

**RALPH'S HEGEMONIC POWER IN WILLIAM GOLDING'S
*LORD OF THE FLIES***

THESIS

By:

Nila Eka Nurdiana

NIM 200302110230



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG**

2024

**RALPH'S HEGEMONIC POWER IN WILLIAM GOLDING'S
*LORD OF THE FLIES***

THESIS

Presented to
Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)

By:
Nila Eka Nurdiana
NIM: 200302110230

Advisor:

Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum.
NIP 196911222006041001



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG**

2024

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Ralph’s Hegemonic Power In William Golding’s *Lord Of The Flies***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, 11 December 2024

The researcher



Nila Eka Nurdiana

Nim : 200302110230

APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that Nila Eka Nurdiana thesis entitled **Ralph's Hegemonic Power In William Golding's *Lord Of The Flies*** has been approved for thesis examination at Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S).

Malang, 11 December 2024

Approved by

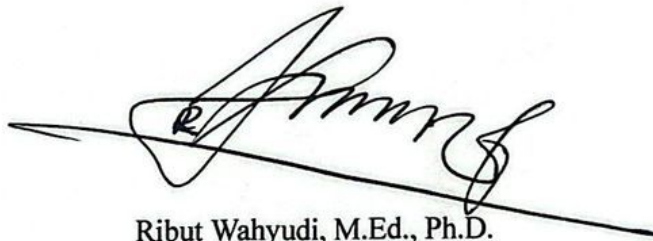
Head of Department of English Literature

Advisor,



Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum

NIP 196911222006041001



Ribus Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D.

NIP 198112052011011007

Acknowledged by

Dean,



Dr. M, FAisol, M.Ag.

NIP 197411012003121003

LEGITIMATION SHEET

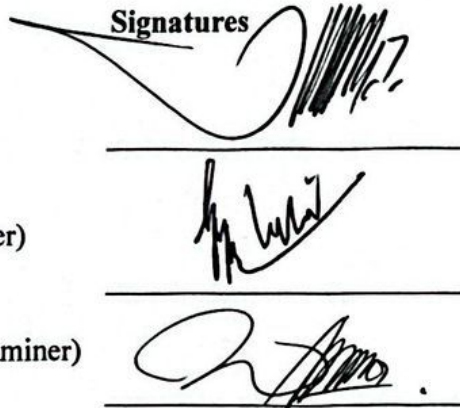
This is to certify that Nila Eka Nurdiana thesis entitled **Ralph's Hegemonic Power In William Golding's *Lord Of The Flies*** has been approved by the Board of Examiners as one of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S). In Departement of English Literature.

Malang, 11 December 2024

Board of Examiners

1. Dr. Siti Masitoh, M.Hum.(Chair)
NIP 196810202003122001
2. Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum. (First Examiner)
NIP 196911222006041001
3. Whida Rositama, M.Hum. (Second Examiner)
NIP 198804222019032010

Signatures



Approved by,

Dean of Faculty of Humanities



Dr. M, Faisol, M.Ag.
NIP 19741101003121003

MOTTO

“ The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

(Eleanor Roosevelt)

DEDICATION

His thesis is specially dedicated to:

My beloved parents, Bapak Juwono Triwahyono and Ibu Nurhasanah,

Thank you for your endless love, support, and prayers that have guided me
through every step of this journey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

All praise be to Allah, the Most Merciful and Gracious God, who provides researchers with the strength and confidence to live life well. By His grace, I was able to complete my final thesis entitled *Ralph's Hegemonic Power in William Golding's Lord of the Flies*, as a requirement for obtaining a Bachelor of Literature (S.S.) degree at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. May blessings and peace always be upon the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who brought the religion of Islam and provided an exemplary model for all humankind.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to:

1. Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum. as my thesis advisor. Thank you for your patience and guidance in helping me complete this thesis
2. Thank you to all the lecturers of the Faculty of Humanities who have provided their knowledge during the 4 years of study.
3. To my beloved parents, Mr. Juwono Triwahyono and Mrs. Nurhasanah, you are my spirit, you are everything to me, even though you can no longer be together, I will continue to love you wherever you are, may you always be healthy and always under the protection of Allah SWT.
4. To my uncle, Mr. Lawianto, I would like to thank you for being my second parent while I was studying in Malang.
5. To my older sister Irma Yulia Safitri who gave me encouragement when I was feeling desperate, I say thank you.
6. To Mrs. Nurdiana and her family and my sister Hidayatul Ilmi Afandina, I say thank you very much, you are the best encourager and the best motivator throughout my search for knowledge.
7. To the most beautiful sister and the best motivator in my life, namely sister Istiqomatul A'la, I say thank you very much for all the advice that has been given, I can only pray that sister is always healthy and always under the protection of Allah SWT.

8. To Ahim, the best man who has been willing to give his time to accompany the author to complete the final assignment. The author expresses his deepest gratitude for all the support and valuable time, may he always be given health to accompany me until later and I hope that Allah will also make it easier for all your dreams that have been worked for so far.
9. Lastly, I would like to thank Aminatul and her mother who have been my second home all this time. I hope you will continue to be happy.

Finally, I hope that this thesis can serve as a valuable reference for future readers regarding the analysis of *Ralph's hegemonic power in William Golding's Lord of the Flies*. Additionally, this research is expected to enrich the understanding of the concept of hegemony in literary studies. The researcher fully acknowledges that this thesis is not without flaws and limitations. Therefore, constructive criticism and suggestions are highly encouraged to improve the quality of this work and contribute to the advancement of future research.

Malang, 11 December 2024

The Researcher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nila Eka Nurdiana', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nila Eka Nurdiana

Nim 200302110230

ABSTRACT

Nurdiana, Nila Eka (2024) *Ralph's Hegemonic Power in William Golding's Lord of the Flies: A Literary Criticism*. Undergraduate Thesis. English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Humanities, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. Advisor: Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum.

Keywords: *Hegemony, Lord of the Flies, Ralph's Leadership, Social Conflict, Gramsci's Hegemony Theory*

The phenomenon of hegemonic power can be observed in everyday life and manifests in various forms across different social contexts. The emergence of hegemonic power is significant to understand as it involves dominance achieved through both consent and coercion. By understanding the concept and application of hegemonic power, individuals can identify how authority is exercised and challenges are addressed. This study aims to describe the forms of hegemonic power demonstrated by Ralph in William Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies*. The analysis is divided into two parts. The first part describes the forms of hegemonic power displayed by Ralph based on Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony. The second part explains how Ralph responds to challenges to his authority. This study employs literary criticism as its research design, utilizing an objective approach that focuses on the text. Additionally, the study adopts Gramsci's concept of hegemony, which emphasizes the importance of consent and coercion in maintaining power. The researcher identified that Ralph's hegemonic power includes his influence on group dynamics, the use of charisma and personality to build consensus, and his responses to dissent in maintaining his authority. The study reveals that while Ralph successfully exercises hegemony within the group dynamics by promoting values of unity and rules, challenges from Jack and his followers expose the limitations of hegemonic power when consensus is disrupted. The findings of this study are expected to contribute to literary studies focusing on power dynamics and leadership in literary works.

ABSTRAK

Nurdiana, Nila Eka (2024) *Kekuatan Hegemonik Ralph dalam Lord of the Flies: A Literary Criticism karya William Golding*. Tesis Sarjana. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Maulana Malik Ibrahim Universitas Islam Negeri Malang. Pembimbing: Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum.

Kata kunci: *Hegemoni, Penguasa Lalat, Kepemimpinan Ralph, Konflik Sosial, Teori Hegemoni Gramsci*

Fenomena kekuasaan hegemonik dapat diamati dalam kehidupan sehari-hari dan bermanifestasi dalam berbagai bentuk di berbagai konteks sosial yang berbeda. Munculnya kekuasaan hegemonik penting untuk dipahami karena melibatkan dominasi yang dicapai melalui persetujuan dan paksaan. Dengan memahami konsep dan penerapan kekuasaan hegemonik, individu dapat mengidentifikasi bagaimana otoritas dijalankan dan tantangan ditangani. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggambarkan bentuk-bentuk kekuasaan hegemonik yang ditunjukkan oleh Ralph dalam novel *Lord of the Flies*, karya William Golding. Analisis dibagi menjadi dua bagian. Bagian pertama menggambarkan bentuk-bentuk kekuasaan hegemonik yang ditampilkan oleh Ralph berdasarkan teori hegemoni Antonio Gramsci. Bagian kedua menjelaskan bagaimana Ralph menanggapi tantangan terhadap otoritasnya. Penelitian ini menggunakan kritik sastra sebagai desain penelitiannya, memanfaatkan pendekatan objektif yang berfokus pada teks. Selain itu, penelitian ini mengadopsi konsep hegemoni Gramsci, yang menekankan pentingnya persetujuan dan pemaksaan dalam mempertahankan kekuasaan. Peneliti mengidentifikasi bahwa kekuatan hegemonik Ralph meliputi pengaruhnya pada dinamika kelompok, penggunaan karisma dan kepribadian untuk membangun konsensus, dan tanggapannya terhadap perbedaan pendapat dalam mempertahankan otoritasnya. Studi ini mengungkapkan bahwa sementara Ralph berhasil menjalankan hegemoni dalam dinamika kelompok dengan mempromosikan nilai-nilai persatuan dan aturan, tantangan dari Jack dan para pengikutnya mengekspos keterbatasan kekuasaan hegemonik ketika konsensus terganggu. Temuan penelitian ini diharapkan dapat berkontribusi pada studi sastra yang berfokus pada dinamika kekuasaan dan kepemimpinan dalam karya sastra.

تجريدي

نورديانا ، نيلا إيك (2024) قوة رالف المهيمنة في ويليام جولدينج سيد الذباب: صلابة أدبية. أطروحة البكالوريوس. برنامج دراسة الأدب الإنجليزي ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية ، مولانا مالك إبراهيم جامعة الدولة الإسلامية في ملانج. المستشار: د. سيام الدين .M.Hum

الكلمات المفتاحية: الهيمنة، سيد الذباب، قيادة رالف، الصراع الاجتماعي، نظرية الهيمنة لدى غرامشي

يمكن ملاحظة ظاهرة القوة المهيمنة في الحياة اليومية وتتجلى بأشكال مختلفة عبر سياقات اجتماعية مختلفة. من المهم فهم ظهور القوة المهيمنة لأنه ينطوي على هيمنة تتحقق من خلال الموافقة والإكراه. من خلال فهم مفهوم وتطبيق السلطة المهيمنة ، يمكن للأفراد تحديد كيفية ممارسة السلطة ومعالجة التحديات. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى وصف أشكال القوة المهيمنة التي أظهرها رالف في رواية ويليام جولدينج سيد الذباب. ينقسم التحليل إلى قسمين. يصف الجزء الأول أشكال القوة المهيمنة التي أظهرها رالف بناء على نظرية أنطونيو غرامشي للهيمنة. يشرح الجزء الثاني كيف يستجيب رالف للتحديات التي تواجه سلطته. تستخدم هذه الدراسة النقد الأدبي كتصميم بحثي لها ، باستخدام نهج موضوعي يركز على النص. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تتبنى الدراسة مفهوم غرامشي للهيمنة، والذي يؤكد على أهمية الموافقة والإكراه في الحفاظ على السلطة. حدد الباحث أن قوة رالف المهيمنة تشمل تأثيره على ديناميكيات المجموعة ، واستخدام الكاريزما والشخصية لبناء الإجماع ، واستجاباته للمعارضة في الحفاظ على سلطته. تكشف الدراسة أنه بينما يمارس رالف الهيمنة بنجاح داخل ديناميكيات المجموعة من خلال تعزيز قيم الوحدة والقواعد ، فإن التحديات من جاك وأتباعه تكشف عن قيود قوة الهيمنة عندما يتم تعطيل الإجماع. من المتوقع أن تساهم نتائج هذه الدراسة في الدراسات الأدبية التي تركز على ديناميكيات القوة والقيادة في الأعمال الأدبية.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-------------|
| THESIS | i |
| APPROVAL SHEET | iii |
| LEGITIMATION SHEET | iv |
| MOTTO | v |
| DEDICATION | vi |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | vii |
| ABSTRACT | x |
| ABSTRAK | xi |
| تجريدي | xii |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | xiii |
| CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| A. Background of the Study | 1 |
| A. Problems of the Study..... | 10 |
| B. Significant of the Study | 11 |
| C. Scope and Limitation..... | 11 |
| D. Definition of Key Terms | 12 |
| CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE | 14 |
| A. An Objective Approach | 14 |
| B. Gramsci's Theory of Hegemony | 17 |
| 1. Hegemony | 17 |
| C. Concept of Hegemonic Power | 22 |
| D. Forms of Hegemonic Power | 24 |
| 1. Influence through Ideology and Social Structures | 25 |
| 2. The Role of Charismatic Leadership in Building Consent | 25 |
| 3. Managing Dissent through Consent and Coercion | 26 |
| E. Strategies in Hegemonic power | 27 |
| 1. Establishment of Authority | 27 |
| 2. Utilization of Rules and Order | 27 |
| 3. Building Consensus and Group Loyalty | 28 |
| 4. Managing Conflicts and Challenges | 28 |
| CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD | 30 |
| A. Research Design | 30 |
| B. Data Source | 31 |
| C. Data Collection..... | 31 |
| D. Data Analysis | 31 |
| CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION | 33 |
| A. Forms of Hegemonic Power Represented by Ralph..... | 33 |
| 1. Influence through Ideology and Social Structures | 33 |
| 2. The Role of Charismatic Leadership in Building Consent | 36 |
| 3. Managing Dissent through Consent and Coercion | 39 |
| B. Ralph's Strategies in Maintaining Hegemonic Power | 42 |
| 1. Establishment of Authority | 43 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 2. Utilization of Rules and Order | 44 |
| 3. Building Consensus and Group Loyalty | 46 |
| 4. Managing Conflicts and Challenges | 49 |
| CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION..... | 52 |
| A. Conclusion | 52 |
| B. Suggestion..... | 54 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 55 |
| CURRICULUM VITAE | 57 |

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher explain the background of the study, the problem of the study, research significance, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Hegemonic power refers to the dominance or leadership of one entity (such as a state, class, or group) over others, often maintained through a combination of consent and coercion. The concept is most closely associated with the Italian Marxist philosopher Antonio Gramsci, who developed the idea of *cultural hegemony* (Atmadja, 2024).

The concept of hegemony, extensively developed by Antonio Gramsci, Provides a profound framework for analyzing how power is maintained in societies through a combination of coercion and coencent. Gramsci argues that dominant groups maintain their authority not solely through force but by gaining the agreement of subordinate groups using ideological strategies. This consent is cultivated by shaping cultural and social institutions to promote values and norms that support the existing social order, making the ruling class's dominance seem natural and unavoidable. (Gramsci, 1971 p. 324-325).

William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* has garnered significant attention from scholars due to its profound depiction of human nature and social decay. The novel, focusing on a group of boys stranded on a remote island, delves

into themes of power, control, and human brutality. The power dynamics within this group of boys provide fertile ground for analyzing hegemonic power structures. In the context of *Lord of the Flies*, this concept can be observed in how the characters struggle for power and influence over one another (Golding, 1954, p. 88-94).

William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* is a novel about a group of British boys stranded on a deserted island after a plane crash during a wartime evacuation. As they try to govern themselves, the boys' attempts at civilization slowly unravel into chaos and savagery. Initially, Ralph is elected as leader, and he emphasizes the need for order, fire signals for rescue, and shelter. However, Jack, another boy, becomes obsessed with hunting and power, eventually leading a faction that embraces violence and primal instincts. The boys' descent into savagery is symbolized by their worship of the "*Lord of the Flies*," a pig's head mounted on a stick, which represents the inherent evil within humanity. (Golding, 1954, p. 29–32).

Tensions between Ralph's group and Jack's tribe escalate, leading to the deaths of two boys, Simon and Piggy, and a manhunt for Ralph. The novel ends when the boys are rescued by a naval officer, but their experiences on the island have irrevocably changed them, revealing the dark side of human nature. *Lord of the Flies* explores themes of civilization vs. savagery, the loss of innocence, and the inherent evil in mankind. (Golding, 1954, p. 184).

The protagonist of the book is a twelve-year-old English boy named Ralph, who is chosen to lead the other boys who are stranded on the island. Until they can be rescued, Ralph tries to organize the boys' attempts to establish a little civilization on the island. In contrast to Jack's primal inclination, Ralph represents humanity's civilizing instinct. (Mogea, 2023) The theoretical foundation of this research rests on Gramsci's concept of hegemony. This theoretical framework is highly useful for dissecting the power struggles depicted in Golding's novel.

The narrative of *Lord of the Flies* illustrates how different characters employ various strategies to assert dominance and control. Ralph represents a form of leadership that seeks to establish order and rules, drawing upon democratic principles and rationality. In contrast, Jack embodies a more primitive and authoritarian form of power, using fear and coercion to consolidate his authority. The interactions between these characters provide rich material for exploring mechanisms of hegemonic power (Mayborn, 2021).

Empirically, *Lord of the Flies* demonstrates how humanity's propensity for chaos and a return to a primordial state is revealed when structured civilization is absent. The isolated island that serves as the novel's location serves as a controlled setting, removing social conventions and exposing unfiltered power battles (Savadi, 2024). Hegemonic power struggles in the actual world are mirrored in the novel's depiction of empirical phenomena including the establishment of hierarchies, the deployment of propaganda, and

the role of violence. The emergence of corporate dominance, social movements, and totalitarian regimes are examples of historical and modern analogies (Özcan, 2022).

The title selection, " Ralph"s Hegemonic Power In William Golding's *Lord Of The Flies* " is based on the need to understand the subtle and overt forms of power shaping human interactions and social structures. The novel's portrayal of descent into savagery underscores the fragile nature of civilizational order and the ever-present potential for authoritarianism ((Ray, 2022).

Literature on *Lord of the Flies* has extensively explored various themes, such as the loss of innocence, inherent human evil, and social breakdown (Varga et al., 2020). Studies by Claire Rosenfield (1961) have delved into the symbolism in the novel, particularly the conch and the "beast," each representing order and primal fear, respectively. James Gindin (1980) examined themes of brutality and morality, highlighting the novel's exploration of human nature. However, there is a notable dearth of literature focusing on the analysis of hegemonic power. While previous studies have touched on power dynamics, they have not delved into how these dynamics align with Gramsci's theory of hegemony (Čalkovská, 2022). This research seeks to fill this gap by providing an in-depth analysis of how hegemonic power operates in the novel.

The underlying assumption of this research is that hegemonic power in *Lord of the Flies* is not only about physical domination but also involves

ideological control and moral leadership (Ray, 2022). Character like Ralph represent various aspects of hegemony Ralph with his emphasis on rules and collective decision-making, and Jack with his charisma and use of fear. This research argues that Golding's narrative depicts the fluid nature of hegemony, where power can shift depending on the context and actors involved. This fluidity is evident in the novel's progression, where initial attempts at democratic governance give way to authoritarian rule as fear and violence take hold (Anand, 2021).

Hegemonic power in reality refers to the way dominant groups or nations maintain influence over others, often through a mix of force, cultural dominance, and institutional control. In practice, it manifests in various aspects of global politics, economics, and society. Hegemony can function within a specific territorial area, where an authoritarian regime may use centralized control over resources to establish rules and regulations for its society, often with the approval and support of the population. Alternatively, one could argue that domestic hegemony is not just held by the state but by an elite group that controls the government, economy, and cultural institutions (Mills 1956). In either scenario, the essential aspect of domestic hegemony is that citizens generally accept the authority of dominant forces within their country. Hegemony can also operate on a global level, which is the main focus of this discussion. Some interpretations view global hegemony as the dominance of one or more states over an international community of nations. Others see it as

one or more social forces having legitimized control over a global society. Both perspectives emphasize hegemony as a characteristic of international relations, rather than purely domestic governance (Dutkiewicz, 2021).

Studying hegemonic power in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* offers a unique opportunity to explore the complex ways in which power is shaped and contested (Anand, 2021). By applying Gramsci's theoretical framework of hegemony, the purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the forms of hegemonic power represented by Ralph's character in *Lord of the Flies*. This study also aims to examine how Ralph's hegemonic power influences the social dynamics and relationships between the characters in the novel. Through this analysis, the study seeks to provide deeper insight into the mechanisms of power in the literary context. Prior to this research, numerous studies have investigated hegemonic power using similar theoretical frameworks, including:

Research by Mayborn (2021), titled "*Where Are The Grown-Ups? Thinking About Anarchy With Lord of the Flies*," employs film analysis to explore themes of anarchy in the 1963 film adaptation. The findings suggest that the film can serve as a metaphor for understanding concepts of anarchy in International Relations, using themes such as the absence of authority and hegemonic power to facilitate discussions on the subject.

Research by Savadi (2024), titled "*The Lord of the Flies: Deconstructing the Ideas of Human Civility*," uses literary critical analysis to

examine the relationship between characters and the concepts of civilization and savagery. The study concludes that *"Lord of the Flies"* challenges notions of inherent human goodness, revealing the brutality that emerges when social order is lost and subverting colonial narratives present in similar novels.

Research by Özcan (2022), titled *"Neither a Mother nor an Other: Nature's Literary Emancipation in William Golding's Lord of the Flies and Louise*

Erdrich's Tracks," uses comparative analysis and eco-feminist approaches to explore anthropocentric views in both novels. The findings indicate that both works reflect anthropocentric and gender-attributed perspectives, suggesting the need for alternative empathetic approaches to nature.

Research by Ray (2022), titled *"Vagaries of a Precarious Centre: Allegory of Erection in William Golding's The Spire,"* employs postcolonial and psychological approaches to analyze "The Spire." The study suggests that the novel reflects colonialist thought through its architectural symbolism, portraying the tension between maintaining hegemony and deconstruction in the postimperial era.

Research by Varga et al (2020), titled *"We Are Invited to Imagine: Using a Literary Text to Encourage Cross-Cultural Dialogue About Citizenship,"* explores the use of *"Lord of the Flies"* in fostering cross-cultural dialogue among students.

The findings indicate that the novel can facilitate discussions on citizenship, revealing differences in perceptions based on cultural contexts.

Research by Ray (2022), titled "*Racked on an Afterlife Rock: Survival of the Centre at the Margin of Doom in William Golding's Pincher Martin*," analyzes "Pincher Martin" within the context of decolonization. The study concludes that the novel reflects colonial consciousness and psychological reactions to the end of colonialism, depicting the complexity of colonial thought and its impact on British society.

Research by Čalkovská (2022), titled "*Gender in Selected British Twentieth-Century Dystopian Novels*," examines gender themes in "*Lord of the Flies*," "*Brave New World*," and "*Swastika Night*." The study finds that "*Lord of the Flies*" highlights power dynamics and conflicts related to toxic masculinity, contributing to feminist and gender studies in literature.

Research by Mogeia (2023), titled "*Character of Ralph as Seen in William Golding's Lord of the Flies*," employs a qualitative approach to analyze Ralph's character. The findings show that Ralph demonstrates qualities of a good leader, emphasizing responsibility and morality, and highlighting the importance of leadership in the novel. Fatah (2024) said one of the main themes of the novel is power and the lust for it. This has been clearly examined by David Spitz in his article "*Power and Authority: An interpretation of Golding's Lord of the Flies*" (1970).

The study offers a comprehensive analysis of Golding's well-known work, focusing especially on how it looks at power and authority relationships. The research examines the intricate network of relationships among the island's residents and how their power struggles affect their interactions and behavior. Ralph, the primary character, is elected leader shortly after the group arrives on the island, illustrating the leadership issues, according to Haddad (2024). Notably, he has a lot of traits that make someone an excellent leader. He is clever, charming, well-mannered, and clearly has common sense. Above all, his long-term goal is to be rescued as quickly as possible. Golding depicts a highly dramatic situation of fight over authority, according to Chougule (2020). The two opposing forces who guide their teams to the last phase of hostility are Ralph and Jack. "Society's ties break very easily." The portrayal of a fictitious movement for power is a unique feature of William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*. According to Yahya (2024), the main theme of *Lord of the Flies* is the rise of an uncivilized and untamed authority. Golding sees anarchy, disorder, and the rejection of moral values as a similar modern-day expression of the Gevil's evil power. In certain people, these antisocial forces might manifest themselves so strongly that they become uncontrollable in society.

This research is expected to make a significant contribution to literary theory and criticism. *Lord of the Flies* is a dramatization of evil. Golding creates an ironic effect that highlights the falling condition of humanity. Evil is dramatized in *Lord of the Flies*. Golding emphasizes the deteriorating state of humanity with a sarcastic result. His view of evil has little to do with the

material notions of good and bad and is far more subjective than societal. The changes of a group of schoolboys who survived a plane crash on a secluded island are chronicled in the book. The main themes of this work are savagery and civilization. Savagery is a sign of the desire for power, while civilization exhibits leadership and order. (Fatah, 2024).

Studying hegemonic power in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* provides a valuable opportunity to examine how power is both shaped and contested within the narrative (Anand, 2021). By applying Gramsci's theoretical framework of hegemony, this study aims to identify and analyze the forms of hegemonic power represented by Ralph's character in the novel. Additionally, the study seeks to explore Ralph's strategies for maintaining his hegemonic power and how these strategies influence the social dynamics and relationships between characters. Through this analysis, the study aims to offer a deeper understanding of the complexities of power in *Lord of the Flies* and its broader implications in literary contexts.

A. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the writer is interested in analyzing the problem which are formulated as follows:

1. What are forms of hegemonic power represented by Ralph?
2. What are Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power?

B. Significant of the Study

This study is expected to contribute both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research is expected to provide valuable insights into the concept of hegemony, particularly in the context of literary studies. By focusing on Ralph's hegemonic power in *Lord of the Flies* and analyzing it through relevant theoretical frameworks, this study aims to enrich the understanding of power dynamics, leadership, and social control within literature. Furthermore, it is hoped that this research will broaden knowledge regarding the representation of hegemonic practices and their implications in fictional narratives.

Practically, this research aims to be beneficial for readers, especially literature students who are interested in exploring the theme of power and its manifestations in literary works. It is also expected to provide readers with an understanding of how hegemonic power operates and affects social structures, which can be applied to analyze real-world scenarios. Additionally, this study seeks to inspire future researchers who wish to delve deeper into the exploration of power relations in literature, particularly in the context of leadership and hegemony as depicted in *Lord of the Flies*.

C. Scope and Limitation

To avoid irrelevant discussion, this research will be limited to only specific parts of the novel *Lord of the Flies*. The author focuses on Ralph as the main character and how he demonstrates hegemonic power to maintain

leadership and order among the boys on the island. Ralph is the primary object of analysis in this study.

The scope of this research is the efforts made by Ralph in establishing and asserting his leadership, as well as his responses to challenges and conflicts that threaten his authority. This research does not delve into other characters in detail unless their actions are directly connected to Ralph's exercise of hegemonic power.

D. Definition of Key Terms

To facilitate understanding of this research, here are some key terms related to the formulated problem statement:

a. Hegemonic Power

This term refers to the concept of power introduced by Antonio Gramsci. Hegemonic power is a form of power in which the dominant group in society maintains its power through ideological and cultural domination, rather than solely through physical or military strength. In the context of this research, hegemonic power will be analyzed through how Ralph demonstrates and maintains his power within the group of children on the deserted island (Gramsci, 1971, p 12).

b. Strategy

In the context of this research, strategy refers to the plans or methods used by Ralph to maintain and strengthen his position as a leader. According to Gramsci, strategy is a key aspect of hegemony, involving a combination of coercion and consent to secure dominance over others. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph's actions, decisions, and interactions with other characters reflect this

process. As Gramsci explains, “Hegemony is achieved through intellectual and moral leadership, where coercion is supplemented by the consent of the governed” (Gramsci, 1971, p. 12).

c. Ideological Domination

Ideological domination, as defined by Gramsci, involves shaping the beliefs, values, and norms of society to ensure that the existing power structures are accepted as natural and unquestionable. This research examines how Ralph, as a leader, influences the group’s perception of leadership and social order. Gramsci argues that “the ruling class maintains dominance not just through force but by constructing a cultural and ideological narrative that secures consent” (Gramsci, 1971, p. 57). Ralph’s leadership strategies embody this hegemonic process, emphasizing moral persuasion and the creation of shared values.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, relevant literature related to the research on hegemonic power in William Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies*. This literature review aims to provide a theoretical and conceptual foundation to support the research analysis.

A. An Objective Approach

Analyzing literary works is something that readers commonly do to examine the hidden meanings in literary works. Another term for this process is concretization (Mustika, 2012). Some literary scholars have outlined various approaches to analyzing the depth of meaning of a literary work. Abrams (1971) revealed that the various theories used to analyze literary works can be understood and appropriately researched if the researcher pays attention to the literary work's situation. In Abrams' book (1971, p. 3-29) entitled *The Mirror and the Lamp: Romantic Theory and the Critical Tradition*, Abrams identifies four main approaches in analyzing or studying literary works, namely: expressive approach, pragmatic approach, mimetic approach, and objective approach. Each of these four approaches has advantages and disadvantages. However, these advantages and disadvantages can complement each other. Understanding the various approaches can provide a more in-depth framework for literary researchers.

Furthermore, the researcher focuses on one of the approaches initiated by Abrams (1971), namely the objective approach. This approach is the oldest in literary theory. This approach also triggered the birth of modern literary theories widely recognized today. The objective approach in Europe is as old as *Poetica*. *Poetica* is a branch of science initiated by Aristotle in 384-322 BC. This approach sees literature as independent of external factors, such as the historical or social context in which it was created. In this approach, literary works are analyzed as entities that are shaped by the elements within them, such as style, theme, technique, and structure. This approach emphasizes the importance of understanding and assessing literary works based on their internal characteristics. Therefore, this approach leads to the analysis of literary works in a structuralist manner. Then, the objective approach is also called the structuralist approach (Semi, 1993, p. 67).

The objective approach has the same meaning as the intrinsic approach. To understand the meaning of a literary work using an objective approach, the researcher must analyze literary works based on their structure, regardless of their historical background, regardless of the author's intention in writing the literary work, and regardless of the influence on readers. Hasanuddin (1996, pp. 110-111) revealed that the objective approach prioritizes studying literary works based on the reality of the literary text. Although some things outside the literary work still need to be related to literature, it is considered unnecessary to analyze the external elements of the literary work. The objective

approach is also synonymous with the synchronic approach that began to grow and develop in the early 20th century (Senestri, 2020, p. 13).

The steps in applying the objective approach in analyzing literary works are as follows: First, the researcher describes the structural elements of the literary work. Second, the researcher explores the meaning of the relationship between these elements. Third, the researcher describes the functions and relationships between intrinsic elements in the literary work under study. By following these steps, the objective approach provides a systematic and objective framework, allowing readers to understand and interpret the meaning contained therein better and more deeply (Mustika, 2012).

The objective approach was chosen because this approach focuses more on analyzing literary works based on intrinsic elements. As for applying the objective approach in this study, the researcher chose intrinsic elements that focus on literary works. The objective approach applied in this study was able to help the researcher understand the forms of conflict and conflict resolution strategies faced by the main characters in the plot of the Purple Hearts novel more thoroughly and deeply. By using the objective approach, we can learn more deeply that there are forms of conflict reflected in society interpreted by authors in their literary works. In addition, there are also conflict resolution strategies faced by the main characters interpreted by the authors in their literary works. The analysis of conflict can enrich the reader's understanding of the forms of conflict faced by the characters and how do the main characters' resolution strategies overcome their conflicts described in a literary work

B. Gramsci's Theory of Hegemony

Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony provides a profound understanding of the mechanisms by which dominant groups maintain control, not merely through physical force but by shaping cultural, ideological, and moral consent within society.

1. Hegemony

Hegemony is a term that comes from the Greek *„eghesthai*, or *„aghemoneno*, which means "to drive", "to be the guide" or "to be a boss" and the word *„aghemoneno* can be interpreted as "to command" and "to rule". As is known, long before hegemony was formulated by Gramsci, people always thought that domination over other people was always in physical form. Gramsci, then, came up with the concept. hegemony which was the result of his struggle with the political situation in Italy. Gramsci had a more distinct idea of domination than hegemony. Hegemony refers to the continuous social process of regaining the socio-cultural and economic dominance of one class over another, whereas domination is a type of coercive social control that is exclusively political and violent, because it encompasses the process of constructing collective experiences, modeling meanings, developing values, creating worldviews, and guiding the moral, cultural, and intellectual direction of society through education, the concept of hegemony is much broader than ideology (Cortez & Ramirez, 2015).

Hegemony and domination are two different forms of control, one is physical and the other is non-physical. According to Laclau (2008). Hegemony is not a concept regarding the process of forming a complete identity, but is a concept

that was born as a response to a crisis. In line with that, Gramsci in (Jones, 2016) views "Hegemony is moral and intellectual leadership which treats the aspirations and views of subaltern people as an active element within the political and cultural program of the hegemonizing bloc". In contrast to domination, the level of acceptance of hegemony can be said to be successful when the ruling class succeeds in eliminating opposition forces, and wins the active and passive consent of its allies (Laclau, 2008). To achieve this level, the role of intellectuals is needed so that hegemony can achieve its target. That is why intellectuals, both traditional and organic, have an important role in the Gramscian pyramid of society. As actors at the middle level, intellectuals play an important role in creating a good social order and vice versa.

Hegemony is the power or dominance that one social group holds over others (Lull, 1995). Through hegemony, power will last for a long time. This is different from domination which will give rise to resistance by subaltern groups. This resistance is very possible because injustice or arbitrariness occurs in front of the people, thus encouraging them to fight back. Of course, this is very different from hegemony which can only be realized by certain people who have a fairly good level of knowledge and reasoning. An intellectual collective known as the "Subaltern Studies Group" challenges the first element of my argument that the imperialist project complicates the subaltern's phased development. Can the subaltern speak? they must inquire. Dominant society's control mechanism, namely the dominant class exercises control over the lower classes using ideology.

Gramsci differed from his predecessors, namely Marx and Engels, regarding social change which was influenced by economic structures alone. To avoid revolution, the State tried to make a compromise. According to Gramsci (1992), change is caused by belief in the ideal according to society. This, of course, stimulated capitalism in the West. trying to do force and consent. That is the basis for the emergence of hegemony. There are several terms known in Gramsci's thinking, namely: hegemony, state, political society, civil society, intellectuals (organic and traditional), subaltern, common sense, culture, and ideology. These terms are related to each other so that in the process of explanation they cannot be separated from one another.

In understanding the State, Gramsci has his own concept of the term State. The state is elsewhere defined as political society and civil society and elsewhere again as a balance between political society and civil society (Gramsci, 1992: 208). According to Gramsci, there are two factors that form a State, namely political society and social society. The state then plays a role in creating hegemony in a society. Both political and civil society have their respective functions in the political arena to maintain power in a country. As stated by Cortes-Ramirez (2015) Gramsci divided the State into two specific categories: political society, which refers to state apparatuses such as administration, law, and other non-exclusive coercive institutions, based on a logic of violence and oppression. civil society refers to public and private institutions that use myths, symbols, and ideologies to universalize a uniform ideological tradition and, simultaneously, shape and erode opposing beliefs and practices.

Gramsci views society as consisting of two groups, namely political society, and civil society. Political society is the group of state officials who try to carry out repression, and civil society, namely the public and private institutions, in practice tries to carry out counter-discourse. However, apart from what Cortes-Ramires (2015) said, there is one group that is at the middle level. This group is the bridge between the authorities and the people, namely intellectuals. That is what is often known as the pyramid of society in Gramsci's view.

Therefore, the state in Gramsci's understanding consists of three classes of society, namely rulers, intellectuals and civil society. Conflicts carried out by intellectuals also occur in civil society, the fight occurs because of the conflict between two different ideologies which aim to perpetuate the old order by means of hegemony and groups that try to counter this hegemony. In maintaining hegemony or in carrying out resistance against the hegemony that is controlling society, the ideological battle has no end point even when the hegemony of one group has met resulting in its control over subaltern groups (Gramsci, 1992).

One of Gramsci's more intriguing theories is how he addressed the so-called intellectual group, a middle class in society. Although not everyone is able to perform both in practice, Gramsci claimed that everyone has responsibilities and roles as an intellectual. As a result, Gramsci said that while everyone is intelligent, not everyone is successful in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities. Not everyone is an intellectual based on social function, but everyone with intelligence and application has the capacity to be an intellectual (Gramsci, 1992:5). The two

categories of functional intellectuals are as follows. The first group is made up of professional (traditional) intellectuals, writers, scientists, and the like, whose standing in society appears to be classless but is ultimately determined by historical and contemporary class relations. They conceal their ties to different historical class structures.

Second, there are organic intellectuals, who represent the structural and cognitive components of a certain lower socioeconomic class. The ability to guide the thoughts and ambitions of the class to which they organically belong sets these organic intellectuals apart, not their occupation, which may be a professional trait of their class. Even if they revolt and take the initiative, subaltern groups are always vulnerable to the actions of the dominant group. The only thing that can end their subjugation is a "permanent" victory, and that too slowly. Despite their seeming victory, they are actually subalterns, and the group's main goal is self-preservation (Gramsci, 1992: 55).

Gramsci outlined the responsibilities and obligations of intellectuals. On the other hand, "traditional" and "organic" intellectuals exist. Organic intellectuals stand for opposition to the current social order if traditional intellectuals are responsible for upholding it and the supremacy of the dominant group. This means that by influencing subaltern communities through the propagation of new values, ideologies, and understandings, organic intellectuals provide a counter-hegemonic role to the mainstream discourse. Thus, it is impossible to separate intellectuals from subalterns and common sense. As the dominant group in the state structure

and to ensure the continuity of its power, the ruler tries to gain acceptance from the subaltern group. Therefore, it is not surprising that this group becomes the main target of the dominant group's exercise of hegemony.

By means of this hegemony, subaltern groups can be silenced, and what is in the interest of the ruling class may even be in the interest of the subaltern. The subaltern group that is created as if it has a common interest, namely hegemony, is also referred to as a fundamental historical entity and is specifically based on the organic relationship between the state, political society, and "civil society" (Gramsci, 2013).

Ralph in the novel *Lord of The Flies* represents himself as a leader who prioritizes rules and is democratic. This is in line with the findings of Moge (2023) where Ralph has the characteristics of a leader who always takes the initiative, and is responsible, brave, and determined. As an extraordinary leader, Ralph displays high morality, always remembers his humanity, and tries to survive with his friends. Ralph also shows awareness of his responsibilities towards his friends and never neglects them. The character of Ralph in this novel conveys that it is very important to have a strong sense of responsibility towards oneself and, especially, towards other people.

C. Concept of Hegemonic Power

The shelters that Ralph's group constructs in the book serve as another metaphor for them (Golding, p. 52). Ralph makes the decision to organize and better the living conditions for all island residents after being elected leader. Every

youngster is protected from the wind and weather by the shelters, but they also serve as a kind of team-building activity that everyone finds enjoyable. It also serves as a means of preserving civilization on the island. The lads' ability to call a place home aids in their fear-overcoming as well.

The first thing that settlers did to establish civilization was to build houses for themselves. Ralph also wants to do just this. The map above the island supports this. The map of the island serves as further evidence of this, giving the boys a sense of increased safety (Golding, p. 27). The map would indicate crucial information and safe areas. For the lads who are scared to go exploring, it is almost a lifesaver. Since everyone should have the freedom to live in freedom and without fear in a democracy, Ralph's organization, the shelters, and the map serve as metaphors for the process of establishing a democracy.

The theory of hegemonic power, introduced by Antonio Gramsci, is a cornerstone in understanding the dynamics of power in social and political contexts. Gramsci offers a rich and profound perspective, stating that power does not solely stem from physical control or military might but is also closely related to ideological domination. This concept illustrates how dominant groups use ideology, values, and culture to maintain and reinforce existing social structures while suppressing or controlling weaker groups (Gramsci, A, 1971). Thus, the theory of hegemonic power provides a deep understanding of how power is acquired, maintained, and used to control society at large.

In the literary context, the concept of hegemonic power serves as an important foundation for analyzing power dynamics in fictional works. One highly relevant work in this study is William Golding's "*Lord of the Flies*." This novel serves as a mirror depicting the complexity of power amidst extreme conditions, such as the stranding of a group of boys on a remote island. In this regard, the concept of hegemonic power offers a robust framework for understanding how characters in this novel interact, vie for power, and maintain existing social structures (Gramsci, A, 1971).

In maintaining the hegemony of his power, Ralph has a very different contrast to Jack in that he is an authoritarian leader towards his followers. As explained by Turk (2019), there is a moment when Ralph will visit Castle Rock, Jack's territory to make a compromise with Jack and his followers. However, when he is about to compromise with Jack, Ralph, who at that time was very careful and had good intentions in getting a collective decision, unfortunately, Jack is the opposite of Ralph's character, where Jack orders his followers to arrest Ralph's group. Finally, one of his followers Piggy was killed by Roger, Jack's most brutal follower. This context gives the idea that Ralph is trying to maintain his power hegemony by negotiating and compromising with the enemy. Later, Ralph and his followers attempted to enforce democratic rules and principles.

D. Forms of Hegemonic Power

Hegemonic power, as conceptualized by Antonio Gramsci (1971), refers to the ability of a dominant group or leader to maintain control not only through coercion but by gaining the consent of subordinates. This power is embedded in

cultural and ideological structures, shaping individuals' perceptions and behaviors in a way that makes domination appear natural and voluntary (Gramsci, 1971).

Below are key forms of hegemonic power and their applications:

1. Influence through Ideology and Social Structures

Hegemonic power primarily operates through the dissemination of ideology, where dominant groups establish values, norms, and beliefs that align with their interests. Gramsci (1971) argues that this process is institutionalized through social structures such as education, media, and religion. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph's leadership exemplifies this influence as he promotes the idea of order and cooperation as essential for survival. By framing these values as necessary and beneficial to all, Ralph secures the boys' consent to his authority. However, the emergence of conflicting ideologies, such as Jack's focus on primal instincts, reveals the fragility of hegemonic control when competing narratives arise.

2. The Role of Charismatic Leadership in Building Consent

While Gramsci (1971) emphasizes structural and ideological factors, individual leaders often play a critical role in establishing hegemony. Charisma and personality can serve as tools to gain trust and loyalty, making domination seem legitimate. Max Weber (1947) complements Gramsci's concept by highlighting that charismatic authority relies on the perception of extraordinary qualities in the leader. Ralph's rationality, confidence, and vision for survival position him as a unifying figure, ensuring group cohesion. His ability to inspire the boys reflects how

personal traits, when aligned with dominant ideologies, can reinforce hegemonic power.

3. Managing Dissent through Consent and Coercion

A critical aspect of hegemonic power lies in addressing dissent within the group. Gramsci (1971) notes that hegemony is maintained not only through consent but also through the strategic use of coercion when necessary. Leaders may employ subtle methods to suppress opposition, such as persuasion, exclusion, or framing dissenters as threats to the common good. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph initially seeks to reason with Jack to resolve conflicts and maintain unity. However, as dissent escalates into open rebellion, Ralph's inability to integrate or neutralize opposing forces leads to the collapse of his authority. This illustrates the challenges hegemonic leaders face in balancing consent and control.

Hegemonic power operates through a complex interplay of ideology, leadership, and strategic management of dissent. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph's leadership reflects these dynamics as he seeks to build consensus around shared values and goals. However, the breakdown of order highlights the limitations of hegemonic power when competing ideologies and unresolved tensions disrupt the fragile balance of consent and control. Ultimately, the effectiveness of hegemony depends on the leader's ability to align individual and collective interests within a coherent ideological framework (Gramsci, 1971).

E. Strategies in Hegemonic power

Hegemonic power is achieved and maintained through strategic approaches that enable a leader to assert control, influence group dynamics, and address challenges effectively. These strategies are essential in ensuring that the leader's authority is not only accepted but also actively supported by the group. Below are the key strategies involved in hegemonic power:

1. Establishment of Authority

The foundation of hegemonic power lies in establishing a leader's authority. This involves demonstrating competence, charisma, and legitimacy to gain the trust and respect of the group. According to Gramsci (1971), leaders achieve authority not by sheer force but by aligning their objectives with the group's values and needs. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph gains authority by appealing to the boys' desire for survival and order, positioning himself as a rational and responsible leader. This strategy often involves symbolic acts, such as taking charge during crises or introducing systems that promote group cohesion, to reinforce the leader's central role in the group's success.

2. Utilization of Rules and Order

A critical strategy for maintaining hegemonic power is the creation and enforcement of rules that govern the group's behavior. Leaders use rules to establish a structured and predictable environment, ensuring that group members adhere to the leader's vision and objectives. Weber (1947) highlights that rules not only provide stability but also legitimize a leader's authority by creating a framework within which their power operates. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph enforces rules such

as the use of the conch shell during meetings to maintain fairness and cooperation. By implementing such systems, leaders prevent chaos and reinforce their role as the guardians of order, making their leadership indispensable.

3. Building Consensus and Group Loyalty

Hegemonic leaders rely on the strategy of building consensus and fostering loyalty to ensure their authority is not only accepted but also supported. This involves uniting the group under shared goals, values, and ideologies. Gramsci (1971) describes this as gaining the “active consent” of the group, where individuals voluntarily align with the leader’s vision. Leaders achieve this by creating a sense of belonging and purpose within the group, often using inclusive language, collective decision-making, or symbols that represent unity. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph emphasizes the importance of keeping the signal fire alive as a shared goal, reinforcing group solidarity. By fostering loyalty, leaders create an environment where members are less likely to challenge their authority and more inclined to work collaboratively toward common objectives.

4. Managing Conflicts and Challenges

Effective management of conflicts and challenges is another vital strategy in maintaining hegemonic power. Leaders must address dissent and disagreements within the group in ways that do not undermine their authority. Mouffe (2000) notes that hegemonic power often involves subtle mechanisms such as persuasion, negotiation, and compromise to resolve conflicts while preserving group unity. In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph initially attempts to manage Jack’s dissent by reasoning with him and emphasizing the importance of collaboration. However,

unresolved conflicts can escalate, as seen when Jack's rebellion disrupts the group's cohesion. This underscores the need for leaders to balance firmness and flexibility in managing opposition, ensuring that challenges do not weaken their control.

In conclusion, hegemonic power is maintained through a combination of establishing authority, creating order, building loyalty, and addressing challenges. These strategies enable leaders to consolidate their dominance while fostering group cohesion and minimizing resistance. However, the success of these strategies depends on the leader's ability to adapt to the dynamics of the group and respond effectively to emerging challenges.

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD

In this chapter, the researcher describes the research methodology used in this study which consists of research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

A. Research Design

To analyze Ralph's Hegemonic Power in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, the researcher applies literary criticism. The purpose of using literary criticism is to examine the dynamics of Ralph's leadership and how his hegemonic power is established and challenged throughout the narrative. According to Wellek and Warren (1949), literary criticism involves the interpretation and analysis of literature, focusing on uncovering meaning, structure, and the social or cultural implications embedded within a text. A literary critic aims to achieve a deeper understanding of the text, offering insights into its aesthetic, philosophical, and thematic aspects.

In this research, the researcher uses Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony as outlined in *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. Gramsci's concept emphasizes cultural leadership and the role of consent in maintaining power. This study examines how Ralph embodies hegemonic power, the strategies he uses to assert authority, and the challenges he faces from other characters, particularly Jack, within the breakdown of societal norms.

B. Data Source

The researcher took data from the novel *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, first published in 1954 by Faber and Faber. The novel consists of 224 pages. The researcher focused on analyzing the dynamics of Ralph's hegemonic power, particularly how he establishes and maintains his authority and how it is challenged throughout the story. The data from the novel include words, phrases, and sentences related to leadership, power struggles, and societal breakdown.

The researcher also utilized supporting materials such as books and relevant journals to strengthen the analysis. The data collection method employed in this study involved thorough reading and a deep understanding of the novel, ensuring that the data collected were efficient and relevant to the research objectives.

C. Data Collection

The researcher took many actions in order to collect data for this study. To fully comprehend the plot and the character, the researcher first read the novel *Lord of the Flies* cover to cover. Secondly, the investigator located and gathered pertinent discussions and text passages that highlight Ralph's authority and power relationships. Third, the researcher used the idea of hegemonic power to classify all of the data that had been discovered. Lastly, to ensure that there were no misconceptions when classifying the data, the researcher reread

D. Data Analysis

Data analysis was conducted in several key steps and carried out after collecting the data. The data analyzed consisted of data selected and relevant to the

research problem. The steps taken in analyzing the data were to identify information related to Gramsci's theory of hegemony.

After this step, the researcher evaluated and interpreted the data based on the concepts of hegemonic power and leadership as demonstrated by Ralph. The researcher thoroughly read the novel, highlighted significant parts related to Ralph's leadership and power struggles, and examined how these aspects aligned with Gramsci's framework. Finally, the researcher solved the research problem by interpreting the findings and concluded the analysis.

CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter explains the research problem. It also includes data regarding Ralph's exercise of hegemonic power in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*. The analysis applies Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony (Gramsci, 1971) to explore how Ralph's power and leadership are established, maintained, and challenged throughout the novel.

A. Forms of Hegemonic Power Represented by Ralph

To answer the first research problem, Hegemonic power, as conceptualized by Antonio Gramsci (1971), is the ability of a dominant group or leader to maintain control not only through coercion but also by gaining the consent of subordinates. This power operates through cultural and ideological structures that shape people's perceptions, making domination appear natural and voluntary (Gramsci, 1971). In *Lord of the Flies*, Ralph's leadership demonstrates these aspects of hegemonic power in several ways. Below, I will explore the key forms of hegemonic power and their applications in the novel.

1. Influence through Ideology and Social Structures

The following is the first form of data from the first problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The first form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is shown as follows:

"We can't have everybody talking at once. We'll have to have 'Hands up' like at school" (Golding, 1954, p. 33).

In the data above, Ralph's statement reflects his attempt to organize communication in a way that mimics the school environment, thereby emphasizing the necessity of order and structure. By invoking a familiar practice raising hands to speak Ralph uses an established social norm that the boys are accustomed to, thereby reinforcing his authority without imposing it directly. This appeal to familiar social structures illustrates how Ralph attempts to build his power by aligning his leadership with the boys' previous experiences of order and authority in school.

Ralph's reliance on a school like structure not only highlights his desire to maintain control over the boys' behavior but also reflects his understanding of how social norms can be strategically employed to gain consent. In Gramsci's (1971) framework, hegemonic power is achieved through consent as much as through coercion. Ralph's leadership is based on making the boys believe that the established rules of order are in their best interest, rather than forcing them into compliance. By using a system they understand and trust, he seeks to normalize his control and make it seem both necessary and reasonable.

In the data above, Ralph's leadership strategy can be understood in the context of Gramsci's concept of hegemony, where power is not only maintained through force but also through the consent of those being governed. Ralph draws upon an existing, culturally ingrained practice school discipline to reinforce his position. This strategy allows Ralph to present himself as a

leader who is not imposing arbitrary rules but rather guiding the boys toward what is already a familiar and accepted system of behavior. By evoking this symbol of school discipline, Ralph is able to subtly position himself as someone who is offering the boys a structured and sensible approach to their situation.

The boys' acceptance of this system illustrates how hegemony functions within a social structure: power becomes embedded in the cultural practices and beliefs of the individuals involved. Ralph's ability to leverage these cultural norms to reinforce his control over the boys demonstrates the critical role of ideology in maintaining hegemonic power. According to Gramsci (1971), for hegemony to be effective, the governed must believe that the power structure is legitimate, which is precisely what Ralph attempts to achieve by aligning his leadership with the boys' ingrained understanding of authority.

Additionally, the conch, which becomes an essential symbol of authority, further reinforces Ralph's leadership by symbolizing the rules and order they must abide by. In the data above, Ralph's statement, "The conch shell is the most important thing," highlights the deep connection between leadership and the institutionalized symbols of authority. The conch is not merely an object; it becomes a symbol that legitimizes Ralph's control and maintains the ideological structure that underpins his rule. As the boys learn to respect the conch, it becomes a powerful representation of the laws and order Ralph seeks to establish on the island.

By associating leadership with the conch, Ralph ensures that the boys not only accept his authority but also the ideological structure he is attempting to create. In this sense, Ralph's use of the conch is a perfect example of Gramsci's (1971) theory of hegemony, where cultural symbols and norms become essential tools for maintaining dominance.

In conclusion, Ralph's use of familiar school-like authority and the conch as a symbol of power represents a strategic use of ideology and social structures to maintain hegemonic control. Through these methods, Ralph not only asserts his authority but also aligns it with the boys' previous experiences and cultural practices. This approach exemplifies Gramsci's idea that hegemonic power is maintained through the consent of the governed, achieved by embedding the leader's authority within familiar ideological frameworks.

2. The Role of Charismatic Leadership in Building Consent

The following is the second form of data from the first problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The second form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is shown as follows:

*“Ralph waved the conch. ‘Shut up!’ he said. ‘Wait. Listen.’ The assembly was shocked into silence. The silence was complete”
(Golding, 1954, p. 36).*

In the data above, Ralph's use of the conch and his command to the boys to be silent exemplify his exercise of power through direct leadership. This moment reveals not only Ralph's authority but also his ability to command

respect through his presence and actions. The conch, a symbol of order and authority, serves as an extension of Ralph's charismatic leadership. His ability to make the boys fall silent and pay attention highlights the trust and respect they have for him, a key aspect of charismatic leadership.

Ralph's leadership, while rooted in the use of symbols and structures like the conch, is also highly dependent on his personal qualities. Gramsci (1971) suggests that hegemonic power is often reinforced by a leader's ability to gain consent through charisma, making their leadership appear legitimate and desirable. In this moment, Ralph's ability to command silence demonstrates how his personality and the respect he commands from the group are central to his power. He doesn't need to rely on force or coercion alone; his very presence, as the designated leader, is enough to assert control over the group.

In the data above, Ralph's ability to maintain control over the group despite the chaos around him illustrates his role as a charismatic figure who consolidates power through the sheer force of his personality. His confidence in commanding the group to be silent is a direct demonstration of how leaders with strong charismatic qualities can navigate the challenges of group dynamics. The boys, influenced by his decisiveness and calm demeanor, recognize Ralph as a figure who not only represents order but also embodies the qualities of a leader they can follow.

This dynamic is in line with Weber's (1947) theory of charismatic authority, which complements Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. Weber

argues that charismatic leadership arises from the leader's personal qualities, which inspire devotion and loyalty from followers. Ralph's rationality, confidence, and decisiveness allow him to build consent among the boys, ensuring that they accept his authority not just out of necessity, but because they believe in his ability to lead them.

The effectiveness of Ralph's charismatic leadership is further exemplified in the way he establishes a sense of unity and purpose within the group. His leadership is framed as the best solution to the boys' survival on the island, a vision that appeals to their collective desire for safety and stability. Ralph's command to the boys reflects his ability to unite them under a common purpose, reinforcing his status as the leader who can guide them toward survival. This charismatic leadership fosters a sense of solidarity, making the boys more likely to follow him and adhere to the authority he represents.

In the data above, Ralph's charisma not only secures the boys' consent but also helps him navigate the tension between order and chaos. While Jack offers an alternative form of leadership based on primal instincts, Ralph's ability to inspire confidence and trust in his vision allows him to maintain a strong hold on the group. This demonstrates how, in Gramsci's (1971) framework, charismatic leadership can be a crucial component in maintaining hegemonic power. It shows that hegemony is not solely built on coercion or fear but can also be rooted in the emotional and psychological connection between a leader and their followers.

In conclusion, Ralph's use of the conch and his ability to command attention exemplify the role of charismatic leadership in reinforcing his hegemonic power. By invoking both the symbolic power of the conch and his personal charisma, Ralph solidifies his control over the boys. This highlights the complex nature of hegemony, where both ideological structures and personal traits contribute to the leader's ability to maintain consent and dominance.

3. Managing Dissent through Consent and Coercion

The following is the third form of data from the first problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The third form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is shown as follows:

“The world, that's what it is. It's a bad world. It's a bad, bad world. ... I can't think. Not like Ralph. He's—he's good.”
(Golding, 1954, p. 110).

In the data above, the character of Jack expresses his growing dissatisfaction with Ralph's leadership, yet it simultaneously reveals the complexities of managing dissent within a hegemonic structure. While Jack's words reflect a rejection of Ralph's authority, they also illustrate how Ralph has established a foundation of legitimacy. Jack's acknowledgment of Ralph as 'good' indicates the internalized acceptance of Ralph's authority, even as Jack challenges it. This paradox underscores the complexity of hegemonic

power, where dissent is not always an outright rejection but can coexist with an underlying respect for the dominant leader's position.

Ralph's response to dissent is a key component of his hegemonic strategy. Gramsci (1971) argues that hegemony involves managing opposition by balancing both consent and coercion. While Ralph initially seeks to maintain his authority through democratic means such as the use of the conch and assemblies he is also forced to confront the limits of consent when Jack and his followers begin to reject his leadership. The scene exemplifies how Ralph's hegemony is challenged, yet his ability to frame his leadership as essential for survival helps maintain a level of control over the group.

Ralph's leadership approach demonstrates his efforts to manage dissent by framing himself as the only legitimate figure capable of ensuring the boys' survival. His initial approach is based on reason and persuasion, but as Jack's rebellion intensifies, Ralph's coercive methods come into play. The leadership struggles between Ralph and Jack highlight how hegemonic power is not static. Gramsci (1971) notes that hegemony is an ongoing negotiation, where leaders must continually adjust their strategies to maintain dominance. In Ralph's case, as Jack becomes more defiant, Ralph resorts to authoritative tactics to restore order, thus using a blend of persuasion and coercion.

The concept of consent is also critical in this dynamic. Ralph's authority is not absolute; he must constantly engage the boys' consent to maintain his position. As Jack's influence grows, Ralph's coercive tactics become more pronounced, such as when he orders the boys to follow him or face the

consequences. This shift from consent to coercion illustrates Gramsci's (1971) argument that hegemony is always in flux, and a leader must balance both the persuasive power of consent and the forceful power of coercion to maintain control.

Jack's challenge to Ralph's authority exposes the vulnerabilities in Ralph's hegemonic control. The boys, who were once unified under Ralph's vision, now begin to splinter into factions. This division shows that hegemonic power is fragile and can be disrupted when alternative ideologies—such as Jack's appeal to base instincts gain traction. Ralph's response to Jack's rebellion, while initially non-coercive, gradually becomes more assertive as he seeks to regain control. This highlights Gramsci's (1971) theory that hegemony relies on both the ability to win consent and the capacity to suppress opposition when necessary.

Ralph's use of the conch and his calls for order are also methods of reinforcing coercion, though these symbols were initially intended to inspire consent. As dissent grows, the conch loses some of its symbolic power, and Ralph must resort to more direct forms of control to maintain his position. This shift is indicative of the tension between consent and coercion in the maintenance of hegemonic power.

Ralph's strategic use of both consent and coercion illustrates the challenges of sustaining hegemonic authority when faced with dissent. As the novel progresses, Ralph's inability to integrate or neutralize the opposition, particularly Jack and his followers, shows the limitations of hegemonic power

in a divided group. The eventual collapse of order and Ralph's authority highlights the instability of hegemonic control when competing ideologies and unresolved tensions disrupt the balance of consent and coercion.

In conclusion, Ralph's leadership exemplifies the complexities of managing dissent within a hegemonic system. His initial reliance on consent is eventually challenged by Jack's rebellion, leading Ralph to use coercion to regain control. This shift underscores the fluid nature of hegemony, where consent and coercion must be continually negotiated to maintain power. The challenges Ralph faces in the novel illustrate the fragility of hegemonic authority, particularly when dissent becomes too widespread to be contained through consent alone.

B. Ralph's Strategies in Maintaining Hegemonic Power

To answer the second research problem regarding Ralph's strategies in maintaining hegemonic power, the researcher uses Gramsci's (1971) definition of hegemony, which emphasizes the interaction between coercion and consent in building domination. By organizing assemblies and promoting candid conversations, Ralph uses democratic discourse to justify his power and gives the boys a sense of shared ownership. Additionally, he plays on people's fears, especially those related to the "beast," uniting the community against a common foe and presenting himself as their defender. Ralph also links his leadership to the group's survival and rescue by enforcing the upkeep of the signal fire and constructing shelters, actions that advance order and civilization. These tactics show how Ralph

manages intricate power relationships, relying on deceit and hyperbole to maintain his position of leadership in the face of the other guys' challenges.

1. Establishment of Authority

The following is the first form of data from the second problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The first form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is shown as follows:

"We can't have everybody talking at once. We'll have to have „Hands up“ like at school" (Golding, 1954, p. 33).

In the data above, Ralph suggests that the boys on the island communicate in an organized manner that is reminiscent of their school days in order to highlight the need for order and organization. Ralph's knowledge of the value of authority and norms in establishing his leadership is reflected in this comment. He wants to establish himself as a leader by winning the boys' trust and compliance by using the well-known framework of a school environment.

This approach illustrates Ralph's strategic use of social norms and symbols to reinforce his authority. Hegemony is attained by the agreement of the governed, according to Gramsci (1971) (p. 350), and Ralph's strategy demonstrates this by drawing on the lads' common history and experiences. His insistence on maintaining order speaks to the boys' established grasp of societal systems, which increases their likelihood of accepting his leadership.

Ralph is further cemented in his position by the authority symbol of the conch. "The conch shell is the most important thing," he declares. We can only maintain order in this way" (Golding, 1954, p. 37). This claim emphasizes how important the conch is to upholding social order and promoting communication among the lads. The conch takes on significant meaning in Ralph's reign of power, signifying the laws and culture they work to preserve in the absence of adults. Ralph's dependence on accepted conventions and symbols shows how astutely he has managed to preserve his hegemonic authority. His capacity to establish credibility and order is consistent with Gramsci's theory that both coercive and consensual components are necessary for effective leadership (Gramsci, 1971, p. 352).

2. Utilization of Rules and Order

The following is the second form of data from the second problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The second form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is illustrated through his implementation of rules and order among the boys on the island:

"We've got to have rules and obey them. After all, we're not savages. We're English" (Golding, 1954, p. 40).

In the data above, Ralph highlights the need of creating rules as a vital component of upholding civilization and order. In order to justify his leadership by referencing their common cultural identity as "English," he emphasizes in this statement his intention to set their group apart from barbarism. Ralph hopes to instill

a sense of responsibility in the boys by drawing on their cultural values and pressuring them to follow the rules of the organized society he sees.

Ralph's strategic use of rules serves not only to establish order but also to reinforce his authority. He introduces the conch shell as a symbol of governance, asserting, "You can't speak unless you have the conch" (Golding, 1954, p. 33). This rule affirms that speaking privileges are conferred by virtue of owning the conch, encouraging democratic engagement while yet giving Ralph a position of authority. (Gramsci, 1971, p.350) asserts that symbols are essential in creating and maintaining hegemonic power, as they help to construct a collective identity and shared understanding among the governed (p. 350).

So, Ralph finds that the conch serves him well not only for communication but also for enforcing the laws he has set. "The conch shell is the most important thing," he says. We can only maintain order in this way (Golding, 1954, p. 37). In this instance, Ralph reaffirms the notion that the conch stands for the core of their cultured society. His dependence on this symbol demonstrates his understanding of the need for group consent a crucial aspect of Gramsci's concept of hegemony for effective leadership (Gramsci, 1971, p. 352).

The lads' interactions and behavior are also greatly impacted by Ralph's application of the rules.

"We've got to make smoke up there or die," by highlighting the significance of the signal fire (Golding, 1954, p. 81).

This regulation highlights the need to keep them connected to civilization and the possibility of rescue. The guys absorb this rule, which strengthens Ralph's

authority by encouraging a sense of group responsibility. Ralph's use of these rules shows his grasp of power dynamics since he creates standards that the boys grow to believe are necessary for their survival.

But as the story goes on, Jack starts to oppose Ralph more and more, choosing to follow his instincts over the established order. The conflict between Ralph and Jack emphasizes how hegemonic power is unstable since Jack's disobedience to the law puts Ralph's authority in jeopardy. For instance, Jack's claim that "We don't need the conch" (Golding, 1954, p. 101) clearly challenges Ralph's authority and denotes a turn toward anarchy and cruelty.

In conclusion, Ralph's use of law and order is a crucial tactic in upholding his hegemonic authority. Ralph instills in the lads a feeling of duty and order by instituting a system of rules and a framework of governance using the conch shell. The challenges that Jack and his supporters have raised, however, highlight the precarious power dynamics and constant negotiating that come with being a leader. We may examine these interactions critically by using Gramsci's concept of hegemony, which shows us how Ralph handles the difficulties of leadership and the ambiguities of authority.

3. Building Consensus and Group Loyalty

The following is the third form of data from the second problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The third form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is demonstrated through his efforts to build consensus and foster group loyalty among the boys:

"We need to decide how to make a fire. The fire is the most important thing" (Golding, 1954, p. 38).

In the data above, In order to create a signal fire, which represents hope for rescue and is essential to their survival, Ralph highlights the value of teamwork. Ralph's portrayal of the fire as "the most important thing" not only emphasizes its importance but also extends an invitation to the youngsters to join him in pursuing a common objective. This method demonstrates his approach to fostering group consensus and making sure that everyone is committed to their shared goal.

Ralph's statement, "We've got to have rules and obey them," further demonstrates his capacity to promote group loyalty. We're not savages, after all. (Golding, 1954, p. 40) "We're English." Ralph strengthens the boys' dedication to the group by fostering a sense of pride and belonging among them by making reference to their national identity. Ralph's focus on shared cultural identity serves to connect the boys' interests with his own leadership, which is consistent with Gramsci's (1971) theory that hegemony depends on the active agreement of those being governed (p. 350).

Additionally, Ralph employs persuasive techniques to encourage collaboration and solidarity among the boys. For instance, he appeals to their emotions when he insists, "If the fire goes out, we'll die" (Golding, 1954, p. 78). This statement underscores the dire consequences of inaction and reinforces the necessity of collective responsibility. By instilling a sense of urgency, Ralph is able to galvanize the group and strengthen their loyalty to his leadership. According to

Gramsci (1971), effective leadership must engage with the values and beliefs of the group, fostering a sense of unity and purpose (p. 352).

Ralph also demonstrates his inclusive leadership style by asking the other lads for their opinions during conversations. He asks, for instance, "What do you want to do?" (Golding, 1954, p. 35), indicating his readiness to hear others out and include them in the decision-making process. In addition to giving the boys a sense of agency, this approach strengthens their allegiance to Ralph as a leader who respects their viewpoints. According to Gramsci's theory of hegemony, leaders must foster a sense of collective ownership over group objectives in order to sustain power (Gramsci, 1971, p. 351).

But as the story goes on, it becomes clear how flimsy this consensus is. Ralph's leadership weaknesses are brought to light by Jack's growing challenges to his authority. "I'm not going to play any longer," Jack says. The phrase "not with you" (Golding, 1954, p. 91) denotes a rift in the group's allegiance as Jack looks to create a new power structure. This moment reflects the dynamic tension within the group and the challenges Ralph faces in maintaining unity amidst competing interests.

In conclusion, Ralph's methods for fostering agreement and group allegiance are critical to his ability to retain his hegemonic position. Ralph builds the lads' dedication to his leadership by establishing a feeling of unity and promoting teamwork. But the rise of opposing viewpoints, especially from Jack, highlights how unstable group dynamics are and how power is constantly being negotiated. A useful framework for comprehending these interactions is provided

by Gramsci's idea of hegemony, which shows how Ralph negotiates the difficulties of allegiance and authority inside the group.

4. Managing Conflicts and Challenges

The following is the fourth form of data from the second problem of the study. The data will be analyzed using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony. The fourth form of Ralph's strategies in maintaining his hegemonic power is illustrated through his methods of managing conflicts and challenges that arise within the group:

"When the meeting's over, we'll have to do some thinking. We can't be like Jack and his gang. We've got to be civilized" (Golding, 1954, p. 72).

In the data above, Ralph recognizes the need to resolve the disputes that arise, especially with regard to Jack and his supporters. Ralph presents himself as the defender of law and order by highlighting the necessity of continuing to be "civilized." His devotion to keeping control of the group is demonstrated by this statement, which highlights his understanding of the conflict between the need for order and the need for savagery.

Ralph's determination to respect the law and authority is the foundation of his dispute resolution strategy. "We can't let the fire go out," he says. We have to continue it (Golding, 1954, p. 87). The guys use this emphasis on the significance of the signal fire as a focal point, reminding them of their common objectives and the repercussions of becoming distracted. Effective leadership, according to

Gramsci (1971), must resolve disputes by establishing shared objectives and interests (p. 351). Ralph's focus on the fire represents both the civilization they are attempting to preserve and the possibility of rescue.

Ralph also uses negotiating as a strategy to deal with Jack's difficulties. "We need to work together, or we'll never be rescued," he says in an effort to persuade Jack (Golding, 1954, p. 92). Ralph's attempt to bring the guys together in the face of outside threats demonstrates his understanding of the value of teamwork. Ralph wants to lessen the influence of Jack's rebellious group by presenting their survival in terms of cooperation.

However, Ralph's authority is seriously threatened by Jack's growing dissension. "I'm not going to play any longer," Jack declared. "Not with you" (Golding, 1954, p. 91) marks a significant shift in the group's power structure. Jack's disobedience threatens to topple the tenuous consensus that Ralph has labored to establish, underscoring the weakness of hegemonic authority.

According to Gramsci (1971), hegemony is dynamic and needs to be constantly negotiated and protected against opposing groups (p. 350). Ralph responds to these difficulties with flexibility and resiliency.

"We've got to make a choice. We can't let this thing tear us apart"
(Golding, 1954, p. 96).

Ralph's recognition of the internal conflict demonstrates his awareness of how important it is to keep the group cohesive. He tries to win the guys back to his cause by highlighting the negative effects of divide and making an appeal to their common identity.

In conclusion, Ralph's methods for handling disagreements and difficulties are essential to his upholding of hegemonic authority. In an attempt to manage the turbulent dynamics within the group, Ralph emphasizes the value of civilization, teamwork, and common objectives. But the rise of opposition, especially from Jack, highlights the brittleness of authority and the continuous power struggle. A crucial lens for comprehending these intricacies is provided by Gramsci's idea of hegemony, which shows how Ralph resolves disputes to maintain his position of authority in the face of strong opposition.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter explains the conclusions and suggestions of this study, in this chapter there are conclusions covering the findings of the entire analysis that has been discussed previously, while suggestions are intended for readers and researchers who are interested in the research theme who are interested in the research theme.

A. Conclusion

Based on the analysis conducted in the previous chapter, the first research problem shows that Ralph in *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding demonstrates hegemonic power through various forms of leadership and control. Using Gramsci's (1971) concept of hegemony, the researcher identified that Ralph employs hegemonic power in three key aspects: ideological influence, charismatic leadership, and managing dissent. Ralph's hegemonic power is seen in his ability to establish rules, appeal to shared values, and promote a collective identity among the boys. For instance, Ralph's emphasis on the importance of rules and order reflects his ideological approach to maintaining control, which aligns with Gramsci's idea of securing consent through cultural and moral influence. Furthermore, Ralph's charisma plays a critical role in solidifying his leadership. His rational and optimistic demeanor, combined with his ability to inspire the boys to focus on survival goals like maintaining the signal fire, highlights his ability to build trust and loyalty. However, Ralph's hegemonic authority begins to weaken as dissent emerges,

particularly through Jack's challenges. Ralph's reliance on democratic principles, such as reminding the boys of his election as chief, showcases his effort to preserve legitimacy. Nevertheless, his failure to effectively manage dissent leads to the eventual breakdown of his authority, illustrating the fragility of hegemonic power when faced with competing ideologies and rebellion.

The second research problem reveals that Ralph's methods of leadership and attempts to maintain hegemonic power align with Gramsci's theory, which emphasizes the interplay of consent and coercion. Ralph's leadership strategies include promoting shared goals, appealing to the boys' sense of identity, and attempting to mediate conflicts. However, his inability to adapt to escalating challenges from Jack demonstrates the limitations of consensual leadership when coercion becomes necessary. Ultimately, Ralph's hegemonic power deteriorates as the boys succumb to Jack's primal and coercive leadership style, signifying the collapse of order and civilization on the island. This study illustrates that Ralph's leadership in *Lord of the Flies* provides a clear example of hegemonic power in action. His efforts to establish order, inspire unity, and manage dissent reflect Gramsci's theoretical framework. However, the breakdown of his authority underscores the challenges leaders face in sustaining hegemony, particularly when competing narratives and internal conflicts disrupt the balance of consent and coercion. The findings of this research can contribute to a broader understanding of leadership dynamics and the application of Gramsci's theory in literary studies.

B. Suggestion

In this suggestion section, the researcher recommends that future researchers analyze hegemonic power using different literary objects. Forms of hegemonic power, as conceptualized by Gramsci, are often found in various literary works. This is because the dynamics of leadership, consent, and resistance are universal themes frequently explored by authors through their characters. Furthermore, the researcher suggests that future researchers study *Lord of the Flies* from a different perspective, such as analyzing symbolism, character psychology, or examining group dynamics in a broader social context.

The researcher hopes that the results of this study can contribute to the development of literary criticism, especially in the objective approach focusing on the concept of hegemony and leadership dynamics in literary works. This research is still not perfect. Therefore, the researcher welcomes suggestions and criticisms from readers to further improve the quality of this study in the future.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alidini, S. (2020). The Masculine Code: Structures Of Masculinity In William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*. *Belgrade English Language And Literature Studies: Bells90 Proceedings*, 2, 213-27.
- Anand, P. (2021). Zami: A New Spelling Against Racism. In *Edebiyat, Kültür ve Sanatta Şiddet Temsilleri Konferans Bildiriler Kitabı 2021* (pp. 48-60). Transnational Press London.
- Atmadja, M.D.P., 2024. Hegemony Power in George Orwell's Novel Animal Farm. *Calakan: Jurnal Sastra, Bahasa, dan Budaya*, 2(1), pp.57-66.
- Čalkovská, M. (2022). Gender in Selected British Twentieth-Century Dystopian Novels.
- Chougule, R.B. and Hanash, M.M., 2020. SCARCE LIFE BETWEEN LEADERSHIP AND NATURE OF SAVAGERY IN WILLIAM GOLDING'S *LORD OF THE FLIES*. *Literary Endeavour*, 11(1).
- Cox, R. W. (1983). Gramsci, Hegemony and International Relations: An Essay in Method. *Millennium*, 12 (2), 162-175.
- Fatah, S.M. and Saeed, Y.F., 2024. Primal Instincts And Societal Constructs: A Thematic Study Of William Golding's *Lord Of The Flies*. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature, and Language Teaching*, 8(1), pp.390-405.
- Gramsci, A. (1971). *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. International Publishers.
- Haddad, S.H., (2024) An Analysis of the Themes in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*.
- Laclau, E. &. (2008). *Hegemoni dan Strategi Sosialis: Postmarxisme + Gerakan Sosial Baru*. Yogyakarta.
- Lull, J. W. (1995). *A Cultural Studies Approach to Media: Theory*. Columbia University Press.
- Mayborn, W. C. (2021). Where Are The Grown-Ups? Thinking About Anarchy With "Lord of the Flies". *Journal Of Political Science Education*, 17(4), 578-594.

- Mogea, T. (2023). *Character of Ralph as Seen in William Golding's Lord of the Flies*. *Journal of Creative Student Research (JCSR)* Vol.1, No.2, Hal 171188.
- Mogea, T. (2023). Character of Ralph as Seen in William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*. *Journal of Creative Student Research*, 1(2), 171-188.
- Özcan, R. E. (2022). *Neither a mother nor an other: nature's literary emancipation in William Golding's Lord of the Flies and Louise Erdrich's Tracks* (Master's thesis, Middle East Technical University).
- Rahayu, M., Mediyansyah, M., & Zuhro, H. F. (2020). Desperately seeking justice in Okky Madasari's Bound. *Jurnal Pembelajaran Sastra*, 2(2), 101110
- Ray, B. (2022). Racked on an Afterlife Rock: Survival of the Centre at the Margin of Doom in William Golding's Pincher Martin. *Contemporary Literary Review India*, 9(1), 60-85.
- Ray, B. (2022). Vagaries of a Precarious Centre: Allegory of Erektion in William Golding's The Spire. *Contemporary Literary Review India*, 9(4), 29-46.
- Savadi, R. (2024). The *Lord of the Flies*: Deconstructing the ideas of human civility. *Lililacs Journal: English Literature, Language, and Cultural Studies Journal*, 4(1), 18-25.
- Taylor, R. B. (1975). *Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods: A Phenomenological Approach*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Turk, E. (2019). *Dystopic Elements In Lord Of The Flies And One Hundred Years Of Solitude*. *Master Thesis*. Western Languages and Literatures Department English Language and Literature Programme: Inggris.
- Varga, Z., McGuinn, N., Naylor, A., Rimmereide, H. E., & Syed, G. K. (2020). We are invited to imagine: Using a literary text to encourage cross-cultural dialogue about citizenship. *Cambridge Journal of Education*, 50 (4)
- Yahya, E.F., Khan, I.H. and Khaliefa, M.A., 2024. Moral Vision In William Golding's "Lord Of The Flies". *Journal of the College of Basic Education*, 1(عند خاص), pp.62-72.
- Wallerstein, I. (1974). *The Modern World-System*. Academic Press.