

Abstract:

Main goal of the dissertation is to make an attempt to find the answer to the question: Why did American people elect the African American as their 44th president after so many racial prejudices and turbulent two hundred and more years in terms of racism?

In the first chapter I'll try to analyze the complexity of Race in American life from the point of view of political, social and economic perspectives, and study the stereotypes that historically existed towards the slavery and still exist towards the African Americans; I'll focus on the importance of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the significance of African American church that played crucial role in the advancement of black people.

In the second chapter I'll deal with the leadership factor for African American community; analyze and differentiate leadership styles of the twentieth century African American leaders and single out main trends that led to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and concentrate on civil rights generation of blacks, as well as other blacks who preceded Barack Obama, paving the way for his acceptance, and won elections by straddling the racial line and foregrounding their first class education and mainstream styles.

In this chapter I'll introduce my statistical survey analyses concerning African Americans and the Institute of presidency, slavery, Civil Rights Act of 1964, recognition test of famous African Americans, conducted among the undergraduate students of the American Studies direction of the International Black Sea University.

In chapter three I'll make an attempt to respond to such a vulnerable for Americans a question as: whether the election of Obama put an end to the racial problems in the United States? Which factors played the decisive role in Obama's election?

I'll try to describe Obama as a new model of a black man as leader with his openness to whites, blacks and other minorities; I'll touch upon his current activity in terms of his concentration on Domestic policy and Foreign Policy strategy.

Keywords: African American, race, Obama, prejudice, leader.