

TIL HÁM AWDARMA MÁSELELERI

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MARK TWAIN IN THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF THE XIX CENTURY

Nesipbayeva S.N

*The department of theory
and practice of translation*

Abstract: *The novel chosen for examining the realistic elements in Twain's writing, The Adventure of Tom Sawyer, depicts his early recollections. The book teaches readers about the morals and ideals of the era while telling the story of two young boys who love to go on adventures.*

It is well known that the 19th century was marked by noteworthy and tumultuous events that fundamentally altered American culture. These were the times of the Industrial Revolution and the American Civil War. In terms of innovators and inventions during the 1800s, the developed nations of Europe outpaced the United States in terms of age. One of the primary features of this era were the periods of promotion and relegation. They became equal with the expansion of the economy and advancements in all spheres of life, but benefits and drawbacks also came with it .

The humanities had to alter their course in order to be created because of historical developments, societal attitudes, and economic conditions, just like in all other works of literature and art of the day. This historical period produced writers, intellectuals, and prose writers. Depending on how these factors or their upbringing influenced them, each literary figure took a different method. However, a single literary direction and guiding principle unify them.

Since Mark Twain was present at every one of the aforementioned incidents, he put them all into his fiction. Due to the country's expansion and prosperity, money-loving scammers have taken over.

In Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, society just prior to the American Civil War is accurately portrayed. Twain depicts a world for boys along the Mississippi River, where two naughty boys, Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer, go on several small-scale adventures, from fleeing their house in order to assist in the capture of the terrible murderer

Injun

Joe.

Despite being regarded as a fantasy adventure book, the book depicts and highlights the racial and cultural dimensions of Southern society in the years leading up to the Civil War. Through sarcasm, vernacular dialect, and a hypocritical picture of the colonial South through the institution of religion, *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* effectively examines realism. The book imparts knowledge on the values and morality of the era. The varied characters of real people—good and terrible, kind and naughty at the same time—are reflected in Tom and his companions. As such, they were not believed to be

TIL HÁM AWDARMA MÁSELELERI

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excellent role models for young children who were meant to be taught Christian moral principles. Nonetheless, morality can also be understood in terms of its negative aspects.

The third-person narrative of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is based on Mark Twain's own contented childhood. It is assumed that Tom and his buddies were having adventures in the neighbourhood in an episode-like narrative. The narrative is told in Twain's usually lighthearted manner, but it takes a darker turn when the boys go to a churchyard one night and witness a murder. When an innocent guy gets detained, the lads have to give a testimony in court. The narrative is masterfully written, dramatic, and humorous. Furthermore, it is realistic, as such is the nature of children. This kind of realism is what creates wonderful literature, even for young readers; therefore the book's ban was eventually lifted even if it may have been a harmful impact on children.

Twain describes nature in a realistic manner. He describes certain ants on Jackson's Island with accuracy and precision, which is another amazing aspect of his writing that gives the book a distinct local flavour that readers still find appealing. Twain altered the conventions surrounding characterization. In contrast to the upper-class personas, he presented a novel idea to the other writers: he included ordinary characters from everyday life, with a focus on middle-class and lower-class characters in particular.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer contains realistic themes. The world of childhood is realistically depicted in the novel, complete with historical and geographical background descriptions. Tom Sawyer, a Mark Twain impersonator, resides in St. Petersburg, a small Missouri town on the Mississippi River. The main protagonist, Tom Sawyer, is a mischievous, thrill-seeking young man who hates everything that takes away from his boyhood freedom, such as church, school, and housework. Since he has little to interest in studying, Tom is afraid to attend Sunday school at the beginning of the book.

Twain addressed themes related to his early childhood and the realistic views he grew up with from studying American society in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Since human nature is flawed and can lead to both wickedness and unhappiness in society, he found it interesting to write on the frailty of human nature. This issue has also impacted many other writers. It is made clear by the story's structure, setting, storyline, characters, and literary style that "everyman has a good nature" but also a flawed and evil nature.

When Tom and Becky got lost in a cave, the people banded together to help find them, and that is another example of Twain demonstrating the inherent kindness of man. It serves as one illustration of characteristics of the human condition. Tom demonstrated his good nature by fighting for Becky's heart and sacrificing his life to get the treasure.

TIL HÁM AWDARMA MÁSELELERI

V ilimiy maqalalar toplami

In addition, every individual in Tom Sawyer's escapades possesses innate decency, particularly Aunt Polly who chose to care for her nephew Tom and put up with all of his misbehaviour because she loved him more than she could have imagined.

Apart from the aforementioned features, any other minor details such as Aunt Polly catching Tom stealing jam and Tom abstaining from school due to his lax teeth, making up being sick, going swimming, having a romantic relationship with Becky Thatcher, travelling to Jackson Island to play pirate's game without Aunt Polly's knowledge, looking for treasure, and other such antics depicted picturesquely indicate a boy's actual upbringing. The work paints a realistic picture of life in America at the time thanks to the contributions of the character Tom Sawyer. It applies to all ages, not just those who are that age.

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