

USAME ÇOLAKOĞLU M.A. THESIS UNIVERSITY OF GAZİANTEP DEPARTMENT OF MIGRATION STUDIES 2024

T.C.
UNIVERSITY OF GAZİANTEP
INSTITUTE FOR MIGRATION
DEPARTMENT OF MIGRATION STUDIES

**EVALUATION OF AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN
IMMIGRANTS IN SOCIOPOLITICAL AND
SOCIOCULTURAL CONTEXT: THE CASE OF
UNITED STATES IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

MASTER'S OF ART THESIS

USAME ÇOLAKOĞLU
GAZİANTEP
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Supervisor: Asst. Prof. Dr. Örhun Burak SÖZEN

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September, 2024

T.C.
GAZİANTEP ÜNİVERSİTESİ GÖÇ ENSTİTÜSÜ
GÖÇ ÇALIŞMALARI ANA BİLİM DALI

**AFRİKA VE AVRUPA KÖKENLİ GÖÇMENLERİN
SOSYOPOLİTİK VE SOSYOKÜLTÜREL
BAĞLAMDA DEĞERLENDİRİLMESİ: 21.
YÜZYILDA BİRLEŞİK DEVLETLER ÖRNEĞİ**

YÜKSEK LİSANS TEZİ

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This study aims to examine contemporary America in a historical context by evaluating the sociopolitical and sociocultural impacts of a nation built on immigration and reflecting on their implications for present America. The significance of this study lies in its ability to convey the immigration experience that contemporary America has lived through over centuries and to observe the consequences of its reflections on today. The effort to include countries that have provided significant immigration to America within the scope of the historical background of America's immigration journey.

My work, shaped in the light of scientific arguments, has been guided, supported, tolerated, and understood by my advisor, Dr. Orhun Burak SÖZEN, to whom I owe a great debt of gratitude for sharing his knowledge and experience with me throughout the planning, research, execution, and creation of my entire thesis.

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ABSTRACT

EVALUATION OF AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS IN SOCIOPOLITICAL AND SOCIOCULTURAL CONTEXT: THE CASE OF UNITED STATES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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This study examines the historical process of migration from Europe and Africa to America, focusing on the contributions of these individuals to the formation of the contemporary American continent. In this context, it concentrates on the establishment of the United States and investigates the sociopolitical and sociocultural effects and consequences of migration on the United States. As the United States emerged as a global superpower heading into the 21st century, it transformed into a unique mosaic of diversity due to an influx of immigrants from various backgrounds, including Africans and Europeans. African migrants, brought to America under the harsh conditions of the transatlantic slave trade, have profoundly influenced America's social fabric, contributing significantly to contemporary racial issues. European migrants played a crucial role in the founding of America, enriching the nation's cultural diversity, particularly through significant European migrations in the 19th and 20th centuries. Today, America stands as a global superpower, bolstered by populations that bring cultural diversity through migration. Furthermore, the representation of individuals of European and African descent in the 21st century American politics and policies serves as a significant example of the enduring impacts of migration from past to present.

Key Words: Immigration, Multiculturalism, Integration, The United States

ÖZET
AFRİKA VE AVRUPA KÖKENLİ GÖÇMENLERİN SOSYOPOLİTİK VE
SOSYOKÜLTÜREL BAĞLAMDA DEĞERLENDİRİLMESİ: 21. YÜZYILDA
BİRLEŞİK DEVLETLER ÖRNEĞİ

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Danışman: Dr. Öğr. Üyesi Orhun Burak SÖZEN

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Bu çalışma, Avrupa ve Afrika'dan Amerika'ya göç eden insanların tarihsel sürecini inceleyerek, bu insanların günümüz Amerikan kıtasının oluşumuna katkılarını incelemektedir ve bu çerçevede Amerika Birleşik Devletleri'nin kuruluşuna odaklanmakta ve göçün Amerika Birleşik Devletleri üzerindeki sosyopolitik ve sosyokültürel etkilerini ve sonuçlarını araştırmaktadır. Amerika Birleşik Devletleri, 21. yüzyıla doğru bir dünya süper gücü olarak yükselirken, Afrikalılar ve Avrupalılar da dahil olmak üzere çeşitli kökenlerden gelen göçmenlerin akınıyla benzersiz bir çeşitlilik mozağine dönüşmüştür. Tarih boyunca zorlu transatlantik köle ticareti koşullarıyla Amerika'ya getirilen Afrikalı göçmenler, Amerika'nın sosyal dokusunu derinlemesine etkileyerek günümüz ırksal konulara önemli katkılarda bulunmuşlardır. Amerika'nın kuruluşunda kilit bir rol oynayan Avrupalı göçmenler, özellikle 19. ve 20. yüzyıllarda gerçekleşen önemli Avrupa göçleri aracılığıyla ulusun kültürel çeşitliliğini zenginleştirmişlerdir. Günümüzde Amerika, kültürel çeşitlilik getiren ve göç eden nüfuslar sayesinde küresel bir süper güç olarak durmaktadır. Bununla birlikte, Avrupa ve Afrika kökenli bireylerin 21. yüzyıl Amerikan siyaseti ve politikalarındaki temsiliyeti, göçün geçmişten günümüze olan etkileri açısından önemli bir örneklik teşkil etmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Göç, Çok Kültürlülük, Entegrasyon, Birleşik Devletler

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ABBREVIATIONS

Etc: Et Cetera

Et al: And Others

Mid: Middle

USA/US: United States of America

WASP: White Anglo-Saxon Protestant

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Migration has been a pivotal phenomenon throughout human history, playing a crucial role in the development of societies, shaping cultures, and regulating international relations. Migration generally refers to the movement of individuals, communities, or populations from their place of residence to another region. This mobility may be influenced by various factors, including economic, social, political, environmental, and cultural considerations. People have migrated throughout history for reasons such as seeking improved living conditions, better job opportunities, political stability, or escaping persecution. From ancient times to the present, the process of migration has had profound effects on cultural transformations and societal progress.

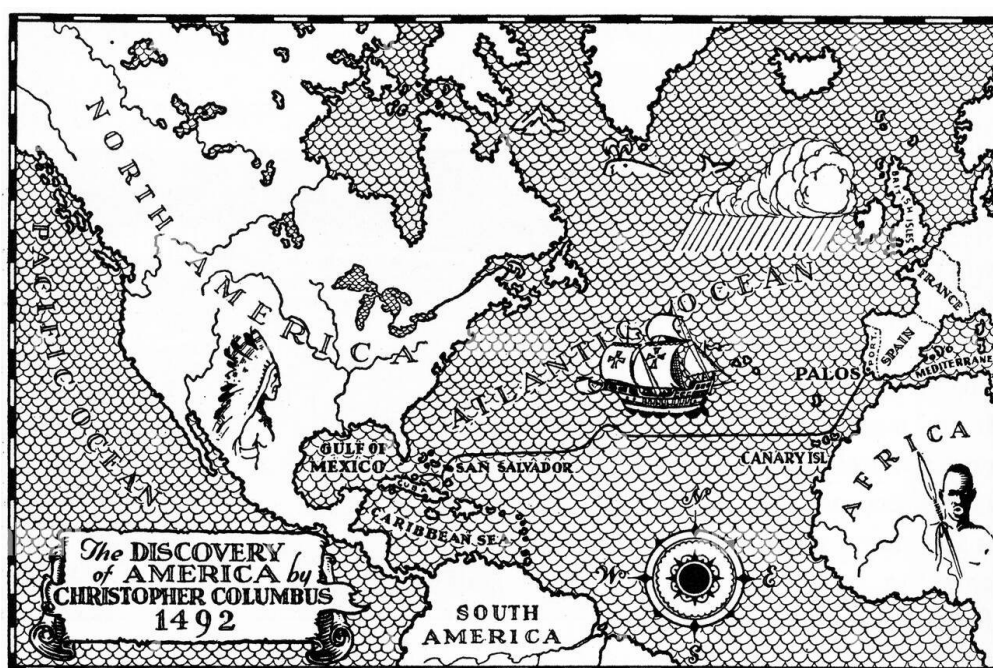
The importance of migration in history plays a crucial role in the process of evolution of societies. People have migrated for various reasons, and this movement has contributed to cultural changes and societal development over time. The impacts of migration on the countries receiving migrants need to be examined from multiple perspectives. Economically, migrants may contribute to the workforce of their new countries, supporting economic growth. However, this can simultaneously intensify competition in the labor market and pose challenges for the local workforce. From a cultural standpoint, migration may enrich the societal fabric by bringing together diverse cultures, yet it may also give rise to issues of integration and adaptation.

On the other hand, the American continent constitutes one of the foremost significant landmarks in the history of humanity. As of the 15th century, it has been recorded as a new region introduced to the modern world by Columbus. However, the American continent hosts much larger treasures and a richer history. With Columbus's rediscovery, a process that would make a mark on the world stage was initiated, and what gives significance to this pivotal period in history is the continent's past. Thanks to the unfolding

exploration, not only was a new civilization constructed but also opportunities were opened for studies that would shed light on the past. Examining the concept of migration and delving into the deep history of the American continent, the experiences of the civilization resulting from pre-Columbian migration movements further underscore the importance of this concept.

However, the rediscovery of America and subsequent migrations to the continent in the early 15th century marked a transformative epoch in human history, reshaping the geopolitical landscape and inaugurating a new era of cross-cultural encounters. Christopher Columbus's voyages, commencing in 1492, are emblematic of this pivotal moment, as they facilitated unprecedented transatlantic connections. These expeditions not only expanded the known world but also initiated a wave of migrations that would profoundly influence the demography, culture, and economies of both the Old and New Worlds. The encounter between European explorers and indigenous peoples set in motion complex processes of cultural exchange, trade, and the diffusion of technologies and ideas. The academic exploration of this historical juncture requires a nuanced understanding of the multifaceted dynamics involved, encompassing not only the navigational and technological achievements but also the sociocultural implications and repercussions of these momentous transoceanic encounters.

Figure 1: The Rediscovery of America - Old American Map (Emporium)



On the other hand, the American continent which was named *the New World*, was discovered by Viking Explorer Leif Ericson approximately in 1000 (Aslan, 2020, p. 54), however then additionally, had been rediscovered by Italian Explorer *Christopher Columbus* in 1492. The main purpose of the new reconnaissance was to find new hopes, sources, fields, etc. This rediscovery has been also the beginning of the exploration of modern-day America or the United States of America which is named the home of democracy. Additionally, modern-day America's population formation, political constitution, or cultural structure comprises of based on mostly European or African migrants' ideology in just the same way as the rediscovery of the continent by a European explorer.

On the other hand, it could be asserted that it has been seen that migrants in the United States of America are numerous in the fields of sports, cinema, policy, literature, art, etc. as part of American intelligence and these migrants' ideology is dominant in the line administrating of the country. Due to the fact that the United States of America has reached the level of the *American Dream* through the contributions of those migrants. At the present time, migration term occupies a critical place because countries are shaped by people who move to other points of the world. The policies of countries are directly related to these migration movements in the present world. In considering this situation, it may be stated that Turkish society is not composed solely of individuals with Turkish roots. It is named Turkish society, nevertheless; it does not include only Turkish people. It has many people live in Türkiye from other nationalities/societies such as Syria, Russia, The United States of America, Germany, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Somalia, Bangladesh, etc. The same situation has emerged in American society. Present-day the United States of America is composed of people from various nations, and the most significant reason for this is the migration of individuals from different nations to the continent.

It could be argued that the United States of America is also not made up of only American people at the present and, it has many people living in the U.S. from Africa, Europe, Australia, or any other place in the world. It is also related to International Relations in the present world and it is proved by migration laws of countries. It is also seen that International Migration has a great place in terms of International Relations. Democracy, policies of countries, education or health issues of countries, etc. are/will be shaped by these movements of people.

Figure 2: The United States of America Map at the Present (Furian)



On the other hand, it could be asserted that the U.S is a place where people migrated and these migration movements to the continent and diversity have gained importance to the U.S. Based on the considerations of this study, it could be asserted that today the United States of America is considered to be beyond a country as a consequence of migration movements. Many years ago, in the conclusion of America was rediscovered that a new age would be opened and brought hope to the new world. From the perspective of this thesis dissertation it could be argued that until the late 19th century, the United States of America was not in its own essence and did not complete its own struggle for democracy according to William E. Dodd (Dodd, 1918, p. 483) that struggle can never end. Additionally, it could be asserted that since it did not complete its own struggle for democracy, it was singled out for criticism by some scholars or other people. Jean Baudrillard is one of people who criticized the New World and according to Abdullah H. Kurraz (H.Kurraz, 2020, p. 238) Baudrillard particularly criticized America in the context of hyperreality, legitimacy, and identity, postmodernism.

Besides, Jean Baudrillard has been one of the biggest intellectuals in the last centuries. Philosophy studies followed his sociology studies which shaped his next life. He was inspired by Sartre and by whom he was influenced in more radical terms of his politics and on the other hand was affected by Marxism, Dostoyevsky, and

especially Nietzsche (which was the center of his ideological progressive in his prospective intellectual life). Unlike his masterwork which was completed in harmony with Henri Lefebvre who was a deconstructionist, he started to feel closer to Roland Barthes's constructionist ideology until the late 1960s. His first published "*Le Systeme Des Objets*" (System of Objects) which was formed in the last of his masterwork, reflects his perspective that transformed about objects. The following years revealed his "*La Société de Consommation*" (Consumption Society) and then "*Der Symbolische Tausch und der Tod*" (Symbolic Exchange and Death). Baudrillard criticizes Western civilization in Symbolic Exchange and Death that his thought structure was in order after the publication which was a pivotal point. In the book, he interrogates the Western world's level of modernism, progress, and development, and criticizes the frame of the last two centuries (Çam, 2019, pp. 1-3).

On the other hand, Jean Baudrillard is a prominent philosopher, thinker, sociologist, and cultural theorist who has extensively explored postmodernism and post-structuralism. He has critiqued the prevailing system in the West in relation to crises through the concept of "*Simulation*". These works have collectively established him as a well-known intellectual figure. The concept has emerged as a critique of political and ideological mainstreams in the contemporary world. Baudrillard emphasizes the loss of the ability to establish a connection and distinction between the real world and its images through the concept of simulation. He critiques the contemporary media for focusing on the superficial aspects rather than the essence of objects (Özdemir & Özen, 2021, pp. 673-675). On the other hand, according to Baudrillard (Baudrillard, 2018, pp. 26-43), the realities presented in the media reflect norms contrary to those encountered in daily life. Baudrillard contends that what is presented as the American dream is far removed from actual life. In his view, New York is filled with the sounds of monster whistles, fast cars, aggressive advertisements, various forms of entertainment, widespread promiscuity, and seemingly happy people living in their own loneliness. In a world where even animals engage in conflict while sharing meals, the human adventure is one marked by solitude. The streets are overwhelmingly populated by individuals eating alone, singing, talking to themselves, and not coming together. The abundance of buildings, people living side by side, and the resulting loneliness turn the American dream in New York into an artificial place. While European streets are vibrant, Baudrillard argues that the streets in New York

and America are lifeless. He characterizes the triangular existence of a soulless life in America, similar to an Italian culture but lacking vitality. Baudrillard defines America as having no connection to either dreams or reality, labeling it with the concept of *hyper-reality* and suggesting it is entirely utopian. The phenomenon of modernization in Europe and America diverges, with America becoming a country where wealth increases while the human figure that constitutes modernity becomes impoverished and isolated. The reality emerges that fast food, termed as culture, has rendered America culturally impoverished. Individuals who embarked on the journey as part of the American dream, harboring the goal of building a new life and leaving their places for various reasons, have become active participants in the process of transforming into the realities of America. In a world order where realities have turned into hyper-realities, these individuals have found their place.

1.1. Problem

The United States of America has been the superpower of the world in the 20th (totally) and 21st (in part) centuries. America was rediscovered and built its presence upon the migration concept. Migrants from Europe, Asia, Africa have shaped the future of the country in terms of science, politics, law, literature, art, sport and etc. Those people shaped the future and fate of the United States, however, the impacts of the immigrants were not acceptable and forecastable beforehand. The United States of America which has been a melting pot for people from different nations has evolved into a homogeneous structure that (people from different nations) would open a new era to the world. This work starts from this standpoint.

1.2. Research Questions

1. What are the ongoing sociopolitical and sociocultural effects, populations, and functions of African and European immigrants who migrated to the United States during the colonial and national history periods for the United States and the global world in the 21st century?
 - a) How has the historical development of America, including the Columbus and pre-Columbian eras, progressed?
 - b) How did the migration processes of European and African-origin immigrant groups to America occur in a historical context?

- c) What are the reasons for European and African-origin immigrant groups migrating to America and what are the factors that make America appealing to them?
- d) What are the ongoing sociopolitical and sociocultural effects, populations, and functions of African and European immigrants who migrated to the United States during the colonial and national history periods for the United States and the global world in the 21st century?
- e) What are the differences and similarities between the effects of immigrants from Europe and Africa on the United States?
- f) What is the role and function of African and European-origin immigrants who migrated to the United States in the production, reproduction, and dissemination of knowledge worldwide? In this context, what are the similarities and differences between the two groups?
- g) How can the adaptation, integration, and assimilation situation of European and African immigrants in the United States be evaluated in the context of migration studies, considering historical processes and reflections on the 21st century?
- h) What are the cultural and artistic consequences of the formation of a nation whose roots have been built upon heavy immigration from the continents of Europe and Africa?

1.3. The Hypotheses

- 1- Could the assimilation/integration of African and European immigrants in the United States be explained by current relevant immigration theories?
- 2- Could African and European immigrants be assimilated or integrated into American society?

1.4. Aim

In this work, the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries will be examined in terms of migration processes and their impacts on the United States of America which has been a rediscovery. In this point, this work will be handled in the frame of sociocultural and sociopolitical structure in the United States of America which was built upon migration. How can the Eurocentered and Afroamerican cultural artifacts be articulated into the statuesque and formation process of American culture from the

standpoints of relevant migration theories is going to be scrutinized and thereby probable inferences are going to be interpreted.

1.5. Significance

Examining and analyzing the United States of America which has been the superpower of the world and the impacts of migrants in this way that made the United States of America superior in the world affairs. In this context, it will be handled in the frame of processes of migrants in the United States of America. Furthermore, the originality and novelty of this thesis dissertation aim at filling the academic gap in the relevant literature and thereby more precise and concise prospective relevant academic studies will be promoted as such.

1.6. Limitations

In the first chapter of the work, it will be discussing the background of the United States of America and continent in the framework of migrants and indigenous people, in the second chapter will be discussing the conceptual framework in the framework of terms including multiculturalism, acculturation, integration and assimilation in the third chapter of the work, will be discussing the background information about people migrated to America from Britain, Ireland, Germany, France, Scandinavian Countries, Italia, Russia and African Countries, in the fourth chapter of the work, it will be handling findings and discussions and in the fifth chapter of work, it will be concluding with the conclusion part. On the other hand, the introductory sections of this thesis which try to form preliminary bases based on common prototypical patterns of general conceptions of the United States however in the following sections the originality and novelty of the work lie behind its theoretical foundation built upon migration theories and its endeavor to reinterpret relevant cultural artifacts from standpoint of immigration (theories). Additionally, further academic research in the mainland of this thesis could not have been actualized due to temporal and budgetary constraints.

1.7. Definitions

The definitions will be explained with appropriate terms to the field in the work.

1.8. Model of Research

To comprehensively delve into the effects of the concept of migration, which forms the basis of our research and lays the foundation for the United States to become a global superpower in the 21st century, a thorough literature review will be conducted. Efforts will be made to conduct a literature review to access primary sources, interpret them, and engage in individual discussions with relevant institutions and organizations where possible. In light of the obtained data, developments arising from the rediscovery of America and their impacts throughout the period leading up to the 21st century will be scrutinized.

1.9. Data Gathering

In this work, it will be benefited upon the subject as material from academic books, articles, magazines, publications of official institutions, websites, official documents, and newspaper archives.

1.10. Analysis and Interpreting the Data

After conducting a literature review, the data obtained will be examined with an analytical approach to investigate whether our findings confirm or refute the issues related to the problem. The order of the countries in relation to their immigrants in the United States has been decided in accordance with their supremacy at sea and the importance of their role in the formation of the United States. Politically, culturally and administratively. The data analysis will be conducted in accordance with the answers provided by both data and findings as prospective answers for the research questions displate in the introduction section of this thesis.

1.10.1. Strength of Research

There are a lot of studies concerning the United States in academic circles in the world however studying it from the perspective of migration studies discipline throughout its conceptual framework and its major theories is hardly available as an academic product. This study attempts to fill the relevant voit from a semi-peripheral country in which the United States is an ally. The strength of this thesis is based on its standpoint that heavily focuses on immigration theories in particular and migration studies outlook in general. Furthermore, cultural associations concerning the United States have been made from this standpoint.

1.10.2. Weakness of Research

The basic weakness of this study is concerned with its data-gathering preference. For a variety of reasons unique to this study such as the accessibility of relevant written literature review though not directly thesis topic but in the relevant to the point topic and sub-topics and material inability of the researcher to conduct an authentic research in the directly thesis topic in Türkiye. Henceforth, the unavailability of direct references in the research topic also enables this thesis study to be unique and original in Türkiye. Thereby, although the accessibility problem is a weakness it has also created a kind of surplus value for Türkiye by way of this thesis study. However, solely document analysis has been viable as the major data-gathering technique.



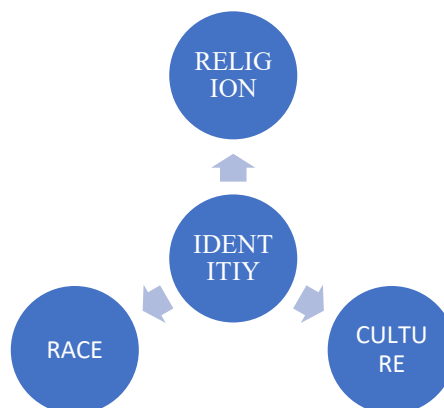
CHAPTER II

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. American Identity and A Nomenclature Re-Inrepretation Based on White Anglo-Saxon Protestant (WASP) Identity

The existing White Anglo-Saxon Protestant (WASP) identity of the core American culture could be transcended until the early British settlers of the 16th and 17th centuries. However old it is, its salience for the current cultural conjuncture is undeniably inseparable from the mainstream of the United States (U.S.) cultural agenda. According to Samuel Philips Huntington (Huntington, 2005), *the American Creed* was initially theorized by Thomas Jefferson and has been evolved by many scholars and politicians. The Creed itself was the side product of the self-evident Anglo-Protestant culture of the 17th and 18th centuries by the founding settlers. The pivotal elements involved in that culture contain the English language itself, Christianity, religious loyalty, the rule of law in the sense of English spirit, the liability of the rulers, individualism based on Protestant values, work ethic, and American idea that settlers can create a heaven on the planet earth. Henceforth, this has been a kind of bonanza message for immigrants for centuries that made America, the United States.

Figure 3: American Identity Core and Others



According to the shape/figure 3 above it is asserted that the conception of American identity which has been strongly developed particularly in the 19th century has turned into a global American identity, which is viable on the global scale today. On the other hand, the core essence of this identity has been built upon a three-fold foundation, namely religion culture, and race. Although at first side these components of identity may not seem to be interdependent, they are so tightly intertwined that they could not be this integrated. Furthermore, the conception of religion and culture as well as its racial aspect has been inter-woven by as strong philosophical mainstream of the United States by its fathers during the 19th century. This strong base has the tendency to Americanize all other immigrant identities into a homogenous hall by a melting pot system that also has a multicultural and multidimensional character. Those who constitute the mainstream American identity both assimilate other immigrant groups and homogenize themselves with the other, thereby making up a multi-layer, multi-faceted, multi-dimensional even global identity.

This study endeavors to explore what made America throughout centuries starting from early colonial settlements to present the United States. Henceforth, American identity delineates the up-to-date United States culture distilled through a centuries-old melting pot that blends the core White, Anglo-Saxon, Protestant (WASP) core identity and the other immigrant cultures. Furthermore, some of the other immigrant group's impacts have weakened (WASP core) (Huntington, 2004, p. 17) such as the civil rights movement of black Americans in the 1960s. The cultural core could be categorized by the parameters of race, culture, and religion as in the WASP identity.

The essence of what makes the American question is basically the subordination of other immigrant cultures being assimilated into the core. However, the United States has been built upon immigration within the framework of the argument (Hughes, 2023) of a civil religion that has stemmed from the antebellum period since the formation of American core culture which has been influenced by the spirit of the Civil War. Additionally, President Dwight D. Eisenhower enacted the motto On July 30, 1956 (Hughes, 2023).

Throughout the 19th century, America perpetuated its goal to establish an American identity that differed from that of Europe. Within this framework, a variety

of reforms including prison abolishing women's rights and the II. Great Awakening (Gustafson, 2017, p. 1). During this time, the nation tried to overcome its weaknesses as well as develop a national rhetoric for the burgeoning country into which the conception of individualism was articulated. On the other hand, individualism has directly been part of transcendentalism. Transcendentalism has emphasized the significance of self-reliance rather than relying on the scripture or famous philosophers. Ralph Waldo Emerson in his seminal work of nature sought the ways by which an American could develop a strong sense of self-identity. Moreover, transcendentalism emphasizes the perfection of self rather than caring about what others think about one's self.

According to Devrim Kılıçer (Kılıçer, 2023, pp. 10-11), one of the greatest transcendentalist professors is Margaret Fuller who was a critic and author who supported the emancipation of young women by education in the 19th century. Furthermore, she put forward that the social equality of women would have resulted in social justice. However, this progressive equality which was undoubted in Emerson's ideology does not equalize Native Americans whom he called "savages".

On the other hand, according to Ralph Waldo Emerson (Emerson, 2023, pp. 83-85), the human mind is able to discover the ultimate divine truth. In the discourse of the scholars, the truth is like pure poetry or lovely miraculous tales. However, while our mind is dealing with abstract questions, nature allows us to concretely touch the truth tangibly. On the other hand, nature is not fixed but fluid. Spirit changes shapes it, and makes it nature within its cycles. The immobile and savage character of nature stems from the inexistence of its spirit. Every spirit builds its home, a world beyond it, and a paradise beyond the world. Thereby, the world truthfully exists. It is then the duty of an American to raise his/her own world. The more the life of an American is closed to the pure thought in his/her mind, the easier s/he reveals the proportions of the universe. Henceforth, an American would sound like a blind who step by step acquires his/her side and thereby s/he is going to stride into the kingdom of personhood over nature. Consequently, such sovereignty is beyond the conception of God-as mentioned about the kingdom of God in Lyka Bible 17:20-21.

Besides, according to Smith (Smith, 2017, pp. 40-44) ethnicity is an important parameter for nation building. From the perspective of some scholars, the concept of

ethnicity has an essential character that is it exists beyond time. Therefore, it is one of the even values of human existence. On the other pole, some scholars conceive ethnicity as something situational, therefore, it is the belongingness to an ethnic group depending upon the specific situation of the subject, something temporary and decisive focusing on his/her perception and affection. As long as the situation of the individual changes, this belongingness varies. When two of these parameters have been considered, it could be asserted that ethnicity whether it is racial or situational is an indispensable element of nation-building. Whereas in the American case, both of these parameters have been viable in that it is racial because the founding core is white race and it is situational in that American culture is multi-cultural and multi-dimensional like a melting pot that has evolved the nation into American identity.

According to Güvenç (Bozkurt, 2014, pp. 8-9), if the structure of social character is conceived as the objective and observable domain of factuality, then identity is the expression of this factuality. On the other hand, the image of a country or a society is the conception of this factuality outside and by others. Thereby, identity and image are not the same. Henceforth, identity and image are like the two sides of the same coin. Whereas an image is a set of alike characters, identity is multi-folded.

Every developing society has experienced a kind of identity crisis in parallel with the changes in culture along with order and balance and thereby, the search for identity has been endeavored as such. In order to be able to penetrate into the depth of the question the process of nation-building must be clarified. Every nation is a society however every society may not be a nation. In other words, the existence of a nation and the existence of a society may not be associated on one-to-one symmetrical and bilateral bases. English and French societies have evolved into a nation out of radical revolutions and bloody civil wars within two or three centuries. The Bourgeois revolution of English society occurred about one century before the French Revolution in 1609. Furthermore, nation-building has been a natural intrinsic development in the British Isles and France. Most of the societies of continental Europe have not evolved into a nation not intrinsically but by a nationationalism ideology (comp. Gellner 1992) (Bozkurt, 2014, pp. 10-11).

The ability of co-existence and co-habitation of a variety of identities with perpetual mechanisms could be a long-term viable solution. These mechanisms are

operational in almost completely democratic countries thereby democratic societies endeavor to take strong strides on this plain. However, this kind of pluralist approach has some economic and political prerequisites. It is very difficult to obtain variety in unity and, unity and variety. Throughout history, democratic elections led to the abolishment of democracy in Germany during the Nazi Government. It is very difficult to maintain a democratic worldview in a domain where there is also an anti-democratic worldview. Furthermore, it makes it very difficult to maintain a nation design with plural identities due to the complex liaison between character structure, worldview, and choice of identity (comp. Gellner, 1983) (Bozkurt, 2014, pp. 12-13). A peaceful unity of diverse identities requires a high-level existential compromise. For instance, the Federation of Switzerland is a socio-historical factuality with its multi-lingual, multi-cantonal structure. However, the number of such countries are few. For instance, pluralist peacefulness could not be attained easily in India which is on the scale of the continent.

2.2. The Concept of Migration and The Causes of Migration

International migration is the movement of people from somewhere to another place temporarily or permanently. On the other hand, migration is to settle again in the cities or villages far from where they live. It is seen that migration is the geographical context (Bartham et al., 2019, p. 13).

Migration involves the mobility of people from their usual place of residence crossing international or provincial borders (Sironi et al., 2023, p. 137). People have a special, valuable connection where they are and this link makes a huge sense to humanity. It could be damaged to this connection in case of being broken off. Migrating people from somewhere to another place is one of the reasons to break off this connection. Individuals or societies leave in which they are, due to the fact that many reasons. It is a reality that migration is the essence of life in the world and it is not a new process. Leaving places where people live has occurred for years, and ages. Economic problems, security anxieties, and political reasons have emerged for many years (Ekici & Tuncel, 2015, pp. 9-13).

However, the reasons for migration are handled on the basis of four; economic, political, social and cultural, and natural reasons. Political reasons consist of migration's base that includes such wars, civil wars, and terrorism terms. People

immigrate due to they do not feel safe and there is a connection between migration and security. The structure of religion, population, education system, health, etc. are related to social factors that it is named as social and cultural reasons for migration. Centers of cities compared to villages have better education opportunities and it made priority to immigrate for people. On the other hand, natural reasons which include earthquakes, volcanic explosions, and climate changes are the first reasons to immigrate (Tamer, 2020, pp. 2808-2813).

On the other hand, according to Ravenstein's article titled "Laws of Migration" summarizes seven propositions, as follows (Ravenstein, 1885, pp. 198-199):

1. The majority of migrating individuals prefer short-distance migration. The direction of emerging migration flows is determined by major trade and industrial centers.
2. A natural consequence of this movement, limited between settlements but generally nationwide, is the increase in migration from regions near cities towards urban areas, filling vacated rural areas with individuals coming from more distant locations. This process leads to a nationwide spreading phenomenon.
3. Despite moving in the opposite direction to the attracting process, this spreading process exhibits similarities.
4. Each migration flow creates a corresponding process/flow.
5. Individuals migrating over long distances often prefer one of the major trade and industrial centers.
6. People residing in rural areas are more inclined to migrate compared to those living in urban areas.
7. While there is a greater tendency for women to migrate short distances compared to men, men are more inclined towards long-distance migration.

On the other hand, it is asserted that examining the concept of migration from two perspectives, internal and external/international migration, will yield more accurate results. Since the dawn of human dominance on Earth, various land masses have been inhabited, and vital struggles have been waged to sustain life. At times, new territories were explored, and at other times, relocations were necessitated. Over time,

humans either remained within limited living spaces, resulting in internal migration, or moved across borders, leading to external/international migration.

Migration dates back and it is a phenomenon that has been commonly accepted throughout humanity's history and this experience has been carried out for many years. Migration term is important; however, the international part of migration is also very important. In general, internal migration is more common. Particularly, the United States of America has witnessed the internal migrations in a year. It is more difficult for people to move to other countries since it includes fear, anxiety, uncertainty, etc. In this point, international migration has an important place in that it shapes countries not cities of a country (Bartham et al., 2019, pp. 13-14).

2.3. Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism is an umbrella term for the kind of integration policies that aim at maintaining, expressing and even celebrating the cultural diversity of immigrant groups. The cornerstone of this perspective is the encouragement of the immigrants to acquire full membership of the host community as well as preserve their previous cultural identities. Thereby, a bilateral of backgrounds, conventions, and standpoints of universal viability involving such as the superiority of law and legal equality rights. Henceforth, cultural differences are taken into guarantee to fulfill the same citizenship rights. Herein, such an integration process evolves into a kind of social mosaic in which minority ethnic groups cohabit with the mainstream majority (Sironi et al., 2023, p. 142).

Additionally, before analyzing the concept of multiculturalism, it is necessary to briefly examine the concept of culture. By nature, human beings embark on a quest for meaning regarding the world they belong to. They continuously ponder and question the significance of relationships and behaviors. These inquiries play a significant role in shaping societal behaviors through individual thought systems. The individual thought system, which encompasses beliefs and customs, also shapes culture. In general terms, culture is the system of beliefs, values, and meanings that individuals use to make sense of and structure their lives on a societal level (Yüksel, 2022, p. 1).

On the other hand, in the context of the globalizing world order, the proliferation of communication methods and tools, the expansion beyond national

borders in the economy, and the necessity for societies to coexist have brought about a multicultural way of life. In the present world, states have become more pluralistic with the onset of the post-modern social order. Consequently, states possess a partially centralized structure and are compelled to address not only specific groups or communities but also diversity as a whole. States that implement this policy are referred to as practitioners of multiculturalism policies. Multiculturalism, in general, is the phenomenon of coexisting diverse communities within the boundaries of nation-states while ensuring equal opportunities. People from different cultures aspire to have a sense of existence and belonging within the state, and the instinct and effort to exist within the state form the main theme of multiculturalism. Fundamentally, multiculturalism entails the coexistence of various cultures. Within multiculturalism, people of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds coming together to shape their identities under one umbrella creates a new realm of existence (Yüksel, 2022, pp. 21-23).

2.4. Acculturation

Acculturation refers to the phenomena that result from the coming together of different cultures, leading to changes in their fundamental cultural characteristics. When defining acculturation, it is more accurate to distinguish it from assimilation, which is often considered a phase of acculturation. One reason for preferring the term acculturation over assimilation is that it acknowledges the reciprocity of the influences that cultural groups exert on each other during the acculturation process. A second reason is that acculturation encompasses a variety of processes and outcomes; groups and individuals within these groups adopt different strategies to cope with the acculturation experience, of which assimilation is only one possibility. Moreover, these different acculturation strategies can lead to varying adaptation outcomes. Since situational factors can alter the experience and course of acculturation, individuals may also respond differently to their changing experiences. Additionally, acculturation is the process of cultural and psychological change that occurs following the encounter and interaction of different cultures. Furthermore, another concept closely related to the acculturation process is adaptation, which refers to individual psychological well-being and sociocultural coping mechanisms. Therefore, adaptation can be considered a consequence of acculturation (Sam & Berry, 2010, pp. 472-473).

Acculturation is a disputatious term that emerged again, and more and more in American migration history. This term has been also evaluated as related to the assimilation term. According to Bartham and at al. (Bartham et al., 2019, p. 23), acculturation is a changing process of interacting with others/different groups who have been in a relationship. In the process of migration, people are caused to change as sociocultural by their own environment. These changes in their own include technology, belief, ethics, information, family, education, religion, and economy. Migration causes changes for the natives of the region, too. These changes bring about some problems such as social cohesion. So, migration studies need to be evaluated and understood by acculturation terms. On the other hand, according to Zafer (Zafer, 2016, p. 76), the acculturation term has been already subjected to sociology, history, linguistics, anthropology, and psychology throughout history.

Additionally, according to Zafer (Zafer, 2016, pp. 77-78), acculturation refers to Western origin and it emphasizes cultural variety, harmony, and interaction altogether. Acculturation is a changing situation in their cultural characteristics in case of permanent and direct interaction with each other of different groups. In this context, the acculturation term which is a part of cultural change, and the assimilation term which is a sub-subject of acculturation differ from each other. While two or more groups congregate, they show a tendency to affect their personality, religion, and manner it is named as a process of cultural and psychological change. This change occurs by social structure and institutions in terms of groups, while the change in action and manner of a person in terms of individual. This cultural change could take up time, even many years that could be named a long-term period process. Migration is one of the common reasons for acculturation which is a painful process for a person. Migration is both salvation and separation from the values of one person. Migrant groups face changes in terms of physical, biological, economic, social, and cultural in the process of acculturation.

2.5. Integration

Integration is one of the concepts surrounding and contributing to the definition of migration, considered alongside the concept of assimilation. Examining the concept of integration is important. Integration is a process that grants migrant groups a social identity and advances their ability to participate in basic institutions in the host country. Generally, it is the process of adapting to the situation of change that migrants

experience in the country they arrive in. Integration is evaluated as a two-way process, post-arrival and pre-arrival. Several studies indicate that integration focuses both on factors determining migration (pre-arrival) and on the experiences of migrants within the boundaries of the host country. However, Castles and Miller argue that migration should be considered holistically, claiming that this distinction is artificial. Although this perspective has convincing qualities, dividing the migration process into pre-arrival and post-arrival phases provides ease in understanding the process (Bartham et al., 2019, pp. 181-184).

The concept of integration does not have a universally understood meaning explicitly associated with migration and is often used in ways that may contradict each other. Integration is fundamentally associated with social membership in the host country. The difference between assimilation and integration can be characterized as the situation where migrant individuals can occur without becoming culturally similar (assimilation) to the local population. While acceptance of ethnic/cultural differences of migrant individuals in some host countries leads to an increased sense of belonging and motivation, in others, forcing the adoption of existing values on migrant individuals and being against multiculturalism yields opposite results. Considering some dimensions and indicators of increased social membership for migrant individuals is crucial for understanding the situation. Economic, educational, and political integration is valuable in explaining this situation. Integration for migrants includes being able to cope with social institutions in the host country differently from their country of origin. Learning the language is the most important aspect of integration. Obtaining citizenship is one of the fundamental aspects of integration. It is generally accepted that migrants not experiencing exclusion due to their status means they are integrated. However, integration also signifies the development of identity and a sense of belonging. The key point here is for migrants not to feel like strangers in the host country but to feel meaningful as Dutch, British, American, etc., and consequently, for the local population to accept them in this regard (Bartham et al., 2019, pp. 181-184).

2.6. Assimilation

Based on the considerations of this study, it could be asserted that today, international migration holds a significant place, and most of the concepts used to understand this phenomenon encompass social science disciplines dating back to the

19th century. Like many concepts with significant impacts in the socioeconomic context of the Industrial Revolution, migration began to gain prominence as a result of the migration process from Europe or Africa to America. This concept is highly dynamic and multifaceted. While the migration concept encompasses an act of abandonment or displacement, as in the case of America, it can also play a central role in the construction process of a country.

Besides, based on the considerations of this study it could be asserted that one of Milton Gordon's three theories, Anglo-conformity, is described as an “umbrella” term. This concept is directly related to assimilation and reflects a viewpoint that is the exact opposite of Milton's concept of acculturation. Expressing the adaptation process resulting from acculturation here also defends the view that assimilation is applied as an adaptation/cohesion process in America. According to Milton (Gordon, 1961, pp. 265-266), “Anglo-conformity” depicts the dominance and standardization of English institutions and norms affecting the English-oriented cultural lifestyle within the living process in America. At this point, it implies that individuals or groups adopting Anglo-Saxon cultural traits will not face exclusion/discrimination as a result of their immigration.

Within the scope of social science disciplines, debates continue regarding the meanings, scope, and content of certain concepts. Assimilation can be given as an example of this. The concept of assimilation is significantly evaluated in conjunction with the concept of integration. The concept of assimilation anticipates that immigrants will leave behind their attachment and identities to the country they departed from and fully integrate into the sociocultural context of the country they migrated to. Therefore, it assumes that maintaining ties with the country of departure will weaken the sense of belonging to the country where they start living. However, experiences and research on migration indicate that the process of assimilation does not develop linearly, opening it to debate. Debates over the concept of assimilation have always kept this theory on the agenda and led countries implementing assimilation policies to reconsider their policies. As of the 1980s, this concept began to be replaced by multiculturalism. In this context, the concept of assimilation is defined as immigrant populations resembling the local population. This can be evaluated as both cultural and social assimilation. Over time, the decrease in cultural and social differences between immigrant populations and local populations demonstrates the impact of the

assimilation process. When the concepts of assimilation and integration are considered by European observers and American academics, European observers prefer the term integration, while American academics prefer the concept of assimilation (Bartham et al., 2019, pp. 29-41).

2.7. Methodological Conclusion of the Chapter III

The nation-building process of the United States has four basic essences based on its demographic elements which have evolved since the 17th century so far. This is a process largely based on immigration. Though there were Native Americans then the continent of North America was rediscovered as the domestic population, those people who came from the Great British Isle dominated the cultural, socio-political, and economic fundamentals of the United States based on their White Anglo-Saxon Protestant identity. On the other hand, the other element that is Black African Americans were largely repercussions of the Atlantic Slave Trade which is unlike other demographic elements who immigrated into the United States. Juxtaposing the bigger picture onto this plane two basic immigration waves have foreshadowed others: the Old Immigration Wave dating before 1880 and the New Immigration Wave afterwards. This chapter enlightened how the above-mentioned mechanisms have evolved into the nation-building that made the United States. In order to access relevant data both written and pictorial data have been exploited. Furthermore, visual figures have been designed by the author.

CHAPTER III

THE BASIC DYNAMICS AND PROCESS OF MIGRATION: THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3.1. The Historical Background of the Period Before and After Columbus

As a consequence of the Spanish conquests, the once expansive lake complex in the elevated regions of the Mexico Valley had desiccated. In the antecedent temporal epoch, this conglomerate of lakes rivaled the scale of London. Designated as the "Lake Texcoco (Lake of the Moon)," these lakes bore the weight of numerous boats due to commercial and political exigencies. Embankments were constructed to mitigate floods on rainy days and prevent the intrusion of saline water into the lake. This specific sector of the lake served as the host to Tenochtitlán, the capital of the Aztecs. Situated at an altitude of 7,200 feet above sea level, characterized by a temperate climate, and connected by three principal causeways, this capital sustained a population of approximately 350,000. The Spanish endeavors traversing the perimeters of the vast empire sought to appropriate locales constructed upon water, thereby capturing the nucleus of the empire. Tenochtitlán, replete with canals and a monumental aqueduct, evoked parallels to Venice for the Spanish. The Spanish were captivated not solely by the temples and civic structures in this region but also by the residential vicinities and the vast marketplaces referred to as the Great Market, extending to the extremities of these settlements. These locales, where trade proliferated extensively, attracted a daily influx exceeding 60,000 individuals, gathering an array of commodities including gold, silver, adornments, lead, brass, copper, and tin (Stannard, Amerika'nın Soykırım Tarihi, 2020, pp. 27-33).

Figure 4: Lake Texcoco Mexico (Britannica, Mexico Lake Texcoco)



In addition, before the Spanish exploration of the recently rediscovered New World, indigenous populations already inhabited the region. Scholars are diligently pursuing definitive answers to elucidate this aspect. The comprehension of processes that unfolded post-1492, commencing from Hispaniola and extending to Tenochtitlán, subsequently proliferating across an extensive terrain in the Western Hemisphere, holds paramount importance. Throughout different periods, Europeans, Asians, Middle Easterners, Africans, and Turks have all asserted claims by some academics as the first inhabitants of the New World. However, serious skepticism regarding these assertions has waned, as it is now widely acknowledged that the initial inhabitants of North and South America are the progeny of individuals who migrated from their ancestral homelands in northeastern Asia long before (Stannard, *Amerika'nın Soykırım Tarihi*, 2020, pp. 33-36).

On the other hand, stating that the first inhabitants of America migrated from Asia to America would create a considerably erroneous notion. The Berengians, who once possessed highly fertile lands and directly represent the ancestors of Native Americans, are the ones submerged under the sea due to the melting of glaciers. Over time, the melting of glaciers led to the formation of new continental shelves, prompting the inhabitants of Berengia to migrate to different regions, ultimately giving rise to the indigenous peoples of North America in an area surrounded by ocean waters on all sides. Consequently, various communities in America have lived independently for

thousands of years, distinct from those who migrated to other islands and continents worldwide. Although there are robust pieces of evidence regarding the pre-Columbian era, limited information exists about the initial migration of these peoples from Berengia to North and South America and the population figures at the time of Columbus's arrival in 1492 (Stannard, Amerika'nın Soykırım Tarihi, 2020, pp. 36-39).

The year 1492 signifies the conquest of new territories for the Kingdom of Spain. During this year, Granada, which held great significance for Muslims, was reconquered (Reconquista), and simultaneously, the rediscovery of America occurred through Columbus. As Spain reclaimed Granada, it diminished Muslim dominance on the Iberian Peninsula and expelled Jews collectively from the country. The kingdom, providing internal tranquility within Spanish territories, began to formulate plans to expand overseas. European countries, driven by the medieval perspective of gaining control over the wealth of the East, turned their focus to exploring new lands after the unsuccessful Crusades. Particularly during this period, Portugal and Spain, with influential naval forces, charted a course towards the coveted Spice Route, known for its extraordinary riches and splendor, leading to India, the land of gold and spices. Christopher Columbus, venturing into the seas on behalf of Spain in the 15th century, aimed to reach India quickly and seize the wealth of the East. The goods in India held significant importance for him (Yarar, 2013, pp. 391-392). In fact, Columbus, desiring a shortcut to India, is believed to have referred to the Native Americans he encountered upon reaching America as "Indians," under the mistaken assumption that he had arrived in India. Despite centuries passing, Native Americans continue to be referred to as Indians (Chomsky, Sömürgecilikten Küreselleşmeye Heinz Dietefich'in Söyleşiyle, 2001, p. 18).

Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa and was baptized by his Italian family. Then, he moved to Spain in 1483. He was full of ambitious and religious in his sentiments. He believed that Spain would establish commercial relationships with China however he wanted to be the first person to find a seaway. Columbus's foresight allured the Spanish Noble Family since they were captivated by China's richness which involved silk, valuable stones, spices, and porcelain. However, the way to China was under the thumb of Islamic countries and Venice and Genoa already signed an agreement with these Islamic countries and the Ottoman Empires and they started to control the Asia commercial. Christopher Columbus presented to Spanish Reigns to

arrive from across of Atlantic Coasts. He did not estimate the distance and America's Continent and Pacific Ocean were on the way (comp.) (Mann, 2019, pp. 22-23).

When Christopher Columbus arrived on Hispaniola Island with the *Santa Maria* ship, a part of the Caribbean, in the 15th century, he opened a new era in the world. The rediscovery process involved commercial concerns in terms of Columbus which was also the beginning of globalization by cross-continental trade of goods and services. Firstly, he was not allowed to travel willfully by the King and Queen of Spain at that time since traveling beyond the ocean was a very big cost as present space journey. In 1493, he brought to Spain some goods such as glorious parrots, slaves of Columbian from the Caribbean, and gold, and the King and Queen dispatched Columbus back to America just after six months. Totally aim was to set up a center of commerce and reign in the continent. The rediscovery of a new land was the beginning of an era nevertheless on the other hand was the end of Columbus by "shigellosis" a disease that was peculiar to America and caused by animal waste (Mann, 2019, pp. 13-21). Famous Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci invented that the rediscovered new land was the continent of America rather than the peninsula of India as Christopher Colombus misunderstood it (Cunz, 1953, p. 29).

According to Hamdani (Hamdani, 1981, p. 323), Ottoman naval admiral Piri Captain challenged the European empires in world cartography however, Turkish domination at sea was less strong than that of Spaniards and Portuguese in the new age. Henceforth, according to Sözen and Yeşil (Sözen & Yeşil, 2024), it is one of the dynamics because Turks could not start counter-crusading and colonizing across and beyond the Atlantic Ocean. Henceforth, geographical exploration and discoveries played a major role in transforming the world into the New Age when the Ottoman Empire was a regional power in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. According to this study, it could be argued that the contribution of Captain Piri to understand that the newly rediscovered land was the continent of America was significant however, the role of Turks in colonization and counter-crusading is relatively secondarily.

Figure 5: Santa Maria Ship (Britannica, Replika of the Santa Maria, Funchal, Madeira Islands)



Based on the considerations of this study, Columbus started a journey to America's Continent with huge hope and royalty and he was disappointed at the end of the rediscovery. He could not get something in the name of his country, and he was excommunicated by court and his privileges were divested at the end of personal and geographical failure. The only acquisition for the Spain Kingdom that Columbus opened a new route beyond the Atlantic Ocean was to catch some richness in the continent but with very huge costs that would create crises for the country.

Christopher Columbus's rediscovery of the New World not only brought great pride to the Spaniards but also led to the formation of certain assumptions from their perspective. Throughout the 60-year conquest process, the Spaniards successfully conquered numerous countries, converting the inhabitants of the captured lands to Christianity. Consequently, they believe that no king or nation has ever subjugated as many territories in such a short period, deeming themselves worthy of praise. The

Spaniards acknowledged that they imposed a single God, a single belief, and a single baptism on the Native Americans. They assert to have influenced the indigenous people to abandon practices such as cannibalism, deviant relationships, and polygamy, asserting that they taught them the alphabet. According to the Spaniards, all of these achievements are more valuable than obtaining gold from most of the world's gold mines. When Columbus first encountered the Native Americans upon rediscovering America, he naturally became one of the first witnesses to this event. During the initial encounter, Columbus observed that the Native Americans, including their kings, were completely naked and did not resemble either black or white people. Besides being the most striking aspect for Columbus, the absence of a concept of ownership and the inability to attribute value to objects due to their characteristics surprised him. He points to their acceptance of anything they held in their hands, such as broken dishes or pieces of glass, as evidence of this condition. Columbus also notes that when they occasionally took something without permission, he would cut off their ears or noses, considering this act as theft. Despite rediscovering the New World and being in the company of Native Americans, Columbus does not yet understand their languages. He introduced his own religion to the New World. He considered that the indigenous people would have been inspired by the same religious motives. Plus, he obtained gold from them as if his inspiration would have been the price for that (Ferro, 2017, pp. 63-67).

On the other hand, when considering American history, it is observed that the population of Native Americans, which was 15 million as of 1890, had decreased to 250,000. Currently, studies are being conducted to determine whether this situation constitutes genocide (Kerr, 2015, p. 6). In addition to the investigation of this situation, some historical examples are also being uncovered through academic studies. Since the 16th century and with the Spanish conquest (varying from one group to another), it has been noted that the hospitality of Native Americans came to the forefront. Native American groups with this cultural trait were also remembered for their hospitality by the first European explorers who arrived on the continent. Amerigo Vespucci, who came to South America, emphasized the love and fearless sincerity of Native Americans by stating, 'They came swimming to greet us... as if we had been friends for years.' The initial cordiality between Native Americans and early European

explorers directly influenced the early settlers' ability to take root" (Stannard, American Holocaust Columbus and The Conquest of the New World, 1992, p. 52).

3.2. The Classification of Immigrant Groups in Accordance with Core American Identity

Figure 6: The Core Formation of the United States of America

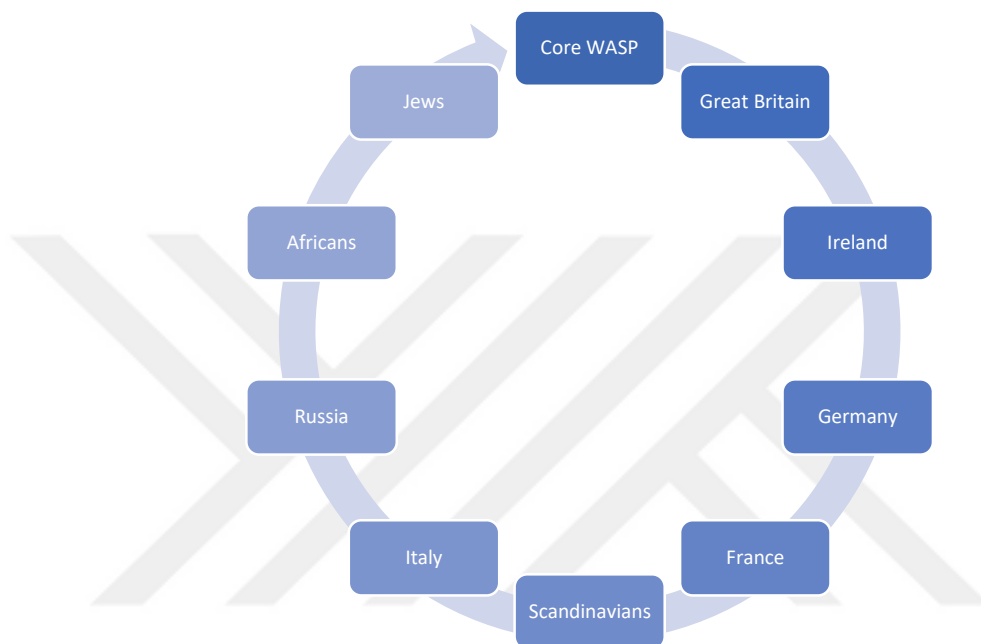
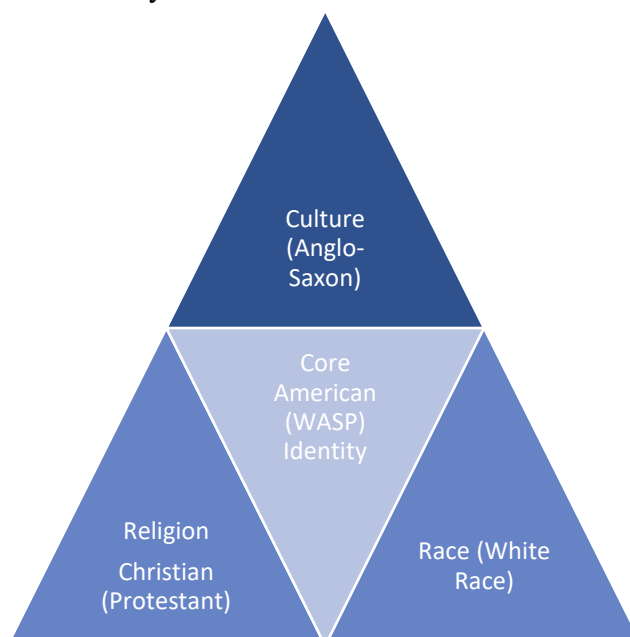


Figure 7: The Core Identity of the United States of America

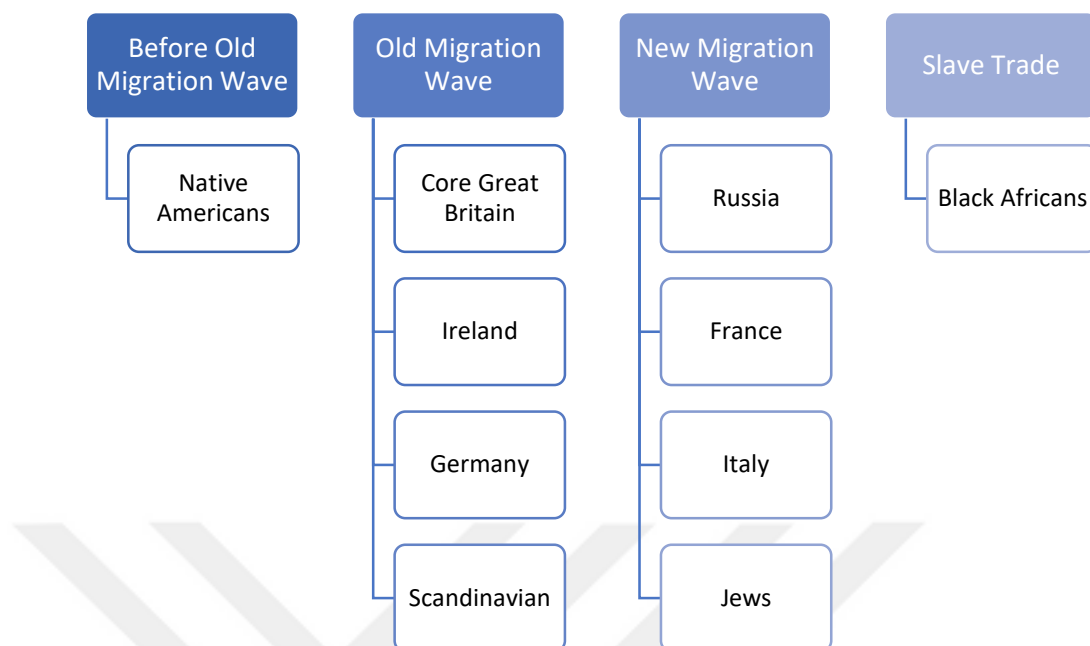


The United States of America has a core identity consisting of White Anglo-Saxon and Protestant Americans in relation to their white race, Anglo-Saxon culture, and Protestant sect. This could be in figures 6 and 7 as available above.

Migration to America can be analyzed in two migration waves below: old and new migration (School, n.d., pp. 3-4). Likewise, the immigrant groups to the United States which will be delineated in the following parts of this thesis could be categorized in accordance with these two migration waves and their subsequent details.

1. Old Migration: During the period from 1820 to 1880, the majority of immigrant groups coming to America consisted of Protestant countries in Northern Europe such as Britain, Germany, and Scandinavia. Immigrants from these countries began to form the first and second generations of America until 1917. It is believed that this group, also known as White Anglo-Saxon Protestants (WASPs), undertook a mission to perpetuate their own beliefs and views.
2. New Migration: The period between 1880 and 1920 is largely characterized by the migration of Catholic or Jewish immigrants to America. The majority of this group, who were mostly poor and illiterate, migrated to America from Western and Southern European countries such as Poland, Italy, and Russia. It is thought that WASPs showed a contemptuous attitude towards this newly arrived group. The reason for this was that assimilation was difficult for the group, and they often spent time together, wore distinctive clothing, and spoke their own languages. Immigrants from China and Japan were also included in this group. Especially those from China and Japan mostly settled on the West Coast, but they were quickly subjected to restrictions (School, n.d., pp. 3-4).

Figure 8: Combination of Various Countries and Peoples of the U.S.



As it could be emphasized in Figure 8 above, the United States of America has been made up of a combination of various countries and peoples. Furthermore, Native Americans are a unique category in that when Christopher Columbus rediscovered America they were residing there. Thereby, they could not be directly articulated into immigrant groups via the old and new migration waves. Moreover, Black Africans are not directly immigrants. Henceforth, their existence in the United States is part of the repercussions of the Atlantic Slave Trade. On the other hand, the old and new migration waves both made up core American identity and multicultural migratory demographic characteristics. All those demographic elements of the United States of America have been outlined in Figure 8 above. Additionally, the order of the immigrant groups in this Master of Arts dissertation has been outlined likewise.

When considering the reasons for these groups migrating to America, particularly during the 19th century, it is evident that living and working conditions were unfavorable for Europeans, worsening over time. America had a demand for unskilled labor to construct railroads and work in industrial areas during this century. In European countries of the time, situations such as religious persecution, famine, economic crises, harsh working conditions, and oppressive leadership had reached an impasse, leading people to see America as a land of opportunity. The dreams of immigrants embarking on this journey, hoping for new job opportunities, land

ownership, and access to food, were believed to have been only partially realized (School, n.d., pp. 4-5).

During the years when migration from Europe to America occurred, people left the past behind and embarked on a journey towards the new. Individuals were propelled from their current locations to somewhere else because of the hope of habitat change or new adventures. The variability of their surroundings, social and political disillusionment, and economic hardships were among the factors motivating people to relocate. In the present world, the accessibility and safety of transportation means encompass sufficient reasons to encourage migration from Europe to America. From the 16th century to the final quarters of the 19th century, European immigrants who left their living spaces to settle in America can be divided into two groups: those who abandoned their homeland and those who returned to it. When examining the first group, dissatisfaction with politics and religion beginning in the 17th and 18th centuries in Germany, Scandinavia, and England, and continuing into the 19th century, forms the main cause behind the impact of migration. Discontent arising from Napoleon and the Ten Years' Wars, taxation systems (The Reform Bill), and forest laws led to migration. Changes in Prussian churches, particularly appealing to Martin Luther King supporters, directed them toward America. Similarly, the migration of Martin Luther King supporters living in Sweden and the Netherlands constituted one of the reasons for migration in these countries. Particularly during the 19th century, economic issues between the lower class and the state in Ireland and Germany, oppressive laws, medieval-minded institutions, and the struggle against famine led to the first major waves of migration to America. The resulting poverty exacerbated the depressive state of individuals in Germany and Ireland during those years. High taxes, poverty, and factory worker revolts further encouraged migration by worsening this depressive state (Page, 1911, s. 676-679). Between 1820 and 1920, a period marked by intense migration from Europe to America, approximately 45.2 million individuals migrated to America, with a significant portion (35.7 million) originating from Europe. The majority of this figure comprised migrants from Great Britain, Ireland, Scandinavia, Germany, and Italy (Haines, 2000, p. 77).

3.3. Historical Background of Hiderto Neglected Immigrant Groups in the Process of Migration to America

It could be clearly stated that slavery has pivotal salience for the formation of both exploitations of labor and the current multicultural, multiracial, multiethnic US culture. However, before the civil rights movements and current acquisitions of Black Americans, American history had long-enduring sufferings by the Blacks. Black Americans were exnominated and excluded from the core American society for a relatively long time.

It could be asserted that the hybridization and creolization of the Americas have been based on the offsprings of founding settlers, natives, and blacks that is Mestizos and Mulattos. According to Ferro (Ferro, 2017, pp. 182-194), the first colonization movement was started by a few men. By the year 1579 in both Northern and Southern America, the number of Whites was about 150.000 while at the end of the 17th century, the number rose from 400.000 to 500.000. The first settlers were just men. The offspring of early settlers and natives have been added to the population of the Americas. Then, the offspring of early settlers and blacks have also been part of the new demographic structure.

According to Ferro (Ferro, 2017, pp. 512-513), the Britons were proud of becoming the masters of a large colonial empire. According to Little (Little, 2023, pp. 5-7), the First European colonial empires transformed the settlements into two kinds of colonies; the first was a colony of exploitation. The latter was a colony of settlement. The first one was prioritized for economic exploitation such as Spanish-America, British-India, and the Dutch East Indies. The first settler colonies were primarily for settling of whites for a better future such as British North America, French Algeria, and Portuguese-Brasil. The British colonization of North America was a kind of settler colony that was dominated by British settlers for the price of displacing the Natives. The percentage of whites in the colonized lands determined the two versions of British colonialism. The first version was characterized by Lord Curzon and corporated by the Jewel of the Crown, India. The second version was based on the white majority in colonial lands that made the Commonwealth by Lord Milner. The latter version exnominated Indians and Canada, Aborigines in Australia, and Maoris in New Zealand. Henceforth, the anti-British movements were on the stage of colonies where whites were the majority (Ferro, 2017, pp. 512-513). On the other hand (Little, 2023,

pp. 5-6), colonialism is the hegemony of a dominant state or a group that has control over the territory and/or inhabitants of another country. Thereby, colonization brings about the power of settling, governing, and extracting the resources of a foreign country in spite of the resistance of its inhabitants. The first European colonizers legitimized their supremacy over indigenous people by a doctrine of *Terra Nullius* meaning the territory and its economic resources were not sufficiently utilized by their indigenous population whom European settlers implied were savage and childlike who were in need of the support of a colonial government which has the mission of civilizing them. It wasn't until the 21st century when colonialism was abolished officially, that the entire world had been reconfigured around a Eurocentric baseline in that by the end of the 20th century in general and the end of World War II in particular, and the turn of the history had been shaped likewise.

On the other hand, according to (Alba, 2024, pp. 34-38), mainstream American society has had a kind of institutional structure that has either helped or hindered the mobility of minority cultural dispositions. Thereby, the psychological and cultural orientations of hitherto neglected or suppressed social groups such as Catholics notably Italians and Eastern European Jews have experienced such disparities as part of their cultural inclinations. However, by the 3rd generation, the Italians have caught up to mainstream white values by education and occupation. Furthermore, equality between mainstream and immigrant groups has habituated mainstream values a few generations later. On the other hand, South Asian immigrant groups such as those who are of Brahmin origin have suffered the sufferings of the case of Native Americans due to the language gap. Henceforth, the culture of the original groups is thereby another aspect of assimilation. As it is frequently observed in the United States the inclusive aspect of mainstream popular culture contributes to the *integration* of all above mentioned immigrant or minority groups. Popular culture has played so major role in the assimilation of so-called white ethnics such as those of Catholic or Jewish descent have been transposed into mainstream popular cultural change as part of their integration process. Nevertheless, in the 1940s the mainstream was dominated by those who were of Protestant descent from Northern and Western Europe particularly Great Britain where so-called WASPs were conceived as fundamental pillars of the white Christian nation.

To the considerations of Alba (Alba, 2024, pp. 37-38), the marginalization of non-mainstream groups had been softened by the outbreak of World War II, particularly, white ethnics have had such inclination. Later on, the introduction of television to the American people greatly influenced the visibility of ethnics in the mainstream core culture just like in the prior decades when ethnic presence was available on radio. Television shows of the post-war period enormously increased the immigrant presence in their casts. However, this does not mean that the entire mainstream integration has been fulfilled. Cases such as the Communist surveillance set barriers to the entire integration of some immigrant groups.

In accordance with the perspective of Alba about Black Americans (Alba, 2024, p. 40), the representation of Black Americans as the beneficiary of the popular culture industries of motion pictures and televisions was remarkably increased for the sake of African Americans in essence that demeans cultural stereotypes concerning them. Furthermore, their quantitative presentation in the above-mentioned industries has also burgeoned. It is remarkable that Black Americans have had a prominent role in taking part in the motion picture and television industries among other immigrant groups in the 21st century. The illustrations are numerous such as Viola Davis, Ava DuVernay, Samuel Jackson, Spike Lee, Eddie Murphy, Will Smith, and Denzel Washington. Black Americans override all other immigrant groups in the representation in the above-mentioned channel quantitatively and qualitatively.

Since the 15th century slave trade became beneficiary for the newly burgeoning colonial empires such as the United Kingdom and Spain and became detrimental for almost the whole continent of Africa until the late 19th century. Colonialism was a kind of excuse for human trafficking involving the Atlantic Slave Trade into particularly America and Brazil from various regions of Africa in the name of civilizing savages and missionary activities. Many churches one of the most notable of which is the Evangelist Church approved colonial exploitation on a kind of religious basis however some Popes of Catholic Churches rejected such arguments. Nevertheless, the slave trade was killing two birds with one shoot in that religious missions were seemingly a kind of criticism while the main purpose was the accumulate unjust capital through mercantilist interests. Many regions even kingdoms of Africa have gone into a kind of civil war, chaos, and turbulence for long centuries, and thereby Africans have suffered from domestic conflicts so far (Unesco, 1978, pp. 43-49).

3.4. A Brief Migration History of Britain

When examining the history of colonialism, it becomes evident that the British and French, despite emerging after the Spanish and Portuguese, have managed to seize dominance over the seas and colonies within a brief period. Until the 18th century, development proceeded at a slow pace, but from that century onwards, England entered into a rivalry with France, gaining momentum. This acceleration, despite leading to significant losses in America for England, also included a phase of establishing colonies at the expense of France in other locations. A cornerstone of the formation of British imperialism was the economy. Maintaining overseas markets was a crucial driving force for holding the economy. Walter Raleigh, a proponent and theorist of the adage "he who rules the sea rules the trade, and he who rules the trade rules the world," shaped England's strategic roadmap. In 1584, Raleigh established England's first overseas colony in Virginia, located along the Atlantic coast of North America. Between the 17th and 19th centuries, migration from Britain to America was a critical and defining element in the histories of Europe and North America. During this period, groups driven by a variety of social, economic, cultural, and religious reasons aimed to establish new lives in the New World. Looking at the 17th century, the first major group to migrate from England to America were the Puritans, fleeing religious persecution. Arriving at Plymouth aboard the "Mayflower" in 1620, this group sought a freer religious life. During that era, the Puritans embarked on a journey to America to freely practice their religious beliefs. This group, by establishing communities, found the opportunity to freely practice their faith over 3,000 miles away from England. Within the same century, various English groups, driven by the pursuit of economic opportunities and the hope of owning land, also settled in the colonies situated in Virginia and other areas of North America. As the 18th century approached, the English Industrial Revolution drew many English workers to America in the hope of finding employment. Many moved to the American continent in search of job opportunities. Throughout each century, different groups migrating from Britain to America shaped American society while also transferring their cultural heritage to the New World. They contributed to various areas such as religion, language, traditions, and work life, significantly enriching America's cultural mosaic. These migrations left profound impacts on both the migrant communities and the host society's social, economic, and cultural structures (Yaşar & Akengin, 2022, pp. 428-429).

Prior to 1815, statistical data regarding migration/population flow from Great Britain to abroad has been limited. It is estimated that approximately 10,000 individuals migrated from Scotland to North America, separate from England. When considering groups migrating from England to other countries, two distinct types emerge (Snow, 1931, pp. 239-242):

1. Factors compelling individuals to migrate to other countries.
2. Factors leading to individuals being deported or exiled from their own country.

Especially before and during the 19th century, the latter reason was more prominent in shaping migration patterns in England. In the context of the 18th century, the inability of migrants from Scotland and Ireland to adapt to living conditions due to population growth and continuously deteriorating livelihoods constituted the primary reasons. Landowners played a significant role in the emergence of this situation, and the organization for starting a new life in North America would be facilitated by these landowners. Lord Selkirk played a substantial role towards the end of the 18th century in the formation of this migration movement, and the Hudson Bay Company also spearheaded the migration wave to Canada. The migration of the English to Canada contributed to addressing social problems in Ireland and Scotland. By 1819, the movement reached its peak with 24,000 individuals migrating. In 1824, the migration of nearly 9,000 individuals to Canada constituted the final figures of this movement. The factors contributing to migration from Britain can be enumerated as follows (Snow, 1931, pp. 239-242):

1. The government's failure to enact migration-restrictive measures and facilitation of migration.
2. Changes in agricultural practices lead to distress.
3. Impacts of industrialization.
4. Occurrence of propaganda and organization facilitating migration.
5. Incentives provided to migrants.
6. Female migration.
7. Child migration.

Figure 9: British People Migrated to America (Aylward)



In the panorama of the 19th century, internal migration in Britain began to occur at high rates. The majority of this migration movement was from rural areas to urban areas. Urban areas were rapidly expanding, attracting people due to industrialization. Approximately 4 million individuals contributed to internal migration between 1841 and 1911. While some of the population migrated to nearby settlements, others joined the migration movement towards industrialized areas such as London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, and Glasgow. The hope of accessing better job opportunities was one of the most critical factors in the formation of this migration wave (Lloyd, 2007).

3.5. A Brief Migration History of Ireland

Until the mid-19th century, Ireland experienced a significant wave of migration. Poor farmers, impoverished individuals, and both genders were part of this migration wave. Following a lengthy journey, some of the migrating groups successfully crossed the Atlantic Ocean, reaching America. However, the unhealthy and arduous voyages often resulted in frequent deaths. Despite being aware of the dangers, the hope of accessing opportunities in America convinced these immigrant groups to undertake the journey. It is estimated that approximately 4.5 million Irish people migrated to America between 1820 and 1920. Issues such as land ownership problems, British pressure on Ireland, trade restrictions, and loss of status constituted the reasons forcing

Irish people to migrate. Deprived of basic rights and shattered hopes for the future, the Irish felt a strong desire to embark on a new life. Feeling insecure socially and economically, and with the government failing to take measures to prevent migration, the Irish redirected their course towards America (Tagore, 2014, pp. 6-7).

The Great Hunger or Great Potato Hunger, also known as “An Gorta Mor”, spanning from 1845 to 1852, particularly contributed to the worsening conditions of the farming class in Ireland. This famine caused illness for thousands of people. Potato cultivation and abundance date back to the early 1500s. By the 17th century, Ireland had become a kingdom of potatoes, constituting 60% of the basic food source for 8.1 million citizens. Potatoes not only provided a livelihood for the poor but also emerged as a staple food. Until the 1840s, agriculture was the most significant sector for labor, with potato production supporting the livelihoods of over 50% of the population. These developments in Ireland played a crucial role in the migration of 27,000 individuals to America in 1827, a trend that continued to increase over the years. During the peak years of the famine, approximately 104,000 people migrated to America between 1846 and 1847. By 1850, the United States reported approximately 961,000 Irish immigrants, which further increased to 1,611,000 by 1860. Increased pressures in churches, particularly affecting the predominantly Catholic Ireland, also contributed to the reasons pushing people to migrate. In addition to the reasons for migration mentioned so far, there were other factors influencing people's decision to leave Ireland. Particularly, the oppression by the British was escalating in the country. Workers' standard daily wages were six pence or eight pence without a meal. People could hardly find meat in their daily lives and ate very little. Some families went for almost a year without seeing any meat at all. Families not only faced nutrition problems but also struggled with housing issues. Many people, including those in Dublin's slum neighborhoods, were grappling with disease, poverty, and pollution. The poverty people endured also hindered their access to educational opportunities (Tagore, 2014, pp. 2-15).

Figure 10: Irish People Migrated to America (Australia)



3.6. A Brief Migration History of Germany

In 1507, the map widely known at that time was completed by the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller, and amidst the uncharted vast lands beyond the West Indies, he honored the Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci by inscribing the word "America" onto this expansive blank area, which would later become host to the world's largest waves of migration (Cunz, 1953, p. 29). Today, America hosts a multitude of races and cultures, a phenomenon largely attributable to migration that has persisted for over 400 years. Among the migrant groups contributing significantly to the shaping of present-day America are those originating from Germany. German immigrant groups began setting foot in America as early as the 17th century. In 1683, the presence of Germans on the continent began with the transportation of thirteen German families to America aboard a ship named *Concord*. Actually, at the time of the rediscovery of America, Germans did not possess a maritime culture or tradition. Consequently, they did not actively participate in the exploration of the continent. However, in later periods, issues within the country led to the migration of people to the continent, contributing to the formation of a significant period in the New World (Cunz, 1953, p. 29). Religious, economic, and political reasons drove individuals to seek better living conditions in America. The number of immigrants to the American continent increased steadily from the 17th to the 20th century. The migration journey

that began in 1683 saw the establishment of the Mennonite village, now part of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, as one of the first settlements of Germans. Approximately 7 million Germans left their homeland to migrate to America by 1914. The need for more settlers to cultivate American lands and to meet the growing demand for labor and craftsmanship in industries and services persisted. Until the outbreak of World War I, America became a lucrative trade center for immigrant groups, with efforts made to make the journey to America appealing by offering gifts to pastors and teachers. In the mid-19th century, individuals had to save up for three months' wages to travel from Hamburg or Bremen ports to America and pay for passage. However, the journey was arduous, with thousands dying during transit, and many others having to endure hunger, illness, and other hardships. Nevertheless, immigrant groups who arrived in America healthily were driven by a clear understanding of why they had come and diligently worked towards their goals upon reaching these shores (Hancock et al., 2010, pp. 1-5).

Figure 11: German People Migrated to America from Hamburg Harbour (National Archives and Record Administration)



The Napoleonic Wars, which concluded in 1815, inflicted tremendous damage on the German economy. Years of warfare, occupations, and war debts posed significant challenges to the economy as a whole. Additionally, the potato crisis in Ireland also erupted in Germany. Moreover, the emergence of the potato shortage in 1842 swiftly drove up grain prices. Between 1845 and 1847, grain prices rose by

approximately 500%. Consequently, famine rebellions began to occur in the country. The increase in migration rates progressed in parallel with these circumstances. While attaining favorable economic conditions was a goal for Germans, the rapid increase in bankruptcies among craftsmen constituted one of the main reasons for migration (Tagore, 2014, pp. 23-26).

German families attach great importance to land ownership. As of the 1830s, the rural presence of Germans continued to grow. During this period, the division of land as inheritance under German laws was challenging, often implying that the estate would be passed down to the eldest son, resulting in large portions in some cases and small ones in others. This rule underwent modifications to include the partitioning of land. For certain families, these land parcels had diminished to the extent that it jeopardized their livelihoods. Moreover, existing landowners faced the threat of losing their lands, which directly contributed to concerns about the future and prompted migration. Given the paramount significance of land for German families, the promise of acquiring land in America instilled hope for the future. Germans dispersed across various locations in America. Impoverished groups mostly preferred to stay in New York and established numerous institutions. Approximately 100,000 individuals established twenty churches, fifty schools, ten bookstores, and five printing presses. Other German groups migrated westward in the country (Tagore, 2014, pp. 26-28).

3.7. A Brief Migration History of France

Based on considering this study it is asserted that with the rediscovery of the New World, people from various countries either migrated to this continent or began to envision dreams of doing so. While some reached their goals, others were unable to overcome the obstacles in their life and did not realize the migration. Particularly, with the rediscovery of the New World, significant migration movements occurred from Europe to America, playing a major role in shaping the continent's present population. Economic reasons, government policies, land ownership, as well as religious restrictions or reasons, have been the primary factors in the formation of this migration movement. Economic problems in Europe, along with World Wars I and II, were the main reasons shaping the waves of migration. While people in European countries affected by these reasons made considerable efforts to migrate to America, on the other hand, the French people who participated in this movement, did not have as large numbers compared to others.

On the other hand, in addition, no statistical data regarding France's migration movements had been published before 1853. Apart from the expulsion of Protestants after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes or migration events during the French Revolution, there is only limited information available. From 1853 to the present, official documents shedding light on the history of French migration are as follows (Bunle, 1931, pp. 201-202):

- Annales de Demographie internationale, 1877; (Annals of International Demography, 1877)
- Statistique de la France, 2nd series, vols. X, XI, XVIII; (Statistics of France, 2nd series, vols. X, XI, XVIII)
- Mouvement de l'émigration en France, 1865—1874, 1875—1877, 1878—1881 (Movement of Emigration in France, 1865—1874, 1875—1877, 1878—1881)
- Journal de la Société de Statistique de Paris, 1891; (Journal of the Statistical Society of Paris, 1891)
- Annuaire statistique de la France (Statistical Yearbook of France).

Additionally, the information provided above has been supplemented with French migration statistics and counts of French citizens abroad and has been archived. Until 1852, the provisions of the Code de Commerce were considered sufficient for the migration of French citizens to colonial countries and other foreign countries. With two different decrees dated February 13 and March 27 of 1852, the regulation of migration and labor in French colonies was aimed to be established. French migration commissioners were granted authority by a decree issued on January 15, 1855. The dates containing legislation regulating migration to French colonies or other foreign countries are as follows (Bunle, 1931, pp. 201-203):

- July 18, 1860: Law
- March 9 and March 15, 1861: Decrees
- May 15, May 21, May 22, and May 25, 1861: Decisions, regulations, and instructions

In addition to the instructions, regulations, decisions, decrees, and laws mentioned above, additions were made on the following dates (Bunle, 1931, pp. 201-203):

- July 18, 1862
- June 22, 1863
- February 9, 1866
- June 4, 1867
- November 9 and November 10, 1873
- August 25, 1874. These regulations remained in effect unchanged for approximately 60 years. Alongside these regulations, the primary aim was to establish the conditions for boarding ships for migrant individuals, outline the responsibilities of transportation companies, and delineate the boundaries of migrant agents. Therefore, the objective was to protect migrant rights.

On the other hand, according to Bunle (Bunle, 1931, pp. 201-203), in order to advance control over migration, the Ministry of Interior established migration special commissioners to mandate ship owners or captains engaged in migrant transportation to record information for each migrant they would transport from French ports (such as age, gender, nationality, and destination). In ports where these commissioners were not present, the enforcement would be carried out by governors. This law aimed to provide access to statistical data concerning migrants. However, discrepancies emerged during implementation. The term "migrant" was interpreted differently by these special commissioners; for some, a migrant was someone temporarily going abroad for work, while for others, a migrant was a third-class passenger going abroad for an extended period without a return ticket. Therefore, from 1880 to the present, the term "migrant" solely refers to one-way third-class passengers on ships. Since 1913, migration data for French citizens has been recorded in ports such as Boulogne-sur-Mer, Le Havre, Cherbourg, St. Nazaire, La Rochelle, Bordeaux, and Marseille, covering only individuals traveling to America. Due to deficiencies in these data, obtaining reliable results seems unlikely.

Additionally, according to Page (Page, 1911, s. 680) during the 19th century, unlike in other European countries where economic, religious, and political factors led to a strong desire for migration to America, the situation in France was relatively better. The lower number of migrants from France during that period is attributed to reasons that are not entirely resolved. However, factors such as patriotism, equal distribution of land among heirs, and the implementation of civil law are thought to have contributed to this lower migration rate. On the other hand, according to Haines

(Haines, 2000, p. 77) therefore, the number of individuals migrating from France to America during this period was relatively lower compared to other European countries, standing at approximately 730,000.

According to the census held in the US in 1860, there were above 10.000 French men living in the US who were relatively young, male, and of rural origin. They had gone to the US in order to improve their living standards. In the majority of them the settled in northern states of the US. They were living in large metropolises such as New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Cincinnati, in distant parts of California in the highlands of Mississippi. They were available in the south only in Louisiana and Texas in large-scale populations. The French in America emphasized their cultural diversity and kept up their ties with the motherland with the hope of returning to France. Henceforth, they did not dive into the melting pot of the US (Ameur, 2021).

Figure 12: French Soldiers and Native Americans (Maps)



3.8. A Brief Migration History of Scandinavian Countries

According to Simon&Finney (Simon & Finney, 2008, pp. 2-3), the rediscovery of America ushered in a migration wave from Scandinavia, constituting a significant portion of the hopeful exodus toward the New World. Surprisingly, migration from Sweden to America commenced as early as the 17th century, persisted through the 18th century, and accelerated in the 19th century. The initial migration from Sweden to America was financed by the Swedish Crown, leading to the establishment of the New Sweden colony in an area now known as Delaware in the present-day United States. Although this territory was ceded to the Dutch in 1655, the initial settlers persevered, preserving their culture and language. Subsequently, in the 1840s, among the organized groups migrating were farmers. Up to this point, a considerable majority of Swedes leaving for America faced financial and social deficiencies. Before the Industrial Revolution, most were engaged in farming, which had become increasingly stressful by the 19th century. The division of inherited lands among heirs led to farming on smaller plots, adversely affecting agriculture. Consequently, migration intensified due to ensuing scarcity, with 60,000 people migrating between 1867 and 1869. Sweden's population doubled between the 18th and 19th centuries.

On the other hand, additionally, according to Simon&Finney (Simon & Finney, 2008, pp. 2-3) it could be asserted that following the Industrial Revolution, developments such as the construction of new railways redirected people towards industrial areas. Urbanization gained momentum with the Industrial Revolution, contributing to an increase in educational levels. The positive trend in education directly impacted overseas migration. Particularly, the Lutheran Church significantly contributed to literacy, playing a vital role in raising literacy rates for future generations. The Homestead Act of 1862 in America facilitated the easy acquisition of fertile agricultural lands, encouraging Swedes to migrate to states like Minnesota, where they acquired nearly all available land. The agricultural lands acquired in America amounted to three-fifths of the cultivated lands in Sweden. Migrating groups from Sweden not only settled in rural areas but also in cities like Chicago and Minneapolis. The census of 1910 indicated that nearly 60% of the first generation had settled in urban areas. By eschewing rural settlements for urban areas, Swedish migrants, influenced by urbanization, rose to prominence in fields such as art, politics, and business compared to the lower strata of society.

Figure 13: Swedish People Migrated to America (Commons)



During the 1850s and 1860s, the Port of Quebec served as the entry point for over 50,000 Nordic immigrants traveling to the American Midwest, with Canada initiating practices to attract these migrant groups before they proceeded to the United States. More than 5,500 Norwegian and Swedish immigrant groups entered North America through the key gateway of the Port of Quebec in 1864. Some migrants chose not to settle in Canada due to limited access to job opportunities and continued their journey to immigrate to America. However, the efforts to attract Nordic immigrants to Canada did not yield positive results when compared with groups migrating to America during the same time period. The entire population of Westby, Wisconsin, where some Norwegian immigrants settled, remains predominantly Norwegian to this day. Some of the lands in the town were purchased from the American Government by Norwegian immigrants, drawn by the physical similarities with their homeland. During this period, influenced by the Lutheran Church, the first and second Lutheran congregations were established in 1852, followed by the third in 1888. Schools began opening in 1880 and 1883, with tobacco farming being a significant occupation. Presently, Norwegian residents in the town are easily recognizable, and Norwegian is commonly spoken in churches. Norwegian Independence Day is celebrated in May, and festivals are organized in the fall (Simon & Finney, 2008, pp. 3-4).

Between 1864 and 1914, approximately 250,000 individuals migrated from Denmark to America, marking the highest levels during the ten-year periods of 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, and 1920. Migration from Denmark to America initially began with family units, but later included unmarried individuals, with women constituting a significant portion of the process. The primary factor driving migration from Denmark to America was the hope of improved economic conditions and new opportunities. In the 1880s, there was a significant increase in migration from Denmark to Canada. Canada conducted campaigns to attract immigrants from Scandinavia and established a Trade Information Office in Copenhagen. Approximately 18,000 Danes settled in Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan regions of Canada between 1919 and 1934 (Simon & Finney, 2008, pp. 4-5).

On the other hand, according to Simon&Finney (Simon & Finney, 2008, pp. 4-5) it could be asserted that Finnish migration began comparatively later than that of other Scandinavian countries. Notable locations where Finns migrated overseas include the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan, United States, and Thunder Bay in Ontario, Canada. In the 1900s, around 19,000 Finns resided in Michigan. Immigrants initially moved to the mineral-rich Keweenaw Peninsula, primarily for mining opportunities, especially copper. However, over time, they contributed to the labor force through agricultural activities, businesses, and the service sector. Despite the initially unpromising agricultural prospects in areas where forests were cleared, the diligent efforts of those who worked passionately in the heavily timbered regions transformed them into productive lands by the early 1900s. Nevertheless, while adapting to new living spaces, Finns also maintained their cultural identity. They were associated with various cooperatives and memberships in stores, presenting a more "socialist" image compared to other immigrant groups, which sometimes led to them being perceived as "radical." Nonetheless, they preserved the cultural sensitivities of their homeland, including folk songs, dances, stories, poetry, and music, and housed materials in their libraries pertaining to their language. On the other hand, their religious life was centered around Lutheran Churches, encompassing various doctrines and denominations. By 1917, there were 22 Luther-based churches serving the Finnish population in Keweenaw. Their involvement in cooperative stores and organizations contributed to the perception of them being "socialist" among others. From 1888 onwards, Finnish immigrants began arriving in the Port Arthur and Fort William areas

of Ontario. In addition, by 1911, the region hosted 1,643 Finnish immigrants. Political and religious turmoil, coupled with poor economic conditions, were the primary reasons for Finnish migration from Finland to America. Finland gained independence from Russian rule in 1917, followed by a civil war, leading to a strong wave of Finnish migration to Canada between 1920 and 1930. Another wave of migration occurred to the region after World War II, and it is estimated that approximately 15,000 individuals of Finnish descent currently reside there. The Lutheran Church established the first Finnish labor organization in 1903.

3.9. A Brief Migration History of Italians

To comprehend the migration process from America to Italy, it's essential to assess it within its historical context and address the reasons behind this entire process alongside the social and cultural backgrounds of the migrants. Focusing on two different aspects of this phenomenon is highly important: the general characteristics of Italian migration and the overall descriptions of Italian migration to America. However, when examined in a historical context, Italian migration provides insights into its reasons, social dynamics, and cultural background. During the period spanning from 1880 to 1930, a process referred to by historians as the Great Migration occurred in Italy. Participants in this migration included both men and women, workers, artisans, or skilled individuals, but primarily consisted of peasant groups in search of employment (Piccoli, 2014, pp. 8-9).

On the other hand, according to Boca&Venturini (Boca & Venturini, 2003, pp. 1-2), with the Great Migration, approximately 26 million people migrated from Italy, with half of this number heading to other European countries, and the rest directed towards North and South America. Moreover, two-fifths of this figure joined the migration caravan from the southern regions of Italy. Between the 19th century and the First World War, the slow advancement of industry and economic developments played a significant role in people's preference for migration. Internal migration, on the other hand, occurred towards the rapidly developing northern regions due to industrialization. The period between 1970 and 1980 witnessed a sharp decline in migration, particularly due to high unemployment rates among the youth who migrated in search of better job opportunities. In the following years, Italy, initially a country of emigration, transitioned into a country of immigration. It is anticipated that the first group of migrants from Italy to America arrived in 1820. Statistical discrepancies exist

regarding groups departing from the country, attributed to Italy's border with the Alps and numerous coastal gateways. The initial group leaving Italy consisted of individuals seeking job opportunities, while the second group comprised individuals aiming to permanently reside abroad.

Figure 14: Italians Migrated to America from the Region of Abruzzo in Italia (Bouvier)



One of the most significant aspects of Italian migration, including the periods of the Great Migration, is the absence of a clear migration policy by the Italian government. With migration also came social risks. However, due to the departure of unemployed and impoverished workers, the government believed that migration needed to be restricted to control social unrest. On the other hand, remittances sent by migrants to their families had a positive contribution to the Italian economy in terms of resources. Nevertheless, in the face of such a significant problem, the Italian government lacked cohesive policies. As a result, migration was left to individual initiatives. The first law addressing the migration issue came into effect in December 1888, indicating that migration was considered a social issue by the government. The approved law signaled complete freedom for migration. Following the law, commissions were also established to protect the travel rights of migrants. Despite reforms in the law by the government in 1901, conflicts between institutions prevented the implementation of these regulations over time, leaving migrants to their own devices (Piccoli, 2014, pp. 15-16). On the other hand, according to Boca&Venturini

(Boca & Venturini, 2003, p. 8), although innovations in agriculture in the southern regions provided some benefits, employers in the industrial sector also supported migration.

The steps taken by the government to protect migrant rights in relation to its migration policy were implemented at different periods. One of the initial steps was the establishment of the Immigration General Commission under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which occurred during the period from 1869 to 1925. Following this, the National Migration Congress was held in Rome in 1924, aiming to coordinate the actions of countries accepting and sending migrants in this regard. During the period spanning from 1926 to 1939, efforts were made to encourage migration to Italy, particularly with the outbreak of World War II, and intense activities were carried out for the return of Italians to colonies in Africa. In the third period beginning in 1946, emphasis was placed on protecting migrants and family reunification, with a focus on issues such as transfers and social security. Finally, starting in 1960, the government observed the more active role of labor unions and sought to undertake more coordinated efforts for Italians living abroad (Boca & Venturini, 2003, pp. 9-10).

The government's ineffective policies and efforts prompted the Catholic Church to take action. The Catholic Church swiftly responded to all these developments and provided support for Italian citizens migrating abroad through associations and churches. In this regard, Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini was granted authority to assist migrants and organize missionaries. Mother Francesca Saverio Cabrini, the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the United States, also supported Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini to ensure the realization of all activities and the implementation of missionary duties. Together, both communities opened Italian-speaking churches, schools, orphanages, and hospitals to prevent migrants from losing their Italian identity and to encourage its preservation in their respective areas (Piccoli, 2014, pp. 15-16).

3.10. A Brief Migration History of Russia

Although there has been significant emigration from Russia to foreign countries over the past century, there is a lack of comprehensive statistical data on this phenomenon. The primary reason for this is attributed to the practice in Russia of revoking citizenship from individuals who leave the country without permission.

Consequently, since the number of citizens leaving the country was not accurately reported, there are gaps in the available data. The need for such regulations arose in 1892 concerning Jewish emigrants under the auspices of the Jewish Colonization Society, and this law acknowledged that departing Jews were considered to have permanently left Russian territory. Statistics regarding individuals crossing the Russian border began in 1828, and information prior to this date is not significant. While the number of individuals traveling to the United States between 1820 and 1828 was less than 100, the period between 1828 and 1915 witnessed a greater number of departures from the country. Approximately 4.5 million individuals were recorded as leaving the country during this period. It's worth noting that this figure does not include migrants during wartime (Obolensky-Ossinsky, 1931, pp. 521-523).

In Russia, Antisemitism appears as an entrenched phenomenon. The Bolsheviks struggled against and attempted to mitigate this emerging prejudice, but it deepened during Stalin's era. Despite being identified as "Jews" in their passports, they were not granted the "autonomy" rights accorded to other nationalities. Before 1960, Jews in America were primarily concerned with civil movements, and the America-Soviet Union relationship did not include the Soviet-Jewish issue before 1969. Israel also did not support Soviet Jewish migration at that time. Alongside the Jewish student movement, this issue gained momentum from the mid-1960s onwards. In 1965, Congress conducted a study on the matter and submitted a resolution concerning the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. The proposal, which included high taxes on emigration from the Soviet Union, effectively prevented Jews from leaving. Senator Jackson and Representative Vanik introduced an amendment to the 1974 Trade Act, spurred by agricultural reform errors during Stalin's era and the need for Western grain due to poor wheat harvests, placing Soviet Russia in a difficult situation. Subsequently, the Nixon administration attempted but failed to block the Amendment to the 1974 Trade Act. Kissinger and Nixon advocated for Russia's internal affairs not to play an active role in American foreign policy, emphasizing and recommending the application of "quiet diplomacy" within the framework of soft relations. Kissinger and the Nixon administration led on the issue of Soviet Jewish migration. For example, during the 1970 Leningrad trials, where eleven Jews were accused of attempting to hijack a plane and flee Russia, leading to the arrest of 50 Jews as part of the conspiracy, Kissinger, predominantly a proponent of justice over order, intervened directly in one

of the rare cases recorded concerning Soviet Jews, ensuring the commutation of death penalties. Looking back, fundamentally, Kissinger turned the Trade Act amendment into a bargaining mechanism during the Yom Kippur War, stating that the United States would further support Israel if American Jews withdrew support for the Trade Act Amendment (Robinson, 2013, pp. 5-7).

3.11. A Brief Migration History of the African Continent

For long centuries of enslavement and partition by European colonialism had also a mirror-like image by the early 20th century under the impact of a kind of new imperialism by the same superpowers. Particularly by the 1900s Africa except for some unique cases was divided into territorial boundaries especially by the coastline for the sake of the slave trade. Exceptional cases involved Liberia under a kind of US protection, Morocco conquered by France imminently, Libya taken over from Turks by Italy and Ethiopia, in part based on a kind of Christian heritage (Magdoff & Webster, 2023, p. 22).

When examining the history of Africa, it may be observed that it is closely linked with slavery. As we delve into the mid-19th century, the continent witnessed four major slave trades, with one of the most significant and widespread being the slave trade in America. Between the 15th and 18th centuries, approximately 12 million slaves were transported from the continent of Africa to destinations outside of it (Nunn, *Shackled to the Past: The Causes and Consequences of Africa's Slave Trades*, 2008, p. 3). The Portuguese, seeking wealth and gold, set sail from the West African coast towards the Gold Coast (Ghana). Initially focused on obtaining gold, Portugal later began to establish commercial relationships and engage in activities in this area. The approach of Europeans towards Sub-Saharan Africa, their direct intervention in trade, and the emergence of mass enslavement led to the beginning of a destructive process. In the following years, Spain, England, France, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Sweden began to establish contact with Sub-Saharan Africa, directly influencing this region. Initially, Europeans began establishing commercial relationships, but over time, they started engaging in the slave trade. By the 1600s, the major powers of Europe had become closely involved with Sub-Saharan Africa, and driven by the desire for wealth, these countries began transporting slaves to America through the slave trade (Initiative, 2023, pp. 9-12).

The transatlantic slave trade began in 1444 with the Portuguese transporting Africans from West Africa to Europe by ship. With the rediscovery of America in 1492, there arose a demand for cheap labor in the new colonies. From around 1550 onwards, the number of African slaves on European ships traveling to Brazil, the Caribbean, and North America started to increase. Britain held a leading position in the slave trade until the 1700s. Some enslaved Africans worked in sugar cultivation in Brazil and the British West Indies, while others worked in tobacco cultivation in North America. In the following years, ships carrying manufactured goods from Europe to Africa began to trade these goods for African slaves, whom they later used to produce sugar, cotton, alcohol, and other commodities in America. Over 12 million Africans were transported to America to meet the demand for cheap labor. Ships would set sail along the coast to gather slaves, and traders would purchase slaves from other merchants or agents to control them. Africans would capture people from tribes in their lands and sell them to Europeans (Hampshire Record Office Archive Education Service, 1807, p. 506).

Among the Africans who migrated to America, those who reached South America and the Caribbean achieved significant success. As countries such as Portugal, Spain, France, the Netherlands, and England began to exert influence in America, each controlled the emerging network of slavery and established their own political, legal, and cultural systems, into which enslaved Africans were integrated. Consequently, the evolution of slavery varied regionally, leading to diversifications in racial and hierarchical social structures. The system of slavery established in America should not be compared with others, as the treatment endured by slaves is universally condemned and considered inhumane. In the sugar plantations, where workers labored for nearly 15 hours daily, there was virtually no compensation for their social lives, and those in South American and Caribbean colonies faced extremely dangerous working conditions. The mortality rates of workers on these plantations were higher and their life expectancy was lower than those of workers in other regions of America (Initiative, 2023, p. 23).

The method of capturing slaves to be involved in human trafficking from Africa to America and Europe was often through the conquest of villages or states by each other. Previously, small villages with limited populations and areas had evolved into federations over time, and subsequently, relationships between villages turned hostile.

This shift led to inter-village conflicts. As a result of these conflicts, hostility between villages began, weakening their relationships and preventing the formation of broader ethnic identities. Consequently, people began to feel insecure and established ethnic boundaries. Today, the fragmented appearance of ethnic identities in Africa can be traced back to this situation. This fragmentation, along with the uncertainty and insecurity it caused, can also be considered a reference point for economic development. Individuals needed various tools and weapons to defend themselves. For Africans, the primary way to obtain these weapons was by sending the kidnapped slaves to Europe, and only in exchange could they acquire weapons. This method of acquiring weapons deepened the environment of insecurity and also contributed to the increase in the slave trade. This process, known as the "gun-slave cycle" or "iron-slave cycle," represents one of the most significant steps in the perpetuation of slavery (Nunn, *The Long-Term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades*, 2008, pp. 141-143).

On the other hand, Africa was divided into territories both by agreements and in the field as part of the colonial endeavor and feasibility of the slave trade by three major colonial empires namely France, Portugal, and Britain. Within the framework of territorial division sub-Saharan Africa was colonized in part by the British based on a protectral root covering Zanzibar, Gambia, the Gold Coast, the Sierra Leone. In lands of Africa were gradually explored by explorers, missionaries, and theaters by way of penetrating into tropical territories by railroads and thereby by steamships navigable to the Atlantic on the way to the New World. While Africa was divided into territories rivalry in northern east Africa the French and British focused on the control of upper the Nile. Following the clash between the British and French armies at Fashoda in 1898, Great Britain had stronger control over the Nile (Magdoff & Webster, 2023, pp. 23-26).

Each emerging issue has precipitated internal conflicts, which, in turn, have led to political instabilities culminating in the fall of numerous governments. Before the commencement of the slave trade, the complex state system in Africa was undergoing an evolutionary process. However, this evolutionary progress experienced a temporary halt in the 15th century as the Portuguese became actively involved. A similar situation was observed in East Africa. The Kingdom of Kongo represents perhaps the most dramatic example of this process. The local inhabitants of Kongo were sold to the Portuguese so frequently and persistently that it eventually began to threaten the king's

throne. The rampant kidnapping and slave trading disrupted the social order and threatened the king, leading King Alphonso to lodge complaints against the Portuguese: "Merchants operating in the country, including the king's own family and nobles, are kidnapping and enslaving people daily." These events disrupted the once-strong state structure, leading to its decline or even dissolution (Nunn, *The Long-Term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades*, 2008, p. 143).

Figure 15: African People in America (Everett)



The political instability generated through the slave trade undermined the rule of law and contributed to an environment of insecurity. This lawless situation led to individuals being accused of witchcraft or various other crimes, subsequently taken captive, and enslaved by their people. In Africa, different types of penalties have now been transformed into tools for enslavement. Leaders have supported and even encouraged this exploitation of the judicial system. In Guinea-Bissau, the Cassanga chiefs implemented the "red water ordeal," where individuals were forced to drink a red liquid. If they vomited, they were deemed guilty; if they swallowed the liquid, they were considered innocent. However, typically, those who ingested the liquid died. The primary purpose of this practice was to acquire slaves and seize their possessions; the property of the deceased was confiscated, and the survivors were enslaved. The effects of these enslavement practices are clearly visible today. The underdevelopment in

Africa is often attributed loudly to weak and unstable governance and the political systems that employed such methods of enslavement. The slave trade has caused political instability and lawlessness, thereby hindering or significantly damaging the formation of state systems. The saga of the slave trade between 1400 and 1900 sheds light on the contemporary landscape of Africa (Nunn, *The Long-Term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades*, 2008, pp. 144-145).

The migration of African American groups to the American continent is also rooted in the slave trade. Among the groups immigrating to America today, African immigrants are experiencing the fastest population growth. Starting from the 1820s, the numbers of African Americans migrating to America began to increase, and their populations gradually grew, becoming a noticeable component. Between 1820 and 1960, the number of immigrants from Africa to America who were granted permanent residency amounted to approximately 1% of the population, but this proportion increased in the subsequent years. The number of individuals born in Africa who were granted permanent residency has significantly increased over the past thirty years, with nearly 90% obtaining residency status during this period. Furthermore, according to research conducted by academics, migration from Africa to America has increased even more in the last 20 years since the years of the slave trade (Corra, 2023, pp. 1-2).

As we approach the present day, despite the prevailing media portrayal that African nations predominantly aspire to migrate to popular regions such as Europe, there is, in fact, a discernible desire among Africans to embark on journeys to distant and risky destinations like China, Israel, and the United States, where new opportunities are found. These migrations are often facilitated by liberal migration policies, particularly to North America across the Atlantic. Looking at the numbers post-2020, approximately 21 million Africans living outside Africa are dispersed across different continents, with about 3 million residing in North America. Globally, African migrants constitute roughly 15% of international migrants. Like others, Africans deciding to migrate typically do so for reasons such as family, work, or education. Contrary to the long-distance travels of the slavery era, recent migration trends indicate that those from economically disadvantaged or poorer classes tend to migrate shorter distances compared to those from wealthier and more affluent classes who opt for longer-distance migrations. The migration to Latin America in recent

times has contributed positively to the literature, spanning a broad array of studies from sociopolitical issues to integration topics (Freier et al., 2024, pp. 345-346).

3.12. Panorama of Jews Emigrating to America

Accessing statistical data on the migration of Jews throughout history can be challenging. For instance, in recent times, data on Jews who have moved from Central European countries to the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, or France are either unavailable or limited. When considering the number of Jews who have migrated intercontinental, the United States is one of the few countries where numerical data can be obtained. While it is relatively easier to access figures on the number of individuals who have migrated to Canada or Brazil, acquiring detailed information such as gender is more difficult. Even in the United States, although the classification by "race or people" was introduced in 1898, which automatically started the calculation of Jewish classifications, reliable data was not accessible or non-existent, especially before the year 1870 (Hersch, 1931, pp. 471-472).

When examining the migration of Jews to America, the numbers prior to 1870 are nearly negligible. Indeed, between 1820 and 1870, there were significant migrations from two major empires to America: The Russian Empire (including Poland) and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Approximately 15,000 individuals—8,000 from the Russian Empire and Poland, and 7,000 from the Austro-Hungarian Empire—were part of the Jewish component of this migration. These figures are part of the initial wave of what would become a much larger movement, with over 125,000 Jews from Russia (including Poland) and Austro-Hungary migrating to America in the following decades, and the numbers continued to rise. By the last quarter of the 19th century, the number of Jews migrating to America had reached a significant scale. Between 1881 and 1890, the migration from the Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires increased fivefold compared to the previous decade (1871-1880). In the 1890s, this migration doubled again, with approximately 602,000 from Russia and Poland (post-1899 Russian Poland) and about 593,000 from Austro-Hungary (including post-1899 Austrian Poland). Determining the total number of Jews involved in this large migration wave can be challenging. From 1898 onward, America began recording statistical data on the Jews immigrating to the continent. In the next two years, the number of Jews migrating from the Austro-Hungarian Empire to America was approximately 90,000. Had the migration continued at the same rate, the number

of Jews moving to America during that period could have potentially reached around 500,000. Overall, Jews rank second in number among the people migrating to America (Hersch, 1931, pp. 472-473).

Figure 16: Jewish Immigrants (Society)



Table 1: The Statement Indicates the Number of Jews Who Migrated to America During the Period Between 1899 and 1924

(In Thousands) (Hersch, 1931, p. 474)

<i>Subsequent Years</i>	The Number of Jewish Migrants
1899	37
1900	61
1901	58
1902	58
1903	76
1904	106
1905	130
1906	154
1907	149
1908	103
1909	58
1910	84
1911	91
1912	81
1913	101
1914	138
1915	26
1916	15
1917	17
1918	4
1919	3
1920	14
1921	119
1922	54
1923	50
1924	50

Wars, new borders, and revolutions in political and social spheres often lead to the implementation of new programs and restrictions on flexible migration. The year

1920 marked the first year of the war between Russia and Poland. This period also signifies a transition for Jewish migration to America; before the war, Jews could migrate freely to America, but post-war conditions curtailed this freedom. These restrictions were introduced during a time when Jews were experiencing severe hardships and had a great need to emigrate. Observations suggest that had these restrictions not been imposed, there could have been a significant surge in Jewish migration to America (Haines, 2000, pp. 474-475).

The migration of Jews from rural to urban areas over the past two centuries is considered part of the larger internal migration movement in the West. Generally, this migration trend is seen moving from East to West. The migration from Europe to America between 1830 and 1939 primarily consisted of communities embodying the "migrant worker" concept. World War II significantly impacted people's lives, and along with Europe, America was forming migrant communities. The policies of Nazi Germany, which involved the expulsion of Jews during the same period, intensified this migration wave. Due to adverse developments in Europe between 1933 and 1945, America became a haven for these migrant communities, with numbers that are not insignificant, approximately between 250,000 and 300,000 people. Historical developments show that Germany, facing religious, political, and economic issues, has consistently been a source of emigration to America and other countries throughout different periods. However, during the early years of the Nazi regime led by Hitler, the number of Jews fleeing Germany to America did not constitute a significant figure (Strauss, 1971, pp. 63-65).

Table 2: Statistical Data of Jewish Immigrants from Germany to the United States between 1933 and 1938

Jewish immigration from Germany to the United States of America, January 1933 to June 1938 (Strauss, 1971, p. 65)

January 1933 to December 1933 535

<i>January 1934 to December 1934</i>	2,310
<i>January 1935 to June 1935</i>	658
<i>July 1935 to June 1936</i>	6,750 (estimated)
<i>July 1936 to June 1937</i>	6,750

July 1937 to June 1938

10,000

Total (approx.)

27,000

In Soviet Russia, Jews, like other Soviet citizens, did not have the right to mass emigration for many years, but this situation began to change in the 1970s. Between 1970 and 1988, approximately 291,000 Jews and their relatives living in the Soviet Union emigrated, with about 60% of this number migrating to Israel. Before 1976-1977, a large majority of Jewish emigrants from Russia were moving to Israel, but from this date onwards, they began choosing the United States as their destination. Meanwhile, during the period between 1976 and 1988, the primary destination chosen by Jews living in Russia, Ukraine, or Belarus who decided to migrate was predominantly America. The year 1989 was significant for Jews living in Russia, as from this date until 2018, approximately 1.7 million Russian Jews and their relatives left the country. Of these emigrants, 1.1 million went to Israel, and the remainder primarily moved to the United States and Germany. The number of Jews migrating to the United States was approximately 328,000. The years 1990-1991, before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, marked the peak period for Jewish emigration figures, with about 400,000 people leaving the country. This migration number, higher than the mass migration at the beginning of the 20th century, has been recorded in historical processes (Strauss, 1971, pp. 2-3).

3.13. Methodological Conclusion of the Chapter I

Since the 17th century, there has been an Anglo-conformity principle that has evolved into a melting pot in which all immigrants have been assimilated into *E Pluribus Unum* which is a single unified dynamic unitary American identity that has signified as *American Dream*. American dream stands for a fully egalitarian prosperous democratic liberal individualistic country that has both national and global safeguarding responsibilities for stability for the United States and the global until the end of World War II. However, this ideal has still been on the political current agenda that is still not out of date. On the other hand, since the end of World War II, there has gradually been a socio-political and cultural as well as economic discourse viable in the overall United States. This novel discourse is multiculturalism. It is based on maintaining American identity while preserving second immigrant, ethnic, cultural, religious, and racial identities. This chapter has inclined to follow the footsteps of these

two discourses in academia. The search for obtaining data to make use of them as the Conceptual Framework chapter has been based on document analysis. The document analysis has prioritized both scientific books, book chapters, and scientific journal articles at the foremost level using the accessible databases within the reach of Gaziantep University such as Jstor, Tailor, and Francis as well as Academia, ResearchGate, and some open-access French databases such as Erudit and Gale in addition to the National Thesis Center of the Higher Education Council.



CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1. History of American Migration Policy from the Colonial Period to the Present Day

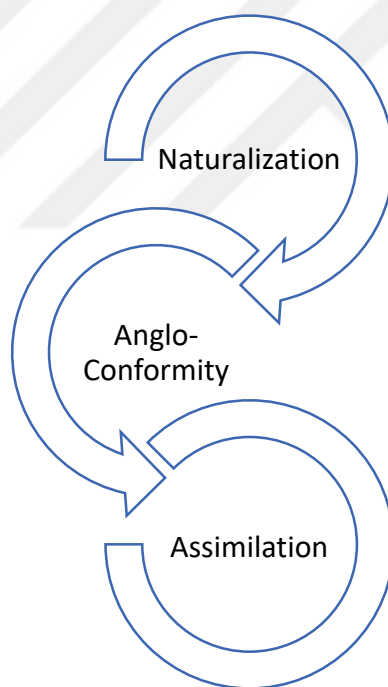
On the other hand, based on the observations it is asserted that between 1783 and the present day, approximately 87 million individuals have officially immigrated to the United States. Over time, America's immigration policies have evolved in response to these migratory movements. From the 16th century through to the late 18th century, European states implemented mercantilist economic policies. Mercantilists viewed people as potential resources and confined their lives within the concepts of class and social status or convinced them that they should be confined within these limits: an example of this is Britain. Britain implemented practices that restricted citizenship and forced individuals deemed criminals and other social outcasts by the government to serve in its colonies. Those sentenced to death, facing capital punishment, or guilty of various crimes were included in this group. From an economic perspective, obtaining citizenship was significant because citizens could own property and subsequently bequeath their assets. English law protected and valued the inheritance rights of its citizens. However, the laws that safeguarded the rights of citizens in England did not show the same sensitivity for English citizens who immigrated to America, and restrictions were imposed on naturalization through specific limitations. The government's reluctance to grant citizenship led to economic restrictions for individuals. Additionally, the Royal Family's desire to settle in North America hindered their own citizens' ability to acquire rights. This was followed by their disregard for the lenient policies applied to their citizens in the colonies. This situation persisted until the enactment of the 1740 Naturalization Act, which marked the beginning of a process that facilitated citizenship acquisition by prioritizing Catholics and excluding Jews, contingent on a seven-year residency requirement. Subsequently, incentives for immigration continued to increase.

In the migration journey of the English to American colonies, some groups came voluntarily, while others were forcibly brought as slaves and coerced into migration. The 1717 Transportation Act authorized British courts to exile convicts or enslave workers for up to 14 years. The transportation of 50,000 individuals to British colonies until the American Revolution is an example supporting this situation. It is essential to recognize that those transported to British colonies were not exclusively English. Another group included in this method of exile consisted of Africans, making the term 'slavery' more descriptive and explanatory than 'migration' in this context. While many English colonial territories imposed significant restrictions on workers or immigrants living on their lands, Massachusetts applied the poverty law equally regardless of citizenship status. In the ensuing years, the foundation of America continued to be discussed as these debates gained a legal footing. One of the first issues addressed by the newly established United States, as declared in the Independence Declaration on July 4, 1776, was the right to citizenship. This was considered based on three main principles: the automatic right granted to those born on American soil (*jus soli*), the right obtained by individuals living in other countries with blood ties if desired (*jus sanguinis*), and finally, the oath of allegiance to demonstrate loyalty to America and its laws (Baxter & Nowrasteh, 2021, pp. 1-3).

The "Naturalization Act" was not supported by some members of Congress and even met with opposition. The rationale was that immigrants from abroad might harbor hostility and pose a disadvantage for the impending war with France. Despite the objections, the law was enacted in 1790, establishing a five-year residency requirement for citizenship. Additionally, applicants were required to sign a declaration of good intentions three years before applying for naturalization. During the naturalization process, the clause "good character" was amended to "good moral character," grounding the text in religious principles. This clause led to arbitrary arrests or deportations. The residency requirement for immigrants arriving from outside the continent was increased to 14 years, sparking debates and leading to the view that it was inhumane. In 1802, Congress reinstated the five-year residency requirement for citizenship (In the present day, changes may be observed in the waiting periods for those entering the country with student visas or similar permits and subsequently obtaining green cards, with these periods potentially being longer). By 1819, economic depression and Britain's concern about sending its poor to America caused Congress

to adopt a stricter stance on immigration. The passage of the bill to limit the tonnage of ships indirectly controlled immigration. Considering America was established during the colonial period, German, English, Canadian, French, and Irish immigrants constituted the majority in the pre-war period, each with distinct cultural characteristics and religions. The political perspective of German artisans and Irish Catholics caused reactions in America, culminating in the emergence of the nationalist native group (political party). Native groups with a nationalist outlook began to worry about wage competition and immigration. This concern was followed by religious conflicts/discrepancies between immigrant Catholics and American Protestants. Native American Protestants also feared that immigrant Catholics would oppose slavery-based immigration (Baxter & Nowrasteh, 2021, pp. 5-6).

Figure 17: The Core Essence of Anglo-conformity



It is asserted as in the figure 17 above that early settlers of America in the colonial period who came from Britain constituted the core essence of Anglo-conformity as cited by Gordon in the subtitle Assimilation as part of the Conceptual Framework. Furthermore, the core essence has had an assimilating and thereby acculturating role and function over all immigrants to one time America that has evolved into the United States the essence of naturalization of which the Anglo-conforming administrating socio-political and cultural foundation.

Since the 15th century, America has begun receiving immigrants from various parts of the world, primarily from European and African countries. Over the years, it gained popularity and started working towards becoming a new world power. In order to control the significant influx of immigrants, America has modified or updated the following Immigration Acts over the years. The laws in the shape of the timeline that have changed or been updated from 1790 to the present are as follows (Policy, 2013, pp. 1-7):

Table 3: Immigrant Laws in America from 1790-Present

<i>Date</i>	<i>Immigration Laws</i>
1790	The Naturalization Act of 1790 is one of the fundamental laws concerning the admission to citizenship. The essential principles stipulated for citizenship admission include a residency requirement of at least two years in America, demonstration of good moral character, and taking an oath of allegiance to the constitution, along with the condition of being white. It also provides for the acquisition of citizenship for those deserving individuals who have children under the age of 21.
1798	Congress enacted laws, including the <i>Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798</i>, aimed at controlling immigration by imposing certain restrictions on entry into the country. These laws require immigrants to reside in America for 14 years and grant the President authority to detain or restrict citizens of countries with which the U.S. is at war. Additionally, the President is empowered to deport individuals perceived as threats to the United States.
1864	The <i>Immigration Act of 1864</i>, established to keep immigration under control, mandates the Immigration Commissioner to compile reports and submit them to the Secretary of State. It also ensures the enforceability in court of employment contracts made by non-American citizen immigrants.
1882	- The Immigration Act of 1882 represents the first federal oversight effort concerning immigration, enacted by Congress. This law required every immigrant arriving in America by ship to pay a tax of fifty cents upon docking at the port. The funds collected under the immigration fund were authorized to be used by the Department of the Treasury to cover expenses related to immigration issues. - This law, along with the <i>Chinese Exclusion Act</i>, represents Congress's initial attempt to racially restrict immigration, having been approved by

	Congress. The law suspends the immigration of Chinese laborers to America for a period of ten years, effective from November 17, 1880. It allowed those already present to stay, but this restriction was strictly enforced during the period between 1882 and 1904.
1888	• The <i>Scott Act of 1888</i> prohibits the re-entry of Chinese nationals who had previously left America, effectively denying them new admissions.
1891	• A law signed by President Benjamin Harrison on March 3, 1891, stipulates that the entry of individuals who legally do not have the right to enter America is considered a fault.
1892	• The <i>Geary Act</i> extends the prohibitions of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 for an additional ten years and mandates that Chinese residents in the country obtain certificates proving their residency, as approved by Congress. Additionally, it stipulates that unregistered Chinese residents in America be subjected to forced labor in harsh conditions for one year. However, this provision was overturned in 1896 following the Wong Wing case, which declared it unconstitutional.
1917	• The <i>Immigration Act of 1917</i> bars the entry of immigrants from almost all of Southeast Asia and the Middle East, drawing on the precedent set by the Chinese Exclusion Act (This ban exempts certain professionals such as students, teachers, lawyers, government officials, doctors, and chemists.)
1921	• The <i>Emergency Quota Act of 1921</i> imposes limitations on immigration from other countries to America by establishing a quota system that restricts the number of immigrants allowed entry. Western countries and diplomats are exempt from these restrictions.
1924	• The <i>National Origins Quota Act of 1924</i> sets immigration quotas at 2% of each nationality's population in America as recorded in the 1890 census. Citizens from Western countries, as well as diplomats, students, teachers, lawyers, government officials, doctors, and chemists, are exempt from these quotas.
1942	• Following World War II, the <i>Bracero Agreement</i> was signed in 1942 by both Mexico and the United States to employ Mexican agricultural workers temporarily in America. Under this agreement, American employers were required to pay these workers the same wages as domestic agricultural workers. The agreement remained in effect until 1964. • Additionally, the Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed.

1945	The <i>War Brides Act</i> grants citizenship to the foreign spouses and children of soldiers who served in the military during World War II and were subsequently discharged.
1948	The <i>Displaced Persons Act of 1948</i> allows for the admission of Jews fleeing Nazis.
1952	The <i>Immigration and Nationality Act</i> consolidates all immigration laws into a single statute while maintaining nationality-based quotas. For the first time, it also allows countries from Asia to be eligible for admission to America.
1953	The Refugee Relief Act of 1953 covers the admission of 205,000 immigrants, particularly targeting individuals fleeing persecution in Europe.
1962	The Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, signed by President John F. Kennedy, specifically provides assistance to Cuban citizens seeking to escape Cuba if they reject communism.
1965	The <i>1965 Immigration and Nationality Act</i> defines that primary family members who have a close relative with American citizenship can be admitted to the country. It also states that, as of 1968, a cap of 120,000 people was set for those who could obtain permanent residence from Western countries.
1975	The <i>1975 Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act</i> states that the term "refugee" defines those fleeing from atrocities in Cambodia and Vietnam.
1976	The <i>Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of 1976</i> state that immigrants from Western countries are considered preferable and categorized under America's country preference.
1980	The <i>Refugee Act of 1980</i> defines "refugees" as individuals who are physically forced to live under persecution in their own country based on race, religion, or language.
1986	The <i>Immigration Reform and Control Act</i> aims to enhance border security and double the employment of personnel at the border and includes sanctions for employers who hire immigrants illegally. Additionally, it covers the registration of undocumented citizens and grants the right to apply for permanent residency to those who have engaged in agricultural activities for at least 90 days.
1988	The <i>Anti-Drug Abuse Act</i> covers the right to deport citizens involved in crimes such as murder, drug trafficking, and arms smuggling.
1990	The <i>Immigration Act of 1990</i> facilitates control over individuals in the temporary worker category and includes the conversion of deportation

	rights for citizens who commit serious crimes to a minimum of five years in prison. It also means that the authority of judges to make deportation decisions has been removed.
1994	• The <i>Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act</i> grants the attorney general the authority to deport foreigners involved in crimes.
1996	• The <i>Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act</i> grants the authority for expedited removal of individuals who lack proper entry documentation or are suspected of fraud.
1997	• The <i>Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act</i> describes a law that provides for remedial measures to prevent the deportation of nationals from Nicaragua, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, and countries of the former Soviet Union who possess professional qualifications.
1998	• The <i>Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act</i> covers the benefits provided to Haitian nationals who have professional competencies.
2001	• The <i>USA Patriot Act</i> covers the deportation of foreigners arriving in America if they are identified as having connections to terrorism, and increases the monitoring of non-citizen students.
2002	• The <i>Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act</i> covers the sharing of information about foreigners entering the country and citizens being deported through an electronic data system and mandates the creation of a program for this purpose. • Additionally, the <i>Homeland Security Act</i> covers the transfer of immigration-related data from the Department of Justice, which is responsible for border control, and the restructuring into three new agencies: Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Citizenship and Immigration Services.
2005	• The <i>REAL ID Act</i> includes the establishment of legal guidelines for cases pending in court concerning deported citizens, the expansion of reasons for deportation, the regulation of border security, and the detailed verification of the legal status of individuals issued driver's licenses.
2006	• The <i>Secure Fence Act</i> includes the enactment of immigration reform by Congress, despite being approved by the House but rejected by the Senate in 2005, and the construction of a wall covering more than 700 miles along the Mexican border. It aims to enhance security to prevent drug trafficking along the borders of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, control immigration, and install new technological equipment.

On the other hand, it is assumed in this dissertation that these immigration laws above have become one of the milestones in the series of events that shaped the sociocultural structure of the United States, which is heavily influenced by immigration today. These laws have served as a guiding beacon throughout history, providing a framework for achieving desired outcomes in similar contexts, processes, and procedures. From this perspective, the aforementioned legal changes have significantly influenced the sociological transformations involving immigration, adhering closely to the framework established by immigration laws. These legal changes have essentially previewed the legal foundation of America's current strength. The historical process which has been still influential on current US affairs has had a unifying effect on the new coming immigrant groups. Henceforth, the legal framework of naturalization has been further fortified by those immigrant groups who have gradually articulated into early settling British colonial heritage. Thereby, the administrative structure of the US has been and will probably have been radiated on all those demographic elements that made the United States into *the* United States.

4.2. The Process of the American War of Independence

With the ascension of the Stuart dynasty to the throne in England in the 17th century, significant English immigration began. During this period, known as the colonial era for America, foundational principles were established. This era, characterized by profound debates, was marked by a discourse environment created by individuals who believed that the state should have a written constitution. It is observed that the foundations of American political thought were laid during this period. The connection between the emerging theories and the subsequent actions validates this observation. Starting in 1607, England began settling the continent and established its first colony in Massachusetts. Over time, it expanded to 13 colonies, administering them according to the English model. The governor appointed by the king and the assembly exemplify this model. Although these colonies were subject to England's monarchical administrative structure, they operated with a degree of independence. Each colony had its own republican-based, egalitarian governance that included the will of the people. The geographical distance of England from the continent, the fact that those immigrating to America did not possess royal attributes (nobility), and the adventurous nature of individuals eager to establish their own world contributed to the formation of a republican-based governance system and a liberal

environment. People here felt more comfortable and freer, living accordingly. This situation significantly impacted newcomers, who shared the same sentiments. The administrative system in the colonial period, which included the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, was also present in the governance system applied in present America. In this system, based on these three fundamental branches, there was also a governor appointed by the king. In some colonies, however, this governor was not appointed but elected by landowners. The governor, as the head of the executive branch, could call the assembly to meetings and had the power to veto decisions. The governor also controlled the military force in the colonies and could decide who his aides would be. In most colonies with two assemblies, the first assembly called the Council, had members selected by landowners, ranging from 12 to 18, upon the governor's proposal. The second assembly differing from the first, could have 20 to 100 members, selected by vote among those who owned land income (Altıntaş, 2003, pp. 5-7).

When examining the colonial period, society emerges as a mosaic. During this era, communities with different nationalities, religions, languages, races, and cultures came together and entered an environment of coexistence. Native Americans, Africans, and Europeans living in North America formed the communities that contributed to this mosaic and fought for cultural unity. Among these communities, the English, who constituted about 70% of the population, were the main actors in the struggle for existence. During this period, which saw significant developments in many fields, critical steps were also taken in the field of education. The Puritans who migrated from England to America were an important group that contributed to these advancements. In 1636, Harvard College was established, which has significant reflections on the present world. Here, Puritans with intellectual capital began activities to train religious officials. The English colonies, which conducted pioneering studies in education, made an important decision in 1642, mandating the establishment of primary schools to teach reading and writing in places with a population of 50 or more households. During this period, which preceded the War of Independence, the English colonies aimed to achieve unity by establishing a system and order. The English colonies played a crucial role in building a system that would influence the modern world and, having gained the habit of acting freely, quickly grew by disregarding the decisions of the English Parliament. The great distance between

America and the English territories negatively affected the English Administration's ability to maintain control, leaving little room for intervention. In fact, the Board of Trade and Plantations of England completed its establishment process in 1696 to control the colonies operating in America, but the issue of long distances continued to be a problem for this institution as well, and it did not succeed (Altıntaş, 2003, p. 7).

When examining the history of America, the influence of England is remarkably prominent, leading the French and Dutch colonies to feel compelled to unite against this power. The ongoing Seven Years' War in Europe resulted in a victory for England, which positively impacted American colonies and further strengthened its power there. The Treaty of Paris, signed with France in 1763 following the victory, became a turning point for the American Revolutionary Wars. England, with the outcomes of the war, embarked on new regulations in its colonies, causing conflicts of interest among them. Although the colonies were significant sources of raw materials and markets for mercantilists, England was not content with this and desired more, expecting the colonies to conduct their imports and exports through England. In the subsequent years, England imposed restrictions on the colonies, which it perceived as potential competitors in trade and industry. However, it was not always successful in enforcing these across all areas and, at times, sought to implement its own decisions by disregarding parliamentary decisions. The colonies, having made significant industrial advancements and achieved economic independence through their industrial revolution, eventually sought to escape England's hegemony. The Seven Years' War victory against France provided an advantage to the English colonies in America as there was no longer any military threat from France. England's disregard for parliamentary decisions and representative bodies accelerated the unity among the colonies, officially initiating the struggle against England. Confronted with resistance, England repealed the "Stamp Act," but this further weakened its position as concessions led to more concessions. The colonies' growing courage turned into a complete disaster scenario for England. The medieval tradition of self-governance began to show its disadvantages in America, leading to class differences. This sense of sovereignty evolved into a system of exploitation in America, failing to implement the monarchical system as practiced in Europe, and ultimately succumbing to a revolutionary order led by its colonies. The colonies, rebelling against the taxation policies, convened a congress shortly after the Boston Tea Party with delegates

including George Washington and Benjamin Franklin. Within a short span of two months, they spread the revolution to break the chains of monarchy. The Declaration of Independence, published on July 4, 1776, proclaimed the end of the English Monarchy's dominance and announced the victory of the immigrants who had come from English lands to establish colonies in America and fought for a libertarian struggle (Altıntaş, 2003, pp. 7-10).

4.3. Road to Independence

On May 11, 1831, the young French aristocrat Alexis de Tocqueville embarked on a transatlantic journey to America to conduct observations. The results of this journey are reflected in his book; "Democracy in America." Tocqueville provides a detailed account of how the United States of America reached this point following the publication of the Declaration of Independence. There was a massive wave of immigration to America from England, France, Spain, and many other countries. However, when evaluated holistically, Tocqueville questioned why people came together with such great success and rejected monarchy. He explained that the primary reason for rejecting monarchy was the desire for an egalitarian form of governance, which he referred to as democracy. In addition to expressing this, Tocqueville noted that the individuals sent to America for political and religious reasons encountered the rule of law. America, viewed as a community of immigrants, offered equality and, more importantly, a new beginning for each individual. This precisely forms America's secret: a mindset freed from old traditions that constrained a libertarian perspective. When the English first arrived in America, the process, which is recorded as the greatest wave of migration in history, culminated in democracy (Kennedy, 1964, pp. 15-16).

Towards the end of the 19th century, significant changes occurred among the groups immigrating to America. With substantial numbers of people starting to migrate to America from Italy, Russia, Czechia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Austria, and Greece, new problems and crises began to arise. Among these people, "language" emerged as the biggest problem because they started arriving on the continent later than other immigrant groups. Upon arriving in America, they were forced to settle in urban centers. The poor conditions, poverty, and high tension among the people living in large cities reflected this situation. The occurrence of crimes committed due to depression further supported this situation. On the other hand, when considering the

groups that immigrated to America, Italy, excluding Germany, comprised the largest immigrant population. Observing the period between 1820 and 1930, nearly 4 million immigrants came to America, with the majority of this group consisting of farmers and tradesmen. Most of this group came from Northern Italy and decided to immigrate not due to religious or political problems but in pursuit of a brighter future. Scots shared a similar fate, with economic reasons driving them from rural areas to America. By the 19th century, people immigrating to America were employed in jobs requiring fewer skills compared to the earlier groups, primarily due to the language barrier. Fields such as the construction of cities and dams, coal mines, iron mines, and railroads were areas where this group worked more intensively. However, there is a notable distinction that sets Italians apart from others at this point. Over time, Italians broke these prejudices and began to occupy important positions in cities and contribute to American culture. Their contributions to the development of music, architecture, and art were significantly visible. An excellent example of this is Filippo Traetta, an Italian who founded the American Conservatory in Boston in 1800 and shortly thereafter in Philadelphia. Another Italian, Lorenzo da Ponte, contributed to the continuous development of this institution by presenting the first Italian Opera in New York in 1832. In cities like New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and other large cities, opera performances played a significant role in the development of music. The arrival of Italian sculptors in the country provided beautiful contributions to the field of architecture (Kennedy, 1964, pp. 51-54).

On the other hand, it could be illustrated above by the examples the United States as a sovereign nation has arguably been built upon via the path of migration. Furthermore, as the ongoing historical process has been involved it has made progress by going through the formation of multicultural social structure and thereby integration and assimilation. It could be easily emphasized that immigrants who left their home countries via transatlantic journeys made a fresh start in the new world, acquiring new skills or improving their existing trades to sustain their presence on the continent. Besides it could be argued that one of the most significant reasons behind the emergence of the present nation-state model is that this social frame and process of multicultural, integration and assimilation has been achieved over time so far. Additionally, it could be further stated that when people arrived on the continent, they not only adapted to living together and learned to coexist harmoniously but also

gradually developed the ability to work together. The United States, built with contributions from people of all nations within a kind of melting pot, established a federal structure involving multiculturalism, which has arguably offered and has continued to offer many opportunities to these people. Multiculturalism has particularly continued its formation via acculturation, whereby cultural domains such as art, architecture, music, and others have been the playground and work zone in which people from different nations have made significant and pioneering contributions, positively influencing the process of acculturation and the upbringing of new generations.

On the other hand, following the 19th century, approximately fifteen million immigrants arrived in America for various reasons, including political motives, religious persecution, and the hope for better economic conditions. Among these immigrants were diverse ethnic groups from Lithuania, Greece, Türkiye, and Armenia. These groups brought a wide array of cultures, including different languages, clothing styles, ideologies, and religious beliefs. Compared to earlier immigrants, those arriving in the 19th century found it more challenging to adapt. The largest immigrant groups came from Russia, Germany, and Austria-Hungary. The Germans and Scandinavians often established individual farms or small communities, naming them after their places of origin, and many Polish farm names still exist today. However, most of those who initially settled in rural areas have since moved to urban centers. Four-fifths of this group were Roman Catholic, and many retained their language, culture, and traditional dances. Like other immigrant groups, they initially lived under poor conditions, but over time, their status and living conditions gradually improved. They acquired their own homes and lands, and in places like Hamtramck, Michigan, and throughout Polish communities, the majority owned their properties. Jews hold a significant place in American immigration history. The most substantial wave of Jewish immigration came from Germany in the 19th century, following the earlier arrival of Spanish-Portuguese Jews during the colonial period. Today, the Jewish population in America exceeds six million. Jews have made direct contributions to America's development by sharing their expertise as intellectuals, philosophers, educators, political leaders, and social reformers. They have also influenced child labor laws and other labor forms, playing a key role in the growth of the clothing industry centered in New York. Prominent Jewish figures such as Morris Hillquit, Sidney

Hillman, Jacob Potofsky, and David Dubinsky emerged as influential leaders in the business sector. The contributions of educators, scientists, judges, lawyers, journalists, and literary figures, including renowned scientists like Albert Einstein and Edward Teller, who joined the wave of immigration from Europe to America, are undeniable. These individuals have significantly impacted the progress and development of modern America (Kennedy, 1964, pp. 54-59).

It could be emphasized that following the journeys of immigration, each new wave of migration has not only posed challenges for America but has also led to the development of a more homogeneous society through the amalgamation of diverse thoughts and cultures. It could also be asserted that the issues brought by immigration have, over time, become integrated into a cohesive existence. On the other hand, this point has also been clarified by Brzezinski (Brzezinski, 2004), the national essence of the United States has, likewise, been transformed into diversity from unity and unity from diversity within a historical demographical process that has been imminent following the first American senses in 1790 with a dominant white population of 80 percent when the United States was ethnically a nation-state into a multicultural nation with strategic social coherence with both its democracy and its global hegemony as a watchguard of global stability. Besides, it could be evidently stated that cultural unity has provided new opportunities for communities and nations to achieve the American Dream, creating a common path towards the same goal. Consequently, however, language has arguably been a significant barrier in this process, yet the coming together of different cultures has turned this barrier into an open door.

The 1953 report by the Presidential Commission on Immigration serves as evidence of the contributions made by immigrants to the formation of modern America. Many individuals, both named and anonymous, who migrated from different countries have significantly contributed to this development. Some of the European notable individuals who have made significant contributions are listed below (Kennedy, 1964, p. 63):

- Steel Industry: Andrew Carnegie (Scott)
- Fur Trade: John Jacob Astor (German)
- Meat-Packing Industry: Michael Cudahy (Irish)
- Munitions and Chemical Industry: The Du Ponts Family (French)

- Yeast Business: Charles L. Fleischmann (Hungarian)
- Radio Industry: David Sarnoff (Russian)
- Automobile Industry: William S. Knudsen (Danish)
- Scientist in Physics: Albert Einstein (German)
- Scientist in Electricity: Michael Pupin (Serbian)
- Atomic Research: Enrico Fermi (Italian)
- Airplane Development: Giuseppe Bellanca (Italian) and Igor Sikorsky (Russian)
- Industrial Chemistry: Lucas P. Kyrides (Greek)
- Opening The Texas Oil Fields: John A. Udden (Swedish)
- Invented the Hot Blast Furnace: David Thomas (Welsh)
- Invented the Telephone: by Alexandre Graham Bell (Scot)
- Invented the Flashlight: by Conrad Hubert (Russian)
- Invented the Linotype Machine: by Ottmar Mergenthaler (German)

Based on the observations, it could be put forward that the Europeans who directly influenced the formation of modern America and shaped the continent also managed the conditions of African-descended black people, determining their futures on the continent of the US. While Europeans were shaping America's destiny, they also determined the fates of Native Americans and Africans. It could be further argued that Native Americans, being the indigenous people of the continent, and African people who were migrants, shared a similar destiny. However, it could easily be inferred that there was a significant difference: Native Americans faced a survival struggle and were concerned about their existence in the so-called States since they had been the inhabitants of America before it was rediscovered by Christopher Columbus. Nevertheless, though black people were slaves that is the immigrants at the lowest level have struggled in the United States. Consequently, it could be further concluded that evidently, black Africans have acquired existential and civil rights either to be assimilated or integrated into the multi-racial, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural sociocultural tissue of the United States. Furthermore, although black Africans have taken great strides in integration, it could be evidently asserted that Native Americans have had few gains in the game of survival and existence.

At this point, regarding African-descended black people, two dominant perspectives had emerged by the 18th century; (Woodson, 2001, pp. 11-17)

1. The anti-slavery group,
2. The group that believed black people were an inferior class incapable of fulfilling the duties of citizenship.

The northern region of America was considered a safer area for black people, while the southern region stood out as the area where black people were persecuted. After the publication of the American Declaration of Independence, some saw colonization as a solution to the issues and considered sending black people back to Africa. However, due to the influence of modernity, this idea did not gain general approval. Later, the idea of settling black people in the western regions was brought up, but since there was no consensus on how white people would utilize black people, this policy was not implemented. Looking back to the early years of America's exploration, a system of slavery was developed. The first victims of white people were Native Americans, and following them, black people began to be used as slaves. Among Native Americans, those who did not accept slavery and resisted captivity were more numerous. Most chose to fight rather than accept this captivity. On the other hand, some Native Americans who accepted captivity embraced slavery and even enslaved those they captured in battle. In this way, they held a certain number of white and black people as slaves. The term "*Pani*" (derived from the Pawnee Indians who accepted slavery) was even used synonymously with slaves in the West. Following the Native Americans, the enslavement of black people dates back to the early 18th century. The Louisiana territories under French control were managed with colonial regulations. Antoine Crozat, appointed to manage this region, was authorized for slave trafficking but only took steps for slave importation in 1717. In 1719, 500 black people were brought from Guinea to work in Lower Louisiana, followed by another 500 to work in Upper Louisiana. During this process, five slave settlements were established along the Mississippi, but no more slaves were brought to the continent until the end of the 18th century. The 1787 Ordinance did not affect the master-slave relationship, and the Jay Treaty, which guaranteed settlers all kinds of property, laid the groundwork for slavery. Additionally, when the issue of slavery began to arise in the Northwest Territories at the end of the 18th century, three types of slavery had formed;

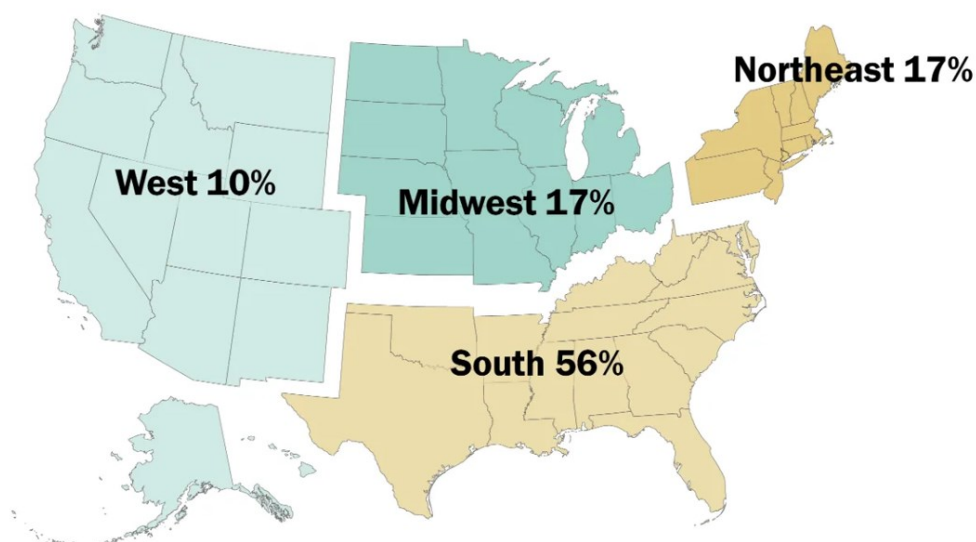
1. Slaves who were in the service of the French before the lands were ceded to England and continued to be protected by their masters according to the 1763 agreement,
2. Slaves who were under British ownership during the Jay Treaty period and whose property status was preserved by the treaty,
3. Slaves were brought from states where slavery was legal, starting from the period when the lands were governed by the United States.

Despite the existence of different types of slaves and groups that supported slavery, freedom ultimately became the final status for the black people living on these lands (Woodson, 2001, pp. 11-17).

Figure 18: Black U.S Population Lives in the South (Center)

Majority of the Black U.S. population lives in the South

% of Black U.S. population living in the ___, in 2021



Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. "Black" refers to people who self-identify as Black, including single-race Black, multiracial Black and Black Hispanic people.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2021 American Community Survey (IPUMS).

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Although the United States had abolished the slave trade, it imported new waves of black African slaves until the outbreak of the Civil War therein the argument by southern planters and northern manufacturers that slaves were a pre-requisite for the development of the US economy (Unesco, 1978, p. 26).

On the other hand, *“in the United States, the victory of the northern States in the Civil War put an end to the Atlantic slave trade. With the emergence of colonies in Africa, Africans began to be more needed at home than in the New World”* (Unesco, 1978, p. 27).

It is emphasized that being a slave and overcoming this perception in American society was very difficult, as the notion of white superiority and black inferiority persisted for a long time even after slavery was abolished. Over time, black people began to gain certain rights and engaged in arduous struggles to prove their existence. However, I also believe that this struggle involved many disadvantages because eliminating prejudices was extremely challenging at that time, and breaking these prejudices was directly related to individuals' social status. Gaining social status was not easy for black people.

Despite the assistance of many philanthropists, black people remained dependent on government aid to sustain their lives. They lived amidst poverty, disease, and crime in their communities. Their sole aim was the hope of reaching free lands. Apart from a few exceptions, such as the purchase of homes and job opportunities in preparation for migration, black people were mostly forced to migrate to places they did not want to go. As the years passed, their anger grew, and they were on the brink of rebellion against these unbearable conditions (Woodson, 2001, pp. 11-17). On the other hand, the issue of captivity of the blacks resulted in a strong controversy between northern and southern states. Furthermore, there were structural differences between these regions in that southern states and their people were largely Catholic, and the economic structure was mainly basically based on agriculture specifically some crops such as cotton, rice, tobacco, and sugar plantation. More dramatically majority of the workforce consisted of black slaves. Plus, agriculture was mainly based on big plantations. Henceforth, 3,200,000 black slaves were the component of 23 million populations of the whole United States in 1850, and most of the black slaves lived in the South. On the other hand, in South Carolina and Mississippi, the majority of the

population consisted of just blacks. Plus, in Louisiana, the percentages of blacks and whites were the same. Thereby, the black population was in a relatively hot climate zone, flat and arable and the density of the blacks was less in mountains and bare soil. On the other hand, the population of the northern states was mainly Protestant. Furthermore, these regions were economically industrialized with coal and iron mines which were influential in the development of the industry there. Where in the southern states there was almost no industry. Therefore, the South was dependent on the North in terms of industrial products which were protected by customs walls by the North. That was against the interest whole of the South. It can easily be seen that black slaves were of no use for industry. Such conflicts continued on and on. Henceforth, the primary reasons for the Civil War were economic (Armaoğlu, 2020, s. 701-708). Based on this study asserted it could be that though human rights the principles of the French Union and the supremacy of law played a major role in the outbreak of the Civil War these influences were secondary compared with economic reasons.

While this situation was less pronounced in the northern region, the anger of black people in the southern region was steadily increasing. Faced with harsh conditions, many black people in the south began migrating to the northern region. However, adjusting to the conditions there proved difficult, and accessing job opportunities brought new problems. The local population also engaged in significant debates about how to incentivize job opportunities for black people. Although the labor groups in the North did not oppose the emancipation and enlightenment of black people, they saw them as competitors in the struggle for life. This situation became a turning point for northern workers, and prejudices quickly emerged as black people sought to develop their skills and take on roles as skilled workers in industrial centers. In the subsequent period, particularly in the 19th century, white people developed their skills in skilled jobs and pursued policies of opposition against black people. The conflict against black labor classes escalated in later years, with restrictions imposed on labor classes in states like Maryland, Georgia, and eventually Pennsylvania. Despite all this, the tendency among white people to learn how to solve problems increased over the years, and after 1840, this effort became evident and widespread (Woodson, 2001, pp. 71-74).

Black people showed a tendency to work in suitable positions, and over the following years, they bought homes and acquired properties. They built churches and

established educational institutions. Some made significant contributions in the business world, accumulating wealth. Black people who resided in the northern region for long periods experienced economic development over time. Some notable black individuals in respectable positions include Lewis Hayden in clothing, William Platt and Joseph Cassey in lumber trading, Mr. W.H. Topp in tailoring, New Yorker Henry Scott in pickle making, Thomas Downing in restaurant management, and Edward V. Clark in jewelry and silver work. The progress of black people occurred harmoniously, with those who became financially better off helping others more. During the same years, black people in Philadelphia also achieved significant success. In 1832, black people in Philadelphia owned taxable property worth \$350,000, which increased to \$400,000 by 1847. In 1837, they had 16 churches and 100 aid organizations; by 1847, these numbers had grown to 19 churches and 106 aid organizations. Mr. James Forten, a prominent property owner and one of the sail factory owners, employed both white and black workers in his factory. Stephen Smith, Whipper, Vidal, and Purnell were also wealthy individuals. Coal merchants Still and Bowers, furniture dealer Adger, renowned painter Bowser, and skilled shoemaker William H. Riley were among the notable black people operating in Philadelphia. These examples represent just a few of the many instances of black people's transformation and progress. Black people in the northern region showcased their talents in various fields, not just economics. Black inventors, doctors, dentists, teachers, skilled preachers, scholars, and lawyers contributed to America's struggle for democracy. Among these professions, nearly 30 individuals worked in newspapers, using them as a tool for advocacy. Frederick Douglass, known for his close relationship with Abraham Lincoln, was one of these individuals. These communities, which began to influence Africans, significantly contributed to the identity formation of black people, once considered a problem. Their most effective means of overcoming these problems was acting cooperatively. With the Congress held in Philadelphia in 1830, black people's spread accelerated, supporting education, religion, and morality, while providing black people with vocational training to participate in the business world. This led to an increase in entrepreneurship and union activities. As a result of these efforts, 19th-century black people worked under better conditions compared to the previous generation, and people once seen as a problem rose to a position where they contributed to and played an active role in the formation of the American nation (Woodson, 2001, pp. 75-85).

Besides it could be argued that the American Continent is the land where White Europeans came with the hope of obtaining a new world and a better future, and subsequently, every kind of struggle was fought for better living conditions. Today thereby it could be concluded that the completion of the establishment process of the United States emerged as a result of this struggle. Consequently, it could be finally concluded that after promising people new opportunities, the hope of a better life, and land acquisition, some achieved what they wanted, while others became the losers in this struggle. Furthermore, it could be asserted that the description of the United States as a state built on a colonial heritage has been transformed into a pole of new imperialism for global hegemony. However, this strikingly ambitious role of the United States all its stunning power over the rest of the world does not work for the good of some of its people domestically. Thereby, it could be inferred that the privileged elite of the country is the major beneficiary of this global domination.

Noam Chomsky expressed his views on how the indigenous people were included in the assimilation processes during the early days of the rediscovery of America as follows: (Chomsky, Sömürgecilikten Küreselleşmeye Heinz Dietefich'in Söyleşiyle, 2001, p. 19), "The indigenous peoples have been belittled since the early period of the invaders' arrival. If no rights are assigned to them on the lands where they sustain their lives, how they are labeled is meaningless. Animals were also named differently at that time, but this did not cause any concern. Today, in America, English-speaking people and the unwritten English laws imposed on the regions where the English settled at that time. As the original settlers, the indigenous people could not claim any rights due to these laws, while the invaders became the rightful owners. While the indigenous people were hunter-gatherers, trying to turn them into law-abiding citizens was one of the biggest mistakes made. Until the early 1970s, some anthropologists also stated that there was documented evidence and archaeological studies to believe that settled people were hunter-gatherers. The answer to why these mistakes were made was simple: it was claimed that the people living there had no rights to the land and were only there to hunt. This was also the reason why Europeans argued for years that this was moral or legal. Therefore, from the perspective of the European white man, it did not matter if the indigenous people came from India or elsewhere. In the 1960s, a positive cultural change began to occur. In those years, for the first time, the question of what happened to Native Americans was asked, and there

was an awareness that the continuation of the question "Who are the Indians?" was rooted in racist nature”.

Noam Chomsky, who expressed that the implementation of America's current Middle East policy is also rooted in America's past habits, continues as follows; (Chomsky, Vahşi ABD Emperyalizmi, 2014, pp. 11-12) “One of the greatest libertarians, Thomas Jefferson, advocated that this newly born empire should expand and become a 'homeland' and that the roots of the 'Indians' should be eradicated, thus destroying indigenous rights. This idea was followed by the notion that blacks should be sent back to Africa when they were no longer needed. It is evident that from the earliest time, America not only exhibited an anti-black attitude but also adopted a racist approach. Thomas Jefferson upheld this ideal, and others agreed with this notion. This situation defined America as a settler colonial society. Settler colonialism is one of the most brutal forms of colonialism. Hence, the United States' current support for Israel and Israel's similar stance to America's imperialist policies also have historical roots. The desire and struggle to settle on the promised lands have the same origin as the desire to settle in Massachusetts”.

The New World, which promised hope to people, was the only country where it was never possible to notice the great chain descending in layers from the nobleman who maintained his life in the cities with all its transformations over time to the savage in the countryside. America is a place that was visited to be seen but where the expected scenery was not found. Here, there is only one society. The United States depicts a place where there are all kinds of differences—rich, poor, ostentatious, unassuming—but dominated by a single element. The same elements can be found in every part of the United States. The same style of dress, mindset, language, habits, and tastes were gathered together. This phenomenon could not be fully described. It could not portray the countryside, the simple, the wild, or the village. The United States provided people with ample education, a republican spirit, and uniformity (Tocqueville, 2017, s. 12-13).

America represents modern freedom. It has neither a past nor a founding reality. Due to the lack of accumulated knowledge about time, it feels the need to live in a constant state of update. It does not have ancestral lands and gives Native Americans the opportunity to live within the boundaries it has drawn for them.

America represents the place where utopia is realized. Today, America is in a crisis, much like the crisis Europe experienced. However, while Europe suffers from the inability to achieve its difficult historical ideals, the United States is experiencing a crisis of continuity. Their belief in being the center of the world is followed by a sense of continuing justice, abundance, rights, wealth, and uniqueness with natural resources, technology, and weapons. The United States, due to the geographical and mental disconnection caused by migration, is progressing toward a culture that contemplates creating an artificial ideal world in the crisis of realizing all these values (Baudrillard, 2018, pp. 96-97).

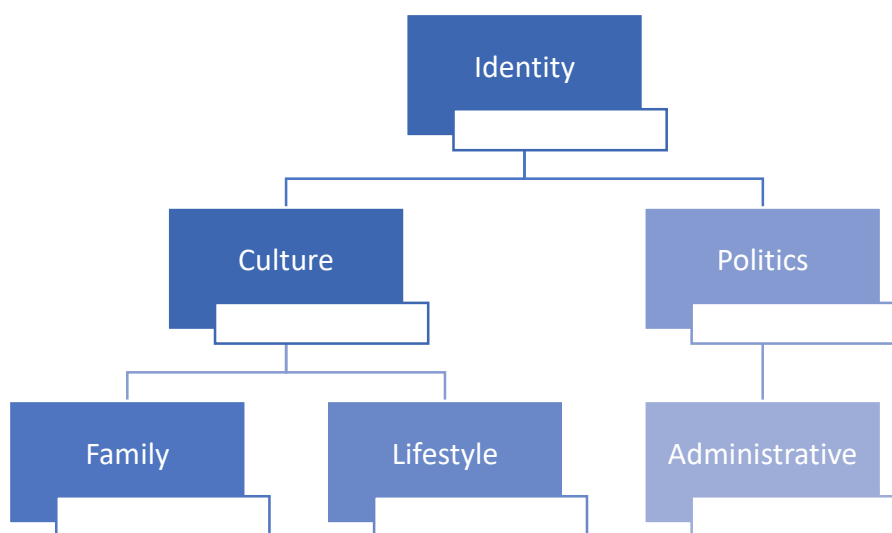
On the other hand, based on the considerations of this study it could be asserted that America has built its foundations on the concepts of a land of liberties and opportunities, and has also struggled to attract people from other countries to its territories. The publication of the United States Declaration of Independence was an important step in defining its place in the modern sense of freedom of thought, which is still relevant today. This declaration prioritizes the protection of individual rights and freedoms, while also being a significant element in shaping a nation's ideological and intellectual structure. Freedom of thought is considered one of the foundational pillars of American society, and in this context, the thoughts of Jean Baudrillard and Noam Chomsky align with critiques of American culture and media. Baudrillard, with his theory of "simulations and simulacra," argues that the boundaries between reality and representations are increasingly blurred, with the media playing a central role in this process. Conversely, Chomsky analyzes the manipulative power of the media and government over society through concepts of "privileged access to information" and "empire". Both thinkers offer a deep critique of how freedom of thought theoretically operates within American society while highlighting the potential deviations from idealistic promises in practice. Particularly, Baudrillard's concept of hyperreality and Chomsky's emphasis on "modes of production" shed light on how freedom of thought can be shaped through the media. In conclusion, both theorists critically assess the American paradigm of freedom of thought within their theoretical frameworks, questioning the limits and possibilities of this freedom.

On the other hand, French philosophers Rousseau and Montaigne have clarified that handling with the other must be based on cultural relativism. However, the colonial practices in America did not develop in the direction that Rousseau and

Montaigne signified. Furthermore, as Montaigne put forward being the other does not mean that the other is less qualified, either (Khemira, 2022, pp. 42-43).

Besides, the dynamics of the 21st century American and global economy is arguably one of the basic tools that we can use to explain why there is support for disfavor against immigration and immigrants. However, as it is clear economics range from the short run to the long run, on the other hand, one of the founding fathers of the science of economics Sir John Maynard Keynes claimed that we would be of that in the long run as cited by Hall et al. (Hall et al., 2012, p. 203). As it could be clearly stated in the science of economics short term refers to one or two years however, the long run refers to twenty to thirty years. Henceforth, criticism against immigration and immigrants stem from either short or medium-term. It could be argued that concerns against migration involve economic, societal or cultural even political issues. One of the primary arguments of anti-immigration concerns focuses on the preservation of American identity in the United States. In addition, one of the administrative issues is legislature concerning immigration which has evolved through several centuries in the United States.

Figure 19: American Identity



As it could be argued by figure 19 above, the concern for American identity is one of the strongest counter-arguments about immigration into the United States by those who support the American ideal of *E Pluribus Unum* as the result of the melting pot of the United States. However, in recent dates, some have argued that

multiculturalism should replace E Pluribus Unum in that preserving the second identity is beneficial for the United States. Furthermore, as the figure 18 outlines the American identity is the basic parameter for whether to support or disfavor immigrants into the United States. On the other hand, as identity is the umbrella term culture and politics are also important issues for the US and global agenda concerning immigrants. According to Chiswick&Miller as cited by Hall et al. (Hall et al., 2012, p. 205), multicultural policies have also pluses and minuses in that they can reduce the level of economic and cultural assimilation of new immigrants while having the potential of lowering the potential of absorption of the new immigrants by the host population.

As the 21st century American politics involves multiculturalism that promotes cultural diversity it also has a reinforcing effect on ethnic identity as mentioned by Hall et al. (Hall et al., 2012, p. 205). Furthermore, as mentioned by Aragao et al. (Aragão et al., 2023, pp. 2-4) 21st century the American family has been drastically changing in that the number of those Americans who get married at a later age is more than those who get married in early age and there is a big share of American population who never get married. In addition, the number of children whose mothers give birth has been declining. Besides, there are a lot of women who never had children. All in all, parenthood has not been bound by marriage. If the dynamics for those changes have been analyzed, in the 21st century the factors concerning racial, epic, and immigrant parameters play a major role. For instance, Asian and White adults are inclined to get married more than Black or Hispanic Americans.

It could be put forward that there is an undeniable association between lifestyle and health. It could be easily argued that physical and mental health is relevant to mortality. As mentioned by Case&Deaton (Case & Deaton, 2017, pp. 1-3), mortality rates are concerned with education, age, ethnic and immigrant origin. From this perspective, midlife mortality is more common in middle-aged non-Hispanic Whites due to the deaths of despair that is deaths because of drugs, alcohol, and suicide.

The administrative structure of the United States relies on the founding legal documents that is the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution that welcome those arrivals in the era of the founding fathers who were the early settlers of the United States from Great Britain. This point is so strongly penetrated the administrative system that the Declaration of Independence functions as an electric

chord that shrines over later arrivals for those who are the descendants of the American Revolution and not later coming immigrants (Khanna, 2018, p. 2). On the other hand, it could be arguably asserted that although the core essence of the United States is the WASP identity the recent developments signify that there is a growing tendency in the American culture to evolve into a multicultural society and instead of melting immigrants preserving their immigrant identities has inclined to burgeon.

4.4. Methodological Conclusion of the Chapter IV

All the data gathered and displayed in the previous chapters have been transformed into findings via discussing them in the light of a perspective unique to this thesis in that it is an outlook of the United States from the semi-peripheral that is Türkiye obtaining the findings has been on both re-interpreting the data and visualizing the relevant associations made between theory concepts, facts, Realpolitik, daily culture involving lifestyle, education, and popular culture. The dynamics of how these elements made up American identity have been re-interpreted by the author in the light of both his standpoint and findings out of the data of the previous chapters that have matured and feedbacked the discussion. Likewise, relevant figures have been designed by the author from the perspective of the relevant subjects.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Based on the considerations of this study it could be commented from a historical perspective, that the continent of America was not discovered for the first time, but rather rediscovered. Here, the fate of the Native American ancestors, who migrated internally, brought together Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans. The point at which fate intervened is crucial. While Native Americans continued their lives as the indigenous people of the continent, European and African immigrants have played a critical role in shaping modern America. There are three pivotal moments in the formation of today's America:

- The Rediscovery Period: The continent was rediscovered by Columbus in 1492,
- The Existence Period: The official formation of the United States following the publication of the Declaration of Independence in 1776,
- The Transformation Period (Proving Its Existence): This period encompasses the era of colonization in America, which also involved slavery.

On the other hand, at present, one of the characteristics that define America is its freedom-enhancing environment, alongside the provision of freedom of expression. Strong democratic developments such as societal self-criticism in America are reflected in the discussions and findings sections of the thesis, supported by cited opinions. For example, Chomsky, despite being a Jewish immigrant who maintained his identity, represents a significant example of this, offering American-centric narratives. Additionally, Jean Baudrillard, as a French critic, addresses American culture with constructive and gentle criticism, often highlighting America as a land of modern freedoms and pointing out its continuous struggle to maintain its superpower status. American Declaration of Independence laid the ideological foundations for a new nation while emphasizing individual rights and freedoms, thereby offering a

concrete expression of the ideals of liberty and equality. This historic document facilitated the promotion of free thought by enabling the free expression and dissemination of ideas, which in turn paved the way for innovations in scientific, philosophical, and political arenas. Freedom of thought, a fundamental cornerstone of American society, has contributed to the strengthening of democratic institutions and has also triggered the development of various artistic and cultural movements. The environment of free thinking has shaped cultural dynamics across a wide spectrum, from the American Renaissance to Modernism. During this process, the impact of freedom of thought on American society has played a critical role not only within political and legal frameworks but also in transforming social and cultural norms. However, the period following the Declaration of Independence sometimes indicates a controversial and conflictual process. The free circulation of ideas, alongside societal change and progress, has occasionally led to polarization and conflicts. Yet, these dynamics underscore the importance of freedom of thought as a fundamental element of societal change and highlight the continuously evolving structure of American culture.

The colonial period in America witnessed a process of acculturation. While various interpretations have been proposed by Berry, contrary to Milton, argues that an adaptation process occurred here and that this adaptation was achieved, but it was carried out along with assimilation. On the other hand, Milton contends that the acculturation process was facilitated through adaptation. These two views are significant for interpreting the cultural interactions and transformations in colonial America, and both perspectives are valuable for understanding the social and cultural dynamics of that period. Such academic differences illustrate how historians and sociologists can evaluate events from different angles. Furthermore, European settlers in America subjected the indigenous Native American population to a process of cultural and political assimilation. Comparing the fates of African Blacks and Native Americans, we see two distinct groups evolving in different directions. Although Africans were brought to the continent through slavery, they have made significant advances both commercially and in political representation through education and other investments. On the other hand, Native Americans have experienced a process of extinction. Today, Native Americans no longer hold significant influence. In the timeline presented by history, while Africa rises on gains, Native Americans have

declined on losses. Perhaps the commonality between the two groups is the concept of victimhood. While both groups have experienced victimhood, African Blacks have emerged more advantaged in America, a land of opportunities that has empowered them while displacing the indigenous Native Americans.

Astonishingly early settlers of America escaping from the aristocratic bounds of Great Britain have established the foundations of the United States so profoundly that all those assimilation processes of the following centuries so far have built upon those foundations. Furthermore, assimilation has played an umbrella function over acculturation which made all the rest of the immigrant groups naturalized as part of American identity. In addition, those settlers have preserved some British institutions and rebuilt others on the essence of freedom, liberty, individualism, pragmatism, and even transcendentalism and puritanism part of which has evolved into liberal democratic conventions of the United States. However, the demographic structure has brought a bonanza for Anglo-conformity for early settlers coming from Great Britain unheal and misfortune for particularly Native Americans. Throughout the centuries of naturalization from the colonial period to the present United States democratic traditions which hang over society, politics and culture like the sword of the Damocles have fortified the founding fathers/spirit of American identity in a recycling rotation on all new coming immigrant groups. Henceforth, liberalism has partly emerged from the colonial ties which were like a Gordian's knot due to escaping from the imperial aristocratic bonds. Nevertheless, British institutions like Harvard College, founded in the early 19th century, have contributed to the formation of elite tradition from the early period of the United States and so far. The fundamentals of the United States have built upon federal republican constitutional democratic structure within the framework of historical continuity ranging from the 16th century to the present time.

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