

**CONFLICTS OF CULTURES BETWEEN ROMAN AND EGYPTIAN IN
CHARLTON HESTON'S *ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA* MOVIE (1972):
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by:

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Antony and Ceopatra is one of the most popular tragedy drama was written by William Shakespeare. Then this drama was adopted to become a movie with the same name but different director. One of them is *Antony and Cleopatra* movie directed by Charlton Heston which firstly released on March 2nd, 1972 in London, United Kingdom. Second, this movie was released on March 18th, 1972 in Japan. Third, this movie was released on September 26th, 1973 in Washington DC. Fourth, this movie was released on November 5th, 1973 in Denmark. Duration *Antony and Ceopatra* movie is 160 minutes and the language used in this movie is English. This movie produced by Peter Snell from a screenplay by Federico De Urrutia and Charlton Heston, edited by Eric Boyd Perkins, music of this movie by John Scott, and cinematography by Rafael Pacheco. This movie is starred by Charlton Heston as Mark Antony, Hildegard Neil as Cleopatra.

This movie tells about the story of the tragedy that happened in Rome and Egypt. Antony, Octavius Caesar who later renamed to Augustus Caesar, son of the murdered Julius Caesar, and Lepidus form the Roman triumvirate that rules the Western world. Lepidus leaves the triumvirate, while Caesar and Antony are left to rule the world. Antony though married to Fluvia lives in Alexandria, Egypt with his mistress Cleopatra who the Queen of Egypt.

Fueled by a disgust at his lifestyle in Egypt and anger over the wars caused by Antony's relatives, Caesar calls Antony home to Rome. Antony agrees, but only after Fluvia dies of an illness. Once in Rome, Caesar and Antony try to make amends through the marriage of Antony to Caesar's sister Octavia. Antony soon deserts Octavia, however, and returns to live with Cleopatra. Caesar, enraged, vows to attack and regain control of Egypt from *Antony and Cleopatra*. Caesar's army is more powerful and more skillful, and soon approaches defeat of Antony. Enobarbus, Antony's best friend, deserts him and joins Caesar's army. However, Enobarbus becomes overcome with regret and remorse for leaving Antony, and kills himself near Caesar's headquarters. Antony facing defeat, asks Eros (another friend) to kill him. Eros cannot, and instead kills himself. Antony then kills himself by falling on his sword. Cleopatra, in grief over Antony's death and determined never to fall under Caesar's command commits suicide by allowing poisonous asps to bite her. Cleopatra's main attendant (Charmian) dies in the same manner, while her second attendant (Iras) dies from stress and grief over Cleopatra's death.

This movie gets good responses and some protests from the public. David (2001) argues that this movie is a wonderful production, very lavish. Charlton Heston is excellent as Mark Antony. Directing is superb. All the cast is excellent. Fernando (2001) said that Charlton Heston worked very hard in *Antony and Cleopatra* an adaptation of Shakespeare scripted by him self. Heston is the director too and the movie is wonderful experience of film making, a true labor of love with some fault, perhaps but full of energetic

sequences, a story of love, passion and death. Heston knows very well the Shakespeare original, he express in the screen all the strength, all the fascination of the Shakespearean text. *Antony and Cleopatra* was filmed in Spain with a marvelous soundtrack and a great camera work. Heston is superb in the title role. Katie (2008) states that disagree at times hard to poorly enunciated, Caesar was a real problem dramatically, and Cleopatra was that entire she could be emotionally, albeit in a full trotted sort of way. And Antony did not come across an aging lion.

Antony and Cleopatra movie gets a great appreciation from international society, gets many nomination and awards. Reviews the 1972 staging of *Antony and Cleopatra* movie directed by Charlton Heston is won four a 1972 movie production in Academy Award in London. Secondly, reviews the 1974 this *Antony and Cleopatra* movie is won finest tragedy movie directed by Charlton Heston in Oscar nomination in London. And thirdly, reviews the 1976 this movie gets award in Emmy Nomination with best actor and actress.

Antony and Cleopatra is an interesting movie. There are five aspects that make this movie really interesting. The first is *Antony and Cleopatra* has the uncommon story. This is tragedy movie that tells about love, community, social status, political parties, magic and culture. The second aspect is character and characterization of this movie that interesting to analyze of the study. Antony is one of the triumvirs of Rome, portrayed as the greatest military hero of his era. While Cleopatra is Queen of Egypt, she has a long

hooked nose, she has masculine features, she is not beautiful, she is clearly a very seductive woman, she has a beautiful musical voice, she is highly intelligent, and she speaks nine different languages. The third aspect is the casts of the movie that have a valuable part. This movie starred by Charlton Heston as director of this movie, he also acts as Mark Antony. He should be plays nearly perfect acts as Antony. It also can be seen from the Hildegarde Neil who acts as Cleopatra. In really, she is an elegant woman but in this movie she should be act as a good woman. Then, John Castle who acts as Octavius Caesar, he should be a good antagonist character in *Antony and Cleopatra* movie. Moreover, to the other actor and actress who plays as minor character in this movie, such as Eric Porter as Enobarbus, Carmen Sevilla as Octavia, Jane Lapotaire as Charmian, Monica Peterson as Iras, Roger Delgado as Soothsayer, Fernando Rey as Lepidus, Freddie Jones as Pompey, Garrick Hagon as Eros, they should be acts with good performance based on each characters. The fourth aspect is setting of the movie that interest to analyze of the study. The situation in the story of *Antony and Cleopatra* shows that setting time is about 69 BC. And the story of *Antony and Cleopatra* mostly of them is happened in Alexandria Egypt, Rome, and Ionia Sea. Egypt is a palace's Queen Cleopatra lives, Rome is place of Antony comes, and Ionia Sea is place which The Battle of Actium was happened. The last aspect is conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egyptian which is reflected in *Antony and Cleopatra* movie is one of appealing aspects that is interesting to be studied because Antony of Rome

and Cleopatra of Egypt to represent the two different cultures. Antony represents the civilized and democracy culture, while Cleopatra represents the barbaric and monarchy culture.

Based on the explanation above, the writer will analyze this movie by using sociological theory. So, the writer constructs the title **CONFLICTS OF CULTURES BETWEEN ROMAN AND EGYPTIAN IN CHARLTON HESTON'S *ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA* MOVIE (1972): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

The writer takes two researchers to support the writer's study in order to show the originality of the research. The first researcher is Faza Azzahra (2004) who conducted a research paper entitled "Religion and Magic in Ancient Culture of Egyptian in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* by using A Sociological Approach". Her study was intended to describe elements of Egyptian culture that seem closer to magic than to religion as they are commonly understood. She finds that differentiating between religion and magic in ancient culture of Egyptian.

The second researcher is Nur Sabrina (2005). Her research paper is entitled "Political Marriage of Greek and Roman in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* by using A Sociological Approach". Her paper compares the Greek and Roman ideals of marriage. The result of her study can find the Roman virtues of marriage and compares it with Greek virtues of matrimony with respect to the women of the archaic and classical periods.

Although the writer has similar object and approach, but the writer has different focus of the study. The writer will analyze Conflicts of Cultures between Roman and Egyptian in Charlton Heston's *Antony and Cleopatra* movie by using A Sociological Approach

C. Problem Statement

Problem statement is essential for the research because it makes the study clearer and more focus. The main problem that emerged in this study is "How conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egyptian is reflected in Charlton Heston's of *Antony and Cleopatra* movie."

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the researcher focuses on the conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egyptian in *Antony and Cleopatra* movie because Antony of Rome and Cleopatra of Egypt to represent the two different cultures. Antony represents the civilized and democracy culture, while Cleopatra represents the barbaric and monarchy culture and the researcher uses sociological approach to limit this study.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on the structural elements.
2. To analyze the movie by using sociological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

This study is expected to give benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is aimed to give additional information to literature research especially the literary studies on the conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egyptian in Charlton Heston's *Antony and Cleopatra* movie using sociological approach.

2. Practical Benefit

The result of this study will improve the writer knowledge of the conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egypt is reflected in the *Antony and Cleopatra* movie.

G. Research Method

Research method is significant to organize a research. It makes easy for the writer to analyze the data and to arrange a research. The research method of the study will be explained in five parts. They are type of the study, object of the study, type of the data and the data source, technique of the data collection, and technique of the data analysis.

1. Type of the Study

The type of this study is descriptive qualitative method that consist of the exactly data and library research merely focused on the analysis of textual data. According to Sugihastuti and Suharto (2005: 82), descriptive research is "a research to collect the data as many as possible about the factors correlated with the object of the research".

The qualitative data consists of detailed description of situation of people interaction and observed behavior, direct question from the people about their experiences, attitudes, believes, though, and except, or entire passage from documents correspondence records and chase histories.

So far, the writer uses any book in a library, to get some data and data source in analyze *Antony and Cleopatra*. The writer also applies sociological approach.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Antony and Cleopatra* movie directed by Charlton Heston it self to discuss the conflicts of cultures between Roman and Egyptian in the movie.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The types of the data are the movie and text. It consists of such things as pictures of movie, words, phrases, sentences events and narration.

The researcher takes the data from two resources, namely primary and secondary source.

a. Primary Source

The primary source will be taken from every data of the *Antony and Cleopatra* movie directed by Charlton Heston is related to the study.

b. Secondary Source

The secondary source will be from all referential data. It can be from books of literature, virtual references especially sociological, journals, and the other references related to the analysis of this study.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

In doing the study, the writer applies the technique of documentation in gathering the data.

- a. Watching the movie.
- b. Marking the point in the script to make easy in analyzing it.
- c. Taking notes of important part from primary and secondary data available.
- d. Classifying the data into groups according categories of elements of literary study.
- e. Selecting them by rejecting the irrelevant source, which are not related to the topic of the study.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The analysis starts from the sociological analysis of the literary works using sociological approach. Firstly, the data are arranged in a list of data. Secondly, the researcher is looking for a selecting the correlation of data by using the choose approach. Thirdly, all data from the second step are arranged consist of social aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect, religious aspect, and science and

technology aspect. Finally, the researcher will analysis *Antony and Cleopatra* based on the structural elements.

H. Research Paper Organization

The writer arranges the research into six chapters with the purpose of making easier to understanding as follows. The first chapter is introduction consists of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. The second chapter is underlying theory shows of notion of sociology of literature, types of sociology of literature, structural elements, and theoretical application. Structural elements consist of narrative elements and technical elements. Narrative elements presents of character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme. While technical elements show of casting, mise-en-scene includes of costume and make-up, lighting, figure expression and movement, and sound effects, cinematography includes quality of photographic image, framing of the shot, and duration of the shot, and editing. Third chapter deals with social background of American society at the second half of the twentieth century. Fourth chapter is structural analysis. Fifth chapter presents of sociological analysis. The last chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.