POWER RELATIONS REFLECTED IN GEORGE BERNARD SHAW’S DRAMA *CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA* (1898):
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

This study is aimed to show power relations of Caesar and Cleopatra drama by using sociological approach. It is done by establishing three objectives: the first is to identify indicators of power relations in the literary work, second is to describe how power relations portrayed in the literary work and the last is to reveal why George Bernard Shaw addressed power relations related the drama. The type of this research is qualitative research. In this method, the writer uses two types of data sources: those are primary and secondary data sources. The primary data sources are the study of Caesar and Cleopatra drama, the script written by George Bernard Shaw. The secondary data sources are taken from the author’s biography, the articles, the dialogue of the drama and reviews of the drama occupied from the internet, E-books, books and other resources that support the analysis. The result of the study shows that power relations reflected in George Bernard Shaw’s drama Caesar and Cleopatra is through the indicators, character and characterization, and the events. Caesar and Cleopatra show the role of every member in the environment especially in community and public relations in shaping the major of power relations.

Keywords: Caesar and Cleopatra, power relations, throne

ABSTRAK

anggota dilingkungan terutama dalam masyarakat dan hubungan umum dalam membentuk bagian besar dari hubungan kekuasaan.

Kata kunci: Caesar and Cleopatra, hubungan kekuasaan, tahta

1. INTRODUCTION

Studies about Shaw literary criticism have been done by a lot of people with the different issue, varied objects and theories. Some of the researchers draw about the portraits of Shaw biography with the title The Real Shaw (Meisel, 1998). Another researcher examines about the humanities with the title Humanities-George Bernard Shaw and Christopher Newton: Exploration of Shavian Theatre by Keith Garebian (Rabillard, 1994). Another one is examining about describing Shaw when he directs a film such as Caesar and Cleopatra and Androcles and the Lion (Kate, 2010). Other is concerned with Shaw’s engagement with socialism in his politically (Nicholas, 2010). Moreover another researcher centered on a fully staged Shaw play (Wendy, 2014).

However some researchers use the Shaw work as the object to analyze. One of them analyzes the Shaw’s drama use some of theory such as investigates Caesar and Cleopatra based on the theory History - Biographical Approach, the theory used to compare the Shaw work with the Shakespeare work (Rumandang Mega Wati Sibuea, 2009). Another based on the theory Sociological and Feminism Approach who examines about the struggle of Antony, Caesar and Cleopatra (Farhana Malik, 2013). The last is about unconventional characterization on the drama (Hendra Eka Prayitno, 2009).

In my project I want to examine the power relations, the subject focuses on the relationship between Caesar and Cleopatra who portrayed power relations. In my project I want to show up the indicators of power relations which against in the drama, to describe the power relations portrayal in the drama, and to reveal the reason of the author raise the issue in the drama. In my research I used sociological approach to analyze the drama and draw the conclusion about the drama with the theory. Sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study about social institution and social process (Swingewood and Laurenson, 1972: 11). The researcher want to show up the relationship of the drama with the society
with focused in the one of the aspects sociological that centered in the sociopolitical aspect.

2. POWER RELATIONS

Power consists of what creates and defend the control of someone on the other people (and it) includes the entire relationship social who supports the goals (control of), ranging from the physical violence up to the relationship psychological most smooth used by the thought of someone to control the minds of others (Morgenthau, 1978). Definition relation from Merriam Webster “Relation is an aspect or quality (such as resemblance) that connects two or more things or parts as being or belonging or working together or as being of the same kind (the relation of time and space), specifically a property (such as one expressed by is equal to) that holds between an ordered pair of objects”. power relations is the relationship between the people who is have a power or people who is capable and powerful and have an impact to get the desire.

3. RESEARCH METHOD

Research method in this study of the drama uses qualitative research. Bryman (2004: 266) defines that qualitative research normally emphasizes words rather than quantifications in the collection and analysis of data. The purpose of this research is to analyze the indicators of power relations in the drama Caesar and Cleopatra (1898) using sociological approach. The object of this research is material object and formal object. The material object of this study is the drama itself, Caesar and Cleopatra by George Bernard Shaw which first published in 1898. The formal object of the study is the power relations in the drama Caesar and Cleopatra.

The study uses two types of data sources. They are the primary and secondary data sources. The primary data source is the drama itself, which are Caesar and Cleopatra by George Bernard Shaw. The secondary data source are taken from others sources, which are the author’s biography, the articles, the dialogue and reviews of the drama occupied from the internet, E-book, books and other resources that support
the analysis. The researcher use technique descriptive analysis to analyze this research.

4. FINDING AND DISCUSSING

4.1 Indicators of power relations

Indicators of power relations which show in the drama are clearly visible. There are five indicators which illustrate power relations, those are:

4.1.1 Authority: Propelling Self to Take Power

Authority in the novel illustrated by Cleopatra who is authorize Egypt by propelling herself to take over the power. Cleopatra successful chases away Ptolemy and his servant from Alexandria so Cleopatra became a mistress in Alexandria palace. Clearly, Cleopatra successful to authorize Alexandria and became a mistress and leader in the palace.

4.1.2 Dominance: Blocking Others to Get Power

Dominance is powerful position especially in social hierarchy. Merriam Webster state that block is putting a block on any future development. From the statement above the researcher know that blocking others give contribution to develop the future plan. It means that Cleopatra obviously cut off Ptolemy head because he blocked Cleopatra to get her throne. The political effect is belonging to the conflict of battle between Cleopatra and his little brother (Ptolemy). The political effect constitute in the drama between Caesar, Cleopatra and Ptolemy it’s because Egyptian have an obligatory to Caesar about the monopoly politic.

4.1.3 Controlling: Influence Others to be a Supporter

Controlling is giving someone the power to control how something is managed or done. The power of capacity is of causing an effect in indirect or intangible ways. In this case the researcher seen that Cleopatra influences some people to support her get her throne especially Julius Caesar that have a big power in that time.
Cleopatra influences Caesar to help her to take her throne. She says “Oh, please, PLEASE! I will do whatever you tell me. I will be good! I will be your slave”. She is begging Caesar to be his slaves if he wants to help her, she also used her beauty and her wealthy to influents others.

4.1.4 Interest
4.1.4.1 Putting Brother as an Enemy

Consider her young brother as an enemy. That is illustrated Cleopatra considers Ptolemy as her enemy because Ptolemy hampers Cleopatra to get her throne. The part of the drama includes the conflict based on the sociological perspective. It shown from the drama that Cleopatra and his young brother have a conflict in the fight to get throne. Conflict theorist challenges the status, encourage social change, and believe rich and powerful people force social order on the poor and the weak. From the argument it can be seen from the drama that Cleopatra is discriminate her young brother as her enemy.

4.1.4.2 Taking Competitor as an Align

The roman army became Cleopatra’s slaves who oversee the palace gate from Egyptians (Ptolemy and his servant). She is more powerful than her young brother Ptolemy. She gained the Roman army and also Caesar to resist Ptolemy and his servant. The parts of the drama include the functionalist perspective based on the sociological approach. A sociological approach in functionalist is the consideration of the relationship between the functions of smaller parts and the functions of the whole.

Strategic alignment is the link between an organization’s overall goals and the goals of each of the units that contribute to the success of those overalls goals. The successful of strategic alignment is leadership.

4.1.5 Gain: Battle Bringing Benefit
The benefit of the war is the gain that obtained in the battle. Gain is something wanted or valued that is gotten, something that is gained, and something that is helpful: advantages or benefit and an increase in amount, size or number. Normally gain is an increase in something especially something good. The root of gain is “to earn, trade or capture”. Related to the references people actually get gain from what they do, they think that doing anything must influence the gain. However, Caesar as the emperor of Rome has capability to gets gain from the war battle with Ptolemy.

4.2 The Portrayal of Power Relations in the Drama

4.2.1 Through Character and Characterization

Character and characterization which show power relations in the drama is clearly visible. There are five characters which illustrate power relations on it, those are:

4.2.1.1 Ambitious Character

Ambitious is having controlled by ambition, having a desire to be successful, powerful, or executive. Cleopatra has ambitious character who describes her own pretention, capable, wealth and her powerful. It can be seen from the way she considering trivializing other people, always wants to be a winner, thirsty of praise, always want to stand out, and want to work hard in order to realize her wish.

4.2.1.2 Weak Character

Based on the data, it can be seen that power relations of the drama can be known through characterization of the story named Ptolemy Dionysus. The weak and innocent character can be seen from Ptolemy, who is weak and innocent young child that is just ten years old boy. The weak characters of Ptolemy show from that evidence bellow, Ptolemy become tools by his caretaker who has political ambitions to authorize Egypt.
### 4.2.1.3 Vested Interest Character

Based the data, it can be found that portrayal power relations can be known through characterization of man named Rufio. The supporting character in the story of drama, he is the official of Rome palace. He also became Caesar’s guard. Rufio is a man who is care with Caesar. He has socially personality to other he is care much with other he also good guardian for Julius Caesar.

### 4.2.1.4 Greedy Character

One of the leading characters of the drama has greedy character. He is Ptolemy Dionysus, he is ten years old. Greedy in the case is the man who receive throne as a legacy. As we know that Ptolemy is the firstborn son from king Auteles, so he receives the legacy from his father.

The man who has greedy personality is someone who is get inherits something from their family. In this case it is occurring in Ptolemy, he is inherits the throne from his father who is the king of Egypt.

### 4.2.1.5 Pragmatic Character

Caesar is one of the figures that have pragmatic character. Caesar is an old man, he is 50 years old. Caesar is the emperor Rome. He is doing something to get what he wants especially to authorize Egypt. He is also popular as political cunning. Powerful man is someone who has big impact, potency, effect and capable of exerting power. A powerful is lot to say about faith and good works and free grace. Caesar is the strongest man in that time it makes him becomes a pillar to the successful of the battle.

### 4.2.2 Through Event

Events which show power relations in this drama are clearly visible. There are six events which illustrate the power relations in the drama, those are: (1) Rebellion of Daughter, (2) War Between the King Troops and
Daughter Troops, (3) Alliance of Mark Antony, (4) Death of Daughter,(5) Succession by the Son, (6) Taking Over the Throne.

4.2.2.1 Rebellion of Daughter

Rebellion is an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler. The action or process that resisting authority, control or convention. Rebellion is action undertaken by a group aiming to replace the government in a state or to secede from the state to form a new one. It means that rebellion occur to take a power from other.

4.2.2.2 War Between the King Troops and Daughter Troops

The beginning of the war between the king troops and daughter troops is when Berenice want to take over the throne from her father. She wants to a queen of Egypt who is authorizing of Egypt region. The war is occurring between the daughter supporter and king supporter.

4.2.2.3 Alliance of Mark Antony

Alliance is a memorandum of understanding either formal or informal which aims to protect self from a threat that comes from the external or internal. Alliance is a relationship in which people agree to work together. It means that alliance is the important ways to get a solution when someone else get problem and can’t solve the problem. In this story of the drama show the way alliance occur in the part of the story.

4.2.2.4 Death of Daughter

Through the drama, Berenice was finally dead. Her father stuck her head off. And finally her father gets his throne back it is because the help of Mark Antony. Although Brerenice is his daughter but he decided to kill her, he think that if someone start do rebellion with him it means that they are as an align. So the king kill her with stuck her head off. Berenice always make a problem with other such as with her own family. After years ago the king
was passed away. He passed away because of the disease and his died is natural. The king inherits his throne to his son.

4.2.2.5 Succession by the Son

King is one of the rulers in the palace. King is the male ruler of an independent state, especially one who inherits the position by right of birth. In that event through the drama is when someone who get inherits from their family and became a sequel of the throne. Based on data the major character that is Ptolemy is a son from king Egypt. He is ten years old. He is become a son who inherits the position of the king in Egypt. Because of he is a son from the king of Egypt he become a king in the Alexandria palace. Someone who is inherits the throne usually a man.

4.2.2.6 Taking Over the Throne

Power relations are the elements that Cleopatra is doing for take over the throne from her little brother. With power relation she is successful lead Egypt with the help of Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar is an emperor of Rome he is famous as the political cunning he also powerful man at that time. Cleopatra taking over the throne from her brother, because she wants to lead Egypt she also has another reason to taking over the throne. It is because her brother only became tools of his caretaker.

4.2.3 Setting of Place

There is some setting of the drama that is occurring in the drama. Those are Syria and Alexandria. Syria is a place that Cleopatra exiled by Ptolemy’s caretaker. She exiled by his caretaker because of they think that Cleopatra is such as parasite. Alexandria is another setting of the drama; Alexandria is a palace which is Ptolemy and Cleopatra want to authorize it. Alexandria is the main royal palace in the drama. The war and battle appear in the Alexandria.
4.2.4 Style

4.2.4.1 Diction

FTATATEETA  [hoarsely],
O Queen, forget not thy servant in the days of thy greatness.

Position thy in that dialogue is as possessive form, the function is like “a” in the sentence. In that dialogue it means “O Queen, forget not your servant in the days of your greatness.” But Ftatateeta said it to Cleopatra because she honor with her. Ftatateeta is the Cleopatra’s chief nurse and Cleopatra is a queen of Egypt so she must be honor with her.

4.2.4.2 Symbols

There are two symbols that researcher found in the drama, those are: (1) Crown is represents of King or Queen, (2) Chair is represents of throne.

4.2.4.2.1 Crown (Represents King or Queen)

Crown is a decoration object that is shaped like a circle and worn on the head of a king or queen for special ceremonies. Crown also to give the power and little of a king or queen. Crown is the symbols of a royal headdress, victory and honor. In the novel Caesar and Cleopatra crown is the symbol of the ruler in the palace. It showed the way Caesar placing crown on the Cleopatra head. The crown is the symbol of her pride, her courage, her majesty, and her beauty. Crown is the ornament that Cleopatra uses to show her identity as a queen of Egypt.

4.2.4.2.2 Chair (Represent Throne)

Chair is a seat made by two bearers with their hands. Chair in that case is the represent of the position of an exalted person (a sovereign or bishop) who is entitled to sit in a chair of state on ceremonial occasions. Chair means throne, it is the represents of the power, dignity, royalty,
duties, and capable. Throne is sovereign power or authority. In the *Caesar and Cleopatra* drama chair represents the throne.

4.2.4.3 Imagery

Imagery which show power relations in the drama are clearly visible. There are three imageries which illustrate power relations in the drama:

4.2.4.3.1 Ship

Ship is a big piece of metal that floats miraculously on the surface of the water, and usually holds people or cargo. Ship is a large boat for transporting people or goods by sea. Ship is the water transportation that can be used by people to cross the sea. In the *Caesar and Cleopatra* drama ship is the transportation that Ptolemy used to authorize Egypt. Ptolemy is control the oceans so used ship as the device to depend his life in ocean. Ship is one of elements that people must have when in battle, because ship give contribution and also as a tools in the war.

4.2.4.3.2 Cannon

Cannon is a gun that people usually used in the war. According to Merriam Webster cannon is a large gun that shoots heavy metal or stone balls and that was once a common military weapon. There is another ornament for depend self when occurring the war. Those are helm Korinthos, armor, gerron aspis or hoplon, xiphos sword, dastana, and caligae. Helm Korinthos for depend the head. Armor is a patron the body.

4.2.4.3.3 Troops

Troops are a group of soldiers, especially ones who fight in strong military vehicles or on horses. The successful of the war need
supporter. The supporter of the war is troops. In the military strategy needed to win the war. The strategy is maneuvering troops into the position. Based on the *Caesar and Cleopatra* drama troops is a group of army that is help to the successful of the war.

### 4.3 Reason the Author Raise Oppression Issue

Shaw’s reason of this issue is that people need to be known about the motivation to not give up to get something that they want. *Caesar and Cleopatra* themselves was designed to show the relationship with others to get the desire. Shaw addressed power relations in the drama is he want to people pay attention about the war and struggle of authorization, with the critical issue. Shaw’s also make the drama to critical the British government don’t be like Egypt. People can be aware to the political arena with this issue phenomenon, which is the purpose why Shaw addressed power relations, a military melodrama that asks us to think about violence and justice. Furthermore, with more knowledge, information and education creates the ability to make people to be rich about the political phenomenon.

### 4.4 Discussion

Sociology of literature is a science which is related to the society. According Swingwood and Laurenson (1972: 11) Sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study about social institution and social process. Sociological theory of literature is regarded as the appropriate approach for analyzing literary works of literature related to society and as a reflection of society at the time the work is created. The sociological holds with some social aspects which consist of social structure, social status, social inequality, class social, family, social relation, urbanization, etc. The political aspects include politic in the State, political party, and habit of might’s power toward the citizen, the role of society in the political process and the political aboard. The political issue is the main occurring power relations between someone and country.
In the drama *Caesar and Cleopatra*, the sociopolitical between Caesar and Cleopatra is shown clearly. The relationship between them is shown clearly from political system that is illustrated by power relations. Such as Swingewood and Laurenson statement that one of the aspect sociology is political system and the sociopolitical is the one of the aspects occurring power relations. The political is the main contradiction between Caesar, Cleopatra and Ptolemy when they battle to take over the throne. The beginning of their struggle is from their family historical. They are betrayal one to another to take over the throne. The one who is powerful can get their want such as authorize the region.

People who have a power they do a thing to what they want such as authorize the region, dominating in the war, getting supporter, and get the gain of the war. They do power relation to get what they want because with power relations they can easier get something that they want. The power relations are occurring between someone who is powerful and has big impact on it. So they can authorize the region with the help of each other.

*Cesar and Cleopatra*, throne is sovereign power or authority. Power is shown how they are capable for get something that they want. With power they can authorize region and do a relation with the partner. The relation between us happening for some purposes that is for reached the desire. Furthermore the relations between two countries are occurring because the countries at the same have powerful impact. So they do relations to get the desire. Following the story political system is the main problem for occurring power relations between us.

5. CONCLUSION

Referring to the problem statement and the analysis in previous chapters of *Caesar and Cleopatra* drama using a sociological approach, finally the writer can conclude following conclusion.
First based on the sociological analysis, the writer found five indicators of power relation in the Caesar and Cleopatra drama. The indicators of the drama are the important elements of occurring power relations in the drama. There are five indicators of power relations in the drama such as: Authority, Dominance, Controlling, Interest, and Gain. Authority occurring in the drama that is the elements the way Cleopatra poach the throne from her brother. She propelling herself to take offers the throne. Furthermore the dominance is powerful position, such as blocking others to get power. From that elements Cleopatra is doing some way to blocking her brother. Controlling is the power of capacity of causing an effect in indirect. Another element of power relations that the writer found is interest. Interest, in that finding Cleopatra putting her bother as an enemy. The last indicator of power relations is gain, in that indicator Cleopatra finally get the gain from occurring power relations she get the throne and became a queen in Alexandria.

Second, power relations which portrayal in the drama can be seen through the character and characterization which there are five characters based on the Caesar and Cleopatra drama. Those are ambitious character, weak character, vested interest character, greedy character, and pragmatic character.

The last is the reason why the author addressed power relations in Caesar and Cleopatra drama. There are some reasons of it; the first is the raise of the story drama based on the Shaw experienced. The background he raise a drama is because of his experience as an Irish citizen. Through of his experience before he raise a drama in British ongoing a war and the war is give contribution to him to make a playwright based on the war. The war is his background to make a playwright. The main of the story is based on the political issue. He showed that someone who is powerful by the struggle of take over the throne. Another reason is because Shaw is one of the men who
is love with classical so he makes a playwright based on the classical version. Then he takes a setting of the drama in Egypt.

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