A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS ON WOMEN STRUGGLES IN

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA AND JULIUS CAESAR

A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to
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by

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ABSTRACT

For centuries, women have been struggling to establish their place in the society and fight for their rights as becoming an equal to men. This thesis conducts a comparative analysis on the female characters - Portia and Calpurnia of Rome, and Cleopatra of Egypt - in *Julius Caesar* and *Antony and Cleopatra*, respectively. These plays are written by William Shakespeare based on the historical events of Ancient Rome and Egypt. Making use of sociological and feminism approach, this study is aimed at examining to what extent the struggles of women are reflected and presented in the plays. The struggles of the female characters are intrinsically concerned with the two plays and extrinsically relates to the condition of women in Ancient Rome and Egypt. This has been done by analyzing the female characters and their societies in the play. Upon analyzing, it becomes clear that Egyptian women enjoyed better rights and privileges than the Roman women. Moreover, Cleopatra showed strong feminist behavior, while Portia and Calpurnia displayed mild feminist nature.

*Keywords: Portia, Calpurnia, Cleopatra, Women Struggles, Rome, Egypt, Sociological Approach, Feminism Approach*
ABSTRAK


Kata kunci: Portia, Calpurnia, Cleopatra, perjuangan perempuan, Roma, Mesir, Pendekatan Sosiologi, Pendekatan Feminisme