

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: AN ANALYSIS OF THE MULTIFACETED RAVAGES OF COLONIALISM IN DUSKLANDS AND FOE BY J.M.COETZEE: PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

This paper sets out to delve into the ravages of colonialism based on two novels of J.M. Coetzee's multifarious fictional opus, namely *Dusklands* and *Foe*. Through a jaw-droppingly crafty characterization, the 2003 Nobel Prize awardee highlights the heavy psychological and human toll of a gruesome chapter in the history of African people and, by extension, of humanity-colonialism. Oftentimes touted as the primary driver of colonization, the economic motive takes a back seat to its racist incentives in Coetzee's fiction, though. To be sure, the narrative of colonialism feeds on myth and agitprop whose malign effect is to cause the native to develop low self-regard and then subsume his own identity into the colonizer's. Susan Barton's "loving-kindness" (to borrow a Schopenhauerian phrase) is a foil to Eugene Dawn and Jacobus Coetzee's stubborn but nefarious quest to both subdue and reify the 'other'. Also, our analysis of *Dusklands* and *Foe* reveals the paramountcy of language in the process of subjugating the 'other'.

KEYWORDS: Colonialism Language Myth Lie Compassion Suffering