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## **Analytical Study and Critical Reception of William Golding's "Lord of the Flies"**

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English*

*Option: literature and civilization*

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# **Dedication**

**I dedicate my work to my family especially my mother, to my supervisor, to my jury, to my teachers, and to all my friends. I dedicate it also to all the students of second year master, literature and civilization and my friends in the school of Arts and my teachers especially Mr. Larbi and Mr. Karmich.**

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## Table of Contents

Dedication.....	I
Acknowledgment.....	II
Table of contents.....	III
Abstract.....	VII
General Introduction.....	IX
 <b>Chapter one: An overview of the novel</b>	
Introduction.....	1
1.1. Biography of William Golding .....	1
1.2. Summary of the novel.....	3
1.3. Themes .....	5
1.3.1. Civilization vs. Savagery.....	5
1.3.2. Loss of innocence.....	6
1.3.3. Individualism vs. Community.....	7
1.3.4. The Nature of Evil.....	8
1.3.5. Dehumanization of Relationships.....	9
1.3.5. Man vs. Nature.....	9
1.4. The novel's major characters .....	10
1.4.1. Ralph.....	10
1.4.2. Jack.....	11
1.4.3. Simon.....	11
1.4.4. Piggy.....	12

1.4.5. Roger.....	12
1.4.6. Sameric.....	13
1.4.7. The beast.....	13
1.4.8. The naval officer.....	13
1.5. Critical analysis of the major characters.....	14
1.5.1. Ralph.....	14
1.5.2. Jack.....	15
1.5.3. Simon.....	16
1.6. Character map.....	18
1.7. Literature review.....	18
1.8. Motif.....	20
1.8.1. Biblical Parallels.....	20
Conclusion.....	23
<b>Chapter two: The discussion of some paragraphs from the novel</b>	
Introduction.....	24
2.1. The English novel from the 1950s to the present time.....	24
2.2. William Golding's 'Lord of the Flies', 1954 .....	25
2.3. The biological situation of British People in 1950's and the present time.....	26
2.4. The study of samples from the novel.....	27
2.4.1. Setting.....	27
2.4.2 Analysis of the themes.....	27
2.4.3. Style.....	28
2.4.4. Diction.....	28
2.4.5. Syntax.....	31
2.4.6. Imagery.....	32

2.4.7. Symbolism.....	32
2.4.8. Figurative Language.....	33
2.4.9. Ironic Devices.....	34
2.4.10. Tone.....	35
2.4.11. Structure.....	35
2.4.12. Outline of Events.....	35
2.5. The allegory of ‘Lord of the Flies’.....	37
Conclusion.....	38
<b>Chapter three: Critical reviews</b>	
Introduction.....	39
<b>3.1. Positive reviews.....</b>	<b>40</b>
3.1.1 Christianity and Judaism by David Anderson.....	40
3.1.2. Examination of the start and the end of the novel by Peter Edgerly.....	44
3.1.3. Vision and Structure in the novel by K. Chellappan .....	47
3.1.4. The Symbolism by Mark Kinkead-Weekes and Ian Gregor.....	52
<b>3.2. Negative reviews.....</b>	<b>54</b>
3.2.1. Human Depravity in the novel by Paul Crawford .....	54
3.2.2. Destructive Masculinity by Berthold schoene-Harwood .....	59
3.2.3. The Absence of Female in ‘Lord of the Flies’ by Paula Alida.....	63
3.2.4. The savagery by Stefan Hawlin.....	67
3.3. Media.....	71.
3.5. Identification of the reviewers.....	71
Conclusion.....	72
General Conclusion.....	74
Works cited page.....	77.

Glossary.....79

## **Abstract**

This thesis aims to study the nature of the criticism that encountered William Golding's novel "Lord of the Flies", it is concerned with external critical analysis of the book and an overview of the novel. This research contains a research proposal and three chapters. The first chapter is about the novel "Lord of the Flies"; it contains a biography of the author, the summary of the novel with its major themes and its motif and a critical analysis of its major characters in addition to a literature review. In the second chapter we discussed three passages as samples from the novel. The last chapter includes positive and negative reviews also each review followed by a personal interpretation, then we added the identifications of the reviewers with a conclusion of the third chapter and a general conclusion for the dissertation then a glossary. Most critics have praised Golding's novel and asserted its artistic value especially since it deals with various subjects, whereas others have considered it just a historical story. Others have considered it as a psychological study of human nature which is inappropriate for children's age, because it is very complex and its characters use violence, thus it can affect the child's behaviour negatively.



## الملخص

هذه الأطروحة تهدف لدراسة طبيعة الانتقادات التي واجهت رواية وليام غولدينغ في " أمير الذباب" ، كما تهدف إلى دراسة نقدية للرواية عامة. هذا البحث يحتوي على ثلاثة فصول. الفصل الأول هو عن رواية " أمير الذباب" الذي يحتوي على السيرة الذاتية للمؤلف، وملخص للرواية، الأفكار الرئيسية والعناصر الزخرفية للرواية وتحليل نقدي للشخصيات الرئيسية. الفصل الثاني هو حول دراسة بعض المقاطع من الرواية. الفصل الأخير يشمل استعراض آراء نقدية السلبية و الايجابية و كل نقد يليه تفسير شخصي، ثم أضفنا تحديد الهوية للنقاد و مراجعين الكتاب وتم إنهاء الفصل الثالث باستنتاجات عامة حول البحث. لقد أكد معظم نقاد رواية غولدينغ قيمتها الفنية لا سيما وأنها تطرقت لعدة مواضيع ، في حين اعتبرها آخرون مجرد قصة تاريخية ذات موضوعات عميقة، أيضا ذات دراسة نفسية للطبيعة البشرية التي تعتبر غير ملائمة لسن الطفل لأنها تشمل العنف ، وبالتالي يمكن أن تؤثر على سلوك الطفل سلبيا. رغم ذلك تبقى هذه القصة مقصودة وتجذب الكثيرين.

## **1. General introduction**

### **1. 1. Background of the study**

William Golding has an experience in war that influenced his ideas and his writing. He wrote "Lord of Flies" after the end of WWII. The novel "Lord of the Flies" is his first and successful work, which is extended in both United States and England. The novel's commercial success and reputation is because of its ethical lesson; it studies the human nature and ensures about the presence of the inherent evil in our inner and that the rules of society have poorly covered the defects and the evil that reside humans. The novel stands for historical, religious and social thoughts by using a loss of innocence story. Historically, it reflects the change of people into bloodthirsty criminals and hungers of power during WWII especially the Nazis, and politically, it reflects the democratic and dictator system. Generally, the novel presents a struggle between humanity and strangeness of nature. Besides, it studies human nature psychologically. The story suggests pessimism of humanity because of the cruel ability of humans which reflects their innate evil. Golding studied both physics and English literature; his scientific tendency appeared in his work when his characters used scientific tools as lenses to create a fire, craft tools, and so on. His work is shaped by his personal experiences and interests.

The novel depicts a group of British schoolboys who were taken far from war and who were shot down by enemies. Those boys were lost in a tropical island. Therefore they suffer from thirst, hunger and fear; thus they descended into savagery and some of them became criminals. Jack is the antagonist, his group descended into savagery and work in hunting pigs. The group is led by Ralph who remained civilized

and aims for finding a way for rescue by maintaining the signal fire to alert the passing ships. At the end, they were rescued but they lost many important things as their friends and their innocence. Golding took an experience from the war that deeply influenced his ideas about the capacity of evil within humans.

The novel sends a moral message about the innate evil in human being and explains that humans are protected by the rules and principals of our society and if we lived in isolation and in a bad situation we may act as barbaric and act animalistic actions. The title of the novel ‘ ‘ Lord of the Flies’ ’ is a reference to the Hebrew name Ba'alzevuv, or in its Greek form Beelzebub that means ‘ ‘God of the Flies’ ’ and it is synonymous with Satan. Golding’s novel is influenced by the ‘ ‘Inheritors’ ’ and stands as a critical version of ‘ ‘coral island’ ’. The novel’s commercial success and reputation was because of its ethical lesson. However its status did not prevent it to receive negative and positive reviews and to get many analytical studies. This latter, enrich the novel to be more valuable and clearer. The reviews led it to be not framed by the writer’s sole view. ( Bloom 7).

## **2. 1. Research Problem**

in spite of the novel’s attractiveness and reputation, Golding's novel ‘ ‘Lord of the Flies’ ’ was a modest success at the beginning , however Critical reviews have risen and the reaction of many readers was positive as well as negative, moreover the analytical studies were wide. apparently, the novel appeals to the doubt of human values, but many questions raise about the real tragic hero and the novel’s relation to religion and history.

This vast response of the book tends to put a poignant question as follows: What are the clues of this novel that appealing and interesting for many; even it has the sights of numerous relevant subjects and arouse different interpretations? Thus, how was the nature of reception of Golding's novel 'lord of the flies' and its wide analysis?

### **3.1. Hypothesis**

According to the psychological thought about human nature in 'Lord of the Flies' and its political and religious account, may elevate it to negative or positive reviews and to great analysis.

### **4.1. Purposes of Research**

This current research intends to:

- Identify the author and give an overview about the novel
- Study some samples from the novel
- Classify given reviews about 'Lord of the Flies' and interpret their evaluation

### **5.1. Significance of the research**

This research aims to investigate the book's nature of reception by different criticism concisely and it starts by clarifying the novel's meaning and structure to be clear and easy for understanding its reviews. Moreover it clarifies the novel's message about society and it studies human nature also it clarify its hints in religion and history. It is not sufficient to understand the novel without getting an overview about most reviews in order to do not see the novel with a single author's view and it is better to be

seen in an open way. All these analysis and criticism will spot light on the reasons that put the novel in a high level and respectful stature.

### **6. 1. Scope of Research**

This current research, investigates the critical analysis of Golding's novel by giving main reviews and interpretations to recognize the external response, as well as clarifying the novel's meaning and structure.

### **7. 1. Research Methodology**

I am dealing with the novel's description of events and dealing with critical reviews and analysis of Golding's novel, thus the choice of the method in this research is the descriptive method as the most appropriate to investigate the problematic.

### **8. 1. Structure of Research**

The research is divided as follows: the first chapter contains the summary of novel and its themes and motifs and a biography of the author. The second chapter contains a discussion of three passages as samples from the novel and the novel's literary period during 1950. The third chapter contains positive and negative reviews about "Lord of the Flies" with analytical interpretation.

## **Chapter one: William Golding's 'Lord of the Flies'**

### **Introduction**

Golding is like many authors who sacrifice their life and time to be as a reference to their writing, their writing is related to what they have lived and experienced. William Golding used social ideas and historical-religious references in his work. 'Lord of the Flies' is an allegorical microcosm of the world that he participated in. The island and the boys and many other objects and events represent Golding's view of the world, and humankind or some values found in British culture.

This chapter clarifies the meaning of the novel, and clarifies the concealed allusions of the novel. This chapter begins with William Golding's biography and contains a summary of the novel with its major themes, and motif. Moreover, the chapter contains a critical analysis of its major characters and characters' map, and a literature review then a conclusion.

### **1.1. Biography**

The famous English writer William Gerald Golding was born in 1911 in Saint Columb Minor in Cornwall, England. Since childhood William Golding was educated at the Marlborough Grammar School, where his father works, Golding's father Alec Golding was a science master, and His mother, Mildred, kept house at 29. He studied physics and English literature at Marlboro and Oxford University. Later Golding changed at Brasenose College, Oxford. Although he is educated to be a scientist

because his father wanted that, but the Golding was interested in literature, he was interested first to Anglo-Saxon texts and then to poetry, which he likes a lot. At Oxford he studied natural science for two years and then he transferred to a program for English literature and philosophy. Next that he worked in different works at a settlement house and in small theater companies as both an actor and a writer, Golding became a schoolmaster at Wordsworth's School in Salisbury. During the Second World War he joined the Royal Navy, then he returned to Bishop Wordsworth's School, and there he taught until 1960s. The British novelist William Golding is also a poet, playwright and Nobel Prize for Literature laureate, the best known novel among his works is "Lord of the Flies". He was also awarded the Booker Prize for literature in 1980 for his novel "Rites of Passage". In 2008, *The Times* classified Golding a third on their list of the 50 best British writers since 1945.

Golding married Ann Brookfield, she was an analytic chemist who was born on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1939 and they had two children, Judy and David. Judy is an author. William Golding participated in Second World War. Golding joined the Royal Navy in 1940. Golding fought in the Royal Navy, During World War II, and he was also involved in falling of the battleship of Germany. He also participated in the invasion of Normandy, at the end of war, he returned to work in teaching and writing. In 1985, Golding and his wife moved to Tullimaar House, near Cornwall, where he died of a heart disease. He left some unfinished works which were published later. Golding left many novels, the most famous one in Lord of the Flies, and other novels like "The Inheritors" (1955), and "Pincher Martin" (1956), in addition to the poems of 1934's and some plays as "The Brass Butterfly" of (1958).

(<http://nobelprize.org/literature/laureates/1983/golding-bio.html>. Retrieved 13/01/2012).

## 1.2. Summary of the novel

During a period of war, there was a plane taking a group of British schoolboys. The plane crashed by enemies and it landed into a deserted tropical island. Most of the boys survived and they found themselves without an adult leader. They faced thirst, hunger and difficulties of building shelters. Ralph, the protagonist insists on maintaining the fire. The signal fire is the only way for rescue because its light will be noticeable for the passing ships. One day, Ralph and Piggy found a conch near the beach; they decided to use it as an instrument for gathering the boys and for giving them rules. Piggy used the conch to verify if there are other survivors. Ralph used the conch for meeting to advise his friends and to find solutions for their problems but Jack the antagonist was not satisfied. With the course of the novel, the boys discovered the entire of the island and they found fruits, also they built shelters. Jack wants to be a leader to impose his orders because he is hungry for authority and power. The antagonist and his followers were happy, they want to hunt pigs as a source of food. Smilingly, the hunters forget the idea of rescue. Most boys want Ralph to be their leader but Jack imposed his power and became the leader of the hunters whereas Ralph with Piggy and the twins and the littluns were apart from Jack. The hunters tended to savagery but Ralph with his friends remained civilized, they want to return to their homeland by maintaining the signal fire on the mountain to alert the passing ship. Many boys want to follow rules until they are rescued.

One day, a small boy said that he is afraid of a beast and others said that they saw a snake and others saw many nightmares. This fear refers to the beginning of savagery. In that case Jack wanted to profit from the fear of the boys, he insisted on the



presence of the beast to impose his power and to show them that he is the one who will rescue them from the beast. Ralph ignored that idea. Piggy is the smart boy who never wants to change his appearance or his ideas as a civilized British schoolboy, and he is always against Jack's impulses. Piggy participated by his glasses to get a fire. When Ralph and Simon spend their time building huts, the hunters spent time searching for pigs and the fire was neglected. Then both Ralph and Jack were angry because Ralph insists on maintaining fire and Jack busy on finding pigs. Ralph calls for a meeting to advise the boys to follow the rules so they can be rescued. During this meeting, Jack promises them that he will find the monster. The only one who knows well the truth of the beast is Simon who told them that the beast is inside them. The rumors of the presence of the beast are increased by the finding of the dead parachutist and the nightmares of the littluns. Jack decided to find both the pig and the beast. Sam and Eric are loyal to Ralph but Jack took them as prisoners for their mistakes.

One day, Jack was celebrating with his friends for the kill of their first pig. At night they were dancing in a form of the pig's run. Rogar was acting as a pig. They saw Simon far from them shouting about what he found; Simon wants to reveal about the reality and the truth of the beast who is just a dead men. The hunters mistake him for the beast and kill him in cruel way. Piggy and Ralph were sad for Simon's death. Simon represents goodness whereas the hunters represent the evil and a sin. After that, Jack decided to steal piggy's glasses to create fire for cooking the meat. During a night the hunters destruct Ralph's shelters and steal piggy's glasses. The following day, piggy and Ralph went to Jack's castle to blame them and remember them about their first behavior and appearance. When piggy blow the conch and started speaking, Rogar react cruelly and throw a big stone over piggy. Piggy is died with the destruction of his

conch. Ralph shocked and run away because he knows that he is the next one. Where after, Jack and his choir decided to kill Ralph, they smoked the island to catch him. The fired island alerted the passing ships who came and rescued the boys. The naval officer was confusing about their appearance. Ralph was happy because he is rescued moreover he was crying for the death of piggy and Simon. The end of the novel reveals the win of civilization and the end of savagery. (www.Spark notes.com. Retrieved 13/02/2012).

### **1.3. Themes**

The theme tends to trace the problems of society that come from sinful nature of humans. The writer wrote the book to show how political systems cannot govern society effectively without first taking into consideration the defects of human nature .

#### **1.3.1. Civilization vs. Savagery**

Lord of the flies based on the conflict between tow instincts within humanity the first is the impulse to live peacefully by maintaining rules and following moral principles, the other instinct aims to gratify personnel desire as jack's action, by the use of violence to get dominance and power, this latter depicted in the central idea of the novel which is savagery verses civilization, chaos against rule and order, rationality against desires, good against evil, and the strong belief on God against the beast .the novel starts from the image of a civilized, morel, disciplined behavior and ends with brutality and barbaric life more ever ends with a loss of innocence .Golding's novel is an allegorical work , it is allegory to society; the writer used symbolic characters and symbolic themes as allusions to our society. The protagonist reflects the democratic

system and the antagonist stands for a dictator system. With the course of the novel, the writer shows the idea savagery and civilization in different degrees. Piggy has no savage impulse or feeling, while Roger seems hardly capable to apply the rules of civilization. Generally Golding means that the instinct of savagery is more inherent within human being than civilization, and that it was just forced to people. Golding reverts people revert naturally to cruelty and savagery more than civilization. The idea of civilization and savagery is depicted in many symbols especially the beast and the pig's head on a stake. Among the novel's characters only Simon who seems to possess a natural and innate goodness. ([http:// www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/short-summary/](http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/short-summary/)).retrieved 13/02/2012.

Golding shows that even the British society which is known by its civilization can degrade to savagery, moreover he rooted savagery to the blacks with painted faces. He alludes to the change of humanity into savage people during WWII.

### **1.3.2. Loss of innocence**

There are many signs of loss of innocence that appeared at the end of the novel as offering the pig's head to the beast and killing Piggy and Simon moreover misbehaving the littluns then killing pigs. The boys on the island progress from well-behaved and ordered children looking for rescue to cruel and bloodthirsty hunters who have no desire to return to civilization. They naturally lose the sense of innocence that was at the beginning of the novel. At first they were swimming together nakedly and later they shifted to killers with fearful painted faces. Golding did not present their sins as a result from a nature or from faults but he connects the boy's sins and their loss of

innocence to a natural internal evil. Seemingly Golding tends to root evil with us and tends to convince us that civilization can moderate our life and behavior but never wipe out the innate evil that exists within all human beings. At first, the island for Simon was a place of natural beauty and peace, but when Simon returns later in the novel, he discovers the bloody sow's head surround upon a stake thus it refers to loss of innocence. The head which is offering to the beast destroyed the paradise and the innocence that existed before. The loss of innocence with small boys ensures the innate evil within humans. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/>. Retrieved 11/4/2012).

### **1.3.3. Individualism vs. Community**

The novel depicts two kinds of relations. The first one is Jack's relation with his friends which is based on selfishness and hunger for authority whereas Ralph's relation with all the boys based on cooperation and total benefit and rescue for all of them. The boys in the island faced many difficulties at the beginning as maintaining the fire, the building of shelters, and the murder of Piggy, because most Jack's choir wants their self-interest than the whole interest. Jack and his hunters insist to realize and complete all their individual desires than cooperating together for the success and satisfaction of the majority to create a coherent society. The symbols of individualism and community are pictured in Jack and Ralph, Jack wants to satisfy his thirst for power and have fun, whereas Ralph wants to secure the rescue for all them. Everyone has an inborn evil nature but in different degrees. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/>. Retrieved 11/4/2012). This theme may reflect the hunger of

authority of dictator system and freedom with democracy, moreover and reflects human's impulse of satisfying self-interest.

#### **1.3.4. The Nature of Evil**

The novel studies the inner evil that resides every human being. Evil with Golding's view is an internal force, he insists on the inherent evil as there is no goodness inside humans and that humans are poorly covered by rules of society. If they lived without laws they will out that evil which affects the way of thinking and actions and changes an innocent into a savage. The society has a great role in shaping good and well behaved individuals because it provides rules that affect on us positively. The problem is that the boys submit any thing on themselves not on God, and when they fear the beast their unreasonable fear led them to act crazily. The confrontation between the head of the pig and Simon refers to the evil which is an internal force, thus the most ethical characters is Simon and Ralph. The novel presents a continuum of evil from Jack to Roger, and Ralph and Piggy struggle to defeat these bad impulses. In conclusion the novel evaluates our society in its role in shaping humans. When the society is bad organized socially, politically and religiously, the human's reaction will be abnormal, in contrast, when the evil grows inside humans this latter leads to a bad society. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/>. Retrieved 11/4/2012). Golding insists on the innate evil of humanity and ignored its good quality and rejects the fact of human's external evil since the first fall with Adam and Eve.

### **1.3.5. Dehumanization of Relationships**

Golding used much imagination to show the inability of the boys to distinguish between themselves and the pig especially in the final of the novel. In the final of the novel, Golding compared the boys with the pig in the scene of a carnival night. He compared the dance of the boys to the pig's run to show us their change into animalistic actions and to show the inhumanity and the loss of innocence. In chapter four, Golding's characters used Maurice as a pig and they were following him, where after they used Robert as a pig. Their savagery and their dance reached a peak and they became blind. In that anger and hot desire and unconscious manner they became unable to see each other more than objects at a dark night. Immediately Simon appeared to tell them the reality of the beast but their manner cost them a lot they mistake him as a monster and killed him in a very cruel and dangerous manner as an animal. They turned acting animalistic actions not human actions. ([http:// www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/](http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/). Retrieved in 22/04/2012).

The dehumanization of the boys do not relate to their inners. The boy's actions relate to their environment. Thus society has a great role of shaping our thinking and improving our behavior as well as organizing our actions by the use of its laws. This theme rejects Golding view of relating human's behavior to an inherent evil.

### **1.3.6. Man vs. Nature**

The novel of Golding introduces us the relation between the boys and the island to show the relation of every character with nature. Furthermore it reflects the relation

between humanity and environment to show that society lacks a good political system and to show that the defects of society come also from evil nature of humans and their irresponsibility. Each boy expresses different attitudes towards nature. This relation comes in three types: the first is a devotion of nature, second is the harmony with nature, and the last is a profit from nature. The first relation depicts Jack, who has desire of hunting pigs. Jack at the end when he turns the island into fired forest; he ensured his neglect for nature. The second type is harmony with nature, it is personified by Simon, who finds beauty and peace in the nature and for him nature is not a part from man. The third type is a profit from nature, as Ralph. He did not contribute in hunting or excursions, he stays on the beach, and profit from nature to build shelters and create fire for their rescue. Ralph's separation from hostility and violence proves his civilization and respect of nature. ([http:// www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/](http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/major-themes/). Retrieved in 21/04/2012).

The respect of nature as Simon and Ralph ensure their civilization. Jack's burning of the forest at the end and his worship to it at first proves his savagery and his difficulty to stop his desires and impulses.

#### **1.4. The novel's major character**

##### **1.4.1. Ralph**

Ralph is the novel's protagonist, the twelve-year-old English boy who is elected leader of the group of boys stranded on the island. Ralph attempts to coordinate the boys' efforts to build a miniature civilization on the island until they can be rescued.

Ralph represents human beings' civilizing instinct, as opposed to the savage instinct that Jack embodies, Ralph said: "after all we aren't savages really and being rescued isn't a game." ([http:// www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes](http://www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes). Retrieved in 3/04/2012), and he did not fear the beast as it was appeared in this quotation: "He felt himself facing something ungraspable." ([http:// www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes](http://www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes). Retrieved in 3/04/2012). Ralph is most rational character. ([www.spark notes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com). Retrieved 13/02/2012).

#### **1.4.2. Jack**

Jack Is the novel's antagonist, one of the older boys stranded on the island. Jack becomes the leader of the hunters but longs for total power and becomes increasingly wild, barbaric, and cruel as the novel progresses. Jack, adept at manipulating the other boys, "He tried to convey the compulsion to track down and kill that was swallowing him up". ([http:// www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes](http://www.homework-online.com/loft/quotes)). He represents the instinct of savagery within human beings, as opposed to the civilizing instinct that Ralph represents. ([www.spark notes.com](http://www.sparknotes.com). Retrieved 13/02/2012).

#### **1.4.3. Simon**

The most introspective character in the novel, Simon has a deep affinity with nature and often walks alone in the jungle. While Piggy represents the cultural and Ralph the political and moral facets of civilization, Simon represents the spiritual side of human nature, he is a shy, sensitive boy in the group, Simon, in some ways the only naturally "good" character on the island, behaves kindly toward the younger boys and is



willing to work for the good of their community. Moreover, because his motivation is rooted in his deep feeling of connectedness to nature, Simon is the only character whose sense of morality does not seem to have been imposed by society. Simon represents a kind of natural goodness, as opposed to the unbridled evil of Jack and the imposed morality of civilization represented by Ralph and Piggy a Martyr. (www.Spark notes.com. Retrieved 13/02/2012).

#### **1.4.4. Piggy**

Is Ralph's standby intellectual boy, although pudgy, awkward, and averse to physical labor because he suffers from asthma, Piggy who dislikes his nickname--is the intellectual on the island, Piggy's creativity frequently leads to advance, such as the sundial that the boys use to tell time. Glasses used for creating fire and Piggy represents the scientific, and conch discovery that used for order, he refers to rational side of civilization. (www.Spark notes.com. Retrieved 13/02/2012).

#### **1.4.5. Roger**

Roger is Jack's standby, he is aggressive boy. He neglects order and interests on hunting as Jack. He is an older boy like Jack, he brutalizes the littluns and he is cause of the murders Piggy by falling a rock over him. He is reached the peak of savagery. He represents the evil side of humanity. (Bloom 15).

#### **1.4.6. Sameric**

The twins closely allied with Ralph. Sam and Eric are always together, and the other boys often treat them as a single body, calling them “Sameric.” The easily excitable are the twins Sam and Eric, they fall victim to Jack’s manipulation and force, but remains loyal to Ralph. (Bloom 15).

#### **1.4.7. The beast**

Is a dead pilot who is discovered by Simon. Most of the boys mistake him for the beast except Simon and Piggy and Ralph. The beast symbolizes to their weak belief and to their worship for a demonic God instead of a real God. The beast also reflects the inner evil inside them. Golding used the beast to show that the life of the boys which seem in Godless manner did not solve their obstacles and did not secure the existence of all of them. He wants to blame them since they submit their affairs to themselves not to God. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/character-list/>. Retrieved 13/02/2012).

#### **1.4.8. Naval officer**

At the end of the novel, the naval officer arrived to rescue the boys, when Ralph encounters him on the beach; he started crying because he was happy for his survival and sad for the death of his friends. The naval officer tells Ralph that he saw a lot of smoke therefore he decided to see what is happened. The whit naval officer symbolizes to a civilized whit people as reference of progress and the hunters

symbolize to savage blacks as reference of ignorance.  
(<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/character-list/>. Retrieved 13/02/2012).

## **1.5. Critical analysis of the major characters**

### **1.5.1. Ralph**

Ralph is a fit, and attractive tragic protagonist of ‘‘Lord of the Flies’’. Elected a leader by the boys at the beginning of the story, Ralph is the primary representative of order, civilization, and he is the one who propose the idea of the necessity of a leader in the island. Ralph was interesting of building huts and finding ways for rescue, Ralph said: ‘‘There was something good about a fire. Something overwhelmingly good’’ I think this quotation refers to the importance of fire for rescue, whereas most of the other boys were concerned with playing, and having fun, and this gives Ralph a power and influence over the other boys because he guides them, but by the course of events the boys gradually degraded to savage instincts, Ralph’s position declines suddenly as Jack’s gained the boy’s mind, except Piggy who was against jack’s brutality and rule, because jack was just interesting about hunting. Ralph explains to jack the importance of fire in their situation in this quotation: ‘‘But I tell you that smoke is more important than the pig, however often you kill one...’’. Here Ralph wants to insist that creating fire ensures their rescue than being occupying by killing the pig, even a pig will be not useful without fire, Ralph acts as the adviser and Warner character among his friends.

At the closing of the narrative, Piggy died with Simon, and Ralph is left alone to be hunted by Jack's tribe but he was rescued by the arrival of the naval man. Ralph's commitment is to maintain civilization and morality, and his main hope is to be rescued and returned to his society, because of this behavior and strength and resistance for savagery,

Ralph is a moral victory at the end of the novel. In the beginning Ralph was confusing to understand his friends and their tendency to base instincts of bloodthirsty and barbarism, and the way of chanting and dancing of the hunters are unmoral and distasteful to him. Ralph, like Simon understands that evil exists within all the boys. Ralph remains in opposition to this savagery and as the island became full of savage boys he feared then he thinks to join Jack's tribe in order to save himself. When Ralph hunts a boar for the first time, he experiences the thrill violence. When he attends Jack's feast, he was not comfortable. Then he was present and very afraid and misery in Simon's killing but he did not react, this first knowledge of the evil that exists within him, as within all human beings, however this knowledge led to throw down the Lord of the Flies or evil symbol at the end of the novel. The novel's end is semi-tragically; most important characters are died but finally he is rescued to show that civilization defeated the savagery even in difficult manner. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/character-list/>. Retrieved 15/02/2012).

### **1.5.2. Jack**

Jack is the representative of savagery and violence. He has a desire for authority. Since the beginning of the novel, Jack's desires stand above any things. He was angry

when he loses the election. When he encounters a pig at the first time, he was unable to kill it but soon he becomes passionate with hunting and in entering the adventures of the island. He painted his face like a barbarian, the savage Jack becomes able to control the all of the group and impose on them his bad order. Apart from Ralph, Simon, and Piggy, the boys gradually follow Jack in hunting to provide food and protection, then they loved the new style of life and they forget their desire to rescue as they are throwing morality and embracing violence and savagery. Jack's love of authority and violence cost him to lose his values as a civilized British boy, Jack and his followers psychologically want to hide their fear by using the mask as it was explained by Golding in this quotation: "...the mask was a thing on its own, behind which Jack hid, liberated from shame and self-consciousness", here jack hides his principles, values and responsibility and fear to be acting freely and avoiding obstacles by covering himself through the mask. In the end of the novel, the hunters' fear from the beast led jack to control his followers powerfully. I think the missing of a strong belief on religion entered them in endless fear and puzzle. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/character-list/>. Retrieved 15/02/2012).

### **1.5.3. Simon**

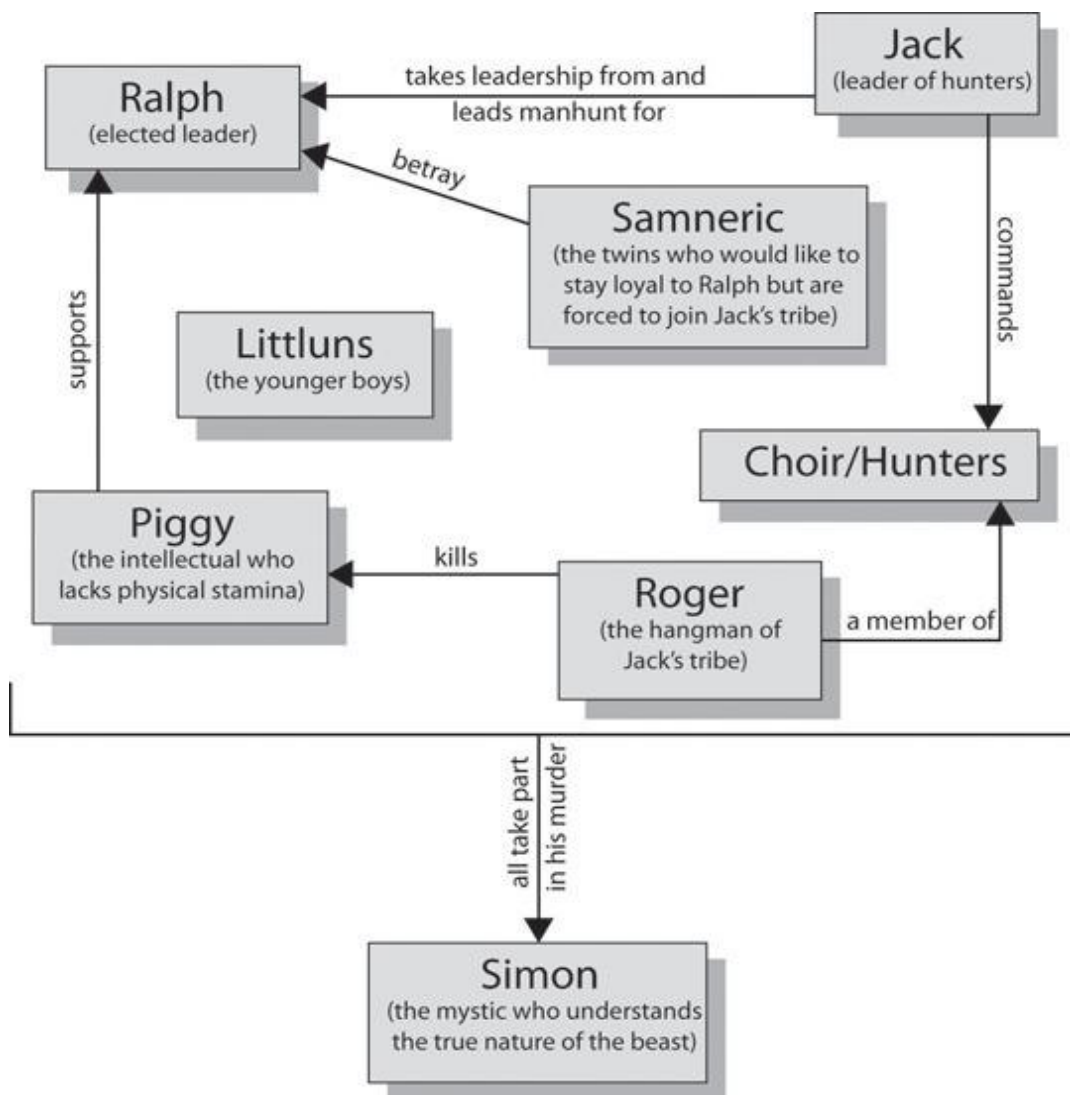
Simon is the most moral and natural one in the island. While Jack represents spectrum of savagery and Ralph represents spectrum of civilization, Simon is, spiritual human who represents goodness. He is the explorer of the island; his strong belief makes him ignore the fear of the beast, unlike most of the boys. He is deeply connected with nature, but his relation with nature is positive not negative as Jack. The boys are not naturally moral; because in their daily life what makes them moral is the fear of

punishment which makes them be obliged to act in good way and hide the evil side but in the island there are no rules, and no parents and controllers. Golding's view explains that everyone has bad impulses which are rooted and natural more than human's desire for civilization.

The character that is unlike all the other boys, Simon acts morally because he believes in natural value of morality and goodness. He behaves gently the littluns, he respect all the boys, he is the only one who discovered the reality of the beast and the "Lord of the Flies". He has creative abilities as predicting what will happen in the future as the survival of Ralph and his death, he has some Christ parallels. when he spoke to the pig's head he discovered that his conversation to the head symbolizes to the idea that the beast or evil is not external force but it is inside them, as it is appeared in Simon's conversation: "What I mean is... Maybe it's only us" ([http:// www.homework-online.com/lotf/quotes.html](http://www.homework-online.com/lotf/quotes.html).retrieved 23/5/2012).Simon died by the hunters, piggy and Ralph were very sad of Simon's death. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/character-list/>.Retrieved 15/02/2012).

Finally, the idea of the inherent evil within every human being stands as the moral conclusion and central problem of the novel. Against this idea of the evil, Simon represents human goodness. However, his murder by the hands of the hunters indicates the shortage of that goodness among overpowering abundance of evil.

## 1.6. Character's map :



( [http://www.cliffsnotes.com/study-guide/Literature/lord-of-the-flies-character map](http://www.cliffsnotes.com/study-guide/Literature/lord-of-the-flies-character-map)).

## 1.7. Literature review

Many critics were interested in "Lord of the Flies" especially after transforming it into a movie version twice, which gave it great success and much positive views as well as negative responses. Some reviewers analyzed the novel psychologically, and religiously like Baker and James in a critical book, but others as Biles, Jack, and Robert

Evans, were not satisfied enough with Golding's single viewpoint or his symbolic ideas they saw Golding's work not clear for readers, so they collected 14 literary critics to share their evaluation to make the novel appears clearer by their critics. Rosenfield made a book titled Psychological Analysis. These reviewers did a critical analysis and determined the nature of response of the readers. All these reviewers try to facilitate the meaning of the novel by elevating it according to their criticism and responses, but these reviewer make their analytical study and determine the nature of reception in a difficult way and open way, but our work is brief, precise, moreover includes a general study of the novel then it is organized in positive and negative reviews.

Baker and James make a critical analysis of Golding's novel in a casebook that treats some points in the novel directly by a conversation with William Golding and various written reviews that explore psychological, religious, and literary ideas of the novel, more over they compared Golding work to other novels.

Biles, Jack I, and Robert O, insisted that the work which is by a single writer's viewpoint is not enough clear for readers; thus they collected 14 literary critics to share their evaluation and these essays cover great topics such as Golding's belief, and evaluation of the technical aspects of Golding's style. Authors as Kinhead-Weakes, Mark, and Gregor are friends of William Golding, Their writings include a commentary and criticism on the external response about Golding's works as "Lord of the Flies". Rosenfield put psychological reviews about the novel in book titled: "A Psychological Analysis of William Golding's "Lord of the Flies".



## **1.8. Motif**

### **1.8.1. Biblical Parallels**

Many critics have considered "Lord of the Flies" as biblical narration of episodes from the Gospel, it imitates certain Christian images. Firstly the island itself look like Eden in its beauty, its fruits, greenery and its description as a pure place which is corrupted by the presence of evil who reflects many characters as Jack, Rogar, the beast, and reflect the meaning of the title "Lord of the Flies" and also Eden is destroyed by the weak belief of the majority. The image of Jesus is depicted in the character of Simon, there are strong parallels between Simon and the Christ, but this parallel between them is not complete; when Simon's uncanny predictions of the future, as the rescue of Ralph and the belief that the evil is something inside them, but he lacks the strong connection to God whereas the Christ has. Moreover the death of Simon did not solve the conflicts in the island; in contrast, the death throws the boys deeply in making faults, catastrophes and descended them into savagery and guiltiness. Furthermore, the truth and the reality of the beast is remained hidden after Simon's death, on the contrary, Jesus is killed while spreading his moral philosophy and principals and advices from the Gospel, he sent his message widely. Simon and "Lord of the Flies" as a whole repeat Christian ideas and themes without developing explicit, precise parallels with them.

"Lord of the Flies" has also a considerable number of allusions to Judeo-Christian mythology that qualify the novel as biblical allegory. Many criticizers supposed that the novel is an irony of religion, in the beginning of Golding's novel,

William Golding detailed his description about the island and he seemingly resembling it to the Garden of Eden, with its charming beauty, plentiful fruit, greenery with high trees and pure water with quiet climate, then he resembled the boys to Adam and Eve before the fall. Ralph's first act after the crash of the plain is removing the clothes and take a bath, this gesture calls the nakedness of the innocent Adam and Eve, also naming in the their origin are symbolic as Simon's name, and 'lord of the flies'. The Edenic allusion is strengthen when Golding showed the satisfaction and peace in the island but soon when rumors increased and affected most of the boys about the presence of a creature or the monster who is the beast with the vision of a snake in the forest and also with the frightening nightmares of the littluns the fear take over and all these refer to the image of the Satan in the Eden. But unlike Adam and Eve who fall in a great mistake and did not follow the advice of God also the boys are mistaken about the creature and depended selfishness and violence, but in this case it is not an external force as the devil but an internal one; we mean something inherent to human being and their evil impulses are innate within themselves, they still externalize it in the form of a monster and in a form of pigs' hunt or by brutalizing with each other, all these degraded them powerfully in to savagery and hostility. The title "Lord of the Flies" and the word " Beast" are both used in religion to signify Satan, Although Satan in the Genesis explanation is stronger when evil nature of humans is strong and evil nature is something inherent but in different degrees. Readers generally consider Satan an external force and our original sin enters us because of Satan but Golding show us that even we, we have an inner evil in ourselves that is strengthen or weaken according to the condition of our life and the power of belief in God.

As we said, Simon is a symbol of the prophet Jesus; the Christ. Simon is deeply spiritual, compassionate, non-violent, predictor, and he lives in harmony with nature and with his friends especially the littluns, like Jesus. He is distant from the boys when they are in conflicts, he likes to be isolated and he is sometimes ridiculed also some of them consider him as a queer. Simon's confrontation with the pig's head resembles the Christ's conversation with the devil during his forty days as described in the New Testament; evidence gospels. Critics also found parallels between Simon's murder and Christ's sacrifice on the cross. The difference is that Simon's murder came mistakenly but the Christ's murder was by a will and plan. ( Olsen. 123).

We think that all the decisions of the boys came in Godless manner because they did never mention the God in their fear of the beast or submit their problems and affairs to God, thus they lack the belief also they lack the confidence on their selves and on God seemingly the novel reflect the need of powerful faith in English societies. Any author traces his work by his personal belief plus to his personal experience. William Golding is a Jewish and affected by the Jewish religion and culture therefore this clarify his choice of the pig when he put the killing of the pig and eating its meat by a violent boys like the hunters is as a faulty action; in spite of the permission of eating the pig's meat in Christian culture, accordingly his choice reflects his belief because in Jews societies the pig's meat is sinful as the Muslim societies. In addition Golding portrayed the picture of the Christ in the character of Simon with some differences perhaps Golding want to remind the people about their religion and strengthen their belief.

## **Conclusion**

“Lord of the Flies” is a version of our world, it alludes to many subjects of our society and it treats many problems. Each theme reflects a fact and its motif is an approach to religion and also its major character stands for a specific idea. The novel is plenty of ideas and lessons that amaze us and teach us. It is a complete work which deals with a very deep subject that may be difficult and needs many points of views to be seen by many eyes in many angles. Golding’s novel needs a general study to discover the author’s artistic traces thus we focused on the following chapter in a general study of the novel by taking some passages as a sample for a study.

## **Chapter two: The discussion of some paragraphs from the novel**

### **Introduction**

Lord of the Flies is a very rich and complex in content, its meaning is very deep and it is well structured, Golding used a figurative language and symbolic style also he used psychological development, and he used short and long sentences in addition to plenty allusions, but in very simple way of narration. We intend in this chapter to study and analyze some passages of the novel in general by giving some examples on that, then we will give information about the novel's literary period. This simple study will be simple and concise.

### **2.1. The English novel from the 1950s to the present time**

#### **2.1.1. Postwar to the 1970s:**

Post-war years' fiction is different from the early 20th century. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, following the grief of World War II, the public did not look for heroic new ideas and styles, but for comfort, encouragement and hope in literature. However, by 1955 the old values and beliefs which religion and nation had traditionally provided were questioned, and the new generation of critical young novelists and playwrights emerged. The 1950s were characterized by the appearance of Neorealism, a trend which worked against Modernism.

There were some novelists such as Alan Sillitoe, Kingsley Amis and John Braine who shared annoyance with tradition, authority and the ruling class. Their works reflected their anger and dissatisfaction. Many novels were for working-class of depressed cities in the industrial north. Dialogue is often used a regional dialects, that is close to the characters' identity and social background. The protagonist of these novels is outsider: they do not identify with modern society. Like the authors themselves they are impatient, dissatisfied and critical of conservative morality and behavior. They seem angry and violent. The creation of uneducated, undisciplined heroes was a departure from literary conventions, but it meant that dissent, honesty were introduced into literature, by a group of writers who became known as the 'angry young men'.

## **2.2. William Golding's 'Lord of the Flies', 1954**

There are novelists who were interested in religious and metaphysical problems. The best example was William Golding's work, which created a moral fable of the human condition. In his popular novel, 'Lord of the Flies' (1954), he stated the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart, and denied all hope of positive values among children. The novel of Golding 'Lord of the Flies' discusses how culture created by man failed, in which it used as an example a group of British school-boys trapped on a deserted island, they depended bad rules and violent actions led them to disastrous results. The book was written during the first years of the Cold War and the atomic age; the events arise in the context of a nuclear war and portray the fall of the young boys into savagery and guilt. Allegorically, it treats a main theme which is the conflicting impulses towards civilization to live by rules, peacefully and in harmony, and towards the will to power and authority.

During the 1960s the anger and frustration and hopelessness of the 1950s began to reflect and developed into a counter-cultural movement. At the same time, some of known authors of recent times began to receive critical recognition as main good writers. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide/about/>. Retrieved 22/01/2012).

### **2.3. Biological situation of the British people in 1950s and the present time**

Biologically, many psychologists like Arnold Gesell believe that a child's intellectual development and behavior is only slightly affected by environment; it means that society did not play a large role for shaping the way of thinking of the child and his way of behaving towards others or his actions reflect only his personality and capacity, whereas other scientists argue that the environment has a dominant role to elevate and educate him.

Today scientific studies scanned brains and showed differences between the brains of healthy children and abused children, signifying that any bad experience in the childhood of children can directly change the circuitry of the brain and change his actions. The climate of the postwar years in which Golding wrote *Lord of the Flies* affects his ideas and determines his subjects and affects the ideas of all the people who lived those moments. ( *novels for students 12*).

## **2.4. The Study of samples from the novel:**

### **2.4.1. Setting**

The place of *Lord of the Flies* is on an island during World War II. The island lacks values and laws of society and the rules that permit the boys to act cruelly and show their ugly inner, the island is a microcosm that comes as an allusion to our world and comments human nature. In this book, the setting is used less to create a mood than to put the characters in a particular situation.

(<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

### **2.4.2. Analysis of the themes**

This book reveals that every person has an evil in his inner nature that is poorly covered by society. If there is no society and laws the chaos will spread and the bad inner nature will out and prevail. Everyone has an evil nature and is capable of committing horrible crimes, except those who see the truth of evil. The beast is a dead human. In the beginning the littluns saw the beast and told the others that there is a beast, but at the end they discover that he is a dead parachutist that means not one of them this symbolizing that they should fear themselves not a monster.

(<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).



### **2.4.3. Style**

The novel is alive with important and extensive use of symbolism, and a physiological development. The author's style of writing is simple but the subject matter is very deep. He uses a quite simple story to convey a heavy and deep idea. Golding uses the omniscient point of view; I mean he knows anything in the story and he experienced some facts that appear in his events, that allows him to stand exterior and above the story. Golding has commented in some interviews that the strongest emotion he personally feels about the story is grief. The narrator makes the actions, as translated by an artist's technique of symbolism and description, and in an artistic structure. A dramatic and emotional event as the event of Piggy's death is described good analytically as it was described in this quotation: "Piggy fell forty feet and landed on his back across that square red rock in the sea. His head opened and stuff came out and turned red", the writer wants to affect on the emotion of the reader to show piggy's cruel death by a big rock and his body end was to be left in the sea. (<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

### **2.4.4. Diction**

In Golding's novel, the use of language is neutral; it is simple as everyday language as it is told by him directly not written on a novel. The vocabulary and the structure of sentence are not confusing they are simple and easy to be understood which reflect the nature of actions. Golding based on many artistic and creative devices, so he uses a lot of imagery and symbolic devices.

## Passage 1:

“The three boys walked briskly on the sand. The tide was low and there was a strip of weed-strewn beach that was almost as firm as a road. A kind of glamour was spread over them and the scene and they were conscious of the glamour and made happy by it. They turned to each other, laughing excitedly, talking, not listening. The air was bright. Ralph, forced by the task of translating all this into an explanation, stood on his head and fell over. When they had done laughing, Simon stroked Ralph’s arm shyly; and they had to laugh again.”(<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

In this passage Golding intends to prove the beauty of the island by his description of it and of the happiness of the three boys Ralph, Simon and Jack, and show us how it was fascinating.

## Passage 2:

“When you’re done laughing, perhaps we can get on with the meeting. And if the Littluns climb back on the twister again, they’ll only fall off in a sec. So they might as well sit on the ground and listen. No. You have doctors for everything, even the inside of your mind. You don’t really mean that we got to be frightened all the time of nothing? Life, said Piggy expansively, is scientific, that’s what it is. In a year or two when the war’s over they’ll be traveling to Mars and back. I know there isn’t no beast - not with claws and all that, I mean - but I know there isn’t no fear, either.”

(<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

This passage reflects the importance of order with piggy and reflects his gentleness toward the littluns, and especially intends to send piggy's view of the world as a scientific and that everything should work by science even our mind they should be conscientious and careful by avoiding any kind of fear or cruelty or disorder.

Passage 3:

“Ralph looked at him dumbly. For a moment he had a fleeting picture of the strange glamour that had once invested the beaches. But his land was scorched up like dead wood. Simon was dead - and Jack had....The tears began to flow and sobs shook him. He gave himself up to them now for the first time on the island; great, shuddering spasms of grief that seemed to wrench his whole body. His voice rose under the black smoke before the burning wreckage of the island; and infected by that emotion, the other little boys began to shake and sob too. And in the middle of them, with filthy body, matted hair, and unwiped nose, Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart, and the fall through the air of the true, wise friend called Piggy.

(<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686...>Retrieved 11/02/2012).

This passage depicts the final scene, when Ralph was hunted by Jack's group and this scene reflects the end of innocence and the destruction of the beauty of island and the wide of savagery. Golding put Ralph as a symbol of civilization which rescued to wine savagery.

Golding writes in a simple way and uses unbiased style. His most words are natural and some of them are very symbolic, his language is not complicated. And it is not too informal. He uses a lot of imagery as his description in “weed-strewn beach” in which he means that green sea plants are in the beach and are extensive to show the beauty of the island, also he added that these plants are “as firm as a road” here he intends to show that the plants are solid not soft it is why he compared them to the solidarity of the road where a ship stop. All these mentioned in passage one.(<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

In passage two, the dialogue is not attractive or flowery like a characteristic of speech for a boy of 12 year old, except for Piggy who uses wisdom greater than his age, 12 year old. Passage 3 is written clearly and nicely it shows emotion while still narrating in a neutral tone.

#### **2.4.5. Syntax**

Most of the sentences in *The Lord of the Flies* are simple. There are sentences that are complex. The language that they speak is direct and clear and simple, they use a lot of fragments in passage two. The first passage includes generally simple sentences. One example of a complex sentence is, “when they had done laughing, Simon stroked Ralph’s arm shyly; and they had to laugh again.”  
(<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

The second passage contains both simple and complex sentences. The speech is rather rambling moreover contains fragments, but this sort of speech conveys the idea that Piggy was both thinking and speaking.

The third passage contains simple and complex sentences. The style gives the mood of desperation and hopeless. In which the reader feels Ralph's cry about the problem of "loss of innocence."

#### **2.4.6. Imagery**

Imagery is used to depict the scenery and the setting. As what occurs in passage one where Golding's said, "There was a strip of weed-strewn beach that was almost as firm as a road. A kind of glamour was spread over them and the scene and they were conscious of the glamour and made happy by it." I think Golding want to put us in a wide imagination to discover the fascinating island and the kind of greenery or plants it have. That beauty makes the boys glad. (<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

#### **2.4.7. Symbolism**

First of all, the novel itself is very symbolic and its title too. Golding uses a lot of symbolism in "Lord of the Flies". The whole book is symbolic of the nature of man and the nature of society. The island is metaphorical to society, and the end of the tale is symbolic of the war. The powerful symbol used throughout the book is the conch which represents authority and order.

The possession of the conch reflects the possession of power, and creates order and rules since it was blown, this needs from everyone to listen. Other symbol was the glasses of piggy which signifies knowledge and insights, as Piggy owns them he gives advices to the group, as his principal participation in creating signal fire. The theft of the glasses ends piggy's insights on many things. The symbol of painting faces with black and red refers to savagery and the mask refers to natural evil inside them all this refer to some savage and cruel acts that may cover our society in some places in the world. (<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

#### **2.4.8. Figurative Language**

A. Personification: Golding employs personification. Especially through The conversation that was between the pig's head and Simon. The head is personified and given ability to speak to Simon. While it is dead, it is proud in its speech.

B. Simile: Golding used simile. That occurs in the first passage when he compares the sand with a road saying, "...beach that was almost as firm as a road." (<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv668>).

C. Metaphor: Golding often uses metaphor. All symbolism is a type of metaphor since two things dissimilar are compared together and in this sake he described the choir boy at the beginning of the book as a dark creature crawling along the sand.

D. Allusion: Golding also used numerous allusions in his novel. From the beginning before reading we remark that the title itself is an allusion to the Bible,

because “The Lord of the Flies” was a title that is given to Beelzebub. Moreover Simon’s name is also an allusion to the disciple or the most believable follower Simon Peter. (<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

#### **2.4.9. Ironic Devices**

Even the story deals with a serious subject and describes a very gloomy life that reflects on us feeling of grief but this mood did not prevent it to include an irony. The irony is presented in the novel but not a lot. Usually, the meaning is frank and straight, but there is an irony in the case of piggy and Ralph since Simon’s death; when piggy said that he wasn’t frightened and at the same time he repeated again that he was afraid as he wonders what he was. Also irony is repeated in the case of piggy’s appearance when the boys used him as mocking; they call him piggy at first, then pudgy and a pig at the last of the story. (<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

#### **2.4.10. Tone**

The tone which is used by the writer to affect on us in order to feel something or to make us fear about something or to warn us about the beast or our internal evil, is very natural and direct as he is in front of us. His tone resembles lecturer tone. The tone is maintaining more through the events and the characters than by syntax or style. An example: in the discovery of the parachutist the writing style is remained as neutral as previous way of writing, but the event of finding him as the beast, teaches us that it is

not a monster in contrast that event come to alert and warn about ourselves. (<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

#### **2.4.11. Structure**

The novel ‘‘Lord of the Flies’’ includes twelve chapters. The writer deals with the whole group in his narrating; rarely, the story separates from the general group to follow one specific character. For example, the story followed Jack when he hunts in the jungle with his friends, moreover it followed Simon’s status who was discovering the reality and who is lonely. The author used some techniques as warning. By using many symbols, he gives the reader an idea and image of what will be happen to prefigure future events. (<http://www.alladvantage.com/go.asp?refid=AMV686>. Retrieved 11/02/2012).

#### **2.4.12. Outline of Events**

A. Exposition: The show and description of events is mostly in the first chapter and the first part of the second. All characters are introduced and the problem of the story is explained in the start of the narrative. Reading the beginning of the narrative facilitate for readers to know that children were taken to someplace because of the war and they were attacked to be fallen on an island. It is explained also that Ralph is the leader of the pacific group and Jack is the leader of the hunters, then Piggy is a standby of Ralph, he is a supporter of order and his vision about the world is all scientific. These events take the period of one day.



B. Rising action: The rising action is summarized in the creation of a signal fire; there are those who remained interested as Ralph and those who ignored it later as Jack. This period starts in the middle of chapter two where the boys attempt to maintain a signal fire to rescue themselves, then the anger between the boys is increased, also one of the boys are lost. These events refer to rise of actions. Later than, order is slowly lost and chaos slowly takes over.

C. Climax or Crises: The climax appears when order is completely disappeared, the conch is crushed, the glasses lost and Piggy is killed. Jack takes over the group. Simon is killed.

D. Falling action: The falling action refers to a short period that was between the peak of the spread of savagery and the arrival of a naval officer. As conclusion we see the inherent evil within the boys which is specific to mankind and a reflection of society.

E. Resolution: The jungle catches fire. An officer comes on a shore, when Ralph was hunted by Jack's choir he falls down and encounters the officer. All the boys have rescued and returned into their homeland.

F. Mockery scene and moment: Simon when he spoke to "Lord of the Flies" that time was sophisticated and imaginative; the head said that the Beast is something can be killed, after that the forest repeated that sentence with the parody and high giggle.

G. Tragic scene: When Simon at the end has discovered the reality of the beast and went to reveal what he saw, the hunters killed him in a brutal way; their behavior reflects their insane belief of evil. He died like the martyr; he is killed as Piggy's situation when he tried to advise the hunters they killed him in cruel way too. (Retrieved 11/02/2012).

## **2.5. The allegory of "Lord of the Flies"**

A web site which is written at the end of the page noted that the novel has many allegories such as: the island itself is an allegory for society. The author shows that the society can break down because of bad leadership mob mentality, and a lack of true civilization, as what happened with the boys who deserted into isolated island and degraded into savagery because of bad leadership and of the absence of rules. The main allegory for Lord of the Flies is that without civilization, savagery takes over; Golding depicts in his narrative of British schoolboys the events of WWII in which most of people tended to a spirit of killing and savagery.

Both of the Beast and *lord of the flies* are not alive physical characters; it is the evil that is in the individuals, this evils unleashed with the absence of civilization. Piggy stands for mental power which plays importance anthem idea of civilization, and when piggy died savagery spread completely. The story shows the allegory that savagery is stronger and more inherent than civilization. Simon stands for morality; the death of Simon indicates how morality and goodness cannot survive within savagery. But finally this savagery ended just when the navel man appeared. In II Kings (King James Version), the god of the Philistine city of Ekronis given the name "Baal-zebub,"

meaning “Lord of Flies” in Hebrew, and in post-Biblical Hebrew, the name is transformed to “Beelzebul,” which means “Lord of Dung”

(<http://www.alladvantages.com/go.asp?refid=amv686>).

In certain Jewish religious texts the fly is considered an impure creature and symbolize to corruption and evil. In “The Lord of the Flies” we see evil of Satan himself in the hearts of the innocents. Seemingly snakes and some flies look uncomfortable and externally symbolize to evil.

Jack represents the irresponsibility and cruelty in everybody, Piggy represents the intellect or civilest person, Simon represents the artistic and or religious side of everybody. Piggy and Jack share the fact that they both want to lead, Jack and Simon share curiosity. Jack's passion is in hunting; whereas Simon's passion is in discovering nature. (<http://www.gradesaver.com/lord-of-the-flies/study-guide>. retrieved 17/3/2012).

## **Conclusion**

Golding in “Lord of the Flies” made his work very artistic, he used in it psychological development and symbolic style to make it very attractive. The novel is very thorough in terms of meaning, structure and style. Golding’s way of narration is very simple and very deep in meaning. The movie depicts a general view of a novel and each one completes the other. Golding’s novel has many interpretations it is related to history, religion, society, psychology and politics thus it was treated by many critics and reviewers which may evaluate it positively or negatively, that limits its nature of reception and this part of criticism is included in the following chapter.

## **Chapter three: Critical reviews**

### **Introduction**

Even with Golding's novel popularity, "Lord of the Flies" was only a modest success at the first time in 1954, then it became very famous. Critical reviews and British word of mouth were positive and negative, however, by the time newspapers of 1959 put "Lord of the Flies" as a challenger of "The Catcher in the Rye" as the most popular book on American colleges. By mid-1962 more than 65,000 copies of Golding's novel sold and it was required on more than one hundred campuses.

Apparently, the novel is interested on debating the merits and defects of its different characters and it seems that the book appeals to skepticism of adolescents about human values, but in fact the book treats many deep subjects; it has different references and deep symbolic ideas. Questions as the confusing ending of the novel and the most preferable tragic hero for readers plus the factual novel's version had risen by many, and had continued to fascinate readers. It is for this reason, that the external criticism considers "Lord of the Flies" the explosion of our times.

This chapter conveys the criticism and the reviews of the most important points of the novel. We will to classify the reviews in positive and negative evaluations. Then we add brief definitions of the reviewers and lastly we close the chapter with a general conclusion.

### 3. 1. Positive reviews:

#### 3.1.1. Christianity and Judaism by David Anderson

David Anderson is a lecturer of religious studies at Hertfordshire College of Higher Education in England. He published some books as *Simone Weil and The Tragic Protest*. Anderson spot light on Golding's religious hints in the novel. Anderson tends to show the weak belief of the Christian people in the latest period since Golding put his characters believing on the beast as a demonic image. These boys submit all their affairs on themselves as they are living in Godless life; moreover they killed the Christ figure. In addition to that Anderson wants to show the status of the Jewish people who considered them distanced and hated by many people in the world.

Anderson sees that Simon is Christ-figure. Simon's confrontation with *lord of the flies* resembles Christ's conversation with the devil as it was described in the gospels. Golding creates an idolatrous God in the image of a beast or a monster; he presented the story in Godless way. The illicit food in Adam and Eve's case is the fruit. The meat of the pigs is the illicit food in this story. The title is taken from a Hebrew name Ba'alzevuv, or in its Greek form Beelzebub, which translates to "God of the Flies" and is synonymous with Satan. Golding is a maker of myths, He describes the reality of Human behavior; fall from innocence into sin, but he put some supernatural characters as the beast and *lord of the flies*. He creates an idolatrous God in the image of a beast and this monster extended to result death and occupy their thinking; maybe their faults need atonement which reduces their sins, or they need a compensation which replaces what they destruct and what they mistake by losing their friends and their happiness , these are some Golding's themes. We wonder whether he wants to remind the readers of

the Christian principles; because it is noticeable that Golding's novel is based on the subject of the fall but he introduced it with the absence of God. This absence came in two forms: God is absent simply because he is unnecessary; it means man who creates his presence and fate, second: the problems of the life and human existence are solved by humans rationally and scientifically.

Ralph grieves for Piggy's death; his intelligent and wise friend. Golding concentrated on the use of human capacities and intelligence for the planning of our life and future; the author wants to make our life based on rational principles and scientific techniques but with the absence of God. The rationalism of Piggy is powerless and ineffective to secure his existence or defeat the evil. The true God is absent, and his image is personified in distorted and demonic image.

"Lord of the Flies" is a biblical allegory; "Lord of the Flies" brings a number of allusions to Judeo-Christian tradition. Many scholars agree that these references qualify Golding's narrative as biblical allegory. The biblical explanation of good and evil, others have suggested that the novel is an irony that criticizes religion. For example: The Island itself resembles the Garden of Eden, plentiful fruit, and peaceful weather. Therefore, the boys are symbols of Adam and Eve before the fall. The act of Ralph when he removes his clothes to take a bath in water refers to the peak of innocence, and the snake in the novel recalls the presence of Satan in the Garden of Eden. The evil impulses are natural characteristics that are innate within themselves; otherwise their failure to recognize the danger of inherent evil inside them pushes them deeply to savagery and violence. Also the novel continues to prove the presence of religious allusions as a "beast" and the name "lord of the flies" because both are used

in religion to refer to Satan. Satan at the beginning of life was a reflection of the faults within human nature; we mean after the fault of Adam and Eve, Satan considered their hostile.

It is clear that Satan is related to human's faults, but readers usually consider Satan an external force. Original sin enters human nature because of Satan, but Golding stresses the ways that this Eden is already fallen. Simon symbolizes to a prophet or Jesus Christ. Simon is spiritual, non-violent; He is like many biblical prophets and like Jesus. He is ostracized and not popular. Critics also have noted that Simon's confrontation with the "Lord of the Flies" resembles Christ's conversation with the devil as it was described in the gospels; also critics have spoken about parallels between Simon's murder and Christ's sacrifice on the cross. But Simon's revelation is that the beast does not exist but just a dead human.

The island is an Eden, however the Boys, like Adam and Eve, the illicit food in Adam and Eve's case is the fruit of the Tree which Satan convince them to eat it because he knows it is forbidden by God whereas in the boys' case, the meat of the pigs is the illicit. In Both cases, the temptation cost a lot.

There are religious allusions, *Lord of the Flies*, is an English translation of the Hebrew name of the Devil Beelzebub. In Golding's novel the devil is illustrated in different forms, the beast is identified by the littluns as a "snake-thin" (qtd.in Bloom: 60), "Lord of the Flies" gives signals as the Bible. In fact, innocents are repeatedly slaughtered. The birthmark boy died in the fire, and Piggy is with intent murdered, but the boy whose death is seem to be most Christian parallels is Simon, he is the novel's

Christ-figure. Simon resembles Jesus in some ways; Christ repeatedly predicts his own death. Simon predicts not his own death but Ralph's survival. He says that "you" (60) "Ralph" will "get back all right" (60) not we, Golding put some of the Christ characteristic in the character of Simon as Simon's prediction of the future perhaps to remind the English people of their religion and their powerful faith. He is also like Christ who feeds his followers, in this case Simon feeds the littluns with fruit from the island's trees, and the Christ isolates himself to pray and Simon retreats to be alone with his thoughts Simon maintains his vigil in spite of heat and flies on his face.

Simon's visions of truth, in which he sees the essence of the beast comes as an opposition to the worship of the beast. This conciliation of evil may seemingly refer to popular British opinion of non-Christian religious practice. However it refers closely to the worship of idols and gods in ancient Pantheon. It is remarkably that the writer reduces the value of Christianity He never shows that the boys submit their affairs to the Will of god. (Bloom 55).

We think the boys submit their affairs on themselves as they are the creator of their fate without giving submission on God's will; they are living in Godless world. The hint of faith is absent on the boys; this reflects the reduction of the value of Christianity with the British society. Concerning Simon, we see that he is just a courageous and curious boy and his talk to the head of big refers to his strong faith because he did not fear the evil and he is the first who knows the reality of the beast, but he hasn't strong signs of prophetic figure. We disagree with those who see that the beast is a Satan because he is just a dead man who reflects their weak belief, but the scene in which they offer the beast a head of a pig without fear refers to the evil that becomes



inside them, and the innocence which disappears from them. The writer when he chooses the violent and sinful boys as hunters of pig refer that using pig's meat is a deep sin and this reflects his faith and reflects Jewish religion; because the meat of a pig is forbidden and sinful for Jews as the case of Muslims . Smilingly, Golding wants to create a combination between Judaism and Christianity also he wants to remind the English people of their religion in order to strengthen Christianity as it was in the beginning, but Golding's analysis focuses in the fall with Adam and Eve.

### **3.1.2. The start and the end of the novel by Peter Edgerly Firchow**

Peter Edgerly Firchow is a prominent scholar, and now he is a professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota. He is the author of *Envisioning Africa: Racism and Imperialism in Conrad's "Heart of Darkness,"* and many other works. Firchow tends in his study of the novel to focus on the way that Golding begins and ends which is unpredictable and confusing. Golding's book ends, in short, in few words with strange reaction and gestures of the naval officer are referring to an absurd novel. It is unpredictable as the way it begins. The novel has existentialist idea which says that we have all thrown into life. This existentialist thought means humans who create their own fate and save their existence rationally or by other way. In which the boys tried to solve their life by the use of science when they create fire and they did not submit their problem or disaster to the God, in contrast they were occupied by supernatural power which is the beast. Golding's novel is absurdist maybe because the writer is influenced from his studies on psychology, and it has existential ideas maybe because it is related to our first existence since the first fall of Adam and Eve.

The end of the novel is short and strange and its first beginning is confusing too. The boys landed the island just when their plane shot down and crushed by their enemy, it seems that was during a nuclear world war III. When the boys fall down, directly they rescue themselves and entered the isle. They were at first afraid and remembering what happen to them and wondering for the pilot's disappearance and for others who are missing. They were frightened because there isn't an adult or responsible among them, also Piggy wonders what happened to the man with the megaphone. Ralph hope that the pilot will return to rescue them, but piggy insists that the plane is burned and it is under the sea; because there is no detritus of metal, glass, propellers, food, tools, or weapons and there is not even corpses or body parts.

“Frank Kermode in 1959 said that it was worked out very carefully in every possible way, this novel” (qtd.in Bloom : 91), Kermode in this quotation ensures the author's artistry. Then Jack Biles insures his confidence that the novelist is a fully conscious craftsman, and here Biles asserts the author's broad culture in many domains; his culture and experience appears in his various themes that color the novel. These remarks negate any supposition that Golding was unaware of what he was doing when he put his boys on the island. Certainly, all previous island' adventures, from “Robinson Crusoe” to “Peter Pan”, including Golding's explicit model, and “Coral Island”, have clearly showed how the characters got there.

“Lord of the Flies” have relation to existentialism; Existentialism explains mysterious way of the boys how they “drop in” (91) on the island and made faults that cost them a lot; by analogy to the way we have all “dropped in” (91)on life, we means

we fall in making mistakes, that renders to our first existence with the case of Eve and Adam.

The idea of Martin Heidegger about the first existence of humanity is that we all have thrown into life. This existentialist idea seemingly answers the problem of a strange beginning of the novel. (qtd.in Bloom : 92). Golding's study includes philosophy this explains directly his aware of existentialism. Golding in *Lord of the Flies* seems to show humanity under a test as an example. This kind of test is apparent in the ending of the novel, as they said both of Frederick Karl and James Gordin. The way the book ends, in short, in few words with strange reaction of the British naval officer with his gestures is referring to an absurd novel. It is unpredictable as the way it begins. (Bloom 90).

Stephen Medcalf stated that many teachers of high school in Britain used Golding's novel to introduce it to their students as high literature. At first it seem very questionable for students who wonder about the confusing beginning of the novel, concerning how the boys had arrived to a deserted island, because what they know is that they were attacked by enemies. Critics were less curious than many high school students. (qtd.in Bloom : 93).

Although, as we have seen, the original typescript version of the novel provides more details about how and why the boys got to the island, Golding's revision in the published version hides those details deliberately.

### 3.1.3. Vision and Structure in the novel by k. Chellappan

Chellappan is a professor and chairman of the English department at Bharathi University, India. Apparently, "Lord of the Flies" used the Fable Structure which intend to teach a moral lesson. The novel is full of events, its events naked time and become pictures that absorbed time. Its structure is very thorough in terms of meaning, structure and content. It used a figurative language. Its characters differentiate in their vision to the conch and to the beast also they differ in their belief. They differ also in their relation to nature and on their goal. The novel is very symbolic by the use of symbolic elements as the conch, the head of the pig and the meat of the pig and the use of symbolic characters as Simon, Ralph, Jack, Piggy and the supernatural character who is the Beast. The meat of the pig is a sinful and illicit act; it is considered anti-Semitism act. The conch stands for order and head stands for evil which is insides humans. The beast is an ironic God. Ralph reflects democratic system, Jack reflects hunger of power of the dictator, piggy reflects Jews image and Simon refers to a Christ. The novel attempted to explore no-exit situation because of the difficult of rescue. Science and symbols are piggy's language whereas animalistic actions, power and bad impulses are jack's language. Kermode said:

"Golding's novels are simple in so far as they deal in the primordial patterns of human experience and in so far as they have skeletons of parable. On these simple bones, the flesh of narrative can take extremely complex forms. This makes for difficulty, but of the most acceptable kind, the difficulty that attends the expression of what is profoundly simple". (qtd. in Bloom : 4).

Kermode sees that Golding's novel is a version of the human experience especially during WWII, moreover a study of human values, furthermore it is a parable of our first existence with our parents Eve and Adam. Golding's narrative is a return of a primitive reality linked with religious desires. The novel can be seen from an angle as a modern myth which deal old subject and its mode is a discovery of kids; they encounter with the new universe of the island which is out the mode. The events appeared very simple and significant, some of them based on symmetry circularity. Events naked time and become pictures that absorbed time and modify human real time to mythical one with putting in centre the child adult. The novel attempted to explore of no-exit situation, seemingly chaos and pain are central images in the novel as process that derives separateness, isolation and dehumanization. At first of the novel, they were discovering newness of things then they started being separating from each other bit by bit. They were one union then their discovery of a new universe with new rule led them to create specific language and specific behavior. In the first chapter, we remark the essence of union and helpfulness between them and later we notice the destruction of strong relations. Thus at first the universe and humanity stated together and they were juxtaposed, but at the end meaningless cry juxtaposed human and universe cry.

The existential nature of Ralph is distanced from space and is distinguished from weakness of Piggy with his asthma and female features. The conch that becomes a process of order, and which discovered by piggy was the thing and idea that gathered piggy and Ralph to have similar thinking and purpose. According to Mark Kinkead-Weekes and Ian Gregor who talk about the necessity of a significant symbolism of the conch to lead characters from chaos due to civilization.(qtd.in Bloom : 5). The sound reflects human cooperation; it connects and split the boys. Main characters are

distinguished with reference to the conch, because according to Ralph its role is seen as communicative purpose, and for Piggy it is symbolic too, but to Jack it has pragmatic function. The reality of a novel reveals that the conflicts came in two forms one is symbolic and the other reflects self benefits and utilitarian aspect, and what separate two significances is Ralph who ragged in center. Ralph is a process of many principals as order, cooperation, hope, and finding a rescue, in other hand Jack is a process of cruelty, chaos, hostility and hunger for power by bad rules. Piggy still civilized. Both of Jack and Piggy are anti-socialists simply because they did not serve the all; for this reason Ralph stand as motor in the center to balance them. Ralph insisted on signal fire for rescue not as Jack who is interested by hunting but this lead him to make crimes. Piggy stand as allegory of peace and brainpower and weakness then Simon refer to adventurous essence and Ralph is the rescue symbol. Thus Ralph is acted as peace-maker in center of the both.

According to Mark Kinkead-Weekes and Ian Gregor, who distinguish between the killer and the one who wants the benefit of the majority, we deduce that Piggy is a symbolist whereas the aggressive Jack is without significance. The unaccompanied one who did not belong to each group is Simon because he supports the experience. They are as white flowers under a light of candle that open them then later the light stab down and in the island world the kids have different behavior; Jack want to cut the candle and eat it, and Ralph want to light it, but Simon satisfied to see it. This symbolism can be seen in their vision to fire, Ralph wants fire for rescue and he is positive pragmatic and Jack want it for hunting then eating no more also he is very satisfied and he ignored his first coming as a civilized one. Simon is the one who can see the relation between the

island and the beast: He saw the goodness of island because the beast included in those who degraded to imitate animalistic actions. (qtd. in Bloom : 6).

They discovered pigs and developed in killing to become real murders and more experienced; they killed a sow, piggy, Simon and seek to add Ralph who is rescued at the end. Their painted faces refer to the out from humanity to join the beast, their mask seemingly a way to cover their smooth nature, shame and features of civilization. Piggy's name taken from the imaginative pigginess to real beastliness. He was killed pig hunters and his death come with the break of the conch. The clear antagonist of the abnormal jack is Simon who is the very natural one; after the hunters' dance at night he was mistaken to fictitious beast then Simon ended as scapegoat of human guilt. The head of the beast is a symbol of bestiality and a sign of Simon's place and his death is a rite and jack is anti rite. The symbols are piggy's language whereas the actions are jack's language, primitive instincts are reached the climax when piggy died by rock, "The rock struck Piggy a glancing blow from chin to knee, the conch exploded into a thousand white fragments and ceased to exist." (7), piggy stands for order and science his end with the conch refers to the end of civilization and the spread of savagery and chaos in the island, the skull symbolizes to science and the conch to order. Also the skull which bright white is put together with the white broken conch, the airman and piggy and Simon are unified by the silence of the conch which become speechless. The shell and the skull represent the essence.

In "Lord of the Flies", personification plays an important role. The personification used in a description of the death of Simon is different from the

personification which is used to refer to the mechanical flow of the angry sea absorbing Piggy's body.

"Lord of the Flies" used the Fable Structure which is a short fictional story intended to teach a moral lesson. Best known ones are Aesop's fables, Aesop used animals as the main characters and end with such truisms that means the hero is the one who win at the end: "slow and steady wins the race".(qtd.in Bloom : 9). The characters and simplicity of the story of a fable leave little room for argument with the concluding proverb. It is ironic, Golding considered "Lord of the Flies" a fable because his novel allows much rooms for discussion.(Bloom 3)

We think that the story of the boys deals with a real subject with symbolic characters and supernatural monster who is not real; it is mixture between reality and imagination or fable, but it satisfies more religious tendencies than social or historical fact. The way in which Golding portrays his heroes seem to be in a Godless island, the presence of Christianity appears in the role of the ambiguous character "Simon" who has prophetic characteristic, whereas the trace of Golding's religion is seen in the behavior of the hunters. Golding alludes by using the hunters of the pig to a sinful act, and this reflects the fact that using pig's meat as nutrition is a sin as it is in Jewish religion. the story takes us from a case of a strong union to separateness also it starts with the essence of civilization to savagery and it centers on the idea of the falling of innocence, so it is very symbolic especially with the use of the conch to maintain order. The use of the glasses refers to science because it belongs to piggy who thinks intelligently and also refers to a reference of rescue: it means creating fire to be noticed by passing. Concerning the beast, he refers to the presence of evil in life and exactly



refers to Satan as external force and reflects evil and the faults as internal force within humanity. Golding used many scientific objects to show his scientific tendency and used symbolic characters to show his view of democratic and dictator system and used Simon and the hunters to convey the belief of Judeo-Christian culture, and he put the beast to allude to his refuse to the existence of idolatrous God of our days of before.

#### **3.1.4. The symbolism by Mark Kinkead-Weekes and Ian Gregor**

Mark Kinkead-Weekes accompanied Ian Gregor to produce two previous works of William Golding. He and Golding were friends and discussed many thoughts that were presented in Golding's books. According to him, anything in the novel is symbolic as characters, the title and the tools which are used in the novel. The use of the conch shell for order reflects the importance and application of order within the British society. The sound of the conch is a symbol which calls for social equality and freedom and rejects dictator system and segregation between classes and between people everywhere. It alerts the people for their defects that reflect the evil that reside every human being, and show that a good social organization and a good political system are not related only by laws and rules but also by people who should change their evil, their hunger of power, cruelty and their hunger of rule in the world. Golding study for human nature tends for keeping goodness and harmony and cooperation with all people to live peacefully.

The finding of the shell is started by Piggy's feeling about something creamy among weeds in the sea at the same time Piggy listened something knocked with stones, then he noticed a bubble and he found a conch. It is a conch that is valuable and its

rhythm seems to give social purpose because the conch is a symbol of order and rule, from dead thing we give life for many by announcing order. In the novel the use of the conch was used sharply, as it was mentioned in this quotation: “we can use this to call the others. Have a meeting.”(qtd.in. Bloom: 79), it calls to the principal of order and to the culture of assembly and combination in British societies and the order is applied even with small boys in an island. Ralph’s association with the conch is strong as symbol of assembly and democracy and freedom in speech. Seemingly Ralph’s insistence on making good rules and finding way for rescue led the boys to choose him as an appropriate chief. (Bloom 79).

We think the conch helps in cooperation to trace the route of plot, and to establish character. The conch for Piggy becomes a challenge in the Tribe that determines the deference between democracy and anarchy, civilization and savagery: “The rock struck Piggy a glancing blow from chin to knee; the conch exploded into a thousand white fragments and ceased to exist.”(qtd.in Bloom : 80), in this quotation the author intends to expose the cruelty murder of piggy as well as intends to show the transform of jack’s tribe into high level of savagery, and his murder is accompanied with the destruction of the conch that reveals the end of order .

The sound was as a call to society, but ends as a dead explosion on the rocks. This gives tragic sense to the story. In the second half of the scene, Piggy invents the idea of meeting, to give a social purpose and Ralph was interested in finding how to blow it. Again Piggy moves into harmony when he proposes that the shell also is an object of play for both of them and add enjoyment. The shell is found in artistic location in a salt water, with brilliant fish, green weed, then in its own strange cream and rose

spiral, marked by a real art, but lastly in the harsh part of this beauty which gives order to the island and gives Ralph confidence among his friends to be a good chief, it is the sound which breaks the quietness and also creates bad competition that led to conflict then chaos in the island. The conch frightens the beast because both Piggy and Ralph are conscious and faithful so they did not fear the beast. We think that Golding puts the physical realities more importance than the mental ones; he puts Jack in a powerful status of ruling and ends his novel by the destruction of the conch which offers moral values. Human's self-assertion that comes violently and with bad impulses will be the sound of irresponsibility and childishness. The fragility of order will remove human from sociability to act animalistic behavior as Jack's choir. As conclusion the assembly and rule are running away from chaos to find life since Piggy and Ralph are running to preserve life.

The fiction seems to have a conceptual analysis in different sides, reading it more and more makes it richer and more profound, because it is very symbolic. I think it is a mixture of science, literature, history, politics and religion and this gives her its importance. ( Bloom 81).

### **3.2. Negative reviews:**

#### **3.2.1. Human depravity in the novel by Paul Crawford**

Paul Crawford is a lecturer in mental health at the University of Nottingham. Crawford sees that Golding destroyed the equality between races when he puts the white people in as source of development and civilization and puts the hunters to allude

to the native blacks as source of ignorance, violence and chaos. The status of science is degraded by the murder of Piggy and the destruction of the conch and glasses seemingly he alludes to reality of our life when power and wealth and authority swept the values of science since life is scientific not power. Moreover he reduced the value of Christianity and destroyed the respectful image of the British society. The problem is that Golding believing on the innate evil of humans and that goodness is taken from the rules and laws of our society. It is unbelievable because God gives us two tendencies, or two desires that differ from one to another according to his degree of belief. One tends to do evil and the other desire tends to do goodness and virtuous works and tends to a real penitence. We reject the idea which says that evil is the sole nature and innate within humanity. In addition the writer was blaming the English people who forget the crimes of the Nazi people. This latter is a bad motif that opens hostility between people; it should be forgotten and should be considered something from the past. His exposition of the depravity of humanity and his difficult subjects are inapt to be used for children's age.

Golding seemingly destroy some important notions in life like race and culture, and values of science, he put in parallel the violent history of English imperialist culture and the extermination of the Jews. Golding did not criticize the crimes of Nazi war but he blamed the English people who are in full complacency and distanced the Nazi war. Graham Dawson sees that the identity of British imperialism drawn in soldier hero, an idealized militaristic masculinity, Putting proofs of masculinities in vision of fighting and Adventure won't benefit national culture and will touch the thinking of a child. Thus this kind of stories will destroy the naïve and innocence of children also helps to have rigid boy. The island world is adventurous story that come back to Daniel Defoe's

“Robinson Crusoe”, and Rob Robert Louis Stevenson’s “Treasure Island”, and Ballantyne’s “Coral Island”. (qtd.in Bloom : 70).

The boys are occupied by mysterious phenomenon which is the beast who brings them fear, that idea affected at first the littluns and also Jack and Ralph. The term “beastie” (qtd.in Bloom : 70), then developed into a beast, The fear increased by the disappearance of the boy who saw the snake, and what added the oddity in the island is the nightmares of the littluns, also the nature become strange sometimes:

“Strange things happened at midday. The glittering sea rose up, moving apart enplanes of blatant impossibility; the coral reef and the few, stunted palms that clung to the more elevated parts would float up into the sky, would quiver, be plucked apart, run like raindrops on a wire or be repeated as in an odd succession of Mirrors. Sometimes land loomed where there was no land and flicked out like a bubble as the children watched” (qtd.in Bloom: 76).

The oddity of the island explains perhaps the change of the boys because the rules and values that are available in society play an important role in shaping the child’s reaction. Every one of the boys interprets the beast by his angle; Maurice says: “I don’t believe in the beast of course. As Piggy says, life’s scientific, but we don’t know, do we? Not certainly, I mean” (76), this quotation clarifies that savagery was in its start when fear prevails the boys. Then Simon amazes the older boys by existence of the beast, as appears in this quotation: “maybe there is a beast” (76), he tries to warn them about the existence of the evil in their selves. In other hand Simon doubt them that the beast may be one of them or even inside them and this fact appears in the two following quotation: “we could be Sort of ..”(76). ‘Simon became inarticulate in his

effort to express mankind's essential illness"(77), Simon is the only one who knows the reality of the beast and reality that evil is internal force that resides humans. Some events demonstrate this fact as Piggy's murder, and the animalistic acts of the hunters. The reality is that human beings have evil inside them. In fact, Golding's novel's function is to undermine most important rational ideas of the superiority of Civilized English behavior. We can deduce that these are somehow hypothesis that sustains the complacency of England, especially, that the atrocities and bloodshed which was perpetrated by the Nazis who were an exclusively German occurrence.

The beast should have real interpretation and must be linked logically to real nature not to supernatural objects, the real image of the beast appears in this quotation: "The Beast is human, Nazi-like, and English" (74), here the writer is symbolizing to the crimes and the violence of the Nazis by beast's figure. Instead of putting the evil in a form of objects, phantoms, and supernatural beasts, we should face up to the reality of human destructiveness. Golding used carnival scenes in his novel and when they were following the big it was symbolically referring to dominant racial assumption which should be avoided. He referred by that to the Jews, moreover to those who considered foreign to any grouping. In this sake Golding's work stand as alarming to the atrocity ...es that were in opposition to Jew's existence during world War two, in which he referred to pig's hunt with human hunt that remained not yet interpreted among many reviewers. Exactly the symbol of a big is open, it has different interpretations: it symbolizes to source of food, also as propitiation and threat to the beast and above all stand as a meat of the Jews which is forbidden to be eaten. Golding's selection of novel's title "lord of the flies" Which is Hebraic and comes from the word "Beelzebub" (77), as John Whitely said that it comes from the Hebrew word

‘‘Beelzebub’’.( qtd.in Bloom : 77) it reflects Satan and evil generally. As I noted earlier, ‘‘Peter Stall brass and Allon White argue that the eating of pig meat during carnival time is an anti-Semitic practice’’. (qtd.in Bloom : 78) because the pig and his meat is sin for the Jews like us. Golding considered it disdain manner which is against the Jews’ traditions, Jack with his choir depended animalistic actions behind a pig, and the pig is not eaten and hated by Jews. This reversing the role harried by Jack and his group in to ‘‘carnivalistic debauchery’’. (78). This hunt in general is finished by Simon’s killing, Piggy’s murder and the hunting of Ralph all these are linked to significance of aliens or outsiders as Jew’s image among most people.

Piggy is Golding’s Creation that suggests a Jew-like figure as mentioned in this quotation: ‘‘There had grown tacitly among the begun, the opinion that Piggy was an outsider, not only by accent, which did not matter, but by fat, and ass -mar, and specs, and a certain disinclination for manual labor’’ (78). I think Piggy stands as a symbol of the Jews people who are considered outsiders they have not a specific country for them and the writer seemingly put the intelligent character who explains anything in scientific way, this reflects the Jews people. We remark some of the Jews intellect in the image of Piggy even the accent and physical difference and the use of anti-Semitism of carnival in Golding’s novel. Golding used carnival to show the uneasiness of English nature concerning their civilization during World War II under tyranny.

Golding’s use of carnival in his novel is as recording of his deep feeling about the nature of English people during the events of World War II like dictatorship and total killing, ‘‘Misrule of carnival in contemporary history is presented as integral not simply to Nazis or other totalitarian regimes but also to England with its divisive and

cruel class system”. (78).Golding did not allude only to cruelty of the Nazis, or other dictator system in the world; but also refers the divisive class system of England and defects of the English system. (Bloom 74 ).

### **3.2.2. Destructive masculinity by Berthold Schoene-Harwood**

Berthold Schoene-Harwood is an older lecturer in literature and cultural history at Liverpool John Moores University. He spoke about the choice of male characters instead of choosing both female and male characters in Golding’s novel. In addition, he show bad supremacy and hunger of power with males; he destructed the value and status masculinity in his characters. Besides he depicted weakness and mockery in the image of femaleness in both piggy and a sow. Harwood criticized the writer who destructed two notions masculinity and femininity. masculinity was bad presented whereas femininity was very neglected.

In the beginning of the novel, the boys seem competing each other to show their masculinity in contradistinction also to show their dramatic assertion, the boys attempted to assert their superiority, especially with the absence of girls; they take off their clothes preparing themselves to explore the dangers of the island with confidence. Behind these acts the author wants to transmit the idea that power and dominance is innate to the boys, “While Henry is rejoicing in his rule over tiny transparencies, Roger starts throwing stones at him. Both boys are desperate to distract from their own helplessness and do so by projecting their fear of subjection onto an even weaker other”. (qtd.in Bloom:68), in this case some of the boys try to forget the fear by rule over the weak ones. Many actions reflect children’s need for protection and the need to each



other in a hopeless situation. Every one try to show his superiority and masculinity over others, because that masculinity hide their hidden fear and feminine. The way in which the boys were killing the sow is violent in a brutal manner, seemingly it refers to signs of sexual hint for Golding, and their feeling of masculinity is strengthen from their desire to discover weakness of a feminine in the image of a sow as appears in the following quotation:

“sow fell and the hunters hurled themselves at her . . . Roger ran round the heap, prodding with his spear when ever pig flesh appeared. Jack was on top of the sow, stab downward with his knife. Roger found a lodgment for his point and began to push till he was leaning with his whole weight. The spear moved forward inch by inch and the terrified squealing became a high- pitched scream. The sow collapsed under them and they were heavy and fulfilled upon her. Roger began to with draw his spear and the boys noticed it for the first time. Robert stabilized thing in phrase which was received up Right wildly her, ass”  
(qtd.in Bloom : 69).

The author in this quotation aims to show the degree of violence and savagery that prevail the boys and destroy their innocence. The author used this depiction of sow’s killing to show us the degree of savagery with the boys also to proof us the loss of innocence. They want to forget their nature or their weakness because they are not capable, Golding resembles them I the following quotation by feminized boys: “a lot of cry-babies and sissies”. (69), we think their weakness and cry that they want to cover by savagery. The boys wanted also to destroy their femininity and their fear by using the masks as savages, they painted their faces to confirm the masculinity and avoid shame or may be to feel freely but also in a girlish image with their long hair, these

ideas appeared in this quotation: “He looked in astonishment, no longer at himself but at an awesome stranger . . . the mask was a thing on its own, behind which Jack hid, liberated from shame and self-consciousness”(70), psychologically it reflects the escape from the bad situation and the escape from fear moreover, psychologically, it reflects the covering of their innocence by savagery to feel their selves stronger and capable.

Piggy and Ralph who refused the idea of the mask and the baggy referred to them as: “acting like a crowd of kids” (70). Ralph see them “boys armed with sticks” (70) this quotation and the precedent one reflect piggy’s vision of the hunters who even being armed he looks at them as kids who want to hide their fear by violence. Piggy also was against the hunters’ behaviour but his slowness and weakness make him neglected by most of them even he is very intelligent, but piggy’s appearance dishonors his place. They frequently tell him: “Sucks to your auntie!”.( 71), and “Shut up!” ((71), these two quotations reflects Piggy’s femininity he always repeats what her aunt said. he is behaved by others as weak female and as a reference of derision, then he took a new epithet of his name biggy: a big or baggy. “What would a beast eat?”.( 71) is a “Pig.” (71), “We eat pig.” (71), “Piggy” (71), all these precedent four quotations intend to show the importance of naming in Golding novel who creatively chooses names that reflect the characters and have specific references, for example piggy’s name came from a pig and his end came by hunters of a pig, also Simon reflects Simon peter the follower of Jesus who accompany him everywhere. Even in his death they did not give him importance as human being but as an animal: “Piggy’s arms and legs twitched a bit, like a pig’s after it has been killed”. (71).on the contrary Ralph who always considers him as his brother and his guide or more exactly a chief adviser.

The boy's masculinity based on self-assertion for sake of superiority, this sign of maleness is bad defined it resulted the consumption of their friends as Piggy and Simon. They failed in their new world they lost the combination therefore they lost their relation with each other and declined in to violence, even when they play they amaze in violent manner as a carnival night when they were eating the pig's meet they had mistaken Simon coming for the beast in a darkness and they go all and killed him. The boys are willing to mistake because of their hunger for heroism, and their idea that the real man or powerful leader who occupies the superior position of masculinity. It should not be forgotten that the characters are in fact boys; Ralph, Jack and Roger are in fact littluns. The soldier at the ending of novel rescued Ralph from danger of the hunters; his fortuitous appearance saves Ralph and unmasks his persecutors.

The man at the end or a savior shows his masculinity; his gestures and his way of observing the boys seem very ambiguous but reflect his responsibility and ensure his own manliness in opposition to the boys' femininity. In addition the officer remembered Ralph of his first cry and suffering at beginning when they found themselves in an isolated island moreover it reflects his fear of the hunters who want to kill him and reflects also the happiness of finding improbable rescue for all after frightening nightmare. (Bloom 68).

We think that Golding destroyed the confidence on Christianity because he mixed it with Judaism, and he destroyed the innocence of the boys by this kind of subjects, moreover he loses confidence on British political system and on British behavior that was for us as a top of development and civilization.

### **3.2.3. The absence of female in “Lord of the Flies” by Paula Aida Roy**

Paula Alida Roy is a poet, a writer, and a teacher evaluator, she teaches at Mohawk Valley Community College in New York. She wrote many commentaries about principals of education. She sees that the novel is without females that refer to Golding's gender bias; Golding choice to show male's power reveals his image of superiority which is embodied only in male. The presence of female character is portrayed in a less masculine character who is Piggy, he is known by his soft voice, weakness and sensitivity also by his fearfulness from violence and from heavy works; he is less masculine. It seems that Golding wants to show a strong image of the boys and a feeble image of the girls. We may interpret his tendency and his bias to the disinclination from femininity.

The novel of William Golding is remarked by the absence of girls; it is occupied completely by only adult boys. This remark refers to Golding's gender bias which need for answering some intrigues questions. His assumptions of showing male violence and competition reveal Golding's image of dominance which may embody and framed only in male.

Now sociologists study the reason of aggressive behaviour which is reflected in the schoolboy's reaction after they got lost alone in a desert island; they found in this book that violence which is committed by the schoolboys will affect the education of the children. Thus, many criticizers wondered about how would be the island if females participated as these books: “John Dollar” by Marianne Wiggins and “Shelter” by

Joyce Anne Phillips. The absence of women emphasizes how feminine presence stands contrast to masculine attendance in Golding's island world.

Ralph, Jack, and Piggy are the principal characters in the story but both Jack and Ralph represent masculine boys, handsome, fit and powerful. Whereas Piggy is asthmatic, physically weak, calm and very intelligent and baggy boy, he refers to the science and order in this story, Piggy is someone who has feminine features. Jack is the chief of the hunters he is bad and strong leader because he rules in a cruel way. A scene like the way of killing a sow may refer to concealed language of rape imagery. Ralph is an isolated person like Piggy, Ralph suffered a lot to face a division of groups with violence and savagery he wants to work all as one person and insists on maintaining order and finding a method for rescue, Piggy is very important too he is Ralph's standby, not because he owns glasses as a source of signal fire but also he is the brain of the island especially when he owns the conch to call for assemblies and conserving the civility of the boys. (Bloom 82).

There is no specific maternal reference, Golding put influence of Piggy's auntie, it is somehow a mixed message about women. Piggy is only a loyal supporter of Ralph, civilization and order. Seemingly the weakness and whining of Piggy is a result of the feminizing affection, he is a feminized figure. He is known by his softness, fear, nagging so that his image is of a weaker one as a pig for Jack's view it's why he is very jealous of him when he sees Ralph respects his ideas, Golding described that the hunters' way of killing the sow was in a parody of rape imagery, as it is mentioned in the following exaggerating description: "wedded to her in lust" (qtd. in Bloom: 83), or: "collapsed under them and they were heavy and fulfilled upon her" (83). Golding seems to be mocking

and disrespects the stature of women generally; first because he alludes to women through the sow then he compared the collective killing of a collapsed sow with the lust.

The author resembles biggy to a pig this translated in his death as it is described in the following quotation: "Piggy's arms and Legs twitched a bit, like a pig's after it has been killed." (83). This quotation refers to piggy's description as pig's murder and refers that he died in cruel way, the author intend to show the fact of our time, that neglects the science comparing to power and authority. The female signs presented in the novel even there is no feminine character, while the sow is female of a big is placed as the only natural female character whereas the weak and soft behavior of biggy stand for the feminized figure or unnatural femininity, also the difference stand for the use of each one, a pig is used for meat, piggy is used as scapegoat. Piggy is a victim of mockery and physical mistreatment and neglect because he is slow, fat, and asthmatic boy .At the end he died in cruel way and Ralph too was under threat but he rescued when the naval men arrived. In Golding's texts the female pronoun is used for a sow or biggy auntie, and mothers. When biggy, Ralph and Sam were preparing themselves to go to jack camp they clean themselves, Piggy says: "we could find some Stuff and tie your hair back." (84). Eric replies, "Like a girl!" (84) this quotation reflects the femininity of the boys that is covered later by savagery to ensure their masculinity and here the femininity is referring to weakness and fear not only appearance.

The employ of Piggy's auntie as female mark with the absence of girls in the story refers to a female with civilization, weakness, softness as well as the killing of the sow refer to mother figure as it appears in: "sunk in deep maternal bliss," (84), moreover in: "the murder of Piggy suggests that the prevalence of savagery debases the

values of maternal female''. (84). Both of sow and piggy are used as symbols of maternal female. Golding wants to compare male's violence and power comparing to female weakness which is defective under male brutality, he puts femininity as reference of weakness whereas masculinity as source of power, Golding view demonstrates his culture of bias between man and woman, more ever he clarifies that the stature of woman will degrade certainly by the spread of violence of man. As a conclusion Golding show us the conditions of life that affect directly the human nature and change the nature of a person from well intentioned and civilized to savage, even if he small child, in other hand he showed a trace of misogyny. Golding may symbolize by a female absence to finger the dangers of masculinity and support the idea that man must remain strong in his society in any condition. Finally lord of the flies comes to demonstrate that everyone can be able to make mistakes or atrocities even if the person belong to civilized and respected society, as the Nazis had mistaken throughout World War II. In addition Fisher, Jerilyn, and Ellen S. Silber stated that Golding novel is missing the role of female character in the island. They insisted about the importance of women in literature, in this sake they said briefly that a novel such as *Lord of the Flies* without a female presence is not significant enough. (85).

We think that the absence of the girls in Golding's novel reduces its dangers because the behavior of the hunters were aggressive with the remainder boys so what will be if there is a group of girls in the island is sure unbelievable situation because we remarked that bad way of killing the sow its whey I think that the killing perhaps will be extend to a rape especially with jack's case and roger, moreover the presence of female character portrayed in the image of biggy bears softness, innocence and deep feeling also fear from violence and adventures, he is less masculine but furthermore Golding

shows a strong image about boys and weak image about girls, finally he wants to show that even civilized and intellectual society as the British may make faults.

### **3.2.4. The Savagery by Stefan Hawlin**

Stefan Hawlin is a senior lecturer at the University of Buckingham. He has published *The Complete Critical Guide* to Robert Browning and edited other works. He focused on the presence of savagery which is exposed in Golding's novel that he thinks inappropriate. This kind of stories which uses much violence and savagery will influence the behavior and the thinking of the adolescent and perhaps will affect negatively the innocent children. However Golding rooted savagery to Painted niggers; this idea opens an endless debate on the problem of racism. We think that he is influenced by the atrocity and crimes of WWII which he participated in it. His experience helps him to believe more on the innate evil with humans and to believe on the ability of humanity to act cruelly and to change to savagery.

‘Lord of the Flies’ is a book which is advised for reading for 14 -16 age group, it is very interesting, but frightening story that makes it under debate. It seems inappropriate for children age, the period of 1954 is related to the opening, and establishment's phase of a British empire in a baffled way.

The novel represents the bestiality and violence of natives. This quotation supports this idea: The ‘Painted niggers’ (72), here Golding wants to root the violence and savagery to the blacks and promotes the whites as reference of modernism and morality. In the forest, they are divided in to tribal conflict until the end of the novel till



the arrival of the whites who rescue them. So the boys with painted faces may refer to the features of native blacks whereas the whites as naval man who comes with his group lastly refer to the white people in general. Golding's novel seemingly related to human depravity against progressivism. "Lord of the Flies" is seemed sensible for Golding to write after the gloomy mood of the war, while everyone was thanking God, while the Nazi of Germany was a special kind of boil which burst in 1939. It was an awful mark which every one suffered from, seemingly Golding's book is a translation of distress, as Golding was referring by the boys of his novel who could be you. Among the versions of the novel we find chauvinism; it reveals to construction of a good country and good people which need good arrangement of society constitutionally, legally, and so forth. Golding's view of Empire in world is with England, America and a few other countries as places of light, and much of the other countries in the world, particularly Africa are in a low level of civilization. From the caricature of savagery, Golding proves that he knows nothing large about the nature of Indian, African or Chinese culture and he still put Britain the centre of empire and light in the top of societies. Golding alludes to the Western world; he means there are head-hunters still in the actual life. Golding tried to present general review of the gloomy kingdoms, of tribal hostility. The empire soars around his mind.

The uncomfortable conditions of life as that the boys have, isolation in an island, push them to get bad behaviour in that fearful mood and push them to be descended slowly into depravity and aggression because they become savages. Thus the surface of civilization appeared very thin and even English boy might become little Nazis. Golding takes his image of savagery from the classic cultural misrepresentation of white civilization and black African barbarity. he used in his text upright and highly regarded

boys who belong to the middle class then who became at the end tribesmen or exactly savages, to put it in overtly racist terms, no better than blacks. William Golding is ignorant of the values of African traditions and culture. Golding's work "Lord of the Flies" is a dim rewriting of Conrad's "Heart of Darkness". In other hand a Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe has exposed the racist texts in "Heart of Darkness" and in his criticism he refused to accept it as a good artistic work for the reason that it includes western psychology of putting Africa in low level as a neglected place for Europe, also as deadly place, in comparison with Europe. "Heart of Darkness" puts Africa as "the other world" (74), I think the other world refers to undeveloped countries.

"the antithesis of Europe and therefore of civilization, a place where man's vaunted Intelligence and refinement are finally mocked also as uninteresting Place Triumphant bestiality...For reasons which can use close Psychological Inquiry the West seems to suffer deep anxieties about the precariousness of its civilization and to have a need for constant reassurance by comparison.( 74).

Seemingly, the quotation deals with the doubt in equilibrate civilization in Europe. Africa, for Conrad, is no more than a small shadow of civilization, it is old tribal system, he looked at it as sinister and mysterious continent and Europe is its mind.( 75), I agree with idea that Europe is the mind because all scientists and technologies are in Europe in any domain, but concerning Africa it is a mixture of cultures, it is degraded by colonization as the case of Algeria but it is developed by colonization as the case of the black's countries of Africa. For Achebe it is the world which profoundly troubled by the encounter of colonization (75).

“Heart of Darkness” may not be a racist text, and it is certainly aware of some of the depredations of colonialism, but it does not transcend the other world. The island in “Lord of the Flies” has an influential role in shaping the boy’s personality and reaction because the weather is difficult to live in, it is mostly hot and fearful, it contains snakes, pigs at the same time it contains fruits and beautiful nature, it is seen as another version of “Conrad’s Africa”, however psychological analysis directly explains the changing happening to the children according to new conditions and bad weather in which they live. “Lord of the Flies” may refer to a phase of colonialism, it worries about rebellious nationalism, and it reflects the fear and loss of confidence with convincing white rule.

The British schoolboys at first represented the empire and at the end by the arrival of the navy officer who come to represent administration or liberators and salvation from savagery of the island. This reflect the idea that the whites are a source of development and they are the reason for rescue many untaught societies from darkness and savagery as the blacks moreover they are motive for bringing light, civilization, order and culture to many. (Bloom 71).

Finally the conch is an object that stands to symbolize to constitutionalism against barbarism of tribalism, and seemingly the conch especially when it was broken refers to authority and fragility of constitutionalism in general.

We think the book *lord of the flies* is not appropriate for children because it deal with subjects that are difficult to understand even by elders as ambiguity of religion politics and psychological study of human being also adults by this kind of stories

which based on violence and savagery will change their behavior to bad way and will perhaps affect their innocence.

### **3.3. Media**

The first film in 1963 was not very successful as the second but available from Home Vision Cinema and Fusion Video. The remake in 1990 was well photographed with valuable content, available from Columbia Tri-Star Home Video, the Video Catalog, and New Line Home Video. In addition an 89-minute sound recording on cassette (JRH 109), books, and study guide, produced in 1984 and many passages from the novel are available from the Listening Library, Old Greenwich, CT. (<http://www.enotes.com/lord-of-the-flies/media-adaptations>).

### **3.5. Identification of the reviewers:**

Harold Bloom is first-rate Professor of the Humanities at Yale University. He is the author of more than 30 books, and he is the author of hundreds of articles, reviews, and editorial introductions. In 1999, Bloom received the American Academy of Arts and Letters' Gold Medal for Criticism, and he received many International Prizes. (Bloom 63).

Berthold Schoene-Harwood is an older lecturer in literature and cultural history at Liverpool John Moores University. (Bloom 163).

Paul Crawford is a lecturer in mental health at the University of Nottingham. He is the author of *Nothing Purple*. (Bloom 163).

Peter Edgerly Firchow is a prominent scholar, and now he is a professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota. He is the author of *Envisioning Africa: Racism and Imperialism in Conrad's "Heart of Darkness,"* and many other works. (Bloom 163).

K. Chellappan is a professor and chairman of the English department at Bharathi University, India. (Bloom 163).

Stefan Hawlin is a senior lecturer at the University of Buckingham. He has published *The Complete Critical Guide to Robert Browning* and edited other works. (Bloom 163).

Mark Kinkead-Weekes accompanied Ian Gregor to produce two previous works of William Golding. He and Golding were friends and discussed many thoughts that were presented in Golding's books. (Bloom 163).

Paula Alida Roy is a poet, a writer, and a teacher evaluator, she teaches at Mohawk Valley Community College in New York. She wrote many commentaries about principals of education. (Bloom 163).

## **Conclusion**

The positive reviews refer to the acceptance and the widespread of the novel, and even the negative reviews add to the success of the work because the novel is

interesting and read by many. The unsuccessful work will not receive much criticism because it will not be widely read. Golding's novel or movie, especially of 1990 is a successful and appraisal work, it was and stills a popular novel which needs many researches in the future. He casts all his cultures, tendencies and influences in his work that makes it perfect and very deep; it reflects subjects of our life especially the human nature, and mixture of Christianity and Judaism plus it reflects the events of WWII. Thus it is considered a cultural book or microcosm of our world.

Critical reviews were generally mixed to average, with majority were positive, but some cited that the novel in general is somewhat dated and unsuitable for a remake in two versions and unsuitable for children age. Many books and study guides produced in 1984, and many passages from the novel are available from the Listening Library. The novel reached best selling. In 1960s the novel is distributed in many schools and colleges to represent a good example of English literature.

## General Conclusion

“Lord of the Flies” is among Golding’s fascinating works, It is full of adventures, and allusions. Thus it needs limitless interpretation and criticism. It dealt with deep subjects and arises varied critics which evaluate it positively or negatively. Hence, whatever the kind of reviews, all will contribute to the novel’s value and will prove its widespread and reputation. Such kind of novel needs more than one viewpoint that is why we enhance it by different reviews and critics to be more convincing and improve it by clarifying it to make it clearer. In addition, our thesis answers many important questions of many readers. The novel is very thorough in terms of meaning, structure and style. Above all, “Lord of the Flies” was and still the most remarkable and read novel, and both its positive and negative views refer to its popularity.

The story seems unsuitable for children’s age, it influences them psychologically. The author in his narrative did not give us much information about the arrival of the boys. The beginning and the end are very confusing and short. Lord of the flies resulted both negative and positive reception. The positive response since it reminds the Christian people about their religion which is somehow forgotten. They seem live in Godless world and their science and their effort will not change their fate or secure their existence. Moreover the novel studies the human nature and reveals about the evil that resides in our inner. Golding wants to explain that the society don’t need only a good political system or an organized and civilized society but it needs more to change the inner evil by goodness and by strong belief moreover it needs raising the statue of science rather authority and wealth.

The novel's negative responses stand for its segregation between races. Golding used violent hunters who appear as native blacks with painted faces and tanned skin to root savagery and barbarism to the black people. The arrival of the naval officer at the end of the story shows that civilization comes from the white people who rescued the blacks from their blindness and ignorance. This racism put the black people at the lowest level and the white people at the high level. The writer deconstructed the image of Nazis people because he was alluding to them by the use of the sinful and criminal hunters. Normally the faults of the Nazis should be forgotten because it is something from the past. The author should avoid hostility between people.

The story *Lord of the Flies* seems connecting the two religions Christianity and Judaism, by putting Simon as a Christ figure and by putting the sinful hunters who eat the illicit pig's meat as anti-Semitism act for the Jews. He alludes to the Jewish people by the character of Piggy who was considered an outsider. Both Piggy and Simon create Christian-Judaism myth which means a combination of Jewish and Christian religions. We cannot mix two religions to get one, because simply our God give them independently. Each religion is sent to its specific people, but all of them have the same goal.

The novel studies the human nature and treats many themes. Its variety makes it specific and remarkable among many relevant works. The novel's reception even negative or positive proves its importance. The study of some passages as samples from the novel and the clarification of the story with its themes in addition to the



interpretation of its positive and negative reviews ensure the value of Golding's book and enhance it to be not framed to the author's sole view.

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## **Glossary of literary terms**

**Adam:** first man from our existence.

**Asthma:** is a condition that includes continuous difficult breathing, wheezing, tightness in the chest, and coughing.

**Atomic bomb:** is a nuclear bomb with a powerful explosion results a global destruction. Such kind of bombs has been used twice during World War II.

**Atonement:** is to give amends for a sinful work also it refers to a feeling of a true penitence.

**Atrocity:** the act of violence as killing and making crimes

**Beast:** generally he is a mythical character but according to the story he refers to a dead parachuter in a cave, who was called by the boys a monster.

**Beelzebub:** Hebrew name means king of devils.

**Bias:** to be prejudicing with one person.

**Bloodthirsty:** the one who is hungry to impose cruel orders and to kill victims

**Blatant:** obvious.

**Barbarism:** it means the brutalism and having animalistic behavior and living in chaos.

**Brutality:** to act cruelty and behave in violence manner.

**Bubble:** fizz or sound of water

**Burst:** blast, emotional explosion.

**Carnival night:** a festival or a gala which is made by hunter's choir to show their happiness for eating the meat of their first pig at night.

**Chauvinism:** bigotry for national benefit, the zealousness for nationalism, to be fervent in loving his country

**Compensation:** to recompense for a sin made by us through a virtuous work.

**Complacency:** self-satisfaction

**Conch:** is a large spiral shell

**Corpse:** dead body or any cadaver

**Debauchery:** a sin

**Dehumanization:** to act animalistic actions.

**Demonic:** devil.

**Detritus:** small pieces, example detritus of a rock

**Dull:** boring

**Eden:** the most beautiful place in life; the paradise.

**Eve:** first woman from the beginning of life or from the existence of humanity

**Foil:** to frustrate.

**Judeo-Christian:** “Jewish–Christian” is used in 1841 to mean a combination of Jewish and Christian beliefs, and by 1877 is used to mean a common Jewish–Christian culture.

**Harshness:** severity, it means also not soft

**Idolatry:** Idolatry in the Hebrew Bible is defined as the worship of idols or images, also means the worship of polytheistic gods by use of idols. As the worship of Yahweh (God), The Israelites used various images in connection with their worship. Judaism perceived that it was as inherited by Jewish Christianity.

**Inarticulate:** ambiguous person who hides his feeling; tongue-tied person

**Instinct:** impulse and a strong desire

**Lagoon:** is a shallow pond or pool

**Lord of the Flies:** ‘‘Lord of the Flies’’, is an English translation of the Hebrew name Beelzebub which means Satan, in Golding’s story refers to a head of a pig and alludes to evil which resides in humanity.

**Parable:** allegorical story stands for moral lesson, a symbolic story

**Parody:** literary type contains much satire.

**Phantom:** ghost or evil spirit or monster.

**Pivot:** who represents a central character of story **Prediction:** forecast and guess what will happen.

**Profanity:** bad language and disrespectful of religion

**Propitiation:** to sacrifice to satisfy others’ desire

**Pudgy:** a name used for Piggy by his friends; it reflects his appearance because he is fat and short

**Resurrection:** a rebirth of humanity at the end of life to be judged for their sins

**Rationality:** reasonableness, or acting according to rational and logic principles

**Masculine:** manly capacity or having good male characteristics

**Misogyny:** anti-feminine or hating women

**Megaphone:** instrument that produces a powerful sound

**Nightmare:** bad dream

**Nazis:** dictator system based on violence which is made by a German military leader Hitler during World War Two.

**Oversimplification:** simplifying till exaggerating in description

**Sameric:** the twins Sam and Eric.

**Satan:** the devil who does evil

**Scapegoat:** someone killed as sacrifice for the interest of many people.

**Shell:** the back of a snail or the external form of a snail

**Semiotics:** the use of signs and symbols

**Sissy:** man has female characteristics.

**Sociability:** to be very social and friendly against hostility

**Skepticism:** a movement speaks about the problem of doubt within humanity and which doubts on human values.

**Semitism:** goodness

**Sow's head:** 'lord of the flies'; the head of a pig, it symbolizes to loss of innocence and to their internal evil.

**Torture:** torment and suffering

**Totalitarian:** dictatorial imposing rules orders in autocratic way

**Uncanny:** strange

**Utilitarian:** to kill for personal interest and it means also a selfish person who aims for his self-interest.