

RESEARCH ARTICLE

POLITICAL CONFLICT IN PLAYWRIGHT MACBETH
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Abstract

This study examines the intersection of politics and literature by analyzing the political dimensions of William Shakespeare's Macbeth. The study investigates how Shakespeare portrays political characters in Macbeth, the reasons behind their representation the historical influences shaping his depiction of political figures and the political, cultural, religious, commercial, literary, and geographical contexts informing the play. The study employs a qualitative method. It applies discourse analysis, thematic analysis, and contextual analysis to examine political conflicts and ambitions within Macbeth. The findings suggest that the play critically engages with Scottish political issues, illustrating how unchecked ambition and political turmoil lead to moral corruption and instability. The study reveals that Shakespeare's depiction of figures such as Duncan, Malcolm, and Macbeth reflect tensions surrounding monarchy, rebellion, and the sacred authority of kings. Additionally, the play serves as a broader commentary on the dangers of political instability. The analysis also underscores the cultural, religious, and geographical contexts that shaped Shakespeare's political themes. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of Shakespeare's engagement with political discourse and offers insights into the complexities of power, governance, and ambition.

Keywords: Political conflict, Murder, Ambition, Playwright, Macbeth.

Introduction

Since ages Shakespeare remained a very productive subject for discussion. Not only that his tragedies penetrate deep into human psyche but bring the very reality of life to forefront. Up to the twentieth century, Shakespeare has been treated as a writer dealing with the culture background and subjects related thereof. But in the twentieth century, the same writer came to be studied from a different perspective in the light of the newly emerging theories like psychoanalysis, cultural theory, and theories like political. I concur with Lily B, Campbell (1951) that this scene is full of political ideas in Macbeth IV.. Mr. Henry N. Paul has just published a volume on The Royal Play of Macbeth which adds his gleanings of considerable value to the work of J. Q. Adams and other earlier editors and commentators of the conclusion of Adams that "We have every reason to believe that Shakespeare wrote Macbeth to please James 1, and at least good reason to believe that he designed the play for a special performance at court.

This special performance, Adams reasoned, was given on the occasion of the visit of King Christian of Denmark, the brother of James's queen, in the summer of 1606. Paul believes he can be quite sure that the date was August 7, 1606. These two critics have been perhaps the most indefatigable searchers for evidences that Shakespeare was writing his play to please the king, noting in how many themes and incidents he was catering to the interests, the prejudices, and the beliefs of the king.

The third scene of the fourth act of the play has received particular attention from innumerable critics in this connection because it contains the description of the king healing the king's evil and is obviously an intrusion directed rather to flattering King James than to building the drams of Macbeth. That this scene is made up of three episodes everybody who reads the play is aware. The first is the testing of Macduff. The second is the account of the healing of the king's evil. The third is the news of the killing of Macduff's wife and children brought by Ross which acts as the catalytic agent to produce the decision that Macbeth is ripe for shaking, and the powers above Put on their instruments.

The scene as a whole has received various curiously diverse treatment. Prof. Dover Wilson calls it "a scene generally condemned by critics" and cites Sir Edmund Chambers' judgment of it as "the only tedious one in the play", while Professor Tillyard finds in it the pivotal point of the drama: The political theme reaches its full compass in the scene in England, but it is here too that its adjustment to the total world picture is made quite clear... Malcolin and Macduff are the instruments of God's all-inclusive order, now at last beginning to react itself. Political action happens to be the means through which something that altogether transforms it chooses to work. I do agree with Professor Tillyard in his stress upon the scene as a whole, but he seems to me to slide over, as do other commentators, the special signify.

This study entitled " **Political Conflict in Playwright Macbeth by William Shakespeare**". It focusses on the discourse of political conflict related with Macbeth with King Duncan and crowned Prince in power of authority struggle. Relevance between theory and topic in this playwright can be studied using discourse theory by Ralf Dahrendorf, 1998. According to explanation above, hopefully this study could answer the reader questions about conflict theory that used to analyze political conflict in literary work.

Statement of the Problem

The purpose of this study is to examine the political motivation and disputes depicted in William Shakespeare's Macbeth. The study focuses on the power struggles and ambitions that drive Macbeth's rise to power, as well as the political conflicts that emerges as a result of his actions. By analyzing how these political dynamics are portrayed in the play, the study seeks to explore their broader implications, for both literary analysis and for interpretation of political conflict through a discourse analysis framework.

Objectives of the study

1. To investigate how Shakespeare conceptualizes and portrays political characters in Macbeth.
2. To explore the motivations behind Shakespeare's representation of political characters and policies.
3. To assess the historical influences that may have shaped Shakespeare's depiction of political figures.
4. To critically examine and understand the political, cultural, religious, commercial, literary, and geographical contexts that underpin the play.

Research questions

The study questions based on the stated objectives are as follows:

1. How does Shakespeare conceptualize and portray political characters in *Macbeth*?
2. What motivations underlie Shakespeare's representation of political characters and policies in the play?
3. What historical influences contributed to Shakespeare's depiction of political figures in Macbeth?
4. How do the political, cultural, religious, commercial, literary, and geographical contexts shape the narrative and themes in *Macbeth*?

Literature Review

Political Conflict in Shakespeare's Macbeth

Macbeth is a deep exploration by William Shakespeare on political ambition, moral degeneracy, and psychological effects occasioned by power. The play was written around 1606 and set in Scotland, which was turbulent and mirrors the political anxieties of the time, mainly on the kingship and nature of power. Political Conflicts: Scholarly Analysis — Ambition, Loyalty, Morality, and Power Usurpation This literature review shall examine scholarly analyses of the political conflicts in Macbeth and the manner in which these political conflicts resonate with ambition, loyalty, betrayal, and the moral implications of power usurpation.

Political Ambition — Usurpation

The central problem facing Macbeth and, by extension, Scotland itself, is ambition. Scholars have observed that the ambition of Macbeth gets kicked off by the prophetic words of the three witches who prophesize his conquering power. Now, it is this supernormal element that brought in critical commentary on the nature of ambition and the moral consequences of pursuing power come what may to bear. As L.C. Knights (1976) argues how his ambition in Macbeth is not wholly Egocentric, it adds to the societal conflict between kingship and authority, where personal ambition clashes with the moral order of the kingdom 1976. Political land of Macbeth is defined by treason and bloodshed, where Macbeth kills King Duncan out of ambition. This act of regicide is not just a private crime but a political upheaval that overturns the natural order, and the aftermath is chaos in Scotland. As Howard Felperin puts it, the tragedy depicts Macbeth's assumption of power that brings a "disastrous inversion of the moral and political order," and he fails—rightly—after some considerable loss, followed by restoration to it (Felperin, 1984).

Gender and Political Power

Another crucial aspect of the political warfare in Macbeth relates to the relations between the two genders. A key character is Lady Macbeth, who physically contradicts the conventional stereotype of her sex by possessing masculine qualities of ambition and ruthlessness. This role defines the interplay between gender and the relations of power that are dispensed through the manipulation of Macbeth to murder. Janet Adelman theorized that Lady denies such femininity and chooses ambition, which she emits a societal anxiety concerning female power during Shakespeare's time. (Adelman, 1992). Blurring of the political landscape is created due to this role reversal because Lady Macbeth's power upon Macbeth that ambition that rises above the traditional realm.

The Consequences of Political Conflict

The aftermath of Macbeth's deed truly unfolds the devastating consequences of uncontrolled ambition and political turmoil. The play depicts Scotland as a country of tyranny; the rule of nature is thrown into turmoil. The naturalistic imagery of darkness and disarray symbolically speaks to the moral decay that is brought on by Macbeth's accession to power. Therefore, Macbeth's representation of political disorder echoes, as Glynne Wickham (1973) observes, the Elizabethan conviction concerning the "Great Chain of Being" of which the king's moral essence was one with the security of the realm: "Macbeth's mistake in maintaining this basic moral system brings about his tragic downfall, through his alienation from nature and society."

Historical Context and Political Commentary

Shakespeare's Macbeth lies embedded within the context of early 17th-century history, especially in the reign of King James I, who had an abiding interest in witchcraft and the supernatural. This might be taken as a scrutiny of witchcraft by the play, which represents a linkage between political ambition, contemporarily formidable issues about power legitimacy, and the divine right of kings. In this regard, prophecies made by

the witches trigger Macbeth's ambition as well as raises questions regarding whether political power is predetermined or is determined by the free will of an individual. Famous scholars, for instance, John Berryman, argue that the witches in the novel symbolize chaotic forces that lead to a political disorder by emphasizing that ambition is a double-edged sword theme for the novel under discussion here (Berryman, 1959).

In sum, Macbeth serves as a powerful exploration of political conflict, ambition and the moral implications of power. It is through the complex characters and themes that the play mirrors the anxiety of power in Shakespeare's time and, in general, on the manner in which kingship and the nature of authority should be upheld. The interplay of ambition and gender, coupled with the consequences of political usurpation, makes Macbeth acutely relevant to any discussion of power and morality. As scholars further look into the text for its political dimensions, it shall remain a critical text understanding human ambition placed in such a twist of ethics regarding power alongside.

Methodology and Design:

Design

The study has utilized a **qualitative method**, particularly focusing on a literary analysis model. This layout is appropriate for in-depth study of Macbeth's text, with an emphasis on interpreting political conflicts and motivations. The play has been served as the main reference, permitting a detailed analysis to delve into the political themes present in the story.

Data Collection:

The primary method utilized in this study is Discourse Analysis which involves analyzing the language employed by Shakespeare in Macbeth to convey political concepts, disagreements, and relationships of power. This includes examining the dialogues, speeches, and interpersonal relationships that illustrates the political themes and conflicts in the play.

Additionally, Thematic Analysis was conducted to identify and explore key themes related to political conflict, such as ambition, power, legitimacy, and rebellion. This analysis focuses on how these themes influence character behavior and drive the progression of the plot.

A Contextual Analysis was also performed to examine the political atmosphere in Shakespeare's era. This is to explore how the play comments on or questions current political beliefs. This background information has enhanced comprehension of the political aspects in the play.

The primary source of data for this study is the text of Macbeth. Secondary sources consisted of academic articles, analytical essays, and historical sources that pertain to Shakespeare's political background and his exploration of political turmoil in his writings.

Data Analysis

To analyze the Political Conflict in Playwright Macbeth based on this study objectives and questions, the researcher has found that Shakespeare's Macbeth delves deeply into the theme of political ambition and its outcomes. By examining the historical background and dissecting the literary aspects, the play uncovers the complex interplay of power, morality, and human ambition. The play is a warning about the dangerous influence of limitless ambition and the decline of ethics that comes with the desire for power.

To answer another question of this study, How does Shakespeare conceptualize and portray political characters in *Macbeth*?

Shakespeare's Macbeth presents a complex portrayal of political characters, exploring themes of ambition, power, and moral decay. The characters in the play are shaped by their political motivations and the

consequences of their actions. At first, Macbeth is depicted as an honorable soldier who is faithful to King Duncan. Nevertheless, once the witches predict he will be crowned king, his desire starts to outweigh his faithfulness. This change becomes apparent as he considers killing Duncan and says, "If it were done when it's done, then it would be best if it were done quickly" (1.7.1-2). This inner turmoil emphasizes the battle between his drive for success and his ethical concerns.

Lady Macbeth's influence is vital in fueling Macbeth's ambition. After she read his letter on the witches' predictions, she quickly decides to encourage him to commit murder by saying, "You are Thane of Glamis and Thane of Cawdor, and you will become what you have been promised" (1.5.15-16). Her strong ambition and manipulative behavior push Macbeth to question his masculinity, leading him to compromise his moral values in pursuit of their mutual thirst for power. Her famous cry of "genderless" reveals her willingness to abandon femininity and humanism for political expediency: "Come, ye souls / Who incline to thought of man, Please analyze me here" (1.5.40-41). Her characters defy traditional gender roles. As she manipulates Macbeth and questions his manhood, and drove him to death. Three Witches: Witches act as agents of chaos and fate. It captures the supernatural elements that influenced the Scottish political journey. Their prophecy sparks Macbeth's ambition and leads him down a path of destruction. They show the unpredictable nature of political power. As they say "Justice is bad, and what is bad is justice" (1.1.12), suggesting that in the realm of appearance politics can be deceptive... King Duncan: Duncan represents the ideal king. Outstanding with morality and kindness. His murder indicates the disruption of the natural order and the resulting destruction of legitimate rights. Duncan's confidence in Macbeth, as he calls him, "Unrivalled Relatives" (1.4.14) emphasizes the theme of betrayal and the fragility of political alliances. The assassination of Duncan is a crucial event in the play, representing the harmful consequences of unchecked ambition. Macbeth recognizes the ethical consequences of his deeds yet gives in to his ambition, expressing that he has gone too far to turn back now. This comparison shows how ambition causes a continuous cycle of violence and moral decay, with Macbeth feeling imprisoned by his own actions.

Macbeth's ambition escalates into paranoia following his seizure of the throne. He becomes more and more oppressive, arranging for the killing of Banquo to solidify his power, showing how ambition leads to more violence: "It's not enough to be in this position; / But to be secure in it" (3.1.47-48). This sentence highlights his anxiety about losing control, showing how ambition can result in a strong desire for power.

Macbeth's ambition leads to catastrophic consequences. His rule is characterized by terror and violence, ultimately leading to his downfall. He is haunted by the witches' prophecies when he discovers that his ambition has not only led to him losing his morality but also his life. Ultimately, Macbeth's demise highlights the uselessness of his ambitions, as he is not remembered as a successful ruler, but as a cruel leader.

Macduff: Macduff embodies loyalty and justice. Serving as a foil to Macbeth, Macbeth's resistance to tyranny culminates in his quest for revenge after the murder of his family. Macduff's assertion, "Oh, I could play with women with my eyes" (4.3.256) reveals his struggle with sadness and anger. Emphasizing the personal cost of political struggle.

MALCOLM: As Duncan's son, Malcolm represents hope for recovery and proper leadership. His character development from a seemingly weak figure to a decisive leader. It shows the concept of being a just king. Macduff's test of loyalty serves to contrast Malcolm's true stature with Macbeth's tyranny.

Based on the analysis, the answer to the question, what motivations underlie Shakespeare's representation of political characters and policies in the play?

Shakespeare's representation of the political and policy nature of Scotland is based on a complex set of motivations that reflect themes of ambition, moral struggle and the consequences of power. The motivations that drive the characters' actions reveal Shakespeare's insights into the nature of political ambition and its impact on human behavior... The Motivation Behind Shakespeare's Representation: Ambition and Desire for Power: Macbeth's main motivation is ambition that drives Macbeth and Lady Macbeth to seek power no matter the

cost. Failure and Loss of Status: Both Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are motivated by a deep fear of failure and loss of status. Macbeth's hesitation before killing Duncan arises from his awareness of the moral implications and potential consequences of his actions. But the fear was that his fate would not be fulfilled or that he would lose the throne. Make him take action Lady Macbeth embodies this fear by questioning his manhood. Pushing him to prove himself through violence: "And what beast / That makes you ruin this enterprise for me? (1.7.47-48) This pressure is manhood." It also reflects the social expectations surrounding power. Shakespeare shows that the pursuit of power often leads to moral corruption. Meanwhile, Macbeth's ambitions escalate into paranoia and tyranny. As he says: "Nothing shall be so, / But it is safe to be so" (3.1.47-48). He also addresses the issue of the play's political legitimacy. Macbeth's use of the throne through murder raises questions about the nature of just government. King Duncan represents the ideal king. And his murder indicates a disruption of the natural order.

Shakespeare's portrayal of these characters serves to explore the broader implications of political ambition and its consequences. The play critiques the moral decay that accompanies the pursuit of power, suggesting that ambition can lead to tyranny and chaos. The political landscape of Macbeth reflects the tension between rightful authority and usurpation, mirroring the anxieties of Shakespeare's audience regarding the stability of the monarchy.

The interplay between ambition and morality is central to the narrative, as characters grapple with their desires and the ethical implications of their actions. Macbeth's tragic downfall serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of unchecked ambition and the moral responsibilities of leadership. Another point that Jack (1995) makes is that Macbeth murdering Duncan seems to not have much motivation, but it does follow historical accuracy. Since Shakespeare took the details of this murder from The Holinshed Chronicles, it is obvious that Shakespeare is working from historically accurate instances that are based on truth. Jack states that based on the analysis, the researcher has provided an answer to the following questions: What historical influences contributed to Shakespeare's depiction of political figures in *Macbeth*?

Shakespeare followed this specific historical incident because it followed a domino effect of deaths that needed to be written about and executed within the plot. One of the main themes throughout Macbeth is the so-called "karma" that arises before the characters and their ultimate death. It just so happens that the actual facts from Holinshed could be developed into a Shakespearean Tragedy with a driving plot.

In the article Political Ideas in Macbeth IV. iii., Lily B. Campbell (1951) explores the Act 4 Scene 3 in Macbeth and correlates it to King James. Act 4 Scene 3 contains three episodes that are commonly recognized by all readers. "The first is the testing of Macduff. The second is the account of the healing of the king's evil. The third is the news of killing Macduff's wife and children" (Campbell, 1951, 281.) Although these accounts are identical to Holinshed's writings to a point, the fact that he included these episodes proved that Shakespeare gathered multiple examples of regicide from Holinshed to create Macbeth.

One could assume that Shakespeare's writings reflect his thoughts and beliefs on society and politics. In the cumulative informational book, Power in William Shakespeare's Macbeth, Hawkes (1977) explains the shifting in values, chaos, and order in Macbeth. Hawkes states:

"Much of Macbeth's hold on us possibly derives from the oblique but penetrative insights it offers into the nature of that world as judged by the standards of an older, yet still living medieval one, and so, when Macbeth complains:

I have lived long enough. My way of life Is fall'n into the sear, the yellow leaf, And that which should accompany old age, A honour, love, obedience, troops of friends, I must not look to have; but in their stead, curses not loud but deep mouth, honour, breath.

Which the poor heart would fain deny, and dare not. (V. iii. 22-28).

If concluding that Macbeth was strictly written about King James I, one could infer that this was

Shakespeare's way of saying that King James should step down from the throne. In the passage above, Macbeth is saying that he has no friends, no love, and no honor. These three things are essential to a king, and he does not have them. Shakespeare could have also been inferring that King James was a "weak" king. From the descriptions given by Macbeth in this passage, all of the clues are apparent that at the time, honorable kings were a rarity.

At the end of the play, we begin to see the unfolding of insanity. The death of Duncan starts this madness and it continues from there. Shakespeare wanted to make the point clear that while all of this insanity is happening in the world of Macbeth, it was happening at the same time in England. Hawkes states, "Macbeth witnesses a birth: we are in at the death" (Greenhaven Press 50).

Based on the analysis, the answer to the question of this study, that is, How do the political, cultural, religious, commercial, literary, and geographical contexts shape the narrative and themes in *Macbeth*? has been provided.

Shakespeare's Macbeth is greatly shaped by the political, cultural, religious, commercial, literary, and geographical influences of its time, significantly impacting the play's storyline and themes. Let's examine how each setting influences the exploration of ambition, morality, and power within the play.

Context of politics

The political environment in Jacobean England, especially during King James I's reign, is essential to the story of Macbeth. Shakespeare penned the play soon after James became king, mirroring the political worries of the era such as doubts about authority and the aftermath of regicide. The depiction of how Macbeth ascends to power by committing murder acts as a warning about the perils of ambition and dictatorship. Shakespeare connects Macbeth's betrayal with the historical background of the Gunpowder Plot, a plot to kill James I, highlighting the theme of treachery towards the legitimate king. This is apparent as Macbeth considers killing King Duncan, stating, "It would be best to do it quickly once it is done" (1.7.1-2), underscoring his struggle between ambition and loyalty.

Context of a culture

In terms of culture, Macbeth embodies the beliefs and superstitions of the Jacobean era, focusing on witchcraft in particular. In this era, there were many witch hunts and a widespread belief in the supernatural. The witches in the play represent the disorderly influences affecting human behavior, echoing modern concerns about the supernatural's consequences on society. The prophecies of the witches fuel Macbeth's desire for power, demonstrating the intertwining of societal views on destiny and personal decisions. Lady Macbeth asks for supernatural help to remove her femininity and improve her ambition, calling on spirits to "unsex" her by saying, "Come, you spirits / That attend to mortal thoughts, remove my womanly qualities" (1.5.40-41).

Context of religion

The historical religious background is also important. The drama is full of references to religion, which captures the conflict between Protestantism and Catholicism in Jacobean England. Christian morality, which emphasizes the effects of sin, can be used to analyze Macbeth's moral deterioration, which is evidenced by his regicide. The frequent allusions to supernatural forces and divine judgment point to a moral code in which deeds have spiritual consequences. As an example of how ambition breeds violence and moral decay, Macbeth accepts the moral consequences of his deeds when he ascends to the throne, saying, "I am in blood / Stepped in so far that should I wade no more, / Returning were as tedious as go o'er" (3.4.168-170).

Context of Commerce

Shakespeare's plays were presented for a public audience from a financial standpoint, and Macbeth was probably written with the intention of appealing to both the monarchy and the broader public. The audience may relate to the play's themes of ambition and power because they have also experienced political instability and the desire for authority. Given that King James was of Scottish descent, it's possible that the decision to include a Scottish location was made strategically to pique his interest and increase the play's popularity.

Literary Context

Macbeth addresses modern topics and concepts that are seen in the writings of other playwrights and thinkers of the century, such as Niccol Machiavelli. The play's realistic portrayal of monarchy is consistent with Machiavellian ideas, according to which the goals always justify the methods. This conformity to political realism highlights the moral quandaries that individuals like Macbeth, who value ambition over virtue, confront. There are many literary works that explore the fall from grace owing to ambition, such as Milton's *Paradise Lost*, that can be compared to Macbeth because of the way moral and political themes interact.

Contextual Geography

Even though Scotland is far from London, its geographical location helps to create a unique atmosphere that reflects the play's somber themes. The desolate and turbulent Scottish terrain mirrors the moral disarray brought about by Macbeth's deeds. Weather and nature imagery, like as "fog and filthy air," are used to emphasize the moral decay that goes hand in hand with Macbeth's ascent to power and to heighten the play's mood. This is clear when Macbeth expresses the gloom that envelops Scotland under his despotic rule by saying, "The night is long that never finds the day" (3.2.53).

Conclusion

The main focus of this article is to analyze the political dimensions in William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and intersect politics and literature. Based on the analysis, the political conflict in Shakespeare's *Macbeth* manifests through the protagonist's ambition and the resulting chaos in Scotland. The play illustrates how Macbeth's usurpation of the throne leads to a breakdown of political order, highlighting the destructive nature of unchecked ambition and moral decay. The political struggle in *Macbeth* is rooted in Macbeth's violent power grab, which takes the life of anyone disobeying or betraying anyone he considers a threat to his rule. He tried to get rid of Duncan's heir. Although some were able to escape. When the reign of Macbeth was full of violence the Scots have come to a terrifying conclusion: in a world where Macbeth rules, Justice becomes evil and evil becomes justice. Macbeth's ascension to the throne of Duncan is cruel and merciless. He used any means necessary to seize power and regain his position as ruler of Scotland. Macbeth's ambition is inspired by the prophecy of three witches, which predicted that he would one day rule Scotland. This prophecy set in motion a series of violent events. Starting with the assassination of King Duncan. Macbeth kills Duncan while he sleeps. It then falsely accused Duncan's family of crimes. Lady Macbeth plays a key role in organizing the assassination. Even if she refrains from taking action herself. Because her resemblance to Duncan's father held her back. After the assassination Macbeth influences the people in the palace. people in Scotland claiming royal rights Participate in a conspiracy Forced to flee Scotland in search of safety and the North During his exile he joined forces with Ann along with his loyal followers.

The results indicate that Shakespeare adeptly engages with Scottish political issues in *Macbeth*, illustrating the characters' ambitions and the resulting consequences as reflections of broader political struggles. The play highlights the destructive power of unchecked ambition through its Scottish characters, revealing how the actions of political figures like Duncan, Malcolm, and Macbeth resonate with historical significance in the context of Shakespeare's era. Particularly, the play addresses tensions related to monarchy, rebellion, and the sacred authority of kings. This is evident in the portrayal of power struggles and dictatorship, emphasizing that

Scotland serves not only as a critique of political figures but also as a commentary on the dangers of political instability and moral corruption. Additionally, the analysis underscores the cultural, religious, and geographical contexts of the time, illustrating how these factors influenced Shakespeare's political style and thematic choices. In summary, the study suggests that *Macbeth* is a rich text for understanding political dynamics, providing enduring insights into the complexities of power and ambition.

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مقالة بحثية

الصراع السياسي في مسرحية ماكبث
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المُلخَص

تبحث هذه الدراسة في التقاطع بين السياسة والأدب من خلال تحليل الأبعاد السياسية في مسرحية "ماكبث" لويليام شكسبير. وتستقصي كيفية تصوير شكسبير للشخصيات السياسية في "ماكبث"، والأسباب الكامنة وراء هذا التصوير، والتأثيرات التاريخية التي شكّلت رؤيته للشخصيات السياسية، إلى جانب السياقات السياسية والثقافية والدينية والتجارية والأدبية والجغرافية التي أسهمت في تشكيل المسرحية. تعتمد الدراسة على المنهج النوعي، حيث توظف تحليل الخطاب والتحليل الموضوعي والتحليل السياقي لفحص الصراعات السياسية والطموحات داخل المسرحية. تشير النتائج إلى أن المسرحية تتناول القضايا السياسية الاسكتلندية بنظرة نقدية، موضحة كيف يؤدي الطموح الجامح والاضطراب السياسي إلى الفساد الأخلاقي وانعدام الاستقرار. كما تكشف الدراسة أن تصوير شكسبير لشخصيات مثل دنكان ومالكوم وماكبث يعكس توترات تتعلق بالملكية والتمرد والسلطة المقدسة للملوك. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تسلط المسرحية الضوء على المخاطر التي تنجم عن عدم الاستقرار السياسي. يؤكد التحليل أيضاً على السياقات الثقافية والدينية والجغرافية التي أسهمت في تشكيل الرؤى السياسية لشكسبير. تسهم هذه الدراسة في تعميق الفهم لتفاعل شكسبير مع الخطاب السياسي، وتقديم رؤى حول تعقيدات السلطة والحكم والطموح.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصراع السياسي، جريمة قتل، الطموح، كاتب مسرحي، ماكبث.

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