

THE CONFLICTS IN SHAKESPEARE'S DRAMA HAMLET

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ABSTRACT

This study explores several conflicts found in the literary work of Shakespeare's Drama Hamlet. It uses an intrinsic approach in which there are some explanations and elaborations about the different conflicts those can be categorized in internal and external. Internal conflict happens on Hamlet's when the spirit of his father comes and asks him to do a revenge on the death of his father murdered by his uncle, Claudius. On the other hand, Ophelia is also mentally struck by a huge burden on the death of his father unpurposely killed by Hamlet. It really disturbs her mind, mental and makes her become mad and finally she is dead in a suffer. Several external conflicts are also found in Hamlet. The conflict happens between individual to another individual. It is found that Hamlet has a great anger to Claudius and wants to kill him because Claudius murders his father and marries his mother. In the match of sword with Laertes, Hamlet has a chance to kill Claudius. External conflict also happens between Hamlet and his mother, Getrude. Hamlet supposes his mother has his father much offended, and almost as bad as a King, Claudius who murders his father. The strange conduct on Hamlet makes Getrude anxious and it raises a conflict with her son. The Other external conflict is also found between Hamlet and Laertes. Laertes has a great anger with Hamlet on the death of his father killed unpurposely by Hamlet. In the match of sword, both of them are finally dead. The moral values can be attained in the play of Hamlet that a revenge is not a good one because it can rise a suffer to someone or himself and bring into the death. The greediness of wealth and power can rise a great problem and hurt himself or other people.

Kata Kunci : *The Conflicts, Drama, Hamlet*

INTRODUCTION

Literature as human product has an artistic value and cordially drives a pleasure for the people. It is a human creation full of reality depiction and sometimes imaginary adventures. To express the reality of human life, it is precisely stated in the string of occurrences as human experience happens in the certain periode of a country and even in the circumstance of empire by utilizing a language as a written record. The use of language in a certain piece of literary work can rise a powerful emotional impact for the readers and lead the people in one inspiration of life and a comprehension of moral values those can be sincerely implemented in the reality of human life. According to Tilak (1992:1) literature is defined as a picture, more or less true, more or less inspiring, of actual life and it is an expression of emotions ,of ideas and ideals , which have a permanent value , and which are of interest for men in every age and country. Literature can be surely expressed in the form of literary work such as poetry, play (drama) and prose.

Drama is one of literary works that has a sequence of actions, dialogue, and acted on a stage. Its actors have significant role in conveying the theme or idea of the story. The significant skills are required to play a sequence of occurrences constructing a plot in a dramatic structure. Peck and Coyle (1984:74) states drama or play is an account of unique nature as a sequence of actions, structured in a certain way, acted on a stage and it has a form as well as its content. It means that drama is as imitation of life designed in the string of

action and speech or dialogue acted by actors on the stage constructing a story. Drama has a theme, plot, characters, dialogue and setting.

Theme is the idea of a play, it can be concerning to the problem of human life. The idea can give an artistic treatment to the audience and sometimes brought into the purpose on criticism of life. Plot is a string of occurrence constructing a story and it leads the audience comprehend the detail events. It is as the overall significance of the play that gives cause and effect. The characters are people involved in the play and have significant role to convey the idea of the story to the audience. In providing an interesting idea, protagonist and antagonist in characters are usually appeared to describe good and evil. Dialogue is one of elements in drama, its language is written in the verse of dialogue must be spoken by the actors, the dialogue in a play has to be brief and to the point. The action develops through dialogue between the different characters. Setting shows places where the occurrence happens in the story. It is as the overall significance of unity of action, time, and place.

Two broad divisions of drama are comedy and tragedy. Comedy is treated as mere amusement and its purpose generally gives a relief to tired minds. Comedy provides laughter and it serves as a change from serious into a fun. Shakespeare is one of Comedy writers in some literary works of play such as the taming of the shrew, a midsummer night's dream, as you like it, etc. Tragedy is a kind of serious play that has unhappy ending or death and its action develops through several conflicts whether internal or external. In internal conflict there is a struggle in the mind of the leading character between two opposite ideas and it becomes a suffer within himself.

In Drama Hamlet, Shakespeare provides several conflict on the main characters and rises the tragedy of revenge, suffer, and death. After the death of Hamlet's father, it's unnatural for a man to mourn for a long period of time, Hamlet is really hit in mental since the death of his father and the new wedding of his mother with his uncle, Claudius.

Overall occurrences become a conflict in Hamlet even when the ghost of his father comes to tell the truth about the death of his father caused of a murder by his uncle, Claudius. In that dream, Hamlet is asked to do a revenge on the death of his father. Indeed, it becomes internal conflict in him whether he will do or not. It rises sound of senses and mind like to be or not to be in a revenge. External conflict is found between Hamlet and Claudius even when Hamlet provides a play describing a murder of his father in front of new King Claudius and Princess Getrude, his mother. Claudius gets angry with Hamlet on that play and in order to let the people around the castle not to know about his huge sin on a murder, Claudius sends Hamlet to England. However, Hamlet arranges a strategy to revenge on a murder of his father to Claudius. Instead of having a conflict with Claudius, the external conflicts are also found between Hamlet and the other characters like Polonius, Laertes, etc. It finally rises a suffer and tragedy of death on them. Hamlet can fulfill his revenge by killing Claudius in the match of sword with Laertes. However, Hamlet is also finally dead by the poisonous sword of Laertes.

THE CONFLICTS IN DRAMA

Conflict is a kind of struggle between two or more forces which rising a tension on someone that has to be resolved. The conflict in literature is significant thing to provide the basic material for the construction of the plot. It is as a string of occurrences creating a story. The conflict will provide an interesting view in a play which make the people attracted and impression. It can be the control of author's view of life and shared to the people as the readers or audience.

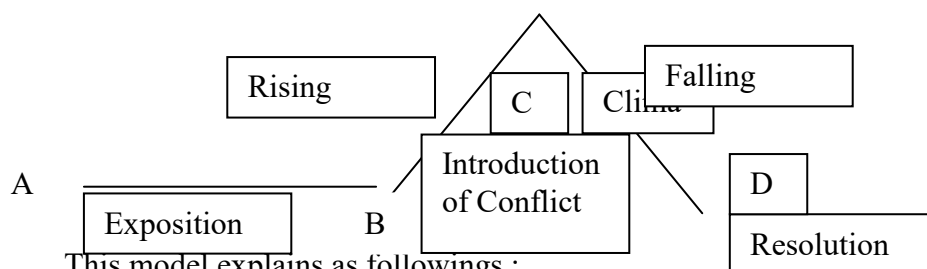
Conflict provides the argument of life from the opposing desires of two or more characters in a play. The argument is risen from two or more different principles on the characters and create a tension to be resolved. Each character on the conflict has a certain aim at creating an argument. It is strictly held by them till having a force or tension even an anger to show an unsatisfied emotion and rise tragic action on each of them. At most, conflict involves protagonist and antagonist in order to provide a dynamic action in rising a good string of occurrences in a story of play. Protagonist is as a leading character or hero, usually brings out the truth to many people. As a main character, protagonist usually offers an opposition by antagonist as a story of bad figure. It, of course, drives an internal conflict on the main character and it leads the protagonist to take an action to do something as a resolution of problem.

According to Roberts (1995;1694) conflict is the opposition between two characters, between large group of people, or between protagonist and a larger force such as natural object, ideas, modes of behaviour, and public opinion. Conflict may also be internal and psychological, involving choices facing a protagonist. It means that the conflict as the opposition of desire between two characters or more will rise internal and external conflict. Internal conflict surely concerns with the mind, thought, and mental of the characters. Psychologically, it rises a struggle within oneself and disturbs the mind, temper and physique. Inner conflict conducts the character to take a decision and have an action in order to overcome a pain of problem. External conflict is a force on the struggle from outside one's self. It could be the conflict between individual with another individual or the conflict between individual with an outside force such as society or supernatural one.

Otherwise, Tennyson (1967:14) states that there are three basics of conflicts, such as :

1. The individual in conflict with another individual.
2. The individual in conflict with himself.
3. The individual in conflict with an outside force (for example, society and supernatural agents).

The structure of a story creates a dynamic action which consisting of several conflicts. Scott Foll (2000) states an introduction of conflict in the structure of a story starting from exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution. It can be designed in the model of Freitag's triangle in order to assist the reader to understand better just what is going on of the story in a play.



This model explains as followings :

1. Exposition (A-B), the exposition introduces the central character and provide background or dramatic context.
2. Introduction of the conflict (B) which leads to the complication or rising action (B-C). This part of the story offers a series of events that complicates the central character's situation. At some part, something force the character to make a decision or take a course of action. That point is known as the deciding factor. It causes the action to reverse itself.
3. Climax (C), this is the actual moment when the deciding factor takes places. What happens at this point determines the outcome of the piece. Falling action (C-D), the conflict begins to resolve itself.

THE CONFLICTS IN SHAKESPEARE'S DRAMA HAMLET

In the play of Hamlet, it is found several conflicts to create a dynamic story of Shakespeare's literary work in order to attract an attention and impression of the readers and give the moral values of life. In Hamlet, Shakespeare tries to provide some internal and external conflicts which creates the tragedy of suffer, revenge and death. An unacceptable situation is faced by Hamlet creating a suffer and conducting him to do something as a revenge on a murder of his father. A suffer from the struggle between two or more forces that rises a tension in each characters on the play of Hamlet creating an internal and external conflicts.

Several depictions of internal conflict in the play of Hamlet are firstly illustrated from the figure of young Hamlet who gains a suffer from the death of his father. The spirit of his father comes to Hamlet at night and tells him the truth of unnatural murder. His father is poisoned in the orchard by his uncle, a new king Claudius and he marries to Hamlet's mother, Gertrude. The spirit of his father asks him to do a revenge on this murder and to take the crown over from cruel King, Claudius. Hamlet is usually haunted in his mind by the utterances of his father's spirit to do a revenge and to find the truth of the murder. This demand makes him suffer in thought and leads him to take a decision further. Mentally, Hamlet gets a shock and it becomes a burden for him. Inner conflict happens in himself especially in deciding whether he will do a revenge or not. It rises a struggle in himself and lead the force become a tension in his mind, to be or not to be, that is the question which usually appears in his mind. It will be a revenge by heaven and hell for him. The atmosphere becomes worst and mentally gives a deep suffer to Hamlet especially on new marriage of his mother to his uncle, Claudius, a new King. The marriage has Hamlet much offended and he has a bad respect to his mother who easily forget his father. It becomes a great burden for him in thought and lead him to have an action for a revenge to kill Claudius. Internal conflict is also found on Ophelia, Rose of May. She accepts a letter and ring from Hamlet as his expression of love to her. She loves him very much as well, however, her father and brother forbids her not to continue that relation longer. It rises an inner conflict in her self and a sense of anxiety whether she will be Hamlet's lover further or not. Mentally, it disturbs her in thought and the condition becomes worse when Hamlet changes into a strange conduct caused by his father's death and new marriage of his mother to Claudius. Ophelia is also struck by a huge burden on the death of his father. Hamlet unpurposely kills Ophelia's father and it rises a deep suffer on her. It really disturbs her mind, mental and makes her become mad. Ophelia is unfortunately drowned in the pool of garden and dead in a suffer.

Otherwise, some external conflicts are also found in the play of Hamlet. The conflict occurs between individual to individual, Hamlet to Claudius. After knowing a murder of his father informed by the ghost of Hamlet's father, Hamlet really hates Claudius and he is curious to investigate Claudius and wants to do a revenge. Hamlet has an idea to invite a group of play performing a scene like a real murder of his father in the orchard in front of Claudius and his mother. Claudius, of course, gets a shock and angry after seeing that play. It rises a tension in him and conduct him to do something to Hamlet. Claudius thinks that Hamlet as a danger for him and he asks the guards to send Hamlet to England to be killed. This unacceptable action makes Hamlet so eager to murder Claudius as a revenge. In England Hamlet adjusts a strategy to revenge. In one occasion of conflict situation in the match of sword with Laertes, Hamlet finally has a chance to kill Claudius.

External conflicts are also found between Hamlet and Laertes. Laertes has a sense of dislike on Hamlet. Even, when he knows that Hamlet has an affair with his sister Ophelia. He, of course forbids Ophelia to pursue her love to Hamlet. His dislike to Hamlet rises and

there is a great burden making him uncontrol on the death of his father. After knowing his father's death killed by Hamlet, there is a great force or tension in Laertes to do a revenge to kill Hamlet in the sword match . Hamlet is finally dead on the poisonous sword of Laertes . However, Laertes is also dead killed by Hamlet as well.

External conflict is also found between Hamlet and his mother Getrude. The sorrowful heart is possessed by Hamlet on the death of his father, however, a burden and a shameful one strike him on the marriage of his mother, Getrude to Claudius , his father's brother. Hamlet thinks it is too fast for her mother to forget his father . The bad thing happens and the worse one remains in the Palace. After the performance of the play has been dismissed , Hamlet is asked to meet his mother and he has an occasion to express his bad feeling on the existing atmosphere. Hamlet gets angry with his mother and tells her that his mother has his father much offended and he supposes his mother is almost as bad as a King , Claudius who murders his father. The strange conduct on Hamlet makes Getrude affraid. It becomes a burden and rises a conflict with her son.

CONCLUSION

Conflict is a force or tension and unacceptable sense of feeling on someone. In a play, conflict is one of elements required to make a plot of story nice to view and educate the audience how to solve problem as the lesson of life.

In shakespeare's Hamlet, some conflicts among the characters are found in order to make a scene of the play alive, namely internal and external conflict. Internal conflict is found in Hamlet after the death of his father. It makes him shocked even the spirit of his father asks him to do a revenge on the death of his father. It informs him that Claudius new King murders his father. Hamlet is asked to take the crown from the cruel King. Hamlet also gets a deep suffer on a marriage of his mother to someone who murders his father, Claudius. It becomes a burden, a sick of mind and makes Hamlet much offended. Internal conflict on Hamlet happens and it conducts him to do something as a revenge to murder Claudius. Internal conflict is also found on the character of Ophelia who has a problem on her affair with Hamlet refused by her brother and father. It becomes a burden in her thought and she then gets a deep suffer from the death of his father, even when she knows that someone who kills his father is Hamlet.

External conflict is also found between Hamlet and Claudius, it conducts them to do something. Hamlet wants to do a revenge on the death of his father murdered by Claudius. Otherwise, Claudius has a plan to kill Hamlet in order to have many people not to know that Hamlet's father murdered by him. Claudius manages a match of sword between Hamlet and Laertes. He watches a match and Hamlet finally has a chance to kill Claudius. Otherwise, external conflict is also found between Hamlet and Laertes. Their relation breaks out after unpurposely Hamlet kills his father. Laertes really has a big anger and he wants to have a revenge to Hamlet, and implements his revenge in a sword match in which Laertes puts the poison at the edge of his sword, it finally kills Hamlet and Laertes is also dead caused of deep wound by Hamlet's sword.

The moral values those can be taken from this play are really useful for the people in which a revenge is not a good conduct for human because it can rise a suffer to everybody or himself and bring into the death. The greedy attitude will give a bad effect to everyone and give a loss to someone else. The greediness of wealth and power can bring someone to do a bad thing , like murdering someone else. It, of course, really spoils oneself and other people.

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