In a normal study of this kind on a subject on which a lot of works have been done before one usually begins with a review of the previous literature on the subject. But I have scattered my responses to earlier critics along with the discourse in different chapters in the study. At the beginning I have recounted the historical facts about colonialism in order to set my own bearings straight on the subject. My only justification in writing yet another study on Conrad and colonialism is that being a citizen of a former colonial country I might have something new to say.

Inadequacy of critical literature in our libraries is a great constraint on research. Books and periodicals in the National Library, Calcutta, have been in a very disorganized state for the last ten years. So I had to supplement my studies by going to Delhi University Library, Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, New Delhi, and Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi. Even the standard collected editions of Conrad's books are only partly available in the National Library, Calcutta. So I had to depend on different editions of Conrad's works such as Penguin, Medallion and Heinemann. But whenever I have found Dent editions, I have tried to consult them.
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