

Sudan University of Science and Technology
College of Education
Language Department, English Unit

The Status of Women in
***Macbeth* and**
Things Fall Apart:
A Comparative Analysis

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A Research Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree Of
Bachelor of English Language

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم
قال الله تعالى:
(يرفع الله الذين امنو منكم والذين اوتوا العلم درجات
والله بما تعملون خبير)
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Dedication

To Our Mothers and Fathers

To Our Sisters and Brothers

To Our Extended Family

With Affection and Admiration

Acknowledgement

First and foremost praise is to Allah, who granted us the strength and ability to pursue this study.

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Our heartfelt thanks are due to our mothers, fathers and all the rest of our families.

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Abstract

The research aims to know the status of women in William Shakespeare's play *Macbeth* and Chinua Achebe's novel *Things Fall Apart*. It also compares and contrasts between women in both works to pinpoint the differences between them. Furthermore, the research investigates the roles of children, servants and witches.

The first chapter contains a comparison between women in both works. It found that women in *Macbeth* are strong and have a strong influence on men's personality and behaviour.

The second chapter speaks about the role and influence of witches in both works. In *Macbeth*, magic is used for evil purposes: deception and leading men astray from the moral path. However, in *Things Fall Apart*, it is used as a force for good: as medicine to cure illness, to protect the clan from evil spirits and mortal enemies and to bring people to the clan's market, thus growing their economy.

ملخص البحث

يهدف هذا البحث الي معرفة دور المراه في مسرحية *Macbeth* التي كتبها William Shakespeare ورواية *Things Fall Apart* لصاحبها

Chinua Achebe ومقارنة دور المرأة في العمليين واطهار الفرق بينهما وايضا يتطرق الي مقارنة دور كل من الاطفال والخدم والساحرات .

يحتوي الباب الاول علي مقارنة النساء في *Macbeth* و *Things Fall Apart* و وجد ان النساء في *Macbeth* اقوي ولديهم تاثير اكبر علي الرجال

وكذلك الباب الثاني احتوي علي مقارنة كيفية استخدام السحر في العمليين و وجد انه في مسرحية *Macbeth* استعمل للتضليل والخداع والشر عكس *Things Fall Apart* الذي استخدم من اجل العلاج واصلاح القبيله في كافة شئونها

وتطرق الباب الثالث الي المقارنه بين الاطفال والخدم في العمليين ووجد ان الاطفال و الخدم يمتلكون شخصية اقوي وسلطة اكبر في مسرحية *Macbeth* عكس الاطفال والخدم في *Things Fall Apart*

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**CHAPTER ONE
WOMEN'S ROLES AND INFLUENCE**

Women in *Macbeth*:

Women in *Macbeth* are strong and brave and have influence over their family and society. However, they are not the primary actors. This reflects the attitude of the period in which the play was written. They are portrayed as being complex and distinct from the ways of men. Women in *Macbeth* have substantial power over the main character as seen in Lady Macbeth's plotting for her husband's future.

Lady Macbeth:

Is character in Shakespeare she is wife to plays protagonist she become queen of Scotland. Her appearance in scene 5 acts 1 when she received the letter of her husband. Then was an messenger come to her and give her the letter from Macbeth. The messenger told her that king Duncan want to visit their castle she become very happy for this good news. She said to the servant to give the messenger gift because he brings good news. When lady Macbeth read the letter she understand it so much that Macbeth told her about the speech of weird sister in the letter. From here Lady Macbeth began to though about the evil thing that she will make it to King Duncan. There was some verse that lady Macbeth said them I think it is too strong verse and fall of evil thinking that I did not hear like them and you despot say this speech from naturally women from our world she like witch women or more than that. This is Lady Macbeth's speech

“The raven himself is hoarse that croak the fatal entrance
Of Duncan under my battlement
Come you sprits that tended
Her and fill me from the crown
To the toe top full of direst cruelty
Make thick my blood
Stop up shock my fell purpose nor keep peace between the affected and it”
Come to my women breasts and take my milk to gall your
Murdering ministers
Wherever in your sightless substances
You wait on nature mischiefdom
Thick night and pall thee in the
Dun nest that of hell it make
Nor heaven peep through the blanket of the dark
To cry hold, hold!”
(*Macbeth* Act I scene s line 30-53)

All this verse mean is that lady Macbeth wants to murder king Duncan she want make herself strong not like an a women fear from kill and death. When King Duncan visits Macbeth castle, Lady Macbeth gives him a warm reception to make him relax and not worry about anything. In the night all of them are sleep lady Macbeth and Macbeth want to murdering King Duncan lady Macbeth King Duncan is too strong women and trying to make her husband strong like her and murdering Duncan not like her father she will killed him by herself lady Macbeth was not afraid of anything like other women, Macbeth murdering King Duncan he become so afraid he bring the dagger with him but lady Macbeth retrying it she did not fear the blood that her husband fear from it.

(*Macbeth* Act II scene 2):

After Macbeth become King he thought about killing Banquo and his children. But he did not tale his wife because he not become evil and can do anything without help from his wife. He decided to killing his friend until doing that he three murdered to killing Banquo and son because he worry for him but Banquo and son was escaped but murderers did not like want. After that he invited his noble to a ceremonial dinner. Noble men sat and greeted welcomed suddenly one of the murders came and told Macbeth that Banquo was killed but Fleance escaped and he said:

There the grown serpent lies:
The worms that's hath nature that
In time will venom breed no teeth for the present.

After that lady Macbeth reminded her husband he did not give the toast so that the guests could begin to eat. She said my loyal lord you don't give the cheer. Macbeth wanted to sit in the empty chair but he saw the ghost of Banquo on it, he became afraid and yelled at the ghost. His wife said to the guests sits, worthy friends my lord is often thousand has been from his youth: pray you rood seat the fit is momentary upon thought he will again be well. After that she found out about Banquo's murder.

(Act 111 scene 4 line 1-99 page 87-99)

Lady Macbeth felt very guilty about all innocent people the bad billed. This caused her to become ill and walk in sleep talking about killing Duncan. The Gentle women brought

the doctor to see her in action. As they watched lady Macbeth came from her bedroom into the hallway saying, “Yet here’s a spot.” Doctor was amazed because he sees a great perturbation is nature to receive at once the benefit of sleep and do the effects of watching in this slumber agitation, besides her walking and other actual performances. Suddenly Lady Macbeth said strong words:

Here’s the smell of the blood still.
All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten. This little hand oh oh oh
wash your hand, put on your yet again Banquo’s buried he cannot come out of grave.
To bed-to bed there is knocking at the gate come,
Come come give me your hand
What’s done can not be undone
To bed-to bed-to bed
(Act V Scene 1 Line 42-59)

All of this was about the night Duncan was killed. She goes to bed room with a taper’
Doctor said to gentle women

Foul whispering are abroad
Unnatural deeds do breed unnatural
Infected minds to their deaf pillows will discharge their secrets
More needs she the divine than the physician.
God, God for give us all
(Act v scene line 62-65 page 149)

In one day her husband and Seyton near sound of women cry he said where for chide the
queen my lord is dead. This is the end of Lady Macbeth. She committed suicide as the
doctor’s words hinted and as we’re told by Malcolm. (Act V scene 5 line 8-10 page 172)

Lady Macduff

Lady Macduff is a character in Macbeth she is the wife of lord Macduff. The thane or fife
and they have many children including a young boy. Her appearance in the play is brief.
She and her son are introduced in Act (IV) SCENE (II) a climatic scene that ends with
her and her son being murdered on Macbeth order. After the murders came ask her where
your husband is she replies him.

I hope in no place so unsanctified where such as thou mayst find him.

Murders said he is a traitor and stablign him.
Young fry of treachery he has killed me mother: her son said run away, I pray you Dies.

Exit lady Macduff crying murder and pursued by the murders
(*Macbeth* Act 4 Scene 2, Shakespeare Navigators)

Women in *Things Fall Apart*

Nwoye's Mother:

She is Okonkwo first wife and there are junior wives in the compound who help her with the responsibilities of a large extended family. At the start of the novel she has two sons and a daughter. Nwoye's mother took care of IKemfuna in her hut and she ask her husband about the boy " is he staying long with us?" her husband reply her that she did not ask him about it" Do what you are told women" Okonkwo thundered and stammered and say to her Did she become one of the awugwu of umofia. This is first time Nwoye's mother seems to question on order and her husband stopped her.

Ekwefi:

The second wife of Okonkwo, Her loyalty is to her husband, his first wife and her daughter Ezinma. Okonkwo accuses Ekwefi of killing a banana tree. When she speaks up for herself to point out the tree is not dead Okonkwo goes into a rage beating her and threatening to shoot her dead. Ekwefi excitedly a waits the wrestling matches which are a part of New Year celebration the narrator let us know that smitten by Okonkwo powers from home to elope with Okonkwo.

Ekwefi wakes Okonkwo up by pounding on his door in the morning. She tells him that Ezinma is deathly ill-she care for her child until Okonkwo gathered medical herbs. She tends her sick daughter the narrator tells us that Ekwefi has bad luck with pregnancy. Although she has born ten children only one of them Ezinma has survived or changeling children. Ekwefi is close friend with Chielo the priestess of Agbala. Yet when Chielo comes at night and take away Ezinma and Ekwefi follows them determined to make sure that Ezinma remains an hurt even if she dies trying. Ekwefi spends night exchanging folk stories with her daughter. When Okonkwo is about to leave Mbanta Ekwefi is part in charge of preparing cassava for the final.

Ojiugo:

She is youngest and third wife of Okonkwo. Okonkwo temper causes him to beat her during the week of peace a festival in which any form of violence is prohibited. This is just one of a number of violations Okonkwo is guilty of and which contribute to his exile to mother of Keechi. Her husband beat her very hard. His anger made him forget that it was the week of peace. His first two wives ran out in great alarm pleading with him that it was the sacred week.

Conclusion:

We see women role in the things fall apart certainly are not as strong or brave as the women in Macbeth women in Macbeth her role in play is incredibly important and she is the subject of various interpretations. Lady Macbeth association with the supernatural violates her expected role as domesticated and passive moment. She immediately going against all society expected norms. In the fact lady Macbeth women can't do it so she must call upon supernatural forces for help her husband to become king and she becomes queen. (www.120helpme.com/view-ask?101=134617.)

CHAPTER TWO WITCHES AND MAGIC

In this chapter we want to talk about witches in both works. In Shakespeare he wrote about witches and give them basic and affect role Macbeth personality. In Achebe: the witches have good role and affect in this society.

Witches and Magic in *Macbeth*:

With a clap of thunder. The witches' reappear having demonstrated their power by casting a terrible curse upon sailors ride from the battlefield. The sister make three prophecies. The first two regarding Macbeth and the last regarding Banquo then king. Banquo, although he shall not himself rule in Scotland will be father to future generations. Ihim air leaving the covtins in amazant Rosse and Angus arrive on the scene to confirm with the thaneship of Cawdor. The witches, first prophecy has come true. www. Role do the witches play in Macbeth?

The witches or (weird sisters as they are often called, play a pivotal role in Macbeth. Macbeth himself obsessed with their prophecies and repeatedly consults with them. The witches also represents struggle between the supernatural and natural world. On the other hand, it is Macbeth create the bloody choose of the play. Action that.

On the other hand, it is witches prophecy that first motivates him to consider murder as away to the throne and then is Like double that they are using their dark powers to influence the proceedings. Hecate himself predicts correctly that Macbeth will come to the witches to learn his future and says that she will use her magic to create apparition that will push him toward his destruction. ((shall raise such artificial sprite shall draw him on to his confusion he shall spur fate scorn death and bear his hopes boue wisdom grace and Berr))

The artificial sprites one the apparitions that the witches canjune for Macbeth that inform him that he cannot die except by a man not of woman born and when Birman wood((forest)) marches on his catle. This make Macbeth over-convident to seek bottle with his opponents. In this way hecate the witches directly influences the action of Macbeth. To be sure, she did not have to act on their prophecies but when he did his death was sealed. His conflict between man and supernatural runs throughout the play and one of its most important themes. The writers are also instrumental in creating the

overall tone and need to play. Source (Macbeth the act 111 scene 5) <http://www.enotes.com/topic/macbeth/characters> <http://www.enotes.com/topic/Macbeth/text>

In the last scene, Macbeth meets with witches. The witches told him things about the future. Macbeth Be ware Macduff” The second apportion is “bloody child “for none of born shall harm Macbeth” The third apportion is a child crowned with a tree in his hand” Macbeth shall never be until great Birnam wood to high Dunsinane. They shall come against him’ all prophecies were told by visions.

Macbeth does not believe what he has seen and can’t see how it come be born of a woman. The last scene was an event full and tragic scene. Everything the witches told Macbeth has come to true. The evil witches’ mission is accomplished. Macbeth is dead. Macbeth the brave soldier has transformed into agedly fined that kills Macduff family. Macbeth was at last killed bu Macduff.

The evil witches one responsible for Macbeth down fall turning him into an evil blood thirsty monster. If Macbeth had not met the witches he would not be evil because the witches persuaded him to kill the King. Then he carried on killing people and getting people killed. He could live in peace and died in peace.

([www.markedbyteacher.com/gcse/english/discuss -The role of witches in Macbeth-107922.html](http://www.markedbyteacher.com/gcse/english/discuss-the-role-of-witches-in-macbeth-107922.html).) ((Macbeth Act 1V , Scene 1V)

Witches and Magic in *Things Fall Apart*:

Chielo:

A priestess in umuofia who is dedicated to the orcal of goddess Agbala. Chielo is a widow with two children. Ezinma on her back for miles in order to help purify is good friends with Ekwefi and of Ezinma whom she call my daughter at one point, she carries Ezinma on her back for miles in order to help purify her and appease the gods. Chilo is also known as another woman with great power of the possessed. The power to decide whether or not umofi would go to war. This power also allowed her to make decisions to sacrifice villagers. Allowing this kind of power showed that women had power for example:

“ She carries Ezinma: Ekwefi’s, daughter on her back for miles at night she map making her rounds to the nine villages. After that, she made four trips to and from the cave, the cave’s mouth was small enough to pass a hen, but child in the Ezinma her back passed it”

(*Things Fall Apart*- chapter 11)

There was a mother medicine man who (www.120helpme.com/view-ask?101=134617.) used magic, her name Okagbue Uyanwa who is a famous medicine man whom Okonkwo summons for help in dealing with Ezinma health problems. When Ezinma was nine years old. This medicine man found her Uyanwa “The small buried people that is the Oganje physical link to the spirit world. His discovery of the Uyanwa ought to have solved Ezinma problems. This Uyanwa is not a true thing, but used the magic to solve problems.

Conclusion:

Was seen in both the play and novel how they used the magic power, but the difference is in usage. In *Macbeth* Malevolence, here tidal, insidious, treacherous, to make the hero a murderer. But, the witches in *Things Fall Apart* their magic is like medicine to solve the problems of their clan. They don’t use it to harm anyone or create mayhem.

But women in *TFA* their duties through the novel including making meal, feeding the children, cleaning the house and helping with the farming. When they do not fulfill all of their duties their husbands beat them. (www.answers.com/Q/what is Okonkwo’s relationship-with-his-wives). We see Okonkwo wives have symbiotic relationships with each other. For example, when Ojugo plaited her hair she didn’t cook for her children and husband; when Okonkwo asked Nwoye’s mother about Ojugo she replied she said she asked me to feed her children with my children. Okonkwo knew she was not speaking the truth that means she didn’t want Ojugo to get harm from her husband.

CHAPTER THREE CHILDREN AND SERVANTS

Children in *Macbeth*: Macduff’s Son:

He is probably a lound 10 years ol in the play. Duncy his only appearance is act (1V) sene (11) he is told with his mother often Rosse back. Her mother said for him father dead and what will you do now and how will you live.

But he did not believe that he said for her my father is not dead for all your saying and asked her whose your husband is. And he is traitor born son of Macduff suicide from murders though liest thou shag earecl villain murder said for him what you egg but murders to killed him first because is strong he said fot mother run away I pray you.

And he did not afraid of them because he told him about father. Macbeth killed family of Macduff because he afraid and he dosent wont to any one alife came and killing him in future to take association to killing Macduff. (Act IVscene 2-line 31-83-page 135).

Children in *TFA*:

Nwoye:

Okonkwo's oldest sons, whom Okonkwo believes is weak and lazy. Okonkwo is continually beats Nwoye hoping to correct the faults that he perceived in him. His father believe that Nwoye is affected with same weakness that his father Unoka was. Nwoye is not masculine in his attitude. He loves his mother stories more than his father stories because the stories of his mother were about birds and children, but his father stories more about violent and a war and masculinity.

When (Ikemefuna) is dead Nwoye cried much and he felt something break inside him for the second time in his life. The first time was where he heard an infant crying in the evil first where new born twins are left to die. (TFA Chapter 7) In chapter 6 Nwoye go with some of Christian missionaries. Nwoye is instantly captivated the "poetry of the new religion" seems to answer his question about the death of Ikemefuna" and the twins new borns so things him like the drop of frozen rain melting on the dry paltate" Nwoye leave his father's compound and travels to school in Umofia to learn reading and writing. His father wonders how he could ever have fathered such an effeminate weak son (TFA chapter 17)

Okonkwo thinks to himself; he is fire and liking fire begets, cold important ash” This is Nwoyes end. He goes with the missionaries and learn a new religion and become one of them they give him new name (Isaac).

Ezinma:

Ezinma is Okonkwo's eldest daughter and Ekwefi only child. The girl has a very close relationship with her mother and she is her fathers. Favourite child Okonkwo being a man who basically only values masculine qualities-strongly wishes that Ezinma had been born a boy which from his frame of mind show how much wel love. And values her because she is her mother only child. Ezinma is coddled and often acts in a bolder manner than the other children. She grows up more privileged and adoved than many of her peers.

Her deep love for her mother is based on little conspiracies like eating (Forbidden) eggs together secretly in Ekwefe locked bedroom and shared sensors respect that goes beyond that of the traditional mother daughter. Relationship Ezinma calls her mother by her given name and she has audacity to ask EKWEFI questions that other mothers would find annoying.

However, as a typical as she is with her ogbanjo birth and brazen character end living in exile with her father and gets married there. Ironically, it’s Nwoye the timid boys who steps out and openly choose a non traditional path. Ezinma seems to grow similar to her traditional father and her expected gender role.

Obiageli:

Daughter of Okonkwo's first wife although obiageli is close to Ezinma in age Ezinma has a great deal of influence over her and she sister Nwoye she broke her water pot. Obliageli carry food to her father first and then comes Nkechi, the daughter of Ojuigo. After exile comes back to umfia and marry with Ezinma.

Servants in *Macbeth*:

A woman servant appears in Act (5) scene (1) she summoned a doctor to observe Macbeth sleep walking. The gentle woman describes how she has seen Lady Macbeth rise address leave her room write something on piece of paper. This gentle woman report to the doctor about Lady Macbeth she stayed with Lady Macbeth while she was ill and she supervised with doctor. The doctor told me gentle woman to be aware and collected every dangerous things from Lady Macbeth suicide herself at the end.

She was servant but she has a strong role with Lady Macbeth. She bring a doctor her and stay in her service until she is died. The doctor and gently woman they observe that lady Macbeth speak with herself in murdering of king Duncan and Banquo. But the doctor and the gentle women did not speak in anything that they hearted them.

After Macbeth came from battle he sent messenger to his wife. Messenger arrived to lady Macbeth and said the king comes here tonight but she does not be live him and said you are made to say but he answer coming , but he was very tiered after he told her about message be fault down and lady Macbeth said for servant give him tending.

Servants in *Things Fall Apart*:

In TFA there was group of people who lived outside the village. The people considered them servant or less than that their name was (OSU) or outcast when they came to church the people who is converted to Christianity from the village left the church immediately. Their teacher ask them why they began to explain to him what an osu was:

“ He was person dedicated to god, a thing set apart, taboo forever. And his children after him, he could neither marry nor be married by the free born, he was in fact and out cast, living in special area of the village, close to the great sbrin. wherever he wont he carried with him the mark of his forbidden cast-long tangled and dirty hairs razor was taboo to him-An osu could not attend on assembly of the free born, and they in turn could not

shelter under his roof. He could not take any of the four title of clan, and when he died was buried by his kind in the evil forest. From their name we see they did not considered them as people like them (outcast) (TFA, 1958:143)

At the end of the chapter three according to us we see children in “TFA” for example Nwoye his personality weak and lazy person as his father Okonkwo said and describe him as ash “Living fire begets cold impotent ash”

And he look like his grandfather in weakness and he has not role in his house as boys in his age missionaries because he could not tachled traditions of his clan. But in Macbeth play Macduff son is strong personality and brave when he speaks with the murders (send by Macbeth to murder him and his family) they kill him when he speaks with his mother, his spoke as clever person. Also children in TFA have role not all of them lazy like Nwoye foome one have celebration wedding or ar example in wedding day or anything they bring water from stream. They carried pots and help their mothers in carrying pots of palm oil and basket of plantations. and cocoyam that their mothers want to give as present to person have ceremony.

Conclusion:

Servant in TFA have no role they live far away from the village. The villagers considered them less than them, but the servant in Macbeth they live with king and queen like when lady Macbeth ill with sleep walking her servant bring a doctor and still with her until because they help in their life.

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

Women have an important role in both (Macbeth) and (TFA) but there is difference in their roles. Women in (TFA) do their duties for their husband and children society they farm with their husbands and teach children through stories .clean the house, make meal to feed their children and husband, and when the tribe has celebration (for example wedding) women make a big meal and wine for men.

Achebe show that the Ibo give some important role to women (for example) women painted the house of egwugwu, the first wife of a man in Ibo society gets some respect for example in Nwakibie daughter ceremony Nwakibie the first wife will drink first and (other wives) could drink after her .

The importance of women appears when Okonkwo is exiled to his mother land. His uncle explains to Okonkwo why a man when he make a crime like these he exiled to his mother land not still to his father land. (A man belong to his father land when thing are good and life is sweet. however when there is sorrow and bitterness he find refuge in his mother land) (TFA, 1958:122) A man can live in his father land in good time but when the bad time comes his mother is always there to save him because of that the Ibo societies say mother is supreme.

Women were considered important and in fluent in (Macbeth) a good example is Lady Macbeth whose character over powers her husband. Lady Macbeth teases the manhood of Macbeth who acts like coward or child in her point of view at the beginning of the play is a noble man but Lady Macbeth drives him to become murder so she but evil in to Macbeths heart she has evil mind that changed Macbeth thinking about not killing king Duncan.

We have another example of women that have a good role in Macbeth; the weird sisters or witches they give a power to Macbeth to make all his crimes they tell Macbeth about his future the witches become guide to Macbeth they also affect Macbeth thinking.

Finally women in (TFA) and Macbeth have a role; in (TFA) women do everything for family, society and their tribe they cannot do more than that men only can do Ruling

however in (*Macbeth*) the women have a stronger role than women in (*TFA*). In *Macbeth* women do things that men cannot do and their duties are not limited to their home women can give men commands. That is difference between women in (*Macbeth*) and (*TFA*) in (*TFA*) their role is weak not like the women in (*Macbeth*) who enjoyed degree of power and authority especially over their husbands.

Witches

Witches in *Macbeth* were associated with dark death and evil. However witches in (*TFA*) was good because they are the peace keepers of the clan and solve marital problem or any problems had bad. Also witches in *Macbeth* intention was bad because was tied with reprisal, evilness and aversion because they used lack magic for plans, like murder and betrayal.

However (*TFA*) magic was associated with solve marital for example when some man want divorce wife EGWUGW solve problem. And used magic to medicating diseases for example when Ezinma was ill Chielo came to Okonkwo house and make some of talisman like ‘Agbula do o-o-o agbula ekene o-o-o Okonkwo agbula ekene gio-o-o-o agbula cbolu ifu ada ya Ezinma o-o-o) and carry her on her back and go to cave to make medicines to Ezinma because that is demand for Agbula. Also used magic for market for example they made powerful medicine .Every market –day before the first cock –crow this medicine stand on the market ground in the shape of an old women with fan. Also used it in war to encourage Umofia men because of magic Umofia never defeated.

Children’s Status In *Macbeth* and *TFA*:

In *Macbeth*, Macduff son was brave and cleaver his conversation with his mother shows that boy is very cleaver and he was not afraid when the murders came and said to his mother that Macduff was traitor. The son said to them, (thou liest thou shageared villain) and the murders killed him .However in (*TFA*) children have chores like farming and

helping their mothers, that all their role in novel Nwoye enjoy sitting with his mother and here her stories about birds and so on .Nwoye father believe that Nwoye was weak and lazy and not masculine in his attitude. Okonkwo was ashamed of his son nature and ear aged at his convert Christianity.

Children in (Macbeth) and (TFA) have roles but in Macbeth has stronger than in (TFA) In the status of relationship in (TFA) for example Ezinma and her mother they so close but Nwoye and his father Okonkwo consider Nwoye weak and lazy person he have not attitude. However, in Macbeth for example Macduff son and his mother they so close they appeared in one scene but we understand that.

Servants' Status in *Macbeth* and *TFA*:

There is a big difference between servants in (TFA) and (Macbeth). In (TFA) the (OSU) have a weak role and can't live free like other people in the clan and cannot communicate with them and have no freedom for anything for example they lived in small isolate area and cannot interact or marry from hem clan but in (Macbeth) they have a strong role and have freedom to do decisions for example a gentle women brings a doctor and stays with lady Macbeth in her room and cares for her.

Also Seyton Macbeth male servant was his right hand man and confidant. He knows Macbeth killed Banquo and killed the two murders that did it to protect Macbeth trust him and any news he brings. The servants in Macbeth have authority to do anything however in (TFA) have not authorities to do anything.

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RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Introduction:

A woman according to me is the most respectable in our society. A woman has always different roles she plays in our life as: mother, a sister, life- partner, friend a daughter. Our life is so influenced by women that we can't deny them their significance in our life. She build our life, she partner for man as always say (behind every success full man there is a women).

We won't speak about women role through two works: Macbeth wrote by William Shakespeare and the other is *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe.

William Shakespeare:

Is an English play brighter that was born in 1564 at Stratford – upon- Avon in Warwick shire he died on April 1616. He is body of works is considered the greatest in the history of English literature.

Shakespeare wrote Macbeth. Macbeth (full title the tragedy of Macbeth is tragedy is considered one of his darkest and most powerful works- set in Scotland the play dramatizes the corrosive Psychological and political effects produced when evil is chosen as away to fulfill the ambition for power .

Chinua Achebe:

Was a novelist poet and critic professor at brown a novelist. He is best known for his first novel things fall apart (1958) which is the most widely read book in modern African literature, Achebe was born in November 1930 in ogidi some miles from north east Nigeria.

His novel things fall apart is a post colonial novel write-in 1958. It is seen as the modern African novel in English one of the first to receive global critical. It's a tragedy novel.

Objectives of the Study:

- To show the role of shake spear and Chinua Achebe as literary figures.

- To appreciate English literature and encourage English students and people to study English literature.
- To establish between two works by comparing similarities and contrasting differences.
- To explain women's afflictive in man's personality in both works.
- To show differences between women's personalities (strong- weakness) .

Hypothesis of the Study:

- Women play an important role in *Macbeth* and *TFA*.
- The Women in *Macbeth* have stronger role than women in *TFA*.
- To show what William Shakespeare and Chinua Achebe wrote about women and their affect in family and society.

Methodology of the Study:

The research is an analytical and critical study of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. It applies the usual tools of literary criticism mentioned above. The data collected is mainly from primary and secondary texts (available in Arabic and English).

Literature Review:

Women in *Macbeth*:

Lady Macbeth is one of the strongest women in all Shakespeare's plays. However, consider how she must contend with the role of women in her world.

Shakespeare's Scotland is a warrior society with little place for women. Women are subordinate to men and divorced from political influence because they lack those qualities that would fit them for warrior society.

In *Macbeth* and elsewhere in Shakespeare (as in Elizabethan literature in general) to be (manly) is to be aggressive daring, bold, resolute and strong, especially in the face of death. Whether giving or receiving is to be (womanly) also to be gentle, fearful, pitying, warring and soft often signified by tears. But women have dangerous presence in *Macbeth* and fear of the power of women was strong force in early modern England.

The self confident and independent that a woman in *Macbeth* has.

Women in *Things Fall Apart*:

The position and image of women in TFA is an important topic. Women in TFA are primary educators of children through storytelling and other form of discourse.

The women bear children and cook and take care of their household. Through their labor they are an important pillar of the society. The idea is that women know the society of life since they are the presence of Chielo, the priestess is instructive.

She is a spiritual leader whose authority is unquestioned. An excellent example of power full women in the Ibo village is. The women routinely perform the role of priestess. The narrator recalls that during Okonkwo's boyhood. Another example of such reverences for women is a veiled in the representation of the earth goddess, Ani. Ani is described as playing a great part in the life of the people any other duty.

Chapter Outline:

CHAPTER ONE: WOMEN'S ROLES

1.1 Women in *Macbeth*

1.2 Women in *Things Fall Apart*

1.3 Conclusion

CHAPTER TWO: WITCHES AND MAGIC

2.1 Witches and Magic in *Macbeth*

2.2 Witches and Magic in *Things Fall Apart*

2.3 Conclusion

CHAPTER THREE: CHILDREN AND SERVANTS

3.1 Children in *Macbeth*

3.2 Children in *Things Fall Apart*

3.3 Servants in *Macbeth*

3.4 Servants in *Things Fall Apart*

3.5 Conclusion

CHAPTER FOUR: CONCLUSION

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