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**The Civil Rights Movement and Its Impact on Black Minority
and Obama's Political Career**

*A dissertation submitted to the department of English in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for a Master Degree in Literature and Civilization.*

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Declaration

This work's main ideas are my own initiation. I confirm that this assignment is my own work, it is not copied from any other person's work (published or unpublished), and has not been previously submitted for assessment either at Amar Telidji University or elsewhere. Other works are involved either by paraphrasing, summarizing, or direct quoting; accompanied with full acknowledgments to their contributions to our research. Thus, I declare as I consider that any kind of plagiarism will result in the failure of our project.

Dedication

First and foremost, we have to thank our parents for their love and support throughout our lives. Thank you for giving us the strength to chase our dreams. Our sisters, brothers, aunts and cousins deserve our wholehearted thanks as well.

To all our friends, thank you for your understanding and encouragement in our many moments of crisis. Your friendship makes our lives a wonderful experience. We cannot list all the names here, but you are always in our minds.

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Finally, we would like to thank all those who supported us in any respect during the completion of the work.

Abstract

The dissertation's objectives are to examine and treat a specific era in the history of the United States of America, which it had witnessed and suffered from race issues. Also, this work is going to shed the light on one of the epic social and political event, that it took a place in the American society, which is the civil rights movement. This peaceful manifestation brought radical changes to African -Americans and the constitution by neglecting the injustice and maltreatment toward them. The impact of civil rights movement was the start to pave the way for many black leaders in order to achieve their goals; including Obama as the first black senate and from there to the presidency of the United States of America. Thanks to the civil rights movement, Obama was elected for two terms as the president of the United States and the African American minority is being treated equally.

List of Abbreviations

NAACP: National Association for Advanced Colored

SNCC: The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

CORE: The Congress for Racial Equality

ACA: The Affordable Care Act

ARRA: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

ESSA: Every Student Succeeds Act

ACA: Affordable Health Care Act of 2010

NCLB: No Child Left Behind Act

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General Introduction

The United States of America is considered as of the culturally rich country in the world thanks to the multicultural structure of its population. The American history witnessed a challenging event that symbolized and shaped the American society of today. One of the most epic events was the slavery, which it was flourished throughout the American colonies in the 17th and the 18th centuries. The abolition of the civil war to slavery came after a long fight from the reconstruction era to the civil rights movement. Racism and racial discrimination took a clear path in the American history that affected the black minority. So, the legacy of slavery continued throughout the civil rights movement during the middle of 20th century to gain social justice and equality to the African- American minority in all America.

The civil rights movement was shaped by certain challenging racial events and other organization that helped for the flourishing of this manifestation against these discriminated behaviors of the white majority. For instance: the incident of Rosa park in Montgomery which was known by Montgomery bus boycott of 1955, in which it became a national attention to the bus discrimination. These events brought radical changes and touched many different sectors. Furthermore, a number of organizations and association appeared to defend the blacks, including: The National Advanced of Colored People and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In addition, several acts were signed to bring constitutional equality to the African Americans such as: the civil rights act of 1957 and 1964 and The Voting Act of 1965.

Many famous activists and leaders gave notoriety and helped for the continuation of the movement, including Martin Luther king, John F Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. Those were the heart of the civil rights movement, to which they worked to give their support, time

and effort for the same goal which is social equality and to serve this oppressed minority. Not to mention, these notable civil rights leaders changed the course of history through their activism. For instance: Martin Luther king Jr. who was famous by his famous speech “I Have a Dream” at the March of Washington. Moreover, both of the United States presidents John F Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson

Thanks to the African- American movement that rejected all the racial abuse that lasted till the present day. Many opportunities were opened to the blacks and the American society started to get along this class. As a reaction the black efforts start to appear and be more productive and cohabited, new black faces entered the picture to be known in the political American field and in the presidential candidacy. In the early 21th century, Obama introduced himself to run for the seat of the senate in 2004 after a long career in law. And after winning the senate, Obama continued to run for the presidency and started his own presidential campaign in the Democratic Party. After a long race in the presidential campaign, Barak Obama was chosen as the first black person to be the 44th president of the United States of America and beating his opponents.

Although, the problem of racism in Obama’s presidential campaign, but he made the possible to win the election in a fair and well previsioned way. Obama was considered as one of the most successful president in the history of America, and by his success he gathered the public attention. Obama did his best to serve America and the American people by the improving the standards of living and enhancing the most important sectors which are: The education and The healthcare sectors. Eventually, Obama was re- elected again for two terms in a role. The president Obama succeeded to unify the American society by putting an end to all the kinds of discrimination and racial inequity in every corner.

Our objectives are to study and to examine and to strengthen the individual's initiative of the minorities by presenting the Civil Rights Movement as a background of Obama's election as the first black president for the United States of America.. To be specific, how did the Civil Rights Movement influence the American society to bring social justice and change to America and its effects toward Obama's presidency? In addition, the movement tried to cover two major sectors political and social, through highlighting the major events that brought change to the African- American minority. Our dissertation attempts to answer these questions: what are the major events that helped for this change? In what way did the Civil Rights Movement bring change to the American society? Did the African- American movement succeeded to bring social justice to the black minority and to American society? How did the Civil Rights Movement serve Obama to be the first African-American president? And what was the reaction of the American society toward Obama's presidency?

The dissertation is organized into three chapters. The first one deals with the Civil Rights Movement as an introduction. Also it covers all the major events that took a part in the American history during the 1950s. In addition, we shed the light on the famous leaders and activists of the movement and their contribution to the movement and the American community. The second chapter shows Obama's life before the presidency and how did he run for the presidential candidacy. Also, the chapter covers Obama's first presidential campaign and his achievements during the first term. The third chapter describes the second campaign of Obama and the major achievement and changes that Obama brought to the American society.

Chapter One:

The Civil Rights Movement In Favor Of the Black Minority

Introduction

The civil rights movement was a non-violent struggle for social justice and equal opportunities for the blacks in the United States of America; the movement started from the mid-1950's till the 1970's in order to gain their rights under the law. The Civil War had abolished slavery once and for all, but it did not exclude discrimination and segregation against the African- Americans community. Indeed, Blacks faced another kind of oppression in the form of Jim Crow laws, especially in the south that witnessed a massive amount of inequity and racism. By the middle of the 20th century, the targeted minority of the American society started unprecedented fight for social justice and equality. This chapter attempts to highlight the movement's main events by focusing on gaining several deserved citizenship rights for this community including the right to vote; it has also influenced the modern women's rights movement to recapture their possessed rights. This movement was fueled by famous people who took the leading role in defending the African Americans rights including as Martin Luther King and John. F. Kennedy. The impact of the movement lasted till nowadays.

1.2 The National Association for Advanced Colored People (NAACP)

The NAACP stands for The National Association for Advanced Colored People; it was established in 1909 in New York City by white and black intellectual activists such as W.E.B Dubois, IDA B.Wells and Merry Church Terrell. The association is also considered one of the oldest and largest organizations that fought the ongoing violence and discrimination against the African Americans all over the country. It held the principals of equality in all domains of civil life such as education, employment and social justice. During the 1950s and the 1960s, the NAACP played a major role and won major legal victories. Today the NAACP has several branches and a lot of members worldwide

In addition, back in 1917 The NAACP helped to organize the biggest rallies in the U.S history such as the Silent March; to protest lynching campaigns and violence against the blacks, by which the march was the most successful one that stood against inequity and unsocial justice for African Americans. Fighting the Jim Crow Laws to maintain legal segregation were the top priorities of the NAACP that in 1915 the movement outlawed and challenged the law by considering The Grandfather Clause was unconstitutional and finally the wave won a legal victory.

Furthermore, the NAACP gave a strong push for one of the famous marches ever known by The March of Washington August 1963; it was characterized by drawing the attention of the American public and demanding total freedom and equal employment opportunities. The march was also the occasion of Martin Luther King to deliver his famous speech "I Have a Dream". The NAACP also had a hand in running the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer and help in the organizing of the voting registration project. The organization did not use the legal system only to defend the African Americans rights, but it also used new techniques to convince the American public of the need for racial equality through speeches, legal advocacy and organizing. During the civil rights era, the NAACP

successfully attempted to convince and press the passage of landmark legislation including The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and The Voting Act of 1965. Today the NAACP is still focusing on its traditional issues such as the injustice in jobs, education, and healthcare as well as protection of the voting rights.(Dyson 65)

1.3 The Montgomery bus boycott 1955

One of the major events that took a place in the 1950s is the Montgomery Bus Boycott. On the 1st of December 1955, a 42-year-old African American woman named Rosa Parks took a seat at the front of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama after returning from work. At that time, segregation laws declared that the blacks must sit in designated seats at the back of the bus and Rosa Parks had complied, when a white man could not find a seat on the white section at the front. The Bus driver ordered Parks and three other blacks to give up their seats, and when they refused that they were arrested. After this incident, Rosa Parks became the mother of the new civil rights movement; she was considered as one of the most famous activists who served the movement against Jim Crow laws. This was not the first incident of a black person getting arrested for refusing to give up his seat in segregated bus. But there were plenty of African- American passengers who were arrested for the same offense. A 15-year-old girl named Claudette Colvin was riding a bus back from high-school, when the driver demanded her to give her seat for the white woman she refused; so, she was handcuffed by the police. This was the fourth black female plaintiffs included in the federal court case Browder V. Gayle.

The Supreme Court effectively ended the bus segregation in the south by the testimony of Claudette and the help of many activists, including Rosa Parks who gave them a test case to defend in the court of justice and build a case. This kind of resistance of Rosa Parks, Claudette Colvin and other ordinary women became the life force of this civil rights

movement. Thanks to Parks many activists turned to be the country's best-known leaders of the movement such as Martin Luther king.

1.4 Little Rock Crisis 1957:

In May 17, 1954 the U.S Supreme Court declared the desegregation of American public schools, many other school districts refused integration, in which they obliged to the African Americans and white students to attend in separated schools with segregated laws. A second decision issued by the Supreme Court known as Brown II ordered for school districts integration. The Little Rock Nine was a group of nine African- American students who tried to register in the central high school in Little Rock, Arkansas in September 4th, 1957. Their attendance to the school was a test of the decision of Supreme Court which held that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional.

The black students had been recruited and guided with intensive sessions by Daisy Gaston Bates, the president of the NAACP and an influential co-publisher for an African-American newspaper. The first day of classes in central high, the black students took the risk and went to the high schools frightened, but they were insulted and abused by the protesters who blocked their way. Besides that, an instruction came from the Governor Orval Faubus to ban the black students from entering the high school. As a response to that, the president Eisenhower demanded to escort The Little Rock Students by federal troops into the school in September 23. This incident became the story of all time and drove national attention to the plight of African Americans. The school desegregation became national and led many segregated institutions to comply. (Facing History and Ourselves 5)

1.5 The Civil Rights Act 1957:

The Act was passed by President Eisenhower; it was thought that it would increase the number of black voters. This act did not create new rights, but it prohibited the attempts to intimidate or prevent the black voters from voting. This led to create the civil rights division in the department of justice and gave it the needed power to fight back against anyone interfering with the right to vote (Thomas.E.6). The department of justice's authority to enforce civil rights was limited to criminal prosecution and civil voting rights suits. This was one of the first civil rights acts to be passed supporting the Civil Rights Movement, despite that Eisenhower had not been known for his total support for the Civil Rights Movement, in which he tried to be more neutral by giving a new era in the civil rights legislation and showing support for this minority. Also, it was impossible for Eisenhower to change people's mind by changing the law, he just wanted to win the black vote. Eisenhower believed that the future of the national success of the Democratic Party was attached to the black community by joining them into his side.

1.6 The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC):

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was founded in Raleigh, North Carolina in April 1960; it was a reaction of young blacks. The Committee was established to highlight the success of the wave of the Student Sit-¹Ins in Southern college towns when black students refused to leave restaurants in which they were neglected by their race; this led to a national attention throwing the harsh public light on white racism against blacks in the south. Ella Baker and Shaw University helped set up for the meeting of what became the SNCC. Sooner; the SNCC became one of the movement's more radical branches which

¹**Sit-in Movements:**

On February 1, 1960, four black students were refused service at a whites-only Lunch counter at Agricultural and Technical University in North Carolina. So they called Sit-in movement. It was started and spread across the country throughout eleven cities in two weeks. White people also participated in the movement, mostly in Northern cities.(History & Timeline1)

played seminal role in The Freedom Riders of 1967 along the marches organized by Martin Luther King such as March of Washington in 1963. The tide of the civil rights agitation led to the influence of the American public resulting in the passage of The Civil Rights Act Of 1964, which guarantee equal voting rights, discrimination in public restaurants, theaters, and other public places, beside that encouraging school desegregation. In 1966, the SNCC focused on Black Power² and gave its support to a broader protest to the Vietnam War.

1.7 The Freedom Riders:

This movement was organized by the CORE³ and a group of young activists Nashville Sits-Ins leaders teamed up with The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, in order to launch Freedom Riders in 1961. The later was an interstate wave composed of African-Americans and Whites who decided to travel around the south in buses, in order to test the effectiveness of a 1960 U.S Supreme Court decision about illegal segregation in bus stations that was opened to interstate travel. The Riders began their trip from Washington, D.C. to arrive in New Orleans. Their plan was to ride through Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. The trip was peaceful until they arrived to Alabama where violence blew up which caused the burning of one of the buses and some injured Riders. The serial attacks continued to Birmingham by a mob when the Riders got-off the bus. They also suffered even more in Montgomery with severe beatings. These attacks brought national attention to the Freedom Riders which led Alabama officials to be condemned for allowing this kind of maltreatment and brutality to occur (Arsenault 1-2).

² **Black power:** refers to a militant ideology that aimed not at integration and accommodation with white America, but rather preached black self-reliance, self-defense, and racial pride.

³ **CORE:** The Congress for Racial Equality (CORE) was formed in 1942 as an interracial organization committed to achieving integration through nonviolent direct action and civil disobedience

As a reaction, John F Kennedy's administration decided to protect The Freedom Riders in Alabama to guarantee their safe travel. The riders continued their journey on to Jackson, Mississippi where they were arrested and detained by the state; this was the end of the protest. On the other hand, The Freedom Riders movement accomplished the desegregation of some bus stations, but more importantly they caught the attention of the American public.

1.8 The civil rights act of 1964:

In July 2nd, 1964 U.S legislation ended the discrimination based on race, color, and religion. Which was also known by the most important law on civil rights in the U.S that came to eliminate and dismantle Jim Crow segregation and racial discrimination in the American community, this was the most comprehensive act enacted by the congress. The most important thing this act entitled was the voting equality, in which it removed all the obstacles and difficulties such as the poll Tax and the literacy test that banned the blacks from enjoying their rights. Not to mention, The Civil Rights Act was proposed by President John F. Kennedy in 1963 even though he was not able to secure passage of the bill in Congress. In July 1964, and after Kennedy's assassination in November 1963, President Lyndon B Johnson eventually signed a stronger version of bill into law giving the top priority to the African Americans society. Moreover, The Civil Rights Act continued to grow up by banning discrimination in different sectors especially in education, public facilities, and jobs and housing. This caused a deserved equality and led to the creation of The Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, this was for the sake of ensuring fair practices to establish equality in all services. The act also authorized the U.S Office of Education to finance the struggling communities to eliminate segregation in public schools.

1.9 The Voting rights Act of 1965:

The act was passed on August 6, 1965 as a response to Jim Crow laws by President Lyndon B. Johnson. It brought several changes to the African-American community as guaranteed by the 15th Amendment to the U.S constitution, because it was one of the most far reaching demands of the civil rights legislation. Many civil rights activists believed that The Voting Act of 1965 still necessary due to the denial to vote for the black society, especially in south areas. Thanks to Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and congress of racial equality had been active to defend the African Americans in order to vote. Also it was a step forward to eliminate some of the mechanisms that were used to suppress the blacks from voting like the literacy tests⁴, the poll tax⁵ and Grand Father Clauses⁶. In addition, the Voting Act of 1965 authorized the U.S government to reconsider elections in southern states.(public law 5)

1.2 The main Leaders of the Movement: .

A number of activists and leaders were there to put their hands together and give their support for this minority such as:

2.1 Martin Luther king's contribution to the movement

Martin Luther King, Jr is considered as the icon and the symbol of The Civil Rights Movement; he is one of the greatest activists of all time. King was born in January 15, 1929,

⁴ **The literacy tests:** These kinds of tests were presented in order to prove an applicant's ability to read and understand English so they ensure that the electorate is well educated in order to vote. But they were used to disqualify immigrants and poor who had less education so that cannot vote. In the south, the literacy tests were used to prevent the African Americans from registering to vote regularly, so the Voting Act ended these last in the south in 1965 and the states in 1970.

⁵ **The poll taxes:** The poll taxes begun in 1890's, they were imposed by the government for all adults at the time of voting especially in the southern states during and after the reconstruction as a mean for abolishing the 14th Amendment and neglect the civil rights to blacks, also it was a legal way to keep the African Americans from voting. This form of taxation gradually started to vanish in the south in the middle of the 20th century, but after the adoption of the 24th amendment, the poll taxes became officially illegal and prohibited in 1964 in federal elections. Five states enforce these taxations until the 1966, when the Supreme Court declared them unconstitutional.

⁶ **The Grandfather Clause:** The Grandfather Cause was passed in 1898 by the southern states of America, in which to allow the white voters to skip and avoid the poll taxes and the literacy tests and other schemes created to prohibit the Afro- Americans from voting. This kind of law claimed that if your grandfather voted before 1867, you can vote with no need to pay the poll tax or pass the literacy test, even if you are illiterate you can vote. By this last many blacks couldn't vote because they didn't have grandfathers voted before 1867.

in Atlanta, Georgia; he is the son of Martin Luther King Sr. and Alberta Williams King. Martin lived and grew up in Sweet Auburn, Atlanta. He was a gifted student who attended a segregated public school. When he turned up the age of 15, he went to Booker T. Washington High School. He was later admitted to Morehouse College where he studied medicine and law. He was inspired by Benjamin Mays, the president of Morehouse College who was an influential theologian and a huge supporter for racial equality, in which he guided Martin to serve higher goals. In 1953, Martin Luther King married Coretta Scott and they had four children including Yolanda, Martin, Dexter and Bernice (king 1).

Martin Luther King's contribution to the African American community and the Civil Rights Movement was a huge moral sacrifice to gain race and treatment equality, so he was able to translate local conflicts into moral issues and nationwide concern. Furthermore, he was familiar with his non-violent methods regardless of the brutality and maltreatment of the oppressor, proving that the non-violent and peaceful reactions are effective means (Ref.). The main events that were witnessed and organized by Martin was The Montgomery Bus Boycott which lasted one year and many other organizations and marches such as: SCLC, Sit-Ins, marches of Birmingham campaign and march of Washington DC, all these events were to abolish racial discrimination and segregation in all fields including public transportation, voting rights, employment and education all over America. As result, Martin was arrested and his house was bombed, thanks to him the bus segregation came to an end. Moreover, Martin Luther King traveled in over than 6 million miles and has spoken more than 2500 speeches for the same aims and goals which are equality and same opportunities in all over America. Also, he recalled the American society to come together regardless of the skin color and race to be unified as one nation. In addition, he was known by his famous speech in 1963 "I Have a Dream" in Washington DC, the later concluded and covered the blacks' struggle to end

segregation and to legislate the civil rights, which led to the success of the march. The Civil Rights Act was passed one year later in 1964.

Martin Luther King was awarded many prizes such as: The Noble Peace Prize of 1964, Presidential Medal of Freedom by Jimmy Carter of 1977, the John F. Kennedy Award 1964 and many others. He was assassinated on April 1968 in Memphis, when he was standing on the balcony of the hotel. King became the legacy to the Americans in general and the blacks in special, he strongly believed that the world and America would be a colorblind society and independent community.

2.2. John F. Kennedy's contribution to the movement:

Many historians regard John F. Kennedy as a champion of the African-American Civil Rights Movement during his presidency in 1961. Kennedy was born on May 1917 in Brookline, Massachusetts in an affluent, white catholic family with a Harvard graduation, following the path of his father and brother. He was elected president of the United States in 1960, he was giving a great support for the African-Americans and standing against the racial waves by signing the Civil Rights Legislation, also he was a member of the Democratic Party. In opposition, he had some issues against Malcolm X's racial liberal actions. Historians viewed and recognized the reaction of Kennedy as a political need for the black voters, where some see that Kennedy was a key figure in the struggle for the racial equality; he also was aiming for the integration of the black community into the American one (Lupačová 81)

Kennedy's first experience during his presidency was highlighted in one of the most famous events in American history; when a group of black and white civilians known as The Freedom Riders who were gathered to manifest in attempt to break segregation by travelling in buses between states, when the buses reached Montgomery, Alabama they were attacked by a mob of white haters. At this point, President Kennedy ordered a group of the U.S

marshals to interfere and protect the Freedom Riders. Another incident took place in Alabama in 1963 when Governor George Wallace attempted to prevent two African American students from registering at the University of Alabama. As a reaction, Kennedy was obliged to send a unit of national guards to control the situation, in the same day the president talked in a televised speech about the recent incidents asking for racial equality and outlining a general proposal for a Civil Rights Bill (Lupačová 40-41).

On 23 November 1963, the couple Kennedy Jack and Jackie flew to Texas in order to get support for the next re-election campaign. During the second day of the visit, they decided to make an appearance to the public at the Trade Mart in Dallas in an open limousine while waving to the masses. Suddenly, a sound of gunfire rang out; the president had been shot dead twice. After the announcement of Kennedy's tragic death, a sense of grief and hopelessness emerged in the nation; it remained a searing historical memory in Dallas and everybody was shocked. Kennedy was gone leaving his traces behind as the leader who symbolized the new era of race justice and equality in the American history.

2.3. Lyndon Johnson's contribution to the movement:

Johnson was born in Texas on August 27, 1908 during the great depression era, so he gained a first-hand perspective on poverty. He served in the navy during the second world war. In 1953, Johnson was elected as the youngest minority house leader and to be the senate, while he worked close with Dwight D. Eisenhower, after that Johnson stood as vice president to John F Kennedy in 1960. When the president John F Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas in 1963. Johnson took the presidential oath within hours of Kennedy's death. He became the president of the United States of America.

On 2 of July 1964, sat a table in the White House and signed the Civil Rights Act that was initiated by the assassinated president Kennedy and many activists witnessed the signing

which was streamed on television. This legislation led to force the dismantling of Jim Crow and gave the federal government the power to desegregate public accommodations, mediate racial dispute and public schools desegregation. On August 6, 1965 the president Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act and taking a step forward with the Civil Right Act of 1964. This new Act helped to banned all voter literacy tests and provided federal examiners in certain voting jurisdictions. later on, the poll taxes were declared unconstitutional in Harper V. Virginia State board of elections.

The main reformation that the president Johnson brought to constitution and the injustice American society was challenging and crucial, in which he would be taking forward the plans Kennedy had been discussing at the time of his death. In addition, Johnson called for the reforms and improvements in the education sectors by creating the Higher Education Act ⁷of 1965. Moreover, he was calling for better medical and healthcare to the Americans, not to mention the improvement in the lives of the financially of the elderly and the underprivileged class, by signing the Economic Opportunity Act in 1964⁸ and many other programs as part of war on poverty. Several prominent activists were assassinated during Johnson's term such as: John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King Jr. which led the president to sign the Gun Control act of 1968. Johnson was expected to run for the re-election in 1968. However, he decided to retired and not running for a second term. Johnson suffered from ill health and heart problems during the last months of his life. He died suddenly of a heart attack at his Texas ranch on January 22, 1973.

⁷ The Higher Education Act: it aimed to eradicate poverty and racial injustice. Also, it created a number of programs that addressed higher education, urban issues and transportation. Johnson signed the law at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas, which was called Southwest Texas State Teacher's College at the time.(National Trio Clearinghouse 1)

⁸ Economic Opportunity Act in 1964: The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (EOA) was the centerpiece of the "War on Poverty," which in turn was a major thrust of the "Great Society" legislative agenda of the Lyndon Johnson administration. The EOA provided for job training, adult education, and loans to small businesses to attack the roots of unemployment and poverty. Originally coordinated by the Office of Economic Opportunity, many sections of the EOA have been rescinded. However, other important segments have simply been transferred within the federal government. (David Garson1)

Conclusion

The civil rights movement was a heroic episode in the history of the US. It was aiming for the equality in the citizenship rights, in which it accomplished impressive judicial victories that changed the path of the blacks in the American society. The movement covered all the sectors to be desegregated from race inequity and skin color, which were imposed by the white community. The African- American struggle and its impacts lasted till nowadays to shape a unified American society and prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, sex, and religion. Thanks to this movement, America now is witnessing a new era with massive transformational social changes in which it gave the latter the power to transform and convert the law of the nation and its politics to serve higher goals. As a result, the gains of the past 50 years of black freedom and countless others all worked to make the election of Obama to the presidency deserved.

Chapter two

Barak Obama and the Road to White House

Introduction

The 1950s and the 1960s were the beginning of a new era for The United State of America. It was the period for legislative victories and equal citizenship rights against discrimination and segregation of the American nation and its addiction to racism. The 1965 Voting Rights Act sparked a new beginning for the United States; it opened the doors for the registration of black voters to have their juristic rights to vote and to shout their voices legally and to promote black candidates to run for the national elections. Moreover, it facilitated the political possibilities for the successful Obama presidency. By the coming of Obama to office, a number of changes began to loom large and his presidency would not have been possible without the transformative effects of the historical sacrifices of Martin Luther king and The Afro-American Movement. Both were the central conversation partner to the historical meaning of Osama's administration as a black and to give such a real change for American history and the African-American minority.

1. Obama's biography:

Barak Obama is considered one of the most successful leaders in US history and his early life was the start to present him in such a position, in this chapter we will shed the light on his early life and his career.

1.1 Life before presidency:

Barak Obama, in full Barak Hussein Obama, was the 44th president of the United States and the first African American to hold office. Obama was born in August 4th, 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii, of a white American mother called Ann Dunham and a black Kenyan father named Barak Obama. His parents divorced when he was two so he was raised by his mother and grandparents. Obama spent a short time in Indonesia where his mother married an Indonesian man and had his sister Maya in 1970. His mother was afraid about his education so she decided to send him back to Hawaii at the age of ten to live with his maternal grandparents. Obama graduated from the prestigious Punahou School in 1979. Although his family was not affluent, they valued education and took it very seriously which motivated him to further success. After he had finished his education at Occidental College in California, he transferred to Columbia University where he majored in political sciences specialized in International Relations and graduated in 1983. Later, Obama attended Harvard law school where he was selected to be the president of Harvard Law Review as the first Afro-American.

After leaving university, Obama worked as a law instructor at the University of Chicago and joined the law firm of Chicago specializing in civil rights litigation from 1993 to 2004. During that time, Obama was elected to be the state senate of Illinois. Moreover, Barak Obama was into writing so, he published a book about his father called "Dreams from My Father" in order to honor him and priding with his Kenyan origins. He valued his family

very much and kept his connection to his relatives especially his grandparents. The book was a hit that became national best seller. In 1992, Obama married attorney Michelle Robinson who was his adviser in the Law Firm in Sidley Austin in Chicago. After that they moved to Kenwood, Chicago's Southside; their marriage was successful that welcomed with two girls, Malia and Sasha.

1.2 Early Political Career:

After Law School, Barak Obama came back to Chicago as a civil rights lawyer with The Firm of Miner, Barnhil and Galland. Also, he was a lecturer at first, then a professor who taught the constitutional law at The University of Chicago. In 1992, during Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, Obama was considered as a leading legislator who contributed in organizing the voter registration. In 1996, Obama ran for a seat of Illinois state senate as a Democrat and won it. During his years as a senator, he was capable to finance his campaigns even his party was in the minority. However, when the democrats won control of the senate after 2002, Obama was able to pass nearly 300 bills aiming at helping old people, labor unions, as well as expanding the health care services and improving the education system for the poor by presenting the early childhood education programs. Also, he tried to improve the poor working conditions by creating a state earned- income tax credit. Obama succeeded to work along with both Democrats and Republicans to draft legislation on ethics, not to mention the law enforcement officials that he introduced it in interrogative and confession in capital cases to require videotaping.

Moreover, Obama began giving high expectation to the 2004 race for the seat of senate; it was during the presidency of George W.Bush. He was one of the opponents of W.Bush policies, especially the authorization of the force use in Iraq for which Obama stood against the idea and opposingly commented: "I don't oppose all wars, what I am opposed to is

the dumb war... I know that even a successful war against Iraq will require the U.S occupation of undetermined length, undetermined cost, with undetermined consequences". (Barack, Obama 2002) By speaking out against Bush decision, Obama kept himself aside from the democratic nomination and the latter candidates. By the time, Obama's idea of antiwar became a blessing that served his campaign; it was a political advantage as the war started to be avoided with the passage of time. Furthermore, in U.S senate in 2004, Peter Fitzgerald declared to vacate his position. That led Obama seized the opportunity and decided to run for the election; as result, in the democratic primary elections, Barak Obama won 52 percent of the vote, that he overcame both of his components Blair Hull and Daniel Hynes (federal election.). After, Jack Ryan withdrew from candidacy and the former presidential candidate Alan Keyes stepped in. In that summer, at the 2004 Democratic National Convention in Boston, Obama gave his eloquent speech calling for unity and optimism between the Republicans and the Democrats.

Few months later, Illinois gave 72 percent of his votes to Barak Obama which sent him directly to Washington he where became the third African-American who was selected to be a U.S. senate since the age of reconstruction. During Obama's tenure, his focus was to fight the problems of nuclear and health threat diseases such as the avian flu. In addition, he reinforced his partnership with the republican senators Tom Coburn and Richard Lugar by creating a web site in order to track all the federal spending to regain the trust of the American citizens in government (Dyson 2.). They also worked on stopping and braking down the weapons of mass destruction in Russia and Eastern Europe for world peace. In 2006, Barak went to Kenya where he found thousands of people were overwhelming his presence. In October 2006, Obama published his second book called "*the audacity of hope: thoughts on reclaiming the American dream*". This book was to explain Barack Obama's personal, political and spiritual beliefs, on which how he was going to base his 2008 presidential

election campaign, which made him the first African-American president of the United States of America.

2.1 The election and the civil rights movement:

The problem of racism was still an obsession in Obama's presidential campaign, which was the story of the black freedom struggle of America and human dignity. It was combined in the legal system, the civil society, and the political body of the American community. The black minority was neglected and disregarded by the racial domination of the white majority so, they exercised some kind of power and obsession over the African Americans intentionally where the blacks were symbolized as the "*Other*" and "*Non-Whites*" (Dyson 87). While the whites categorized themselves as the dominant class, which they aggressed and oppressed this minority and violating humanity and the civil rights. This ideation and conceptualization drove for the discrimination and differentiation in power and authority; all these led the "*whiteness*" to hold and occupied superior position in the racial hierarchy. (Dyson 36)

As a result, the citizenships of African-American minority were questioned by race and belongings. However, they were tied by certain boundaries and limitation of their power so that not to take charge of any position and keeping the domination for the whites only. Although, the racial segregation no longer exists, but there still some constraints left in the American society. Nowadays, after a long struggle, the blacks do enjoy and exercise their deserved citizenship rights; however, there is still some kind of limits in freedom and access for this minority. All this stems for the very practice of race problematic, in which it gave conceptualization to the race as an orienting concept of dichotomization and discrimination to direct the people thinking with along distinct lines of color differences. Once a number of the

minority has been raced for whatever the reason of discrimination, it is hard to be “*deraced*”. In one hand, it is rare when you heard certain cultural or social ideologues speak in terms of race. However, they usually don’t involve white people in mind, but they include and refer to black people as a symbol of neglect. On the other hand, Martin Luther King Jr. tried to erase that and established an innate idea of united America as “*Brothers And Sisters*”, he also called for harmony and unison to come together as “*God Children*” and forget about racial differences so to settle down as he said: the “*Kingdom Of God*” (Bernard 138). Without him The Civil Rights Movement and the American dream of freedom, justice, democracy and equality would have never succeeded and realized. Moreover, his thinking about racial injustice prevented the whites from realizing and achieving the American dream and will never be achieved without attracting the moral conscience of the white community.

Although Martin Luther King, Jr was not able to see his dream to be alive but, his thinking, principals and visions lasted till nowadays for the American society. Over the past forty years, a number of changes touched the values and the political structures that took place within the American community including the black minority. Instead, they were categorized as fundamental structural changes. For instance, there were more than nine thousand black elected as officials and mayors in the major cities of the United States, 60 percent of them were located in the south of America: the majority of them hold high position, especially in the U.S. House of Representatives and presidential administrations including two blacks secretaries in the state (Obama2006) .In addition, many industrial sectors witnessed an overrun of blacks like the entertainment industry which they became billionaires such as Oprah Winfery and Robert Johnson. Obama, on the other hand, realized that the dream was not achieved yet and the American public have not been matured and awakened enough to neglect and put aside the racial issues.

2.2 Obama and the racial issues during his campaign:

Obama's presidential campaign stood up for the racial problem, in which it was appeared during his candidacy. A group of whites were convinced that not any elected person would serve their needs and interests. Moreover, both of the democrats Hillary Clinton and Jimmy Carter were looking to win the presidency over the conservatives who hold the office for over twenty-eight years. Thus, the race and moral ideology have taken the control of the presidential politics in moderated advantage across party lines for the conservatives' candidates. So, they enhanced and reinforced their idea of race that it is not identified by the social relation and the dominant human between the black community and the white. Since the civil rights movement erased the racial problems and the social injustice with the help of Martin Luther King who fight for united America. So instead, the race was discussed and used in a metaphoric language and with hidden meanings and expressions such as: "the race card", "driving while black" and "angry white men". (Obama 2004) At the period of the overt racist public statements and actions; Barak Obama entered the national politics while, the white press started wondering whether Obama is the ending of the black politics. In his speech of the 2004 Democratic National Convention, Obama clarified: "there is not a black America and white America and Latino America and Asian America — there's The United America of America (*Obama2004*). From his perspective, he believed that the race domination went down during the last decades by stating: "white guilt has largely exhausted itself in America" (Obama 2006).

The 2004 presidential election was holding an indication for racism by playing the same old framework of racial order but in different concept of use. The two candidates Hilary Clinton and McCain tried not to distort their reputation by convincing the white American public to vote against Barak Obama, all what they did was to picture him as an inexperienced and elitist person who could not serve the white working class (Dyson 143.). Although

Obama was racially hybrid and subordinated, the racial order of the nature of America did not accept the fact about Obama being him a black man. However, the Americans considered him as an exemplar of the American success. As a response, Barak Obama kept introducing himself as a black man by saying that the past policies have formed the universal terms to boost blacks to the American mainstream. In which Obama observes:

When I look at what past generations of minorities have had to overcome, I am optimistic about the ability of this next generation to continue their advance into the economic mainstream. For most of our recent history, the rungs on the opportunity ladder may have been slippery for blacks; the admittance of Latinos into firehouses and corporate suites may have been grudging. But despite all that, the combination of economic growth, government investment in broad-based programs to encourage upward mobility, and a modest commitment to enforce the simple principle of nondiscrimination was sufficient to pull the large majority of blacks and Latinos into the socioeconomic mainstream within a generation. (Obama 2006)

Obama's optimistic belief was centered on being him as the right person in the right place to the presidency, so that to continue pushing the discriminated minorities of blacks and Latinos into the American socioeconomic mainstream. In the National Convention of The NAACP of July 2008, Barak Obama declared in his speech: "If I have the privilege of serving as your next president, I will stand up for you the same way that earlier generations of Americans stood up for me—by fighting to ensure that every single one of us has the chance to make it if we try" (Obama 2008).

Obama clarify that it is good to stand for certain principals and fight for them, and remove all the barriers and obstacles of the existing misunderstanding in the United State of

America, and neglect all kinds of segregation and discrimination from every corner of America.

2The presidential campaign:

Obama's first campaign faced a number of challenging obstacles and race issues, in order to hold him back from proceeding, but Obama manage to continue his struggle for his goals.

2.1Obama's presidential campaign coalition

A number of organizations were established during the 1950s and the 1960s such as: NAACP, SNCC, the Freedom Riders and countless others, they all contributed tirelessly for making possible condition for Obama's presidency to be achieved. Obama introduced and treated himself as a non-black candidate, trying to convince the American public that the campaign is a "*postracia*" in order to win the presidency seat (**Dyson 41.**). On February 10, 2007, Obama officially announced his candidacy for 2008 democratic presidential nomination to the United States seat. After the victory of Iowa, Obama a challenger to Hillary Rodham Clinton; the first former lady and the current New York senator at that time which, she supported his campaign after. Obama selected as his running mate Joseph R. Biden Jr; the U.S senator from Delaware since 1972 and later he became the vice president. In the 4th of November 2008, the republican presidential nominee John McCain was defeated by Barack Obama with 52.9% to 45.7%, to win the election of The United States of America as the first Black Negro and the 44th one to the presidency. 43 percent were white voters who elected Barack Obama to be their president so that, he became the second one after Jimmy Carter to receive such highest percentage from whites only. The black voters have reached about 95 percent to be the first candidate in the last ten elections of the democratic candidacy (Teixeira and Halpin1-2.).

The 67 percent went for Obama by Latino and Hispanic, also to become the third highest percentage for the last ten cycles of election. Additionally, the Asian community took their rank of voting to 67 percent for the Black Negro. On the other side, women in general carried for Barak about 56 percent to beat over men who voted only for 49 percent. The age cohorts also took a role in Obama national electorate so, he obtained 66 percent as the highest proportion of young voters of eighteen to twenty- nine, except the older categories including the age voters of sixty, which they vote for John McCain. Obama approximately overcame his opponent in every category including the education sector, in which he received secured 63 percent for voters that were not graduated from high school. On the level of the national voting, the black candidate obtained 70 percent in the large cities and 59 percent of votes only in the small cities, so he defeated his opponent in the geographic level to win the majority of the Northeast, west and the Midwest states (Teixeira and Halpin 3-4.). Nearly, nine persons out of ten voted and elected Obama and agreed that the country needed a radical change. His youth and passion to serve America was admired by many, in which it was imitated in his campaign and to be the most effective and influential campaign in American history. It is also the strategic thinking that helped for the campaign to be active and accurate, and left no questions to be asked, so to cover all the essential needs of the nation.

On March 4, 2007 after the announcement of Obama's candidacy in the forty- second anniversary of the Selma voting right. The attempt of the media to present his event as a "battle" or "showdown" and to commemorate the Selma event, in order to address that event to the vote of the African- American community (Marable and Clarke 169). Obama instead took his opportunity to address his own experience and relate it to his audience and saying:

A lot of people been asking, well, you know, your father was from Africa, your mother; she's a white woman from Kansas. I'm not sure that you have the same experience. And I tried to explain, you don't understand. You see, my Grandfather was a cook to the

British in Kenya. Grew up in a small village and all his life, that's all he was—a cook and a house boy. And that's what they called him, even when he was 60 years old. They called him a house boy. They wouldn't call him by his last name. Sound familiar (Marable and Clarke 2007)

Obama experience helped him to minimize and remove speculation toward his “*blackness*”. By this action, Obama attempted to attitudinize and remove the image of the African American presidential candidate, but he was trying to represent his racial belongings to the black community. In the other side, Clinton was in opposition to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, not to mention her attempt to mimic the southern accent to gain the African- American audience. These factors played the role of paving the way and helping Obama to win over Clinton by gaining the trust and the growing support of the black voters. Obama's charismatic style for addressing unity and equality to people was way better than the others. So, it had drawn comparisons to Kennedy as well as Martin Luther King. As a response, Clinton declared that in Fox News interview by saying: “Dr. King's dream began to be realized when President Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act. . . . It took a president to get it done”. (Marable and Clarke 170).

Clinton implicated herself as the president Johnson, while Obama addressed himself as the martin Luther King; she addressed herself as an action taker to reinforce her charges, whereas Obama considered as a speechmaker with no action. Her comments made some ambiguity whether or not she constricted the legacy of Dr. King. Also she brought the attention of the media so heavily. On the other hand, Obama commented by: “an unfortunate remark”. (Marable and Clarke 170). Furthermore, he had taken it as an offence to many people. Hilary Clinton was criticized and charged by racist behavior to her previous comments and her presidential run came to an end, and after the third- place finish in Iowa; especially when she opposed Obama's consistency of his position toward the war of Iraq in

which she stated “*Give me a break. This whole thing is the biggest fairytale I’ve ever seen*”. (Marable and Clarke 170). The issue of race was raised once again immediately after that, particularly when the commentators were wondering whether Clinton’s comments about Obama’s candidacy that, she referred to a “*fairytale*”. (Marable and Clarke 170)

Clinton rejected the interpretation of the subject and stated that she meant Obama’s position in Iraq. By this statement, she raised the alert again about her relation to the African-American community. The prediction of the media about Obama being the next Democratic nominee was looming after that so heavily. Following his success in Iowa, on January 8, 2008, Obama was selected and favored to gain in most polls. According to the Rasmussen poll, Barak Obama won Hilary to 37 percent to 30; the majority of the electors were whites in Iowa and New Hampshire. As result, the U.S Census bureau statistics showed that the black community made up only 1.1 percent of the population of the state, however the greatest share went for the whites who reached the 95.8 percent of the election. Once it was very obvious and clear for Obama and his opponents for taking the support of the majority of the blacks and whites over Clinton. They started to portraying him from “*not black enough*” to shift him to “*too black*”. (Marable and Clarke 172)

At last, the first African –American candidate overcame the many boundaries and obstacles that he confronted during his candidacy. On November 8, 2008 he won the presidency of the United States of America and gave an influential message of change and the model of post-racial, with a significant majority of both electorate poll and the popular support. In a country with deep-seeded splits with long racial history, Obama was considered as the decision- maker, who made the topic central. Following the great success of the young Barak Obama to the white house Tuesday night, he delivered at a rally in Grant Park in Chicago, Illinois his memorial speech by saying: “*If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our*

founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.”(Bernard 150).

Also, Barak Obama tried to unify his opinion with the American public by stating:

“It's the answer spoken by young and old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled. Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been just a collection of individuals or a collection of red states and blue states”.

Conclusion:

Barak Obama successfully turned out and manipulate the American society to his side especially the whites, by considering himself as a problem solver and an American citizen, who came to give change to the United States, and not as angry black man who came to revenge. He knew that if he gets the majority of white citizen by his side he would win over the others, also he kept himself out of the race conflict and he stood as racially ambiguous candidate. As a result, he became an icon socially and politically and acceptable for the comfort of the American society and exceptionally the whites. His momentous victory broke all the boundaries and restrictions of the American community such as: race, religion, social class and national identity. In our lifetime, The Black Idol was the accomplishment and the dream that became reality of Martin Luther King. Jr to fight for united country. To bear in mind, the democracy is a mean to serve equality by any person and everywhere for all the human kinds. In order To understand that, we have to take a look back to the past and comprehend it, starting up with slavery, race black segregation and other corrupted social racism.

Chapter 3

Obama's Second Term and His Achievements to the American Society

Introduction

After the great victory of Obama for the United States presidency in 2008, and with a long term of great changes and achievements for the American society. The second term started to be in sights. The incumbent democratic president addressed the American crowd about his candidacy for the 2012 U.S. presidential election on social media, from which he gathered the support of the American public. Obama was a significant challenger for the U.S presidency in which, he believed that in order to win the second election; he should knock on more doors, so that to grasp more support for the second campaign. The black candidate focused on two major pillars to his communication strategy and equal focus. First, by taking the chance for using the social media as a boost to the second campaign and to get better chances and real differences in the end. During the eight years of ruling the United States of America, Obama's achievements in the first term led him to obtain and drive the Americans to the polls; his ambition and dedication to serve America and the Americans paved the way to win the second election. The main changes and improvements that Obama addressed during the eight years of serving the United States of America were mainly the reinforcement and recovery for the educational system for all Americans and for the minorities. The healthcare sector also took his part of the recovery and reformulation of its structure to ensure and serve the American public.

1. Obama's second campaign:

The 2012 presidential election in the United States was held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Barak Obama ran for the second term as the president of the United States of America. Mitt Romney was his opponent who had won the republican primaries. At that night Obama won the 2012 election with 50.9 percent of the total popular vote and 332 Electoral College votes (Teixeira and Halpin 1). Obama is considered the first democrat since Franklin Delano Roosevelt to win two terms with more than 50 percent of the total popular vote. Moreover, Obama was able to gain victory with a historically low percentage of the white vote. The national exit poll declared that the president Obama carried 93 percent of the African American voters, 73 percent Asian American, 71 percent of Latino voters, and only 39 percent of the white electors; when we compare it back to the former democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis who get slightly more than Obama's share of the white votes in 1988 (Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 4).

The domination of the vote by colored people still taking place in Obama's election, also the unmarried and the working women were the main reasons that led Obama to win the second term. In addition, the secular voters and the new generation with the educated urbanized white had clearly chosen Democrats and contributed for the strength of the party in the national elections. In contrast, the Republican Party was mainly favored by the older whites and evangelical voters who were less important to the overall political landscape of the country. Moreover, the voters were moving away from the Regan- Bush era of social conservatism and trickle- down economics, and toward the Clinton- Obama vision that contain a strong governmental support for the working middle class, an equitable tax system, more inclusive social policies, and public investments in educational sector.

The Obama coalition of the 2012 maintained his 2008 support and gave a clear delegation for governing and focusing on improving the economy system, expanding opportunities and protecting the key social programs (Teixeira and Halpin 2). The post-election polling, issued by Democracy corps, showed that president Obama enjoyed a 51 percent to 42 percent margin over Mitt Romney, the republican presidential nominee and the former Massachusetts Governor; in which it raised a question who would be best restoring the middle class. The first results showed Obama's wining in Ohio and Virginia, these two grand cities gave Obama at least 270 electoral votes in total. On the other hand, the national exit poll and the census bureau data showed a comparison between the 2008 and the 2012 election, in which it gave at least 2 percentage point increase in the share of the minority voters. Also, 3 points decline in the white working-class voters only 1 percent went for the white college graduated voters. The following chart shows the difference in the election of 2008 and 2012 between the demographic voting groups:

	D- 2012	R-2012	Share of voters 2012	Change in share 2008-2012
Minorities	80	18	28	2
White college graduates	42	56	36	1
White working class	36	61	36	-3

Figure 1: 2012 Voting By Key Demographic Group (Teixeira and Halpin 5)

1.1. The election of 2012 and minority vote:

The Black Minority voted in favor of president Obama by 80 percent as a support as it was four years ago. Latinos by their role granted their backing to him and gave an even higher number in the poll at 75 percent of the vote. Also, the Hispanic took their part in the election and voted for Obama with 71 percent to 27 percent unlike the previous term of 2008, in which they voted for only 67 percent to 31 percent. Furthermore, the Asian community revealed itself in the poll and showed an historic level of support for Obama by giving him 73 percent and only 26 percent for Mitt Romney, when we compared it to 62 percent in 2008 for only 35 in favor of Sen. John McCain, there is a kind of approval for the black Negro (Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 6).

1.2. The 2012 Election and the White College- Graduates Poll:

In this category, Obama did not manage to reach anything close to his levels of 2008 among the white college graduates especially when he missed this minority by 4 percent, that the exit polls showed some kind of contrast of 14 percentage points. President Obama stumbled with women white- college graduate voters, which he scored between 52 percent to 47 in 2008, and 46 percent to 56 in 2012. In a comparison with white men college- graduate electors, Obama tripped from 43 percent to 55 percent in 2008, to 38 percent to 59 percent in 2012. On the contrary, Obama's opponent Mitt Romney succeeded to grasp substantial gains in this category, by which he earned 51 percent to 47 in the total group polls, but he did not succeed with the white women graduates as compared to men (Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 6).

1.3. The election of 2012 and the white working-class

Governor Mitt Romney scored in this group and he was able to make a significant progress among the white working-class electors, in which they gave a major boost for Romney's campaign. This was suggested by both history and the pre-elected polls as a strong point for him to expand his opportunity to undertake the popular vote over Obama, who deficit to combine it even in the election of 2008. Although the white working-class was easy reaching for Romney, but he had confronted some issues. When we compare Gov. Romney to Sen. McCain who achieved 18 point back in 2008, and Romney earned in the 2012 election 25 points (61 percent to only 36 for Obama), this was not sufficient to win the battle over Obama. In fact, the improvement that he obtained among the white working-class electors was even lower than what he obtained among the white college graduate voters, by which he scored 7 points only with white-working class against 10 point for the white college graduates which was insufficient to win the popular vote (Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 7).

1.4. Other demographics in the second term of Obama

Obama's election of 2012 welcomed new and young categories that helped for Obama's success, including the Millennial generation which can be represented here as those individuals who were born in the years between 1978 and 2000. This group of young voters who aged between 18 to 29 leaved some skepticism about the great turnout levels of voter in 2012. They were covering 19 percent of voters in the election of that year, up from 18 percent in the 2008 campaign for Obama. This minority of young electors were good backing for the Democrats by scoring a 23-point in the 2012 election, which is equal to 60 percent to 37 percent. President Obama by far was having the strongest support among any age group, like was the case in the 2008. Obama gathered even more impressive percentage of 66 to 32 percent. It is also worth mentioning Obama's reaching a high number with the very young

ages from 18 to 24 by 60 percent against 36, like he did with the 25 to 29 categories by holding 60 percent to 38. In this category, Obama was able to earn a high percentage, so to beat his opponent and leave a large gap in the results (Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 8).

In the gender category, especially women and unmarried ones, Obama carried 55 percent to 44 percent in contrast to men share when he lost 45 percent against 52 percent. It was a bit larger gap than the 2008 election where he scored women with a slight larger margin with 56 percent to 43 percent, while he carried better for the men with 49 percent to 48 percent. With regard to the unmarried women, Obama secured 36 points equivalently to 67 percent to 31 percent only in 2012 and not far off from his back in 2008 to score 70 percent to 31(Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin 8).

1.5 The geographical spread in the 2012 Obama's Election:

Geographically speaking, Obama was able to dominate the biggest areas and states as the same like he had did in 2008. For instance, Indiana and North Carolina carried a strong backing for him by 332 to 206 electoral poll. In addition, the president took again the support of almost every major state for the second time of running to presidency including: Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, and Virginia, plus the district of Colombia. On the other side, the serial pattern of Obama victories reduced the chances of the republican opponent in the presidential elections leaving for him the Upper Mountain West, the Plains States and the South. Concerning the south areas; thus, the republican block lost its political domination when the two largest and fast-growing states Virginia and Florida voted for the reelection of Obama for the second time. By far the democrats were solidly controlling the west, the Northeast, the Midwest with the exception of both Indiana and Missouri and the Southwest with exclusion of Arizona (Teixeira and Halpin 8).

To make things complicated, Romney won in most provincial and scarcely populated areas, by which he carried just 6 out of 24 states with 10 or more electoral votes, leaving for Obama the great share. Also, the latter took 7 of eight most inhabited states such as, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, California, New York and Pennsylvania. However, the governor Romney took the control over the eight most -populated state Texas. The population pattern can be observed clearly by taking the types of regions and states, which both of Obama and Gov. Romney did well. For instance, Obama strongly scored in large metropolitan cities that exceeded 1 million inhabitants and he won in these areas with 56 to 42 percent. More than half of the U.S population is living in these 51 populous areas.

There was a kind of balance and tied results between the candidates Obama and Mitt Romney to 49 percent for both in medium metropolitan cities, with a 250.000 to 1 million of the population. In the rest of rural areas in America, Mitt Romney was eventually able to significantly turn the balance and take an advantage over the black president by 23 points, which is equal to 61 percent against 38 percent only. Outside the lightly populated cities, where the intensity of the population continued to fall, Mitt Romney did even better than Obama to carry 55 percent more than 46 percent. In the rural region like the small-town sections, the republican took his well-deserved place over President Obama by 18 points, i.e. 58 percent over 40 percent. In contrast, Obama had his own share from the suburban counties by 13 points with 56 percent to 43 percent, in which these areas contained 16 percent of the nation's population lives in these districts and somehow less intensity than inner- suburbs (Teixeira and Halpin10).

On the other side, the new emerging suburbs consisted of 8 percent of the nation's population in the U.S. that tend to be faster-growing and highly populated than regular exurbs. In This category of the emerging suburbs and counties, including well-known counties; Mitt Romney carried 53 percent to 45 percent, though it was not nearly as he did in the true exurbs,

such as Loudoun County, Virginia, outside the Washington D.C, Douglas County, Colorado, outside of Denver and Warren County, Ohio, outside of Cincinnati. The following chart shows the 2012 main areas of small inhabitants of voting:

	D-2012	R-2012	Share of the U.S population 2010
Large metros	54	42	54
Urban core	77	55	9
inner suburbs	62	37	19
Mature suburbs	56	43	16
Emerging suburbs	45	53	8
True exurbs	37	61	3
Medium metros	49	49	20
Small metros	43	55	9
Non Metro mecopolitan	40	58	10
Nonmetro non- mecropmitan	38	61	6

Figure 2: the 2012 main areas of small inhabitants of voting (Teixeira and Halpin11).

2. Obama' achievements to the American society

2.1 The changes that Obama brought to the educational system:

A world-class education is the single most important factor in determining not just whether our kids can compete for the best jobs but if America can out-compete countries around the world. America's business leaders understand that when it comes to education, we need to up our game. That's why we're working together to put an outstanding education within reach for every child (President Barack Obama, July 18, 2011)

When it comes to education, President Obama highlighted and called for the need of a good educational system in order to promote development in the economic system and restore economic security for the middle class. To create an effective system, they have to provide every child with complete and competitive educational programs to enable them to build their own successful path with equal opportunities. Obama also insisted and called for the necessity of the parents to act responsibly and support their own flesh and blood. Moreover, he repeatedly urged to teach their children that success is the result of discipline and hard work by keeping them far from any destruction. Education was one of Obama's top priorities to grant a senior level for the American children.

2.2 Race to the Top reform in the education reforming:

Race to the Top reform was introduced by Obama on February 17, 2009 into Law to The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009⁹(ARRA), to cover up the flaws of the old system and enhance it. This reform was calling for promoting and raising the standards, better assessments and adopting a new educational data system, in order to provide sufficient

⁹ **The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:** The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) is an economic stimulus bill created and signed on February 17, 2009 by the president Obama to help the United States economy recover from an economic downturn and to save and create millions of jobs .(the California Debt et al 1).

information about the students and helping the teachers to be more inspiring and effective. In addition, this was a step to give a greater support to their work and enhancing the teaching strategies. More than 4 billion dollars were given to 19 states in one year, while the other 34 states modified their own educational policies and laws. Furthermore, 53 states including the federal district of Colombia were offered comprehensive reform plans to compete in the k-12 Race the Top competition. Besides that, 48 states started to together to create a voluntary set of careers- ready and strict college standards¹⁰ (U.S. Department of Education 2).

2.3The Early Learning Outcomes Enhancements:

Obama played his part by establishing recovering enhancements to the early learning children programs, where he gave over than 500 million dollars investment for challenging states to boost the quality of the early learning and enhance it. Furthermore, the latter focused on reinforcing the children health by giving the family the right support for the needs of the children mental health and nutrition. 35 states were included in this competition to create plans to give a great access to help low-incomes families to join these programs. In the first round of the competition 9 states were received funding. (Jane Best and Courtney Cohen 2-3)

2.4 Every Student Succeeds Act:

To put an end to the No Child Left Behind Act, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law in December, 10th, 2015. President Obama worked with both democratic and republican congressmen to find an alternative solution, which was the ESSA. The latter aimed at increasing the sense of responsibility and accountability in schools through which to provide and secure proper functioning of schools throughout the nation.

⁹ k-12 Race: s an American expression that indicates the number of years of primary and secondary education early grades from kindergarten to 12th grade.(Kevin G. WeIner)

Accountability	
Every Student Succeeds Act	No Child Left Behind Act
Requires publicly available annual state report card that includes • A description of the state accountability system, including all indicators and the weights assigned by the state. • Schools identified as in need of support and improvement. • Student participation rates in assessments, • Student performance on other academic indicators. • Graduation rates. • Performance of English language learners, • Data collected pursuant to the Civil Rights Data Collection survey. • Teacher qualifications, including those with emergency or provisional status. • Per-pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds. • Number and percentages of students taking alternate assessments. • Postsecondary enrollment.	Requires publicly available annual state report card that includes • Data on student achievement at each grade level disaggregated by subgroup. • Comparison of state's actual achievement to its objectives. • Percentage of students not tested. • State's achievement trends over the course of two years. • Graduation rates. • Information on teacher quality, and • Other information as determined by the state.

Figure 3: The table above shows the accountability main points that were developed¹¹ by the Every Student Succeeds Act in a comparison With No Child Left Behind Act (Educator Advocates 2)

¹¹**No Child Left Behind Act:** the NCLB was signed by the president George. W Bush on, January.8, 2002. It was an update for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, in which it worked on closing achievement gap between the poor minority and their better chance candidates. This act increased controversial with educators and the general public, which left a tremendous impact on schools improvements, teaching and learning. In addition, the worked on rising federal role in holding schools responsible for the academic progress of all students and boost their performance for their own good. (the Office of the Under Secretary 9)

The new law not only provided preparation and on-going professional learning in place, but it helped to give equal opportunities for states and districts to put a well-rounded and suitable education for all students. Moreover, the expansion of early learning opportunities for states by developing the preschools experience for children (Educator Advocates 2-3).

2.5 Obama Improving the Educational Outcomes the African- Americans

Children:

President Obama made several reinforcements and changes to the educational system as a top priority for the better of the Americans. He turned his attention toward the minorities like the African-Americans and Latinos for the sake of equal opportunities and to provide a complete and competitive education for all. A lot of African-Americans were still following the same old programs in predominantly black districts as inherently unequal to the other once in the white neighborhoods. Many black students who attended segregated schools during the 1950s suffered from the inability of entering safe schools that were far from drugs and violence. Due to the law school's tax which was paid by home owners in poor areas, there had been some significant minorities of black students, who do not have the access to appropriate recourses such as computers and updated libraries, which would help them to fulfill their needs (Ralph Gardner et al 2-3).

The National Center for Educational Statistics reported that over 34 percent of black students were poor and most of them had lower grades over the white students. As a result, Obama offered new solutions, by giving every African-American child the needed education to ensure a great educational career that would help him properly to prepare for college, productive job career and successful life. In addition, Obama's administration assessed the need to assign more extensive resources and considerable support services for African-

American students. This minority of student were supposed to improve production for greater opportunities for the black Americans to guarantee their seats in college and improve the employment rates (Ralph Gardner et al 8).

2.6. The Reinforcement Act and the Enhancement in the American Classroom:

In February, 2009 Obama signed The American Recovery and Reinforcement Act which provided nearly 48 million dollars for the educational sector, in order to keep teachers on their positions after years of budget cuts from the state and declining tax revenues. This force the district to make cuts that affected the classrooms. President Obama recognized that America's future is written in the classrooms, so that the teachers needed the right support to a great educational future. Also, Obama not only supported the educators, but he promoted an audacious vision by improving the educational system to give the students what they deserve for their future (Obama Administration Record 5). Nowadays, the American schools have become more effective and accurate in every level by applying the presidential programmed project concerning the preparation for mathematics, technology science and engineering teachers for the American classrooms. In 2010 president Obama signed a law to provide the states by over 10 billion dollars in order to keep over than 130.000 teachers in the classrooms and to invest more than 25 billion to support over than 320.000 teacher jobs (Obama Administration Record 5)

3. Obama's improvements in the healthcare sector:

3.1.The Affordable Care Act:

The Affordable Act, also known as Obamacare, was introduced and signed into law on March 23, 2010. Obama declared that *"After a century of striving, after a year of debate, after*

a historic vote, health care reform is no longer an unmet promise. It is the law of the land.”

(Laxmaiah Manchikanti et al 1). The Act brought to existence a meaningful reform for the suspended healthcare system for the whole country. Massive changes knock the door for the American citizens, by which it made the health insurance obtainable for almost 32 million to 53 million Americans, equivalently to 95 percent of the legal population. All the legal Americans citizens were required to resolve their insurance situation or they had to face their own income tax surcharge, with ability to choose how to get their coverage. For those who were not able to get their health insurance, there were significant procedures to follow with more guided options. The ACA act came to existence in order to reduce federal expenses on healthcare sector (Laxmaiah Manchikanti, et al)

In 2009, the old healthcare system cost millions and millions from the budget, which led to the cost control by adopting a new system. In 2011, only one out of every five adults could use the emergency room, resulted by expensive treatment. By the coming of the new system, the ACA adds more than 940 billion to the federal budget in the first years, as well as lowering hospital payments. Furthermore, the taxes were imposed on several health-related activities. (Laxmaiah Manchikanti et al 1)

Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act of 2010

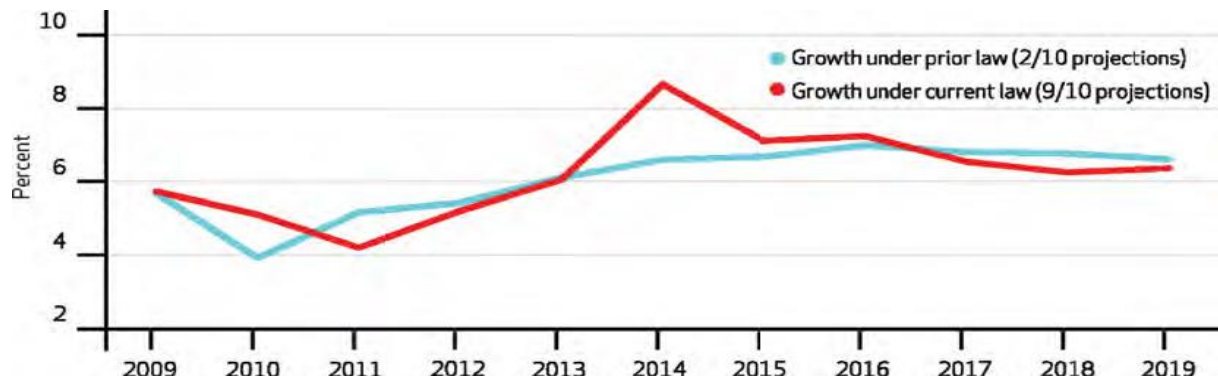


Figure 4: the diagram above shows the improvement of the ACA on the healthcare sector in America

Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of the Actuary, National Health Statistics Group (26).

Conclusion:

President Obama's shift from his first term to the second one was a sign of a successful president. During his second campaign, Obama won the overwhelming majority of support over his opponent Mitt Romney to sweep across the major cities in whole America and winning his reelection. His achievements and reformulations touched mainly the government's two major sensitive sectors, which are the educational sector and the healthcare sector. The basic changes that president Obama introduced to both sectors were primarily reformative and serviceable to serve the American citizens altogether, in order to cover up their potential needs and gain equal opportunities for the minorities.

General conclusion

Thanks to The African -American movement which was the social and the political icon for the oppressed black minority. This non-violent movement left its legacy in the history of America to identify equality and social justice for all mankind and for unified America. The African- American social struggle touched all the oppressed sensitive sectors to gain justice and equal opportunities and made constitutional changes. In addition, the birth of the civil rights movement was due to a number of activists and leaders who stood against marginalization and oppression by the whites. After the period for legislative victories and equal citizenship rights against discrimination and segregation of the American nation and its addiction to racism, a new era came in the American history which was the introduction of the black candidate to present themselves as a citizen in the United States of America. Obama introduced himself to the presidency as the first African- American candidate, so to serve his country and prove to the American society and the world the eligibility to lead and serve the American country no matter what color of skin is. Moreover, this was not possible without gaining the public opinion with his charisma and strong determination. I personally think that Obama was a smart man in the right place to neglect all the kind of discrimination and with help of the African – American movement to throne him to the presidency seat. To sum up, Obama was elected for two terms and achieving the movement legacy.

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Abstract:

The dissertation's objectives are to examine and treat a specific era in the history of America, which it had witnessed and suffered from race issues during the two last decades. Also, this work is going to shed the light on one of the epic social and political event, that it took a place in the American society, which is the civil rights movement. This peaceful manifestation brought radical changes to African Americans and the constitution by neglecting the injustice and maltreatment toward them. The civil rights movement was the start to pave the way for many black leaders in order to achieve their goals; including Obama as the first black senate and from there to the presidency of the United States of America. Thanks to the civil rights movement, Obama was elected for two terms as the president of America and the African American minority is being treated equally.

ملخص:

عالجت هذه الدراسة حلقة من حلقات التاريخ الأمريكي مركزة على اهم الأحداث التي شكلت تاريخها وحاضرها. ومن اهم هذه الأحداث هي حركة الحقوق المدنية. هاته الأخيرة اعتبرت المحور الرئيسي الذي غير الواقع الامريكي بعدما كانت امريكا مرتعا لتجارة العبيد في أوائل القرن السابع عشر. جاءت هذه الحركة في أواخر القرن التاسع عشر ردا على التمييز العنصري والعنصرية اجمالا. وركزت على اللجوء السلمي فقط لضمان الحقوق القانونية والعدالة الاجتماعية للأقلية الأفريقية التي تغاضى عنها وتحفظ عليها الأمريكيون. ومن بين الوسائل التي تبنتها هذه الحركة لجذب الرأي العام الأمريكي هي تنظيم مسيرات سلمية واحتجاجات وحتى بما سمي بالعصيان المدني ومقاطعات في مختلف ربوع الوطن للحصول على العدالة الاجتماعية والتغطية القانونية. ومن اهم الرموز والنشطاء الذين ساعدوا على وصول هاته الحركة إلى القمة وساعدوا في إقرار بعض القوانين الهامة في التشريعات الفيدرالية وتقديم بعض التعديلات الدستورية وهم الناشط السياسي الأبرز مارتن لوثر كينغ والرئيس المغتال جون كينيدي والرئيس ليندون جونسون. بعد نجاح هذه الحركة في تحقيق المساواة والعدالة في المجتمع الأمريكي نتج عن ذلك ظهور وجوه من اصول أفريقية أمريكية جديدة إلى الساحة السياسية كدليل على الوحدة الوطنية. من اهم هاته الشخصيات هي باراك اوباما الذي اعتبر اول مترشح أفريقي لرئاسيات امريكا بعدما كان عضو اول في مجلس الشيوخ. ترشح اوباما للرئاسيات كان بمثابة انتصار لحركة الحقوق المدنية. حيث ترشح وفاز برئاستين على التوالي ليثبت العدالة الاجتماعية وزوال العنصرية من الساحة الأمريكية. من خلال دراستنا لهذا الموضوع تناولنا فيه الجانب التاريخي لهذه الحركة وأهدافها وإنجازاتها ونماذجها التاريخية في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية.