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**THE SLAVERY RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN FRIDAY AND ROBINSON CRUSOE  
AFTER *ROBINSON CRUSOE* BY D. DEFOE:  
AN ESSAY\***

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Daniel Defoe (1659—1731) was an English trader, writer, journalist, pamphleteer, and spy, now most famous for his novel *Robinson Crusoe*. Defoe is notable for being one of the earliest proponents of the novel, as he helped to is considered the founder of the new English novel [1]. He published his famous novel “*Robinson Crusoe*” in 1719. At the beginning it had a long title “*The Life and Strange Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, of York, Mariner*” [ibid] as it used to be typical for the Enlightenment literary works. It is considered to be a novel. The story is widely perceived to have been influenced by the life of Alexander Selkirk, a Scottish castaway who lived during four years on the Pacific island called “*Mas a Tierra*”

The story has a compelling authentically, remarkable in view of the unfamiliar setting. In this documentary reality, which can beguile far from thoughts of fiction, lies Defoe’s main contribution. Stylistically he achieves it by a plain style concentrating on unsensuous factual denotation. He has countless matter-of-fact inventories of things, which every now and then conceal a local point-‘some Portuguese Books, and several other Books, all which I carefully secured’. But always the narrative links these things snugly to the end of self-sufficiency. Defoe imagines Crusoe’s predicament so vividly that he makes involvement easy. And today the story continues to be resonant: it has been supplemented in many works appropriating its imagined world-whether by poets reallegorizing it, or by pornographers bent on filling a notable gap in Crusoe’s activities [2]. The novel is, as its name suggests, a renovation of literature, a return to origins. Richardson’s epistolary novels are about the act of writing, which is the sole, obsessive activity of his characters; sending letters is a reflex of their incapacity to communicate. The same desperately diligent toil occupies Defoe’s novels after *Robinson Crusoe* in 1719. Enumerating things, his characters profess to own them. Their studious realism derives from the need to anchor themselves to its solid totems, which they can trust. He undertook a series of radial journeys, beginning from London and always returning there before resuming, which he published between 1724 and 1726 as *A Tour through the Whole Island of Great Britain*. These expeditions constitute a Crusoesque enterprise: one man’s subjugation of a country,

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\* Рец.: проф. Аль-Джанаби (РУДН); доц. Ю.С. Чернякова (МГОСГИ, г. Коломна).

making himself monarch by the omniscience of his survey. With his hands the writer builds a sheltering edifice for himself. The novel is constructed by the same craftsman-like skill that Crusoe uses in the erection of his solitary castle. That dwelling is an endeavor of imagination: finding a hole in the rock, he resolves to call it his door, and with equal fancifulness he declares a cave his kitchen. It is the first house of fiction. He both builds it and supplies it, making it a department store or 'general magazine of all necessary things'. Crusoe's book is made on an analogy with this assemblage of bric-a-brac. He salvages pens from the wreck of his ship, but when they run out can carve replacements from the quills of birds he has shot; his only failure as an engineer is his inability to make ink. In London Defoe noted with interest 'tolerated prisons' like mad-houses or Chancery goals, which he called 'private houses of confinement...little purgatories, between prison liberty, places of advantage for the keeping of prisoners at their own request' [4].

The novel describes the life of the Robinson Crusoe from his adulthood till his last adventure on the island where he stayed for twenty-eight years become old and then returned to his country England. At the beginning the novel seems as an adventurous story but if we go deeper it is a dedication novel. The history of the novel belongs to the era of colonialism and geographical discoveries. The idea of exploiting other nations controlled by the British government and it began to occupy many countries especially in Asia and Africa. The idea of colonialism depended on that weak or uneducated peoples must work for the interests of the supper nations or peoples. As Daniel Defoe belongs to a Puritan English family and he believes in the idea of the importance of work. The imperialism had tried to profit from the virgin lands in Asia and Africa because they were barbaric and savage people and they should submit to the control of developed nations. Those (Super Nations) do not pay attention or care for the human feelings of those inferior nations and so actually they were treated them like animals according to the pseudo ego logic.

From the beginning when Robinson Crusoe was captured by pirates in the sea near the Moroccan coast and stayed for three years in the slavery, but when the chance came to him to rescue himself and take the slave man — Xury with him whom he quickly he sold and thus he forgot his best friend for money and he threw him like an orange peel, it was the reason of the white man. If we reviewed the aim of Robinson Crusoe's voyage to the African Coast, he went there to trade slaves to work in his plantation and send the others to America where the slave trade was thriving in America at that time. The idea of taming the wild for one sown personal gain is the basis of the idea of colonialism. The definition of imperialism is extending a country's influence through a demonstration of power.

On the island, Crusoe lived a sole life as there were no other humans as it seemed at the start. (a state into himself). He extended his influence upon all the things animals and plants around him, yet the mastery of the environment was considered a positive trait. In the book, however, R Crusoe had shown that mastery, when extended on people be a negative trait, which is actually the opinion of D. Defoe. Earlier in the novel, R. Crusoe was a slave worker on a plantation who befriended a young boy named Xury. Crusoe Eventually R. Crusoe gained freedom and took into possession

still enslaved Xury. Crusoe's first act was to sell Xury at a slave auction without any human or friendly feeling or care. This event is important to depict Crusoe as both heartless, and coldly logical, cold-blooded man, who enjoys having control over others.

On the island Crusoe encounters cannibals that habitually come there to have feasts. Crusoe, who had mastered most of his environment, confuses the visiting cannibals enough so that he could rescue a prisoner who the cannibals had intended to consume. This rescue gave Crusoe the chance to have an equal or friend on the island although the man spoke no English. The man, named Friday because of the day he was saved, gave many thanks to Robinson for saving his life by showing a position of subservience to him. Crusoe's traits of superiority returned as he began to teach Friday to speak English. The first word he taught Friday was "master" and it showed the proper way how Friday was an equal, Robinson immediately made himself the master of that man. This is very likely because he considered Friday a savage and lesser being or that the fact that he saved Friday's life meant that. Whatever the reason, Robinson made Friday clearly subservient to himself.

Meanwhile it appeared that Friday was a worshiper of the pagan god. Although Crusoe claimed freedom of religion on the island, he slowly attempted to turn Friday into a believer of Christian God. Crusoe mastered his environment and his own future. To do this on a deserted island was actually a good trait but later he extended his mastery and control onto people, and this trait was far from a prized one. He extended his influence completely over his servant Friday. Friday had to be subservient in his speech to Robinson, his actions, even had to subjugate his own religious beliefs. Crusoe also showed some mastery of the others on his island as he has proclaimed himself king. The mastery of others was a very unattractive trait that Crusoe regularly displayed. It was the time of exploiting weak peoples and utilizing their resources by describing them as savage peoples or uncultured nations, it was the image of white man to control the black or Negro people of the area.

Defoe's novel meditates on the redeeming qualities offered by the labour of colonialism for the Englishmen. [ibid]. Work was the way to civilize the wilderness of the New World and an attempt to achieve peace with the God. The project of colonialism, as the Puritans were proving at the start of the 18th century, provided a profitable way of realizing the God's directive. D. Defoe hoped to persuade the English people to be engaged in the good work. He urged English people to use their reason to conquer nature and receive the God's reward. D. Defoe's novel encouraged England to imitate the Puritans in their success. He believed that Englishmen were destined to succeed in colonialism if they overcame their fear through the use of their psychological tools: their reason, their work ethic, and their Protestant faith. [ibid] In "Robinson Crusoe" novel there is an invitation for conquering undiscovered lands to exploit their fortunes to meet their needs in industry, trade, agriculture, and every fields in life. England at that time was a means to bring slaves to the United States of America and Robinson Crusoe himself participated in this trade to fulfil his desire for getting more and more money. So England needed money to meet its requirements in colonialism and support its military champions in Africa and Asia. Robinson Crusoe

represents the British conquest, he carries the whole Anglo-Saxon spirit, the manly independence, the unconscious cruelty, the persistence as well.

The island of Robinson Crusoe is a symbol of a colony and it idealizes the master-servant relationship and we can clearly see clear Friday in terms of imperialism culture. Crusoe represents the enlightened European while Friday is the 'savage' who can only be redeemed from his barbarous way of life through the assimilation into Crusoe's culture. Robinson Crusoe marked the beginning of the so-called White Imperialism in the world and the superiority complex of the white man towards the Negro man and uncultivated nations. Robinson appeared the savior of the cannibals and savage people, so the price of this rescue was to be slaved forever and under his controlling. The aim of the missionaries is to make the aborigine peoples believe that they could not live without the help of the European or white men.

The novel shows how the relationship between the white man and the Negro man should be in a religious way or the author shaped this relation in a religious frame. D. Defoe divided the world into 'master- and- slave worlds, and everyone should take this fact as his destiny and no one can escape from this circle.

Many critics have highly estimated this novel for its religious, moral, and economic aspects. It got more attention especially at the beginning of its publishing when thousands of copies were immediately sold but now it gets little attention as the life challenges had radically changed. It shows the superiority view point of the Christian religion over other beliefs or doctrines and the great Christians desire for globalizing Christianity and they have succeeded in reaching their aim. We saw Robinson to have asked Friday to change his doctrine from paganism to Christianity and the western world has succeeded in spreading Christianity especially in Africa where was presented in the Defoe's book by the character of Friday. As we remember, D. Defoe was a Puritan moralist and the leitmotif of the novel is the Christianity notion of Providence, penitence and redemption. So Robinson Crusoe came to this island to repent of the follies of his youth and to teach Friday the principles of Christianity. From the moral side R. Crusoe found himself responsible for changing their behaviour which was represented in his efforts to change Friday's behaviour, to cultivated manner. R. Crusoe considers cannibalism as a 'national crime' and forbids Friday practicing it. From the economic aspect, we have to accept two perspectives: the one is that Defoe showed the importance of work in human's life; the other is that money does not have any value without being of trade because without any trade because without trade there is no circulation of money in the world and there is no economic in the world.

**The conclusion:** the novel defines itself as art in a new mode\_ as handiwork, and as an item put on sale in a consumer economy; its aesthetics are as industrial as its morality [3]. We have a good literary masterpiece of the Enlightenment period which represented the seeds of capitalism, bourgeois, and new imperialism. It was the time of missionaries in Africa and Asia and other poor colonial countries, and also it promised living in the age of extreme exploiting of the subjugated peoples.

In other ways, too, the desert island is a prototype of what the novel was to become. It is a piece of freedom, of novelty. Crusoe can do whatever he pleases, but ra-

ther than acting with eccentric purposeless he decided on rules for his daily life. Art must correct life's continuity by introducing beginnings and definitive ends. D. Defoe introduces a message, may be it is considered a religious or holy epistle.

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### **РАБОВЛАДЕЛЬЧЕСКИЕ ОТНОШЕНИЯ МЕЖДУ ПЯТНИЦЕЙ И РОБИНЗОНОМ КРУЗО ПО РОМАНУ «РОБИНЗОН КРУЗО» Д. ДЕФО: ОЧЕРК**

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