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Allegory of Colonialism in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*

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Letter of Recommendation

Gita Chaudhary has completed this thesis entitled “Allegory of colonialism in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*” under my supervision. I hereby recommended her thesis to be submitted.

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Approval Letter

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## Allegory of colonialism in *Bram Stoker's Dracula*

*Abstract: This research tries to explore the issue of colonialism and its resistance as reflected in Bram Stoker's Dracula. By representing allegorical character, Count Dracula, Stoker represents colonized mentality, Irish anger and resistance against colonizer's hegemony and exploitation. This research claims that Stoker through this text, has tried to show the colonial life which is full of suffering, struggle and fear so that British also can feel such pain. In this text, the main character Count Dracula attacks and fears the representative characters of British society Jonathan Harker, Lucy and Mina frequently in order to dominate and suppress them. By taking theoretical insights from new historicism, this research sheds lights upon exercise of power and its representation. The colonizers present and represent Irish society and impose their political as well as cultural dogmas. Dracula's symbolic resistance represents all colonized resistance and revenge against colonizers. As a result, decolonization is a process of unlearning colonial mentality and way of exploring originality of culture, language and nationality.*

**Keywords:** allegory, revenge, threat, resistance, hostility, hegemony, famine

This thesis studies relation between British and Irish society during colonial period and discusses revenge and resistance against British colonial power as depicted in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. The novel presents power relation between the countries and with the colonial power British society imposed unfair treatment upon Irish society. The major character in the novel, *Dracula*, has sense of revenge and resistance of colonial legacy of British people. He treats the British society like colonizer showing his supernatural and intellectual power and tries to make their cultural and civilization system disorder. The novel presents allegorical characterization through which it gets them represented colonized. Generally,

allegory gives the meaning that something through referring to something else having fictional character, which stands as an extended symbol for that original topic. For Walter Benjamin, “allegory is a concept with implications that are at once philosophical, religious, aesthetic, political and historical” (241). In similar way, Stoker tries to reveal Irish political and historical part in the period of colonization through this text. Here is single fictional character, Dracula an Irishman uses his power and frightens an Englishman Jonathan as a colonizer. This is symbolical representation of colonial regime when colonizers would exploit colonized but Dracula in the novel avenges against colonizer by torturing them in own country.

As Dracula tortures to Jonathan, it reflects and represents Irish experience during colonization period and British tortured to Irish people. This presents Irish he disgruntled the British man who visits in Ireland. The novel shows British's colonial power and suppression over Ireland that is exemplified in the novel. By blockading all kinds of import and export from Ireland, British make them compelled to get them acknowledged power. Potato famine is a representative one with which British was able to hegemonize own power over Ireland. Along with postcolonial era, Irish society raises voice against British legacy and restores own national culture and identity. All people of Ireland united to fight against colonial power and its legacy. It was gradual process of Irish people to disown colonial mentality and its material influence. Though British society intervenes internal affairs, Irish people and society react and resist against all kind of interventions. The research focuses Irish's anger, sense of revenge and decolonized mentality against the colonial power of British society.

Count Dracula targeted another way of threatening that he chooses women as his victim because he wants to destroy the so called civilized British society. He attacks the women Mina and Lucy who are the represents of the British society. His first victim inside of the British Empire is Lucy. She is turned into a vampire. His second victim is Mina Harker a decent British woman and devoted wife to her future husband Johathan Harker. This attack is far more threatening than his attack on Lucy. By attacking such pure and devoting women like Lucy and Mina, he attacks on the ego of British society. As Dracula himself explains, " Your girls that you all love are mine already, and through them you and others shall be mine my creatures, to my bidding and to be my jackals when I want to feed" (25). This one is colonizers' practice of usurpation of power however Dracula revenges to Jonathan by entrapping in his house. The way Dracula behaves to Jonathan is colonizers' mentality and Dracula behaves to Englishman as colonizer would treat them. It makes them feel that how the life is painful after interfering in other's dignified life.

This research studies the novel in relation to colonial period and within its timeframe. The concept of new historicism goes through power relation of the contemporary society in which different dimension of social aspects is observed. New historicist's idea is about that man is a construct of social and historical circumstances and not an autonomous agent of historical change. There is nothing essential about the actions of human being.

New historicism is about the critical reading of contemporary society which never possesses objective knowledge of history because historical writing is always entangled in tropes. Foucault shares central influence on the domain of the ideas like power, discourse and subject. The text, to Foucault, never represents or

reflects pre-existing entities and orders of a historical situation, rather it speaks of the power structures, oppositions and hierarchies which are after all the products and propagators of power. In Foucault's view, speaks of 'history' but not as it is described by traditional historicists. It, within itself, buries the 'situations' of institutions, social practices including their workings amidst the power relations and the hierarchies. So, a text becomes 'a history of otherwise' in that it presents a historical situation not as a 'background' but as something with which it can have constant interaction, for text is both product and the propagator of the power structures of the society.

Foucault asks after a "history of bodies which inquiries into, "the manner in which what is most material and vital in them has been invested" (152). In this formation, he suggests that history acts not only on the body but also pervades the interiority of that subject. The research shows colonial relation between the colonizer and colonized. It symbolically presents colonial mechanism which is root cause of colonial hegemony. Having dominant position of colonial culture and status apparatus in colonized land, it gradually becomes reactive and resistive to the colonizers. Hence, this one explores potato famine one of the representative cases through which colonizer controlled Irish society. Aftermath the famine, colonizer imposed ideological mindset to establish own power and idea. This is how it discusses on Irish sense of revenge and unlearning British culture and ideology. The process of exploring own root identity is soft resistance of colonizer.

The colonial literature always represents single way of viewpoint to understand overall literature however it further hints specified perspective to study colonial literature. This study reexamines colonial history and goes through representation and power relationship between colonizers and colonized. With

using hegemonic power of discourse, colonizers represent and construct knowledge against colonized. From the perspective of new historicism, history is more than what does literary mean therefore history with perspective of critical analysis shows representation of history on the basis of power relation.

The novel literally presents Dracula's anger against colonizer which is reflected through the anger of Dracula and he takes revenge of colonial suppression land when Jonathan comes to Dracula's mansion in Ireland. It is resistance of colonial mindset and intends to introduce exploration of Irish culture, society and tradition after the end of colonial rule of British power. Irish people had nationalistic feeling of own culture and ideology. Irish people had hatred feeling toward English culture therefore, they begun cultural resistance against English culture. The novel introduces similar issue that shows Irish voices for political as well as cultural freedom. Thomas Boylan analyzes:

The diverse range of Irishness and Britishness viewed as either fundamentally antagonistic or potentially complementary over the long period of Victorian's reign. The main issues addressed include the Victorian monarchy's attitude towards Ireland and reciprocal reactions of the Irish, the debates relating to Irish differences and integration and the different views of Ireland's place in the imperial world order. More specifically the disruptive impact of the Great Famine is in Irish British relations in the Victorian period. (209)

Due to the colonization, it created political hostility and enmity between Ireland and England. Even coercive power of British society, Ireland negatively responded to British. Due to the potato famine in Ireland caused revengeful emotion against English. There was a great devastation as the potato failure in early nineteenth century in Ireland caused by disease which is known as potato famine. Farmers of Ireland

were ruled as colony of Great Britain. In this regard, Irish people had hatred and negative feeling toward English society. For Irish, being engaged in potato famine was their compulsion which had happened due to British colonial power.

Along with political power of the British, it culturally influenced other people as the novel discusses both political and cultural criticism of British society. Such disparity is the main reasons of Irish anger. The novel presents Irish protest of British colonization and shows symbolic revenge along with resistance by torturing British people. The novel presents Irish threat to British society in terms of cultural and ideological power. The major character Dracula frequently attacks and threatens British society, culture and people. He imprisons British representative character Jonathan Harker who had visited to Ireland. This research focuses on mainly two characters who represent British and Irish society respectively. The villainous character Dracula being vampire inflicts and exploits British gentleman and his family.

As Count Dracula belongs to Irish society, his character's roles are representative of Irish culture and nation. Major issue in the novel is British hegemony which imposed own culture and ideology. This novel explores potato famine which was cause of creating power in Ireland. By creating famine, British ruled over Ireland. British society had several influences upon Ireland and British were cause for suffering of the Irish people. British had politically and culturally controlled Ireland but Irish had sense of resentment as well as revenge therefore, Count Dracula symbolically imprisoned British representative character Harker. Rodger Swift points out, "Urban life in Victorian Britain was for the Irish an often harsh and disorientating experience, and because they were concentrated in towns and cities, the Irish stood out from the host population by their poverty, nationality, race

and religion”(264). From the beginning of colonization, Irish culture and society was dominated and English society imposed own social practices.

During Victorian era, English culture was dominant in his colonized countries. Because of colonized culture, English culture had been dominant and impressive. Along with industrial revolution, the particular culture was dissected and at the end of nineteenth century, British culture and its power gradually loosened political grip and started cultural revival. Not only Irish society, throughout world cultural revival movement spread and nationalist revived their own culture, society and national identities. During colonized period British redefined and left influence over Ireland. British rule established its political, cultural and economic influence over countries. Similarly, Ireland had influence of British society but it was against Irish nationalism and culture.

Stoker’s writing in *Dracula* cannot be confined to a particular style. Dracula’s language, idea, theme and other features in the presentation have made it distinct from other novels especially belonging to the nineteenth century realm. The style of presenting the story is quite peculiar and interesting, which is presented in the form of diaries, letter, journals, and news items. Though the novel seems to be a heap of these personal writings, these narratives have been arranged so powerfully and skillfully that it has made the flow of the plot natural. The credit of the popularity of the novel goes to the simplicity of the language and the vitality of its presentations of multiple points of views to create a degree of interpretation possible. Such presentations of multiple points of view create a degree of indeterminacy of meaning in the text.

Accepting its effects of horror and popularity, A. N. Wilson in the introduction to the novel observes:

For every ten people who have actually read *Dracula*, you could find a thousand who could tell you what it is about. The ten would have had an experience which was much stronger than the thousand; such in the power of the book. Stoker did his work well, and I, for one, can never read his pages without a Shudder of terror and disgust, compulsive in its guilty awfulness.

(xvii)

The novel *Dracula* is observed from the point of view of Gothic Transgressions. It produces not only pleasure but simultaneously anxiety and fear by projecting an uncontrollable and overwhelming power which threatens the loss of sanity, honor, property or social standing.

Even more than fear and anxiety, transgression produces horror. Glennis Byron in "Introduction" notes the critical performance that associates with the Gothic:

*Dracula* early belong to the Gothic in its association with the disruption and transgression of both social and psychic limits and boundaries. The count himself, confounding all categories, can be seen as the ultimate embodiment of transgression: as shape-shifter he has no stable fixed identity, as 'vampire' he straddles the boundaries, between life and death; as 'un-dead' he is both absent and present. (2)

The Count creates such confound in order to show his power that he is able to change himself as he wants according to the situation. Using this power, he could create fear upon them.

In researcher's view, *Dracula* is a final aristocrat, the tyrant seeking to preserve the survival of his house. Vampire hunts the bourgeois family with entire solid, reasonable and moral values of middle-class Victorian society. And similarly, there can be seen class struggle, too. In the researcher's observation of the novel

Dracula from the point of view of Marxism the focus is on the class struggle where the capitalist is rich and always wants to be rich by sucking the sweats and labor of the poor. Always he wants to be powerful, rich, respected in the community.

Similarly, Morretti in his essay writes about Dracula:

Capital is dead labor which, vampire like, live only sucking living labor, and, lives the more, the more labor it sucks. Marx's analogy unravels the metaphor. As everyone knows, the vampire is dead and yet not dead: he is an un-dead a 'dead' person who it manages to live to the blood he sucks from the living. Their strength becomes his strength. The stronger the vampire becomes, the weaker the living become: the capitalism get rich, not like the miser, in proportion to his personal labor... and compels the worker to renounce all the enjoyment of life. (45-46)

Among the critics paying their attention to the novel *Dracula*, Howard P. Lovecraft gives an account from the Marxist point of view. He indicates the standard modern exploitation of the frightful vampire myth and further asserts that:

But best of all is the famous Dracula, which has become almost the standard modern exploitation of the frightful vampire myth. Count Dracula, a vampire, dwells in a horrible castle in the Carpathians, but finally migrates ... with fellow vampires. How English fares within Dracula's stronghold of terrors, and how the dead fiend's plot for domination is at last defeated, are elements which unite to form a tale new justly assigned a permanent place in English Literature? (78)

Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, up to this date has been the subject of discussion as it has never failed to provide critics with raw materials for their reading. The references from the various critics lead the researcher to conclude that with several aspects of

novel have been studied, however, Irish resistance to British colonialism has not been studied and it has remained unexplored aspect in the novel. This research study has put forward the topic Irish resistance to- British entire political, cultural and economic power.

As a result, the novel presents threat for resistance of English culture and its influence upon Ireland so that they could make British less powerful as well as take revenge of their suffering. Due to the reason, it represents people voice of resistance threatening them. William Harrison Woodward discusses:

The victims of political crises at home were in the second half of the century constantly exported to the island, as by Cromwell after his reduction of Ireland and of Scotland; those who survived the voyage and the hardships of their new life attained, after a period of service, both liberty and citizenship. Scotsmen, it was noted, proved more useful settlers than Irishmen. A system of kidnapping in the large English towns provided other elements of similar temporary white slavery. (61)

British rulers exploited rest of the world during colonial period when they had power and mainstream culture. Even they unfairly interfered other's religion, culture and politics. The novel also discusses similar conflict between British and Irish culture.

The research paper examines allegorical representation of colonialism by presenting the particular timeframe in which British colonized Ireland. The study reviews and rethinks upon the novel and critically examines long narrative of the novel. The violent history and politics of his native country, especially provided in *Drakula*, projects a colonial eye and its apparatus. Stoker has examined the effects of oppression within the framework of contemporary society though he has been outside of the context. The novel presents allegorical story of colonialism that represents

colonial discourse and colonizing process through the characters and story. As the prominent new historicist Greenblatt has put it, "The work of art is the product of a negotiation between a creator or class or creators, equipped with a complex, communally shared repertoire of conventions, and the institutions and practices of society"(12). The literary text, then, is always part of a much wider cultural, political, social and economic dispensation. The literary text is a time and place bound verbal construction that is always in one way or another political. Following Foucault in his assumption is, "social relations are, intrinsically, relation of power. Montrose examines the role of Elizabethan pastorals in "the symbolic meditation of social relationships" (2). The discursive operations of empire, the subtleties of subject constructions in colonial discourse and the resistance. The representation is distortion of fact became the fact or nature of the orient does not remain static but the western knowledge about it becomes static and unchangeable. Foucault writes; "Ideology has nothing to do with the illusion, with a mistake, distorted representation of its social content" (7). Ideological statements may be true at present but false for blocking of the possibility of transformed state of affairs.

During colonial period, English colonizers imposed their cultures to Irish people. Colonizers were able to train their ideology and English cultures. To clarify this, Lois Tyson writes, "Cultural imperialism, a direct result of economic domination, consists of the takeover of one culture by another: the food, clothing, customs, recreation, and values of the economically vulnerable culture until the latter appears to be a kind of imitation of the former" (425). There is a just opposite distinction between them as the explicit consciousness hegemonies the natives whereas the implicit consciousness assists to resist against the hegemony. Timothy White clarifies:

Ireland's long and contested status as an internal colony of Britain has been important in the historical development of how the Irish remember their past. This article analyzes the historic relationship between religion and politics in Ireland by focusing on the impact of British rule in Ireland and its aftermath on the formation and evolution of Irish identity. My research suggests that one cannot appreciate the role of religion in Irish politics without taking into consideration the impact of British rule in Ireland. (21)

At the same time, some people get suffered from the double consciousness, for their actions lead them towards the path of explicit consciousness and their thinking is endowed with the implicit consciousness. In this situation, neither the people can fully accept the hegemonic power nor can they fully follow the grace of their own dearly cultural greatness. So, only the persons filled with the implicit consciousness can gradually try to drag them on the path of the resistance.

*Dracula* overviews English colonial power during the period. As English society imposed his power as a superior and stereotype for all countries and societies, it was gradually being resisted along with nationalist movements, cultural revival and identities. Thus, the novel depicts similar situation in which English and Irish cultural conflict has been prime issue during the period. The protagonist of the novel Count Dracula resists British power and shows economic power along with his physical power. As he reminds potato famine against Irish people, Count Dracula takes revenge with British man Jonathan Harker. This symbolic case represents entire political situation between British and Ireland. Irish people had sense of revenge, anger and resentment; therefore, Dracula misbehaves threats and challenges them. The representative character of English society is Jonathan Harker who is a lawyer. It symbolically represents British colonial power over rest of the people in the world.

During colonial period, England imposed its power over all countries along with its direct interference. The basic ideology is always centralized thought of English people. Count Dracula as a fearless and daring character as he treats others. Due to the political civilization and power English people were powerful and most of the countries and people would frighten from them because the country was powerful. Having knowledge of English civilization and knowledge, rest of the countries were trivialized in terms of all sphere of life. The research particularizes a landmark of history which was an example of British colonization that is potato famine. Due to the famine, Irish people had sense of revenge against British people.

Count Dracula reminds past history of British which was unendurable for Irish society. As British behaved and exploited Irish, it was unforgettable for them. Count Dracula wants to take revenge against them by creating fear before coming Harker, Dracula reminds their past:

It has had a very stormy existence, and it certainly shows marks of it. Fifty years ago, a series of great fires took place, which made terrible havoc on five separate occasions. At the very beginning of the seventeenth century, it underwent a siege of three weeks and lost 13,000 people, the casualties of war proper being assisted by famine and disease. (4)

Dracula was furious against British society when they created famine to impose power in Ireland. During colonization period, British society mercilessly treated Irish people therefore; he invites Harker in his castle.

Being representative of British man, Jonathan Harker visits Ireland. Harker observes all cultural practices in comparison to English society. The novel through the perspective of colonized mentality shows its reflection and representation of Irish

culture and people. This study shows how colonizers represent others as Harker represents Ireland and its cultures through a single perspective of colonizers.

The journey to the castle is terrible and unexpected to Harker. From the beginning, Harker encounters physical and mental attack when he reaches in the castle. Dracula was in old castle where he lives for years. At first Harker had different perspectives however he finds him educated and civilized. Harker finds that the elderly Dracula is a well-educated and hospitable gentleman. Harker realizes that he is effectively a prisoner in the castle. In a sense, Harker visits Ireland and represents political approach. Harker reaches there in order to find their culture and lifestyle. However, his perspective toward other culture in terms British is standard. As soon as he reaches there, he overlooks their way of living and establishes his perspective:

Having had some time at my disposal when in London, I had visited the British Museum, and made search among the books and maps in the library regarding Transylvania; it had struck me that some foreknowledge of the country could hardly fail to have some importance in dealing with a nobleman of that country. I find that the district he named is in the extreme east of the country, just on the borders of three states, Transylvania, Moldavia and Bukovina, in the midst of the Carpathian Mountains; one of the wildest and least known portions of Europe. (1)

Harker's perspective is rooted and set within British society which is considered as standard or mainstream one through which he hates Irish culture and society. He does not find and understand others as different one. His rooted belief and mindset do not respect others. Count Dracula wants to torture British people as revenge of past colonization. Harker, an Englishman from England, represents a colonizer and he moves to Ireland with keeping colonizing mission. In course of living in Ireland, he

exposes all kinds of negative images of the country in order to show the country inferior. The colonizer's perspective represents Ireland as poor, uncivilized and backward country. By using negative words, language, and picture he constructs knowledge of other people, culture and society.

Stoker recreates colonial perspective of colonizers to represent Irish culture and people. By creating negative images, the author recreates knowledge and discourse as to the country which represents composite picture of the country. To represent the Irish society and culture, the author uses preoccupied concept about the other's society. Harker is a representative character of English society who understands Irish country as poor, uncivilized and backward. He represents a colonizer; he thinks from colonizer's perspective to capture and exploit colonized land and people. Stoker represents the people's resistance against the white colonialism. Colonizer has used stereotypical representations of Ireland and Irish society. Valorie Mark makes cultural comment:

To be respectable meant that one valued the ideas of “sobriety, thrift, cleanliness of person, honesty, and chastity.” The word spoke to the character of a person as well as to their status in the social and business world. These ideas left very little room for any form of expression of desires because people could not do recreational things like go to a tavern or express physical attraction. Social morality was also associated with this idea, with “the essence of that morality summed up in the single word ‘respectability.’ (3)

It is already established assumption in English culture who have created both good and bad practice in society. Even they wanted to make people follow similar pattern. On the basis of those cultural patterns, they find out civilization of others people.

English culture does not respect others culture because along with physical colonization, they make compel people to assert cultural imposition.

Dracula is a man with fearless and daunting motive. He wants to challenge British people because of their egoist feeling of being British. As Dracula meets Harker, he does not treat him as an Englishman or colonizer rather than he mistreats him as he is colonizer himself. Dracula's mission behind dominating is to challenge English ego and sophisticated culture. As he finds the place of Dracula, Harker responds:

I was not able to light on any map or work giving the exact locality of the Castle Dracula, as there are no maps of this country as yet to compare with our own Ordnance Survey maps; but I found that Bistritz, the post town named by Count Dracula, is a fairly well-known place. I shall enter here some of my notes, as they may refresh my memory when I talk over my travels with Mina.

(1)

Harker uses dominating language about mentioning the new place. As he thinks, Dracula's residence was new for him. He assumes that English can know all places around the world but the place is new for him to observe. Most of the places around the world are in the grip of his country and they can have knowledge about it. For this reason, he looks for the places in library where they have restored all information.

Jonathan Harker wants to meet Dracula and visits in his castle. When he moves toward the castle, he imagines his castle and makes own perspective toward it. Having English intuitive knowledge, he always interprets things from English perspective which is explained:

I was evidently expected, for when I got near the door, I faced a cheery-looking elderly woman in the usual peasant dress—white undergarment with

long double apron, front, and back, of colored stuff fitting almost too tight for modesty. When I came close, she bowed and said, "The Herr Englishman?" "Yes, I said, Jonathan Harker." She smiled, and gave some message to an elderly man in white shirtsleeves, who had followed her to the door. (3)

This introduction of man itself shows ego of English society. Even this conversation indicates so called English culture. Harker thinks himself as elite and sophisticated man therefore, observes the woman as peasant and rustic. He finds and seeks difference between English and others.

Harker is with colonial eye and mindset visits in Dracula's castle where he meets Dracula. Though, Dracula warmly welcomes Harker, his intention was to frighten him. He wants to take revenge against him. English was dominant power and it had created terrible image in front of the people therefore, Harker maintains his dashing power in front of Dracula but his intention was different from than Harker:

This could not be true, because up to then he had understood it perfectly; at least, he answered my questions exactly as if he did. He and his wife, the old lady who had received me, looked at each other in a frightened sort of way. He mumbled out that the money had been sent in a letter, and that was all he knew. When I asked him if he knew Count Dracula, and could tell me anything of his castle, both he and his wife crossed themselves, and, saying that they knew nothing at all, simply refused to speak further. It was so near the time of starting that I had no time to ask anyone else, for it was all very mysterious and not by any means comforting. (3)

When Harker reaches at Dracula castle, he warmly welcomes him and gets him to visit around his castle. Dracula wants to create power in front of him. Harker had a different intention but he was amazed by the Dracula's power and mysterious power.

Count Dracula remains mysterious and says incomplete expression. Though, showing respect and gratitude, he is not favorable to Englishman. Even he indirectly creates fear and his invisible power in front of him. His ultimate intention is to create power against Englishman which represents an entire English civilization. When Harker comes to Dracula, he introduces his castle and surrounding which was a beautiful place. Unlike Harker's expectation, Dracula engages him to create power in front of him:

With some difficulty I got a fellow-passenger to tell me what they meant; he would not answer at first, but on learning that I was English, he explained that it was a charm or guard against the evil eye. This was not very pleasant for me, just starting for an unknown place to meet an unknown man; but everyone seemed so kind-hearted, and so sorrowful, and so sympathetic that I could not but be touched. I shall never forget the last glimpse which I had of the inn-yard and its crowd of picturesque figures, all crossing themselves, as they stood round the wide archway, with its background of rich foliage of oleander and orange trees in green tubs clustered in the Centre of the yard. (6)

The first meeting of Harker and Dracula was formal and Dracula shows his mansion and introduces him. Harker had underestimated him but he found him powerful as well as dreadful figure. Even Dracula indirectly despises English way of living by showing their formality and showy culture.

Harker represents and maintains English formality and standard and tries to create impression to Dracula English ideology and culture in mainstream. But Dracula intends to violate those formality and standard. In fact, he wants to demoralize English ego of Englishness. Along with their close familiarity, both of them discuss

about their cultural differences. Anyway, Dracula wanted to dominate and despise showy English culture:

Listen to them the children of the night. What music they make! Seeing, I suppose, some expression in my face strange to him, he added, ah, sir, you dwellers in the city cannot enter into the feelings of the hunter.” Then he rose and said “But you must be tired. Your bedroom is all ready, and to-morrow you shall sleep as late as you will. I have to be away till the afternoon; so, sleep well and dream well!” With a courteous bow, he opened for me himself the door to the octagonal room, and I entered my bedroom. (15)

Harker tries to maintain his city life and hates rustic life by showing his physical personality, attitude and behavior. His perspective is city culture oriented and observes them lower and uncultured. His language is dominating to others. This conversation shows English's attitude and ego.

Count Dracula breaks down the basic social and natural boundaries. He crawls down the castle wall as lizard. His behaviour emerges horror and terror in the mind of Jonathan Harker and the readers. In different situations, he changes his shape to make easy for himself. In some places he seems as a human being and deals with others as a normal being ‘I am Dracula and I bid you welcome, Mr. Harker, to my house’ (26). He behaves with Jonathan as a normal and polite man. He politely helps his guest “You are my guest. Let me see to your comfort myself” (26). On the contrary, he acts as a super human being. “He can transform himself to wolf” (286) and he casts no shadow. Professor Van Helsing tells his friend that “he throws no shadows; he makes in the mirror no reflect” (286). Dracula has some other characteristics which are against the natural laws. “He comes on moonlight rays and elemental dust” (286).

Here we see the psychoanalytic power of Dracula. He crosses the boundaries of natural limitations. These activities of Dracula make the novel grand and strong.

As Harker criticizes Dracula's castle then Dracula also seems aggressive to him. He does not like his blame to his cultural pattern and way of living. Dracula challenges him and his cultural pattern. English way of observing others' is misinterpretation. Dracula discusses him about his mission:

I had the idea of going to London, have given me many, many hours of pleasure. Through them I have come to know your great England; and to know her is to love her. I long to go through the crowded streets of your mighty London, to be in the midst of the whirl and rush of humanity, to share its life, its change, its death, and all that makes it what it is. But alas! As yet I only know your tongue through books. To you, my friend, I look that I know it to speak. (17)

Dracula directly shows his interest to go London where he wants to violate their culture. In this respect, he informs him that he is able to speak English language. Though, not having humanity, loyalty and civilized culture, English is assumed them standard, civilized and cultured but it is not acceptable for others. Dracula does not accept his claim.

Valerie Mack one of the critics describes English cultural pattern, value and standard during Victorian period. Due to the powerful country, it created code of morals and formal cultural pattern which are forced to follow even in other countries. He further describes:

England's poster city, London, was said to be the pinnacle of excellence and a place of prosperity, where people behaved within the boundaries of the highest moral standards. In London, foreigners could see how wonderful it was to be a

Victorian Englishman, and experience it in all its grandeur. Unfortunately, this perfection was a façade and often hid the reality of life in Victorian England, and “failed to take account of the realities of human nature.”<sup>1</sup> The social code ignored and even shunned natural and essential components of people’s personalities, even if they weren’t harmful or violent. Because of this, undesirable aspects of people’s personalities became suppressed and disreputable parts of the society they lived in were hidden. (2)

On the basis of certain rules and regulations, Victorian society defines people and their social reputation. It remains moral insanity with them and it always creates mindset in English people. In order to make British attitude like so called trustworthy and civilized society failure, Dracula attacks the British people in London including women. Podonsky M. Amanda has written in his research that, “Using enigmatic approaches to sustain power and control over the minds of his people Vlad Dracula would punish such minor sins as an unfaithful wife by cutting other sexual organs and skinning her alive” (14). The intention of Dracula is to destroy so called civilized British society where such women those are pure and devotees to their spouse belong to. Dracula explains mocking the British women, “As a “good Woman” and “one of God’s women...[s] true, so sweet, so noble, so little. Again he himself explains, “Your girls that you all love are mine already; and through them you and others shall be mine-my creatures, to do my bidding and to be my jackals when I want to feed” (267). Dracula makes most of the characters his slave firstly attacking the women characters making them impure and almost unconscious and have playful actions with their sexual organs. Similarly, he attacks the other male characters making vampires through women characters where vampire refers to deadly and uncivilized. London as the heart of human civilization seems to be the perfect target for Dracula’s enterprise

to create a new vampire race in an attack on the British Empire. He consequently not only threatens the characters of the novel but also contemporary society itself as an example of internal risk.

When Dracula threatens to Harker in his castle, Harker shows his formality. Being egoist about own British standard, he tries to convince to Dracula but he scares him not to free from the castle imprisonment. Dracula's intention was to mistreat him and take revenge against British man:

I'm afraid, my dearly, that I must have shocked you by all the wicked things I've been saying about the dead, and such like, for weeks past; but I didn't mean them, and I want ye to remember that when I'm gone. We au folks that be doffed, and with one foot abaft the krok-hooal, don't altogether like to think of it, and we don't want to feel start of it; an' that's why I've took to making light of it, so that I'd cheer up my own heart a bit. (60)

Dracula in fact takes revenge and demoralizes to Harker. Harker tries to expose his standard and show his own cultural mainstream. Harker does not understand other's culture and value. It is problematic for Dracula therefore; he misbehaves and mistreats to Harker. The line explains fear of Harker as he communicates with his wife Lucy. Dracula does not accept his request then he intends to torture him. However, both of them do not find reason behind imprisoning them. Harker gets surprised at his treatment. Harker investigates the nature of his confinement. He realizes that the count possesses supernatural powers and ambitions. Harker is nearly attacked by three beautiful and seductive female vampires, but the count staves them off, telling the vampires that Harker belongs to him. Fearing for his life, Harker attempts to escape from the castle by climbing down the walls. Harker is terrified by Dracula and it is his intention:

I followed out his orders, for I knew how right and wise they were. I had done my part, and now my next duty was to keep up my strength. I felt very weak, and in the weakness lost something of the amazement at what had occurred. I fell asleep on the sofa, however, wondering over and over again how Lucy had made such a retrograde movement, and how she could have been drained of so much blood with no sign anywhere to show for it. I think I must have continued my wonder in my dreams, for, sleeping and waking, my thoughts always came back to the little punctures in her throat and the ragged, exhausted appearance of their edges tiny though they were. (102)

In fact, Harker was horrified by Dracula. Dracula attacks on Lucy and she gets changed into vampire. Her body changes in to ghastly pale, her teeth become longer and sharper. She looks much terrible. Her bone looks to be out of the body. She is changed into a Bloofer lady. She steals children and punctures their neck to suck the blood. From child lover, she becomes a child killer. Lucy is attracted towards the bats. It enchants her and she tries to break the garland that is made up of garlic, she cries like a child and her voluptuous smile terrifies everyone. Her lips look crimson with fresh blood. Her unspiritual appearance looks like a devilish mockery of sweet mockery.

When Dracula learns about the plot of his murder, he takes revenge by visiting and biting Mina at least three times. He flows his Vampirical blood in Mina's veins to create a spiritual bond of control. She is vamptized and her nature is totally changed. She becomes terrified when she listens the flapping of bats on the window. He changes himself as wolf, bat, storm, dust etc. Count Dracula is more powerful than the normal human being. He can do hard tasks which an ordinary man cannot. He breaks down the natural limits by changing his age or size as his wish, he can be a grown-up man.

He not only changes his shapes but also sometimes disappears. Jonathan says “I believe it is the count but he has grown young” (208). Jonathan had seen him as an adult in his castle but after a long period he sees count Dracula as a grown-up man. This activity of Dracula creates a great confusion in Harker whether he is natural being or psychoanalytic figure.

Count Dracula is a power who can easily transgress the natural boundaries. It is a notable scene where Dracula's reflection is noticeably absent in a mirror as he dances at a ball and it makes a scene of horror. It is also a noticeable bout scene where Van Helsing asks Harker to pound a stake into a Lucy's chest with a seemingly impossible amount of blood spraying back on him he just asks where does whole the blood go ? These elements and actions of count Dracula strengthen the novel and established it a popular psychoanalytic novel in the field of English Literature. Dracula is found appearing and disappearing surprisingly. This power of appearing and disappearing creates confusion among readers and characters. He has the quality of vampire so he changes his place and behavior. “The count sleeps in a day time into a coffin box, on a pile of newly dug earth, lay the count” (63). Count Dracula is found changing his places. He sometimes appears in the library. “The door opened, and the count entered” (31). His behavior is also different in different contexts that sometimes he behaves politely with the characters and sometimes very badly as a vampire. “He saluted me in a hearty way”(31). Jonathan believes him as a friend, as a master and guardian. But in the next place, he finds him as a ghost. “He tries to vamp her; he seems so cruel.” Jonathan sees him and explains that “the mouth was redder-than ever” (67). He changes himself as a vampire.

Dracula creates a kind of confusion, horror and terror to the readers, and Jonathan himself by performing mysterious activities. He is alone in the castle without friends there, but regularly visits Jonathan as the master of the castle. The female character Lucy is victimized by the vampire Count Dracula. Dracula actually seems as an ordinary man but his shape shifting power changes him in the form of vampire which is unseen and comes with Lucy to suck her blood in different forms as a bat, wolf or storm. Mina, Lucy's mother and Lucy herself are unknown about his presence and blood sucking but gradually, Lucy seems sick, weak and Dr. Seward says "her breathing was softer; her open mouth showed the pale gums. She is wounded. And not healed for a long time" (185). Similarly, Dracula sucks blood of other male characters, too. He doesn't suck their blood directly. Lucy needs blood because she is a victim of Dracula. Count Dracula sucks blood of other male characters too because he is not satisfied with the blood of female. Although he is a male, he sucks blood of male. Count Dracula, changes another female character, Mina Harker into vampire as his first victim, Lucy. He annoys her by giving different tortures. Count Dracula appears in front of Mina "By her side stood a tall, thin man, clad in black" (336) and sucks her. Then she also becomes vampire. Dracula and his team of vampire's attitude are to suck the blood by making the holes in the neck. They kidnap the little children and send them back with the symbol of holes in their neck.

The novel has created picture of Irish people and their suffering during colonial period which shows inequality in society. The novel shows British colonial threat upon Irish which created political turmoil, terrorism, and social, political anarchy. It presents a composite picture of Irish society. That is how the world is socially constructed and represented to and by us in meaningful ways. As new

historicism argues, are situated within a particular social, cultural, political, economic climate, and since the writer operates within the horizon of her/his own world view ( a certain broad set of assumptions and beliefs), the task of new historicists is to explore "the historicity of texts and textuality of histories"(Montrose 410). Indeed, the central strand of cultural studies can be understood as the study of culture as the signifying practices of representation. It attempts to explore how the given piece of literature or history or anything else fits within the complex web of competing ideologies and conflicting social, political, and cultural agendas of the time and place in which it occurred. Besides, new historicists explore how the given piece serves or opposes the certain discourse of time and place. To maintain dominance, control and power or to oppose them various discourse are circulated. Among them literature is one.

Thus, the research paper presents power relation between colonizer and colonized and resistance against colonial power. Allegorical representation of colonizer and resistance against it. Stoker has created a powerful and intellectual fictional character named Count Dracula who had played the allegorical role of colonizer and tried to make chaotic the so called British civilized and cultural system. It also examines criticism of British hegemony over Irish culture and society during Victorian society when British culture was considered as mainstream culture. During the period, British unfairly created existential horror through potato famine. It concludes that Irish people went upon existential crisis and faced merciless death. The colonized mentality was for creating power to rule over the country. British destroyed Irish lives, culture and economic condition. The novel presents a kind of revenge against British society by creating deadly horror when Harker visits in Ireland with business mission. The novel introduces two major characters Count Dracula and Jonathan Harker. Dracula represents Irish culture, society, civilization and thought

and in the same way, Harker represents British society. As Harker visits Dracula's castle, it brings tussle and conflict between them. Dracula's intention is to terrify to Harker and wants to take revenge against colonized mentality. During colonized period British society imposed, influenced and forced on mindset and treated them as uncivilized one. Due to the reason, Harker still shows his influence and observes from own perspective. In this respect, Dracula wants to take revenge against unfair interest of Jonathan as he observes Dracula's castle. Dracula threatens, terrifies him to dominate and underestimate others as Irish society.

The major discussion of the research is Irish resistance to British imperialism. With the help of representative characters, it shows horror and terror against Harker. Being vampire and prisoner, Dracula scares him and his finance. He even uses supernatural power to frighten Harker. In order to protest and resist British culture and ideology, he tries to symbolize resistance of British culture and colonized mind. Harker is an egoist, formal and self-centric in terms of British culture and his mentality is guided by colonized mindset. For this reason, he travels with mission in Dracula's castle. But Dracula's treatment and power shocks Harker. Dracula shows his power, he terrifies and scares him. It is a kind of threat and challenge against British society. It is challenge to British society because the country was super power during colonized period. Due to unfair treatment and harassment to Irish society, Dracula being representative character, dares to challenge British society and power. Count Dracula makes him realize to suffering of Irish people during colonized period. By creating potato famine, British people created fear and horror among Irish people. For this reason, Count Dracula threatens to Harker by creating horror. Those deadly spirits of famine period, Dracula invades to Harker. By transforming Lucy and Mina into vampires, Dracula tortures him physically and psychologically. This intention

behind terrifying Harker is to show the power of Irish society that they also can combat against British society even they can destroy them.

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