



THE DESCRIPTION OF STOICISM IN “ROBINSON CRUSOE” BY DANIEL DEFOE

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Abstract. *Stoicism has a reproductive power, and the effect of its ideas should be dealt with in areas unrelated to its divine principles. Being shipwrecked and due to the feelings of loneliness, Robison Crusoe's relationship with God and religion became very strong. Christian belief became the center of life on that deserted island. Therefore, everything that occurs has a connection with stoicism. Consequently, this thesis sets itself the task of investigating the religious atmosphere and the main pillar's that make up the religious background underlying Daniel Defoe's novel 'Robinson Crusoe'. Accordingly, the present paper opens by highlighting certain points in the political and religious situation during Daniel Defoe's life.*

Keywords: «Robinson Crusoe», human stoicism, Daniel Defoe, colonialism, christianity

Introduction. On the island, due to feelings of loneliness, the relationship with God and religion eventually becomes stronger, and as a Christian religious follower, the feelings become very strong. Christian belief becomes the center of life on the deserted island. Therefore, everything that occurs has a connection with Christianity. Thus, Crusoe's life is completing now, so that a removal of the candidates avoids a major accident. After the brutality and violence, the tone moves to the island from the necessary shipwreck to exploit most debris as tools to be able to continue his life on the island. Eventually, he confronts his God and discovers religious brutality and violence on shore which is a

place of savage feast. Crusoe has to start new stage after completing his internal mind in order to apply the just of God and fight their way on such place to dominance against hostile forces. Colonialism is a great system that forces the individual to play by its rules in order to survive as a kind of individual foundation with religious motives through the spirit of capitalism. Crusoe, from this duality, slowly becomes the lord and the governor on the deserted island. This individuality involves a Christian sitting in a managerial or equivalent position. Crusoe begins to think: I fancied myself able to manage one, nay, two or three savages, if I had them, so as to make them entirely slaves to me, to do whatever I should direct them, and to prevent their being able at any time to do me any hurt. (172) Accordingly, Crusoe seeks for a community to obey him and to manage them whom that people in undiscovered world. These “savages” give the opportunity to realize their dreams to Crusoe. They are no longer an item or a desired shape itself. In fact, Crusoe sees them as objects. Defoe portrays through Crusoe an ideal self. James Sutherland mentions in his criticism of the novel that Defoe “believes an honest Englishman is hard to beat” (1970) Hence, Defoe made his hero as a gentleman who behaves truly, full of energy and enjoying both the practical side which enables him a direct relation with God. After becoming a religious man, Defoe’s description of Crusoe is great: "I saw a man



descend from a great black cloud, in a bright flame of fire, and light upon the ground [...] when he stepped upon the ground with his feet, I thought the earth trembled" (73). Because of this, Defoe has a supposed divine intervention and Crusoe is placed on the island for two reasons. Initially, Crusoe is a sinner and refuses to submit to what was clearly the will of God. Next, he was sent to the island as he is prepared for fate. He could not stop it. By adopting his story to fit the religious issue of the time, Defoe assures himself of the approval of an important religion and social group. This is the major force in the founding of national character. Crusoe is not a very profound religious thinker, however; religion is part of his education and transformation. Nevertheless, the religious dimension is central to Crusoe, a man's discovery of himself, Civilization and God. The man is shipwrecked without resources on a desert island, survived for many years by depending on his own wits. Therefore, he employs everything around him to be familiar with the nature there, except for the fact that no one shares his life on the isolated island. In order to fulfill his desires in finding company, Crusoe chooses to devote his life in the island to worshipping God

to be his companion spiritually in such place, by continue reading the Bible and learns Christianity. In this way, Defoe appears to be a very strong believer in God, so much so that he believes that God's Will shapes the lives of human beings.

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