

Helen Keller: Her Life and Intellectual and Political Activity 1900-1926

¹Maha Jarir Abdul Karim Al_Nasiri, ²Prof. Idris Hardan Mahmoud

^{1,2}Tikrit University, College of Education for Girls, Department of History

Corresponding Author E-mail: Maha.jarir366@st.tu.edu.iq

Second Author E-mail: adreshardan@tu.edu.iq

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ABSTRACT

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The importance of this topic stems from its tracing of the life of one of the world's most famous women who overcame several fundamental difficulties. The character of a woman who fought disability with great determination, earning herself the title of "Miracle Worker." This topic falls within the framework of using history to draw from successful experiences in caring for and rescuing people with disabilities through the enactment of laws that protect their rights to health, education, work, and post-retirement care. This contributes to supporting institutions that care for people with disabilities. The title of the research is "Helen Keller: Her Life and Intellectual and Political Activities 1900-1926." It includes an introduction, three chapters, and a conclusion. The title of the first chapter is: Her Family History, Educational Stages, and Early Activities until 1900. The second chapter deals with her intellectual and political activities until 1913. The third chapter is entitled: Her Defense of the Disabled in World War I 1915-1926.

Keywords: Helen Keller, deafness, Braille, Tadoma method, Anne Sullivan, Tadoma method.

Introduction:

Social studies are synonymous with historical studies, especially those that follow the lives of some personalities who have contributed a lot to human society, including personalities who are contrary to the norm in their physical nature. Rarity and distinction are two important factors in choosing the subject of personality study. Here, the study followed one of the exceptional personalities who combined the ambitious and dedicated human nature with pain, deprivation and the harshness of dealing with her human surroundings. The personality of Helen Keller, with what was characterized by the spirit of insistence and defending her rights to live despite her suffering from the loss of the three senses, but she held on to another sense, which is feeling, and translated it into spoken and written words. The subject of this study is Helen Keller, an American by birth and nationality who lost her three basic senses during a period in the health history of the United States. When Helen Keller was born, childhood diseases were widespread and had a fatal impact on those lives. She became blind, deaf, and lost her hearing, which made her a prisoner of a dark and miserable life. Despite all of this, Helen Keller had a family that dealt with her with a spirit of faith in changing destiny through striving forward. Therefore, the importance of the topic came from its being a topic that follows the biography of one of the world's women who overcame several fundamental difficulties in the personality of a woman who resisted disability with great enthusiasm and earned the title of the "Miracle Worker." This topic falls within the use of history to draw from it successful experiences in caring for people with disabilities and saving them by enacting laws that protect their rights to health, education, work, and post-retirement care, which contributes to supporting private institutions that care for people with disabilities.

The title of the research was (Helen Keller: Her Life and Intellectual and Political Activities 1900-1926), and it included an introduction, three chapters, and a conclusion. The title of the first chapter was: The history of her family, the stages of her education, and her early activities until the year 1900, while the title of the second chapter was: Her intellectual and political activities until the year 1913, while the title of the third chapter was: Her defense of the disabled of World War I 1915-1926.

Chapter One: The history of her family and the stages of her arrival in the United States of America until 1880

Helen Keller was born on July 27, 1880, in Tuscumbia, Alabama.¹⁾ Tuscumbia, Alabama, daughter of Arthur Henley Keller (1836-1896)²⁾, Arthur Henley Keeler's mother was Katherine Everett Adams Keeler (1856–1921)³⁴⁾, Katherine Everett Adams Keller, better known by her stage name Kate⁵⁾, Kate and Helen lived with their family in their home (Ave Green)⁶⁾, Ave Green, which was built on the farm of her grandfather (Arthur David Caspar), Arthur David, the family history is rich in economic and social heritage, as it was one of the families that owned vast lands, which made it one of the American families with influence and prestige, as the family owned slaves and used them in its agricultural work.⁷⁾ In the mid-nineteenth century, especially before the American Civil War of 1861-1865,⁸⁾ But she later lost it due to the Emancipation Act in the United States of America after the end of the American Civil War.⁹⁾ While her mother was of distinguished origins, she was the daughter of (Charles W. Adams), Charles William Adams (1834-1896) is one of the most important generals in the American Confederate Army. If we trace her family lineage, we find that she is of Swiss origin, as her grandfather is (Casper Keller), a citizen of Swiss origin who was the first teacher of the deaf.¹⁰⁾ In (Zurich city)¹¹⁾ Zurich, Switzerland. When he immigrated with his family to the United States of America, he owned vast lands in the state of Alabama and established his influence there. Regarding that origin, Helen Keller said, "There is no king who did not have a slave among his ancestors, and there is no slave who did not have a king among his ancestors."¹²⁾

Helen Keller was healthy in her first year, as she was able to walk early and began to pronounce several words and had normal, healthy vision. After her first year, (7) months, she was struck with a fever. According to estimates, it may have been on February 27, 1882, when she was 19 months old. She was struck with a severe fever, which was believed to be the result of her being struck with a bacterial infection, perhaps (*Haemophilus influenzae*). *Haemophilus influenzae*, also known as scarlet fever (¹³⁾ Which causes death to those infected with it or causes permanent disability such as blindness and deafness.¹⁴⁾ At that time, Keller was able to communicate somewhat with her family's housemaid, Martha Washington.¹⁵⁾ Martha Washington, her mother, helped her overcome some obstacles, especially since she had read in 1886, the novel (Charles John Huffam Dickens)¹⁶⁾, Charles John Huffam Dickens, which included in its content *How to Achieve Successful Education* (Laura Dewey Lynn Bridgman)¹⁷⁾, Laura Dewey Lynn Bridgman, a deaf and blind woman, was motivated to address her daughter's condition, assess her health and provide her with advice and guidance.¹⁸⁾ After examining her, he directed her father to go to Alexander Graham Bell.¹⁹⁾ Alexander Graham Bell, who provided care services for deaf children. After assessing their situation, listening to them, and knowing how they dealt with their surroundings, Alexander Graham Bell referred them to the Perkins Institute for the Blind.²⁰⁾ for the Blind, who introduced them to Ali (Anne Sullivan)²¹⁾, Anne Sullivan, who was similar to her, had the same disability, but she overcame it when she went to the same institute and was able to be a graduate of the school. It was agreed that Anne Sullivan would be a teacher for Helen Keller.²²⁾ Thus, Helen Keller took her first step into the realm of science and embarked with her new teacher on a journey to learn the ABCs of life and try to feel the world around her. The blind teacher, Anne Sullivan, arrived at the Keller family home on March 5, 1887.²³⁾ And it is the day that was considered a serious beginning in the life of Helen Keller, which would move her to a new life. Helen Keller began in April 1887, to achieve progress in her lifestyle through her mastery of what she received from her teacher, Anne Sullivan, when she began to realize that the movements that her teacher was making on the palm of her hand, while extracting water from the well in the garden of her family's house, which she was playing with at the time, she wrote the first word by feeling the water, which is the word (water). Water She spoke her first word from that teaching, which was the word water. That moment was so wonderful, it gave her an entrance into the light surrounded by hope, and then I wrote it again with my fingers.²⁴⁾

Helen Keller did not stop at that level of learning, as she aspired to achieve more. In 1893, she decided to choose a new school with scientific standards that would contribute to the development of her abilities in hearing and speech. That school was somewhat far away, but she decided to go and enter (William J. Wade House School).²⁵⁾ William J. Wade House A year later, in 1894, she went to New York City, where her teacher chose a new school for her.²⁶⁾ It is the Wright Humason School for the Deaf. "Wright Humason School for the Deaf, to obtain a large amount of instruction, and there it was arranged that I should go to the Wright-Humason School for the Deaf

in New York City. I went there in October, 1894, in company with Miss Anne Sullivan. This school had been specially selected for the purpose of obtaining for me the highest advantages in phonetic culture and training in lip-reading. In a few months I could understand almost everything she said."²⁷⁾.

In mid-1896, Helen Keller decided to go to Massachusetts.²⁸⁾Massachusetts to head to Cambridge School for Young Ladies²⁹⁾,Cambridge School for Young Ladies, where she continued to study until the end of 1899, and she was in contact with the administration of Radcliffe College.³⁰⁾Radcliffe College (Harvard University)³¹⁾Harvard University in order to obtain a seat to study there, which she was able to obtain in 1900 (³²⁾.

Helen Keller completed an important phase of her life in which she overcame several obstacles, including the hearing aid and the literacy barrier. All credit goes to the institutions that embraced thousands of blind people, or rather, people with multiple disabilities. She embarked on a new phase of her life to draw on human thought and begin preparing to defend the rights of her peers in the United States of America, and then crossed the borders outside her country.

Chapter Two: Her Education and Early Activities 1900-1913

After 1901, Helen Keller began to settle in Berkeley Hall School.³³⁾(Berkeley Hall School or what was called the Southern House, and there I met the satirical writer (Samuel Langhorne Clemens) better known as (Mark Twain)(³⁴⁾,Mark Twain, whom she greatly admired, and after her years of study, Helen Keller graduated with a bachelor's degree and was granted membership in the Phi Beta Kappa society.³⁵⁾Phi Beta Kappa from Radcliffe College at Harvard University to become the first deaf and blind person to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree, so Helen Keller did not stop her intellectual production as she continued writing. In 1903, she wrote her autobiography, which she titled (My Life Story). Here it is necessary to explain how she was able to write her works while she was disabled. The answer lies in the help and support she received from the husband of her teacher, Anne Sullivan, Mr. (John Albert Macy).³⁶⁾John Albert Macy, in her biography, she dealt with precise details about Maha, her hopes, ambitions and stumbles in those (21) years. Helen Keller sought from her intellectual and literary productions when she wrote some articles, including the article she wrote in 1907, which included advice and guidance that she presented in an emotional style that alerted through narrating Maha's biography and the possibility of families in the world in general and in the United States of America in particular to overcome those diseases that children are exposed to in their early ages (³⁷⁾.

Helen Keller's writings were filled with hope and high ambition, but she continued to educate American society through them, despite the obstacles she faced in writing in Braille, which could not be accomplished without someone else transcribing it according to the required language to another printing machine. However, she was able to compose her book in 1908, which bore the title (The World I Live In).The world in which I live³⁸⁾Despite those years full of success, Helen Keller was ambitious to move her ideas towards other aspects that would contribute to enhancing the self-confidence of the disabled. At that stage, she began to realize the necessity of caring for these groups by adopting decisions that would contribute to obtaining their natural social rights. Helen Keller headed towards entering the arena of political thought, so in 1908 she joined the ranks of the Socialist Party of America.³⁹⁾Socialist Party of America, and in this regard, the New York Tribune newspaper wrote about her steps in that intellectual direction and cited two main factors that drove her to it: first, her wide-ranging reading on society and philosophy, which eventually led her to the works of Karl Heinrich Marx (⁴⁰⁾.Karl Heinrich Marx as well as the works of contemporary socialists, such as H.G. Wells.⁴¹⁾H.G. Wells and William Morris⁴²⁾,William Morris and Eugene Victorgen Debs⁴³⁾,Eugene V. Debs Secondly, her growing interest in studying the specific conditions of people with disabilities in the United States led her to draw conclusions about society that conformed to the first. She discovered that such individuals, once they were disabled, constituted a poor class as a rule, and remained neglected, forgotten, and thrown into institutions. Those who were not institutionalized remained mired in poverty and unemployment, so they were deprived of educational opportunities. They faced segregation and marginalization at every turn in their lives. The reason for this was that no single census had been conducted in any American state or city to determine the numbers and needs of the disabled population. Therefore, Helen Keller believed that they simply did not exist as far as the relevant authorities were concerned.⁴⁴⁾.

She was active in many fields, including her active campaign to support workers' rights and their rights. Therefore, her writings included articles that defended their rights, especially after she became certain through her reading that most of the blind were from the working classes, residents of poor neighborhoods, and workers in mines and hard labor, and that the American labor laws at that time did not contribute to their rights and include their rights, especially in 1909.⁴⁵⁾ So, in 1912, Helen Keller joined the Industrial Workers of the World. Industrial Workers of the World Organization, known as the Wobblies, wrote in defense of socialism and the rights of the working class, "Parliamentary socialism is sinking into the political swamp."⁴⁶⁾

Her writings were an attraction as the working classes felt her ideas and written activity, so she was appointed to a committee to track the causes of blindness and other disabilities. In this regard, Helen Keller said, "For the first time, I found that what I had thought of as blindness was one of the things that constitute a great misfortune for man, but I was certain that a very large amount of it could be traced back to wrong industrial conditions, which are often the result of the selfishness and greed of employers and to which the axis of social evil contributes greatly. I found that poverty pushed women into a "life of shame" that ends in blindness. I confirmed that a group of diseases that were prevalent among individuals in American societies were the product of misery and poverty, including diseases (syphilis) resulting from relationships (promiscuity that women used to support themselves), which contributed to their infection with a group of those dangerous diseases, and in the event of untreated, it was a major cause of blindness."⁴⁷⁾

Helen Keller's activism stemmed from her feelings of suffering, which she witnessed through reading the writings of international defenders of workers' rights who had similar stances, the most prominent of whom was perhaps the British activist Emmeline Pankhurst.⁴⁸⁾ Emmeline Pankhurst, whose writings helped shape Helen Keller's ideas, was an encourager of her opposition to employers who were eager to make huge profits at the expense of the efforts and sacrifices of poor workers. As a result, she was accused of direct education through her writings, as was evident in her urging of silk textile workers in Lawrence in 1912.⁴⁹⁾ It was considered one of the turning points in the activity of the working class in the United States of America, which took place in the city of Lawrence, which was famous for its large number of textile factories. When the majority of workers went on strike in the factories of the state of Massachusetts, which forced employers to give in to the workers' demands, which were basically to raise wages to match the efforts made (⁵⁰⁾.

Helen Keller was the talk of the American press. The Detroit Free Press wrote, Detroit Free Press on January 13, 1914, said of her:⁵¹⁾ "As long as Miss Keller appears before the public as a member of society, struggling nobly under great disabilities and offering by her example an inspiration to others, she is doing valuable work. But the moment she undertakes to speak from outside the church on all the political and social problems of the day, she receives a consideration quite disproportionate to her stock of knowledge and judgment. Helen Keller, struggling to point the way to light for the deaf, dumb, and blind, is inspiring. Helen Keller advocates socialism; Helen Keller speaks of the advantages of the brass strike; Helen Keller mocks the Constitution of the United States of America; she is, in these respects, pathetic. She is beyond her depth. She speaks with the handicap of limitations which no amount of determination or science can overcome and know. It must be, almost purely theoretical. Unfortunately, this world and its problems are both very practical."⁵²⁾

It seems that the American press was criticizing her because she entered into political thought and began to defend workers' rights, which angered the employers and they mobilized the press to attack her, describing her as socialist in thought, and thus they wanted to incite the street, which was made up of a merciless capitalist majority.

The third topic: Her defense of the disabled of World War I 1915-1926

Helen Keller did not stop her activities in the field of defending the rights of the disabled. In 1915, she founded with George A. Kessler (⁵³⁾ George A. Keller Helen Keller International (HKI) is an organization that provides therapeutic services for blindness and vision problems resulting from congenital disabilities or from external causes such as the results of wars, conflicts, and work injuries, as well as treating the injured and providing various forms of care to those in need. The organization is headquartered in New York City and works to combat the causes and consequences of blindness and the impact of malnutrition by creating evidence-based programs.⁵⁴⁾ While it took an address outside the United States under the name (American Foundation for the Blind Abroad) American

Foundation for the Blind Abroad, which provided various forms of health support to people with disabilities, the most important of which is blindness resulting from war accidents, including the results of World War I 1914.⁵⁵⁾It provided services to warriors who were injured due to torture during captivity, and to strengthen the efforts of that organization, in 1916 it sent money to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.⁵⁶⁾(National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), and through its awareness of the racial exclusion that was practiced against non-white people in the United States of America and the rest of the world,⁵⁷⁾She wanted children born into poor families to have the same opportunities for success as those born into wealthy families. In this regard, she said, "I owe my success in part to the advantages of my birth and my environment. I have learned that the ability to rise is not within everyone's reach."⁵⁸⁾

Continuing her humanitarian activities despite her disability, she moved to the town of Menomonie on January 22, 1916. Menomonie Township in western Wisconsin to give a lecture in the Mabel Tainter Building.⁵⁹⁾It is a memorial building for the family of (Louis Smith Tainter), Lewis Smith Tainter was built in honor of their late daughter (Mabel Tainter), who died in 1886, at the age of (19) as a result of an accident. That building holds a lot of historical importance and was a meeting place for important figures who held their seminars. Therefore, Helen Keller chose the Mabel Tainter building to give a lecture through which she carried a message of reassurance accompanied by hope for the disabled. Helen Keller excelled, who overcame three types of disability: hearing, speech, and vision.⁶⁰⁾When she gave her lecture, she used lip-reading, which is a difficult way to convey the message to the audience, but she was creative in that lecture, and the American press reported that event and portrayed it with the highest degree of interest.⁶¹⁾This humanitarian activity received great attention from Helen Keller, who began her activities in 1920, becoming one of the founding members of the American Civil Liberties Union. American Civil Liberties Union. Which opposed the suppression of freedoms by working with a large group of thinkers and free thinkers to ensure freedom of expression for the country's citizens.⁶²⁾In accordance with the text of the American Constitution, which it approved in the chapter on freedoms (⁶³⁾The year 1920, for Helen Keller, had several positive and negative changes in its months. George A. Kessler died, and was succeeded by the lawyer (William Nelson Cromwell).⁶⁴⁾William Nelson Cromwell, and since 1921, Helen Keller focused in her intellectual output, which she employed through her membership in several organizations to defend women's right to vote and its negative effects that appeared after the years of World War I 1914-1918, including the increase in the number of disabled people as a result of that war and the lack of attention to those numbers with attention worthy of the services they provided. Therefore, Helen Keller supported the reasons that opposed her country's military intervention in that war.⁶⁵⁾Which led to the infection of between (6-8) million people worldwide, and governments then had to face a problem that differed in size from one country to another.⁶⁶⁾In each of the following five countries (Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Russia and the United States of America), care had to be provided for more than 800,000 disabled men due to the bloodshed and destruction of that war, while health care and related services had to be provided in other countries such as (Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Serbia, Croatia, the Soviet Union and the United States of America) while they had to deal with 100,000-350,000 disabled men due to the results of the devastating war that the world witnessed.⁶⁷⁾

Men disabled by war formed organizations whose political position was often hostile and which adopted ideas (apolitical, socialist, Catholic social). Because they had a very large number of members and spoke on behalf of the victims of that war, they became influential partners against the American authorities. In general, these associations adopted social positions based on demanding legislation to protect the rights of the disabled. They even prided themselves on promoting the sacrifices of soldiers and their wounded. For this reason, the law firm of William Nelson Cromwell embodied the aims of these associations, and Helen Keller contributed to the spread of their demands.⁶⁸⁾

All of Helen Keller's generous activity was not well received by some, and others objected that her speech style was not useful, so she decided to undergo several surgical interventions with the aim of improving her speech so that the public would understand her voice better. In fact, these objections were malicious and tried to undermine her remarkable success, especially from the American press magnates, whose management was owned by (John Davison Rockefeller Jr.)⁶⁹⁾ John Davison Rockefeller, Jr., who fought her journalistic activity and attacked her articles, and even went further when he directed some of his newspapers not to print her articles. In the face of

these deliberate obstacles, Helen Keller protested and was able to publish her work, especially that which focused on protecting rights and freedoms.⁷⁰

It appears from an analysis of her political activities that she was a socialist, and therefore her activities were met with restrictions through the deliberate prevention of the press from publishing her lectures and articles.

Helen Keller delved deeply into socialist thought and demonstrated her staunch defense of the rights of the working class, the deprived, and blacks by supporting the Socialist Party's US presidential candidate (Eugene Victor Debs.) Who was thrown into prison in 1926,⁷¹ Regarding that support, she said, "I was sympathetic to him to a certain extent, but I increased that support after reading the book (Progress and Poverty)."⁷² Progress and poverty by the thinker (Henry George)⁷³, Henry George, the book "Progress and Poverty": In the late nineteenth century, the American author Henry George was interested in addressing the issues of the land ownership system and the misery it caused to the vast majority of people. He angered the wealthy class, especially when the demand to buy and read the book "Poverty and Progress" increased. The book received great acclaim after its publication, as it examined the causes of industrial depression and the increase in demand with the increase in wealth. He saw this transformation as an intractable issue, and even one of the biggest economic problems that led to social consequences that were difficult to solve. The author sought in his book to present the dilemma and try to find a solution for it. Therefore, the book was popular at the time of its publication and millions of copies were sold worldwide, and its sales exceeded any other American book during that period.⁷⁴

Thus, a period rich in intellectual and professional production in defending the rights of the disabled came to an end, in addition to her increasing activity in defending the general rights of workers and those with limited income by seeking to adopt laws that do justice to their rights.

Conclusion

At the end of this message, it is necessary to state the most important conclusions that I have reached.

- 1- In all societies, the issue of caring for people with disabilities is at the forefront, and laws are enacted to obtain their rights, provide the requirements for a healthy life, and create ideal conditions for integration with the components of society.
- 2- Helen Keller's personality was a factor that motivated American society to make New York City the first city to establish schools to educate the blind and those with various types of disabilities.
- 3- Helen Keller's persistence embodied a rare case, as she was blind and taught by a blind teacher.
- 4- For Helen Keller, feeling was a basic stimulus for the bouncing board that merged with extreme silence with repeated attempts to sense her external surroundings.
- 5- Helen Keller's experience was a key to other experiences that contributed to schools for the blind in crystallizing a society that believed in the rights of people with disabilities.

References:

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- [1] Tuscumbia: A city in the United States, the birthplace of Helen Keller. When the Michael Dixon family arrived around 1816, they were the first European Americans to settle there, as it was the traditional territory of the Chickasaw people. They built their home at the head of Big Spring. Other settlers joined them and developed a village known as Big Spring Community. For more, see: John McWilliams, Deshler High School Yearbook, Tiger's Roar Volume LXVI, 1996, pp. 51-52.
 - [2] Arthur Henley Keller (February 5, 1836–1896) was born near Tuscumbia, the son of David and Mary Fairfax Moore Keller. He was raised and educated in Tuscumbia. At the age of nineteen, he entered the law department of the University of Virginia, and at twenty-two, he was licensed to practice law. In November 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate Army and was appointed quartermaster sergeant, in charge of the stores. After their destruction at Florence, he was temporarily assigned to General Sterling Wood's staff. In July 1862, he joined General Rody's cavalry, and in September of that year, he rejoined his old regiment as quartermaster at Vicksburg. He remained there until July 1864, when he was appointed paymaster for Rody's cavalry division, a position he held until the end of the American Civil War. He died in 1896. For more, see: Traci Muller Rylands, adventures in Cemetery Hopping, November 26, 202.
 - [3] Catherine Everett Adams Keller: Mother of Helen Keller. Daughter of Charles W. Adams and Lucy Helen Everett. For more see:

Deland TA, Davis Smith A, Northern Alabama Historical and Biographical Illustrated. — Donohue & Henneberry, 1888. P. 433-434.

- [4] Avi Green: For more see:
Christine Platt, *The Story of Helen Keller: A Biography Book for New Readers*, (Rockridge Press, 2020).
- [5] Slavery was one of the most important issues that caused the development of capitalism in the United States of America, which made dozens of American states adopt it as a basis for declaring a state's accession to the federal union. However, from 1770 to 1861, it was an influential factor in the decline of relations between the American states. It was a controversial topic that resulted in differences that led to the declaration of the American Civil War in 1861. Years later, it ended with the victory of the Union states and the abolition of the slavery law. At that time, most of the personal feudal lords lost their power and their economic capabilities declined, especially the Keller family. For more, see: Ali Khairi Matroud. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hussein Al-Suwaiti, *The Church's Position on Slavery In the Americas*, Basra Journal of Literature, University of Basra, 2021;
- [6] David Brion Davis, *Inhuman Bondage: The Rise and Fall of Slavery in the New World*. Oxford University Press, 2006, pp. 124-125.
- [7] Merton Coulter, *The Civil War and Readjustment in Kentucky*, Press Enduring Editions, 1926.pp.6-8.
- [8] Kim E Nielsen,op.cit.,783–806.
- [9] Charles William Adams (August 16, 1817 – September 9, 1878) was born in Boston. His father, Benjamin Goodhue Adams, was related to U.S. President John Adams. In 1819, his family moved to New Albany, Indiana, where Charles worked as a clerk in a mercantile house. Between 1830 and 1835, he moved to Helena, Arkansas. In 1835, he became a cashier in a mercantile house. In 1837, he became cashier of the Land Bank of Arkansas. After studying law at night, he became a lawyer in 1839. In 1840, Adams entered into a law partnership with William K. Sebastian, who became a U.S. Senator in 1848. Adams was a judge from 1852 to 1854. He also became a large cotton planter and slave owner. Adams married Lucy Helen Everett, and their daughter, Catherine Everett Keller, was Helen's mother. Keller, who became a colonel in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War (1861) and in 1864, commanded the Confederate Northern Subdivision in Arkansas. Charles William Adams died on September 9, 1878, of yellow fever that had spread in Memphis, Tennessee. He was buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Memphis. For more, see:
=Eicher, John H., and David J. Eicher. *Supreme Command in the Civil War*. Stanford University Press, California: 2001, pp. 587-588.
- [10] Dorothy; Clare, H. L. Shattuck, Roger, *The Story of My Life: The Restored Classics*. W. W. Norton & K. (2003). pp. 12–14.
- [11] City of Zurich: For more see:
Primas, Margareta, "There is a lot of history in the Zürichsee region: Your Steinzeit is here." Ausgabe 45-48 (December 1981).pp. 5-18.
- [12] Dorothy Clare, H.L.,op.cit.,pp. 13–14.pp.
- [13] She contracted scarlet fever, which resulted in meningitis, which left her deaf and blind, and severely limited her mobility. At the age of 19 months, Keller contracted a disease (possibly scarlet fever) that left her both hearing and sightless. When inventor Alexander Graham Bell, a friend of her parents, examined her when she was six, he sent her a 20-year-old teacher named Anne Sullivan Massey from the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston, which Bell's son-in-law ran.For more see.
the Perkins Archives.Helen Keller- Timeline A brief timeline of the life and work of writer, activist, and advocate Helen Keller, Shares, browsing date November 20, 2024.
- [14]Janet R Gilsdorf, *Into Darkness and Silence: What Caused Helen Keller's Deafblindness?*, Clinical Infectious Diseases, National Center for Biotechnology Information, Volume 67, Issue 9, 1 November 2018, pp. 1445–1449.
- [15] Martha Washington: It is the name of her family's housemaid and has no relation to Martha Washington, the wife of the first American president, George Washington.
- [16] Charles John Huffam Dickens: For more see:
John O. Und das wunderbare „Charles Dickens and the American Civil War. *Studies in Philology*. Band 57, Ausgabe (3) (July 1960), pp. 535-548.
- [17] Laura Dewey Lane Bridgeman (December 21, 1829 – May 24, 1889) was born in Hanover, New Hampshire. At eighteen months old, she was infected when her family contracted scarlet fever. The disease killed her two older sisters and left her deaf, blind, and deprived of her sense of smell and taste. Although she gradually recovered, she remained deaf and blind. Her mother kept her healthy, kept her clean, and showed her affection as a child, while her father sometimes tried to frighten her into obedience by stamping his foot hard on the floor, surprising her with vibrations. She was educated at the Perkins Institute for the Blind, where, under the supervision of Samuel Gridley Howe, she learned to read and communicate using Braille and the manual alphabet developed by Charles Michel de l'Épée for several years. Laura Bridgeman gained celebrity status when Charles Dickens met her during his American tour in 1842, and wrote of Her achievements are mentioned in her book "An American Memoir," but her fame was short-lived, and she spent the rest of her life in relative obscurity, mostly at the Perkins Institute, where she spent her time sewing and reading books in Braille. She was, however, the first deaf-blind American child to receive a significant education in English, forty-five years before Helen Keller; Anne Sullivan became Laura's friend. She died on May 24, 1889. For more, see:
Elisabeth Gitter, *The Imprisoned Guest: Samuel Howe and Laura Bridgman, the Original Deaf-Blind Girl*. NY: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2001, pp. 48-49.
- [18]W. Curtis Worthington, *A Family Album: Men Who Made the Medical Center*. Reprint Co.(1990).pp.21-14.
- [19] Alexander Graham Bell (March 3, 1847 - August 2, 1922) was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. His family home was on South Charlotte Street. His father, Alexander Melville Bell, was a phonetician, and his mother, Eliza Grace Bell, was deaf. He had two brothers, both of whom died of tuberculosis. His father was involved in speech work, while his mother and wife were deaf, which profoundly influenced his work. From an early age, he was sensitive and showed a talent for art, poetry, and music, which his mother encouraged. He mastered the piano and became the family's musician. Although usually quiet and contemplative, he enjoyed miming and "vocal tricks" similar to ventriloquism, which entertained family guests. Bell was deeply affected by his mother's gradual deafness, as she began to lose her hearing when he was twelve. He learned finger-speak so he could sit beside her and silently listen to the conversations taking place around the family. He developed a style of speaking in clear tones directly to his mother's forehead, enabling her to hear him clearly. Bell's preoccupation with his mother's deafness led

- him to study acoustics. His research in hearing and speech led him to experiment with hearing aids, which eventually culminated in his obtaining the first US patent for the telephone, on March 7, 1876. For more, see:
- [20] Bruce, Robert V. Bell: Alexander Bell and the Conquest of Solitude. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press (1990).pp. 419-422.
- [21] Perkins School for the Blind: Founded on March 2, 1829, in Watertown, Massachusetts, it is the oldest school for the blind in the United States. The idea for its establishment came from John Dix Fisher. For more, see:
Kimberly French, Perkins School for the Blind, MA Thesis (Unpublished (MA), Campus History Series) National Library of Medicine, September 2004.pp.22-24.
- [22] Anne Sullivan: (April 14, 1866 - October 20, 1936) was born Joanna Mansfield Sullivan; In Feeding Hills, Massachusetts, she was the eldest daughter of Thomas and Alice (Closy) Sullivan, who had immigrated from Ireland to the United States during the Great Famine of 1845. At the age of five, Sullivan contracted trachoma, an eye disease, which left her partially blind and unable to read or write. When she was eight, her mother died of tuberculosis, and her father left her two years later, unable to raise her alone. She and her younger brother, James, were sent to a dilapidated and overcrowded foster home in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, while their younger sister, Mary, was left with her aunt. Jimmy had a weak hip and died of tuberculosis four months into his stay at the home. Anne Sullivan remained in Tewksbury and underwent two unsuccessful eye operations. In 1875, she suffered cruelty and violence, including sexual perversion, so some girls were transferred to the Perkins School for the Blind in Boston, where she was educated. As a student there she completed her studies in 1886. For more see.
Alfred A. Knopf, Herrmann, Dorothy. Helen Keller: A Life, New York, 1998, p. 35.
- [23] McGinnity, B. L., Seymour-Ford, J. and Andries, K. J. Anne Sullivan. Perkins History Museum, Perkins School for the Blind, Watertown, MA. (2004).
- [24] Dorothy; Clare, H.L.,op.cit.,pp. 14.
- [25] Helen Keller, The Story of My Life, pp. 21-23.
For more see:
Joan Perkin, Victorian Women. Publisher, NYU Press New York University Press.(1995) pp. 27–28.
- [26] For more, see: Muhammad Maher, New York - Florida, translated by: Abdel Moneim Saeed, Editor for Publishing and Distribution, Cairo, 2024.
- [27] ;Thelma Wills Foote, Black and White Manhattan: The History of Racial Formation in Colonial New York. New York: Oxford University Press.(2003) p. 25-27.
- [28] John Albert Massey, The Story of My Life and the Free Letters (1887-1901), New York, 1905.pp.7-8.
- [29] For more information, see:
- [30] Daniel Neale, "The Fourteenth Century: The Present State of New England." A History of New England. Volume II (2nd ed.). London: (1747), pp. 216-217; Richard D. Brown; Jack Tagger. Massachusetts: A Short History. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press (2000), pp. 6-7.
- [31] Cambridge School for Young Ladies: The school was founded by Arthur and Stella Scott Gilman in In 1886, located on (20) Mason Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts, it began as a college preparatory school for girls. Helen Keller was accepted as a student in 1900. For more, see:
Frank A. Stone, Cambridge Girls' School, New England, 1973, pp. 182-189.
- [32] Radcliffe College: Founded in 1878, in the United States of America, it was a liberal arts college for women and the counterpart to Harvard College for men. Located in Massachusetts, the college was named after an early benefactor of Harvard University, Ann Molson. For more, see:
Ellen Kendall, An Informal History of the Seven Sister Colleges, 1st ed., G. B. Putnam; Peculiar Institutions: (1976), pp. 30-32.
- [33] For more see:
- [34] Louis B. Wright, The Cultural Life of the American Colonies (1st ed.). Dover, 2002). pp. 116-118;John Hoerr, We Can't Eat Prestige: The Women Who Organized Harvard. Temple University Press.(1997). pp.3-5.
- [35] Berkeley Hall School: Founded in 1911, Berkeley Hall School was the first independent, coeducational elementary school in Los Angeles, California. For more, see:
Bob Osborne, South House Girls' School, Yeovil Virtual Museum, 5 October 1902.
- [36] Mark Twain: (November 30, 1835 - April 21, 1910) His real name is "Samuel Langhorne Clemens", born in the United States of America,For more see:
Caron, James E. "The Blessings of Civilization: Mark Twain's Anti-Imperialism and the Annexation of the Hawai'ian Islands." The Mark Twain Annual (6): (2008).pp. 51–52
- [37] Phi Beta Kappa: Phi Beta Kappa FraternityThe oldest liberal arts and sciences honor society in the United States, with 286 active chapters, Phi Beta Kappa is widely considered the most prestigious honor society in the country. Phi Beta Kappa aims to promote and advance the liberal arts and sciences and to recruit the most outstanding students in the arts and sciences to American colleges and universities. For more, see:
William Raymond Baird, "Phi Beta Kappa", Baird's Manual of American College Fraternity, 1879.pp.6-7.
- [38] John Albert Macy (1877–1932) was born in Detroit and graduated from Harvard University in 1899. He worked as an editor for The Youth's Companion and the Boston Herald. He was a prominent American critic and writer. He was a socialist in thought and highly regarded in his time, being one of Helen Keller's most prominent supporters and contributing to the editing and publication of *The Story of Helen Keller's Life* (1903). Macy married Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan, in 1905, although they separated in 1914. Although he was an ardent socialist and the author of *Socialism in America* (1915), Macy is best known for his literary criticism. His works in that genre include *The Spirit of American Literature* (1913), *The Critical Game* (1922), and *The Story of World Literature* (1925). During the 1920s, Macy lived in Greenwich Village and was a member of the International Society of Authors. For more, see:

- [39] Seymour Ford McGinity, Andres, American Printing House for the Blind, 2019.
- [40] Elaine G. Breslaw, *Lotions, Potions, Pills, and Magic: Health Care in Early America*. NYU Press, 2014.
- [41] Helen Keller, *The World I Live In Follows Optimism and Serenity at Nightfall*, translated by Salem Mahmoud, Triyaq Publishing House, Riyadh, 2021.
- [42] The Socialist Party of America (SPA) is a socialist political party founded in the United States in 1901. It was formed as a result of the merger of the Social Democratic Party of America with individuals loyal to the Socialist Labor Party of America. In the early decades of the 20th century, it enjoyed significant support from many different groups, including trade unionists, progressive social reformers, populist farmers, and immigrants. One of its most prominent positions was its opposition to US involvement in World War I in 1917. The party subsequently disintegrated due to factional fighting over how to respond to the Russian October Revolution of 1917 and the founding of the Communist International in 1919. While the party has always been anti-fascist and anti-Stalinist, it opposed US entry into World War II in 1942. The party did not continue its activities and was dissolved in 1973. For more... See: Azhar Jabbar Shukr, *The American Communist Party 1919-1948 (A Historical Study)*, MA thesis (unpublished), Ibn Rushd College of Education for Humanities - University of Baghdad, 2019.
- [43] James Weinstein, *The Decline of Socialism in America, 1912-1925*, New York: Vintage Books, 1969, pp. 116-118.
- [44] Karl Heinrich Marx: Born on May 5, 1818 - March 14, 1883 in Trier, Germany, he was one of the leaders of socialist philosophy in the world. He was a philosopher, critic of political economy, historian, sociologist, political theorist, journalist, and German socialist revolutionary. He studied law and philosophy at the Universities of Bonn and Berlin. In 1843, he married the German theater critic and political activist Jenny von Westphalen. He was buried in London in 1883. For more, see: Vladimir Lenin: *Karl Marx: A Brief Biography of Marxism*, Dar Samed Publications, Tunis, n.d., Vol. 1, p. 67.
- [45] Herbert George Wells: born (September 21, 1866 - August 13, 1946) One of the most prominent novelists in the world, he was considered one of the founders of science fiction literature. Society was eagerly awaiting his writings, which became a source of great interest, which led to many people being interested in his works. He gained fame thanks to his novels that belong to that literary genre, as they included novels interspersed with purposeful social criticism. He was not satisfied with narrating adventures. His critical novels were not the most popular, as he wrote about the maturity of women through the novel "Anne Veronica" in 1909. For more, see: Keith Booker, *Dystopian Literature: A Theory and Research*
- [46] Guide (London: Greenwood Press, 1994), p. 70. Vincent Brome, *H.G. Wells: A Biography*. London, New York, and Toronto: Longmans, Green. (1951) p. 99.
- [47] William Morris (March 24, 1834 - October 3, 1896) was born in Walthamstow, England. He began his education at Oxford in 1856. He discovered his poetic talent and contributed to helping him write for the Oxford and Cambridge Magazine, which was an outlet for his poetry and the development of his theories about the skill of craftsmanship in the decorative arts. His experience allowed him to establish his company in 1861, which specialized in the design and restoration of churches and historic and heritage houses until the beginning of the twentieth century. In the field of poetry, Morris wrote and published dozens of books, and in the field of stories, and translations of ancient texts from the Middle Ages throughout his life. His best-known works include *Guinevere's Defence and Other Poems* (1858), *The Earthly Paradise* (1868-1870), *The Dream of John Bull* (1888), and *The Well* (1896). He was an important figure with the rise of socialism in Great Britain, founding the Socialist Federation in 1884. He devoted the rest of his life to the Kelmscott Press, which he founded in 1891. For more see: Aymer Vallance, *William Morris: His Art, His Writings and His Public Life*. London: George Bell and Sons. (1897). pp. 1-2.
- [48] Eugene Victor Jean Debs (November 5, 1855 - November 20, 1926) A member of the American Democratic Party and its representative to the Indiana General Assembly in 1884, he represented the Association of Firemen and Locomotive Engineers, one of the founders of the first union of railroad workers, he converted to socialist thought and became a founding member of the Industrial Workers of the World. Eugene Debs was one of the most important socialist politicians in the United States. He ran for president several times, as he was the Socialist Party candidate in the years 1900, 1904, 1908, 1912, and 1920, the last time from his prison cell. He died in 1926. For more, see: David A. Shannon "Eugene F. Debs: Editor of the Conservative Labor Party." *Indiana Journal of History*. Folder. 47 numbers. 4: (1951). pp. 357-364.
- [49] Barbara Bindley, "Helen Keller Expects Joan of Arc in IWW," *New York Tribune*, January 16, 1916. Newspaper
- [50] Whitman A. Helen Keller, 87, Dies, *The New York Times*: NY, 1968.
- [51] Keith Rosenthal, Helen Keller's Politics Socialism and Disability, *International Socialist Review*, No. 96: 1912.
- [52] Barbara Bindley, "Why I Became an of the World Organization. *New York* (January 16, 1916).
- [53] Emmeline Pankhurst (July 15, 1858 - June 14, 1928) was born in Moss Side, Manchester, England. She was a British political activist and leader of the British suffragette movement that helped women obtain the right to vote. Following this protest movement that shook Britain, a law was passed in 1918 allowing women over the age of 30 to vote. Ten years later, the voting age was lowered to 21, making it equal for men and women. A statue of her was unveiled two years after her death in 1930, two years after British women gained the right to vote, in Victoria Park in Leicester, England. The statue depicts her standing, giving a speech, her hand pointing to the spot where the first women's demonstrations had begun. For more, see:
- [54] Angela V. John, *Our Mothers' Land, Chapters in Welsh Women's History 1830-1939*. Cardiff: University of Wales Press. 1991. pp. 175-176; Bartley, Paula. *Emmeline Pankhurst*. London: Routledge, 2002., pp. 240-241.
- [55] Brooke Watson, *Mail & Requests: Mills, Magnates, at the Struggle for the American Dream*. New York: Bingen Group. for. Z. (2005). pp 8-9.
- [56] Ruth Milkman, *Women, Work, and Protest: A Century of US Women's Labor History*. Routledge. (2013). pp. 67-69.
- [57] *Detroit Free Press*, January 13, 1914.
- [58] "Wonderful But No Prophetess," *Detroit Free Press*, January 13, 1914.
- [59] George A. Kessler (1863-1920) was an American citizen from New York City, New York, USA. He owned a wine importing business and was also known as the Champagne King. Kessler survived the Lusitania disaster and later collaborated with Helen Keller to establish a relief fund for soldiers and sailors blinded by World War I. The organization he helped establish still exists today as Helen Keller International.

- [60] Kurt Culbertson, W. H. Tishler "George Edward Kessler Landscape Architect of the American Renaissance." *Midwestern Landscape Architecture*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. 2000.pp.99-100.
- [61] Nielsen, Kim E. "The Southern Ties of Helen Keller." *Journal of Southern History*. 73 (4): (2007).pp. 783–806.
- [62] The United States entered World War I on April 6, 1917. The US Army had entered the war with an expeditionary force of 10,000 personnel. During the following months of 1917, the number of its forces increased until it reached more than 4 million personnel. The number of its military deaths reached more than 110,000, including 45,000 deaths due to disease outbreaks, including the Spanish flu in 1918, while more than 20,000 people were permanently disabled. For more, see:
- [63] Hannigan, Robert. *The Great War and American foreign policy, 1914-24* (1st ed.). University of Pennsylvania Press.(2017) pp. 96-98.
- [64] National Association for the Advancement of Colored People: Founded in 1909 in the United States by Moorefield Story, Mary White Ovington, and E.B. Du Bois, its mission was to provide services to people of color, with the goal of achieving political, educational, social, and economic equality among all races and eliminating all forms of discrimination and racial segregation. The Helen Keller Organization has contributed millions of dollars to thousands of people who have benefited from the association's services. For more, see:
- [65] Etricia Sullivan, *Encyclopedia of the African and African American Experience*, in "The Civil Rights Movement" Essays 199, pp. 441-445.
- [66] Kim E. Nielsen, op. cit., pp. 783-806.
- [67] John Davis, *Helen Keller- rebel lives*.ocean press,melbrun.new york. 2003.pp.64-65.
- [68] Curtiss-Wedge, F. Jones, Geo. O. *History of Dunn County Wisconsin*. Minneapolis: H. C. Cooper, Jr., 1925. pp. 120-121.
- [69] Curtiss-Wedge, F. Jones, Geo. O. *History of Dunn County Wisconsin*. Minneapolis: H. C. Cooper, Jr., 1925. pp. 120-121.
- [70] Davis, John, op. cit., p. 57.
- [71] Barbara Bindley, "WhyI Became an IWW". *New York Tribune*.(January 16, 1916).
- [72] James W. Loewen, *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History*. New York: Touchstone Books.(1996). pp. 20–22.
- [73] Nathan Lewis, *Freedom for this pressure: a biography of the first nation*. Basic Box.(2007(.pp.6-7.
- [74] William Nelson Cromwell (January 17, 1854 – July 19, 1948) was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, in an Episcopalian family. He worked as an accountant for lawyer Algernon Sidney Sullivan, who paid for his education at Columbia Law School and made him a partner in the firm Sullivan & Cromwell in 1879. In 1898, he was appointed by Philippe Bunau-Varilla, head of the French Canal Syndicate, which owned large areas of Panama, to lobby the U.S. Congress for a canal through Panama. For his lobbying efforts, he received a very high fee of \$800,000. After the ratification of the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty, Cromwell was paid an additional \$2 million. In addition to his work as a lawyer, his most important charitable activities were helping the blind and establishing the Society of Friends of Romania in 1920, under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Marie of Romania and his supervision. The Society, which took Based in New York, there are numerous exchanges between the two countries in support of the blind and people with other disabilities. For more, see:
Dean, Arthur H. *William Nelson Cromwell, 1854-1948: An American Pioneer in Corporation, Comparative and International Law* (Ad Press, 1957.
- [75] Frederick C. Giffin, *The Radical Vision of Helen Keller*, *International Social Science Review*, Vol. 59, No. 4, Pi Gamma Mu, International Honor Society in Social Sciences (AUTUMN 1984), pp. 27-32.
- [76] Hassan Ali Siti Al-Fatlawi, *The Position of the United States of America on the First World War and its Results (1914-1921)*, Iraqi National Library and Archives, Baghdad, 1999.
- [77] Gerber David, *Disabled Veterans in History*, University of Michigan Press, 2012, pp. 13-14.
- [78] Gerber David, Op. cit., pp. 13-14.
- [79] John Davison Rockefeller Jr. (January 29, 1874 – May 11, 1960) was born in Cleveland, Ohio. His father, John Davison Rockefeller Sr., was a co-founder of Standard Oil. He was educated at the Park Avenue Baptist Church and then the private Browning School for himself and other family members. He then attended the Baptist-affiliated Brown University. Nicknamed "Johnny Rock," he taught Bible study and was a junior class president. He was known for his penchant for money, and stood out from other wealthy sons. In 1897, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, having taken nearly a dozen courses in the social sciences, including a study of Karl Marx's "Das Kapital." He rose through the ranks of capitalists, becoming one of America's most prominent bankers, serving as chairman and chief executive of Chase Bank. For more, see:
Harr, John Ensor; Johnson, Peter J. *The Rockefeller Century: Three Generations of America's Greatest Family*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. (1988).
- [80] Roberts, Bill, Eugene V. Debs and the Tradition of American Socialism. *Socialist Worker Magazine*. No. 638, July 20, 2007, pp. 12-13.
- [81] Nick Salvatore, *Ajn F. Debs: Citizen at Skillisa*. Arabna: University of the Middle East Press.(1982).pp.9-10.
- [82] Henry George, *Poverty and Progress*, translated by: Mustafa Hussein Al-Mansouri, Al-Saada Press, Cairo, 1919, pp. 4-7.
- [83] Roberts, Bill, Eugene V. Debs and the Tradition of American Socialism. *Socialist Worker Magazine*. No. 638, July 20, 2007, pp. 12-13.
- [84] Henry George (September 2, 1839 – October 29, 1897) was born in Philadelphia into a modest family. His father was a publisher of religious texts and a devout bishop, so his early education was at the Episcopal Academy in the city. He completed his education in 1851, then went to work on ships. In April 1855, he headed to British Columbia, arriving in 1858. He worked in gold prospecting but did not achieve his goals. After that, he got a job at the American newspaper *The Times*, where he was able to write editorials, including the article "What Will the Railroads Bring Us?" His most famous work was "Progress and Poverty," which he published in 1879. It sold a million copies worldwide, and it had the widest impact worldwide, probably more than any other economic work ever written. He died in October 1897. For more, see:
Istre, Logan S. "The Enigma of San Francisco: Henry George and the Historians." *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, no. 1 (2025):pp. 73-92.
- [85] Henry George, op. cit., pp. 8-20.
- [86] Roberts, Bill, Op. cit., pp. 12-13.