ABSTRACT
Arthur Miller is a committed artist who has a great concern for the welfare of the American society. He has made a consistent and impassioned attempt to dramatize subconscious emotions. This paper discusses Miller’s understanding of human psychology and his concern for the society. It also discusses the causes and effects of the most common psychological problem depression. In the light of these factors, this paper attempts to study Death of a Salesman of Miller psychoanalytically.

KEYWORDS: Arthur Miller, Psychology, Depression

INTRODUCTION
In American literature, the first attempt to deal consciously with the human problems engendered by economically and politically distorted societies were made in the first half of the twentieth century by the modern generation. The decays of the forties assume a colossal importance and cultural position in any study of modern literature that deals with the themes of anxiety, depression, isolation and insecurity. Arthur Miller is a committed artist who has a great concern for the welfare of the American society. He has dedicated himself to the investigation of the moral plight of the white American working class. His insight into the psychology of desperation and his ability to create stories that express the deepest meanings of struggle, have made him one of the most highly regarded and widely performed American playwrights.

DEATH OF A SALESMAN – A MODERN TRAGEDY
Modern man suffers and his life becomes a tale of suffering ending with the cessation of earthly life, owing to a number of entirely different causes. Arthur Miller presents modern man’s desire for psychic wholeness urges him to turn the negative experiences of isolation and difference into a positive one through involvement in the task of relieving human beings of misery and sufferings. In his play Death of a Salesman, he describes how an American dreamer Willy Loman can lose his self-worth by many negative situations that occur throughout his life.

Willy wants his sons Biff and Happy to be happy and successful but they turn their backs on him. Willy believes that Biff will be a successful businessman and it turns out that Biff is still searching to find himself, which makes Willy disappointed. The conflicts between Willy and Biff are rooted very deep. It all started when Biff was younger and he had failed his math class. He traveled to Boston to visit Willy, who was on a business trip. There he came to know that his father has an illegal affair with a woman. Biff leaves and never takes that math class over. Willy felt guilty about this and believes that he is responsible for Biff's choices in life and his failure to be successful. This conflict makes Willy weak and tremendously guilty, which stays with him as a reminder. Depressed Willy finds no way to make the situation better.

Living a successful life on the earth is not a simple task. Every person encounters formidable situations. Life can often seem to be an endless journey with interminable troubles. Living in a competitive, capitalist society may accentuate some of these troubles. Succeeding in a competitive and a capitalist society requires drive, persistence and intelligence. For some, success comes without making any efforts. For most, however, success is attainable only following many initial tribulations and failures. Willy Loman is no exception. He leads a lifelong struggle to achieve success. His profession as a
traveling salesman proves to be particularly arduous, as he meets many failures along the way. Life denies Willy the financial and social success he desperately craves. As a method of coping with such failure, he persistently denies his failures, convincing himself of his perceived success. He also represses his failures in order to maintain his self-image. Psychoanalyzing Willy reveals that his escape from reality causes his premature death.

**DEPRESSION**

Depression is to describe the temporary sadness, loneliness, or blues that everyone feels from time to time. In contrast to normal sadness, severe depression, also called major depression, can dramatically impair a person’s ability to function in social situations and at work. People with major depression often have feelings of despair, hopelessness, and worthlessness, as well as thoughts of committing suicide. It is clear that Miller has made consistent attempt to dramatize Willy’s depressed state of mind in this play. His understanding of the psychological problem depression and how a person reacts when he is in a state of severe depression are illuminating. In the case of Willy, under the drive of social success he tries to achieve a successful career and longs for the admiration and friendship of his buying customers to reinforce his sense of worth as a person. But he is unable to make enough money to support his family. He says, "My God if business doesn't pick up, I don't know what I'm gonna do!"

(P.18) “I get the feeling that I’ll never sell anything again, that I won’t make a living for you or a business for the boys” (P.20). He is no longer harmony with his work; the confrontation with Charley, his friend marks the degeneration and decay of his personality. He deeply falls into depression.

As we see earlier, people with major depression often have feelings of despair, hopelessness, and worthlessness, as well as the thoughts of committing suicide. But Willy’s wife Linda is a practical thinker differs from her husband. She understands depressed Willy and even fights for him when her son blames Willy. She says,

I don’t say he’s a great man. Willy Loman never made a lot of money. His name was never in the paper. He’s not the finest character that ever lived. But he’s a human being, and a terrible thing is happening to him. So attention must be paid. He’s not to be allowed to fall into his grave like an old dog. Attention, attention must be finally paid to such a person. (38)

On the way to domestic love, Willy tends to enjoy wife’s godly admiration, children’s filial piety and other women’s tenderly care, and Biff desires to be properly treated by his parents instead of being blindly appraised, while Happy longs for his parents’ more attention to him, and Linda, his wife pursues material prosperity and husband’s love. The play concludes in a tragic end when Willy leaves the house and crashes his car to end his life. With all the failing attempts, this time it had been successful. The major depression leads to the destruction of an American dreamer and the dreams of his sons. Willy wanted a dream that seemed materialistic and unimportant compared to the cost of his own life. One can think on when it comes to Willy's depression. He just seems to wallow in self-pity the whole play, never forgiving himself for the things that have gone wrong in his life. His depression not only affects him, but his entire family.

**CONCLUSION**

Psychoanalysis reveals that Willy's sad ending is the result of his denial of reality and repression. He is unable to come out of the world of illusion. Sadly, Willy perceived that his only escape from the pain of life was suicide. Although Willy's mental condition may be an exaggerated case, his choice of committing suicide is absolutely wrong. Countless
individuals have experienced similar troubles, many of which choose to end their own life. Undoubtedly, applying Willy's drive and determination to a suitable and proper set of dreams will enable anyone to succeed. Though Willy demonstrates the strenuous, demanding nature of life, his resolution to achieve success is nothing short of exemplary. From this way, this article finally gets a conclusion that it is anxiety and depression that determine to behave them.

REFERENCES
