

**The Image of Women in Foe and Age of Iron by J. .M. Coetzee: A Postcolonial  
Feminist Perspective**

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**Abstract**

This thesis examines the postcolonial feminist theory, women are colonized by imperialism and male dominance after independence, in John Maxwell Coetzee`s selected novels Foe (1986) and Age of Iron(1990). The researcher also describes the term of "subaltern" which is regarded as a significant model to describe the relation between the white (colonizers) and the blacks (colonized). The main aim of this study is to examine the term of the subaltern and how it is manifested in the selected novels. The study is organized chronologically in order to trace the development of Coetzee's literary writings and makes it an easier way to notice the ongoing modifications in the postcolonial feminist theory pertaining the subaltern which has become a significant subject to continuous adaptations and revision in the multicultural society. The objective of this study is to investigate the feminist issues in postcolonial theory and how these issues are manifested in the selected novels of the South African prolific author Coetzee. The researcher will use the descriptive-analytic methodology in the study of Coetzee's two selected novels, Foe and Age of Iron. The study consists of three chapters and a conclusion. Chapter one is an introductory chapter which falls into five sections; sheds some light on one aspect of postcolonial feminist theory in literature. In chapter two, in its two sections, the study discusses Coetzee's novel Foe (1986). Chapter three focuses on Coetzee`s vision of his country in his novel Age of Iron(1990). The study ends with a brief conclusion which sums up its major findings. Both novels question the validity of colonial narratives

**Key Words: Postcolonial, Subaltern, South Africa Feminism, Coetzee**