

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Critique of Contemporary American Society in Twain's *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Jaya Narayan Adhikari has completed his thesis entitled “Critique of American Contemporary Society in Mark Twain’s *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from September, 2010 to June, 2011 A.D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Chapter I: Tom as a Brave Boy

The researcher's main project in the novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* is to explore the power and truth existing in the society and its impacts upon ordinary people of the society. That means the truth created by the power of culture, society and religion to bind those ordinary people and to suppress those people. Therefore, the present research relies upon new historicism developed and led by Michael Foucault, As he aims to question the traditional history. For new historicist, old (traditional) history is linear or chronological. He says that the old history is exclusive; it doesn't include everyone it rather includes only those who are already in power. This research has been undertaken by exposing the revolting nature of Tom and Huck against those existing power in the society along with it the bravery of Twain to write the history of Tom and Huck who were previously marginalized. At the same time, the researcher has minutely explored the evidences of Tom's objection and challenge to the so called civilized, educated, and powerful people of the society. He mocks and challenges those impacts on cultural, religious and social life. The objection and challenge of Tom to the traditional power is illustrated by taking help from the ideology of Foucault and other new historical and cultural critics. These theoretical tools are enough proper and helpful to disclose the real picture of the American rural areas.

The Adventure of Tom Sawyer depicts the role of property in Christian society and its bad impacts upon the ordinary people and especially upon those innocent children. It presents the cultural, social and religious power and its bad impacts especially upon the protagonist of this novel Tom, who is only around twelve or below. It tells us how one can reverse the traditional history if he or she has bravery. Tom, the protagonist of the

novel does many things throughout the novel to challenge the power and reject the power existing in the society. At last Twain allows the local newspaper to write the biography of Tom and Huck on that very paper. This is really the starting point of writing the history of marginalized and suppressed people in the society.

The Adventure of Tom Sawyer is an outcry against the oppression of the marginalized people by the social codes and conducts. The novelist takes us a ride through the society with a touch of 'The underlying truths' that the novel conveys through the adventure of a young boy. Society has power of culture, religion, family and so on. That's why; society imposes a type of truth upon the ordinary people due to its power. Religion always tries to create a boundary and culture that means materialistic trend urges the people to earn enough money by using any possible tools and to spend a luxurious life. In this society that type of truth has created a violation, anxiety, murder, domination, and so on. The anxiety and stress in the society are clearly presented here. The novel directly criticizes all the evil ideas and behavior remaining in the society that is class hierarchy, violation, domination and controlling the human fundamental rights.

Tom, the central character can't withstand such stuffy social, cultural and religious atmosphere first and always either mocks or rejects and challenges to the atmosphere. To get freedom he always runs away from his school, house and runs away from the social rules imposed by society. Most of the time either he runs from the home, school and society or plays with his friends against the rules and regulation of the society. In the society Christianity is in power, which all the time tries to keep everyone under its control. Member of church used to persuade those innocent children and ordinary people

to learn Bible and to follow all rules and regulation of the Christianity but the hero of this novel Tom and Huck always run against the church.

Undoubtedly one of the most important features all the around last quarter of nineteenth century American society was the infatuation of material pursuit that means highly money minded society with clear distinction between higher and lower class. Apart from this the issue of civilized and savaged was also the notable characteristics of the contemporary society. Twain, who doesn't bring the quality and power of those higher class, and civilized people at center but tries to highlight and make valuable to those poor, savage and so on instead of supporting to those high class, educated, civilized and powerful. Twain exposes the bad impact of that types of power upon ordinary people in the society Twain allows Tom to escape from his own house and society, it is not only being away from problems and anxiety of the society but a strong objection and challenge to the society and its code and conducts.

The Adventure of Tom Sawyer presents how environmental elements affect the Childs psychology, and shows the role of property in the Christian society along with its bad impacts upon the innocent people and children. Through the medium of Tom and Huck, the novelist presents the emerging knowledge and ability of marginalized people to reverse the traditional and old history. Tom, an innocent boy who is completely corrupted by the materialistic world along with it, he is frustrated and stressed by the Christianity. So, he formats a team of his friends to fight against the despotic ruler of society, religion, culture and so on. In this way at last he gets success in his aim and gets an opportunity to write the history of marginalized group, cast and people. Following the conceptual tenets, the present research chiefly focuses on the class hierarchy, domination, suppression, and

violation and so on existing in the society. Similarly it shows that we can be free and can overcome that type of problems.

Twain privileges the theme of struggle to get the fundamental human rights from despotic ruler in the society. Actually he found priests of church, rich people and social leaders as a despotic ruler. Similarly he evaluates how one can overcome those bondages. Twain doesn't give more emphasis to the old or traditional history and tries to uplift the history of marginalized by emplacing the works and activities of Tom and Huck. He tries to expose the real map of a society, where all the human society power less and marginalized are suppressed and dominated by powerful, who are corrupted and misled by their nature. However, his ultimate target in this novel is to show how can we rupture the hierarchy between high and low class and how can we build of peace, happiness, equality, and prosperity. Along with that we can replace hate by love, violence by peace and anarchy by democracy as another central idea of the novelist. And third one is there should be equality with in among all class people, similarly history should be written from the perspective of marginalized, these points what the novelist is trying to prove. So the researcher's project in this entire thesis has focused on the close examination of Tom, Huck and their movement to challenge and reject the established power in the society to write the history of marginalized people.

The Adventure of Tom Sawyer makes a comparison of codes, conducts and morality between so-called civilized, higher class educated people and uncivilized, lower class and uneducated people in the society. Judge Thatcher the representative of higher class and major member of church who is morally corrupted because he doesn't try to understand other's desire and rights and always imposes rules and regulations upon the

innocent villagers. Not only that he doesn't allow poor and lower class people to come at the center. On the other hand lower-class and poor people are morally good and liberal. Tom and Huck choose adventure to make aware to the authority and enough conscious to make resistance against the social tyranny. Having indulged in the world of adventure, Tom tries to rescue his self respect for nature by turning away from the restrictive codes and conducts of the society in which he lives.

Tom and Huck made an adventure in the Jackson Island where they got enough freedom, which was proper and suitable to these child then the domination of the Christian society that means their journey is to find out the world of equality, freedom and peace. From that journey they got enough ideas and knowledge, so Tom and Huck made a plan to capture the property of Injun Joe who was actually a criminal and possessed enough property by killing his friend. At last they got the property and then society started to behave them equally. That means the property is not necessary to those Child but by doing this they do make aware about the evil activities of villagers. They satirize to the evil thinking and evil behavior of high class and Christian people by pretending themselves money minded.

This shows that children are marginalized by matured, poor are marginalized by high class, savage by so-called civilized people and so on. In this way those marginalized people were always under the domination and in secondary class but in this novel Tom and Huck dare to uplift the marginalized as central people. Tom shows his knowledge and capacity more than those so-called civilized and educated people of the society. Murderer of Doctor Robinson was not found and Muff Potter was supposed as the murderer, so the church was ready to punish him without any proper inquiry but at that

time Tom as an eyewitness of incident appears at the church and reveals the reality. At the beginning of the novel Huck was neglected and rejected by all the mothers of that village. But at the end when he got enough money then he became the boy of care and infatuation for all the mothers. Here he shows his ability not less than other civilized people of the village. In this way Tom and Huck present their ability not less than civilized people to rupture the deep-rooted deception, greed, domination, inequality and chaos in the so called civilized society.

In fact, the activities and behaviors of Tom and Huck were the production of the society and time. Tom's character and behavior are natural and it is the result of misunderstanding between high class and low class along with misunderstanding between civilized and uncivilized. Those civilized and higher class people are proud, cruel, and unaware about time and situation. Here so called uncivilized, poor, lower class, and marginalized people are conveying a message to all those powerful and civilized people to sow the seed of fraternity, equality, and peace in the society. In this novel Tom feels suffocation under Christian rules and regulation, so runs away from the school, he feels suffocation under social codes and conducts, therefore frequently runs away from his home and society. Actually he left his house, society, and school not because he could not understand it but because he could not withstand that type of tyranny, inequality and violation in the society. So his main goal to do this is to challenge the conventional pattern and system and rupture the conventional norms and values of the society. However, eventually he overcame those patterns and systems of the society and became able to establish a new trend in the society. That means he established equal importance of high class and low class, civilized and uncivilized and so on.

There are many critics and reviewers to have approached the text from several view points. In this process Walter Blair in “*Discussion of Mark Twain’s The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*”, explores the Twain’s bravery to present an innocent and very young boy Tom as a protagonist of this novel.

I believe, structure on the whole quite well adapted to its purpose. My suggestion, in other words, is that Clemens’s divergence from the older patterns of Juvenile fiction and his concept of the normal history of boyhood led him to a way of characterizing, and a patterning of action which showed a boy developing towards manhood. That this was unifying theme of the story will be indicated, perhaps by a consideration the unite of narrative, the line of action in the novel. there are four of these –the story of Tom and Becky, the story of Tom and Muff Potter, the Jackson Island episode, and the series of happenings (which might be called the Injun Joe’s story) leading to the discovery of treasure. (42)

The passage above highlights the fictional quality of the novel by dramatizing the story of a young boy named Tom. Blair appreciates the normal history of marginalized. He salutes the expedition of new trend in novel writing. He presents the developing process of boyhood towards manhood as a transitional period, where Twain struggles in an averse condition of the society to establish the history of marginalized. Here we can see the history of marginalized like Tom, Becky, Muff Potter, Injun Joe, Jackson Island, St. Petersburg village and so on, which is cordially appreciated by Blair in this given above passage. None used to get chance in traditional history, if they are not in power. Powerless were not only biased from historical record but also biased from the

conventional system, codes and conducts. But Twain dared to bring those marginalized group, caste, people and places at the central part, which is cordially appreciated by Blair in this above passage.

In the same way another critic Don Borchert takes *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* as a story of Tom, who is growing up in St. Petersburg, along the Mississippi river. He takes this novel as a best platform to be experimented mechanically. So it is best novel for him:

The Adventure of tom Sawyer by Mark Twain is about a young boy growing up in a small town along the Mississippi River. It's also the latest novel to be zombified. I have amazed so many mash ups of classical literature and zombie fiction that if future archeologists ever found my collection [. . .] well, the historians would have a field day with the discovery [. . .] probably the psychologists too. Some novels hybrids are just the original with zombies jammed in, while others offer a spectacular blending of genres. (87)

Borchert illustrates novel as story of an ordinary and mischievous boy growing up in a small town. He also sees this novel to be appropriate for tagging it as a zombie fiction. Since he has already included it in the collection of zombie fiction, he seems to have been proud of seeing its worth, when it is used by historians. Borchert found very much lively action raised by Twain about a marginalized boy and place in the contemporary American history. Borchert found, the story of Tom as zombie fiction.

Similarly another critic Peter Messent in his book *Discipline and Punishment in The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* talks about the punishment given to the young boy Tom.

He also found it as a fictionalization of historical event in this novel. He forwards his ideas:

I was all over welt. It is the prevalence of such punishment and attempted punishments, in Tom Sawyer's young life that provides the starting –point for my present analysis of childhood discipline and its fictional representation in *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* (1876). For to focus on the different type of punishment tom under goes, the supervisory control which are placed over him and the way he response to them, is to suggest a reading of Twain's novel as illustrative both of the changing forms of domestic discipline being introduced in America in the spaces in which that discipline function. (30)

According to this passage those punishments and tension imposed by Christian society upon the protagonist Tom, provides the striking point or striking capacity to the protagonist to struggle in this complex society. Christianity, family and culture had given him excessive punishment. Peter Messent found those punishments as a resource for Tom to fight against it. That type of punishment creates no violation but an inspiration to the protagonist of this novel. By this inspiration he got proper roadmap to defeat the cruelty existing to the society.

In the same way, another renowned critic and writer William Dean Howells takes the novel as a very dramatic story of a marginalized boy whose mind is full of anger and frustration against the evil nature of that very society.

The story is a wonderful story of a boy mind, which in habits a world quite distinct from that in which he is bodily present with his elders and this lies

its great charm and its universality, for boy nature, however human nature varies is the same every where. The tale is very dramatically wrought and the subordinate characteristics are treated with the same graphic force that said Tom alive before us. The worthless vagabond, Huck Finn, is entirely delightful throughout and in his promised reform his identity is respected; He will lead a decent life in order that he may one day be thought worthy to become a member of that gang of robbers which Tom is to organize.

(107)

In the passage above William Dean Howells shows the Child psychology and Child imaginary world. He found the world of child completely different and natural. Tom is struggling among those elders to be mature and perfect that means struggling to understand the evils and good conduct of the society. The passage above also hints the possibility of Huck keeping a way of decent from where he is brought in to the sphere of civilizing mission by the people of society. He wants to involve in a gang to sweep the evil nature, code and conduct of the Christian society. The given above passage ends with the thinking of Huck to involve in a gang that means he wants to reject and challenge the Christian (civilized) code and conduct. He cannot get happiness and pleasurable life under someone's control and realized that the value of peace, freedom and self respect to live happily.

Apart from the perspective of above mentioned critics, the present research brings the major character Tom at the center of the study by focusing the effect of environment along with code, conduct, rules and values of the society in his innocent mind. The present research tries to show all those marginalized and suppressed group, class, people

and place at the main stream. The research has presented the protagonist of this novel Tom as an insurgent to rupture all types of domination, suppression and hierarchy. The adventure which he undergoes paves the way for planning and a type of strength to rupture the deep rooted dogma in the Christian society. He wants to dispose the cruelty, hierarchy, domination, greediness and inequality remaining in the society. For him society, church and his own house is not different, all of those institutes are poisonous snake to kill the internal quality of all the human being.

The knowledge about the natural world is achieved only after perseverance and suffering. He found this world as a combination of good and bad quality. At last he got a conclusion that rules or power free society and place are better than that those rules bounded society. Similarly he found those powerless, poor and uncivilized people in a miserable condition. All of those rich powerful and so-called civilized people are indulging in the pain and difficulty of those marginalized people. As he became able to understand what is good and bad, right and wrong and moral and immoral, at that time he found so-called morel people as immoral, civilized people as uncivilized and rich people as poor due to their poor thinking and heart.

He couldn't stay in this society closing his eyes, so he determined to uplift the condition of poor, uneducated and uncivilized people in the society. So he started to challenge those existing power in this society. Not only that even he started to expose the evil ideas and conducts of the authority. He started to reject the authority and escaped from school and church. He challenged and mocked the materialist society and made a plan to capture the treasure. He wanted to capture the property not to be rich and powerful like other but by doing this he is mocking the code and conduct and power of

rich people in the society. He has seemed hierarchy between rich and poor people; by capturing the treasure he got success to rupture the hierarchy between higher and lower class. After that even those high class people started to treat all the people (poor, uneducated, uncivilized and so on) equally. In this way at last he got success to write his biography in a local newspaper. That means he creates new history of marginalized people and place. Hence the present research illustrates Tom's bravery to bring equality in the society. The research has given more preference to the revolutionary but peaceful activities of the protagonist in this novel. The research simply shows the ability of a boy to uproot and rupture the dogma in the Christian society. The researcher has given more value to the task and activities of poor, so called uncivilized and ordinary people of the society instead of those powerful.

Chapter II: Establishment of Marginalized history in Twain's *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*

The present research tries to prove the omnipresent nature of power. Similarly the research clearly answered to the question, how can one overcome the evil nature of the power to establish equality, fraternity, and unity in a society? Eventually the protagonist of the novel Tom got success in his goal and became able to establish equality, and unity in the society. Tom the marginalized boy in the society reverses the traditional trend of history and writes the history from the perspective of marginalized. About power and history Foucault the pioneer of new historicism defines in his book *History* that is:

(P)ower's condition of possibility [. . .] must not be sought in the primary existence of a central point, in a unique source of sovereignty from which secondary and descendent form would emanate; it is the moving substrate of force relation which by virtue of their in equality, constantly engender states of power, but the latter are always local and unstable. (*History* 1 93)

Moreover, for new historicists, old (Traditional) history is linear or chronological. It says that the old history is exclusive, it does not include every one, and it rather includes only those who are already in power. *Adventure of Tom's Sawyer* tries to present the actual and true history of marginal people, events and place. In the given above passage Foucault makes clear that the power is pervasive that occurs in all social bodies. Therefore, power is occurring in society in a subtle way and Foucault questions the traditional history. New historicism says that truth is constructed, fabricated and created. When power changes, the knowledge changes and truth also changes, Foucault saw power not simply as a repressive force or tool of conspiracy but as a complex of forces

that produces what happens in a society. It is not wielded by somebody because he himself is caught and empowered by certain discourse and practices that constitute power. Truth changes when power changes, so is explained in Twain's novel when Tom and Huck became powerful and wealthy, their earlier identity is completely changed and villagers regard them like king and god but earlier they were like nonsense and uncivilized in the eyes of villagers.

Foucault's concern with the productivity of power as his notion that power is all pervasive also deserves equal weight. Power seen in this light, is about two parties we are involved in its exercise and such exercise in power relation produces effect on the object, concept and the structure of institution which play vital role in the circulation of power in its modern forms. Practices with such power relation generate knowledge regarding various components including human being of the social structure. He strongly defends this point in discipline and punish as he says "we must cease once and for all to describe the effect of power in negative terms; it excludes, it repress, it censors, it abstracts, it masks, it conceals. In fact power produces, it produces reality, it produces domain of objects and rituals of truth" (194). In this novel also Twain presents power relation between rich and poor, city and village, Christian and general people and civilized and uncivilized. Rich, Christian and educated people enjoy the power position, by constructing discourse and marginalized poor and uneducated. They create truth to dominate poor and uneducated people.

New historicism advocates for the more authentic history considering that old history carries only a particular truth, the truth that suits the ideology of ruling body those who are in power. Twain's novel tries to speak for the more authentic history of rural,

poor and uneducated people of America. Twain's *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* advocates for the empowerment of poor, uneducated, non Christian and all marginalized people in American society around last quarter of 19th century by reconstructing the deteriorated past of marginalized people. The western civilization always desired and manipulated marginalized people's history in their monomaniacal way so as to subjugate their identity and thwart their potentiality. Black, poor, uneducated and rural areas people and their history never got upper hand because of Christian, wealthy, white and urban area people's strategic ideology to suppress marginalized people by all means socially, politically, economically, culturally, religiously and so on. As in words of Foucault, no discourse is permanent and power circulates in all direction, Twain theorizes his concept that even the most suppressed race will come at the center. The marginalized cast, group or race certainly will come at the main stream devastating all walls of domination.

It is the culture (materialistic trend) and religion (Christianity) of the dominant social class that determine how people see human existence, individual and collective. For new historicist, social reality is a distinct background out of which literature arises or in to which it blends and has a definite shape. As new historicist literature, *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* tends to look power suppression, hierarchy and contradiction within the particular society such struggles come out from the deep –rotted class discrimination, racial segregation, inequality, injustice, oppression, violence, hypocrisy and adverse restriction prevalent on the frontier against this background social and historical the novel unfolds the growing American conscience symbolized by Huck and the great struggle of the marginalized people symbolized by Tom. The stuffy social atmosphere makes them

fight for equality and freedom. It is true that every work reflects to some degree the age of its composition and thus the conditions of society.

He comes to see how the real world is harassed by conflicting human impulse resulting violence, death, betrayal, domination, and greed. He begins to see the world in its true and naked form. Tyrant and dictators make an emotional use of such catch-words as God, heaven, hell and morality in order to keep people under their control and it is Tom who can't withstand such abuse of the society. He is ready to suffer in hell than to bottle up his passion for freedom and individually. Restriction upon the fundamental human rights i.e. freedom is a great in that destructs the norms and ethics of society and because of this man can't live peacefully. The liberation of man doesn't approach at once. It is not easy to achieve and going against the restriction does not always assure the successful condition. Tom is certainly confident of the transformation of society, but he doesn't believe in immediate redemption. Put in other words, Tom's enthusiasm for adventure symbolizes his search for freedom that is cultural, social, physical and psychological freedom. Tom's conscience is simply the attitudes he has taken over from his society, family and culture. What is still sound in him is an impulse from the deeper level of his personality that struggles against the undervaluation imposed on individuals of the society in the name of morality, religion and refinement. Tom, Huck and other friends begin their journey to the Jackson Island on the positive declaration of escape from the domination of culture, family society and religion.

The novelist seems to make the distinction of the code, conduct and conditions between two; so called civilized and uncivilized, rich and poor and city and rural areas people. Conflict between these two forces of people builds up the central focus of the

novel. So called civilized world is characterized by the fact that the society in which people should be in order and morally unified followed by rules and regulation. These two forces stand side by side as opposite forces. The first force trips to have control over the second and it is second that can't stand the rules imposed on them. Tom can't endure the restriction made by the so called civilized world. He loves the majesty of human freedom and takes adventure for freedom as the only surest means exploring him. That's why we can say that he is a democratic person, who loves freedom and equality in every field. Similarly the novel presents the glimpse of slavery but in a modest way. Jim a black boy, who works for Aunt Polly is like a machine to do everything, however does not get enough freedom and respect in his life. The proper glimpse of his life is carried by the following passage:

Bringing water from the town pump had always been hateful work in Tom's eyes before. But now it did not strike him so. He remembered that there was company at the pump. White, mulatto, and Negro boys and girls were always there waiting their turns [. . .] although the pump was only a hundred and fifty yard off, Jim never got back with a bucket of water under an hour-and even then somebody generally had to go after him. (10)

The above passage simply shows the miserable condition of black worker. Jim is a house worker who works for Aunt Polly. Although the book does not say Jim is clearly servant most likely a slave, he does most of the work around the house. Here Aunt Polly is representative figure of white and powerful people in the society; so he is compelled to do everything though not getting proper treatment and respect in the society.

Lois Tyson in his book *The Critical Theory Today* simply says "power does not emanate only from the top of the political socioeconomic structure" (284). That means power is everywhere and dominates all the things and creates different types of truth which lead the people and society according to that very truth. Twain's *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* tries to present these features before the readers and illustrates the miserable and pathetic condition of poor, freedom lover, young and rural area's people by the domination of the power of socio economical, cultural, religious etc. in a particular society of southern America around last quarter of 19th century . This novel discloses the real picture of the southern American rural area by dramatizing the story of Tom, a young boy nearly of twelve, a mischievous and adventurous boy.

The novel depicts the freedom loving spirit of the children which is the important feature of human nature. People are involving in the robbery, cheating, killing, escaping from the family and society etc. which are the real impacts of the then industrial and progressive American society. Children are running after the wealth, rejecting and mocking the social convention and seeking the freedom which is free from any external convention of culture, custom, religion, and society.

Literature is simply one of many kinds of text: religion, philosophical, legal, and political and so on. All of which are subject to the particular conditions of time and place. New historicist views that literature can't be independent of economic, social, and political conditions, as stated by Abrams:

A literary text, said by new historicists, is to be "embedded" in its context, as interactive components with in which the network of institution, belief,

and cultural power - relations, practices and product that in their ensemble, constitute what we call history. (250)

The setting of the novel, condition of the characters, presentation and the incidents are showing the mildness and rusticity of the place. Presentation of Mississippi River and Jackson Island are the images of life affirming force, which are associated with human nature and freedom. An individual's nature is mild and powerful just like river and mysterious and inventive like island. But the existing power in the society demolishes the freedom loving desire and individual's rights. In this novel Christianity, money, priests, mature people etc are epitome of power existing in the society. The whole story is completely driven by these powers and the protagonist of the novel Tom a young boy is haunted by this kind of power.

Two thousand verses are a great many –very-very great many. And you never can be sorry for the trouble you took to learn them, for knowledge is worth more than anything there is in the world it's what makes great men and good men; you will be a great man and a good man yourself someday, Thomas, and then you will look back and say, 'It's all owing to the precious Sunday school privileges of my boyhood -it's all owing to my dear teachers that taught me to learn it's all owing to my dear teachers that taught me to learn—it's allowing to the good superintendent, who encouraged me, and watched over me, and gave me a beautiful bible -a splendid elegant bible- to keep and have it all for my own, always –it's all owing to right bringing up ! That is what you will say Thomas. (32)

Walters a major member of the church is persuading Tom Sawyer to read the Bible and learn the verses. Walters is ascribing the so called truth launched by Christianity upon the innocent boy. Tom is neither completely heterodox nor completely orthodox; however he wants to exit from that chain of blind faith upon Christianity. But those powerful people or religious priests or members of church are encouraging Tom to follow the rules and regulation of Christianity to make his life good and prosperous. At Sunday school, Tom trades other boys for tickets that will earn him a free Bible. To actually earn the Bible, children must collect tickets by learning two thousand Bible verses. Though he has enough tickets he was unknown about verses, however, Tom proudly claims his Bible in front of everyone. Then Tom was asked to recite the verses.

Mary took his book to hear him recite, and he tried to find his way through the fog:

"Blessed are the-a-a-"

"poor---

"yes- Poor, blessed are the poor -a-a-"

"In sprit -"

"in sprit; blessed are the poor in sprit, for they -they -"

"theirs -"

"for theirs. Blessed are the poor in sprit,

theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed

are they that mourn, for they -they -"

"Sh -"

"for they-a-"

"S, H, A-"

"For they S, H-oh, I don't know what it is!"

"Shall!" (23)

Tom is stammering to recite the verses of Bible. Here Tom is not much hungry to get Bible but he has more appetite to mock and reject the rules and regulation imposed by religion that means power of Christianity. At the church he entertains himself by playing with a pinch bug, which bites a dog and causes a huge disruption. He is making fun to the church instead of learning verses.

Foucault talks about power. Power, according to him is a creative source for positive value, and is practiced hegemonically. It is not hierarchical following from top to bottom and is not used vertically to dominate the 'other' 'forkfuls power doesn't adhere to the repressive hypothesis that sees power Foucault's in the form of chin which localizes it in a few hands. Power for him is not just the ruthless domination of the weak by the stronger. This idea is akin to Nietzsche who says that power is not to be "had" at all. In *History of Sexuality (Volume, I)* Foucault writes about the all pervasive nature of power:

Power is every were: not because it embraces everything but because it comes from everywhere [. . .] power comes from below; that is there is no binary and all encompassing opposition between ruler and ruled at the root of power relations and serving as a general metric –no such duality extending from the top to down and reacting on more and more limited groups to the very depths of the social body. (93-4)

From this it becomes clear that Foucault's main project was to turn the negative conception of power upside down. Foucault saw power not

simply as a repressive force or tool of conspiracy but also complex forces that produces what happens in a society. So is found in Twain's novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* when we see the murder made by the villain of the book Injun Joe to steal the money from a grave he kills his close friend and accused it to his another friend who was full of drunk. This is not an accident but an influence from the economically wealthy and prosperous urban people. They are money minded and living luxurious life. So that type of living standard and blind faith upon money creates that type of unbelievable incident in a rural area.

The story of the novel flows with the excessive value of money. Almost all the characters are running after the money. The protagonist Tom and his team of boys are following the Injun Joe and the place of property inhumed by Joe. They are making many plans to find out the money.

“Have you got one of them papers Tom?”

“No”

“Well, then, how you going to find the marks?”

“I don't want any marks. They always bury it under a hinted house or on an island or under a dead tree that's got one limb sticking out. Well we have tried Jacksons Island a little and we can try it again sometimes and there the old hinted house up the still -house branch and there lots of dead -limb trees-dead loads of “em”. (157-8)

To capture the property of Injury Joy, Tom and his friends are making a plan and sharing ideas about tentative place where might be the property inhumed. The passage

above also imparts the puerility perfect knowledge about searching something deeply and conscious plan to do something. If there was no money in their mind they couldn't ruminate the plan. Their innocent mind is completely roosted by money so they are doing risky and dangerous activities to capture the property and to be wealthy and prosperous to spend luxurious life. Actually the rural areas of America not developed enough and prosperous in that time but other urban and city areas were climbing the ladder of industries, capitalism and development etc. And those wealthy and prosperous people were not treating other poor and rural people equally. So that type of negative image of wealthy and urban people spreads its effect not only upon mature people but also upon those all poor, rural areas, young and innocent children. According to Clifford Geertz an interpreter of culture and history, the function of culture is to impose meaning on the world and make it understandable. In this regard Geertz in his book *Symbolic Anthropology* focuses on culture which he defines as historically transmitted pattern of meaning embodied in symbolic a system of inherited conception expressed in symbolic forms by means of which men communicate perpetuate, and develop their knowledge about and attitudes towards life. (89)

He feels that culture is a system of signs and codes that govern behavior and allows different individual to communicate. In his work Geertz, focuses on specific cultural practices. In his various researches he finds individual events, performances, and practices are dominated and developed by "local knowledge" of the specific occurrence rather than a global knowledge of the culture as a whole. In this novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* also the events, actions, ideas and characters are dominated and developed according to the ideology of specific local cultural knowledge of Christianity and

materialism. And Tom the central character of this novel, who is frustrated and boarded by the Christianity, all the time, thinks either how to escape from that very society and culture or how to capture the property of Injun Joe to be free, happy and to spend luxurious life. His innocent mind is completely corrupted by the then society and its norms, culture, religion etc. So he is bored to go to the school which imposes the knowledge about Christianity and he doesn't like to live with his villagers. Therefore he with his team made a plan to escape from that very society and reached on the Jackson Island. *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* shows that the ideas of society can greatly influence and sometimes the individual must break off from the accepted values of society to determine the ultimate truth for him-self.

“Its nuts!” said Tom “what would the boys

say if they could see us?

“Say? Well, they’d just die to be here-hey,Hucky!”

“I reckon so,” said Huckleberry! “Anyways I’m suited.

I don’t want nothing better and this. I don’t ever get

enough to eat generally –and here they can’t come

and pick at a feller and bullyrag him so.”

it’s just the life for me, said Tom”. You don’t have

to get up, morning and you don’t have to go to school,

and wash, and all that foolishness.” (92)

The given passage simply discloses the intention of those children of rural and a poor then American society. The passage reveals the freedom loving nature of child along with frustration with social values, norms and bondages. Here they are indulging in Jackson

Island, where they are completely free and far from the control of power existing in the society. They are sharing their happiness each other. Now they need not to go to school, wake up early in the morning and need not to be clean and clear to go to church and to remain in the society. Tom, Huck and Joe Harper make the journey to the Jackson Island, just to escape from the double standard of the society which they cannot withstand. When they shelter themselves on the island, for more than six days, they pass care free life as they could smoke pipes, remain unkept and talk about anything in any ways they like. The society has the power to control Jim's freedom from slavery, Huck's freedom from civilization and Tom's freedom from society's restrictions in that time. In this connection in *Discipline and Punish*, Foucault discusses the prison system and the authority illustrated there as a form of power that could be represented by family, religion, state laws, society and work (28).

That means culture and religion are dangerous for the freedom and the existence of subaltern. For Tom and his friend, society and religion are as same as prison; Nether religion could give them proper education and neither proper track nor it could understand the nature of those children, poor and marginalized people. Always it trapped those subalterns under its foot. For most people the term culture means knowledge and belief of art, morals, law, customs, or ideas that allow a man to successfully live in the society. But in this novel culture and religion are as cruel as giant where, those innocent children, poor, rural area's people and marginalized people who are compelled to live from hand to mouth and want to be as free as wind from that types of religious, cultural, and social power. In this connection once again M.H. Abrams forwards similar remarks:

A text whether literary or historical is discourse which; although it may seem to present, or reflect, an eternal reality, in fact consists of what are called representation –that is verbal formations which are the” ideological products” or “cultural constructs” of a particular era and that these cultural and ideological representation in text serve mainly to reproduce, confirm, and propagate the power structure of domination and subordination which characterized a given society. (249)

The novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* was written in the last quarter of nineteenth century. At that era in American history, rapid economic development, population growth was highly emerging. This very era was given a name of “Gilded Age” by Mark Twain and C.D. Warner. The name refers to the process of gilding an object with a superficial layer of gold and is meant to make fun of ostentatious display while playing on the term “Golden Age”. Actually this period was the initial phase in American history, with real wages, wealth, GDP, and capital formation all increasing rapidly. So, American people used to regard then situation golden age but almost all the impact of progress and development was seen only in urban and city areas, beyond these areas people were in miserable condition, they are compelled to live from hand to mouth. And these remote areas are completely dominated and affected by the progress of urban area but in negative way. Actual effect of this era upon poor and rural people is found in the crime of Injun Joe to capture the property and proper consciousness of Tom and his friends about money ,who are only below than teen age.

“say, Huck, if we find a treasure here,
what you going to do with your share?”

“well, I’ll have pie and a glass of soda everyday,
and I will go the every circus that comes along.

I’ll bet I’ll have a gay time.”

“Well, ain’t you going to save any of it?”

“save it? What for?”

“why, so as to have something to live on, by and by.”

“Oh, that ain’t any use. Pap would come back to

this year town some day and I tell you he’d clean it out pretty quick.

What you going to do with yourn, tom?”

“I’m going to buy a new drum, and asure –‘nough sword, and a red
neck tie, and abull pup, and get married.”(159)

In this above passage Tom and Huck are talking about the use of money and its importance in their life. The plan in this conversation is just tentative because they are going to search the property but not found yet. They are enough conscious to keep their plan and ideas about the property secretly. Huck is not only suffering from society, culture, religion and materialistic ideology but also from his father who is drunkard and beats him, nags him and neglects him. So Huck is fearful with his father to save money. Both of them are making a luxurious and splendid plan after being wealthy. The novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* is an archetype of the contemporary American rural and marginal life and society. The village on the Missouri bank of the Mississippi River itself is marginalized from the developed and so called civilized American society. Huck, one of the major characters and a proper representative of rural American society, himself is

marginalized from religion culture and society of the then America. No one is paying attention to him only Tom and Joe Harper are with and for him. Tom, Joe Harper and Huck are marginalized from the society not only because they are neglected from the society but because their feeling, interest, ideas and fundamental rights are neglected and captured by the society. In this connection Lois Tyson in his book *Critical Theory Today* mentions:

The literary text is its self, part of the inter play of discourse, a thread in the dynamic web of social meaning .for New historicism, the literary text and the historical situation from which it emerged are equally important because text (the literary work) and context (the historical conditions that produced it) are mutually constitutive; they create each other like the dynamic inter play between individual identity and social, literary text Shape and are shaped by their historical contexts (288-89).

In fact, a focus on the historical narratives of marginalized people has been such an important feature of this book in the above mention passage also Lois Tyson simply describes, what is the relation between literary text and society or history. Similarly history or society helps to shape the identity of individual. Judge Thatcher, Mr. Walter, Aunt Polly and Widow Douglas are typical characters of that society whose life is purely shaped and led by than society, religion and culture. So they all the time try to impose the ideology and values of Christianity and culture (materialism) upon all the innocent villagers.

Tom fancies to have found treasure in the uninhabited land and seems to be curious about going far from the place he is living in. Because of his individualistic and

freedom loving nature, he often falls in emotional conflict with his aunt Polly. At that time she tries to bottle up his passions by imposing him to go to school, to learn to in civilized manner and to go to church every Sunday for prayer and social purgation.

Tom intends not to make any consonance with the social order and conventional value, system and his revolting nature can be seen in the pretension he makes before his aunt so that he wouldn't have to go to school. His aunt asks him:

What's the matter with you, child?

Oh, auntie, sore toes mortified!

The old lady sank down in to a chair and laughed a

Little, than cried a little and kid both together.

This restored her and she said: Tom, what a turn

You did give me. Now you shut up that nonsense

and climb out of this. The groans ceased, and the

pain vanished from the toe . The boy felt a little

Foolish, and he said: I never minded my tooth at

all". (33)

For Tom, Monday is the miserable day because it is the beginning of another school day for the whole single week. Here, Tom is pretending to be sick because he is not willing to go to school. He is not willing to go to school simply because it is rule – bounded and it is imposing its readymade truth and ideology, as a child and free human being he wants to pass his life according to his desire and a care free life. Tom often feels uneasy when he finds his aunt boring his free impulses by imposing civilized criteria.

When Tom steals a bottle of jam and hides, it is Polly who finds and strictly asks him to refine his manners and to be a morally good boy:

“Tom!”

There was a slight behind her, and she turned
In time to seize a small boy by the slack of
His roundabout and arrest his flight. What you been
Doing in there?

“Nothing.”

“Nothing! Look at your hands, and look at your mouth.
What is that truck?”

“I don’t know .Its jam, that’s what it is. Forty times I’ve
Said you didn’t let that jam alone I’d skin you.
Hand me that switch.”

The switch hovered in the air. The peril was desperate. (5)

Tom finds unable to bottle up his desire of having jam. He can’t go against his desire because of human nature which stands at odds with the social normativity. Aunt Polly stands here as a power and rules who tries to bind a child under her control. She governs the boy who is a very minor and marginal part of her family. Polly uses Tom as a suitable boy upon whom these values and morals could be imposed.

Through Tom, Twain is able to express the objection, protest and negative attitude towards the excessive domination, bondage and suppression of the society, religion, culture and family itself to the individual. Although the consistent theme of the novel is

adventure, but his adventure is not just for pleasure and adventure for adventure sake but for escaping from the rule bounded society and family.

Hazard Adams in his bulky volume *Critical Theory Since Plato* forwards his ideas about power and truth “How power diffuses itself in system of authority and how effect of truth are produced within discourse which in themselves are neither true nor false. Truth itself is a product of power relation and of the system in which it flows and it changes as system change.” (1134) the control of Aunt Polly to Tom itself is a power. Here power is defusing everywhere in the family, society, religion, culture etc. And they spread their rules and system as a wave in every minor sector of the society and family. Every activities of tom is watched and controlled by Aunt Polly. If he goes to play without any information to his Aunt he will get punishment. Once when he went outside to play with his friends without any permission by his aunt, he got punishment to whitewash their entire fence, which was very large and big for that very small boy. In this way every authority of system imposes its system, rules and power upon all the marginal and minor part of the society. So Tom desired to escape from that type of power holder authorities by challenging to the power and its dominating nature.

died Gradually their talk out and drowsiness began to steal upon the eyelids of the little waifs. The pipe dropped from the fingers of the Red Handed, and he slept the sleep of the conscious-free and the weary. The terror of the seas and the black Avenger of the Spanish Main had more difficult in getting to sleep. They said their prayers inwardly, and lying down, since there was nobody there

with authority to make them kneel and recite aloud. (94)

The novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* is not only a geographical journey but a challenge and rejection to the authority of their society. The above passage simply describes the situation in the Island where Tom and his two other friends are indulging in freedom and being far from the rules and system of the society. They are sharing their fear and happiness at a same time. They are happy because no person from the side of authority is there to make them kneel and to recite the verses. So they are feeling free beyond the access of authority. This indulgence of Tom and his friends in the illusive world shows their strong desire to achieve freedom and desire to defeat the power. They were all the time encouraged by the society, religion and their family to be good, clean and civilized that means to run according to their system and truth. But here in the isolate Island they experiment to smoke cigarette and sleep and play where ever they like, which is completely against the authority.

Shortly Tom came upon the juvenile parish of the village, Huckleberry Finn, son of the town drunkard.

Huckleberry was cordially hated and dreaded by all the mother of the town , because he was idle and lawless and vulgar and bad and because all their children admired him so and delighted in his forbidden society and wished they dared to be like him. Tom was like the rest of the respectable boys, in that he envied Huckleberry his gaudy outcast condition and was under strict orders not to play with him. So he played with him every time he got a chance. (42)

The passage above shows the miserable condition of the child Huckleberry Fin, who is not getting proper and good behavior from the society. His behavior is forbidden by the society. Huck is completely neglected from the society and his own family as well. He can't run according to the system of the society, so all the mother and so called civilized people of the society reject him and his activities. However Tom and other children of the society like him always want to play with him and remain with him. If anyone get those children playing with him (Huck) they surely punish those children. Tom, who is a rebellious boy challenged the society and its system and played with Huck. None is interested to adopt the system and norms of the social authority; however they are imposing their ideology and system upon the powerless and marginalized people. Neither the Christian civilization and culture could make those children good and civilized nor allowed them to fulfill their desire. The culture and religion corrupted the innocent mind of child. Here we can see the blind faith of matured and so called civilized people.

The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms defines a new historical idea that clearly presents the value of context and history to exist literary work and other writing, it forwards the notion that:

Work of literature both influence and are influenced by historical reality and they share a belief in preferentiality, that is, a belief that literature both refers and is referred by things outside itself .they are also less fact and event oriented then historical critics used to be, perhaps because they have come to wonder whether the truth about what really happen can never be purely and objectively known. (Murfin and Ray 239-40)

Literary texts are cultural artifacts which paint the contemporary spirit of the time with the color of writing's ideology. Writing of any texts are not aesthetic rather they are cultural, political and ideological necessity that help to prolong the dominant world view prevalent in society. The novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* is also not only the aesthetic text but it is the text born out of the cultural and ideological necessity that help to prolong the dominant world view prevalent in the society. At the contemporary era American economic development, industrialism was blooming but only in urban and limited areas and almost all the remote areas were fully suffering from its negative effect. Likewise Twain simply depicts the bad impact of capitalism or materialism in rural society in contemporary American society. Twain presents the bad track adopted by Injun Joe, Dr. Robinson and Muff Potter to earn enough money. They are criminal who steal bodies from the grave. The men argue. Muff Potter is knocked out and Injun Joe murders Dr. Robinson. Muff potter was actually drunk a lot, when he awakes, Injun Joe tells him that he, not Injun Joe murdered the doctor. Injun Joe is being an evil criminal not by his inner interest and desire but by the education given by the then culture that means economic growth in city and urban area along with their enough property, luxurious and standard lifestyle, which taught him to be wealthy very soon.

A prominent new historicist H. Aram Veesar says "New Historicism has struck down the doctrine of non – interference that forbade humanists to intrude on questions of politics, power, indeed on all matters that deeply affects people's practical lives" in his essay "New Historism"(IX). New Historicists employ the notion of discourse in order to detect the culture of a specific historical moment and certain patterns which are repeated throughout it in varying forms ranging from political, ideological and social practices to

particular works of art and literature. The meaning of literary text is seen to be embedded in a web of discursive formations which gave its meaning.

New historicists do not believe on the impossibility of objective analysis. Like all human beings, historians live in a particular time and place and their views of both current and past events are influenced in innumerable conscious and unconscious ways by their own experience with in their own culture. In this novel Mark Twain clearly and strongly presents the wealth (Materialism) as used to culture in the contemporary society. He forwards how that very culture corrupts the general human being and innocent mind of the people. That very culture can't spread the positive impact over all the human beings. In this novel we can see excessive value of religion and money. Similarly the novel presents the true domination of the power of money, and its negative effects in society. The infatuation of material pursuit within among the contemporary American people can be seen not only in the mind of matured people and in their cod and conduct but also the child psyche is affected by such materialistic trends, which is clearly presented in this novel.

“I bet there’s been pirates on this island before
 boys. We’ll explore it again. They’ve hid
 treasures here somewhere. How’d you feel
 to light on a rotten chest full of gold and
 silver – hey? (108)

The above passage simply shows the infatuation of wealth within among the small children. They got freedom when they left their home and family, now they are in the Jackson Island where they are indulging themselves being physically free and boundless

but one thing can't leave their mind that is money. In this island they found some indication of pirates so they are thinking that there should be inhumed money. So Tom encouraged his friends to search that treasure. Twain is a very conscious novelist, who relates his work with historical condition and shows its impacts on literary writing by presenting the superiority of religion, and culture (Materialism) which are dominant power of contemporary American society. In this connection we can see another scene that is:

He said under the cross. Well, this comes nearest to being under the cross. It can't be under the rock itself, because that sets solid on the ground. They searched every where once more and then sat down discouraged. Huck could suggest nothing. By and by Tom said "Looky- here, Huck, there is foot print and some candle grease on the clay about one side of this rock, but not on the other sides. Now, what's that for? I bet you the money is under the rock. I'm going to dig in the clay." (218)

The passage given above contains another scene of craze for money. Tom and Huck are inside a cave named Mc Douglas a huge maze like cave near St. Petersburg, where they are searching the proper place of treasure kept by Injun Joe, whom they found inside this cave sometimes before. They did many more struggles to find out the property captured by Injun Joe. At last they got a potentiality of treasure inhumed in this cave. They are more happy and paying more attention to find out the treasure. In these both

passage we can see the impact of cultural power over innocent villagers. In this connection Clifford Geertz once again forwards his ideas about culture and its effects

Culture is the medium of semiosis, “A set of control mechanisms-plans, recipes, instructions—for the governing of behavior.” (*Cultures*-44)

Here, Geertz simply equalized the cultural power with political power which all the time dominates the human beings with its charm, norms, sweet cover etc. In this novel also Twain presents the control and domination of cultural power. That very cultural power is here materialistic power (Money) which all the time controls and keeps human beings under its foot. In *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*, Twain develops the plot in to Tom, Huck and Joe Harper’s adventure allowing him to weave in his criticism of society. These three main characters, Tom, Huck and Joe run from the social injustice and they are challenging to the so called civilized society. They run from the society not only to be free but to earn enough money because the culture existing in the society badly corrupted their innocent mind and leads them to do everything to earn money. Similarly once again Geertz adds:

A system of codes regulates practices, and artifacts to which the word culture is often loosely applied. Concept of culture, in which human action in the world is to be understudied as mediated by the cultural design, which gives order at once to practical experience, customary practices and the relationship between the two. (*Culture* 55)

Geertz’s main focus is on the culture which not an only determines and designs the way and concept of human being but also controls and dominates human being. His above passage clearly expose the domination and control of the cultural power as a political and

other central power. That's why; he used a world order to define the cultural design in the society. Like his idea in this novel Twain also clearly exposes the concept and conduct design, control and order by culture (Materialistic concept). We should not forget that culture not all the time leads and designs our life in a positive way. Culture imposes more negative and bad ideas in the society. The novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* shows the real nature and a power of culture by showing the money minded children in this novel in St. Petersburg village. Twain satirizes to the evil ideology and conduct of contemporary American society and materialist culture. The satire that twain uses to expose the hypocrisy, greediness, injustice, money mindedness and all evil ideology of the society is proper in this context. The ugly reflection of society is shown by the behavior of villagers.

As anti social and anti cultural activities Tom formats a team of his friends after that they go against the social and cultural evil idea and conduct. It is somewhat surprising that they want to go beyond the social religious and cultural power. Similarly they want to be rich by capturing treasure that they have seen in the cave. It is Tom, Huck and Joe who have decided to turn their back on the society and family due to the domination and control over them. In this way Twain questioned the society, religion, and culture about their power and domination upon the innocent villagers. Twain made a strong voice about all the human being and indirectly says that neither priest, teacher and head of society are central and powerful nor any poor, slave, child and rural areas people are sub human, marginal and minor but all the human beings are equally power full and respective.

In the *Adventure of Tom Sawyer*, Twain does not introduce the internal desire of Tom but Tom himself exposes his money mindedness and rebellious nature against the social, cultural and religious dogma.

Got it at last! Said Huck, plowing among the tarnished coins with his hands. "My, but we're rich, Tom!"

"Huck, I always reckoned we'd get it. It's just too good to believe, but we have got it, sure! say let's not fool around here. Lets snake it out. lemme see if I can lift the box".

It weighted about fifty pounds tom could lift it, after an awkward fashion, but could not carry it conveniently.

"I thought show," he said; "They carried it like it was heavy, that day at the ha'nted house. I noticed that I reckon I was right to think of fetching the little bags along."

The money was soon in the bags and the boys took it up to the cross rock. (219)

The passage above exposes the feeling of victory, when they found the treasure in a cave now they are very happy and glad because they defeated their mental tension and got enough money which was their final aim. Their mind was completely covered by the problem of money so they made a plan to capture the treasure of Injun Joe and eventually they find it. So they are expressing their happiness. When Tom and Becky Thatcher were lost inside the cave Tom found Injun Joe there. So he realized that the treasure is in the

cave. He and Huck go back to find the treasure and got it. Which was their desire for long time. Tom doesn't make any mistake and misconception to grave the property of Injun Joy and at the end of the novel he overcomes it.

According to New historicist, power doesn't emanate only from a top of the political and socio economic structure. According to Michel Foucault, whose ideas have strongly influenced the development of New historicism, power circulates in all direction to and from all social level at all times and the vehicle by which power circulates is never ending proliferation of exchange.

- 1) The exchange of material goods through such practices as buying and selling, bartering gambling, taxation, charity and various form of theft;
- 2) The exchange of people through such institution marriage, adaption kidnapping and slavery and
- 3) The exchange of idea through the various discourses a culture produces power according to focus it circulated through discourse. Foucault defines discourse as:

A discourse is a social language created by particular cultural condition at a particular time and place and it expresses a particular way of understanding human experience. Although the world discourse has roughly the same meaning as the world ideology and the two terms are often used inter changeably the world discourse draws attention to the role of language as the vehicle of ideology. (281)

Then the American society was passing with the view that money for luxury and money for standard life. This was a type of discourse created by that materialistic society. The society that follows the slogan, 'any how earn money to be happy and respectable'.

So Tom a very small boy of that society is badly corrupted by this norms and all the time runs after the money, however at last got success and became prosperous but cannot get happiness. He became hunt of the power of the materialistic culture of contemporary society. In various ways Tom opposes to the authority and its power that means the power of religion, culture and his own family. On the other hand he follows the money and captures it to be prosperous and happy but in reality his money mindedness is satire to the authority and American government directly, who lunched the materialistic ideology over citizen without equal and proper opportunity to all the rural and poor people of the country. This is one reason why new historicist believes that the relationship between individual identity and society is mutually constitutive; on the whole, human beings are never merely eviction of an oppressive society, for they can find various ways to oppose authority in their personal and public lives.

Judge Thatcher hoped to see Tom a great lawyer or a great soldier someday. He said he meant to look to eat that tom should be admitted to the national military academy and afterward trend in the best law school in the country, in order that he might be ready for either career or both. (226)

Tom an active and cleaver boy of the St. Petersburg valley was doing miraculous and unbelievable task in his early age. So Judge Thatcher the mouth character of Christianity persuades the boy to be respectable boy by joining in a power full post. However tom is not interested to follow the system norms and culture of that very society. Actually Tom draws the attention of society after his extra ordinary and miraculous task and getting enough money. Before that he was a boy who used to live with his aunt and was not rich. Now he is independent like other people of the society.

His actions are based on the instinct and his own experience, rather than conventional conscience.

Ironically often his own instincts hold him to higher moral standard than those of society. His decision to make an adventure and capture the property is example of such instance. Tom's decision creates the conflict between society and him. We can see heroism of his own action; they are simply in accordance with his own conscience. The social class in the novel is more like rich and poor issue, which is illustrated by Huck and Tom (poor) versus upper class town people (rich). Twain continually portrays the upper class people as immoral own intelligent and bigoted. On the other hand, the lower class people are portrayed as clever, moral and self satisfied. We see these two classes as antagonistic forces in the novel

The upper class society is money minded. Their aim in life is to heap much money by black mailing the innocent people. Money is the driving factor that motivates the person to do anything wrong to earn the money. The crime Injun Joe does to capture the property is the perfect example of that concept. The whole story moves with the issue of money and Christianity. Tom and his friends made a journey to challenge the Christianity to challenge the social values, norms, culture etc. Similarly they run after the money which is a huge satire and mock to the money mindedness of upper class people. Lure of money to the extent of its becoming a lust is a peculiar trait of the so called civilized society. Class discrimination was a common practice, but ultimately the upper class was compelled to surrender its self before the lower class.

We cannot see any security of the authority in the village. There happened some crime and calamities however we cannot see the present of the authority to give justice

and to help the villagers. All the time villagers themselves fight with their problems. It means we can say that the society is marginalize and neglected by the central government due to its poverty and idle people. Injun Joe killed Dr. Robinson and said not he but Muff Potter killed him, however no authority tried to search any proof on murder instead of it church was going to give punishment to the Muff Potter at that time Tom who was eye witness of incident appeared and told the reality of event. Injun Joe runs from the church and hid in the cave. In this way all the system of society is moving with probable ideas and events. Tom and Becky lost in the cave, all the villagers tried their best to find out them but couldn't. By chance, at last Tom himself found the door of the cave and came out. Though they are inside the cave and out of reach of villagers no authority or power holder tried to search them. Here also we can see the real picture of negligence of authority to the villagers.

We can see all the villagers are running after the money and there does exist another fact that is Christian bigotry. They believe in culture that means money it means materialistic thinking. This is the domination of cultural materialism. New historicism questions to the materialism. Cultural materialism is a form of domination but it does not use force. It is an indirect means of controlling the people. Michael Foucault in his essay “truth and power” says that power determines the truth and as soon as the system of the society changes , the truth also changes that means power creates a type of truth which exists until the existing system change. If the foundation or base and system change the truth and notion of society ultimately change. In this book also we can see the same kind of truth, which can be clear from the following passage.

Wherever Tom Huck appeared they were courted, admired, stared, at. The boys were not able to remember that their remarks had possessed weight before; but now their saying were treasured and repeated; everything they did seemed somehow to be regarded as remarkable; they had evidently lost the power of doing and saying common place things; moreover, their past history was raked up and discovered to bear marks of conspicuous originality. The village paper published biographical sketches of the boys. (225)

Now Tom and Huck possessed enough treasure so both of them are getting enough care and appreciation from the villagers. In the past they were worth less and nonsense boys but now their worth is up lift by their money not by love and care. Now their name and fame is everywhere because they are wealthy enough. The village paper published biographical sketches of the boys who were worth less, careless, and nonsense in the past due to poverty. Here the indirect impact of culture (materialistic trend) is clearly seen in the society Huck and Tom got twelve thousand dollar, which was very big amount for those villagers. The Widow Douglas put Huck's money out at six percent and Judge Thatcher did the same with Tom's money. Without money no one is paying attention to the other. In this society moneyless people is called either nonsense or uncivilized why they are doing so is nothing but corrupted mind by money. Christianity and money create a single track way in their mind. Due to that they cannot think anything except money and Christian ideology. How does money mindedness create negative and bad way in the society is clearly drawn a picture in this novel.

Twain tries to uplift the history of marginalized group, race and cast of people by showing good and positive ideas and behavior of marginalized people and tries to neglect the old history by showing its negative effect in the society. Christianity, culture (materialism) and social ideology are the existing power in the then American society. Throughout the novel we cannot get any good and positive effect of this existing power in the society. Twain is not interested with old and traditional history so he tries to defeat it by presenting the success of marginalized group in this novel Twain presents a scene of a murder where Dr. Robinson is killed and capture the property by Injun Joe. Joe was poor and so called uncivilized person of the society where as Dr. Robinson is known as popular, civilized and well educated person. Joe killed Dr. in the very dark night and tries to be innocent in the society. At last when he was recognized by the church as a criminal he runs away and lives in a cave without any contact with the society for self death. This is also victory of marginalized group and loses of old and traditional history along with that his activities challenge the old history. Killing of educated and famous person symbolically signifies the death of old history which previously was true and idle. He kills that history in a very dark and mid night. From this we can infer that Joe punished and defeated the so called civilized society by killing Dr. Robinson in a dark scene that means he puts the tradition and old history in darkness and uplift the history of marginalized people, group and society. Similarly rich and sophisticated people are defeated by poor and marginalized people; when Tom and Huck got twelve thousand dollar they are like the king in this village and their biography is written on the village paper. This is not a minor and simple thing; it is very great achievement for these boys, previously who were marginalized. Old history is replaced by their history which is

appeared on the local newspaper. Twain presents his negative sense with an old history and those dominating factor in the society. In this connection:

Tom, looky –here, Tom being rich ain't what it's cracked up to be. It just worry and worry, and sweat and sweat, and a wishing he was dead all the time. Now these clothes sweets me, and this bar'l suits me, I ain't ever going to shake'em any more. Tom I would not ever got in to all this trouble if it hadn't 'a' been for that money; now you just take my sheer of it along with your. (228)

The given passage shows the negative nature of wealth. The passage explains about the tension and problem created by materialistic ideology. At last Tom and Huck found that materialistic culture has a sweet cover but not real sweet, which can attract everyone but can't make satisfied any one; Huck got six thousand dollar which is big amount for all villagers, however he is not happy with it. Instead of that very money he wants freedom from materialistic and civilized world. Twain creates that type of negative view to show the old history and power valueless and nonsense. Materialistic culture and civilized society can't keep peace, prosperity, happiness, and freedom in the society and people. Instead of peace, prosperity, happiness and freedom, materialistic culture and civilized society impose the frustration, tension and sadness.

Chapter III: Reassessed American History of Late 19th Century in *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*

Mark Twain reassesses the history of marginalized people which was devalued by Christian ideology in his novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*. Traditional history always thwarts the potentiality of black, poor, and uneducated people and they are marginalized throughout the pages of history. Rich and Christian people always wanted the poor and ordinary people to follow their code and conduct including the ideas that to be nonsense and uncivilized. In the society the truth constructed by Christian for those poor and ordinary (non-Christian) people was uncivilized and nonsense. Similarly poor were marginalized by rich. Rich has constructed a truth to denote poor that as “nonsense”. In this way identity and prestigious living is always denied to them. Twain, realizing the injustices and cruelties of rich and Christian people depicts Tom as a central character who dismantles the wall of segregation and suppression created by the Christian and rich people. Rural areas and poor people never get justice from those urban, Christian and wealthy people.

Tom’s condemnation of Christian people is not any individual Christian, and rich rather to that ideology which never saw poor, black and uneducated as human. His indirect denunciation of church and rich people and embracing of his own society and people retheorises the history monomanically written by Christian and rich people. Tom a poor and foundling boy in this village became uncivilized and nonsense in the eye of Christian and high class people. What we can infer from the analysis of Twain’s text is that, he has reassessed the history of poor and marginalized which was mercilessly contorted by rich and Christian ideology. Twain’s *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* was the

upliftment of poor, orphan and uneducated by rewarding Tom and Huck with the deepened sense of identity.

Representation of marginalized group in monomaniacal way by the Christian and wealthy American people also serves the old historian notion which is dejected by Twain at the later part of the novel Twain dared to replace the history of rich, Christian and so-called civilized by writing the biography of Tom and Huck on the local newspaper. Tom who doesn't want to assimilate the code and conduct of Christianity and wealthy people, always found it regressive and cruel. Tom, the hero of this novel found the Christian and so called civilized society barbarous and uncivilized itself. Chaos and brutality is emerging due to the unequal and cruel rules and regulation of Christianity. Tom who couldn't withstand that types of brutality in his own society which was guided by Christian ideology and money minded people, and took the help of adventure to search freedom, equality and property simultaneously.

Mark Twain wrote this novel to show the adventure of Tom Sawyer to get freedom from the social, cultural and religious rules and regulation. In fact the adventure is a search of way to rupture the traditional history and to establish the history of marginalized. Twain subverts the traditional role of Tom, the hero of the novel, in order to construct the history of marginalized. In this novel Twain tried to establish new trend by bringing Tom a poor and uneducated boy and Huck an uncivilized and orphan boy of the society at the centre. Twain disobeyed the traditional pattern of writing and provides central role to Tom. Tom vary brave boy of the society encouraged his friends to fight against the cruelty of the society. To challenge the rules and regulations of the society he took the help of adventure. Neither the church nor the cod and conduct of the higher class

people could make him happy and satisfied. Not only that the church and code and conduct of the higher class people could not change the life of Tom and other lower class people, instead of changing their life it pushed them in to hell like condition. By doing that those wealthy people were becoming richer and richer. That means there was very vast gap between lower class and higher class people of American society.

To rupture that type of hierarchy Twain allows his handy character Tom to go beyond the rules and regulation of Christian and higher class. Tom performs his role perfectly according to Twain's ideas who doesn't allow so called civilized people to be central figure of this novel. Tom plays very perfect and central role to lead all the villagers out of the cave where they see only shadows and bring them in to the light where they will see the reality and truth. Tom found every fault and misfortune happened in the society are by the cause of so-called civilized and high class Christian people. Those American high class people who could not see the potentiality of mind capacity within among those poor, uneducated and villagers (remote areas people) all the time imposed their rules and regulation to suppress those people. Lower class and uneducated people were like wild animals for those high class people. All of the villagers were unaware about the reality and truth until Tom led them in to light from the cave made by high-class people to control and suppress those innocent villagers.

The pages of history which misrepresented uneducated, children and lower class are torn out and all the marginalized people are as equal as Christian (so called civilized) and higher class people by being free from the chain of aged long suppression. Tom a very young boy, who previously was like wild, and nonsense poor but now became a crowned king of an American society. He does struggle enough to rupture the hierarchy

in the society. To rupture the hierarchy he doesn't choose the way of violation and revenge but he follows peaceful and strong way to make them shameful and make them regret about their misdeed. Eventually he got success to write his own history as representative character of marginalized people of the society. By presenting Tom as a clever and brave boy from poor background Twain wants to reverse the notion of white, Christian, and high class people about lower class people. Twain presents Tom as rational, more intelligent and clever than those so called civilized Christian people. In this way, Twain got success to establish the history of marginalized people in the American history.

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