

Emancipation Proclamation of the United States of America: A humanitarian Motive or Military Imperative

مرسوم تحرير العبيد للولايات المتحدة الأمريكية:

دافع إنساني أو واجب عسكري

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Abstract: *This study attempted to trace the real motives behind US President Abraham Lincoln's proclamation of emancipation in the midst of the American Civil War of 1861-1865 by investigating the potential declared and undeclared factors that could have caused the emancipation of slaves. This study aims to demonstrate whether a humanitarian motive or military imperative were behind that declaration in order to answer the following question: Did the emancipation of slaves come for humanitarian motives in order to eliminate the principle of slavery in the United States of America - as indicated by most of the studies that dealt with this topic? Or it was that the military imperatives imposed by the course of the civil war and the desire to preserve the union in place were what prompted President Abraham Lincoln to declare the emancipation of slaves according to the wording and conditions contained in that declaration? What are the consequences of the declaration of the emancipation of the slaves? To know whether the declaration of emancipation was a deliberate and planned decision or was it just a military action intended to end the war by surrendering the rebellious states and declaring their obedience and loyalty to the Union government. And that, based on the papers of President Abraham Lincoln, is a main source for this study.*

Keywords: Abraham Lincoln; Slavery; Emancipation Proclamation; Civil War; humanitarian motives; Military imperatives; Union; papers.

المخلص: تحاول هذه الدراسة تتبع الدوافع الحقيقية وراء إعلان الرئيس الأمريكي أبراهام لنكولن التحرر في خضم الحرب الأهلية الأمريكية من 1861-1865 من خلال التحقيق في العوامل المحتملة المعلنة وغير المعلنة التي يمكن أن تسببت في تحرير العبيد، وتشكل هذه الدراسة محاولة جادة لإثبات ما إذا كان وراء هذا الإعلان دافع إنساني أو ضرورة عسكرية

من خلال الإجابة على السؤال التالي: هل جاء تحرير العبيد لدوافع إنسانية من أجل القضاء على مبدأ الرق في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية كما أشارت معظم الدراسات التي تناولت هذا الموضوع؟ أم أن الضرورات العسكرية التي فرضها مسار الحرب الأهلية، والرغبة في الحفاظ على الاتحاد هي التي دفعت الرئيس أبراهام لينكولن إلى إعلان تحرير العبيد حسب الصياغة والشروط الواردة في ذلك الإعلان؟ وما هي نتائج إعلان تحرير العبيد؟ وهل كان إعلان التحرير قرارًا متعمدًا ومخططًا له أم أنه مجرد عمل عسكري يهدف إلى إنهاء الحرب من خلال تسليم الدول المتمردة، وإعلان طاعتها وولائها لحكومة الاتحاد. وهذا استنادًا إلى أوراق الرئيس أبراهام لينكولن، إذ هو المصدر الرئيس لهذه الدراسة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: أبراهام لينكولن؛ إعلان التحرير؛ الحرب الأهلية؛ الدوافع الإنسانية؛ الاتحاد؛ ضرورة عسكرية؛ الرق.

Introduction: Historically, the liberation of slaves in America was linked to the president's person and his human feelings, which made him take a step that was the most important decision taken by the American president one day, when he declared war on the southern states and freed their slave. Despite the abundance of writings and studies on this subject, it was mostly comprehensive in nature, and did not address the objective reasons and motives behind the president's issuance of the famous Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 and putting an end, even theoretically, to slavery on American soil. The research focused mostly on the human side as a strong drive towards war and the emancipation of slaves, while the extensive study of the civil war confirms the size of the human and material losses that went because of it, and the miserable condition of the blacks in America and after its end there are inevitably other reasons that can be considered the first motive for the declaration of war and the liberation of slaves and this prompts the researcher to seriously think about the human motives and emotions among other causes that led to the Civil War between the South and the North . On the two sides 600,000 Americans were killed and others were wounded.

1- Slavery Institution: Moral and legal problematic

1.1 Before the Independence (1619-1776): The modern world has witnessed, specifically since the seventeenth century, a strong struggle and intense debate between the major powers over the trade in slaves driven by the profit factor of securing colonies with free workforce and

dominating trade routes, and thus trade in human beings has become a driving component of the European economy and an important pillar of international trade at that time, which was known as the Triangular Trade¹. The goods were transported on European ships to be exchanged by African slaves to the New World colonies in North and South America, and there they were exchanged for the products of those colonies of cotton, sugar tobacco to be transported across the Atlantic Ocean again via Europe.

During the first half of the 17th century, European ships began to dock on the eastern shores of the British colonies in North America occupied by black slaves and white indentured servants. If slavery as a social and economic institution had not crystallized in the minds of the colonial inhabitants up to that time, so that black people were included in the Virginia census between 1623 and 1624 as servants and not as slaves. Some of them were allowed to marry, and some of them were granted land and lived free in the emerging colony society. At the end of the 18th century, the number of blacks compared to the whites reached the point of imposing a kind of fear.

In the light of the establishment of the rules of permanent slavery, it was expected that the slaves would rise up in an attempt to rebel and flee. For that reason the colonies issued successively a set of fugitive slave laws under what is called the Fugitive Slave Act, promulgated in 1793, it mentioned that severe punishment for those who harbor, cover up, or aid fugitive slaves. These laws were not enough torture and guarantee their submission, but the direct authority of the master was the strongest, such as cutting the bodies of slaves and ironing them with fire. These slaves tried repeatedly to get rid of their shackles by rebelling against their masters and appealing to the rulers of the colonies, seeking to grant them their freedom on the grounds that they were human beings who had never given up their freedom under any charter or convention. Although slaves sided with whites in the War of Independence, they took no legal measures in this regard.

1.2 After the Independence: The War of Independence (1776-1783) provided a strong opportunity for blacks to demand their liberation from slavery, as the slogans shouted by the colonial inhabitants revolting

1- Dictionary of American History, Stanley I. Kutler , Editor, Third Edition, (New York: Charles's Scribner's Son 2003) p 209-210

against British rule and the demand for independence and freedom also aroused the feelings of the blacks. The British Governor General Lord Dunmore declared that all blacks are free once they join the British army camp.

The military, economic and security challenges created by the Dunmore Declaration were the obsession that concerned the national forces, which began to retreat in the face of the military strikes led by the British army with the help of blacks, forcing George Washington to review his previous military policy regarding the exclusion of blacks from military service.

The northern states began to allow black slaves to join the fronts and Black slaves had the chance to be released black slaves in each of New York, Virginia, Rhode Island and New Hampshire, whereas the southern states such as Georgia and North Carolina continued their position not to allow blacks to serve in the military. On July 4, 1776, the independence of the United States was declared and blacks awaited in hopes of freeing them, and despite the document of independence states: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."¹

However, it was a vague and unclear statement regarding slaves, as the document was free of slavery. In 1787 there was a political movement between the independent states over two legal and political issues. The first: a verse for the entry of uninhabited lands in the north into the union by permitting or prohibiting slavery. The second: resolving the issue of counting the slave within the total population. This controversy resulted in the issuance of the Northwest Territories Ordinance which Article Six stipulated that: "There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid."²

1.3 Tensions between the North and South: Flux prevailed between the

1- https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence.

2- Dictionary of American History Op, Cit., Volume 6, pp 200-201

North and the South throughout the 1850s, and one of the most important factors in the deterioration of relations between the two sides regarding the issue of slavery was the events of Kansas Nebraska in 1754 and the Federal Court ruling on the slave issue Dred Scott vs. Sandford.¹ On the popular level, associations for the abolition of slavery were active in the northern states, and liberal writers and policies directed their interest in the voice of the moral problematic related to man's enslavement of his brother man. Harriet Beecher Stowe published her famous novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, which aroused the enthusiasm of the masses and called for the abolition of slavery in America. This led to the emergence of bright personalities among the free blacks, among them the most famous: Frederick Douglass².

Finally, it became clear that the south was preparing itself for secession from the northern states. This is because it is convinced that the political, legal and popular balance is in favor of the North. That is to say, any new government can adopt a law or constitutional amendment that prohibits slavery in the southern states. In this case the South is determined to defend its privileged interests even if the matter costs wage a war against the Northern states.

2- The Civil War: A review of the South Secession: Slavery was not the only issue that inflamed the conflict between the northern and Southern States, there are many ethical issues that increased the rift between the two sides. Among the most prominent of these issues Economic differences. The natural disparity between the northern and southern states resulted in a distinctly different economic pattern. Whereas the North sought to be the main center for trade, industry and water; the South was content with developing the cultivation of cotton, sugar and tobacco. By the nineteenth century it became clear that the states were divided into two societies: industrial and commercial in the North and agricultural in the south

2.1 The Customs Protection Issue: It should be noted here that the issue of customs protection led to an intensified conflict between the South and the north in America. Since the foundation of the Federation of States, Congress enacted a system for customs protection, imposing high

1- Dictionary of American History Op, Cit., Volume 8, pp 249-251.

2- Douglass, Frederick. The Life and Time of Frederick Douglass. (Hartford Park Publishing, 1881)

protective tariffs on goods imported from Europe. This aims to encourage emerging local industries, and there was an increase in fees that met with strong opposition and resentment by representatives of the southern states in Congress because the people of the south were accustomed to exporting their agricultural products and importing European manufactures and European goods that they returned. The imposition of customs taxes on those industries would have raised their prices that Northern State benefited from these increases.¹

Accordingly, the southern states considered that secession from the Union government would preserve their prosperous and independent economy, and perhaps increase it by opening the door to slave trade more widely in order to reduce the cost of production, cancel the customs taxes on imported goods, and organize bank bills. It supports their interests and boosts their economies.

2.2 Elections and the division of parties: No doubt that the United States results of 1860 were the direct reason and the decisive factor to break out the American civil war that lasted for four years. In 1860 the Democratic Party members met in South Carolina to elect a candidate for the next presidential term.

At this point, the Democratic Party divided among itself, so the extremists in the south stipulated that the party's program be included in the congressional decision to allow slavery to spread. In the regions, moderates headed by Douglas believed that the principle of popular sovereignty was more acceptable to the investigation. However, the dispute reached an end. The members of the Northern Democratic Party met in Baltimore and nominated Douglas for the next term, whereas members of the Southern Democratic Party nominated John C. Breckinridge. In 1860, Abraham Lincoln won the election with 40% of the vote. Although Southerners got the majority vote, they realized the significance of Lincoln's victory or the possibility of the latter by overthrowing slavery in the American states from its roots.

3- Declaration of War and President Abraham Lincoln's Position:

3.1 The Presidential Elections of 1860: The 1860 Presidential election was agitated by divisions within the Democratic party. Lincoln, the Republican Party nominee, a lawyer from Illinois, was joined by three other candidates: John C. Breckinridge of the Southern Democrats,

1- Burns, Bree. Harriet Tubman, New York: Chelsea Juniors 1992.

Stephen Douglas of the Northern Democrats, and John Bell of the Constitutional Unionists. His running mate and vice-presidential nominee for the Republican Party was Senator Hannibal Hamlin of Maine. The election was fueled with the sectionalism that would descend the country into a civil war. During his campaign, Lincoln carried out a hands-off approach, being the only candidate to not give a speech, relying on the Republican Party to produce support Lincoln won the Electoral College with 180 votes despite gaining less than 40 percent of the nation's popular vote Lincoln did not win a single slave state, instead taking states above the Mason–Dixon line and north of the Ohio River. He also gained the Electoral College votes from the western states of California and Oregon. On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected the 16th president of the United States. With secessionist sentiments rising, Lincoln was faced with a divided nation before his presidency had even begun.

3.2 Presidential Powers: Lincoln's expansion of presidential powers included the aforementioned blockade on shipping ports as well as the suspension of *habeas corpus* on April 27th. The suspension of the writ was restricted to Maryland as Lincoln was warned that anti-war officials would destroy an essential supply line from Annapolis to Philadelphia. He further aggravated tensions when he dismissed Chief Justice Roger Taney's ruling in the *Ex Parte Merryman* case that challenged Lincoln's suspension of *habeas corpus*¹ and challenged its constitutionality. Lincoln went forward and called for more than forty thousand men to expand the Army, invoking his right as Commander-in-Chief. As the beginning stages of the war progressed, Lincoln continued to suspend *habeas corpus* in cities like Washington D.C. to highlight this.

3.3 Secession Crisis: South Carolina's Francis W. Pickens wrote to President Buchanan on December 17, 1860, asking him surrender Fort Sumter with the use of a small force arguing the safety of South Carolina. In a letter he wrote the next day, Buchanan did not address the surrender of Fort Sumter presuming South Carolina was still considering the prospect of secession and offered to send diplomat Caleb Cushing to

1- Habeas Corpus is a law that states that a person cannot be kept in prison unless they have first been brought before a court of law, which decides whether it is legal for them to be kept in prison.

South Carolina to act as a negotiator on his behalf¹. Further attempts at claiming Fort Sumter had been ignored by Buchanan causing the first shots of the war as cadets from The Citadel, a military college in Charleston, prevented a steamer from resupplying Major Robert Anderson's garrison at the fort. Lincoln would condemn this event as one of the reasons of the start of the war claiming, "The insurgents commenced it by firing upon the Star of the West, and on Fort Sumter, and by other similar acts. It is true, however, that the administration accepted the war thus commenced, for the sole avowed object of preserving our Union."²

Efforts had already been made to address the grievances of the southern states who were contemplating secession. Senator John J. Crittenden compromise offers a valuable illustration of the complicated political perspective during that time. Presented on December 18th and tabled by congress on December 31st, his attempt at finding a longstanding solution to the slavery crisis involved the return of the Missouri compromise in which he hoped to restore the feeble peace conceived by the geographical contrast between slavery and freedom.³ The compromise was not well received by Lincoln who argued that it went against the party's platform; to end the expansion of slavery. After rejection from the House of Representatives and the Senate, it was proposed again during the Peace Conference on February 4, 1861. After weeks of deliberating, the conference proposed a constitutional amendment that failed to prevent the expansion of slavery into new territories, displeasing Republicans. Lincoln's strong opposition to disunion impaired his ability to favor the abolition of slavery.

1- James Buchanan, *The Works of James Buchanan: Comprising His Speeches, State Papers, and Private Correspondence*, (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1911), pg. 68

2- Abraham Lincoln, "To Isaac M. Schermerhorn," September. 12, 1864, *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume 8, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 2.

3- John J. Crittenden, "Amendments Proposed in Congress" December 18, 1860, Yale University, Avalon Project, *Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy*, (2008), accessed September 4, 2017, http://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/critten.asp; "The Crittenden Compromise.," *The New York Times*, February 05, 1861, accessed September 4, 2017, http://www.nytimes.com/1861/02/06/news/the-Crittenden-compromise.html?_page_wanted=all

As he struggled with disunion, he placed importance on the country staying together, which effectively kept the war against slavery parallel to the national issue of secession. He maintained no qualms over the Fugitive Slave Acts or the slave trade among the states insouciant unless it involved their further extension.¹ Conversations of peaceful arrangements to prevent the war were made by Lincoln in order to prevent bloodshed, using the argument of the colonies against the sentiments of secession. During his speech at Independence Hall on February 22, 1861, Lincoln used the colonies revolt for liberty, the same freedom that should be given equally to all men. He cited the Declaration of Independence as the main principle that should be used to save the country. Lincoln, in February of 1861, was fighting for any type of compromise to preserve the Union.²

4. The Proclamation Emancipation: The second year of the war (1862) demanded an increase in troops, one that African Americans could provide. Lincoln's dynamic with African Americans changed as he realized the power of having them on the Union's side. African Americans knew the power they held in numbers, but Lincoln remained hesitant of the hostilities that would rise if emancipation was granted. The Confiscation Act³ had created a great opportunity for an increase of men in the Union Army. The Act got the ball rolling for thousands of slaves to cross the Union lines. Self emancipation created pressure for Lincoln to act on slavery on his own accord. By late November of 1861 he had drafted a bill for compensated emancipation in Delaware which stated: There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, at any time after the first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and sixty seven, within the said State of Delaware, except in the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, that said State shall, in good faith prevent, so far as possible, the carrying of any person out of said State, into involuntary

1- Abraham Lincoln, "To William H. Seward," February 1, 1861, *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume 8, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 183.

2- Abraham Lincoln, "Speech in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania" February 22, 1861, *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume 8, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 183.

3- <https://www.britannica.com/event/American-Civil-War>.

servitude, beyond the limits of said State, at any time after the passage of this act.¹

Compensated emancipation became important to Lincoln as a form of compromise to keep the nation together. It would give the slaveholder a period servitude before the slave was emancipated. In March of 1862, Lincoln sent a message to Congress proposing to adopt a joint resolution of gradual compensated emancipation writing, "Resolved that the United States ought to co-operate with any state which may adopt gradual abolishment of slavery, giving to such state pecuniary aid, to be used by such state in its discretion, to compensate for the in conveniences."²

In reaction to the proposal, Pennsylvania Representative Thaddeus Stevens scorned Lincoln's idea as, "the most diluted, milk and water gruel proposition... ever given to the American nation."³ Although Lincoln was criticized by some radicals, Frederick Douglass characterized him as "a brave man trying against great odds, to do right. An honest patriot endeavoring to save his country in its day of peril."⁴ The pressure from the Radical Republicans pressed Lincoln to admit, "Stevens, Sumner and Wilson simply haunt me with their importunities for a Proclamation of Emancipation. Wherever I go and whatever way I turn, they are on my tail, and still in my heart, I have the deep conviction that the hour has not yet come."⁵ On April 16, 1862, Lincoln signed the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act that effectively ended slavery in D.C. through compensation. It provided up to \$300 to slaveholders per freed slave and \$100 for any slave that would voluntarily leave the United States to colonize in Haiti or Liberia.⁶

1- Abraham Lincoln, "Draft of a Bill for Compensated Emancipation in Delaware," November 26[?], 1861, Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 5, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 30.

2- Abraham Lincoln, "Message to Congress," March 6, 1862, Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 5, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 145-147.

3- Adam Guelzo, *Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation: The End of Slavery in America*, New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004, pg. 96.

4- Frederick Douglass, *Frederick Douglass: Selected Speeches and Writings*, ed. Philip S. Foner, Chicago: Lawrence Hill Books, 1999, pg. 491.

5- Marc Egnal, *Clash of Extremes: The Economic Origins of the Civil War*, New York, Hill and Wang, 2009, p.314.

6- John W. Burgess, *The Civil War and the Constitution, 1859-1865, Volume 2*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1901, pg. 82.

Mounting political and military pressure drove Lincoln to seek a definitive resolution. After being endorsed by Lincoln, Congress passed an act that banned slavery in all federal territories. The Second Confiscation Act was passed in July. It authorized the emancipation of slaves belonging to slaveholders aiding the rebel cause. Lincoln again appealed to the border states to favor gradual emancipation: I intend no reproach or complaint when I assure you that in my opinion, if you all had voted for the resolution in the gradual emancipation message of last March, the war would now be substantially ended. And the plan therein proposed is yet one of the most potent, and swift means of ending it...I do not speak of emancipation *at once*, but of a *decision* at once to emancipate *gradually*. Room in South America for colonization, can be obtained cheaply, and in abundance; and when numbers shall be large enough to be company and encouragement for one another, the freed people will not be so reluctant to go¹.

On July 14th, he presented a draft of a bill that would, “compensate any State which may abolish slavery within its limits, the passage of which, substantially as presented, I respectfully, and earnestly recommend” to congress, which they left without action or resolution. As Lincoln began drafting the Emancipation Proclamation, he kept it within his presidential cabinet per their advice, waiting for a substantial Union victory. In regards to opinions about the effect of slavery on the war, Lincoln wrote about his main concern being the preservation of the Union in a letter to Horace Greeley the editor of the *New York Tribune*,

If there be those who would not save the Union, unless they could at the same time *save* slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time *destroy* slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount object in this struggle *is* to save the Union, and is *not* either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing *any* slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing *all* the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it

1- Abraham Lincoln, “Appeal to Border State Representatives to Favor Compensated Emancipation,” July 12, 1862, Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 5, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 318-320.

helps to save the Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do *not* believe it would help to save the Union¹.

4.1 The Preliminary Emancipation: In July 1862 President Lincoln gave the government members a draft he had alone written for freeing slaves, asking them to express an opinion. After several consultations, the wording of the statement was finalized. On September 22nd 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary emancipation proclamation. The act stated: "That on the first day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any states, or designated part of a state, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons or any of them, in any efforts they may take for their actual freedom."²

This proclamation was revolutionary and different from the first and second confiscation acts. It may be noted that:

- 1- The declaration set the first day of January as a final day for the states and parts of the rebellious states to announce their voluntary return to the Union government and not be considered in a state of rebellion, and at that point the Union government and its military authority must consider the owned persons as free slaves forever.
- 2- The proclamation showed that military necessity and the desire to end the revolution were the reason behind this issuance, and it is a correct remedy that the aim is in the first place to eliminate the rebelled states and not to free slaves.
- 3- The proclamation specified the areas to which it applies, and excluded the border areas as well as some areas that were seized by the Union army.
- 4- The proclamation indicated the enlistment of slaves in the military service, in castle garrisons and elsewhere.

1- Abraham Lincoln, "To Horace Greeley," August 22, 1862, Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 5, New Brunswick: Rutgers University, 1990, pg. 389.

2-<https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/emancipation-proclamation/transcript.html>

Thus, the Preliminary Proclamation of the slaves' emancipation came in fulfillment of the president's desire to achieve the following matters:

- 1- Motivating slaves to escape from their masters and seek refuge in the northern camp, at which time they will be regular conscripts and most importantly they will gain their freedom
- 2- In addition to a moral dimension to the war, in addition to the political and military dimensions, another goal was added, which is the liberation of slaves.
- 3- Paralyzing the southern states' ability to continue the war in case the slaves responded to the call, thus creating an internal war and a state of turmoil that makes it difficult for the rebelled states to carry on their war because of their internal turmoil

4.2 The Emancipation Proclamation (Final Draft): Lincoln finally issued his legendary final emancipation proclamation in January 1st of 1863. Shockingly Lincoln in his final proclamation took out the portion where he stated that slave owners and slave states would be compensated. He also did not mention the slave colonization. After emancipation, the civil war has changed drastically. It became evident to everyone that North was now fighting for freedom and advancement of American democracy and the South fighting for slavery.

4.3 The Emancipation Proclamation's effect during the Civil War: Lincoln's papers contain hundreds of letters and telegrams supporting his courageous move by declaring the emancipation of slaves, and accordingly it can be said that President Lincoln was able to attract his supporters to his policy by the necessity of bringing back the belonging of the southern states even by force to the United States of America in case the peace efforts proved unsuccessful. The effect of this move appeared in the war ethics. The hymns and melodies were made to add to the emancipation of the slaves as well as the preservation of the union, and the most famous of what was written as the hymn of battle cry for freedom.¹ Overseas, Britain was in rush to declare neutrality regarding the civil war, as it was satisfied with recognizing the southern states and supporting the Confederation of the right to confiscate any ship with intent to reach the south. On the military level, the battlefields have

1- The "Battle Cry of Freedom", also known as "Rally 'Round the Flag", is a song written in 1862 by American composer Georges Frederick Root (1820–1895) during the American Civil War.

witnessed a remarkable change in favor of the northern coast.

Would President Lincoln have won in the US presidential election in 1864 if he had not taken that step which made him a personal success especially and for the Democratic Party in general, or his adversary the Democratic candidate General Georges McClellan would win? The majority of voters would vote for those who pledge to end the war and the bloodshed, as the majority of whites in the North were not willing to shed the blood of the brothers for the sake of the black cause.

The preliminary and final Emancipation Proclamation clearly indicated the need to benefit from the services of the blacks in the army and battlefields, and thus the emancipation of slaves could be linked to the benefit of war effort of the blacks, which was proven by real facts as the balance of power was in favor of the armies of the North immediately after the liberation of slaves.

Conclusion: The decision by President Lincoln to free the slaves was not a well thought out and planned decision. Humanitarian motives did not play a significant role in its issuance, but rather a military action aimed at ending the war by surrendering the rebellious states and declaring their allegiance and loyalty to the Union for the following reasons and evidence.

If the motive for union was sympathy for slaves and the sincere intention to rid them of their chains of slavery , so why the declaration of the proclamation took a long time .Would the president have succeeded in the presidential elections of 1864 if he had not taken that step, and which granted him a personal success?

The first preliminary declaration and the final declaration of the emancipation of slaves indicated quite clearly the necessity of making use of the service of blacks in the army and battlefields, and thus the liberation of slaves could be linked to the benefit of their war effort.

There was no mention in President Lincoln's papers or government action program on how to contain more than the wealth of millions of slaves as soon as they were freed, contained and rehabilitated within society as free citizens, and this indicates that the decision was neither deliberate nor planned.

The letters exchanged between President Lincoln and his friends expressed what was going on in his mind about the Union, the Civil War and the issue of slavery, and he absolutely did not deny that his declaration of emancipation of slaves under his authority as President of

the United States during the time of war came to deter the Union of Southern States from his breakaway move

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