

# Nationalism in Irish Ballads

It is a commonly known fact that Ireland existed, for many centuries, as a colonized nation. Originally subjected to a conquest in the 12th century by the Normans, Ireland saw hundreds of years under British rule.



This colonization, and subsequent subjugation of the Irish people had a profound impact on Irish folklore. Nationalism became a prominent theme within music and stories. Folklore became centered around the Irish people, and their want for self rule. This theme of nationalism is most apparent in the genre of ballads.

There are dozens of ballads within Irish folklore that have at least an undercurrent of nationalism in them. Two of the most popular of these ballads are 'The Foggy Dew' and 'Amhran na bhFiann'.

