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## Greed that Occurs in Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes Movie

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**Abstract:** The purpose of this study is to analyze the portrayal of greed and power in the film Planet of the Apes and focus on how these themes affect the relationship between humans and apes. This study will focus on understanding the role of greed and power in social and interspecies dynamics and explore how these destructive forces shape character behavior as well as the broader conflict in the story. This study uses qualitative descriptive analysis to explore the themes of "greed" and "power" in Planet of the Apes. The study employs descriptive research to explore how these themes are intertwined in the plot, particularly the dynamics between humans and apes. The study emphasizes the destructive effects of greed, which leads to conflict, exploitation, and oppression and affects both species. Proximus symbolizes the greed of apes, who misuse Caesar's teachings to fuel their violent ambitions, while Mai symbolizes the greed of humans, who crave manipulation and control. The results of this study show how humans struggle to coexist with the greedy apes, thus reinforcing the narrative of inevitable conflict and power struggle.

**Keywords:** Greed, Qualitative, Movie

### 1. INTRODUCTION

According to (Snyder, 2019) Literature is a vast and complex tapestry of human expression, weaving threads of imagination, emotion, and experience through many cultures over the centuries. As a mirror of society, literature reflects our deepest fears, hopes, and aspirations, while shaping our perceptions and challenging our assumptions. Through the power of language, literature transports us to distant lands, in reduces us to unforgettable characters, and invites us to explore the complexities of the human condition. From the epics of ancient civilizations to the modern novel, literature has evolved alongside humankind, adapting to new forms and mediums while maintaining a fundamental ability to influence, inspire, and transform.

Film as a medium for visual storytelling has revolutionized the way we perceive stories and observe the world around us. Since its emergence at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, film has evolved from silent, black-and-white shorts to immersive, multi-sensory experiences that have pushed the boundaries of technology and artistic expression. It is a collaborative art form that combines elements of photography, music, acting, and writing to deliver a powerful emotional and intellectual impact of the audience. Through the camera lens, filmmakers are able to capture the subtleties of human expression, the magnificence of vast landscapes, and the

intricacies of the real and imagined worlds. With this unique ability to compress time, transcend space and explore the human psyche, cinema allows viewers to experience life from multiple perspectives. Film has become a universal language that transcends cultural and linguistic barriers and tells stories that resonate with people around the world.

According to (Bordwell, 2006) Films are typically shown in theaters, and cinemas in a cinematic style, usually telling stories drawn from real-life experiences. Cinematography is the art and science of filmmaking, is the cornerstone of cinema, giving visual life to the director's vision and the screenwriter's word. Various technical skills and artistic decisions combine to create the visual language of the movie. The cinematographer, also known as the director to decide how each scene will be shot, taking into account camera placement, lens choices, lighting design, color palette, and other factors. Meanwhile, editing in film is a meticulous and creative process of transforming raw footage into coherent story. Often referred to as the invisible art, editing brings films to life. The editor works closely with the director to combine different shots and scenes to create a coherent and compelling story.

According to (Gustafsson, 2021) Psychology is the scientific study of human thought and behavior. It is a broad, multifaceted field that seeks to uncover the complexities of human cognition, emotions and social interactions. Topics range from the complex workings of the brain's neural pathways to the broad behavioral patterns observed throughout society and culture. Basically, psychology understands why people think, feel, and behave in certain ways and explores the interaction between biological, environmental, and experiential factors that influence people's development and performance. Aim for work.

Greed is a complex and often destructive human trait that has historically been a subject of interest and concern to philosophers, psychologists, economists, and social commentators. According to (Yanovskaya et al., 2022) greed is an insatiable desire for more wealth, power, possessions, status often at the expense of moral considerations and the well-being of others. This ruthless pursuit of self-interest can take many forms, from the accumulation of material wealth beyond necessity to the ruthless exploitation of resources and talent in pursuit of personal gain.

From a psychological perspective, social conflict is a complex phenomenon that permeates every level of human interaction: from interpersonal relationships to large-scale social tensions. This area of research addresses the complex dynamics of how individuals and groups perceive, experience, and deal with differences and competing interests. Psychologists

study the cognitive processes, emotional responses, and behaviors that occur during conflict and try to understand the underlying mechanisms that cause and maintain social tensions. This area focuses on social identity theory, which explains how group membership affects conflict perceptions and behaviors and how competition for scarce resources fosters hostility between groups. We draw on a variety of theoretical frameworks, including conflict realist theory, to conduct our research.

This study aims to address the gap by examining the manifestations of greed in different characters and societies, the parallel between human greed and its reflection in ape behavior, and the consequences of greed on social structures and power dynamics. As highlighted by Brown's (2021) seminal work on moral philosophy in science function, such analysis provides crucial insights into contemporary social issues.

Based on Puji Lestari (2019) about Human Greed in Paulo Coelho's *The Winner Stands Alone* Novel (2008): A Sociological Perspective, greed means wanting more than one thing. Some people end up doing all sorts of things to fulfill their desires, including doing the wrong thing. The truth is that people will never be satisfied with something and try to make it perfect.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

This study was a qualitative study using descriptive analysis techniques. Descriptive research is research that provides the clearest possible explanatory explanation of a specific situation without discussing the subject under investigation (Kountur, 2004: 53-54). Holloway (1997:43) states that qualitative research includes words and actions observed by participants and heard by the author. This study is a qualitative descriptive analysis study as the results are presented in narrative form. Qualitative research is said to include the words and behaviors that participants believe they observe.

This study is a qualitative descriptive analysis study as the results are presented in narrative form. Wilkinson (2000:7) states that data in qualitative research are presented in the form of quotes or descriptions, but some basic statistics may also be provided. Meanwhile, Ratna in Pratiwi (2008) stated that descriptive analysis research is conducted by describing facts and analyzing them. It is important not only to simply explain the facts, but to ensure correct understanding and interpretation.

## RESULT

In The Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes movies, the themes of “greed” and “power” are intertwined with the plot, especially in the relationship between humans and apes. Greed is a destructive force that leads conflict, exploitation and oppression, often with fatal consequences for both races. Greed is expressed through the character Proximus, who distorts Caesar’s teachings to justify his violent ambitions. Proximus leads a faction of apes who seeks advanced technology to enslave and dominate humans. Human greed is evident in Mae, who embodies the human desire to be above the apes. She manipulates human relationships for her own ends, reinforcing the idea that humans cannot coexist without dominating other intelligent species.

## 3. DISCUSSION



Picture 1

Proximus soldiers : *“You, prisoner! Burn it down!”*  
Villager : *“Noa, help!”*  
Noa : *“where is Soona?”*  
Anaya : *“They took her, they broke my egg.”*

Proximus is a prime example of how greed corrupt leadership and tradition. Caesar’s (his ancestors) teachings originally emphasized coexistence and co-prosperity, but Proximus turned these values into tools of conquest. His desire to rule justified cruelty such as burning villages and taking hostages. The behavior of his soldiers shows a complete disregard for life in their pursuit of power.



**Picture 2**

In this scene shows that Raka, Noa, and Mae stopped by the river and appeared a herd of humans who returned like primitive humans. Raka asked if Mae wanted to join them, at that time, Raka and Noa did not know that Mae was a normal human being who had the ability to think like humans who live hundreds of years ago. Noa leaves them because he thinks Raka has a different purpose. And Raka decides to take Mae with him. When they decided to walk along the river, Proximus soldiers arrived, they are trying to hunt down and kill the remaining humans because of their ambition to be the most dominant.



**Picture 3**

In this scene shows that Noa and Mae were caught by the Proximus soldiers. They brought them into the kingdom. The two of them separated, Mae was taken into the shipwreck, where the Proximus was. She was placed into a room with Trevathan, the only human slave belonging to the Proximus. Proximus found him after he breaking his leg in a fall, after that, he became a slave who read a book about the history about mankind. Unlike Mae, the Proximus soldiers took Noa to the place where the enslaved apes lived. Proximus enslaved the ape captives, and

his apes to break down the iron wall containing human relic weapons to eradicate the remaining humans, and also rule his kingdom.



**Picture 4**

Mae : *“Listen to me. Trevathan, you don’t belong here. You think it’s over... but it’s not.*

*Nobody is going to blame you for what happened here. Just come with us. Please?”*

Trevathan : *“He’s gonna skin your monkey alive. And you, well... you’re gonna learn”*

Mae’s plea to Trevathan to abandon his destructive practices shows how greed breeds betrayal and moral decay. Trevathan’s alliance with the forces of oppression reflects the destructive power of greed. His threats of violence and anticipation of Mae’s suffering show how greed dehumanizes individuals and justifies cruelty. Mae’s decision to kill Trevathan demonstrates that greed and its consequences can lead to violent behavior even in morally upright people. Mae’s actions may seem to be justified by self-defense and the protection of others, but they reveal the psychological price that must be paid for living in a world dominated by the power dynamics of greed. This reflects the broader message of the movie, which is that greed not only corrupts those in power, but also leads others to use similar tactics in order to survive.





**Picture 5**

In this scene shows that Mae and the apes managed to get inside the iron wall by climbing up the cliff, and entering through the vents. Inside are many relics of human remains, with many items still intact despite being hundreds of years old. Mae said the apes should wait in one of the rooms, while she searched for something, she had searched several rooms, and finally she searched the control room, there were many cabinets containing weapons, such as pistols. In the last cabinet she opened, she finally found a hard disk that she would take to the researchers who would connect the remaining humans on the other side of earth.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Explores greed as a fundamental human (and interpersonal) phenomenon, revealing a complex web of psychological, social, and ethical dynamics. Drawing on literature, film, and psychological research, this study demonstrates how greed transcends individual behavior to become a systemic force that influences social interactions, power structures, and collective behavior. An analysis of the film *Monkey Kingdom* provides a powerful metaphor for understanding the destructive potential of unbridled greed for power and resources. Characters such as Proxies and May demonstrate how greed corrupts leadership, distorts morality, and perpetuates cycles of violence. Their behavior suggests that greed is not only a psychological trait of individuals, but also a complex social mechanism that can fundamentally alter group dynamics and interpersonal relationships. From a psychological perspective, greed is a multifaceted phenomenon motivated by an insatiable desire that often overrides moral considerations. Greed manifests itself not only in material accumulation, but also in the

relentless pursuit of power, status and dominance. Research shows that greed is deeply rooted in human (and primate) behavior, challenging simple moral narratives and requiring a nuanced understanding of human motivation. The film provides a comparative analysis of human and ape societies and convincingly demonstrates how greed can corrupt even well-intentioned social structures. Scenes of Proximus tampering with Caesar's original teachings show how ideological principles can be misused to justify exploitation and highlight how fragile social cohesion is when individual ambition takes precedence over collective welfare. Ultimately, the study underscores the importance of understanding greed as a systemic problem rather than an individual moral issue. By investigating the psychological roots, social manifestations, and destructive transformative potential of greed, more nuanced strategies can be developed to mitigate its negative effects and promote more equitable and empathic social interactions.

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