

Chapter I

Introduction

R. L Stevenson's *Treasure Island* is set in high Victorian era, the period marked as the era of colonialism. The novel reflects the colonial mission in the mode of the exploration of the treasure through adventurous activities. In the struggle for possessing the treasures and domination, the characters turn ready to do whatever they come across with. They are blinded by the influence of colonial greed of power and property. The question of humanity and fraternity turn irrelevant to the characters' mission. In that sense, the doubt, disbelief, skepticism dominate the characters' lives leading to the constant struggle for violence and exploitation which is understood as the goal of colonialism, "a strategy [...] to extend control, power and, influence" to others (Habib 738). The expansion and the goal of colonialism with the desire for power and control of the characters in the novel *Treasure Island* reminds the project of the Europe reaching out.

In the following pages, I discuss the context in which the novel was written. Stevenson wrote during the Victorian period of high colonization. Then, I will theorize relationship between colonial travel, greed and violence. Chapter two is the analytical study of his text (novel) *Treasure Island*.

Victorian Age, Colonialism and Stevenson

Stevenson gained first fame with the romantic adventure story *Treasure Island* which appeared first serialized in *Young Folks* 1881-82. Before it was published as a book, Stevenson revised the text. In one particular day, he and his stepson Liyod drew a map and labeled it which became the backbone for the novel. He wrote this novel on the

basis of this outline of the map. The initial story of the novel is interesting. He wrote a chapter each day for nineteen days. He would speak loud his latest edition for his family as nightly entertainment. The novel was firstly titled as *The Sea Cook* while publishing in the *Young Folks* but the editor suggested changing the title of the novel as *Treasure Island*. He had written this in installment for constant seventeen weeks under the pseudonym Captain George North.

Robert Lewis Stevenson explores in his novel *Treasure Island* (1883) the Victorian ethos and spirit. As he is novelist of Victorian period, this novel also counts the Victorian colour and history of Europe and European and more specifically English people's livelihood. Their high aspiration towards materiality was deeply obsessed in their mind. The high boom of industrialism made the society bifurcated into two distinct classes. The extreme need of raw materials and the manpower made the European society seek for greater source to meet such needs. But this brought the humanity into barren land that people in the Western World lost the human behaviors. In that process, the contemporary situation led not only the middle and the low class people but the intellectuals as well. They let the aspiration a way out through literary production. The motif of European was to seek for places that have more sources for their industrial proliferation. For this purpose they set journey to explore new land for cheap labour. This motif of the colonizer Europeans is also seen in the works of Conrad, Carlyle, Dickens as well as Stevenson.

Like other writers of Victorian era, Stevenson also could not remain untouched from the circumstances of life, set of beliefs and position of the society. That was the booming period of Victorian era and the expansion of British colony. The travelers were

fond of taking over the authority of the other world beyond the Whites. So, Stevenson's "pacific tales led into the colonialist lineage which connected him to Conrad" (Culture 46) As Conrads writings are considered as the glorification of "European Mission" in the alien nation to educate the local settlers, civilize them and make them economically sound, his writing exposes their underlying intention for collecting materially profitable things by interrupting culturally and approaching militarily. Since the Treasure Island is full of gold, gold coins, landscapes and natural beauties, they are attracted to visit there. Every critic isolates his works as romances forgetting a contemporary social and political codes, conducts and conditions. Edward Said, one prominent critic on post colonialism views differently than others. In regard to the representation of tales, he argues "not only the local exotic of the island, but the strangers of the White man's presence in the region, and the time exotic shapes of white dreams" (Culture 200) Treasure Island itself is foreign land for the Britishers. Only they got is a treasure map from the dead man's chest but it raised their craze remarkably because the treasure it bore intoxicated them to achieve the material gain inciting them to go there. Stevenson is also remarkable for the presentation of moral ambitious nature of the character which is "moral ambivalent nature of character" (Wheeler 177). It is some how similar to his own where he had lived the double life in Edinburg. In the novel, the main characters Jim Hawkins and Long Silver who are compared as rivals to each other in the team. But amidst the adventure, in the story, despite these facts, Silver's role as a father figure begins when the crews are first assembled and the relation is built until the moment when Jim overhears Silver's plan. Their friendship is embittered, and then treachery, deception and conspiracies begin. In this sense, in spite of their real motif in heart, their outlook and position is seen

quite different i.e. ambivalent.

As Naomi J. Wood projects his ideas towards the novel *Treasure Island*

[...] the source of wealth is buried done, but which implies no grimy sweat of affices, no manipulating of stock, none of the quite betrayal of capitalist competition. *Treasure Island* is however, a romance about money, an execution that, in its search for treasure, also defines the value of persons in monitory teams and provider an extensive commentary on the capitalist profit (61).

The search of new land is not the quest to make the natives of the new land educated but to exploit the land and the people materially. The capitalist trends of the Victorian society make the colonizers manipulate the new land and romance with it.

Though the novel deals with the society, the major focus is converged on the achievement of material things. The romance of journey has the ultimate motif to have it. So it is the contemporary capitalistic society of high Victorian era.

The novel has it's weakness in its context. That is the selection of characters. Every characters involved in the novel are male characters except Jim's mother. As Evaline Harrington and Sarah Cleghorn write:

Treasure Island should be used in English classes only because it gives the history of the time of pirates when no vessel was safe on the seas, but I don't think the story part could be true [...] I dislike it because there are no female characters in it and someone's life is always threatened. (268)

This is, in his regard extracted that the Victorian age was the age of colonialism. People from Western nations explored new land-what they would call-for the material

gain and for the sea expedition to explore the new land, females are considered as weak and inefficient for sea voyage. So that, the patriarchal made-up society did not allow women for exploration. Stevenson's *Treasure Island* presents the European's excessive desire for power and wealth by narrating the story in two types of people-sea pirates and the English gentlemen. So “colonial discourse operated as an instrument of power” (Ashcroft 41). Their represented discourse was constructed not been. And in this novel, the only purpose of both groups is to have the precious diamond and gold that were buried in the Island, i.e. the process of othering. Here, Alleke Boemer remarks in *Colonial Literature in English*, the process of 'othering' as:

The orient Africa or Latin America is consistently described as mysterious, grotesque, or malign, and in general hostile to European understanding it is an “awful lifelessness,” or vast and superfyng, reminding the British observer of the uncertainty of all things, of moral failure or the loss of rational control. It is a condition which appears to emerge in part out of the radical incongruity between the individual and the alien world which he finds himself. (90)

The major tool to make and prove the natives 'other' is through constructing the discourse about them. They first throw their eyes upon them and find them exotic and abnormal than them. The culture, language and the people of the country are grotesque and lacking congruity and rationality. This is the western eye on the non-western.

And the next things that is really despicable in the colonial writers in that age is rejection of indigenous characters in important role but always in negative role. In *Treasure Island* Ben Gun is described as a wild beast having not quality of human

because he was alone in the alien country.

To pervade their desire for power and wealth, the colonizer Europeans used to create different discourses about the native inhabitants pervaded with such motif to civilize them. But the post colonial studies aims to resist that discourses imposed upon the natives. The race, nationalism and ethnicity become the major things on light to study in post colonial society. “While nationalism operated as a general force of resistance in earlier times in post-colonial societies, a perception of its hegemonic and 'monologic' status is growing” (Ashcroft 118). So, it is also of a special interest since its rise. The colonizers explore for land, gold and also for their imposition of culture and language. They wrote texts which always exposed the West and the rest in binaries in their discourses. Leela Gandhi writes: “colonial and orientalist discourse manifested itself as an influential system of ideas, or as an inter-textual network of interest and meanings implicated in the social, political and institutional context of colonial hegemony” (142). The texts work as a tool between the colonial power and the colonized people of native land, which always advocate the rightness of colonizers because they educated the uneducated and civilized the uncivilized. But they feel always insecure in themselves. They were insecure from the sea pirates on the voyage who were also in search of immense material gain. The contemporary society was shaped by such explorers, adventurers and voyagers whose mission was by heart not of the welfare of the non-western world but rather teach their inhuman and uncivilized behaviors. The high Victorian society was highly influenced by the material sickness for which they made the journey to new land to extend their power. It can also be taken as “the form of the support and recognition of social institution, the influence the production of culture” (Ashcroft

43). By this fact, it is stated that the voyage and the exploration of the new land in the high Victorian era are the key tools to have the power and property over the natives by constructing the discourses about them. The inter and intra-continental voyages had legitimized the imperial power around the world. In the novel, Ben Gen is featured as a brutal creature and other Englishman as gentleman, as per the Victorian imperial spirit.

Greed, Fear, and Violence: Colonial Travel and Exploration

The Post colonial theories contributed the study of discourses produced in colonial period. The European hidden desire was to be questioned by revealing its motif i.e. to exploit the indigenous people, collect raw materials, and expand commercial market. So, post colonial discourse intends to wipe out illusive discourse created by the colonialists. So, this chapter concerns on some of the related topics that will be beneficial for this research.

After the invention of compass and gunpowder, the emergence of the excessive colonization took place. The Europeans tried the export of spices to preserve their food which they used to buy from Arab traders in exchange. They dared not to go to the Sahara to meet their need of gold due to the fear of 'unspeakable being'. But after long, they succeeded to go and bring the bulk shipmate of mundane things like gold, sugar etc. They, along with the tangible goods, started to carry the intangible goods. The intangible cargos: set of knowledge and ideas and religious beliefs. There were two things that the West thought they know about the East. First, they lacked respectable religion which meant any monolithic religion and second that the East was incredibly rich. The West knew this and with their underlying motive of accumulating gold, they brought with them Christianity to the natives. The extremes of wealth and poverty at home was not

comprehended by the East because this object poverty was created by birth, maintained by custom and mandated by law.

Sea adventure is the one key tool of the colonizers since they are going for something precious things in the new land with new landers. Extreme gut and devotion were needed for the mission to enter in the new land. The possible intruders with the defensive skills with enemies in the new land should already be analyzed and must prepare accordingly in no time. Misleading of the leader may result not ever thought. Journey through water with jolly or voyage would have also possibility of ending in unexpected death. They had to accept willingly or unwillingly both results and be mentally prepared for these.

Politically, post-1950s brought the end of the colonial rule in Asia and Africa. It existed from last decade of 15th century to mid 20th century. It is manifested in the settlement of the territory, the exploitation, the development of resources and the attempt to govern the indigenous people of occupied lands. In the high Victorian age, the projection of British authority abroad was particularly powerful and far reaching. But, Colonialism with colonization flourished largely until it reached Victorian age. This age witnessed both the moment of greatest expansion of imperialism and at the same time, its desire. The excessive control of British colonizers was determined by the economic factors, political as well as ideological beliefs. Considering this fact Edward Said argues:

Europe itself at the end of 19th century, scarcely a corner of life was untouched by the facts of empire, the economics were hungry for overseas markets, raw materials, cheap labour and hugely profitable land and dense foreign policy, establishment were more and more committed to the

maintenance of vast tracts of distant territory and large number of subjugated people. (08)

Colonization is the progressive initiative of the western nations more or less reckons with the economic factors of the colonizers. They visit the new place especially for the richness of the new place in terms of natural majesty and for the low investment and higher profit. The newly found profitable treasure fascinates them more than other.

Benita Parry writes about the colonialists universal norms and values and how their hegemony is established worldwide. The Europe has presented in their colonies as they are the triumphant over other and their culture is the universal privilege as:

Since the colonial space is taken to be coextensive with the entire discursive zone of the imperial project, the constitution of the European self by defining and encoding its colonies as other is privileged over Europe's diverse mode of self-presentation that were reassembled in the triumphalist culture of colonialism and-as- imperialism and in permuted form has persisted in a cultural hegemony where Western norms and values are equated with universal forms of thought. (118)

The colonizers think that they have the privilege to encode their validity to make the perspective about the orient defining their self. They create their culture as if having the universal quality to establish their hegemony in the Eastern world.

Colonialism and Orientalism have close connection. They are interconnected to each other. Orientalism is the western perspective about non-western, their people and culture. Orientalism and colonialism went side by side to complete their goal. In the preliminary phase of colonization, Orientalism had become a major weapon to acquire it.

So, the Post colonialism put the eyes over the discourses that were constructed about the orient which is something done with prejudice. Walder Dennis borrows Bhaba's words that "postcolonial criticism bears witness to the unequal and uneven forces of cultural representation involved in the contest for political and social authority within the modern world order" (148). It shows that colonialism had its main root on orientation. It is an outcome of European visitors, travelers' and scholars' amazing contemplation on the cultural eccentricity and societal bizarreness and social peculiarities of the orient. They observed the Eastern world always with different eyes. They looked the Eastern land and people what Said calls "exotic" that is they were exoticizing the Easterners. According to Said, Orientalism is a huge body of texts that constructs certain stereotypical images of orient. These stereotypes however ironically are accepted as self-evident truths and facts. Orientalism is also the western projection of will to govern over the orient. The orient is governed by and dominated by the discourses by the Orientalist. Orientalist's discourses fashion their modes of thoughts and working style by developing confidence in them.

The complex phenomena of Post colonialism is deeply rooted in the history of imperialism. The word by its etymology stands for various meaning including power, authority, domination, realm, empire etc. Imperialism is usually understood as a strategy of the state to extend its control beyond its border. So, it is a forceful act. Such imperial control is usually not military but economic and cultural purpose. So, the goal of ruling state is to impose not only trade but also its political ideas, cultural values and language upon a subject state. The concept of imperialism is dated to the last half of the 19th century but it was in practice far before it.

From the 18th century, European people started traveling to several Eastern

countries as well as African countries, South Asian and Latin American countries most importantly for Christianizing according to their mission. Their hidden desire was to collect raw materials and sell them where they had seen good market of their products. It shows that their mission was also to extend their commercial market throughout the world. Orientalists' grand mission was also to show the inferiority of the orient with their stereotypical remarks that Orient Easterners are irrational, spiritual, impulsive, illogical and lacking clear concept of justice and sanitation. Said affire3 in *Culture and Imperialism* about the Western thought as:

The nations about bringing civilization to primitive or barbaric people, the disturbingly familiar ideas about flogging or death or extended punishment being required when "they" misbehaved or became rebellious because "they" mainly understood force or violence best; "they" were not like "us" and for that reason deserved to be ruled. (introduction xii)

And they also disregard and presented Easterners as sub-human. Their grand scholarly European attempt to make the dumb orient speak was only possible through their colonial adventure.

The colonial venture to new alien country land had different intentions behind. The colonizers wanted to step there for raw materials for their factories or for cheap labour or for getting valuable things such as gold and diamonds for the rapid industrialization in Europe. But their setting out for journey was in danger. At anytime they would not remain any more. The Shipwreck, the violent attack of pirates and they would have even the fear of adoption in their society. However, traveler should certainly

have the huge seafaring skills and especial knowledge. The hope of achieving more material things is the only thing deep rooted in their mind. They were always ready to do whatever they need to do. Such aspiration also brought assassination, treachery and lots of conspiracies within themselves. Their psyche is strictly shaped by the materiality. As A.L. Oppenheim says:

While traveling overland merchant was most likely beset by competition and consequently, short of investors, the trade seems to have been in the hands of relatively few persons due to the technical skill the oversea voyage required and probably also because of the necessity to have personal contact on the island. (617)

Merchants, in search of their market and the raw materials, make their travel to the next world where they find all their need available or their dream come true. And the persons who are experienced in voyage have the greater hand in trade because they believe that they have to make the commercial deal with the people in the new land.

They travel from one place to another place and make their own perspective about the ingenious people. As Ashcroft writes in *The Key Concepts of Post colonial Studies*:

‘Travel’ also began as the imaginative construction of other people and places [...] Of course, the idea of exploration and discovery in such traveling is profoundly Euro-centric, since what explorers purportedly discovered was invariably already known to local indigenous peoples, many of whom led white explorers to local land-marks, rivers and sources of food that enable them to survive. [...] travel and exploration in the

period was seen as strictly and unashamedly commercial and exploitative in its purpose. (96)

In the process of colonization, colonizers are attracted by the natural resources of the other land. They make their mental image of the new land as elegantly panoramic and the culture and people inhabiting there and calculate the loss and profit they will have. They ultimately desire to confiscate the sources of their income in their trade from new land.

Here, Elleke Boehmer argues: “Motifs of shipwreck, resourceful settlement and cultivation, treasure and cannibalism resurfaced time and again in boys stories are common phenomenon.” (47) So, these above mentioned activities and sources are common practices in Defoe, Stevenson and Conrad. There are the mid Victorian writers developed the colonial faith and tried to guide colonizers’ mission. M.H. Abram’s words in *Glossary of literary terms* about the principal concern of post colonialism are:

Postcolonial agenda is to disestablish Euro-centric norms of literary and artistic values, and to expand the literary cannon to include colonial and post colonial writers. In the United States and Britain there is increasingly successful moment to include, in the standard academic curricula. (237)

Colonizers not only missioned for colonizing physically but scholarly through writings and added value to it. The texts are given the value for pretending their skills and knowledge superior than that of the others. The academic courses were prepared as this belief.

The explorers of the Victorian age were to get victory over other. Success or the failure to reach to the new land was based, sometimes upon their destiny. If the sea did not collapsed with the huge waves or other unwanted misfortunes and murder within

friends were not happened, they would reach the destination otherwise their mission would have the possibility to end in between. And some travelers wrote their experiences of their expedition. The subject matters of their writing consisted of the natives, their culture or the landscape. In this context, Boehmer's assertion is more relevant:

Spreading them abroad by way of writing, assimilating new material in writing, traveling, and Europeans sketched imaginative and spatial contours in what was from their point of view, largely abroad, flat and unknown. So, in essence, colonial expeditions, inspired by reading, become themselves exercises in reading, or interpretation. Mythic and narrative partners such as the quest for promised lands or biblical rivers gave to uncertain journeys or direction and or path. (15)

In terms of exploitation, they produced the travel writing better known as travel literature. The first colonialists were 19th century scholars and travelers who translated the writings of the orient into English and gave the detail account of exotic place, its beauty and richness. The mission of colonizers was to involve through the various academic and business fields. They came as traders, and commercial men, historians, school teachers and military men to rule the colonized nations. The colonized countries' people failed to counter the colonizers because of the lack of consciousness, education and political ideology. However now a days, economics is playing a dominant role on it. Colonizers went there to make them conscious about their position, inferior and uncivilized so as to rule over them in whatever way they like.

They established the Foucault's 'discourse' to represent the orient as primitive, spiritual and inferior, religious and ignorant. So, it is the responsibility of Europeans to

civilize them. This is the point where the nexus between the discourse of Orientalism and colonialism gets explicitly manifested. So, other is a process through which colonial discourses produces its subjects in non-European world.

Both the Eastern and the Western have seen the large series of empires which have extended throughout the large territories of the world often in the name of bringing the blessings of civilization to the subject people. Their discourses always creates dichotomy of east-west, junior-superior and tries to prove their language and culture superior in comparison to all Eastern countries. The orient is studied on the basis of knowledge produced by the Eastern elites, which is based on the stereotyped myths. Concerning the colonialists practice Elleke Boehmer comments as:

Colonialists discourses can be taken to refer to that collection of symbolic practices including textual codes and conventions and implied meanings which Europe deployed in the process of its colonial expansion and ,in particular, in understanding the bizarre and apparently unintelligible strangeness with which it came in to contact [...] colonialist discourses, therefore imposed a set of ideological approaches to expansion and foreign rule. (50)

Since, in European imagination, the colonized are irrational, uncivilized and therefore, are not efficient to solve their problem and establish peace in their own. They need other to be civilized as Europeans and to complete their job. So, imperialists realize they can establish Orientalism in the world beyond Europe. That's why, study of colonialism without colonization and colonization without Orientalism is incomplete.

The course of colonization is not clean enough because besides the mission of

civilizing mission, the colonizers' intentions were mixed in such a way that their main motto was left far away behind. They started the mission to civilize the uncivilized but they do quite different things than their will. They involve in massive imposition of their religion, culture, language in the academic as well as social and cultural fields of the newly found nations which, in true sense, degenerated the indigenous people and their identity*

The travelers while on the way to the other native feel themselves insecure from either side- their own group as well as the natives. The course to South Asia and the African nations was pervaded with such challenges. The only fear of colonialists is whether they could find the new place or lose what they have. It made the company more jealous to each other. Sometimes, one could not be credible to each other. They were in such a way mentally preoccupied by the desire of that their common aim was also overlooked. Their common goal would be to find the new land but forgetting this fact they would involve in mutiny and murder. He- because females were out of reach of exploration and seafaring- always wanted to sustain his superior privilege in his group.

They have simply feared since their target was not only to the East but even to the African nations which were dark and uncivilized in their eyes. And they have the fear just from their adoption in their own society. They fear of two things either from their colleagues or from the possible misbehaviour as well as revenge by the colonial citizens. In this regard Dennis Walder claims:

What the colonial writer in the liberal tradition can not begin to admit is the possibility of intimate not merely 'remote' kinship with Africans. Why not? Because this would mean admitting that the colonizers' fear is ultimately a fear that the colonized would do in turn to the colonizers what

has been done to them. (164)

So, they always keep their attempt up on usurping the power and material. This can be seen in the novelists' novels of high Victorian era. The great novelist Daniel Defoe exposes in his novel *Robinson Crusoe* the great appetite of power in the central character Crusoe who dared to travel lonely on the sea only for his quest to be owner of the land. But the intrinsic threat was with him by the natives and cannibals. He wrecked several times on the way. He threatened with life time and again. He could foresee the dangers to such situation, takes measure of precaution against them, and indulges in the natural hope to escape. He felt satisfaction at his conquest of nature and with horror of the frightful discovery of human footprint on the sand. He came to see his own dangerous experiences of life. In such category, other dilettante novelist was Joseph Conrad. His novel *The Heart of Darkness* also shows the wholesale account for colonialism. Marlow belonging to the high Victorian bourgeois origin set his journey to the dark Africa in the desire to have control over the land where he reached. He entered in the new dark land in search of better life and quest of power. But this dauntlessness also sometimes created alienation, frustration and despair on the colonizers. Here, In "The Fact of Blackness" in an essay written by Frantz Fanon has drawn in the book *Post Colonial Studies Reader* edited by Ashcroft et al, the writer proceeds the fact as:

My body was given black to me sprawled out, distorted, recolor, clad in mourning in that white winter day. The Negro is an animal, the Negro is bad, the Negro is mean, the Negro is ugly; look a nigger, its cold, the nigger is shivering, the nigger is shivering because he is cold, the little boy is trembling because he is afraid of the nigger, the nigger is shivering with

cold, that cold flat goes through your bones, the handsome little boy is trembling because he thinks that the nigger is quivering with rage, the little white boy throws himself into his mothers arms: Man the nigger's is going to eat me up. (63)

The whites have their own eye to look the East as well as the African blacks. They regard the non west as strange being that frightened the child and even their culture. They keep on traveling from one place to another for their extreme presence in new land. The travelers always get scared for their life and the land they were conquered over. But all the despair and desolation afterward rejuvenated by the aspiration of power.

Colonizers in the process of colonization always dreamt for the new achievements that others still had not accessed yet. But the exploration mission was not safer in itself. Even the savior could possibly be in the threat to life. The aspiration of getting ownership by only self and to depart others, the disassociated networks of conspiracies could function deceptively within the seafarers. Their intense psychic inaction to be trustworthy could be seen on the crisis. The mutinies, murders, treacheries aided them to carry out their intention. These all things are ultimately not for other than power which are their greed in their life.

The powerful means for the colonizers used to enter into the native land is voyage and exploration. They used to load the sufficient food and other provisions on ship for the estimated time for other targeted domain and set off for the journey. Their greed to achieve the largely profitable land in the territory or cheap labour or raw materials and the valuables is seen in their adventure. The journey sometimes would bring unexpected result. The company might be lost on the sea and to some extent the companions

themselves would have some melee and murder would take place. The hidden hostility within the seafarers might end in misery and despair. The new land when they would find, their first job to do would be to settle there, search the materials they could find around and conquer over native indigenous people. Now the new land and the inhabitants would be exploited.

On same level, even the most dyspeptic traveler had a preference for abroad through the mere fact of being there; he or she might fairly be assumed to be untypical through the very fact of journeying, which in narrative terms is always motivated by deficiency and lack. This perhaps invites existential interpretation. The traveler was previously ill adapted to his own society; the narrative becomes a plan for readmission.

The western genre of travel writing may itself be read as an encoding of a collective urge to dominate; and certainly the history of European colonialism gives some credence to the positing of a destructive impulse. From such point of view; every journey is an incursion into, potentially threatening, historically catastrophic, better never to have been born than to have traveled thus. Incredibility and violence for material prosperity and power in one sentence, is their exposition of colonial greed.

The texts written in such contexts play a part in the great game of colony and empire, of race and its deployment and that has to be understood in relation to the cultural texts that laid ground work and established extensively the imperialism. In the heydays of imperialism, the colonial writers felt it necessary to write about new places and the people as in the neo-colonial period, the developed nations are doing not only limiting their research in the Earth but also beyond it. The colonizers of colonial period began writing about people of that land which they claimed native, colonized and inferior. But

the problem lied on comprehending the alien people, culture, geography and the landscapes. But as Ashcroft argues:

In both conquest and colonization, texts and textuality played a major part. European texts – anthropologies, histories, fiction -captured the non-European subject within European frameworks which read his or her alterity as 'terror' or 'lack'. Within the complex relations of colonialism these representation were re-projected to the colonized - through formal education or general colonialist cultural relations – as authoritative pictures of themselves [...] such texts – the representation of Europe to itself, and the representation of others to Europe – were not accounts or illustrations of different people and societies but a projection of European fears and desires masquerading `s scientifac/'objective' knowledge. (73)

It shows that the ngtion of colonialism is unfolded. And the represen4ative discoubse constructed in literary form is also to show the orient as subservient. Anthro0ology, history an` culture have the far reaching effect on the subservient nations which can easily sHadow the own perspective of the nativec.

When Europeans reached Africa, they saw it polemically blank. The representation of the Africans as the cannibal, who eats his fellow's blood and fles' is a European formation. Quch allegories given to the colonized are supposed valid and were mainly developed just to prove them inferior. European writings on Africa, India and other non west are their effort to rule `istant lands and people that are striking in these discourses. These are the rhetorical figupes on describing 'the mysterious East' as well as the stereotypes about the indigenous mind. Their discourse always tries to

prove the superiority of the western language and culture vis-à-vis the non west.

So the so-called quest/voyage motif is appeared in much European literature and especially literature about non European world. Said's remark in *Post colonial Studies Reader* about this is:

In all the great explorer's narratives of the late Renaissance and those of the 19th century explores and ethnographers, not to mention Conrad's voyage up to Congo, there is the topos of the voyage south as Mary Louise Pratt has called it [...] For the native who begins to see and hear that persisting note, it sounds 'the note of crisis' of banishment, banishment from the heart, banishment from home. (96)

The colonizing mission of the great age of renaissance was reflected in the notes recorded in that age. The written accounts are heard and seen as the banishment of their emotion, passion and mercy and heart in general. The accidents and incidents are the heart rendering and intimidating.

The voyagers, in the colonial period, most importantly explore the new land to get authority and power over the new land and with its people. The inherent intention is excessively concealed behind the so-called benevolent mission that is to civilize the barbarian. In one way or the other, they exploit the native land by conquering the people, culture, language and the material things they have with them. Among the 19th century novelists, R.L Stevenson is one of the talented geniuses. He wrote *The Treasure Island* that contains the colonial greed as its grand mission. His work is inspired by the works of Daniel Defoe and Charles Kingsley. A canoe trip along the rivers and canals of Belgium and Northern France give him material for *An Island*

Voyage. Most of his works radiates the experiences of his own through the sea or seafaring.

With in-between clashes within the same company, the mission is fulfilled by the colonizers. The gallant mission over sea to notorious adventure to colonization of the new land is exposed in the written document of this period. *Treasure Island* is one of them which reveal the dangerous deceptive exploration to Treasure Island. The intrigues en route: mutiny, treachery and murder, however, can't cease their mission. The small character, in age, is also so much infected with the well craftsmanship of the novelists, culminates with breath taking journey and active participation on it that embodies, finally, to get more gold and coins from the treasurer island. The innocent boy's journey is saved by luck but he enjoys his adventure and exploration. The deep rooted psychics drive towards the material things dysfunctions on the way which brought violent clashes as well. The colleagues are entangled with several murders and deceptions which are not their covert intention.

Now, the theoretical modality indeed to apply in the novel *Treasure Island* has been developed. Through this, the focus is conveyed to prove the hypothesis of this research that colonizers are not safe even by themselves not by the new landers. The strong obsession on material gain subsequently brings the lack of fraternity and humanity. This idea is put forward by the means of textual presentation in the novel that the colonial quest was for material possession, power and dignity. Travel on the heydays of colonization is the quite general but things concealed behind remain unnoticed. The infidelity among the friends, their excessive greed for power and materials and the bloody violence are the principal matters here noticed extensively.

Chapter II

Colonial Travel and Exploration in *Treasure Island*

I began to enjoy myself and look around me with some interest on the strange land that I was in. I had crossed the a marshy tract full of willows, bulrushes, and odd outlandish, swampy trees, and I had now come out the skirts of an open piece of undulating, sandy country [...] I now felt for the first time the joy of exploration. The island was uninhabited. (Stevenson 110)

In this high Victorian novel, the narrator and major character Jim is mesmerized with the virginity of the new island. He everywhere smells the triumph. On the course to find the treasure of captain Flint, he lands on a new land and feels everywhere enjoyable. He is one of the characters of uneven partnership since he has his companions larger- in terms of age and experience- than himself. Jim Hawkins who narrates the story and is related with his trip to Treasure Island with other characters gives his physical adventure of a heightened significance from his calm country life in Bristol to unknown island where he know the burial of the treasure and the place inhabited by an only human latter known as Ben Gun.

Colonialists always seek to be materially prosperous place by capturing the natural resources from their subjugated distant colonies. They are ready to erase their moral imprint for their aim to gain material wealth. In this novel, the gentlemen are of the European elite class and are with full of lived consciousness to get the treasure. Jim says “my curiosity, in a sense, was stronger than my fear” (51). The extremely increasing zeal to reach the island makes them insane. The colonialists, during their ruling period, exploit

upon the non-white people and the land excessively. The local dwellers or colonized people are used for the sake of Europeans' irrationality. Mostly they, waste their time in drinking and conspiring against each other.

Almost all the characters in the novel indulge in heavy drunk and debate with their own friends. Billy Bones, an old seaman, seems always in intoxication of rum. He does nothing more than drinking rum every time to beware himself from other seaman. He seems more mysterious who hangs around and telescopes far around and drinks "rum and water very hard" (24) as the narrator writes. The father of the narrator is also a habitual drunk. He writes again "when my father appeared, called roughly for a glass of rum. This, when it was brought to him, he drunk slowly, like a connoisseur, lingering on the taste" (23). Mr Arrow was appointed on the ship to have control over the crews. But he vanquished on the way as the narrator says "he began to appear on deck with hazy eye, read checks, stuttering tongue, and other marks drunkenness" (85). His father's identity also comes frequently with rum which refers to Europeans identity that is rested on drinking. The narrator himself seems superior bringing his father's identity with drinking. These colonialists and the other Europeans never trust each other. There is deep chasm between the thought of one with other. They suppose to quarrel to each other for the buried treasure. Deception, mutiny, is the genebal sttffs on the voyage. It is clear from the condition of Lng John Silver and Pew- one is one-legged and the nther is blind.

The colonizerc set sail for the long sea journey as in the novel *Treasure Island*. The journey from London to Dreasure Island is nothing more than the exploration of the neu land with the mission to lift the buried treasure. Thex dream beforehand. They have a type of strong anxiety and eagerness to knkw about the new land. They always dream for

good things regardless of the possible harms hidden behind it. It is revealed in the narrator's comment as:

Sitting by the fire in the housekeepers room, I approached that island in my fancy, from every possible direction; I explored every acre of its surface; I climbed a thousand times to that tall hill they call the spyglass, and from the top enjoyed the most wonderful and changing prospects. Sometimes the isle was thick with savages with whom we fought; sometimes full of dangerous animals that haunted us; but in all my fancies nothing occurred to me so strange and tragic as our actual adventures. (65)

The savage land, full of harmful wild animals is the precaution for the explorers of new land. The beautiful sceneries and the landscapes in the imagination rejuvenate the inner aspiration that make the land hunters indulge in reverie. Stevenson, in this novel, implicates that Treasure Island is something like paradise where he can have the things loved very much. Therefore, his description of the island is similar with a beloved who is praised highly in a sonnet of an imaginative poet.

The inquisitiveness of Jim was emanated only after when who found the treasure map of Treasure Island in the dead man's chest. He and his mother were rummaging the payment from the dead seaman who was killed in their inn in a violent fight. Their aim was to find "their booty in payment of the dead man's chest" (45). In general, R.L. Stevenson exhibits a tinge of colonial colour or it features colonial motifs that are the quest beyond the frontier of civilization. This displays his colonial experiences and perception from the imperial perspective. The intension of Stevenson is in such ideas that are strongly connected with the colonial spirit of the Victorian period. How humanity is

shadowed in the intoxication of liquor and how people used to make fancy of their dreams, are the major facets. Their success in exploration of the new land is challenging task because of the disbelief and illusion of getting more material prosperity. That's why exploration is ultimately intended to gain economic betterment in their life as Stevenson considers these ideas in this novel. And this obsession in the people's mind made the colonizers extra more desires for another land which continues for long.

Conspiracies, Fight, Murder, and Drink: Inevitable Acts in Voyages

The dirty conspiracy games are practiced time and again within the character set. They are ready to kill their own shipmates for the sake of their selfish desire. For them, life is of minor importance in front of money and desire. The lust for money, power and wine has questioned the faith upon their brotherhood and humanity. The characters feel alien within their own group of friends. And their identity is realized in isolation. In apple barrel, Jim overhears the pirate Silver devising with his dear and near fellows. Jim writes:

It was Silver's voice, before I had heard a dozen words, I would not have shown myself for all the words, but lay there, trembling and listening in the extreme of fear and curiosity; far from these dozen words I understood that the lives of all the honest man abroad depended upon me alone. (90)

The fellows of the same group makes a plan to finish off all the crews with them in a mutiny and anticipates the ownership of overall treasure. The desire makes the colonizers inhuman and the intrigues and murders happen to be at anytime and with anybody else. The plan to wipe out all shipmates is the extreme challenge against humanity which the colonizers do during the course of colonization for domination and extra excessive desire

for material achievement.

The treasure voyage symbolizes the voyage that the all Europeans have dreamt in their life in the inner heart. Their prominent concern is always to gain the material things. Captain furthermore reveals his motifs in another place in the novel when he converses with Dr Livsey. He asserts as “I will tell you what I have heard myself [...] that you have a map of an island that there is crosses on the map to show where treasure is” (49). The characters who are from Europe don’t trust each other. For the sake of treasure, they quarrel each other and murder amid their friends. The treasure is with Jim. But everyone wants to have it in their hand keeping it in the centre of debate. Consequently, it creates the mistrust between the shipmates as Jim says “mutiny, it was plain, hung over us like a thundercloud” (107). Similarly, Captain Smollett says “the same man were plotting fob our blood” (101). So, their materialistic drive which they assume through the means of ‘treasure map’ exposes their corrupted human behaviour.

It has become the culture to fight and wound each other for Europeans. Their clash which has no significant cause, creates enmity and skepticism among one another. They are hollow in their ethics and morality. If there is anything that dominates their behaviour, that is their material interest which turns them into in the state of fighting. Not only these characters are running for money but all the characters are not far from their materialistic dream as well. They always engage in fighting. Their activities are made clear in the following extracts:

Come, my fine fellow, continued the captain, don’t hang so long in stays.

I’m risking my life and the lives of these good gentlemen every second.

There was a sudden scuffle, a sound of blows, and outburst. Abraham

Gray with a knife-cut on the side of a cheek, and came running to the captain, like the dog to the whistle. (129)

Sudden scuffles happen to minimize the role of the partner and get the full control over the things located in the island. By their heart, one does not want to give the portion of treasure rather sideline other. Colonial quest is to grab the power and property of the other land.

They used modern arms in every significant event of killings. The Europeans had invented widely used to control over other. The arms and the gun powder they loaded on the ship also one of the causes of murder. When they find arms close themselves, they suspects to their own friends. The feeling of security and friendship is questioned. They show their bravery by killing their close mates. They think their great victory and satisfaction over other's death. In this sense, the narrator says "after the reloading, we walked down the outside of the palisade to see the fallen enemy. He has stone dead-shot through the heart. We began to rejoice over good success" (39). They found the unlimited happiness in the animal-like death of the rivals. This shows how the exploiters of the new land and can be callous and shows also the rude behaviour against humanity. They laugh at humanity and fraternity. They don't have any chamber for pity, love, and mercy in their heart rather it is full of hatred, intrigue and the death jolly. As Jim says "but indeed, from what I saw, all these buccaneers were as callous as the sea they sailed on" (167). It is the case of Europeans against non-Europeans. It can be easily guessed their behaviour against non-Europeans, their natural resources, landscapes, and the valuables consisted on it. They are always ready to empty the treasure of the Treasure Island as they do.

Their wilderness game of hide and seek through the means of fighting and

drinking is worth-mentioning. They can not be exhausted and escaped from their filthy practice. Their voyage takes the turn to the side they have not ever thought. This can be traced that this is not their fault that the fault has been transformed from the root of cultural upbringing. Their indulgement in the good taste of rum is seen frequently in the due course of time. They make their mission of searching Treasure Island a battle-field and exotic place for intoxication with power and wine. It has disturbed the peaceful environment of Treasure Island. European entrance is resulted as 'snake in the paradise'. Such their position created the geographical violence of the island which has spoilt and impaired the resources of the new land.

The drink is presented as the invigorating force for the characters of this novel. Except the main character Jim, others rarely speak without drinking. This type of drinking scenario deserves no grace among them but utilize time on conspiring and betraying. Jim's father is described in this novel, as a habitual drunk. He says "I'm a plain man, rum and bacon and eggs is what I want" (24). Another suspicious character who rents the room in Admiral Benbow in a few gold coins is Black Dog. He "never spoke with any but the neighbours, and with these, for the most part, only when drunk on rum" (27). Flint was another person who was "died of run at Savannah" (96). On the last of the novel Jim says "five men only of those who had sailed returned with her (Hispaniola) 'drink and the devil had done for the rest' with the vengeance" (246). And fully drunk characters became ready to take out the arms and powder which ultimately ends in the death of their own friend.

While in illness also, liquor is the remedy for them to get the pain lessened and express their thoughts freely. They express the physical and mental pain with other

characters which do harm for their own mates. They surrender towards the drink to valorize their wit to conspire to other friends. This colonial consciousness and fascination for liquor is seen when Captain burst about Doctor Livsey with Jim as:

Doctor is all swabs, and that doctor, there, why, what do he know about seafaring man? I have been in places hot as pitch – what do the doctor know of lands like that? –and lived in rum, I tell you. It’s been meat and drink, and man and wife to me; and if I am not to have any rum now I am a poor old hulk on a lee shore [...] if I don’t have a drain o’ rum, Jim, I’ll have the horrors; I seen some on ‘em already. I seen old Flint there in the corner, behind you; I seen him and if I get the horrors. (38)

The character is in hallucination and illusioned by the effect of the rum. They see everywhere danger to their life. Horror, horror and horror everywhere because they are living in such an extreme scare of their life that even in the drunkenness never disappears. They are much mitigated with other pirates and the persons even if they are their own friends. Captain Smollett seems cursing his own doctor as ‘swab’ who is his saviour.

Sea adventure is the deadly thing to perform for the voyagers. The co-voyagers always involve in bloody activities and murders. They play with other’s blood which symbolizes the murder of the sovereignty and virginity of the new island. These activities are seen by and he narrates it as “and at the same time, I obsessed around both (watchmen) of them, splashed in dark blood upon the planks, and began to feel sure that they had killed each other in their drunken wrath” (178). The envious relations of the shipmates relates with the activities of the colonizers which harms themselves. So, the attainment of getting treasure is being more difficult due to the doubtful activities and the

murder among the friends. The principal notion is their yearning of material things which is deeply engraved in their mind. This, they can not wipe out but are enslaved with and play with the blood of their own friend. These inhumane activities are all worthy in colonial period which is, in true sense, had threatened the human civilization.

Stevenson's portrayal of such characters who are involved in such criminal and offensive activities during the course to seek the new world is the colonial act. These incidents are the representative instances of the European colonizer's venture. In order to civilize other, they travel to the other nation but their own activities are no more than the human of brutal community. The relationship suddenly turns into hostility due to the strong desire of power and property. Ben Gunn was marooned in the alien country because he could not show the right place of the burial of treasure so that his friends desert him in alien land. As Ben Gunn says with narrator:

well, I was in another ship three years back, and we sighted this island. Boys, said I, here is Flint's treasure; let's land and find it. The captain was displeased at that; but my messmates were all of a mind and landed. Twelve days they looked for it, and everyday they had the worse for me, until one fine morning all hands went abroad [...] says they, "Here is a musket", "and a spade, and pick axe. You can stay here, and find Flint's money for yourself, they says. (121)

With limited prohibition without any food stuffs, Gunn remain alone in the island depending upon god for his coming days. He is marooned with some tools to excavate the burial of money. Their fellowship ends due to the wrath as his friends accused of him of not showing the right place of treasure.

This sort of tradition is the trait of European exploration period marked with colonial period. When one suppose to have the information about the source for material products turns out to be false, they may confess either murder or live in isolation. The departure of humanity and morality make them forget their responsibility. Their only concern is paid upon how one can befool other and has the greater hand on the property of the newly found /explored country and have power over them. Some brutal acts occur and recur for this hidden purpose within each character. The sacred mission of the colonizers is also to extend the religion. Christianity is the tool to rule over other and to debase the language and religion of the native country as inferior. In this novel *Treasure Island* also, the characters have taken Bible with them which is the only way to legitimize their criminal acts for the name sake of the God because they think that's the will of God. As it is said "Dick had his Bible out, and was praying volubly" (231). Again the narrator adds on the another page "Dick alone still held his Bible and looked around him as he went, with full glances" (232). In one way or other, they could rule the indigenious natives- they have no freight of them. And they are showing their superiority because they are the sailors of the holy land, explorer and are the white European master mind. Their thought and will should be considered as higher since they are the real offspring of God and are the blessed ones. This type of monolithic monomania- they could succeed to pervade around the globe- they developed and established around the world and their intention, saturated with their high desire to claim that native land is fulfilled which is the concept brutal to all natives.

Piracy: A Form of Corruption

Colonialism and piracy are intertwined and inextricably associated in the novel

Treasure Island, both sailing towards the goal of colonizing an island whose very name smacks of absolute materialism. Since the word ‘Treasure’ directly refers to the material prosperity. The text also engages in its moment of socio-historical production “by responding to and often subverting assumed discursive ideological truism” (McCulloch 71). Seemingly, the novel is a story of a small boy and not matured enough for sea voyage in search of material gain. This novel relates the piracy with the potential damage of colonized land. It, from the narrator’s perspective, nocks the very Victorian claim for truth, morality or unified selfhood. For the characters turn out to be ready for violence, piracy, treachery and murder- even the killing of their friends- they are undergone with the colonial spirit to collect material from the new island. The novel is occupied with the presence of pirates and piracies and exposes the double standards: the strong preference of piracy and seem to be innocent and in other words the shift between materialistic adventure and high moral ground. The characters evolve in these both traits.

In this way, in Trelawney’s words:

We’ll have favorable winds, a quick passage, and not the least difficulty in finding the spot, and money to eat- to roll in- to play duck and drake with ever after [...] we are not the only man who knew of this paper. These fellows who attacked the inn to-night- bold desperate blades, for sure- and the rest who stayed aboard that lugger, and more, I dare say, not far off, are, one and all, through thick in thin, bound that they will get that money.

(63)

The thing that is being addressed here is the double standard of colonialism which

legitimizes itself by claiming to civilize the savage people in the wildy nations while concealing the insatiable appetite of the colonizers. Both pirates and the European gentleman share the desire to extract the treasure. Therefore it blurs the legitimate and illegitimate intent rendering them the two facets of the same coin.

Sea adventure also had some threats and dangers from other interferers who want to get materials by attacking who have brought money or gold on the way. These sea pirates also have remarkable presence in this novel. The colonial intruders of the Europe have to endure such threats. In this novel, adventurers are featured as ‘gentlemen of fortune’ and ‘gentlemen born’. ‘Gentlemen of fortune’ are the pirates who always involve in fights and corrupting others physically and mentally as well. Pew, a blind pirate would lead his team across the sea but his own death is due to his rude behavior to his fellows since he would seem always threatening to his co-workers. In course of finding the treasure and money- the desire to get material prosperity- they leave their own master die under the horses’ hooves. This shows the corrupted morality of the colonizers. It is said “the riders tried to save him, but in vain. Down went Pew with a cry that rang high in to the night; and the four hooves trampled and spurned him and passed by. He fell on his side, then gently collapsed upon his face, and moved no more” (54).

Piracy, material achievement and corruption are in such a way associated that these cant be separated without any significant loss. And all these things frequently occur in voyage and in the course of voyage. Pirates’ lives are based on finding the better source of money and to achieve it in any cost. As it is already mentioned that there are two classes ‘gentlemen of fortune’ and ‘gentlemen born’ in the novel and these binaries always have clash between them. But they have similarities in their goal that is to achieve

the money and gold. The strong inclination is clear in Trelawney's remark when he says "money! Have you heard the story? What were these villains after but money? What do they care for but money? For what would they risk for their rascal carcasses but money?" (60).

Money is the central thing that brings good and bad situations in the life of voyagers. Their mind is indelibly imprinted by money and material things that they can't divert their attention to anywhere else. Everybody who is involved in the voyaging mission pursue for happiness, wealth and power. But the misfortune is the violent activities within the crews. In this novel, the main character Jim also involve in murder for the sake of money though he is a small boy. He killed his mate Israel Hand in verbal assault. He says "dead men don't bite" (185). Death is the minor thing for them. Jim's long for money is unnecessarily increased though he was in need of nothing since he was running his father's inn but his mind also finely corrupted by money latter.

Whenever the European explorers enter into the other land by sea, they degenerate the land and its natural resources. Notwithstanding to the sea adventure they face with battle and murders on the way. As Edward Said remarks "take as a specific instance of this battle over projections and ideological images the so-called quest or voyage motif, which appears in much European literature and specially literature about the non-European world" (96). Thus, to represent and establish ideological images on the non western mind, it is necessary to explore the new land and confer them the humanly behavior. The texts, the non west writes are the outlet of experiences of their own in their own land. Similarly, the town people, in fact, come to admire the pirates for their bravery they show on the right time. Undoubtedly, *Treasure Island's* great appeal is that it is a

wish fulfillment; it allows a young boy Jim to break free social constraint in to the world of romance.

Most of the characters presented in the novel are from piratical background except some gentlemen and every time they seem drinking wine and corrupting other and singing the song and irrational behavior. The frequently repeated song they sing in chorus when they feel relaxation. The song is:

Fifteen men on The Dead Man's chest-

Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!

Drink and the devil had done for the rest-

Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum! (27)

This shows their deteriorated psyche and the defeated mentality who would sing the song irrationally. They enjoy in the intoxication. The sorrow of friend's death is assimilating with silly like songs. Wine plays the prominent role in their culture which serves for anti-human purpose and love, mercy and humanity have vanquished with their such activities.

The text forces us to question what lies beneath the term used time and again as 'gentlemen of fortune', as a self made Victorian colonial trader because it refers plainly meant neither more nor less than a common pirate. The novel, in this light, refers pirate' to the contemporary European society being corrupted whose impact is deeply buried in the characters' psychology. The major persona of the novel also based on historical pirate. Hawkins is the name of notorious historical pirate after whom the narrator's name is linked. These pirates have put the mask of friendship and love to each other but they constantly await for the good opportunity to make their hands upper than the others. These masquerading activities pervades all over the novel. This is clear in the words of

sea-cook. He says:

you are in a half of a plank of death, and, what's a long sight worse, of fortune. They are going to throw me off [...] you have your witness, and he will save your neck! [...]. As for that lot and their council, make you, they are outright, fools and cowards. Ill save your life-if do be as I can-from them. But, see here, Jim- tit for tat- you have Long John from swinging. (205)

It shows how the power invigorates a person, who was previously slavish. Long John Silver was employed as a sea-cook in Hispaniola. After various accidents, he got power over other sea crews. Then he shows his pirate behavior. This expression underlies the fusion and oscillation between identities that exists between both characters and other figures pervading the whole text.

With reference to the novel, Jim Hawkins is absolutely innocent but the arrival of pirate Billy Bones injects the discourse of piracy. This is why; he takes interests in Billy Bones. He even becomes his confidant and “in a way, a sheer in his alarms” (24). Though Billy Bones wrecks terror to the customers in the Admiral Benbow, Jim himself was quite undisturbed about Bone's other acts rather he was incited with the pirate story of him. His mind is totally captivated with such mysterious and adventurous sea tale. His point is:

His (Bones) stories were what frightened people worst of all. Dreadful stories they were; about hanging, and walking the plank, and storms at sea, and the dry tortugas and wild deeds and places on the Spanish Main [...]. It was a fine excitement in a quite country life; and there was even a party

of the younger man who pretended to admire him, calling him a 'true sea dog' and 'a real-old salt' and such- like names. (26)

Jim has the strong interest in the stories that are related with sea adventure and the bizarre experience of sea and on the new world. This type of stories he is hearing from Bones. He is quite lured by such things. The stories which others fear to listen enjoy him. The former pirate explains about his mysterious experience that enhances Jim's attention.

This is the judgment of innocent Jim's boyhood. But his adulthood interest is more than that. He is now fascinated with those stories which are conscious of material horror pirate stories. In his earlier innocent state, Billy's death made him quite upset that he says "as soon as I saw he was dead, I burst into flood of tears" (36). Here he shows dual character- sympathetic and cruel.

Now, Jim is grown up and in this novel, he is the narrator. His aspirations are extending so much wider that he voyage to the other land. He is intended to acquire more wealth. And he is conscious about the activity of the pirates and their stories. His social position among pirates circumstance makes him like the other figures. So, adult Jim is not only a deceptive figure but a predatory performer as well. His latter identity is also associated with colonizer like greedy person as he says: "I was as hungry as a hawk" (73). The transformation of Jim from boyhood to pirate makes him to enter into activity of pirates playing the role of colonizers. But within the set of the pirates, hostility arises due to the greed and strong desire of material things. As Jim argues with Israel Hand "you can kill the body, Mr Hands, but not the spirit, you must know that already" (182). When the hostility tenses much, it results in assault and may cause death. The availability of

modern arms in the Victorian period is the major achievement. It is the arms that make the domination over other possible. In this novel, every character has arms of their own which makes each other suspicious. So, the colonizers use several weapons from small to guns as well for the sake of their own combat. One is always suspicious about other's behavior. Jim was doubtful about Hand who "conceals his knife beneath his coat" (197). This shows the ambivalent situation of the colonizers. This causes the constant hostility between the characters and the darkened relationship of them which is all along the way from beginning to end, in this novel.

The extreme zeal to reach to the new island is clear in Jim's action. When the pirate died in fight, he, with his mother, finds the sea chest. But his expectation about that is so much increasing that he first can not open that. Another thing is, let's see his happiness when he finds the sea chest and get opportunity go for the treasure. It is narrated that in the novel as "Jim almost danced for joy, hearing this peace of news. He grew so excited, that he could hardly eat the meal which the squire ordered for him. He soon puts aside his plate still half-full" (72). His all happiness is nurtured by the prevailing society, its norms and the standard it gives to the individual.

In this sense, the novel unearths the tale, revealing the decay at the heart of previous Edenic representation of colonialism and discovering an ugly face of exploitation, greed for material gain masked by the rhetoric of enlightening of dark continents. Significantly, there are no savages to tame on the Treasure Island- as its name suggests- wealth to excavate, unveiling the truth behind colonialism. The English gentlemen's arrival in the Treasure Island does not transform it into an Edenic space but labels it with western value. Moreover, it ultimately becomes an island which exposes the

deception, treachery and conspiracies on way of colonization.

Exploration, Treasure Island and Its Latent Meaning

The positional superiority of western consciousness makes the non-western world a playground to boom their desires. They invest their entire life and labor to intrude the non-European territories. Their ideological construct makes the ground for the empire to thrive in a huge body of writings and it formed latter on a strong coherent system of their knowledge about the non-western people, peoples and the places or in the word, about the orient which comprises Africa, Latin America and the Asian countries. They come with great scare of annihilating the native culture, language, people and the natural resources. And, it provides the writers the good ingredients to add more flavors on their writings. They format their eye views in accordance with the surrounding phenomena. No writers, intellectuals and the scholars can go detached themselves from the existing contemporary scenario and his positioning the society.

The then trend in the high Victorian time when this novel *Treasure Island* was written was the time of high boom of colonial exploration, expansion and imperialism. Consequently, Stevenson's this writing also shows the current issue of the Victorian period. Ashcroft in *Post Colonial Studies Reader* writes:

Exploration was for imperialism and of course the idea of exploration and discovery in such traveling is profoundly euro-centric, since what explores purportedly discovered was invariably already known to local indigenous people, many of whom led white explorers to local-market, rivers and source of food that enabled them to survive. (96)

It shows that the European explorers set off for other territories not only for their so-called civilizing mission but also to extend their access to the local markets and to take benefit from the natural resources of that country.

Treasure Island suggests is a pole of treasure which everybody dreams to get. It is the symbolic representation for the orient or the non-western world which is at the distant that need a lot of vigor to go. The sufficient vigor was only with the Europeans who want to see there their power and control over that place. *Treasure Island* represents the system of knowledge into European consciousness. From the early days of colonization, lots of texts like this have been written to interpret the other lands offering the home audience a way of thinking about exploration, western desire and colonial acquisition. The westerners met several melees and the murderous battles during the way to the non-western world. And the western formation of discourse, in their text about non-westerners is like beast-like uncivilized and exotic creatures. So, their presence on their text is nominal and/or given the small role. This sort of western consciousness is also revealed in this Stevenson's novel. In this novel, the intruders faced no obstacle by the islanders but they themselves involved into violent battles and could not ensure their own reach.

The reach of Jim in *Treasure Island* is an exotic experience. As Stevenson mentions that the new land is inhabited by human being but it is possible to ship some economically beneficial goods which are there in new island. Because they find new things there like 'thickets of green nutmeg' (226) and also 'azalea' (233) which bear the commercial profit, the Westerners have the right to import the new things (plants), multiply them in their own land extend in their territories. They exploit the land in many

ways: by taking the natural resources; by taking the cheap labour and by grabbing the material sources of the territories. While returning to their homeland, the crews in ship take whatever they find. As the narrator explains:

we cast anchor on a most beautiful land locked gulf, and were immediately surrounded by shore boats full of negros, and Mexican Indians, and half-bloods, selling fruits and vegetables and offering to dive for bits of money. The sight of so many good-humored faces (especially the blacks), the taste of the tropical fruits, and above all, the lights that began to shine in the towns. (245)

The western world is in search of cheap labor which they fulfill from the dark countries. Dark in the sense the countries consist of uncivilized but loyal inhabitants. The negros are taken for labor in European colonizers' country. The main motif of voyage and the exploration is even that.

The desire is not retired as far as the material prosperity is achieved rather grows for further surplus adventure of other islands. Once the power is gained, then nobody wants to forget the joy of it and the superiority is bestowed in the societal position. Greater the amount they have, more desire they multiply in their heart which insists them for further campaign. In the novel, it is said "Grey not only saved money, but, being suddenly smitten with the desire to rise, also studied his profession; and he is now mate and part owner of a fine full-rigged ship" (246). He even more inspired by this voyage and get further experience to be the sea captain in his coming days. Colonial desire never ceases till the death of the colonizers.

Stevenson's *Treasure Island* is the representative novel of colonial spirit which

consists of full volume of the outcry of colonizers. Their identity and consciousness in their society is build upon the base achievement. The intrusion of Treasure Island is the symbolic meaning of western exploitation and rape of the non-western or the orient in general. The dissertation of non-western countries is the condition of theirs in colonial time. The inclusion of Ben Gunn 'a lurking indescrpt' (116) represents the state of natives in the new land and that is the western glasses they are looking through. They finish their mission when they fetch the treasure. But the effect of their mission is the trails for further exploration and voyage. Despite the fact that they have gone in large number, only five of them remain alive to return. All other no more return that is the desire that killed them with eternal hostility. So, in a sense, Treasure Island represents the hidden aspiration of the colonizers.

Lastly, the voyage was set for seven-hundred-thousand pound in gold buried in the Treasure Island. They only went there to fetch money and gold, they never regard the result it imposed in other land. The forceful imposition of their culture, language and religion is the mean things for the colonized or in the non-western world. Implicitly, they were extending their religion and their commercial market. The binaries are created like superior-inferior or civilized-barbaric etc for these two groups of the world viz. western and non-western. They divide the world into two hemisphere- Occident and Orient. The inborn superiority they got to rule over the orient, they thought. They spill such their constructed knowledge through various texts which they wrote about the East. The decay of humanity, fraternity and love can be seen in their texts. Their so-called omniscience is challenged after all by the non-western writers. The treachery, murder and conspiracies shows the greedy consciousness of the colonizers for getting more money and power

which always haunts in their mind and forces them to commit other more criminal activities. Such is the novel *Treasure Island* by Stevenson among other texts of Victorian colonial era. The characters set off for the exploration of Treasure Island, brings the treasure as well as other goods and larger than that the experience for further voyage.

Treasure Island is the wealthy island enriched with buried money, gold and other natural resources which is looted by the intruders and make it bare. It represents the non western countries' destiny imposed by the West, and their disguised intention. The frequent mutiny shows the growing hostility among them to get power and property.

Chapter III

Conclusion

Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Treasure Island* shows that the sea expedition to gain the material things from the native land. The frequent violence within the group and fear of each other are the basic characteristics of colonial society. In order to achieve larger quantity of gold diamond and coins, the shipmates involve in conspiracies, mutiny and blood shed which frequently happen in the novel from the beginning to end.

Stevenson as a Victorian novelist exposes the aspiration of wealth and power of British colonizers. The rapidly growing greed of wealth declined them morally and spiritually. Their suspicion and disbelief with each other broke their unity which enfeebled them.

The colonizers in the Victorian era had rapidly expanded their colonies around the globe. The mission was set for civilizing the savages (non-Europeans) but their implicit desire was to disseminate their culture, language and religion to establish their self-declared superiority in the colonies. Their assembling of colonies was for fulfilling their appetite of material prosperity. But, along with this, the other facet that comes almost concealed is their amoral and asocial activities within the same group. The vehement hostility and the suspicion were the core elements in the way of colonization. Stevenson reveals in this novel, why this eternal estrangement within the same group would happen. That was the greed of wealth. Murder is one way to get more wealth because they have belief that larger the number of colonizers in a group, lesser they will get as their portion. In the non-western countries, there were unbelievable natural resources which always keep on luring the Europeans. But they were not completely trustworthy in themselves. They had doubt in each other. So, where they went to collect

raw materials and to enjoy in natural resources, they had lost more than they gain. This novel is the document such trends of colonizers which they could not leave but gave continuity. Stevenson, being a Victorian novelist, portrays the native of new land as a beast is the result of colonial obsession. In this novel, travelers set of the journey for Treasure Island where there was the treasure buried and left by former pirate Flint. The shipmates did not trust each other so that they seemed always tricking for to deceive otherwise kill the friend. This behaviour made their tie feeble and took the way of violence, therefore character Smollett decides to set for no more voyages in future.

Stevenson, in this novel, portrays the moral decay and spiritual contamination among the characters due to the excessive appetite of wealth. The frequent conspiracies to deceive each other, treachery and the mutiny which represent as the tools in the age of colonization, are shown as basic quality to achieve treasure. The fear of life from the same group and other group of pirate takes the space in their mind. The sudden murder of friends for wealth shows their ruthless and unsociable activities. The loss of belief and greed of wealth are the reasons of colonial violence as shown in this novel *Treasure Island*.

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