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TRIAD OF ABSOLUTE POWER - CORRUPTION - IDEOLOGY AS ENCODED IN ORWELL'S
ANIMAL FARM

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ABSTRACT

This study aims at determining the interconnection of absolute power represented by a totalitarian regime and corruption, and confirming the relationship of power and ideology as encoded in George Orwell's novel *Animal Farm*. This study shows how the misusing power and imposing ideology can lead to corruption, and reshaping class and identity, and creation of dystopian society inside the text. As a qualitative study, this study adopts thematic analysis to investigate the concepts that it focuses on, in addition to textual analysis of the text by employing Marxist Criticism and Critical Discourse Analysis as analytical approaches. The findings of the current study indicate that absolute power practices are interconnected with corruption, and those who are in power impose their ideology upon the society to retain power through manipulation in language and discourse. It is hoped that the study will provide better understanding of the interconnection of absolute power and corruption as a missing feature in literature on this novel. It contributes to extending the base of knowledge and enriches the literature on this novel in particular, and the field of the political English novels in general.

Keywords: absolute power, corruption, ideology, class, George Orwell and *Animal Farm*.

Introduction

The modernist English literature especially the novel has become more popular than that written in the previous periods of English literature, because it is based on more realistic events rather than just imagination. Thus, during the 20th century, the narratives encoding human sufferings and aspirations for better conditions were highly circulated among the readers. The modern English novel has dealt with the important events that affected the world and literature (Nouasri, 2015). Among the most prominent novels that have been written in the period of Modernism in English literature is *Animal Farm*. It was published firstly in England in 1945 and then in the United States in 1946 on the heels of World War II. It is an allegorical novel that tells a story of animals living on a farm under hard conditions which make them revolt against a human farmer, the owner of the farm.

The animals dream to build up their own society in a way that ensures that they can live in justice, equality, and freedom (Orwell, 2001). According to Gorge Orwell, the novel depicts events leading up to the Russian Revolution in 1917, as well as the Stalinist era in the Soviet Union. *Animal Farm* is an influential satire wherein Orwell uses irony to undermine the tenets of totalitarianism, especially the Stalinism (Khan and et al., 2017).

Orwell, the British writer, through writing this novel aimed to dispel the common belief that Russia is a 'Socialist State', and he aims to expose its totalitarian political regime. During the writing of this novel in 1943 and 1944, the British-Soviet relationship was at its peak, so it could be said that Orwell wrote this novel allegorically to avoid accountability and prosecution. The novel deals with totalitarianism as a prominent political theme. It depicts the emergence of the pigs as rulers of the farm as they are the educated elite who have knowledge. The pigs use their eloquence to impose their ideology by manipulating the language and discourse to control the rest of the animals to exploit them, and to retain power and interests of the pigs. At the end, under the rule of the pigs, the animals live in a worse condition than before their revolution against their human master (Shapiro, 2017). In the light of the above-mentioned view, the current study deals with the concepts of power, corruption, and ideology in Orwell's narrative text. The purpose of conducting this study is to determine the interconnection of absolute power and corruption in *Animal Farm*. So, the relationship of power and ideology in this novel is investigated, because absolute power represented by the totalitarian regime mostly uses certain ideologies to retain its power upon the society in the novel. The study has examined the corruption that is related to the practices of power through imposing its corrupt ideology. Looking at discursive practices in *Animal Farm*, the study has focused on how language is used by the pigs to manipulate and to impose their ideology that supports their power.

The literature has a big bulk of studies related to the theme of absolute power in Orwell's novel *Animal Farm*. For example; studies of Sebastian (2001), Sewlall (2002), Pelissoli (2008), Monica (2011), Nouasri (2015), and Goncalves (2017) focused on drawing the form of absolute power and its authoritarian methods and negative effects on the society through the interrogation of the narrative text. However, the relationship between absolute power and corruption in the previous studies about the selected novel is missed. The gap of research gap could be identified through previous studies that focused on: i) The form of absolute power, and ii) Authoritarian method and its negative effects on society. Thus, the gap appeared in: i) Lack of research in examining the interconnection between absolute power and corruption, and ii) No study has applied Marxist criticism with CDA (together) as analytical approaches. To bridge the gap, the current study; i) Examines the image of corruption and the social reaction against absolute power practices through inquest of the text to show the evidence of interconnection of absolute power and corruption, ii) Employs Marxist criticism with CDA as the analytical approaches. The use of these two analytical tools together in conducting the textual analysis of the selected data creates integration in the analysis of the narrative text, where the literary and linguistic aspects of the text are covered and surrounded. From the researcher's point of view, this makes the analysis more in depth, and makes the results more reliable. In order to address the research problem and objectives of the study, the following research question emerges: How does absolute power interconnect with corruption, and how does power relate to ideology in the selected narrative text?

The significant of conducting this research is to provide a better understanding to the interconnection of absolute power and corruption as a missing feature in the literature on Orwell's novel under quest in particular, and on the political English novels in general. In addition, this study contributes to enlarge the base of knowledge in this field.

Literature Review

A comprehensive commentary on the relevant terms and concepts is given this section. History has shown evidence that among the main reasons that may affect breakdown or progress of a society or a state is the role of command, ruling class, or leadership and its leaders. Through classification and division of the sorts of power, the most effective sorts are two; political and religious powers (Perry, 1997). In the past, religious power has held a great position, it was the most powerful. While in the modern era, political power (governments or political regimes) appears to be the most influential which controls our world, and influences,

directly or indirectly, the societies and the states (Nyarota, 2013). The political power, especially absolute power that is represented by totalitarian regimes and dictatorships, has occupied large areas of literary and political studies because of the importance and seriousness of this theme and its impacts on the lives of peoples. Power, according to Wrong (2017), is often defined as "a capacity to control or influence others." (6). However, absolute power means a complete authority which is not restrained by review or supervision to act in an area. The main forms of power are; force, manipulation, and persuasion (Wrong, 2017), so when political absolute power is practiced by an individual, a group, or by one-party government will take the form of totalitarian regime or dictatorship. The term 'totalitarianism' refers to "tyrannical political regimes that wield more extensive, comprehensive and intensive power than any of the monarchies or tyrannies of the past" (2017, p.19). The last century witnessed several inhuman and oppressive regimes that came in power including the major Bolsheviks in the Soviet Union, the Nazis in Germany, and Mao's Communists in China. Roughly, over one hundred million people were killed by these governments (Werth and et al., 1999). The current study investigates power and corruption as its main concepts. It explores the abuse of power represented by the totalitarian regime and dictatorship, and the corruption that pervades such forms of power, depicted in the novel under the study. In addition, this study investigates ideology because it is related to power. Ideology is a means to gain and retain power, where corruption of power stems from corruption of ideology. Thus, these three main concepts have to be explained to serve in understanding the analysis in the section of findings in this study.

Power is a major part of political life that controls and negatively affects the life of society inside the narrative text. In one of Foucault's writings, *Discipline and Punish* (1975), he states that the main source of social discipline and conformity is power. Through power, the state controls people and obliges them to comply with its law (Bunsom, 2016). Van Dijk (2013) stated that "power is a property of relations between social groups, institutions, or organizations" (p.84). In fact the social power matters and not the individual one. In addition, Van Dijk emphasized that "the social power can be defined in terms of the control exercised by one group or organization (or its members) over the acts and/or the mind of (the members of) other group" (2013, p.84), therefore restraining the liberty of acts of the others, or affecting their knowledge, outlooks and ideologies. Thus, there is a sense of dominance in such human relationships. According to Van Dijk (2013), dominance is understood as a form of social power abuse, as a legal or moral illegitimate exercise of control over others in one's own interests that often results in social inequality. Totalitarianism is an embodiment of the concept of absolute power. It is a type of government that controls everything starting from individual to collective life. This regime is characterized by force and suppression. Totalitarianism functions on two concepts; it is an official and exclusive philosophy which makes the society bow down before it, and it is a sort of dogma which compels the society to work as it has been ordered to do, without even complaining. Beauchamp (1986) opined totalitarianism as a matchless threat in the human history, which is further terrifying because it is more brutal than any preceding form of tyranny.

Corruption is a main concept in this study, it is related to the concept of absolute power in a 'cause-effect relationship'. It is difficult to find an agreed definition of corruption because it involves all life aspects. Corruption can be found everywhere; it might penetrate political, social, religious, administrative, financial, educational, and moral sides in the state or the society. However, Waite and Allen (2003) mentioned that literature on police corruption could provide a relatively simple definition of corruption that; "corruption is the misuse of public power for private and personal benefit" (p.282). This study deals with the political sense of this concept. Corruption means abuse of power, it penetrates all life aspects of society inside the novel under the study, wherein political, ideological and social corruption is prevalent. Werlin stated that corruption "is robbing people the opportunities they fought for" (2013, p.4). The society inside the text suffers from absence of social justice, because of the corrupt regime that prevented the society and individuals from their rights and freedoms. Thus, corruption leads to create dystopian society and finally disintegration of society.

Ideology is defined in diverse ways and through different perspectives. Plamenatz (1970) defines ideology as "a set of closely related beliefs or ideas, or even attitudes, characteristic of a group or community" (p.15). For van Dijk, as cited in Schäffner (2003) "ideologies have something to do with systems of ideas, and especially with the social, political or religious ideas shared by a social group or movement" (p.6). These definitions are the

operational definitions used in this study. In the novel under study, political absolute power is based on marketing of its own ideologies to persuade and subject the society for its total authority. The ruling class uses processes of manipulation and distortion of these ideologies, from time to time, in order to retain its power and own interests. According to Van Dijk (1999), the process of manipulation has been adopted to be the masterful strategy for influencing the minds of individuals and societies by distorting and internalizing of certain ideologies, values, beliefs, or attitudes. The use of Language and discourse, based on Van Dijk (2000) are the "critical social practices influenced by ideologies", which in turn also influence "how we acquire, learn or change ideologies"(p.9). Sandaran (2008) mentioned that Capitalist relations are embedded in ideologies and not just in economic relations. For Marx ideology is related to manipulation. As Van Dijk (1998) demonstrates that "the ideas of the ruling classes are imposed upon the majority and accepted throughout society as natural and normal" (p.2). This study adopts the Marxism views of ideology as a means to retain power. However, some previous studies can be mentioned by what they have done through investing the theme of power in Orwell's novel. The theme of absolute power has been investigated by Sebastian (2001) who stated that absolute power controlled over individuals lives in *Animal Farm*. He exposed practices of power, and concluded that the love of power was the major motive behind the political action. Nouasri (2015) exposed some aspects of corruption in education in the society of *Animal Farm*, and focused on Orwell's purpose behind his writing this novel. Monica (2011) exposed the class discrimination in *Animal Farm*, and how the upper class exploits the lower class under dictatorship of communism. Thus, all these studies have left a gap regarding the relationship of absolute power and corruption. This clearly points to the need for a study to investigate the interconnection between absolute power and corruption.

Methodology

The data of this qualitative study is the text of Orwell's novel *Animal Farm*. The analysis of the data involves thematic analysis and textual analysis. The thematic analysis is a method of analysing qualitative data to examine the data to identify themes (Cresswell, 2003). The qualitative data of this study are in the form of extracts taken from the narrative text to be analysed. These selected data (extracts) are based on the themes that relate to the key concepts of the study; power, corruption, and ideology. Thus, the extracts have been selected based on the mentioned related concepts. The textual analysis is used to describe and interpret the text, where information, assumptions, symbolism and values can be detected from the text. The textual analysis is conducted by employing two analytical tools; Marxist Criticism and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to reveal manipulation of language and discourse used in the text. Furthermore, the notion of binarism or binary oppositions is used as a platform to serve the analysis. It is a mode of thought on stable oppositions (such as good and evil). As Tahreem and Khan (2020) have mentioned, binarism or binary relationship has always been established on the basis of power, economy, and politics, in addition to gender and caste. This notion is a central to the literary creation, especially in drama and fiction. The analysis is be built on binary opposition in the society inside the narrative text on the basis of power, ideology, and class. Identifying the social classes in the narrative text helps in tracing class, ideology, and power. The textual analysis of the data of *Animal Farm* is conducted by using two analytical tools and through two phases as follows:

- i) Analysing the text by employing Marxist Criticism (Marxist literary criticism) which focuses on the role of ideology and class difference within the literary work, the role of money and power, author's ideologies, and the context. Notion of binary oppositions or duality, and manipulative techniques used in the text, such as manipulation and propaganda, are used in doing analysis from literary perspective.
- ii) Analysing the text by employing Critical Discourse Analysis: CDA is used to conduct the second phase of analysing the text (extracts) by using strategies of manipulation, presentation, lexicalization, presupposition, and under-lexicalization. The analysis of *Animal Farm* involves the idea of revolution in the animal farm, and the seven commandments (the principles of Animalism).

Findings

In the following paragraphs, the extracts would form the main part of the interpretation of findings. The textual analysis is organized based on the two frameworks used in this study, focus on: the first phase) Marxist Criticism, and second) Critical Discourse Analysis. Thus, the data analysis is conducted by using the two analytical tools and through two phases.

i) Analysing the text by employing Marxist Criticism:

Before the revolution of the animals in the farm, Mr. Jones represented the corrupt absolute power that controlled the farm. So, the analysis starts at a point in which there is a powerful invitation for animals to begin a rebellion against Mr. Jones, as the symbol of man, who oppresses the animals. All the animals have been invited by Old Major to attend a secret meeting to tell them about his dream of revolution. He inspires the animals to rid of the human oppression and tyranny. During the meeting of the animals which is held secretly, and through his speech to the animal, in Extracts 1 and 2, below, Old Major has said;

Extract 1: "Let us face it: our lives are miserable, laborious"(Orwell, 2001, p.27)

Extract 2: Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself (Orwell, 2001, p.28)

The two extracts said by Old Major indicate power represented by Mr Jones as a lord of all the animals, and his corruption which embodies by injustice for his treatment of the animals. These lines of the Old Major speech refer to his vital role in disseminating his beliefs, which is an ideology of anti-human, of the revolution against the absolute power of Mr Jones. In *Animal Farm*, the manipulative techniques are highly used by the pigs. From the beginning of the novel, Old Major employed the strategy of manipulation in his speech by telling the animals about his dream of revolution to instigate the animals to revolt against Mr Jones. Manipulation is an act of attempting to make the other to accept one's own point of view and to change their way of thinking of certain subjects, in favour of the speaker. This is usually done through some concept such as rhetoric, persuasion, and propaganda (Jewett & O'Donnell, 2012). Old Major's speech involved the notion of binary or duality by describing Mr Jones as the symbol of 'evil' and the animals as the symbol of 'good'. Despite Mr Jones does nothing and he "is too weak to pull the plough" and the animals are stronger than Mr Jones and they do everything in the farm, but "he is lord of all the animals". Old Major focuses on class disparity and states that the animals are the oppressed class. Mr Jones seizes the resources of the farm (economics). Mr Jones is the lord who "sets the (animals) to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself".

Old Major promotes his beliefs that the animals are in a about the state of inequality, that is to say, there is a class division between the animals of the farm and humans. Through his word, Old Major reveals to the animals his ideology (anti-human) which is opposite to Man who represents human ruling class. Old Major encourages all the animals to revolt against Mr Jones for their freedom. Old Major sheds light on the fact that despite of the hard work the animals, they do not gain benefits from their work. In the same time, Mr Jones, who represents 'Man', does nothing except exploiting the work of the animals for his own interests. He points out that the humans utilize all of the profits and enjoy the fruits of the animals' work, while the animals have just to do work on the farm for very little income that keeps them alive only. He states that the humans take full authority over the animals. He reminds the animals how Mr Jones oppresses them, and steals everything they have. The purpose behind Old Major's speech is to persuade the animals of the farm to rebel against Mr Jones "Let us face". Old Major states that the animals are the victims of human power, exploitation, oppression, and corruption. So, by overthrowing Man, the animals can regain their rights and the fruits of their work in the farm. The two extracts said by Old Major indicate power represented by Mr Jones as a lord of all the animals, and his corruption which embodies by injustice for his treatment of the animals.

Extract 3: "The Seven Commandments"

1. "Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy"
2. "Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend"
3. "No animal shall wear clothes"
4. "No animal shall sleep in a bed"
5. "No animal shall drink alcohol"
6. "No animal shall kill any other animal"
7. "All animals are equal" (Orwell, 2001, p.42)

The pigs, the educated elite in the animal farm, take power on the farm after succeeding the animals' revolution. They change the name of the farm from 'MANOR FARM' to 'ANIMAL FARM', and they adopt a flag for their farm and a song of 'Beasts of England' as a national anthem of the farm. Now, the animals possess the farm, they feel free, and don't mind working hard for the benefit of everyone. The three pigs; Napoleon, Snowball, and Squealer "elaborated old Major's teachings into a complete system of thought; they called it Animalism" (Orwell, 2001, p.38). Then, Napoleon and Snowball (the main leaders) succeeded in reducing the principles of 'Animalism', which is based on the ideologies of Old Major (anti-human), to 'Seven Commandments' as "an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live forever" (2001, p.42). However, the turning-point in the novel happens when the pigs changed the seven commandments by using manipulation, under the pretext that most of the animals are not intelligent enough to learn them by heart. So, things start going to wrong direction.

Because of their eloquence in language and their rhetoric, pigs employed manipulation and propaganda in deceiving the animals to promote and impose their new ideology (the pigs' racism), and to conceal the process of destroying the principles of 'Animalism', and turning into 'humanism'. The purpose of doing this is the pigs' desire to retain power and their privileges, at the expense of other animals. After the revolution in the farm, two groups of characters in this novel seem to be in binary opposition socially, economically and intellectually. A group includes the ruling class, the pigs and their leaders; Napoleon, Snowball, and Squealer. In addition, the trained dogs that loyal to the pigs. This ruling class controls the farm resources and lives in luxury, adopts utilitarian philosophy based on their own interests, and imposes its own ideology upon the rest of animals. As the upper class in society, this group possesses the speech of power and domination. Another group includes the rest of the oppressed animal in the farm, such as; Boxer and Benjamin, who represents the down-trodden class. Speech of this class represents a socially and culturally oppressed class. This kind of speech represents submission and surrender to repression exercised by absolute power. The analysis will explain how events develop in the narrative text and how things go wrong and end up to dystopia society in the animal farm. The purpose of these introductory signals is to contextualize the text, and this has significance in understanding the analysis.

Napoleon and Snowball replace the term of 'Animalism' with 'The Seven Commandments', a term derived from the Christian religious discourse. Religion has powerful influence on humans in general. The words 'seven' and 'commandment' have been mentioned in the Quran and Bible and in many heavenly texts, so they have great effect. The pigs employ Moses, a raven, to tell the animals through stories that they will receive rewards in life after death due to their hard work on the farm; in return they will go to paradise after they die. Religious symbols, concepts and terms have particular sanctity, thus the pigs employ religion as a tool for controlling the animals since they truly believe in religion as the only true source of inspiration. It is an example of manipulation used by the pigs (through religious ideology) to serve their goal of controlling the animals and the farm. Orwell employs the character of Moses, who plays a missionary role; to expose the communism policy in exploiting religion to anesthetize people in order not to think about their suffering and bad conditions due to the rule of the Communists leaders. Karl Marx (2005) describes the effect of religion as the opium of the people. It seems that Orwell reveals the policy of the pigs from the beginning of the story when the pigs employ the effect of

religious ideology as a main remote control that could be used to control the rest of the animal, in order to retain power.

Based on Marxist literary criticism's strategies which focuses on ideology, class, and the role of money and power in the literary work, the notions of the Seven Commandments could be investigated as follows;

i) The first and the second commandments classifying and identifying who is the enemy of the animals and who is a friend (class and ideology):

1. "Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy".

2. "Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend" (Orwell, 2001, p.42). This is to confirm the ideology of hostility against humans, because they oppressed the animal. Thus, the enemies of the animals are; Mr Jones and in general the human farmers. In addition, it emphasizes the relation of friendship between all animals should be a relation of cooperation and solidarity as one class.

ii) The commandments 3,4,5, and 6 are laws and orders that must be adhered, and cannot be violated (ideology):

3. "No animal shall wear clothes".

4. "No animal shall sleep in a bed".

5. "No animal shall drink alcohol".

6. "No animal shall kill any other animal" (Orwell, 2001, p.42).

The text stresses on forbidding of these acts by starting each commandment with 'No', as well as the use of the modal verb 'shall' which refers to an order, law, promise etc. (LDOCE, 2009). In this way the text confirms on these compulsory actions as orders or rules.

iii) The last one is the cornerstone of the seven commandments and the major principle of 'Animalism'. It assures the equality among all animals in the farm, i.e. equality in rights and duties (class and ideology):

7. "All animals are equal" (Orwell, 2001, p.42).

It could be said that the basic principles of Animalism, inspired by the thoughts of Old Major, which have been transformed into seven commandments and written on the barn wall immediately after the revolution to be obligated to all animals, are focusing on the fundamental issues:

First: Human class is the enemy of the animals; it is not allowed to deal with them, to act like them, or to imitate them. It is not allowed to wear clothes, to sleep in bed, and to drink alcohol like humans.

Second: The major ideology is; all animals are equal in rights and duties.

Later on in the novel, the pigs turn towards 'humanization' (imitation of human actions and behaviours) for their own interests. Napoleon and Squealer partake in activities associated with the humans (drinking alcohol, sleeping in beds, walking on two legs, and trading), which are explicitly prohibited in the seven commandments. Eventually, the final betrayal occurs when the pigs establish good relationships with Mr Jones and humans. The pigs deviate from the goals of the revolution, their aim becomes how to seize power and obtain privileges and benefits. For this end, the pigs practice manipulation and propaganda for imposing their ideologies. In order to achieve their goals, the pigs work on changing the commandments to suit their policies and desires. Thus, they provide a legitimate cover for their power and corruption, and justify their violation of these commandments. The pigs reduce the commandments from seven to five. They cancel three commandments (1, 2, 3), change four commandments (4, 5, 6, 7), and invents new one. It is worth noting that the commandments have not been changed at once or at the same time, rather the change has occurred gradually and according to the requirements of the situation and events throughout the novel. The Seven Commandments" become Five:

1. "Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy". (CANCELLED)

2. "Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend". (CANCELLED)
3. "No animal shall wear clothes". (CANCELLED)

"Four legs good, two legs bad", then "**Four legs good, two legs better**" (Orwell,2001, P.125). (INVENTED)

4. "No animal shall sleep in a bed **with sheets**" (Orwell, 2001, p.75). (CHANGED)
5. "No animal shall drink alcohol **to excess**" (Orwell,2001, p.106). (CHANGED)
6. "No animal shall kill any other animal **without cause**" (Orwell,2001, p.92). (CHANGED)
7. "All animals are equal **but some animals are more equal than others**"(2001,p.126). (CHANGED)

For Marxist critique, it is important to trace the ideology in the text and how it is promoted or imposed to retain power. Squealer acts as Napoleon's spokesperson, he is a good and persuasive orator who always falsifies the truth in order to cover the corruption of the pigs. The build-up of power is caused by language as well as the use of eloquence by the pigs throughout the novel. The control of words and language used by the pigs is the reason behind the expulsion of Mr Jones, thus dictatorship of Napoleon is possible to emerge by the same way. The first commandment has been cancelled, because it confirms hostility against humans who have oppressed the animals. In contrary, the pigs build relationships with humans and go towards 'humanization' in order to gain benefits for their personal interests. Napoleon broke the commandments of Old major; this act indicates misuse of power and corruption. Napoleon wants to seize power alone, so he starts practicing violence, intimidation and even killing animals. Finally, he expels his rival, Snowball, from the farm by using violence. Therefore, he has dared and cancelled the second commandment in order to get rid of this law that prohibits the practice of these hostile acts against animals, because it is a commandment calling for friendship between all animals. After Napoleon and the pigs associating with relationships and with humans and imitating their acts, the pigs were motivated to wear clothes, just like humans. Therefore, the pigs decided to cancel the third commandment because it forbids wearing clothes.

Later on, the pigs invented of a new commandment, which is "Four legs good, two legs bad". Here, the pigs have changed their attitude towards humans by describing them as (bad) rather than describing them as enemy. Now, the pigs and humans are from the same class and have same ideologies. Then, the pigs have appeared to imitate humans in public; they wear clothes and walk erect on two legs. So, the pigs have changed again this invented commandment by replacing the word (bad) (better), thus the commandment becomes "Four legs good, two legs better". This is a dangerous shift that gives preference to those who walk on two legs, including the pigs that started walking on two legs (their hind legs). This expose that the pigs confess that the humans are better than the animals, this is a betrayal of the most important principles of "Animalism". Accordingly, it becomes clear that the pigs (who become more human) are better than the rest of animals. This divides the society of animals farm (who were originally one class, and common identity and culture) into two classes; the ruling class or upper class (the pigs) it's ideology pig's racism and humanism, and the oppressed class or lower class (the rest of the animal), it's ideology 'Animalism'. Such a division breaks the principle of justice and equality between the animals and creates hidden conflict between the two classes in this society, where the upper class tries to suppress the lower class, and this what the pigs did.

The pigs, by using manipulation and their good ability to use language succeeded to empty the original commandments from their content and change them according to their will. Thus, the fourth commandment has been changed to abolish the prohibition of sleeping in bed to legitimize their sleeping on the bed in the farmhouse, like Mr Jones. Here the pigs succeeded in transferring the idea of prohibition from (bed) to the (sheets). In the same way, the pigs change the fifth commandment. They legalize drinking of alcohol which is already forbidden. The pigs decide to allow drinking alcohol, but on one condition; no drinking excessively. The change of the fourth and fifth commandments comes in the context of strengthening the pigs' principle of going towards "humanism" and normalizing with humans, and imposing this new culture on the animals.

Napoleon decided to get rid of his rival Snowball, and to kill any animal that opposes his rule or forms a threat to him. Therefore, Napoleon has to change the sixth commandment which prohibits killing of the animals. As usual, Napoleon and Squealer employed manipulation to legalize the killing of the animals. It becomes easy to invent and fabricate reasons and excuses for killing and violence that have been practiced by Napoleon, under

the pretext that these animals are traitors and should be killed. Napoleon fights Snowball for getting power and leadership for himself and to control Animal Farm. Napoleon uses special trained dogs to rid of Snowball. The trained dogs symbolize police and security force that carry out acts of violence against the animals when Napoleon orders to do so. After overtaking Snowball's position, Napoleon starts a new tyranny era in the farm under his control through violence and killing, but he justifies his acts by using manipulation.

Napoleon, the dictator kills any animal in the farm that does not display complete obedience or object to Napoleon's policy. Often Napoleon claims that those who have been killed are traitors, enemies who must be eliminated. In one afternoon, Napoleon executes a large group of animals. The event of execution causes terror in the hearts of the animals, but after days the animals would calm down. Squealer comes to justify killing of the animals by giving good reason, they are traitors. As usual, Squealer the propagandist justifies everything in favour of Napoleon. Benjamin the oldest animal in the farm, but speaks rarely, so he seems as someone who supports unintentionally the rule of the pigs by keeping silent. There is no justification for his silence except that he is afraid of the pigs. It seems that terror and violence which are caused by the pigs and their dogs fill up the hearts of the rest of the animals with fear, and make them unable to speak or even to think. Thus, the animals convince themselves that there is a good reason for killing some animals because they are traitors .

Napoleon's crimes against 'Animalism' continue. Meanwhile, he continues to deceive animals by providing legal cover for these crimes, or inventing fake stories to convince the animals that everything he does is based on the principles of 'Animalism'. When Boxer becomes elderly and weak, Boxer becomes a victim of Napoleon's absolute power and corruption. Through a sinister, immoral, and illegal secret deal, Napoleon hands Boxer over to a "knacker" to kill him and turn his body into glue and other materials. Little barrels of whiskey that Napoleon gets in return for Boxer's life. Boxer always shows his devotion and support to the animals' issues, especially when he appears as the strong worker among the animals in building the windmill. Boxer supports power of the pigs through his gullibility.

Napoleon, who gained absolute power linked to corrupt practices, decided to legislate a racial law that would give preference to pigs, and formally establish the class inequality between the animals community on the farm. He changed the seventh commandment to be "All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others". This has overturned the original meaning of the commandment upside down. Thus the ultimate betrayal happens when the pigs change this commandment. This change is betrayal; it represents a complete collapse of the principles of "Animalism", as pigs decide to abolish the equality and unity among the animals which are the essence of the animal's revolution. On the side of the barn, the final revised commandment is seen painted. This indicates Napoleon's ability and willingness to change the historical record boldly, for manipulating the animals and controlling them. It becomes clear that the acts of the pigs and behaviours directly and strongly oppose the original revolutionary movement and its principles. The superiority of the ruling class and its privileges, and even its corruption, become a *fait accompli*, while the rest of animals suffer from poverty and oppression. The supposed idea is that communism serves man, but in fact man serves communism (Inch, 2016, p.10). It is a declaration that Napoleon's political regime has absolutely become corrupt.

Accordingly, it has become clear that the images of the pigs' corruption appear in: betrayal of the goals of revolution, destroying the principles of "Animalism" and changing its historical record, imposing their ideology (The pigs' racism), controlling on the sources of the farm, and domination over the farm and the rest of the animals. Finally, it could be said that the writer of the text has triumphed for the oppressed class of animals. Orwell exposed, criticized and attacked the corrupt and the oppressive power of the pigs. Napoleon's regime of ruling deservedly is the worst example of interconnection of absolute power and corruption.

ii) Analysing the text by employing Critical Discourse Analysis:

Extract 1: "Let us face it: our lives are miserable, laborious"(Orwell, 2001, p.27)

Extract 2: Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the

animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself (Orwell, 2001, p.28)

The words in these extracts indicate power represented by Mr. Jones as a lord of all the animals, and his corruption which embodies injustice and inequity for his treatment of the animals. CDA is significant to reveal injustice and inequity of the dominant group or ruling class in a society. In the narrative text of *Animal Farm*, manipulative discourses have highly been employed. Manipulation "is a communicative and interactional practice, in which a manipulator exercises control over other people, usually against their will or against their best interests.... Language users call this discourse 'manipulative discourse'"(Van Dijk, 2006, p.360). For understanding manipulative discourse in the text, strategy of manipulation and the linguistic strategies of CDA mentioned above are used in doing the analysis. In the novel, the manipulative discourses have been produced by the pigs in two stages; before the revolution of the animals in the farm (under Man domination), and after the revolution (under the pigs' domination). Before the revolution, the manipulative discourse has been produced by Old Major for achieving his goal in the revolution, because of the corrupt power of Mr Jones. Old Major has adopted anti-human ideology to produce political discourse to persuade the animals to rebel against the owner of the farm, Mr Jones, for freedom of all the animals. A manner of argumentation has been employed in Old Major's manipulative discourse to determine the reason behind the misery of the animals and who should be blamed. For this purpose, Old Major has used many strategies;

- i) Old Major has used strategy of manipulation to promote his ideology (anti-human), by telling the animals about his dream about the revolution. In addition, Old Major has employed (in-group) ideology in his discourse by focusing on the notions of the unity of the animals, and the golden future time as a dream of the animals from generation to generation "Let us face it: our lives are miserable".
- ii) Old Major has also used the strategy of negative presentation by describing Man cruel treatment against the animals; "he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving". Old Major has dramatized some details that related to the lives of the animals and the tragic end that awaits them. Old Major has confirmed 'the evil of Man'. Old Major's discourse has shown the great disparity between the great contribution of the animals to the farm and the non-contribution of Man 'consumes without producing'. However, the strategies that have been employed in Old Major's discourse are utilizing "a negative presentation of an out-group called Man with a negative predicator "evil", in terms of ideology, called "enemy" or "antagonist" (Basuki& Authar, 2019: 2). The Old Major has demonstrated and emphasized Man's unfair behaviour and focused on it.
- iii) Old Major has also used the strategy of negative lexicalization in his discourse such as; 'miserable', 'laborous', and 'starving', in order to promote his ideology of anti-human among the animal to revolt against Mr Jones. Due to the corruption that is linked with the power of Mr Jones, Old Major's discourse has focused on the animals' suffering, despite the fact that the soil of the farm is fertile, and able to provide plenty of food for the animals. So, their suffering is due to Man's greed, '*Man who knows only to take but never gives*'. Thus, Old Major's discourse carries an implicature that 'dismissal Man from the farm'; this means that the only solution is rebellion. The two extracts said by Old Major indicate power represented by Mr Jones as a lord of all the animals, and his corruption which embodies by injustice for his treatment of the animals.

Extract 3: "The Seven Commandments"

1. "Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy"
2. "Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend"
3. "No animal shall wear clothes"
4. "No animal shall sleep in a bed"
5. "No animal shall drink alcohol"
6. "No animal shall kill any other animal"

7. "All animals are equal" (Orwell, 2001, p.42)

After the revolution, the manipulative discourses have been produced by the pigs by using many strategies which basically depend on manipulation in language and discourse. Religion has powerful influence on humans in general. Napoleon and Snowball replace the term of 'Animalism' with 'The Seven Commandments', a term derived from the Christian religious discourse. This is an example of using lexicalization; "using euphemistic expressions, a word which is substituted for a something that is more conventional or familiar" (Fairclough, 2001b, p.97). The term of 'The Seven Commandments' is more conventional or familiar for the animals, so they have accepted it easily. The pigs have employed the effect of religious ideology as a main remote control that could be used to control the rest of the animal. It is a strategy of manipulation used by the pigs in order to retain their power.

The pigs (after the revolution) have produced manipulative discourses to get domination, and to control on the rest of the animals of the farm. The pigs' racism is the ideology which has been adopted by the pigs to gain power, then to get more privilege and control the resources of the farm. For this end, the pigs use the strategy of manipulation in language, supported by propaganda (which is a process of manipulation), in order to win the consent of the rest of the animals and legalize their power. After the revolution in the farm, two groups of characters in the novel seem to be in binary opposition socially, economically and intellectually, and each group represents a class, and there is a conflict between the two classes where the upper class (the pigs) tries to oppress the lower class (the rest of the animals). Identifying the social classes in the narrative text helps in tracing class disparity, imposing ideology, and abuse of power by the ruling class and its corruption. The pigs (after the revolution) have produced manipulative discourses to get domination, and to control on the rest of the animals of the farm. The pigs' racism is the ideology which has been adopted by the pigs to gain power, then to get more privilege and control the resources of the farm. For this end, the pigs have employed some the strategies include manipulation, presupposition, and under-lexicalization.

- i) Manipulation in language, supported by propaganda (which is a process of manipulation), has been use by the pigs in order to win the consent of the rest of the animals and to legalize the pigs' power. The pigs have decided to seize the power and the resources of the farm, at the expense of the rest of the animals. But the Seven Commandments are an obstacle to achieving their goal, so the pigs decided to change these commandments to align with their goal. This entails manipulation that is considered as a delicately ingenious strategy for influencing the minds of an audience through the distortion and internalization of certain beliefs, values, attitudes, or ideologies (Van Dijk, 1999). Language use and discourse are the "critical social practices influenced by ideologies", which in turn also influence "how we acquire, learn or change ideologies" (Van Dijk, 2000, p. 9). The pigs have conducted the strategy of manipulation to find resolutions for all the obstacles that originally the commandments involve. The pigs have to legalize the following forbidden actions; living in a house, sleep in a bed, wearing clothes, drinking alcohol, killing other animals, trading with human farmers, and some animals are more equal. The major purpose of the manipulation in the commandments is to get absolute power for Napoleon and the pigs.
- ii) Presupposition: The pigs have employed the strategy of presupposition that "the pigs are the brain of the farm" as a resolution for living in the house of the farm. This presupposition has an implication that the pigs are in the higher rank (the upper class), so they deserve more privilege. Furthermore, Napoleon is "Leader and ruler", thus, it is necessary for the pigs to get him an exception. As resolutions for sleeping in the bed, drinking alcohol, and killing other animal (traitors).
- iii) Under-lexicalization: For the purpose of imposing their ideology (pigs' racism), controlling the farm, and retaining their power over the rest of the animals, the pigs have changed the essential meaning of the seven commandments. The process of changing the meanings of commandments has been done by Napoleon through adding words or phrases to the original text. Adding words to the text is similar to Fairclough's explanation of what he calls under-lexicalization that refers to "the phenomenon in which a lexical item that would precisely refer to a concept, is deliberately avoided, suppressed, or substituted for another one" (Fairclough, 1992, p.193). The strategy of 'under-lexicalization' is used by the pigs for

changing the meanings of the original text of the commandments in order to serve the pigs' power and interests. The pigs have established good relationships with Mr Jones and other human farmers, and imitated humans' acts. The pigs have cancelled the first commandment "Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy", because it confirms the ideology of hostility against humans. Then, the pigs invented a new commandment "Four legs good, two legs better".

The pigs have added two words "with sheet" to the commandment "No animal shall sleep in a bed". The origin of prohibition includes "bed", but it has turned into prohibition of "sheets". Thus, "bed" is not forbidden now; prohibition is shifted to "sheet". The pigs have added a phrase "without a cause" to the commandment "No animal shall kill other animal". Thus, killing other animals is not forbidden if there is a reason (such as traitor). The pigs have added a phrase "to excess" to the commandment "No animal shall drink alcohol". Thus, it becomes allowed to the pigs to drink alcohol. Most of the animals do not pay attention any writing, because they cannot read. So, this strategy used by the pigs is effective. Eventually, the animals have been shocked once they discovered that all the Seven Commandments have been gone with the wind. All the commandments have been replaced with a single principle based on racial discrimination, "All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others". Van Dijk emphasized that "the social power can defined in terms of the control exercised by one group or organization (or its members) over the acts and/or the mind of (the members of) other group" (2013, p.84), According to Van Dijk, dominance is understood as a form of social power abuse that is as a legal or moral illegitimate exercise of control over others in one's own interests, often resulting in social inequality (Van Dijk, 2013).

The principles of Animalism (later on, the Seven Commandments) are the cornerstone in Animal Farm. Before the revolution, Old Major has established "The original principles of Animalism" before his death. However, the Seven Commandments) have gradually been manipulated (one by one) by the pigs after the revolution. These principles have been changed and distorted to give the opposite meaning that serves the pigs' power and interests. By manipulating the commandments and distorting them, then cancelling and finally replacing them by a single principle of racism, the pigs have intended to create confusion status among the animals in order to make them totally rely on and obey the pigs. Changing the commandments involves a hidden intention aims at leaving no chance for the rest of the animals to think and question about "the principles of "Animalism" that has been changed and manipulated. The powerful and fake propaganda used by the pigs has helped them to achieve their goals. Propaganda, used by the pigs and based on lies, is an illegitimate discourse practice or social practice, because it is a process of manipulation in its nature. In addition, the pigs' presupposition "the pigs are more equal" which means "above the nonpig animals" makes the pigs exercise constantly the domination over the animals in the farm. Now, "racism" rules the farm, the ideology of the racist pigs, but no "Animalism". The pigs have reached a position that enables to control the animals and resources of the farm. As a result, the political system has been turned into totalitarian. What has been analysed above reveals how the pigs have imposed their ideology by using manipulative discourse supported by their corrupt power. Thus the analysis has shown evidence that absolute power is interconnected with corruption.

Discussion

In *Animal Farm*, The analysis of the data has been conducted (through two analytical tools) by using the essentials of Marxist Criticism along with CDA's strategies that used to reveal manipulation in language and discourse which has been used in the narrative text to impose ideologies of pigs to retain power. The findings of the analysis have determined the interconnection of absolute power and corruption. The findings of data analysis have confirmed the relationship between power and ideology. The pigs have eloquence and influential language and discourse as an educated group among the animals. Thus, discourse, that conveys ideology of the pigs, plays critical role in the narrative text. The results speak about the abuse of power by the ruling class, which is exploiting power to achieve its interests, desires, and utility. Therefore, the aspects of corruption in all its forms emerge as an inevitable result of totalitarian power. This confirms the interconnection between absolute power and corruption. So, it could be said that where absolute power is present, corruption will surely be present. The interpretation of the interconnection of absolute power and corruption stems from the desire of the ruler, who has absolute power, to remain in power and retain its privileges, and since integrity, justice and

freedom of governed do not achieve what the ruler wants, so the absolute ruler rushes towards practicing corruption to achieve this illegal goal. This interpretation of this result is based on the data that have been already analysed.

Orwell personified the animals in the tradition of allegory so that they could represent real historical figures. In *Animal Farm*, Orwell clearly reveals classes' difference. Napoleon and the pigs represented the ruling class while the rest of the animals represented the lower class (proletariats). Orwell portrays the picture of exploitation and showed the abuse of power as well as totalitarianism of pigs when they become the leaders of the animals. Napoleon somehow got control and became a dictator. Symbolically, this was what Stalin did as he was also a proletarian and assured people of utopia. However, Stalin only gave his dictatorship and tyranny to generate dystopia. In *Animal Farm*, all principles, to get utopian life, have been changed in such a way that life became dystopian. All animals (except the pigs and the dogs) are broken and scared. There were no rules but dictatorship, Orwell depicts the effects of totalitarianism on the society and as a result the civilization could turn into dystopia. Orwell has proved that all the utopia ideas and promises were abused by only totalitarian dictator (Raza and Awan, 2016).

Conclusion

It could be concluded that the findings of this study have expanded the work of the previous research on the theme of absolute power in the selected modernist English novel, *Animal Farm*. The current study has bridged the gap that left by previous research through finding the link between absolute power and corruption as a missing feature in literature. This study has determined the interconnection of absolute power and corruption and provided a better understanding to this interconnection as a prominent phenomenon in the old and the modern human history that have always been portrayed in the literary works, because it touches people's lives deeply. The analysis of the data has clearly confirmed that the corruption, resulting from absolute power, has appeared in multiple forms; political, ideological, social, financial, and moral corruption. Napoleon and the pigs, as a ruling class, have oppressed the animals, they have deceived them and stolen the farm resources, and they have enjoyed a life of luxury. In return, the rest of the animals have turned into an oppressed and deprived lower class. This determines the corruption of the pigs that related to their power. Thus, the final statement of the study can be formulated by saying; wherever absolute power exists, then surely corruption exists. Besides, it could be concluded that power is related to ideology in the narrative text. The manipulation of language and discourse and the intense propaganda along with the violence have led to impose ideology of totalitarian political regime, in order to retain and reinforce its power upon the society. In *Animal Farm*, Napoleon has imposed his ideology, upon the rest of the animals in the farm, with the help of his followers, especially the eloquent orator Squealer, and his security force which is represented by the nine dogs. Squealer has adopted Napoleon's policy and philosophy, and turned into a propaganda machine supporting Napoleon's ideology and power.

Orwell's novel *Animal Farm* revealed the political perspective of the writer and demonstrated how Orwell handled totalitarianism. Orwell has expressed his political ideas in this literary work that reflects his ideological orientations, so as to communicate his inner world and ideological attitudes. He tried to explore the effect of political ideologies and the contribution of these ideologies to human life. Orwell is not only an artist but also a conscious political activist who aims at enlightening ordinary people to the hidden realities behind the social problems. He believes in the social responsibility of literature and thinks that in an age like ours, literature should not be interested in just the aesthetic consideration. Orwell believes that political reform and structural change were essential in order to have a better world, and he expressed this idea in his essay 'Charles Dickens' (Orwell and Mackay, 2000).

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