

## **The Role of Stoicism in “Robinson Crusoe” By Daniel Defoe**

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**Abstract:** This article delves into the issue of human nature in different political stages in Robinson Crusoe with some comparative examples from Gulliver's Travels. Hobbes and Locke, the seventeenth century philosophers, are known for their political philosophies on human nature and the development of social societies and governments by this. These features can be seen in Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe clearly and they can be scrutinized in this respect, for Defoe's views on human nature are similar to these two philosophers 'thoughts. We can recognize the individualism, stoicism and egocentricity in Robinson Crusoe's character, and his fears and doubts that depict human nature perfectly.

**Keywords:** Individualism, human nature, egocentricity, social society, stoicism, colonialism, Christianity.

**Introduction.** It is difficult to overestimate the significance of the contribution of English writers to the literary heritage of all mankind. A great many literary heroes such as Robin Hood, Ivanhoe, Hamlet, Sherlock Holmes, Dracula or John Silver, who are familiar to everyone who has touched a book at least once in their life, were born from the creativity of English masters of the pen. This world-famous galaxy also includes the hero of the writer Daniel Defoe - Robinson Crusoe, whose name has long become a household name. Defoe's novel not only entered the golden fund of European literature, but also gave birth to an entire subgenre, in which Jules Verne, H.G. Wells, and Agatha Christie worked much later. The many-wise Litrecon offers you an analysis of the novel according to plan.

Daniel Defoe lived in amazing times at the turn of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. At this time, European civilization finally left behind the dark Middle Ages. A general increase in prosperity, breakthroughs in science and art, numerous European ships plowing the seas and discovering new, hitherto unknown lands, the birth of the Enlightenment - all these are characteristics of that period of history. Humanity confidently walked forward along the path of progress, finally asserting its power over the world and its superiority over nature.

It is these ideas that are reflected in the novel “Robinson Crusoe,” which shows how even one person, with the help of reason, faith and hard work, can change the world to suit himself. The history of writing the novel "Robinson Crusoe" includes interesting facts: The material for the novel was the story of the Scottish buccaneer Alexander Selkirk, who in 1704 was landed on the uninhabited island of Mas a Tierra in the Pacific Ocean, where he lived in complete solitude for about five years. This story became widespread among Europeans. It is unknown when exactly Defoe began work, but in 1719 the novel was first published. The influence of this novel on mass consciousness is evidenced by the fact that the island of Mas a Tierra itself was renamed Robinson Crusoe Island in 1966. The story of Robinson Crusoe received a wide response among readers: the editors of the magazine where it was published received hundreds of letters addressed to Robinson. The author did not miss his luck and answered on behalf of the hero, continuing to describe his adventures on paper. As a result, the public began to believe that

Crusoe really existed. The novel brought the author financial success. But until his death he was forced to share glory with his hero, who was known and appreciated much more than the writer.

"Robinson Crusoe" was created during the formation of classicism in European literature. From him he received, first of all, an educational message aimed at glorifying reason and personal freedom, the superiority of the rational over the emotional. Also, the Age of Enlightenment determined the linguistic features of the book: in places it is written very pompously and seriously. Also, the didactic meaning of the work was based on the hero's religiosity: it was faith in God that helped him pull himself together and start working.

The book is an autobiography of the main character, written long after the events that happened in the novel. A young man named Robinson Crusoe goes against his father's wishes and runs away from his family to enter ship service. The young man travels the world, experiencing many adventures and doing a variety of things. But one day the ship on which the main character was making an illegal voyage for slaves to Africa gets caught in a storm and dies. Of all the passengers, only Crusoe himself survives, having swum to the uninhabited island. The issue of the novel "Robinson Crusoe" can also be expanded.

Loneliness - one of the hardest tests for Robinson is the test of loneliness. On a desert island, far from civilization and people, the hero began to slowly but surely forget human speech, but with the help of constant exercises and his savage servant, Crusoe managed to maintain his mind and remain a full-fledged person.

Morals of wild tribes - Defoe largely formed in the public consciousness the image of the classic aborigine from the island - a narrow-minded savage relying on brute force, who is defeated by an enlightened European using his reason.

Stoicism - Robinson embodies many of the ideals of the philosophical teachings of Stoicism. The main character faces difficulties, but, maintaining calm and dignity, overcomes them. It is also characteristic that Crusoe respects the savage Friday, without dividing people by skin color, as was customary in Defoe's time. In his adventure novel, Defoe showed the reader the formation of a personality who could be set as an example to everyone else. The meaning of the book Robinson Crusoe lies in the teaching that was popular in Defoe's time - tabula rasa. This concept was introduced by the philosopher John Locke and denotes the belief that people are born "as a blank slate" - that is, without innate vices or virtues. All their development occurs under the influence of the outside world and personal experience. The author proved this hypothesis by describing the formation of the personality of Robinson Crusoe. This idea made it possible to make European society more humane and tolerant of Friday and others like him.

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