

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
University of Tlemcen



Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages
Department of English
Section of English

The Manifest Destiny in *The Book of Eli*

***An Extended Essay Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
"Master" Degree in Anglo-Saxon Literature and Civilisation***

Presented by

Mr Abdessamad BENACHOUR

Supervised by

Dr Daoudi FRID

Co-supervised by

Mr Omar RAHMOUN

2015/2016

Dedication

In the name of the Greatest Creator, most Gracious, most Merciful

I would love to dedicate the fruit of my humble work to my parents, who have supported me in all achievements, all my brothers and sisters and to my dear beloved uncle and my best friends and teachers.

Acknowledgement

First and foremost, I would love to thank my supervisors Dr Daoudi FRID for being patient and enduring during the process of this work and Mr Omar RAHMOUN for being a brother, a friend and a teacher and adviser not only for studies but also in life. I would love to thank Dr Wassila MOURO for being the the best teacher that we have ever had and she did not hesitate for sharing with us some of the greatest moments in our lives as students, and finally but not the least I would like to thank Miss Meriem MENGOUSHI for being such inspiration as a teacher and giving me the hope and the will of being a good teacher.

Abstract

This research paper deals with both “The Book of Eli” the movie that is written by Gary Whitta and directed by the Hughes Brothers and its depiction of the Manifest Destiny. It highlights the main similarities between the historical events and the plot of the adaptation focusing on several hints or actions that happened in the movie. In order to accomplish such a research, this dissertation is divided into two chapters. The first chapter will shed light on the main historical, political and some religious events that occurred during the manifest destiny starting from the territorial expansion to its origins then ending by Manifest Destiny in the 20th Century adding the American participation in both World Wars the Hiroshima Bomb and the New World Order. As for the second chapter, it deals with the movie “The Book of Eli” it starts with the literary devices of the adaptation among which plot, characterization, and setting and finally analyzing the movie.

Contents

Dedication	i
Acknowledgments	ii
Abstract	iii
Contents.....	iv
General Introduction.....	1
Chapter One	
1.1. Introduction.....	4
1.2. The Origins of Manifest Destiny.....	4
1.3. The Meaning of Manifest Destiny.....	5
1.3.1 Territorial Expansion of the United States.....	8
1.3.2 The American Progress.....	10
1.3.3 Applying Manifest Destiny.	11
1.4 Manifest Destiny in the 20 th century.....	12
1.4.1 The American Big Stick Policy and Roosevelt Corollary Policy.....	13
1.5 The American participation in the WWI.....	14
1.5.1 The Zimmermann Telegram.....	15
1.5.2 The U.S Declaration of War.....	15
1.6 The Second World War and its Impact Including the Cold War.....	16
1.6.1 The Cold War and Hiroshima Bombing.....	17
1.7 The American New World Order.....	18
1.8 Conclusion.....	20
Chapter Two:	
2.1. Introduction.....	22
2.2. Plot Summary.....	22
2.3. Movie Setting.....	24
2.4 Characterization.....	25
2.5. Manifest Destiny in the Book of Eli.....	27
2.6. Conclusion.....	37
General Conclusion.....	38
Bibliography.....	40

General Introduction

Just like any civilization who adopts new ideas and schools of thoughts, the new settlers in the New World shaped and formed the ideas of the European Enlightenment thinkers and mixed them with religion i.e. the puritan religion, which made them believe that God has given them the right to expand and spread Christianity all over the territory. This belief was engraved in the hearts and minds of the Americans who considered it as their fate. Coining the term Manifest Destiny by John L.O'Sullivan in his magazine made the Americans more attached to that idea.

The new settlers began to expand and Christianize the Native Americans after adopting a new concept of having a governor. They were peaceful when preaching and inviting people to Christianity, but violent in terms of political matters. This was achieved especially after several wars that have gone far and beyond the American continent such as WWI and WWII in addition to the American Big Stick Policy.

The research work is about the depiction and the analysis of Manifest Destiny in the a movie *The Book of Eli* that might seem to a lay man a sort of science fiction, and an action movie that happened in an apocalyptic era, other than analyzing it and seeking the hidden messages and symbols that are in the film.

The necessity and importance of historical books cannot be denied, that is why this research is made to demonstrate the combination of both documents and historical books with the movie adaptation that can illustrate and deliver the same information to an audience, but differently.

As a consequence of these observations, few questions arise as follows:

- How Manifest Destiny was portrayed in *The Book of Eli the movie*?
- How did Manifest Destiny lead to the creation of a powerful nation?
- What are the allusions or the key indications to Manifest Destiny in *The Book of Eli*?

In order to provide answers to these questions, this research work is based on an analysis of the movie aiming to portray Manifest Destiny in dialogues of characters and

scenario, which enable the viewer to understand and realize that an adaptation can depict historical events and showcases civilizations that existed before in another style other than a documentary or a historical book.

This research work is divided into two chapters; the first chapter is an attempt to identify what Manifest Destiny is by revealing its origin and how it was applied. A description of the famous painting (The American Progress) by John Gast, which epitomizes the proper scheme of Manifest Destiny will be provided. Moreover, it tackles the American participation in the First World War and how that opened an eye for further expansion therefore dominating the world using Manifest Destiny and Democracy as a pretext.

The second chapter stands on as the practical part of this research work. It begins with a plot summary of the movie *The Book of Eli* and its setting, then characterization, followed by an analysis and depicting Manifest Destiny in the movie. Furthermore, this chapter studies the similarities and differences between the historical documents and the movie *The Book of Eli*.

CHAPTER

ONE

1.1. Introduction

What makes any country great and different from another one is that its history is written, its progress through time, and its achievements are recorded. The Hammurabi Code, the Ten Commandments, and the Bible, these are all written documents of laws that people live by. American Democracy has a linear tool of written records that can be traced and shown the development of the American nation; each document is built on those reforms that make the United States' foundation of history stronger. This theoretical chapter deals with the establishment of the American history during the expansion period from the 1620's till the 20th century, it showcases the origins of Manifest Destiny and how this term came to the view, and how it helped into territorial expansion.

1.2 The Origins of Manifest Destiny

Manifest Destiny is a phrase used to express the belief or the fate of the United States and the will to expand across the American continent. John O' Sullivan coined the term to describe the American future. A lot of Americans credited O' Sullivan when he coined the term especially when it has first appeared in a journal magazine called The United States Magazine and Democratic Review. The term was a symbol of an ideology and a desire for the United States to expand. (M. White, 2006: 70)

John O'Sullivan published an essay called Annexation in July-August 1845 issue of the Democratic Review. In the essay, John O'Sullivan supported the American acquisition of Texas.

In 1845, Texas was an independent Republic that wanted to join the Union. According to O'Sullivan, it was the "...fulfillment of our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions". (Mountjoy, 2009: 10)

O’Sullivan’s first use of the term was virtually unnoticed, yet, the annexation of Texas went forward.

In the 27th of December issue of New York Morning News, O’Sullivan used the term once more to explain his view about the annexation of Western territory. This time, the land in question was Oregon. O’Sullivan maintained that the United States had rights to all of Oregon. O’Sullivan then declared that this “claim is by the right of our manifest destiny to overspread and possess the whole of the continent which providence has given us for the development of liberty and federated self-government entrusted us” (Hodge: 454).

In short, O’Sullivan argued that providence, the eighteenth and the nineteenth Century term for God, gave the United States the right to extend its unique and relatively new form of government, the so-called “ great experiment of liberty and federated self-government” (J Miller: 119).

1.3 The Meaning of Manifest Destiny

Manifest Destiny is the belief or doctrine held largely in the middle and last part of the 19th century, that it was the providence of the U.S to expand its territory over the entire North America and to extend and improve its political, social and economic influences.

The Mayflower Compact is an agreement made by the Separates Pilgrims who were persecuted in England in 1606, they believed in strict adherence of the Word of Jesus Christ directly from the New Testament of the Bible. The reason why they were called Separatist is because they separated themselves from the Anglican Church. The agreement was made on the ship Mayflower in 1620, just before they landed at Plymouth Rock. The Mayflower Compact bound them to live in a civil society according to their own laws based on self-governing under the rule of Sir Francis Wyatt who was the new governor of Virginia in 1621. It remained the fundamental law of their colony of Plymouth plantation until the colony was absorbed into Massachusetts in the late seventeenth century.

In 1630, John Winthrop led over 900 colonists to settle in Massachusetts Bay Colony, he also described the Colony of Massachusetts Bay “as a city upon hill.” This city was the example of all humankind. Winthrop also said “The eyes of all people are upon us” (S. Dunn, 1996: 10).

At the same year, Boston was officially established. Winthrop believed that God had blessed the Pilgrims of the Plymouth Colony and the Puritan immigrants who followed them to America. The Puritan leader wanted his peoples’ actions to be worthy of their beliefs. Many Massachusetts settlers believed that the foundation for the city on a hill was thanks to their society they designed, to the institutions they established and the lives they led laid for this foundation.

Political philosopher Thomas Paine argued for American independence from Great Britain in his *Common Sense* 1776. He also felt the American influence of the world could have a great effect in the future. In his *Common Sense*, Thomas Paine wrote, “we have it in our power to begin the world over again” (Hudson.Jr, 2016:33). The radical writer also foresaw the numeric growth of America, saying “the birthday of a new world is at hand, and race of men, perhaps as numerous as all Europe contains. (Davis Studio, 2016)

Many Americans realized that their new nation needed to be divorced from the European government. Soon, as Paine predicted, America became independent and its population began to increase during the nineteenth century, which led to a great desire to expand across the continent.

By the coming of the Revolutionary War, Americans turned their sights to the Mississippi River. The Peace Treaty 1783 that ended the war, Great Britain started to notice the new formation of a new world that is called the United States of America. By the 1800’s, the Louisiana Purchase helped in extending the western limits of the United States so beyond the Mississippi.

Though Manifest Destiny has several interpretations, its concept encouraged a political movement during the 1800’s. The ideals of expansionism captured the nation,

which resulted at the end in a war with Mexico and an American Indian policy that virtually destroyed the culture of the continent's original inhabitants.

The concept of Manifest Destiny has influenced the U.S policy, especially in the last six decades of the nineteenth century. The phrase has given birth to a set of beliefs. These were Nationalism, Expansionism, American Exceptionalism, and, in some cases, the idea of racial superiority. The historian Ernest Lee Tuveson summarized the assortment this way: "A vast complex of ideas, policies, and actions is comprehended under the phrase manifest destiny". (Tuveson, 1968: 91).

The idea of Manifest Destiny meant that Americans and their government to gain ownership and establish a political control over the North Americas and it would stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Accordingly, the idea of Manifest Destiny had three identifiable themes: "the special virtues of the American people and their institutions; their mission to redeem and remake the world in the image of America; and the American destiny under God to accomplish this sublime task." (Weeks: 61)

These elements are evident in O'Sullivan's words. The Expansionists believed that the American way of life was the American's right, they also recognized the unique place and time in which they lived, a time and place that allowed them to expand the United States, plus they were certain of their success. These spirits made up the fundamental spirit of Manifest Destiny.

John O'Sullivan argued "that God had granted Americans use of the North American continent."(Mountjoy, 2009: 13) He held that " The inherent virtues of agrarianism, American entrepreneurship, republican institutions, and a conviction that European countries would eventually retreat from North America reinforced the idea that the United States would extend its superior civilization throughout the continent" (Ibid). This would open the door for the U.S to claim her rightful place as the continental power.

The supporters of the idea of Manifest Destiny introduced three key concepts in their arguments: mission, destiny and virtue. First, it was the mission of Americans to extend their society. Therefore, Americans would influence the rest of the world.

Second, it was the destiny of America to undertake the task of accomplishing the mission. Finally, American society and citizens were virtuous. Because of their virtue, they were justified in expanding.

Each of these concepts is evident in the politically charged discussions of American expansion during the 1800's. Manifest Destiny implied not only territorial growth, but sanctified ideology and institutions.

Though the idea of expanding was present earlier, the ideal of Manifest Destiny did not take place until the 1800's. At that time, the United States charted its course as a nation to expand by moving west. The westward movement was not new. The early American leaders believed that the westward expansion of the republic was inevitable. John Quincy Adams, in 1811, claimed that North America was destined by Divine Providence that can be peopled by one nation sharing the same language, political system, one general system of religious and accustomed to one general tenor of usages and costumes. For the common happiness of them all, for their peace and prosperity, he added, that he believed that it is indispensable that they should be associated in one federal Union.

Americans' vision and belief of changing the world was thanks to the ideal of Manifest Destiny. Americans wanted to show their rational terms and aims to secure the continent. "Manifest Destiny, in essence, was a philosophy to explain and justify expansionism both to Europeans, who viewed American aggrandizement with alarm and to the American people themselves, who needed reassurance that the course was righteous". (Mountjoy, 2009: 17)

1.3.1 Territorial Expansion of the United States

When France lost the French Indian War of 1756, it ceded most of its possessions in North America to Great Britain, extending British domain beyond the original 13 colonies, since Spain was an ally of France, it had to give east and west of Florida to Britain, but it was compensated by France with the territory west of the Mississippi. George Washington said about this

war: “You may, with almost equal success, attempt to raise the Dead to Life again, as the force of this country.” (Ray Raphael, 2009)

With the Independence from Great Britain, the United States was formed from its original 13 colonies but had to wage war against Great Britain to establish its sovereignty, the Treaty of Paris concluded the Revolutionary War in 1783 with America expanding to the Mississippi River, and Spain recovering Florida, since in this war was an American ally, but in 1800, Spain secretly ceded the Louisiana Territory from France, where Napoleon was hoping to establish an empire in North America.

When President Thomas Jefferson learned of this arrangement he became concerned with the potential threat of an aggressive empire builder, he wanted to purchase New Orleans and West Florida from France for 10 million Dollars. Instead, he came back with the entire Louisiana Territory for 15 million for the reason that Napoleon needed money for his war against Great Britain. In 1810, American settlers led a revolt against the Spanish in West Florida; part of Florida was annexed when America rebelled against the Spanish rule. President James Madison annexed the remainder of West Florida the years that followed.

In an agreement after the War of 1812, Great Britain ceded the Red River Basin region and the boundary between the United States and the British territory what is now Canada establishing the border at the 49th parallel with the Oregon territory to be occupied.

In 1821, Spanish cession of East and West Florida was finalized and Spain surrendered any claims towards the Pacific North West, later on that year, Mexico proclaimed its independence and became another power in North America, settlers had been moving steadily into Texas and as in Florida fought for independence this time, against Mexico.

The Texas Republic won independence after American settlers defeated the Mexican forces in 1836. The slavery issue had kept Texas from being annexed for several years, but with the threat of a Mexican invasion, President Polk authorized its annexation. American settlers moved to Oregon territory causing border disputes, rather than rescue war in 1846 the border was extended into a 49th Parallel as it is today, but in south, war has intensified between Mexico and the United States over the Texas border, Mexico lost and relinquished all claims about the North of the Real Grand River as well as New Mexico and California. Diplomat James Gadsden purchased additional Mexican territory for 10 million Dollars in 1853 establishing the present day boundary.

In 1867, William H. Seward purchased Alaska from Russia for 7.5 million Dollars, which have been ready to abandon its designs for an empire so far away. The same year, Canada gained its independence from Great Britain. The Spanish American War of 1898 proved Hawaii to be a strategic importance to the Navy of the United States and it was annexed from Spain as well as Puerto Rico. By 1912, all of the territories of the lower 48th had been admitted as states. Alaska and Hawaii joined the Union in 1959, completing the formation of the United States.

1.3.2 The American Progress

The well-known image of Manifest Destiny in John Gast's painting named American Progress. This painting shows or describes a white woman dressed in a classical style, who leads the Americans to the west since the sun rises behind. The painting also, represents the depiction of ideals of justice and liberty; it also shows the American industry in the North part of America where one can see the smoke up in the sky, while in the Southern side we notice a buffalo dragging a plough and a farmer to show that there was agriculture. The woman has a star on her forehead heading west and she is leading all the Americans; farmers, railroads, miners and wagons. The westward movement cast away the American Indians and buffalo which seems that they are running from the new settlers.

Moreover, the picture shows that the woman is heading to the west where there is darkness and bringing light to it just like the sun moves from the east to the west. The painting was representing, somehow, God's light on earth. It also, portrays bringing the European ideas or civilization to the uncivilized barbarian west.



The American Progress Painting (John Gast)

1.3.3 Applying Manifest Destiny

The Strength of Manifest Destiny as an idea became a concept that was applied in the American society. The term Manifest Destiny, emerged again by the 1890s, it symbolized the American will of expanding their territories far and beyond the 13 colonies. The Manifest Destiny was also used to defend American expansion outside North America. On the other hand, some people wanted to establish the United States as a new world power by gaining more colonies. The Spanish-American war provided a great opportunity in 1898.

After the war, the United States was the owner of the islands of the Puerto Rico, Philippines and Guam. Also, the United States took control over Cuba playing the role of the big brother of the Cuban independence.

By the twentieth century, few Americans continued to use Manifest Destiny to describe their policy goals. Other schools of thoughts have emerged and several of these have carried some of the same ideas. Mainly, the idea that America eagerly wanted to be the leader of the free world as one of its prior missions that was inspired from the ideals of Manifest Destiny.

Consistent with Manifest Destiny, the late ideals created a policy that aims to a national pride to the role of America as the New World Power. At last, later manifestations of Manifest Destiny embodied the spirit of John O'Sullivan's term.

1.4 Manifest Destiny in the 20th century

Though the term has been rarely used in the American policy, the aims and the dreams for expansion remained clear in the American society. The concept of Manifest Destiny portrays the 20th century belief that God planned the continent of North America to be controlled under the Christian, European Americans. The ideology of Manifest Destiny was the pillar of U.S. government hard work to colonize land inhabited by native people in North America and expand the United States into Mexican territory.

Advocators of Manifest Destiny emphasized that the U.S leaders were predestined to spread their proclaimed superior values farther beyond. Propaganda, armed involvements, occupations, and terror were used in a variety of insidious combinations. Native people whose country was inhabited in can demonstrate the results of Manifest Destiny policy.

Undeniably, the psychology of Manifest Destiny and the projection of Anglo-Saxon white supremacy never were missing; it has been always used to validate America's expansionist adventures.

For most Americans, the idea of U.S cultural, religious, political and social superiority has been strongly reinforced over the years.

1.4.1 The American Big Stick Policy and Roosevelt Corollary Policy

The American Big Stick policy, in the history of United States, is a policy that was named by Theodore Roosevelt that emphasized U.S. domination when such dominance was considered the moral indispensable. Roosevelt's first renowned public use of the expression occurred when he advocated before Congress rising naval training to sustain the nation's diplomatic objectives.

Before, in a letter to a friend, while he was still the governor of New York, Roosevelt pointed out his affection for a West African proverb, "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far." The expression came to be directly associated with Roosevelt and was commonly used by the press, mostly in cartoons, to refer predominantly to his foreign policy; in Latin America and the Caribbean, he passed the Big Stick policy (in foreign policy, which is known as the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine) to watch over the small nonpayer nations that had unstable governments. (Martin, 2016)

President Theodore Roosevelt's aggressive approach to Latin America and the Caribbean has frequently been described as the Big Stick, and his course of action came to be known as the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine.

Although the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 was effectively submissive it inquired that Europeans not to increase their authority on any part of the Western area, by the 20th century the United States was willing to take on the role of the big brother.

The Roosevelt Corollary of 1904 declared that the United States would intervene as a last option to ensure that other nations in the Western area accomplished their duty to international creditors, and did not disobey the rights of the United States or provoke "foreign aggression to the detriment of the entire body of American nations." (Digital History, 2016)

As the corollary was practiced, the United States gradually used military force to reinstate internal stability to nations in the region. Roosevelt stated that the United States might "exercise international police power in 'flagrant cases of such wrongdoing or impotence.'" (Digital Scholarship lab, 2015)

For a long period the corollary had little to do with relations between the Western area and Europe, but it provided a good reason for U.S. interference in Cuba, Nicaragua, Haiti, and other countries.

1.5 The American participation in WWI

At the beginning of the First World War in 1914, the United States had maintained a firm detachment, other than supplying material aid to the allies. When a German submarine sank in the British ocean liner Lusitania, killing lots of U.S citizens in May 1915, the United States remained neutral.

When Wilson won the election, the war had already left millions dead, cities and economies were ruined, and there was no crucial victory for any side. In 1916, Wilson tried to find a resolution by sending diplomatic notes to every government involved. Germany responded positively and recommended opening immediate peace negotiations. France, on the other hand, launched a new attack against the Germans in Verdun. And the British prime-minister David Lloyd George discarded Wilson's initiative directly.

In January 1917, Germany proclaimed that it would raise all restrictions on submarine warfare starting on the 1st February. This affirmation meant that the German U-boat commanders were permitted to sink all ships that they believed to be offering help of any kind to the Allies, so that Germany would push Britain to surrender.

The American cargo ship Housatonic was the first victim of this new policy, which a German U-boat sank on February 3, 1917. As a reaction, President Wilson broke the diplomatic relations with Germany the same day. The growth was serious and became a major step toward the United States' entrance into the Great War. (The History Place: 2009)

1.5.1 The Zimmermann Telegram

Meanwhile, the Germans brought the United States to the Great War easily. In February 1917, British intelligence captured a telegram from Germany. In the telegram,

sent by the German foreign minister Alfred Zimmermann to his ambassador in Mexico on January 16, Zimmermann informed the ambassador to offer Mexico charitable financial aid if it would ally itself with Germany against the United States. Furthermore, the telegram assured German support for Mexico in regaining its lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

On March 1, 1917, the text of the Zimmermann telegram was on the front pages of American newspapers, and in a blink of an eye, American public opinion changed to involve in the war.

1.5.2 The U.S. Declaration of War

Even though Wilson tried his best to keep the United States isolated, yet, the situation had changed completely, Isolationism seemed no longer feasible. Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare was taking its charge, as American ships, both passenger and cargo sunk. The content of the Zimmermann telegram and other German deception further convinced the American public that the war was intimidating. Finally, on April 2, Wilson requested a declaration of war. Few days later Congress responded officially declaring war on Germany on April 6, 1917.

When the United States was engaged in the war, German submarines were causing catastrophic damages to the supplies coming into Britain from abroad. On May 24, 1917, the British admiralty finally gave in to demands to establish a system of convoys. Under preparations, British warships escorted British ships coming from the United States, Canada, and other countries. The convoys had an instant and striking effect. The number military gear lost to German submarines fell, almost nullifying Germany's effort to oblige Britain to surrender.

To conclude, the U.S. declaration of war, President Wilson's attitude on the war changed radically. Although the United States had maintained friendly relationship with Great Britain and France than with Germany or Austria-Hungary, Wilson's administration kept firmly a neutral stance. Furthermore, as Wilson started making diplomatic initiatives in 1916, his attitude toward the Central Powers was considerably more lenient than the Allies were comfortable with.

1.6 The Second World War and its Impact Including the Cold War

The year 1945 marked the end of the Second World War. Hitler was finally defeated. However, the war had affected several countries, among which America. Still, not all changes were bad changes, but they were changes anyway. America was affected socially, economically and politically. In addition, the American was affected socially after the war; there were lots of revolutionary thoughts between blacks and whites, women and men and migration across America.

The war led to a numerous migration of the American people. Lots of workers and families moved to new defense industries. This resulted to a higher rate of divorce cases housing and schools were unable to handle the large invasion of children.

The war had a great affect on the role of women. During the war a great deal of women rose from fourteen million in 1940 to nineteen million in 1945. This influx, led to raise their wages by 50%. And they started working as machinists, railway track workers, which were restricted for men. Women have also fought in the armed forces with some 300,000 women serving in the navy, army and nursing services. After the war, most women left their jobs, but it remained at a higher rate and attitudes completely changed towards working women. (bbc.co.uk, 2016)

The black community was also affected by the war. Blacks were forced to proclaim for their right. Ironically, having fought against the Nazi tyranny, the blacks returned to America to be deprived from their own basic civil rights. The Second World War was a flashback for the blacks of inequality in the American society were a black soldier said: "Here lies a black man, killed fighting a yellow man for the protection of a white man" (Munford, 1892: 106)

The American economy was also affected after the war. The biggest contributor to the conquest in the WWII was industry. Many factories that were motionless became productive. Factories started to make war vehicles and bombs every hour. Furthermore, big businesses that were involved in the defense industry became powerful.

American politics changed radically after the war. President Roosevelt was a democrat during the WWII, but he faced an irritated republican opposition over his

“New Deal” policy, which was meant to pull America out of its depression. After the death of Roosevelt in April 1945, Truman took the seat and introduced the “Fair Deal” policy following the guidelines of Roosevelt’s work, but with less spending. His aim was to provide social security, increase wages, more housing, and offer more employment. Truman’s “Fair Deal” also faced opposition for his racial equality ideas. Conversely, he was re-elected in 1948, and won surprisingly over the republican Dewey. Truman failed in his second ministry due to his corruption scandals within his administration. (D. Reed, 1940) (Hamby, 2004)

In general, the WWII has affected America and changed the American way of life, socially, politically and economically. Women began to manifest and attitudes have changed towards them, it was a wartime roar, afterwards there was a strong American feeling of a huge communist threat. This would lead eventually to a Cold War.

1.6.1 The Cold War and Hiroshima Bombing

The Cold War is a nonviolent clash between the U.S and the U.S.S.R after the WWII in the late 1940’s until the early 1990’s. The Cold War was rather an ideological war that involved threats with nuclear weapons and engaging in real wars to support allied nations in countries such as Vietnam and Korea.

The Cold War has introduced both countries’ policies during the twentieth century. The competition between Americans and Soviets was to gain more and expand their spheres and spread their influence around the globe. Both sides viewed the Cold War as a clash of civilizations and cultures; a clash between American Capitalism and Soviet Communism, one of the two could prevail.

As it was mentioned earlier, the Cold War was a war of ideas and technologies. Both sides wanted to expand and obtain large lands. In order to stop the expansion of the U.S.S.R the United States bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki with a nuclear bomb to prove herself against any powerful nation that would dare to challenge her in expanding and spreading its culture all over the world.

1.7 The American New World Order

By the late nineteenth century, during the industrial revolution, a number of individuals thought of a perfect world, a world that can be easily dominated and organized in a way that war would no longer be possible. And every facet of human life would be organized by educated men for the benefit of the human kind.

For many years, influential groups had a desire to create empires and had a vision of ruling the entire world. Today's Anglo-American empire dominates the largest part of the world, at the same time as pretending to promote democracy and freedom. As the world's privacy and freedom are diminished every year, the world is moving swiftly towards a global dictatorship, which the world leaders refer to as the New World Order, or Global Governance. (Zsymon, 2010)

After the Cold War, after intimidating the Soviets by the Atomic Bomb in Hiroshima, Americans tried to avoid a third world war, as a result they started to promote their products to the world, in order to spread their culture peacefully and easily. American products were sold almost in every quarter of the world.

The term New World Order has been introduced first by the Soviets and later on by the United States before the Malta conference and used by Bush in his speech in September 11, 1990. At the beginning, the New World Order was about reassuring that the nuclear weapons will not be used and security arrangements.

The Malta conference is regarded as the ending of the Cold War. It included a meeting between the U.S president George H.W. Bush and the U.S.S.R leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the 2nd December 1989, after the fall of Berlin Wall. The Malta meeting indicated the most important turning point in East-West relations raising the Iron Curtain that separated the Eastern side from Western Europe for decades. The reason of the meeting was to provide the two superpowers to discuss rapid changes in Europe.

Bush took an initiative from Gorbachev during the amid waves to the Persian Gulf War, when he started to define the aspects of the New World Order as he saw it. Primary conformity by the Soviet Union, allowed action against Saddam draw attention to this relation to the press. The scheme that the Persian Gulf War would lead to a New

World Order began to take shape. Bush stated that “premise was that the United States henceforth would be obligated to lead the world community to an unprecedented degree, as demonstrated by the Iraqi crisis, and that we should attempt to pursue our national interests, wherever possible, within a framework of concert with our friends and the international community”. (Martel, 2015:308)

Despite the fact that the Gulf War was renowned as a crucial victory for the alliance, Kuwait and Iraq suffered huge damages, and Saddam Hussein was not strained from power. Intended by the partner leaders to be a limited war fought at minimum cost, it would have lasting effects for years to come, both in the Persian Gulf and around the world.

In the end, after discussing the post-Cold War enlargement and the expanding World Order in that era, some concluding statements can be drawn, summarized as follows: The new international system in the post-Cold War phase has been marked by a outward contradiction, on the one hand, destruction; on the other hand, growing globalization. On the level of the affairs among states, the New World Order is based on major power cooperation. The worldwide system contains at least five major superpowers: The United States, Europe, Russia, Japan and China. Along with major powers, the United States will continue to the greatest power in the short run.

1.8 Conclusion

Finally, Manifest Destiny is a widespread term during the 19th century of American expansion. This made the Americans believe that they were destined to stretch from coast to coast. This attitude also helped the western settlement and further political affairs interference. The Big Stick Policy was a firm decision to watch over nonpaying nations that were instable and this provides the American Nation to intervene in other countries' affaires. After the First and Second World Wars, America began to change increasingly and dominates large parts of the world either via its economy or politics and that is what became known as the New World Order which is based on the cooperation of the ultimate powers of the world.

CHAPTER

TOW

2.1 Introduction

America is one of the greatest and most powerful nations in the world. It has developed into what it is now due to lots of changes, notably, in religion and politics. But all these changes did not come out of random, the most effective element that led the United States of America to become the land of opportunity and freedom was Manifest Destiny, it resembled a shining city upon a hill. The United States was settled by people seeking freedom of thought, speech and religion then created a country which embodies those values. The United States was founded by people who were committed to individual liberty, who designed a system that prioritize political freedom above governmental authority. This part undertakes the analysis of the movie “*The Book of Eli*” and how it portrays the manifest destiny in its scenes and scenario i.e. speech of the characters. Moreover, we will commence with the plot of the adaptation, setting, and then followed by characterization to the results.

2.2 Plot

The Book of Eli is an American movie released in 2010, a post-apocalyptic Western action film directed by the twins, the Hughes Brothers, written by Gary Whitta and casting Danzel Washington, Gary Oldman, Mila Kunis, Ray Stevenson, and Jennifer Beal. The story turns around Eli, a wanderer in a post-apocalyptic world, who heard a voice inside his head to carry one copy of a mystifying book to a safe location on the West coast of the United States. The narration of the post-war world is clarified along the way, as is the significance of Eli's task. The shootings of the film began in February 2009 and it was shot in New Mexico.

Thirty years after a nuclear apocalypse, Eli is on an expedition on foot toward the west coast of the earlier United States. Along the way he demonstrates a mysterious survival and great fighting skills, hunting animals and speedily defeating a group of desert bandits who try to attack him. Fetching for water, he arrives in a broken down town rebuilt and governed by Carnegie. Carnegie has a vision of expanding building more towns and of controlling people's hearts and minds by using the power of the words of a

particular book. His henchmen clean the deserted countryside daily in search of it, but with no gain.

In town he exchanges with a store owner, to recharge the battery of his handy music player. As he was waiting, he goes to the town bar, where a gang of bikers attack him, but he quickly kills them all. Comprehending Eli is a knowledgeable man like himself, Carnegie asks Eli to stay, making it clear that the offer is foreseeable. After Carnegie's blind mistress Claudia gives Eli some food and water, Carnegie orders Claudia's daughter Solara to tempt Eli, but he rejects her. While killing time, she finds his book.

Unperturbed, Eli shares his food with Solara, and before they eat, he says grace from the Bible. The following day, Solara repeats the prayer while sitting on table with her mother, but Carnegie overhears them and realizes Solara's words relate to the book he has been seeking. He soon obliges Solara to inform him if Eli was reading a book, and realizes Eli's book is the one he wants which is the Bible. Carnegie rushes to Eli's room and finds that Eli runs away. Carnegie caught Eli leaving from the workshop and orders his henchmen shoot at Eli, but the bullets apparently just scratch him, the same as if he was protected. Eli fires most of Carnegie's men and strikes Carnegie in the leg with a shotgun discharge.

Solara, when leaving the town, leads Eli to a cave which is the town's water supply, hoping she can go along with him on his expedition. Eli traps her inside and continues on alone. Solara escapes and soon finds herself ambushed by two bandits who try to rape her, but Eli comes back and save her. As they continue on, Eli explains his mission to Solara. According to Eli, his book is the final remaining Bible, as all other copies were intentionally destroyed and burned following the nuclear war thirty years ago. He says he was led to the book by a voice in his head, which then guided him to move westward to a place where it would be safe. The voice guaranteed him that he would be protected and guided on his journey.

Ultimately, Eli and Solara looked into an isolated house. They fall into a trap, but manage to relieve the suspicions of the residents, George and Martha, who invite them in for tea. When Eli realizes that the couple is cannibals, they rushed to leave just as

Carnegie and his henchmen arrive. In the ensuing shootout, George, Martha and many of Carnegie's men are exterminated.

Eli and Solara are detained. When Carnegie threatens to kill Solara, Eli submits to the orders and gives away the Bible, but Carnegie shoots him, and leaves him for death. Solara escapes and drives back to help Eli. Rather than looking for her, Carnegie returns to the town, because his only remaining vehicle is running low on fuel. Solara finds Eli walking, and they drive until they reach the bridge in San Francisco, and then paddle in a boat to Alcatraz Island, where they find a group intent on maintaining what they can of literature and music. Eli tells the guards that he has a duplicate of the King James Version of the Bible. While they were inside, Eli, exposed to be blind, begins to dictate the Bible from memory to Lombardi, the leader of the group and the head of the library.

Meanwhile, back in the town, the Engineer unlocks the Bible where Carnegie finds out, to his disappointment, that it is in Braille, and commands Claudia to read it to him. She acts as if that she cannot remember how to read Braille, informing Carnegie his wound has become contaminated and his men have begun to destroy his bar downstairs. At the safe haven, Eli dies, but not before he ends the entire book. The printing press at Alcatraz begins producing lots duplicates of the Bible, and Lombardi places one on a bookshelf between the Torah on one part and the Quran on the other. Solara, though offered shelter, chooses to go back home, taking with her Eli's sword and other belongings.

2.3. Movie Setting

The movie events happen in several places and at different moments. The environment was completely destroyed and devastated. It was deserted and a very harsh place for the protagonist in which he had to endure hard events; the setting of the movie was based mainly on deserts.

The movie opens with a depressing rain forest and a gray light gleams between the dead trees. The place represents the United States of America in the future after the apocalyptic war which led to an almost extinction of the human race. As a result, people become cannibals because of the lack of food.

The main character Eli traveled a lot on foot through different places, among which, the town governed by Carnegie the antagonist, which is the first place we can see that there was a civilization. Even though the town was somehow civilized, yet there were some people living hard times. The town was the first place that had water, but most of its citizens were dirty except for the mayor. The story also happened in an isolated cave where Eli taught Solar some words from the Bible.

Before the end of the story, the events take place in a house of two old people, Martha and George, who live there by themselves where there were no neighbors at all. The house was a good cleaned place, having some domestic tools like couches and tables, before it would be destroyed by the gunmen of the mayor.

Eli leaves the isolated house going to the west side of the country, San Francisco. From the beginning of the story, all the places were deserted and harsh, till the characters displace to San Francisco. The first place that gives hope, a place where we begin to see vegetation, green grass, and the sky is a little warmer and more hopeful. San Francisco gave a moment of aspiration and vitality and the green color was clearly noticed. This meant life and hope and the beginning of a new expansion.

The setting of the story was based on two main different worlds within one place at the same time. The end of the movie gave great expectations by making San Francisco the land of hope, as if the lively grass of a new world was growing and spreading over the desert and the destruction of an old world which was a sort of revival spreading into the dead places.

2.4 Characterization

Just like any literary book, novels or short stories. The movie has also its characters; these characters might be static characters, dynamic, round and flat. It screens three main characters, which play a very big role in turning and changing the events of the story. The most important characters of the movie are; Eli the protagonist, Carnegie the antagonist, Redridge and Solara.

As for the first main character, Eli, his name is not revealed until the end of the movie; it is an unknown character from the start till he reaches San Francisco and reveals his name. He has great fighting skills, a sword and gunshots for defending his Devin cause and goggles to protect his eyes from the burning sunlight. The protagonist has an idea or a belief that he has to carry a book that he found to the western part of the country and his beliefs and ideas never change throughout the whole events of the story from the beginning till the end.

Eli travels a lot in the deserted places having lots of conflicts and struggles, these conflicts were either by the harsh nature of the apocalyptic era or were created by the individuals who oppose him and stand on his way. Eli had a book, as it was mentioned earlier, which he could not give it up under any circumstances. Moreover, he is ready to kill to protect his book, and to teach other people morals and ideas that were coming from the book. He also believed that this book must be shared and spread all over the country.

The antagonist, Bill Carnegie, is an interesting character that is in his most great conditions, he was clean shaven, well educated and the sovereign leader of the town. The antagonist had a sort of an army which makes the viewer believe that he has knowledge of how the world was before the apocalypse; he also has water supply, the source of all lives.

Carnegie is looking for a mysterious book before the protagonist's appearance. The Mayor believed that the book i.e. the Bible could give him more power over his subjects and control them. He wanted to expand and build more towns and cities. He also believed that the book had the power to control the minds and the hearts of the weak and the desperate. With his persistence and determination he realizes his ambition by having the book, yet, he could not do anything with it because of his injury at a gunfight with Eli. Moreover, Bill Carnegie did not care about the loss of his men or his family, he was ready to do anything and kill anybody who would stop him from having the book by using his henchmen under the control of his second-in-command Redridge.

Redridge, is one of Carnegie's henchmen, and his right-hand. This character was faithful to the boss and ready to sacrifice his life for him. Plus, Redridge was in love with Solara, Carnegie's daughter-in-law. Redridge had a huge body built and a hard-looking face. He also had goggles that protected him from the sunlight. The character kept his fidelity and faithfulness to both the boss and his love, till his death.

Solara is a character that develops throughout the story. At the inauguration or appearance of this character, Solara is a teenage girl who is dirty, wearing filthy working clothes and ignorant though she is a very beautiful young girl. Solara starts to change her ideas and beliefs after meeting Eli, who taught her how to pray before eating and she keeps changing from a timid woman to do some heroic actions, and she manages to kill Redridge who loved her. All these changes that happened make Solara the only dynamic character in the movie. At the end of the movie Solara carries on the protagonist's mission to spread Christianity and help the people who lost their hope.

2.5. Manifest Destiny in the Book of Eli

This part is concerned with the depiction of Manifest Destiny in the movie *The Book of Eli*. In this section there will be few scenes and dialogues that are going to be tackled from a historical perspective, precisely, during the European settlement in the New World. At the beginning of this analysis, one will try to depict some events that occurred during the 1816's the start of an expansion to the western world, linking it with the movie plot and characters, and finally connect politics and religion to the end of the movie.

From the first scene, one may realize that Eli had a mission. After the fight scene with the bandits, a homeless woman asked him where he was going and he answered her; **West**. This makes us realize that he was on a mission to the western part of the continent.

When Eli reaches a crossroad, he could not know which way to go, so he took the right path that led him to the town, which was a sort of a simulation to the expedition to the new world by the pilgrims and puritans and the beginning of an expansion to the western part.

In town, which did not look like a real city but it was the closest thing to civilization, people looked like refugees and it was like the start of a civilization that was ready to expand, an image that is exactly like the first settlers in the United States. (20:48 - 21:36) Indeed, the first settlers who were refugees from the British absolute monarchy were outlaws and poor, which led them to leave the mother country and began to build camps and small houses in the New World to adapt with the new environment at the time.

The majority of the European emigrants left their mother country to escape political oppression, to look for the freedom and practice their belief, or for opportunities they were deprived of them at quarters. Between 1620 and 1635, economic complexity swept England. Lots of people were unemployed. Even expert workers could not make enough money for a living. In addition, the Industrial Revolution had created a rising textile industry, which demanded an ever-increasing supply of wool to keep the looms (machine) running. Landlords enclosed farmlands and expelled the peasants in favor of sheep nurturing. Colonial expansion became an opening for this displaced peasant population.

In another scene, where we first meet the antagonist Carnegie, the mayor of the town. He was sitting on his desk o reading a biographical book under the title (The life of Mussolini) which is a symbol of politics and dictatorship.

Carnegie had an obsession with a specific book which made him enslave his followers and use them to bring him the book. The idea of having a new governor is also shown in the movie, which reminds us of adopting a new concept of government. The new settlers needed a governor but he did not have to be a king and the system must not be based on a monarchy, however, it has to follow the essence of Christianity and science and reason that were based on the European Enlightenment thinkers, and Carnegie represented the idea of being a president in the movie, he was a logical man and a leader of the groups which is shown that h was the only person who had water and his subjects were not cannibals. The same thing in the New World, the new settlers wanted to have a president but he did not have to be a special man who belonged to the British Kingdom, as long as he had the qualities of a leader, he can rule the country.

This, gives us a thought of enslaving the Native Americans i.e. Indians and forcing them to guide them and help them to discover the continent when president Thomas Jefferson send an expedition to discover the Louisiana Territory led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and Sacagawea who was an Indian woman and guided them to discover the Louisiana territory.

At the bar, where Eli was waiting to have some water, one of Carnegie's followers provoke him, however Eli manages to knock him out, but the remaining men at the bar did not accept the defeat of their leader so they wanted to revenge him. Before the fight, Eli uttered these words: "Cursed be the ground, for our sake, more thorns and thistles shall bring forth, for us. For out of the ground we were taken for the dust we all, and to the dust we shall return". (32:01-32:24) these words were taken from the Bible; here we realize that Eli was a religious man on a mission and all the events that happened were ordained for a reason.

Despite the fact that he did not want to fight at the beginning, it was clear when Eli said to the bandits' leader: "I don't want any trouble". This gives the impression that Eli was a man of peace, but he uses force when it is necessary. It is the same when the European settlers came to the New World; they acted friendly and tried to remove the Indian civilization, yet, Native Americans revolt and defended themselves, so the military force handled the situation.

Subsequently, the two main characters meet. Carnegie wanted to know who was the outlander who killed his men, Eli answered him that he was nobody, and Carnegie replied: "Oh, I doubt that, the men you killed down there. They were nobody," (33:29-33: 41) this leads us to think that the new settlers considered the Indians as nobody which is clear that they called them uncivilized and savages.

While interrogating Eli, Carnegie realizes that Eli could read and he might use him for his own interests. Carnegie shows his real intentions in this specific scene when he said: "...you know what's funny, as old as we are people like you and me, we're the future." (34:04-34:12) Eli asked Carnegie what he wanted from him, and Carnegie replied:

Strait to the point, I like that (twice). You're not just educated, I never saw anyone handle themselves the way you did down there in that bar. I don't know where you learned it. But I sure as hell could use it. This little town it's just the beginning, I'm about to expand, I need expert help I could use someone like you." Eli: "Thank you but, I'm not interested.

(33:58- 34:47)

In this scene we feel that Carnegie represented the first settlers and the Western American Expansionism, as he said, it was just the beginning of an expansion when the Spanish ceded Louisiana territory secretly from France in 1800, which made president Jefferson more concerned of a new threat and wanted to react immediately and bought New Orleans and the West of Florida. Also, it reminds us of Thomas Pain's *Common Sense* where he said: "We have it in our hands to begin the world over again".

When Eli refused Carnegie's offer he revealed his secret and said that he 'was going west'. This shows the real spirit of Manifest Destiny and the need of moving westward the American nation. Such a an idea created a kind of a disagreement between the two ideologies for both characters, then Carnegie replied there is nothing west just to stop him from his mission. Eli remained silent and Carnegie tried to catch Eli's attention by having him as a guest at his saloon. At this moment we feel that Carnegie was ready to do whatever it takes to have what he wants i.e. the book, either by hospitality or violently. This kind of behavior was clearly shown in the American way of dealing with the Native Indians, at first they were friendly with them when Captain John Smith was the closest person to them which made him marry the Indian lady Pocahontas from the Pohatan tribe, but after his injury he went back to Europe and the relationship changed between the Indian tribe and the new settlers. (35:06- 35:45)

The following act, where Carnegie sends his mistress Claudia to offer Eli some food and water for washing, it was a peaceful gesture from Carnegie's part hoping that Eli would reveal something to her, but it was no use. Claudia returns to Carnegie and told him that Eli will not change his mind because he is not like the other people that he controls she said: "you're not going to be able to make him do what you want him to

do” Carnegie replied: “Who said anything about me? I’ll send Solara...it’s about time I’d better use out of her”. (36:39 -39:14)

Later on, without Claudia’s agreement, he sends his daughter in law Solara to seduce Eli. This behavior shows that Carnegie did not care about ethics and morals as long as that would make him have what he wants. Particularly when Carnegie said “...it’s about time I’d better use out of her. Don’t, don’t please” Claudia begged. But Carnegie left her behind crying (38:46-39:13) On the other hand, Eli showcases the divinity and nobleness when he refuses to act upon Carnegie’s wishes; he could not be tempted or seduced, which made him ask Claudia’s daughter, Solara to leave, but she told him that she cannot go back because he has threatened her to hurt her mother. This rejection was a After a conversation, Eli told Solara that people used to have more than they needed and they used to throw away things that people would kill each other after the nuclear war. This meant that all the earlier wars were needless.

Later on, when Solara realized that Eli had a book, Eli offers Solara his food and taught her how to pray before eating. (42:36-45:20), which leads us to recall John Eliot when he came from England in Boston in 1631 and started to teach the native Indians the pure Christianity. Also, it shows that the American vision towards the Indians and their will of educating them at the time.

After that, in the following scene, Carnegie was waiting for Solara to bring him the news of what had happened that night. Solara denies that they talked, but when she started to recite grace Carnegie realizes that the words were from the book that he is looking for, his reaction changes completely and threatened Solara that he would hurt her mother. Solara could not handle the situation and gave up at last and showed him a sign of a cross that was on the book. (45:45-48:39) Carnegie’s behavior towards his own family gives an idea about the killings and the massacres of the United States’ Army during the war of 1812, where there was a lots sacrifices to gain some territories.

After escaping the bar, Carnegie catches Eli on the way out from the engineer’s workshop. In this most important scene, both of the protagonist and the antagonist share the same beliefs and ideas but controversially. When Eli realizes that Carnegie was

ready to kill him in order take the book from him, he asked him why he wants it and Carnegie replied:

“..., imagine how different, how righteous this little world could be if we had the right words true to our faith, well, people would truly understand why they’re here, they wouldn’t need any of the ugly motivations. That’s not right to keep that book hidden away; it meant to be shared with others, it meant to be spread ain’t that what you want?” Eli replies: “With all my heart and soul. I always believed that I’d find a place where this book belonged, where it was needed. But I haven’t found it yet.” (49:42-52:06)

This dialogue shows that both of Carnegie and Eli want to share and spread the principles of the book and both of them want to help, guide and teach people. But the difference is that Eli wants to realize his dream throughout religion and peace and Carnegie by governing and total control and violence. These differences led to a gunfight as it was clearly shown in the United States when they first claimed that Christianity is a religion of peace and treated the native Indians as such. However, when some Indian tribes led by Tecumseh revolted and allied with the British troops, the reaction of the Americans was not peaceful as expected.

When Solara escapes from the town and follows Eli the religious man, it demonstrates that Christianity is the only safe haven that represents hope. Eli did not want to be followed, yet he changes his mind when Solara suggests taking him where they obtain water. This proves that in order to be a Christian the person has to be baptized. The water in the movie symbolized baptism since Solara was ready to follow Eli in his expedition as a missionary.

After the gunfight, even with the injury, the scene demonstrates that Carnegie was ready to go after Eli to have the mystifying book. This made his henchmen Redridge displeased and say:

For a f*****g book!” Carnegie reacts angrily and hits Redridge because of what he has said and clarified: “It’s not a f*****g book. It’s a weapon! A weapon aimed right at the hearts and minds of the weak and the desperate. It

will give us control them. If we want to rule more than one small f*****g town, we have to have it. People will come from all over; they'll do exactly what I tell them if the words are from the book. It happened before, it'll happen again. All we need is that book." (56:56-57:35)

Here, in Carnegie's speech we realize that the Bible was used as a weapon to control people likewise the new settlers to the colonized natives. Additionally, it shows that the puritans and missionaries used the Bible to pave the way for colonizers, so they attacked the hearts and brain washed the Indian tribes. When the new settlers came it was easier for them to communicate with them, therefore discovering new territories, knowing ways of cultivating the lands and survival, and later on they got rid of them by massacres and blood sheds.

After gathering a crew, Carnegie decides to go after Solara and Eli, his henchman asked him about the destination they should take, and Carnegie replied: **West**. Then, in another scene Eli regrets that he had left Solara alone in the deserted wasteland. Meanwhile, Solara managed to escape from her prison and wandered in the desert, after a while she found the homeless woman who ambushed Eli from the first place. She tried to help her out of innocence but then realizes that it was a trap, when two bandits attempt to rape her, luckily, Eli shows up and saves her from them.

At night, while sitting around a campfire, Solara asked Eli to read some words from his book, Eli recited some verses (Psalm 23)

The lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, he makes me to lie down in green pastures, he leads me by the still waters, he restores my soul, he leaded me in the path of righteousness, for his name sake, ye though I walk through the valley of shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou are with me.

Here one may come to know that the mysterious book that Eli has been carrying is a Bible. Willingly, Solara asks Eli to teach her how to read from the Bible.

Furthermore, Solara asked Eli what he meant when he said it was not just any book. Eli explained to her that it is the only one, that is why people burned all the books and claimed that the Bible was the source of the nuclear war from the first place. From this scene we realize that the main source of all the wars that happen in the world is because of religion. For our concern, the wars that happened in the United States during the era of Manifest Destiny were mainly because of spreading religion and Christianity.

Soon after, Solara wanted to know how Eli found his book. So, he told her that he heard a voice that was coming from inside of him and led him towards the book and told him to carry out the book west it also told him that he would be protected against anyone or anything that stands on his path and he has been walking ever since. The same as the Puritans when they claimed that spreading across the western part of the country was a God's given privilege to them.

Hearing the voice that was coming from inside of him, meant that Eli was not an ordinary man, it was as if he is a prophet of God or a messenger, and the voice was a revelation, which makes us go back to the divinity of Manifest Destiny that was adopted and applied by the Americans at the time which meant that it was God's right for the Americans to expand and move west and any civilization or country that stands on the way of Manifest Destiny is considered as an enemy.

In the morning, Eli and Solara continue their expedition till they reach a deserted house in a wasteland. They approach the house vigilantly, yet they fall into a trap. After convincing the old couple, the owners of the house, Martha and George invite Eli and Solara for some tea. Yet, Eli realizes that the couple was cannibals. Which made him think about leaving but Carnegie was on the way. After a rambling gunfight, Eli and Solara were captured and Carnegie quoted from the Bible and said: "Ask and you shall receive. God is good is he not?" And Eli said: "All the time" Carnegie replied: "Not all the time" (1:23:34-1:24:21) and shot him in cold blood. This scene symbolizes the wars and conflicts between the new world settlers and the Mother country Great Britain in the War of 1812 sharing the same religion over territories, it also shows the both the good side and the bad side of Manifest Destiny. Sometimes it can be peaceful other times it is harmful.

While going back, after taking the book and capturing Solara, she manages to escape from Redridge's vehicle and returned back to Eli to keep going in their mission. Meanwhile, back in town, Carnegie's engineer unlocked the book, which made Carnegie disappointed when he finds out that it was in braille.

After reaching San Francisco, the climate starts to change and differ from the previous scenes. We begin to see green grass and blue sky and sea which is a sign and symbol of vitality and hope. This creates a kind of two different worlds; one is old and deserted full of ignorance and the other is the beginning of a new Manifest Destiny that is based on knowledge, education and religion that will start from the west to the east that will generate a new world. This was like the two different worlds when the president Thomas Jefferson suggested purchasing the Louisiana Territory for 15 million Dollars which costs only 3 or 4 cents per an acre, which was a fertile land, and doubled the size of the United States at on stroke.

Meanwhile, back in town, Carnegie's engineer opened the Bible and Carnegie was disappointed when he realized that the book was in braille. In the meantime, Eli recites the King James Bible from memory to the head of the library his first words were:

The first book of Moses called Genesis. Chapter one, verse one, in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Verse two, and the earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Verse three and God said; let there be light, and it was light. (1:39:44-1:41:04)

As Eli says these verses the camera close up to his eyes and reveals that Eli was blind. While in town Carnegie calls for Claudia to read the Bible for him and she pretends she has forgotten, and then she told him that he has worked so much for the book and the results all his men are tearing down his bar down stairs. This scene showcases the decline of the American democracy and the destruction of a nation that led to the nuclear war and a start of a new dawn in the history of the U.S.

Back in San Francisco, Eli dies while reciting the Bible and millions of copies of the Bible were printed. Solara takes with her Eli's sword and went back home to carry on his mission. The head of the library puts the New King James Bible version between the Jewish Torah on one side and the Quran on the other as if it is the missing part or the last piece of the puzzle that complements all the religions.



The New King James Bible Version

2.6. Conclusion

In a nutshell, both Carnegie and Eli symbolizes the United States of America, the first one represents the bad side of it who was ready to do whatever it takes to have what he wants and to expand by controlling the people's minds and souls, therefore, he represents the political part of the United States of America. On the other hand, Eli symbolizes the religious side and the divinity and the true Christianity, if we may say, that has to be spread and shared not by violence but throughout peace. Despite the fact that both characters were using violence the Hughes Brothers succeeded to showcase both religious and political aspects that represented the Manifest Destiny.

General Conclusion

The target behind this dissertation is to shed light on Manifest Destiny and its depiction in the movie *The Book of Eli*. The aim was based on an analysis of the movie characters and scenes from the movie. It also portrays how Manifest Destiny came out to the American society and how it became a part of their culture.

At the beginning of the first chapter there are definitions of what the Manifest Destiny is and its origins and how it became well-known in the United States and how it is applied.

As it was mentioned earlier, in the first chapter, the Manifest Destiny was initially based on religious purposes, then it revolutionized into political matters seeking expansion adding new territories to be controlled. However, in the second chapter the Book of Eli was analyzed in the hope of finding some hints that prefigure Manifest Destiny in the movie.

The first chapter tackled several events that made the U.S a powerful nation such as using the Big Stick Policy during the 20th century providing the U.S to interfere in other foreign countries' affaires such as Cuba and Haiti. Also the participation in the WWI and WWII made the U.S expand at the expense of other countries. Moreover, it dealt with the New World Order that provides America to be the most powerful nation in the world culturally, economically and politically.

While analyzing the movie *The Book of Eli*, one realizes that both main characters were seeking to expand and sharing the Bible and spreading its tenets over the country, but differently. The antagonist, Carnegie, was a symbol of politics that introduced the establishment order in his town and he did not care about losing his henchmen or even his family. Moreover, he was ready to kill anybody that opposes his will of having the mysterious book. On the other hand, Eli the protagonist symbolizes religion and divinity. He also shared the same idea of spreading the Bible's doctrine, similarly to Carnegie; he was also ready to kill anyone who stood on his way while going 'West.'

Since the movie events happen in an apocalyptic period, it means that the world contained uncivilized people that need a refuge and salvation. This was successfully shown in the movie, and the Hughes Brothers managed to depict the western culture and ideology even after an apocalyptic explosion.

After a deep investigation, it is possible to conclude that the plot of the movie was creative evidence by the directors the Hughes Brothers and Gary Whitta who succeeded in depicting the essence of Manifest Destiny in *The Book of Eli* throughout the characters and the setting. They symbolize politics, struggle, hope, religion and faith and that makes the movie so moving and inspiring.

Bibliography

Web Sites

- 1) American History Timeline 1601-1625;
<http://americanhistory.about.com/od/americanhistorytimelines/a/timeline-1601.htm>; logged on 10/06/2016.
- 2) American History 1626-1650;
<http://americanhistory.about.com/od/americanhistorytimelines/a/timeline-1625.htm>; logged on 10/06/2016.
- 3) Clip of "New World Order" speech.
- 4) Harry S. Truman: Domestic Affairs (J. Miller: 119);
<http://millercenter.org/president/biography/truman-domestic-affairs>; logged on 14/06/2016
- 5) John Winthrop's City upon a Hill, 1630;
<https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/winthrop.htm>; logged on 15/06/2016.
- 6) July, 1845 – John L. O’Sullivan Advises Americans of Their “Manifest Destiny”; <https://legallegacy.wordpress.com/2014/07/11/july-1845-john-l-osullivan-advises-americans-of-their-manifest-destiny/>; 15/06/2016
- 7) New World Order Definition ; <http://www.threeworldwars.com/new-world-order.htm>; logged on 14/06/2016
- 8) Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine;
<https://historyengine.richmond.edu/episodes/view/5487> (Digital Scholarship lab, 2015); logged on 12/06/2016.
- 9) Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine;
<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1899-1913/roosevelt-and-monroe-doctrine> (The History Place: 2009); logged on 12/06/2016
- 10) Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine;
http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/disp_textbook.cfm?smtID=3&psid=1259 (Digital History, 2016); logged on 12/06/2016
- 11) Roosevelt's "Big Stick" diplomacy; <https://www.boundless.com/u-s-history/textbooks/boundless-u-s-history-textbook/the-progressive-era-1890->

[1917-22/roosevelt-s-progressivism-1434/the-big-stick-1438-2220/](#); logged on 15/06/2016.

12) Speak softly and carry a big stick;

<http://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/speak-softly-and-carry-a-big-stick.html>;

logged on 15/06/2016.

13) Theodore Roosevelt's Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine (1905);

<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=56> logged on

12/06/2016.

14) 1917 : The Range of Men (The History Place: 2009);

<http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/firstworldwar/index-1917.html>;

logged on 14/06/2016

15) The Republican Opposition (D. Reed, 1940);

<http://newdeal.feri.org/survey/40b14.htm>; logged on 13/06/2016.

16) Tom Paine on the “birthday of a new world” ();

<http://oll.libertyfund.org/quote/381>; logged on 08/03/2016

17) What did World War One really do for women?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z9bf9j6> (bbc.co.uk, 2016); logged on

13/06/2016.

Videos

1) America in World War I: Crash Course US History;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y59wErqg4Xg>; logged on 13/06/2016.

2) George Bush New World Order ;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rc7i0wCFf8g>; logged on 14/06/2016

3) Woodrow Wilson Decision to go to War;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11I4q9E_qM0; logged on 13/06/2016.