

# AMBITIOUS FOR POWER IN SHAKESPEARE'S *MACBETH*

Ambisi Kekuasaan dalam *Macbeth* Karya Shakespeare

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**Abstrak:** Tulisan ini bertujuan menggambarkan ambisi seorang abdi raja dalam *Macbeth* karya Shakespeare. Karena ucapan dari tiga penyihir (ahli nujun) yang mengatakan bahwa kelak akan menjadi raja dan untuk mencapainya harus membunuh raja serta teman dekatnya, Banquo, ia harus menggunakan berbagai macam cara agar tujuan tersebut tercapai. Namun, pada akhirnya, ia terbunuh karena perbuatan tersebut dilakukannya dengan cara yang salah. Tulisan ini diharapkan dapat memberikan sumbangan pemikiran utamanya bagi peminat kesusastraan Inggris. Tulisan ini menggunakan metode analisis wacana deskriptif interpretatif. Teknik pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan *inventory technique*.

**Kata-Kata Kunci:** ambisi, pengkhianatan, dan konspirasi.

**Abstract:** This paper aims to describe the ambition of a king's servant in Shakespeare's, 'Macbeth'. Because of three witches (astrologer) advice which said that if he want to be a king later, and to reach his ambition, he must kill his king and his close friend, Banquo. It means that he must use all way to reach his goals. But in the end, he got killed because his deed in reaching for his goals goes through by wrong way. This writing is expected to contribute for further research focused on whom is interested in English literary. This writing also included in descriptive interpretative discourse analyzes. Technique of collecting data is done by using inventory technique.

**Key Words:** ambition, treachery, and conspiracy.

## INTRODUCTION

Literature is a branch of art, that is, a verbal art dealing with human life, their activities and experience using words as its medium. As a branch of art, it can be divided into fiction and nonfiction. Fiction is one of the most interesting and profitable forms of literature. It is a kind of composition written by a writer based on his/her imagination. In dealing with fiction, Sumardjo (1984:53) says it as an imaginative story, which is not based on fact, and it is told. It includes poetry, prose, and drama. On the other hand, nonfiction is a kind of composition written by a writer based on fact. It

includes essays, criticism, biographies, daily notes, and histories.

Ambition is the desire for personal achievement. Ambitious persons seek to be the best at what they choose to do for attainment, power, or superiority. 'Macbeth' is tragedy of ambition. Therefore, in this case, he would like to analyze it. Why is 'Macbeth' called a tragedy of ambition. Is there any relation with ambition for power in "Macbeth" with ambition for power at all high official this era. What we see that, all politicians at trying to grab sympathy from people to be able to sit as high officeholder.

Based on the explanation above, the writer intends to analyze one of William Shakespeare's works as an object of my paper. The focus is the ambition for power in William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. This study tries to uncover ambition for power in William Shakespeare's and the main question to answer is what is the type of ambition for power reflects in 'Macbeth'?

*Macbeth* is a tragedy of ambition. It deals with Macbeth's ambition to be a king, his rise to power, and his downfall. Therefore, the writers is going to focus on Macbeth's ambition for power (being a king) relating to other characters' ambition. In dealing with Macbeth's ambition raises several questions as follows.

1. Why is Macbeth very ambitious to be a king?
2. How strong is the witches prophecy in supporting Macbeth's ambition?
3. Why does Macbeth get easily betrayed by his close friend, Banquo, just for fulfilling his ambition to be a king?

In relation to the problem statements, the objectives of paper is to examine the ambition for power in 'Macbeth'. In addition, this writing is also expected to be useful in providing information about literary or ambition for power in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. It also can be a supplementer for results of literary research on English literature in general and English drama in particular. In addition, the writer hopes that this paper can become the guidance in bailing a lot of educative life experience to wises in dealing with problems.

He limits the discussion on characterization as a structural element of drama. Focusing on this element will improve writer's way in evaluating the drama in order to get deep understanding.

The writer collects some data in relating to the object of paper from two

sources of the data so-called; (1) Primary data is directly collected by the writer from the original text of Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth' adapted from Literature: *Macbeth* by Bernard. London: Longman, 1061; and (2) Secondary data is which are required to support of his paper.

Technique of collecting data is done by using developed technique of collects data (Fajrin, 2008), namely; inventory technique, is done by finding out and collecting data in accordance with in analyzing; (1) identifying Ambitious for Power in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'; and (2) identifying the Ambitious is revealed. Gained data, are analyzed by using developed technique of analysis data result (Sanapiah, 1990), namely; (1) organizing data, (2) categorizing, (3) testing hypothesis found by using existing data, (4) searching explanation alternative data, and (5) writing report.

## **THEORY**

This writing uses sociology of literary, namely approaching to literary that considers the social aspects. Damono (1979:2—3) concluded that there were two main trends in the study of sociology of literary, first, approaching based on the assumption that literary is a mirror of social-economical process. This approach moves from factors beyond literary to discuss literary, literary is only valuable in relation to factors outside of literary itself. It is clear that in this approach to literary texts are not considered major; its only the epiphenomenon, second, the approach to literary texts as review material. The method used in the sociology of literary is text analysis to determine its structure, and used to understand the deeper social phenomena beyond the literary. Between the two approaches, the latter approach is more consistent with the objectives of this writing.

Literary sociology is an approach to literary that considers the social aspects. This literary sociology approach emphasizes on several aspects, among others the influence of literary on the audience and the circumstances of the targeted audience of literary works; function of literary work to society, community characteristics, and the thoughts and ideas that exist in literary work (Apituley, 1991:6).

### **METHOD**

'Macbeth' is tragedy of power. So, the writer is going to focus on Macbeth and relating other characters' of the story. He limits the discussion on characterization as structural element of drama. By focusing on this element, reading on this drama will improve writer's way in evaluating it in order to get deep understanding.

The writer collects some data related to the object of writing from two sources of data so-called: (1) Primary data is a data which is directly collected by the writer from its first source, the original text of Shakespeare's play *Macbeth* adapted from *Literature Macbeth* by Bernard. London (1961): (2) secondary data is some additional data, which are required to support the object of writing. Moreover, this writing includes descriptive interpretative discourse analysis on "Macbeth", which invols reading, understanding, and giving meaning by interpreting the data. Technique of data collecting is done by using developed technique of collects data by Fajrin (2008), namely inventory technique. Inventory technique, is done by finding out and collecting data in accordance with in analyzing Characterization, (1) Identifying the names of characterization in Macbeth; and (2) Identifying the way character is revealed.

### **DISCUSSION**

The writer analyzes Macbeth's ambition, what motivates him to fulfill his ambition and what results he will get at last, but also, other main characters' ambition in dealing with power. In this part, he analyzes the ambition for power of five main characters in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. They are Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Malcolm, Macduff, and Bunquo.

### **Macbeth**

Macbeth is the most important character in developing the story he is the one who dominates the drama. It is the story of his rise to power (being a king) and his downfall. In the first half of the play, he is shown as a brave and noble Scottish general, one of the generals of the king's army. Besides that, he is one of the king's trusted lords, having the same family as the king of Scotland, King Duncan. The king calls him 'valiant cousin' and 'worthy gentle'. He is loved by the people as a brave leader.

Macbeth is an ambitious man; lusting for power as a soldier who wants to get a high position. His meeting with the witches is an image of the evil forces, which encourages his ambition. He lusts for power although he has been honored by the king as Thane of Glamis. Moreover, he is foretold to be Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland later on.

What the witches have foretold can be neither good nor bad for him; for, if they are bad, how could they so soon begin to come true? In addition, if good, why do his thoughts so soon turn into the idea of murdering King Duncan and taking the king's place on the throne of Scotland? Two of the witches prophecies have come true, for, Macbeth has been honored as Thane of Glamis and Thane of Cawdor. Now, he is thinking of being honored as the king, his great ambition as stated below.

MACBETH

[Aside] If chance will have me king,  
why,  
Chance may crown me,  
Without my stir. (I.iii.23)

Through the play, Macbeth continues to give serious thought to the moral aspects of his actions, and he is in no sense, an unfeeling villain without conscience or sense of nobility. This is shown when he wants to talk over with his friend, Banquo, the prophecies of the witches.

MACBETH

Give me your favour: my dull  
brain was wrought  
With things forgotten. Kind  
gentlemen, your pains  
Are register'd where every day I  
turn  
The leaf to read them. Let us  
toward the king.  
Think upon what hath chanced,  
and, at more time,  
The interim having weigh'd it, let  
us speak  
Our free hearts each to other  
(I.iii.25)

Now, he is thinking of the possibility of murdering the king, for, in the early history of Scotland, the crown did not pass from father to son as a matter of course. He might succeed to the throne if the king should die. However, Duncan has a son, and this son is later appointed as his rightful heir.

It leads Macbeth to an expression on the condition of damnation: thinking of consequence of his crime, saying that he will not worry about what might happen to him in the next world so long as he is granted peace of mind in this:

MACBETH

If it were done when 'tis done, then  
'twere well  
It were done quickly: if the  
assassination

Could trammel up the consequence,  
and catch  
With his surcease success; that but this  
blow  
Might be the be-all and the end-all  
here,  
But here, upon this bank and shoal of  
time,  
We'd jump the life to come.  
(I.vii.41—43)

Macbeth has fulfilled his great ambition in a wrong way because he immediately sees it as a hindrance to his own ambition; beginning to think of the evil way to ensure that the witches prophecies come true. However, he feels unable to do it (the idea of murdering the king), for, the king is his own family; Macbeth's mother and the king's mother are sisters, and besides that, the king is his honorable quest as stated below.

MACBETH

....  
He's here in double trust;  
First, as I am his kinsman and his  
subject,  
Strong both against the deed; then, as  
his host,  
Who should against his murderer shut  
the door,  
Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this  
Duncan  
Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath  
been  
So clear in his great office, that his  
virtues  
Will plead like angels, trumpet-  
tongued, against  
The deep damnation of his taking-off;  
And pity, like a naked new-born babe,  
Striding the blast, or heaven's  
cherubim, horsed  
Upon the sightless couriers of the air,  
Shall blow the horrid deed in every  
eye,  
That tears shall drown the wind. I have  
no spur  
To prick the sides of my intent, but  
only  
Vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps  
itself

And falls on the other. (I.vii.41—43)

From this saying, we can know that Macbeth has the ambition but lack of the strength of purpose, which would be the effective spur to action. He wants to win high honors for himself without using evil means to do so because of this reason.

MACBETH

....  
He hath honour'd me of late; and I have  
bought  
Golden opinions from all sorts of  
people,  
Which would be worn now in their  
newest gloss,  
Not cast aside so soon. (I.vii.45)

Macbeth is easily influenced by the witches prophecies because their evil forces are too strong and these evil forces have taken root in his mind. Besides that, two of the witches prophecies have come true (being honored as Thane of Glamis and Thane of Cawdor). Therefore, he still keeps in trust to them and hoping that their prophecy of being king will come true as well.

Although the people must doubt his honesty, no one is brave enough to defy him openly when he kills the king's guards to make them guilty as the murderers. This shows his evil thought by turning the suspicion to Malcolm and Donalbain, King's sons, who flee from Scotland to save themselves, for, they are in danger.

MACBETH

We hear, our bloody cousins are  
bestow'd  
In England and in Ireland, not  
confessing  
Their cruel parricide, .... (III.i.93)

Being the new king, we see that Macbeth is a kind of person who always feels unsafe and suspects the people

around him especially his close friend, Banquo, whose 'royalty of nature', bravery and wisdom recommend him as more suited to kingship than Macbeth as the witches foretell that Banquo will be the father of many kings later.

Macbeth makes his plan to murder Banquo for being a hindrance for his position as a king by hiring some murderers to do it. As the result, Banquo is murdered Macbeth's order. Clearly, we can see how easily Macbeth betrays his close friend just for making his position as a king safer because in fact, Banquo is a great danger to him both for his nobility of character and the witches prophecy on him. However, Banquo's son, Florence, has escaped from the murder and he will be a trouble for Macbeth; for, he can continue his line, being the father of many kings later.

Although the witches prophecies have come true, Macbeth realizes that their promises have deceived him. This is because he has kept in trust too much on them. They have warned him against one of the Scottish noblemen, Macduff, who will be a source of trouble to him. Besides that, they encourage him that 'none of woman born' can harm him and no one will defeat him 'till Birnamwood shall come to Dunsinane'. However, he knows all the time that he is dealing with evil forces. Moreover, he lives longer to see how bad they were. When Birnamwood appears to move which is actually Malcolm's army by covering their bodies with leaves, something seems impossibility, he begins:

MACBETH

....  
To doubt the equivocation of the fiend  
That lies like truth: 'Fear not, till  
Birnam wood .... (V.v. 221)

The murder of Lady Macduff and her children is even more horrible than Macbeth's other crimes. It shows how cruel Macbeth is; having murdered the

innocent people just for the sake of power.

The first evil promise of the witches has proved worthless; but he fights on, only to meet his enemy, Macduff, whose family has been murdered by him. He knows that he has put his faith in evil, and has been betrayed as stated below.

MACBETH

Accursed be that tongue that tells me so,  
For it hath cow'd my better part of man!  
And be these juggling fiends no more believed,  
That palter with us in a double sense;  
That keep the word of promise to our ear,  
And break it to our hope. I'll not fight with thee. (V.viii.229—231)

His close friend, Banquo, has warned and shown him the danger, but he has been either unwilling or unable to respect it as stated below.

BANQUO

That trusted home  
Might yet enkindle you unto the crown,  
Besides the thane of Cawdor. But 'tis strange:  
And oftentimes, to win us to our harm,  
The instruments of darkness tell us truths,  
Win us with honest trifles, to betray's  
In deepest consequence.  
Cousins, a word, I pray you. (I.iii.21—23)

At the end, Macbeth meets his death a hand-to-hand fighting against Macduff; saying that he is not 'born of woman' and this means that the second promise of the witches is also worthless. To the end, Macbeth has fought bravely and his bravery is something outside the sense of safety, which the witches promises have given to him. Nevertheless, evil has killed his hope, and he meets his death because he has put in trust to what was

either evil or worthless. In this case, he destroys his own life, because of his great ambition.

### **Lady Macbeth**

Lady Macbeth is also intensely ambitious as her husband after reading a letter from him telling about the witches prophecy that Macbeth is foretold to be a king later on. She cannot bear even to mention the kingship directly; she can say only.

LADY MACBETH

Glamis thou art, and Cawdor; and shalt be  
What thou art promised:...(I.v.31—33)

but she is afraid that her husband is not evil enough to obtain it by the most direct means. She reveals her own nature most fully in the address she makes to the spirits of evil.

LADY MACBETH

.... Come, you spirits  
That tend on mortal thoughts, unsex me here,  
And fill me from the crown to the toe top-full  
Of direst cruelty! make thick my blood;  
....(I.v.35)

Realizing that his feeling of humanity may impede her husband's hope of the crown, she prays that her own similar feelings may be suppressed. This proves that she is not the hard, cold, unfeeling villain of the piece, but one who, if she is to attain what she aims at, will also have to reckon with those finer feelings, which are common to most human natures. However, she is more purposeful, less ready to consider secondary matter (even those which concern conscience), and this is why she, unlike her husband, has no need of supernatural encouragement and therefore why none is given to her.

Lady Macbeth is a kind of strong-minded woman with strong confidence as well. She makes up her mind that the fulfillment of her husband's ambition (being a king), must be through the murder of King Duncan and this shows her ambition in helping her husband to fulfill his ambition to be a king. Therefore, her husband will take the throne; being the most powerful man in the kingdom and she herself will be the queen. Therefore, we can also say that Lady Macbeth is a kind of woman who also has agreed of power. Here is shown about Lady Macbeth's strong mind on the plan of murder.

LADY MACBETH

O, never  
 Shall sun that morrow see!  
 Your face, my thane, is as a book  
 where men  
 May read strange matters. To beguile  
 the time,  
 Look like the time; bear welcome in  
 your eye,  
 Your hand, your tongue: look like the  
 innocent flower,  
 But be the serpent under't. He that's  
 coming  
 Must be provided for: and you shall put  
 This night's great business into my  
 dispatch;  
 Which shall to all our nights and days  
 to come  
 Give solely sovereign sway and  
 masterdom. (I.v.37)

From this, we can know that Lady Macbeth is so convinced that her plan will succeed and they (Macbeth and his wife) will get the power and mastery of the kingship for all the rest of their lives. Shows her self-confidence.

LADY MACBETH

We fail!  
 But screw your courage to the sticking-  
 place,  
 And we'll not fail. (I.vii.47)

But, when the time is right for the murder and she has urged Macbeth's purpose to the utmost, she shows that she has had uneasy feelings too; for, as Macbeth's calling out at the back suggesting that he has been found out and having failed in his attempts, she admits that she could not have done the deed herself.

LADY MACBETH

Alack, I am afraid they have awaked,  
 And 'tis not done. The attempt and not  
 the deed  
 Confounds us. Hark! I laid their  
 daggers ready;  
 He could not miss 'em. Had he not  
 resembled  
 My father as he slept, I had done't.  
 (II.ii.57)

Having murdered King Duncan, Macbeth is haunted with the vision of the murder. His wife is not so troubled, and ready to conceal the crime. She realizes that they must quickly get on their nightclothes or people will wonder why they were not in bed when Duncan was murdered. Here, we can see that Lady Macbeth is so tricky and smart in concealing their evil deeds as if they were not guilty as stated below.

LADY MACBETH

Infirm of purpose!  
 Give me the daggers: the sleeping and  
 the dead  
 Are but as pictures: 'tis the eye of  
 childhood  
 That fears a painted devil. If he do  
 bleed,  
 I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal;  
 For it must seem their guilt. (II.ii. 63)

It is clear that a person who has done something evil will get evil result at last. Lady Macbeth is unable to sleep well because of her part in committing the crimes. In the beginning of Act V, scene i, she appears with a taper in hand, walking in her sleep and reliving her

experience and thoughts at the murder of King Duncan. This reveals without doubt who is responsible for the crime and shows that Lady Macbeth is no more to free her from conscience than her husband is. She also meets her death at last because of her parts in committing the crimes, in other words, Lady Macbeth has destroyed her own life because of her evil ways in fulfilling her husband's ambition.

### **Malcolm**

Malcolm is King Duncan's eldest son who is appointed the rightful King of Scotland later, replacing his father. He is also a source of trouble for Macbeth in fulfilling his great ambition since his father, King Duncan, proclaims him as his heir, and as Duke of Cumberland. Macbeth immediately sees this as a hindrance to his own ambition; beginning to think of evil ways to ensure that the witches prophecies come true. Here is shown about King Duncan's decision in appointing his eldest son, Malcolm, as the rightful heir of Scotland.

### **DUNCAN**

My plenteous joys,  
Wanton in fulness, seek to hide  
themselves  
In drops of sorrow. Sons, kinsmen,  
thanes,  
And you whose places are the nearest,  
know  
We will establish our estate upon  
Our eldest, Malcolm, whom we name  
hereafter  
The Prince of Cumberland; which  
honour must  
Not unaccompanied invest him only,  
But signs of nobleness, like stars, shall  
shine  
On all deservers. From hence to  
Inverness,  
And bind us further to you. (I.iv.29)

Having known about King Duncan's death, Malcolm and his

brother, Donalbain, prepare themselves to leave away from their country in order to save their own, for, their lives must be in danger too. Malcolm's way in order to be safer is shown below.

### **MALCOLM**

This murderous shaft that's shot  
Hath not yet lighted, and our safest way  
Is to avoid the aim. Therefore, to horse;  
And let us not be dainty of leave-taking,  
But shift away: there's warrant in that  
theft  
Which steals itself, when there's no  
mercy left. (II.iii.83)

Since the king's sons have fled, Malcolm to England and Donalbain to Ireland, suspicion naturally falls on them as the murderers of their father, as Macduff's saying.

### **MACDUFF**

They were suborn'd:  
Malcolm and Donalbain, the king's two  
sons,  
Are stol'n away and fled; which puts  
upon them  
Suspicion of the deed. (II.iv. 87)

From this, we can say that Malcolm and Donalbain have done something foolish, that is, to leave away from their country without doing something evil (fatal). In this case, they are suspected as the murderers of their own father, just because they want to be safe.

Although Malcolm has fled to England, we can know that he also has an ambition to fulfill his father's will, being the rightful King of Scotland, as stated below.

### **MALCOLM**

With this there grows  
In my most ill-composed affection such  
A stanchless avarice that, were I king,  
I should cut off the nobles for their  
lands,  
Desire his jewels and this other's house:



And my more-having would be as a  
sauce  
To make me hunger more; that I should  
forge  
Quarrels unjust against the good and  
loyal,  
Destroying them for wealth.  
(IV.iii.177)

However, Malcolm thinks that he  
still does not have the virtues which for a  
king, as said below.

MALCOLM  
But I have none: the king-becoming  
graces,  
As justice, verity, temperance,  
stableness,  
Bounty, perseverance, mercy,  
lowliness,  
Devotion, patience, courage, fortitude,  
I have no relish of them, but abound  
In the division of each several crime,  
Acting it many ways. Nay, had I  
power, I should  
Pour the sweet milk of concord into  
hell,  
Uproar the universal peace, confound  
All unity on earth. (IV.iii.177)

Although Malcolm has not had the  
virtues which are fitting for a king yet,  
he still has a wish to return in peace to  
his own country.

MALCOLM  
I know him now. Good God, betimes  
remove  
The means that makes us strangers!  
(IV.iii.183)

In order to return in peace to his  
own country, Malcolm has collected an  
army with English support to fight  
against the evil, Macbeth. Moreover,  
Macduff, one of the Scottish noblemen,  
has also fled to England in helping his  
army to take revenge against Macbeth,  
who has murdered all his family after his  
leaving from Scotland. Here is Malcolm  
readiness in his fighting against  
Macbeth.

MALCOLM  
This tune goes manly.  
Come, go we to the king; our power is  
ready;  
Our lack is nothing but our leave;  
Macbeth  
Is ripe for shaking, and the powers  
above  
Put on their instruments. Receive what  
cheer you may:  
The night is long that never finds the  
day. (IV.iii.193)

At last, Macduff can kill Macbeth in  
a hand-to-hand fighting and Malcolm,  
the king's eldest son, is declared as the  
rightful King of Scotland. In this case,  
Malcolm has succeeded to fulfill his  
ambition. Being the new king, we can  
know that Malcolm goes on to give some  
examples of the things, which are to be  
carried out; by this way, he shows that  
he intends to rule wisely and well as said  
below.

MALCOLM  
....  
What's more to do,  
Which would be planted newly with  
the time,  
As calling home our exiled friends  
abroad  
That fled the snares of watchful  
tyranny;  
Producing forth the cruel ministers  
Of this dead butcher and his fiend-like  
queen,  
Who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent  
hands  
Took off her life; this, and what  
needful else  
That calls upon us, by the grace of  
Grace,  
We will perform in measure, time and  
place:  
So, thanks to all at once and to each  
one,  
Whom we invite to see us crown'd at  
Scone. (V.x.235)

**Macduff**

Macduff is the chief of the instrument that Malcolm is able to obtain the throne of his father, King Duncan, and he acts with good sense, bravery, and nobleness of nature. He suspects Macbeth as the murderer of King Duncan, for, Macbeth has admitted that he has murdered the king's guards in king's room.

MACBETH

O, yet I do repent me of my fury,  
That I did kill them. (II.iii.79)

Since his suspicion to Macbeth, Macduff leaves his own country and then makes his way to England. He has left his wife, Lady Macduff and children in Scotland and his wife is unable to understand his flight. Rosse, one of the Scottish noblemen, tries to persuade her that her husband has left for the good of the country and implies that he is in England to raise forces to oppose the tyrant, Macbeth and this is Macduff's ambition. Here, Rosse describes about his character.

ROSS

My dearest coz,  
I pray you, school yourself: but for  
your husband,  
He is noble, wise, judicious, and best  
knows  
The fits o' the season. (IV.ii.159—160)

However, his wife doubts the wisdom of his flight to England, calling it 'madness', and mixture of fear and treachery as shown below.

LADY MACDUFF

Wisdom! to leave his wife, to leave his  
babes,  
His mansion and his titles in a place  
From whence himself does fly? He  
loves us not;  
He wants the natural touch: for the poor  
wren,  
The most diminutive of birds, will  
fight,

Her young ones in her nest, against the  
owl.

All is the fear and nothing is the love;  
As little is the wisdom, where the flight  
So runs against all reason. (IV.ii.159)

Based on the explanation above, we can know that Macduff is a person who does not have the natural feelings of humanity. Because of his flight, all his family, his wife and children, are murdered by Macbeth's order by hiring murderers to do it. In this case, Macduff is a careless man who dares to leave his wife and children without thinking their safety.

Having known the murder of his family, Macduff cannot believe that so purposeless a crime is possible.

MACDUFF

He has no children. All my pretty ones?  
Did you say all? O hell-kite! All?  
What, all my pretty chickens and their  
dam  
At one fell swoop? (IV.iii.191)

Because of the murder of his family, Macduff has an ambition to take revenge against Macbeth now and prepare to do it quickly.

At last, Macduff meets Macbeth in a hand-to-hand fighting, showing that the witches words concerning Macbeth's safety are useless, since them 'palter ... in double sense'. 'None of woman born' seems to mean 'nobody at all', but in another sense it means 'no child to whom a woman has given natural birth'. Macduff tells Macbeth that his mother did not 'bear' him, for, he was taken from his mother's womb before the due time of birth, and they fight until Macbeth is killed.

**Banquo**

Banquo is pictured as a good, brave, and gracious nobleman. He is close to the king and to Macbeth. However, he is a great danger to Macbeth's ambitions because of his position and honorable natures. Besides that, the witches to be

the father of many kings later on also foretell him. Here are the witches prophecies to Banquo.

First Witch  
Lesser than Macbeth, and greater.  
Second Witch  
Not so happy, yet much happier.  
Third Witch  
Thou shalt get kings, though thou be none:  
So all hail, Macbeth and Banquo!  
(I.iii.17)

Banquo is a man who trusts too early in appearances and also deceived into thinking all is well in Macbeth's castle because its sit in appearances and also deceived into thinking all is well in Macbeth's castle because its situation is attractive.

BANQUO  
This guest of summer,  
The temple-haunting martlet, does approve,  
By his loved mansionry, that the heaven's breath  
Smells wooingly here: .....(I.vi.39)

He arrives with King Duncan at Macbeth's castle and when the party for the king is over, he meets Macbeth after midnight; showing that his thoughts are full of the prophecies of the witches, they have met at the beginning of the play. They have no time to talk too much, yet Banquo has already sensed something evil springing up in Macbeth's mind, for, he says to himself and to Fleance.

BANQUO  
Hold, take my sword. There's husbandry in heaven;  
Their candles are all out. Take thee that too.  
A heavy summons lies like lead upon me,  
And yet I would not sleep: merciful powers,

Restrain in me the cursed thoughts that nature  
Gives way to in repose! (II.i.51)

When Macduff discovers that King Duncan has been murdered, Banquo, unlike Macbeth, expresses his grief simply from his heart. He soon voices his suspicion on Macbeth.

BANQUO  
Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all,  
As the weird women promised, and, I fear,  
Thou play'dst most foully for't: yet it was said  
It should not stand in thy posterity,  
But that myself should be the root and father  
Of many kings. If there come truth from them--  
As upon thee, Macbeth, their speeches shine--  
Why, by the verities on thee made good,  
May they not be my oracles as well,  
And set me up in hope? But hush! no more. (III.i.91)

But he does nothing; perhaps he is satisfied for the moment to watch the events, and in any sense he is too concerned with the witches prophecies, for, he is also prophesied to be the father of many kings later on. However, he is given no time to think about them. Macbeth convinces two murderers that Banquo is their enemy who has made them into suffering, cruelty, and injustice secret, and when Banquo is returning with his son in the evening after a day away from the castle, he is murdered. Before his death, we can know that Banquo asks Fleance, to escape and take revenge for him as stated below.

BANQUO  
O, treachery! Fly, good Fleance, fly, fly, fly!  
Thou mayst revenge. O slave! (III.iii.113)

Macbeth is nevertheless to see Banquo once again. The witches show him eight kings, reflected in a mirror, and the ghost of Banquo is following them. It signifies to Macbeth that although Banquo has been murdered by his order, Fleance, has escaped and he is able to be the father of a line of kings. Although Macbeth has won the throne, it is foretold that his children want never follow him in a royal line.

### CONCLUSION

Having analyzed ambition for power of the main characters in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. The writer can draw some conclusions. First, a person who has a great ambition to fulfill but using evil means to reach it will destroy his or her own life at last. This happens to Macbeth and his wife, Lady Macbeth. Macbeth has a great ambition to be a king as the witches prophecies and supported by his natural event (his rise to power as a soldier). However, he does not find the best way in fulfilling his ambition except doing an evil way, through a murder. His wife, Lady Macbeth, is also as ambitious as her husband. She always encourages him to do the evil way, for there is no other good chance for them. Then, they carry out the crime together by murdering the king and Macbeth succeeds to be the new King of Scotland. Because of their evil way in fulfilling their ambition, they always live in fear and suffering.

Second, the power does not come easily. It must be achieved with all efforts. From this conclusion, we can know that Macbeth wants to gain the power without doing anything to fulfill his ambition, just depending on fate, for, if fate says he is to be a king, he certainly will be, whether he takes any action to the end or not.

Third, a person who has done evil ways in fulfilling his or her ambition cannot conceal them forever and he/she will get into a great suffering as the result. Macbeth and his wife have done evil ways in fulfilling their ambitions and they cannot conceal their evil deeds any longer and meet their death as at last.

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