists tend to hold pessimistic and a primitive view in selecting details .

The Naturalist fiction is usually pessimistic this is because, it aimed to depict a realistic situation with a pessimistic and detached tone , the characters are usually portrayed as if they are objective and impartial. Zhang(2010) , acknowledged that Naturalist writings portrayed the harsh environment in a pessimistic connotations and sometimes emphasizing the inevitability of death and focused more on the harsh environment that surrounded the characters.

The figurative Naturalistic works applied the power of pessimism ,in which the character are helpless against nature and existence.The pessimistic vision can be found throughout the loss of someone or something or through stating that evils can be the ultimate power of Nature.

2.3.4 The Struggle of Survival

The struggle of existence or “the Natural Selection” as Darwin called , refers to the fighting for the conditions that needed for life; where the fighting is usually against Nature or other elements in the characters’s daily life .

Darwin’s theory of evolution, by Natural Selection or what called ‘ Survival for the fittest was the way to describe Darwinism that , held that life of humans in their environment is a struggle of existence; in which the characters for their existence brings out the brute within each other . In other words, life is the struggle for the daily existence, the subject matter here is that the characters degrading behavior as they struggle to survive in a Darwinian environment; where the strong grew up in power which influence the weak who is diminished , this will result struggle for existence whereas only the strong survives according to the rules of Charles Darwin.

Therefore, the Naturalists focused on the lives of the characters who are from lower class struggling for existence in a hostile society and acting according to the form of selection . Schopenhauer claimed that ‘ the individual life is a ceaseless battle for existence itself ; while at every step destruction threatens it’ qtd in (Gale,1972,327) . Thus Naturalism believe in survival for the fittest by adopting the struggle for existence and presented struggle as very harsh in the misery life beyond nature. In Naturalism , the struggle is pointless, beyond the harshness of the environment .

2.3.5 Hopelessness and Helplessness

Hopelessness and helplessness are important naturalistic features in Naturalism . While the individual Characters are fighting to survive, they were seen as helpless victims to the social Darwinism. In Naturalism , the individuals seemed to be a helpless and usually described as unwilling by the forces They can't react toward the exterior and interior forces ; they are just helpless. Therefore, in the Social Darwinism and the competition of survival the characters are controlled by their fates and that's what make them hopeless towards the Natural force and towards what it can hold to them . They can't participate or react beyond nature, yet they can do nothing just face their fates . Zhang (2010) mentioned that, the characters in the social Darwinism and the competition of survival are hopeless because of that they can't defeat their fates.

Helplessness and helplessness as Naturalistic characteristics stated for showing that the characters can't take any decision or any action and just being victims to their harsh environment .

2.3.6 The Use of Symbols to Manifest Naturalism

Symbolism, was more linked to Naturalism .However, it was used as a stylistic literary device in naturalism and intended to evoke a particular situation , in which ‘the Naturalist authors use symbolism to subtly convey a wealth of meaning in few words or images’(Gale,2016) .The use of Naturalistic symbols was not for representing but to evoke some states which are needed some intending in the states of the mind ; and to indicate the gloom and the helplessness of the characters and for reminding how Nature control them and what it holds to them . The Naturalists used symbols in order to give an effective impression to their works

The use of Naturalistic Symbols became , the new trend to the Naturalists authors ; in which they were produced Symbolist dramas such as Ibsen's works that best present the Symbolic theatre . not only Ibsen but also Zola who actually was influenced by him , a lot of naturalistic symbolism can be found in his works. . According to Spinchorn's point of view (1985,114) ' The transition from Naturalism to Symbolism proper occurred when possibilities of the first kind had seen throughly explore and exhausted by Ibsen's genius . Zola himself employed the use of symbols like Ibsen for the same purpose that brought him international fame ; in which his symbols operate in a universe matter .

As a result , the historical shift from naturalism to the use of symbolism was Ibsen's idea that had a great importance . Zola's use of symbols ; brought a new restoration to the Naturalistic theatre.Thus the Naturalists authors used symbolism to indicate the value of meanings which could give an effective impression to their works and to achieve the glance of Naturalism .

2. 4 Conclusion

Naturalism , was an extreme (extension) of realism emerged by the late of the nineteenth century , it was developed out of realism and came as expansion to the realist movement . It depicted the art of nature and take up the importance of dealing with naturalistic themes. Naturalism as a literary trend took its cue from Darwin 's beliefs and carried out the use of Symbolism as literary device .

Chapter Three:
The Sea as a Symbol of Nature

3.1 Introduction

Naturalism was the literary trend that was emerged by the late of the nineteenth century in literature and theatre. This trend was produced to understand the role of the social conditions , and nature in shaping the human character and influencing his activities . Thus, The Naturalists justified that nature determines and governs the human character.

Naturalism , in its broadly meaning indicates the attitude of the individual's struggle of existence against nature and it implies , the connection between them.Naturalism justified that the forces of nature had the power of determinism . The ordinary people and their every day struggle for life was the source of inspiration to the naturalists such as John Millington Synge. His finest work *Riders to the Sea*, refer to the struggle of the families against the sea in the Aran Islands . Synge was so obvious in expressing the glance of Naturalism in his play , in which , he presented the characters , in a darwinian picture as they, were portrayed as helpless objects trapped in an closed environment .

In the fact of presenting Naturalism on the stage. Synge advocated the use of Naturalism through his play which handle the harsh conditions of the Irish peasants in each sence , word , and yet symbol .

3.2 Naturalism in J.M.Synge's *Riders to the Sea*

A great interest has been paid for Naturalism in Synge's *Riders to the Sea* . Therefore Synge captures the contemporary life of the Irish people in The Aran Islands . The play was produced to present the tragic vision of the life in the Aran islands and the families 's struggle against the sea .

Riders to the sea indicates that, the human character can't escape from his fate , also it captures the darwinian picture by Synge . Bamgbose (2013) maintains that ,the life was presented in a journey motif , it is closed and usually ended by death and loss . Synge advocated the use of Naturalism on the stage to set that the environment is a harsh place and the sea as a natural element, shapes the fishmens fate who ride to the sea , every day in order to support their families .

In generally speaking, the nature in *Riders to the Sea* affected the characters and, it controls them ; in which they can do nothing beyond their harsh environment . The play details the struggle of the dwellers against the sea, and it captures the life style of the peasantry there and their spiritual beliefs.

Riders to the Sea, is the best exemple of trapping in an oppressive environment, in which Synge depicts his characters as victims touched by the natural force (the sea) . The play details the picture of lost, pain , suffering ,and death .Or in a broadly sense ,it details the struggle of the families against the sea which determines their free will and shape their fate . The dwellers can't do without the sea however the sea is their only meaning of survival and at the same time their death distination

Riders to the Sea is the best one act tragic play, due to it covers the forms of suffering of the individuals in their harsh enviroment through, the tragic protagonist mother figure. Maurya recounts the momories of pain when she said: "I had a husband , and a husband father and six sons in this house .. six fine men, though it was a hard birth I had with every one of them and they coming into the word _ and some of them were found and some of them were not found , but they gone now the lot of them.." (Synge 1911,p.38) . Maurya ,the old an old mother peasant loses all her six males family members for the life supplies . The Islanders get used to ride to the sea in order to support their families , justthe same as Synge depicted his characters. The struggle Maurya 's family against the sea signifies the struggle of the dwellers in their everyday life. .

The concept of death in the play was the most important truth , in which Maurya loses all her mles family members for the journey of life . Patch was her fourth son who drawned in the sea and Micheal , her fifth son also drawned in the sea for past nine days and he didn't found .Here we can notice that , Synge presented life in a journey motif that usually resulted in lost and death . Nora commentes and responses the pointless of the human struggle once , she said " and isn't it a pitiful thing where there is nothing left of a man who was a great rower and fisher but a bit of an old shirt and a plain stocking?" (Synge,1911,p.32:33). Then we see through the play Bartley ,who was her last son that, she try tries to discourage him from going to sell the horses in order to support his familly due to he is going to face the same fate of his brothers . This part from the play ; was used by Synge to insist that life is a journey with a distination of lost and death.

Maurya , refused to give her blessing to Bartely and said that " He's gone now, and God spare us and we will not see him again .He is gone now , and when the black night is falling I'll have no son left me in the words " (Synge,1911,p.26), these words carries , the pessimistic and the depressed tone in the play . The mother , was so hopeless and helpless from the sea she can't defeat the fate of her family . her resistance to her son to not go , was conditioned by the fear of lost and her experiences with sea , the experiences that gives her pessimistic and tragic vision toward the existence and making her see the life in a negative way . By the end she became so helpless and hopless once she said , " they're all gone now , and there isn't anything more the sea can do to me... They are all together and the end is come " (Synge,1911 ,p.42) here, Maurya couldn't achieve her happiness , in which she said in helpless words " no man at all can be living for ever and we must be satisfied " (Synge, 1911,p. 45) and that clarify the determine of the free will of the mother Maurya ,in which by the end she kneels down again the curtain falls slowly that is reffering symbolically to the submission of fate .

3.2.1 Naturalism vs Supernaturalism

Riders to the Sea as a naturalistic play was included the sea as a natural element , with its supernatural qualities though it take the lives of Mauyra's males figures. In the Aran Islands among the Irish peasants there is a strong belif in supernaturalism due to their expriences with the sea and this make supernaturalism a significant aspect of the whole tale (Hidayati 2017).

The play as a modern dramatic work captures the view of using two contradicted elements, promoting Supernaturalism within the existence of Naturalism.the supernaturalism appears in the , Supernatural vision of Maurya and its presence was experienced by Maurya; because of it took all her family males number even though, she was praying all the time . Through the play , religion was so weak against the power of the sea and Maurya's prayers can't defeat the fate of her sons. Maurya had the ability to see the supernaturalism ; she comments , " The Son of God spare us " she responds her daughter Cathleen " I seen Micheal him self " (Synge,1911,P.36).So, Micheal's riding to the gray pony was Symbolically refers to death , therefore some of the most significant supernatural phenomena in the play was Micheal's death and the ability of Maurya to see things related to the supernatural.

In the fact of that , Maurya knows every thing about the sea ; she was heeding its power more than heeding God , the words of the priest was so powerless in reassuring the mother

when, Nora, her sister responds " I won't stop him" , says he, " but let you not be afraid . Herself does be saying prayers half through the night , and the Almighty God won't leave her distitute," says he, " with no son living , Maurya responds " It's little the like of him knows of the sea " (Synge,1911,p. 38) here the one can notice that , the priest's words were weak to prevent the death of her sons and the phrase indicates Maurya's ability to see things which are strongly related to the supernatural and the mother knows more than the priest who never even seen the bandaries of the cottage.

Synge inserts his tragedy which is strongly based on myths and the peasants's heeling to the supernatural beliefs in their community . Maurya by the end get some of inner peace that the sea can't do nothing to her and can't take anything from her, because she was already dead .So by the end , we can get that , Naturalism was presented by giving life through fishing and providing the supplies of survival , while the supernaturalism was presented by taking lives and determining the free will.

3.2.3 The Aran Islands

Synge had an objective description of Naturalism , in his best known play Riders to the sea which has been stated as the best one act tragic play, through the tragic vision of life that ended with.

Synge wrote his play in a very descriptively way about Naturalism to convey his hidden message to the readers by using traditional characters , the sea, and other experssing images and things to give a better presentation and a well understanding for his short play.

The Aran Islands was the raw material and the direction that shaped Synge's play.However, according to Henn , the Aran islands are a group of three, located in the Atlantic between the coast of Galway and Clare . The land there is poor and stony , there is no timber or turf for fuel ,or grass for horses there. The storms indicates that the Islands were inaccessible for long time ,and for the lack of fishing that might bring starvation to the dwellers .

Henn here is , described the Islands which Synge recreated and depend on to produce the Darwinian relationship between the human character and nature .qtd in (Bamgbose ,2013,p.8).and how the poor land there makes the Islanders so helpless and hopeless.

3.3 The importance of the Sea

The sea as a setting and symbol has been regarded as an attractive one, in order to achieve Synge's darwinism and his naturalistic outlook. The element of the Sea might be viewed from a naturalist pointview, in which in general speaking, it represented usually as a dominator, for instance, Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, deals with its strenght with no help and no recognition. The old man muses that the sea, as a symbol for nature itself, is simultanesously beautiful and cruel because it gives life and takes it away. Accoding to this naturalistic viewpoint, In "*Riders to the Sea*", the sea's importance can be touched through its supernatural quality which determines Maurya's free will in achieving happiness, and in its invisible power in holding disasters and taking life.

The use of the sea in effective and carefully way make the play, the best one tragedy with the main character, the mother Maurya. Donoghue (1955), asserts that, the Sea in the play is the agent of the drama, to Maurya the sea is the Enemy, the distructive principle, destroyer of human and family continuity. Its agentic power represents its harshness, mirciless and ruthless with the peasants.

The power of the Sea is the universal consept in the text, in which the play illustates the agentic power of rough and a dangerous sea. To Bartley the sea was regarded as a challenge for the life supplies, riding to the sea and taking the risk, "It's the life of a young man to be going to the sea.. "(Synge, 1911,p.26). (Cathleen said). The power of the sea can be taken through its harshness in dealing with people. The dwellers depend on the sea, because it is their only meaning of survival even though it take their lives. To Maurya the sea is symbolically represent the evils of life and the destroyer of the family continuity. Vural (2017), mentioned that, the agency of the sea doesn't depend on its dualistic nature role as a life_giver and life_taker, but its power can be extended to its narrative capability as shown through Maurya's vision.

Last but not least, the tittle itself indicates the sea's agentic power and remenid us with a well known Biblical story, when the sea parted for Moses and the Israelites to walk on daries land, then, it come back when Moses stretched his staff and Pharoath drawned in the Sea with his horse riders. (Edbor,2014). Hence, The power of the sea acknowldges that the sea is a factor of life which caused the death of all Maurya's sons.

3.3.1 The Duality of the Sea

It is important to see that sea is a symbol to the life and at the same time the death trap and the destroyer of the human existence (Bamgbose,2013) , the sea through giving and taking life ; plays a dual role , In fact, the sea is a symbol to the ordeals of life and the only way of survival even though it is going to do with them harm but they can do nothing just riding to it for the journey of life.

The sea acts as giver and taker in Synge's play . It depicts the harsh environment that dominates the Irish peasants life in the Aran Islands in two opposite ways as a source of survival/ life and trauma / death . (Vural 2017 ,p.1911) . The mother Maurya sees the vision of death in the sea on account of her supernatural sense . She could do nothing to stop her sons and the father of her sons from riding to the sea for the life 's needs , because she knows that the fate of all the males members there in the Aran Islands is to ride to the sea and to face the amount of drowning in the sea .

3.3.2 The Sea as Fate

The sea in the play stands for fate , it has the power of determining the characteres's free will . The tagedy is caused by its power acting the role of fate . The people there can do nothing without the sea they depend on it in order to support their families. According to Ayhan " the sea is given as hostile figure even in the beginning but it is also the only way of survival . it could be interpreted as that the sea is killing men because they try to expend the traditions of survival by going away from their little Islands to the outer world / the big island (Ayhan,2017.p.1).In the case of bartley he chooses his fate once he decides to make coffin for his brother , he felt the need of going and taking the risk instead the fear from fate.

Ayhan in his article about the play titled ' The Sea as Fate in J.M.Synge's Riders to the Sea ' , claimed that there is a duality parallism between, the sea , Maurya , and the men of the Island . they are both givers and takers . The sea is a symbol to life and death though it do harm with the people, the men also do the same thing going to the sea, for the life's needs and then, they drawnd while helping their families and it lead to the metaphisical death of the family members as they suffer from pain and loss of too many. To Maurya she is also a giver to the effect that she gave birth to her sons and a taker because the sea causes her metaphisical death when she comments, '... for I won't live after them ' because of her suffering from the sea for long time she felt that she is going to die soon but she already dead inside .

The sea is the fate , Maurya was heeding its power more than heeding God once, she claimed that the priest knows nothing about the sea . For the priest the sea is less importance but for Maurya was the enemy and the destroyer of the human existence, and the family continuity. Maurya was powerless to stop her last son from riding to the sea and her prayers was powerless to defeat his fate.

3.4 Riders to the Sea, the Colonial Play

Riders to the Sea was regarded as a representative icon to the colonial literature therefore, Synge's nationalism plays a significant role in reviving the Celtic culture and literature and resistance against the British cultural imperialism . the sense of nationalism plays a significant role in the Irish nation for having their independence and refusing the colonial rule (Kitishat 2019) .Everything in the play indicates nationalism due to , it based on the peasantry family life and their true stories.

Synge's writing went around his political attitudes in which he quoted that " I wish to work in my way for the cause of Ireland " (Benson, P.1) qtd in (Kitishat 2019, 255) . In his finest ' Riders to the Sea' , he presented the sea as a setting for achieving the real depiction to the Irishmen 's daily life and their suffering . Synge has his own belief that Ireland had its own heritage and culture , and its folklore is so wealthy with myths and folktales . The playwright show the presence of colonialism through many symbolic pictures . Therefore, he was obsessed with the conflict between the freedom and the supernatural beliefs.

John Milington Synge , employs the use of the sea symbolically to represent it as colonizer . To Maurya , the sea is a coloniser ,that she wants to seek her independence from.Synge also use the language as a symbol to the rural people there , in which he depicted the real peasants dialect and dialogue and based on as raw material for his play .Throughout this representative pictures, Synge show the presence of the British colonialism through his play ; he presented his nationalism in reviving the Irish culture .

3.4.1 The Sea as a symbol to the Coloniser

The sea through the tragic vision of life and death , could symbolise nothing just the british rule . it has the power of giving and taking life the same as the coloniser does. It had a historical significance to the British colonialism . Ireland as colonised territory, has

suffered for long time from the Great Famine , Emigration, and the Christian faith of that empire, in other words , it brought misery and starvation to the native people there , in this light Furguson(2003) acknowlwdges that , the colonization of Ireland brought misery in its train subsistence agriculture with any surplus pocked by an alien landlords classcondemned the Irish to grinding poverty and, ultimately starvation " (Furguson 2003)

In a generally speaking, the sea is a symbol to all the enemies of life that surrounded the dwellers it's the destroyer of the human existence . Edebor asserts that " The domonance of the sea is the main theme in the play . The sea is both a provider and a destroyer it provides life and at the same time takes it" (Edebor 2014 ,p. 3).Synge uses the sea figuratively as symbol to the british colonialism and to what ever it do for the Irishmen.It was the main reason behind pain , lost, and deah ,yet it was the creator of the Great Famine instead of saving them from poverty and misery ... for instance , how many mothers loss their sons in the wars, fighting for England ; the same as Maurya's sons do fighting and struggling for survival in Darwinian nature where survival is for the fiffest only . The sea is the factor of life that claims all Maurya's sons life .

According to Sen (2015) " The sea Symbolically represent the evils of life , that surrounded the dwellers . It is the enemy, the destructive principle.." here is a strong indication to the enemies that surrounded the Island ,including the British coloniser as a symbol reffering to giving and taking life .Even the sea refer to the coloniser in doing harm with the Irish people during the centuries .

Hence , John Milington Synge's Riders to the Sea is an experience to the political impact and the colonial life among the Irish dwellers in which Edebor claimed that, " It has important political impact . It contracts the colonial view of the Irish as rather savaged . Primitive and uncultured people . The play reduces the Colonial period to an episode in the history of the Irish as it provides a picture of how the people lived down the centuries . (Edebor 2014,p.5).

Thus, , the sea in the play, is the domonator of the people's life and death just the same as the Brits's desires in dominating Ireland totally. John Millington Synge used the presence of the sea symbolically as allegory to the coloniser, in which Harte and Parker acknowledge that, " it quite common ... to find traces of allegory embedded in the fabric of recent Irish fiction. The private individual experience often becomes of illuminative metaphor of the public and national distiny" qtd in (Rien 2014). Synge's nationalism was driven by his

political attitudes ; it led to affect his individual experience about colonialism in producing his representative colonial play.

3. 4. 2 The Mother Figure as Symbol to Ireland

The existence of the mother figure in the play has shown in a great importance. Therefore," the rise of the Irish national movement at the end of the nineteenth century stimulated Irish playwrights" to draw upon their native traditions and define their country 's violent political and social upheaval (watt)" qtd in (Al Ghoriebi 2015, p. 21) . Maurya as a old mother stands for the traditional mother Ireland figure as usual presented in other Irish literay works.

Al Choriebi in her article titled ' The troubled Irish Mother Figure In JMSynge's Riders to the sea and Tom Murphy's Bailegangaire' asserts that , Synge share in the narrative of the Irish Nationalism in his democratic way instead of getting involved with revolutionary and semi_miletray movements , he focused his attention as Mathews observes " to writing plays , essays ... that treat the details of the material and cultural impoverishment of life among the most marginalized of people in remote rural Ireland . Yet she quoted that , Frawley suggests that , the particular delineation of Maurya's character enables Synge to criticize contemporary Irish culture and shed light on " the strain that results from insisting that women remain merely symbolic for a nationalist and chauvinist society(26)." (Al_ Goriebi 2015, p.21).

In the bigining of the play Synge describes , all the Irish women in which they stay at home and do their traditional house works like cooking , kneading, and spinning wheel "Cottage kitchen, with nets, oil_skins spinning wheel, " , " Cathleen , "spinning the wheel rapidly " (Synge 1911,p. 17.18) ; this picture refers to any traditional women live in the Aran Island ; Maurya through , struggling with sea has shown as a simple refers to all the women there.

So that, Synge consciously 'burlesques the nationalists Ideals for motherhood through representing,restoring and reproducing Ireland'(Harris,110) qtd in (Al_Goriebi 2015,p.22). Through the mother figure ,the playwright provide the picture of each mother living in the Aran Island and suffering from the sea.Thus, Maurya has shown as a traditional woman and given as a symbol stands for Ireland itself.

3.4.3 The Irish Symbolic Language

The language, in the nineteenth century has been recognised as the major element in De_Anglicising Ireland from the culture of the coloniser, as we know that in the eighteenth century was recognised with the English colonialism and the desire of relinquishing the mother language. The revival of the Irish nationalism by the first of the nineteenth century, was the factor who helped the rebirth of the Irish language and literature and their cultural heritage that strongly based on mythology and folklore.

As a part of sharing in the Irish literary revival, the period of encouraging the Irish literature and nationalism in Ireland, *Riders to the Sea* includes the language as symbol to the Irish people. Synge explores the Irish folklore and provides a clear vision to the ancient literature of Ireland. The play has written with the dialect of the rural Irish and it includes the stories which synge heard among the dwellers. His visit to the Aran Island affects his imagination and provides him materials for his play.

The play was remembered by two main important elements; the tragic vision of life and the distinctive language. It is the raw material, which turns out the presence of colonialism in the play. Synge express his political presence in the Gealic movement. So the play that had Synge claimed, have used each word and phrase, which he had heard among the rural inhabitants (Edebor 2014), J.M.Synge chooses the language carefully, for his knowledge that the use of the language is still available among the people of Ireland, he cares a great deal in depicting them.

Thus, Synge was regarded as one from the leaders of the Irish literary revival movement through his finest '*Riders to the Sea*' which was regarded as a creation of the movement. The play has a great importance in restoring the old Irish literature and giving a strong breath to the Gealic movement, which aimed to revive the Irishness and giving birth to the Abbey theatre through bringing back its consideration.

3.5 Conclusion

Understanding Naturalism is important to a critical analysis in *Riders to the Sea*, which contains naturalistic features. This chapter examined Naturalism through the mother figure and her struggle with the sea; which is presented as a symbol to life, death, and struggle.

This chapter take up , the importance of the sea in the play and its domoinance on the rural people in the Aran Islands , just the same as the dominance of the British rule on the Irish people during the centuries . Thus, the play is a representtive icon to the colonial literature .Therefore it dealt with the presence of colonialism .

To conclude , this chapter , has been produced to examine Naturalism in Riders to the Sea and to understand the importance of the sea as natural element and a symbol of nature in the play .

General
Conclusion

General Conculsion

J.M.Synge's *Riders to the Sea* , the one act tragic play stands for a representative icon to the colonial literature . However , by the nineteenth century , a concious literary movement has been emerged for liberating the mind from colonialism and restoring respect and pride to the Irishness .

Undoubtedly , The Irish literary revival has a great impact on the trend of the political nationalism at that time, through the resistance against colonialism for achieving the National Independence and gaining freedom from the British rule . One of most important goals of that movement was to create a National Irish Theatre , a great theatre of their own , with a language of their own . The Irish folklore was so wealthy with the stories of myths and folktales ; in which it became the raw material for producing a literature of the ancient Ireland and the life there , that's characterized by a primitive and simple conditions .

John Millington Synge was so interested in creating a play that can visualize the real facts and the harsh enviroment in the Aran Islands. Synge portrays the life style of the peasantry people, through their hard conditions of living, their struggle of existence , their stories and their beliefs in a very descriptive way ,and based on the idea of the struggle between the human character and nature. Synge presented his characters in a Darwinian environment through trapping in an oppressive situation and employed , direct connection between them,where the nature takes the shape of the sea as a kind of a symbolic element.

The play , tells the stories of lost , pain , suffering and the struggle of exixtance against the sea ,that usually holds desaster and do harm with the protagonist by taking the lives of all her family males figures. Synge refines his play to fit the deapth of the tragic livehood , likewise any tragic ancient greek play . J.M.Synge produces his play ,according to what he heard and seen during the length period of time that he spent in the Aran Islands.

Naturalism in " *Riders to the Sea*" manifest through the sea as a force of nature which reflect the most salient Naturalistic feature in the play and presented Synge's Symbolism in achieving the glance of Naturalism through its supernatural quality what make the hypothesis in the first chapter come true. To conclude , employing the use of Symbolism in a given naturalistic work such as " *Riders to the Sea*" can be so effective and powerful for the well understanding of the play .

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