



Colonialism: A Study of Peter Caray's *Jack Maggs*

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Abstract

Australian settlement is most important in post-colonialism and has deep effect on culture and literature of Australia. After colonialism aboriginals start re-writing history of Australia. Australian settlement has the feature of re-writing of history, especially for the Aboriginal population as their histories have mostly been erased. Most of the Australian writers talk about colonialism and its effects. Peter Carey is one of the major novelists who not only write on colonialism but also about Australian settlement and its effects of society and people. His *Jack Maggs* is an important novel in the section as it traces the life history of Jack Maggs, a convict who gets transported to England for a petty crime. The novel discusses his struggle to reconnect with his homeland. It is writing back of Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*. When Maggs returns back to England he sees that everything is changed and the changed London is not ready to accept him, though the old London was not different. But he kept on trying to find his roots. The present work focuses on the Jack Maggs' search for identity in his imaginary homeland and how he gets one only after its assimilation of his new world. The work also discusses the politics prevalent at different level of society and system to get what they want.

Keywords: Colonialism, Histories, Identity, Australian, Aboriginal.