

The Role of Wealth in Selected Novels by Charles Dickens: A Tool of Corruption or Social Reform!

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Abstract

The main aim of this work was to analyze the selected novels by Charles Dickens and investigate how wealth and money were used as a tool for corruption or social reform in each of them. Additionally, it aimed to highlight the common elements and differences between the novels and include the results in the conclusion. The aim of this thesis was achieved through the use of the historical approach and the Marxist approach in the analysis and discovery of the truth. This research discussed the topic of wealth and money in three selected novels by Charles Dickens. *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Great Expectations*. The role of wealth and money in society at that time in light of the industrial revolution was also discussed. The thesis seeks to answer the following questions: was money a tool for reforming society or its corruption? Did the possession of money and wealth help in the renaissance and the progress of society at the level of the state and the individual? or did it contribute to society's decline economically, intellectually, and morally? This thesis looks at the different classes of society in England in the nineteenth century, the effect of the economic revolution and the capitalist system, and the changes that occurred in society as a result of these events.

Key Words: *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens, corruption, social reformation, crime, child labour, *Great Expectations*.

