

Political Public Space In Satire Theatre: Case Study On “*Eyayu Fenges*” Performance Ethiopian Theatre

Girmaw Ashebir Sinshaw (M.Ed.), Drs. Sumaryadi, M.Pd.

Lecturer, Debre Markos University, Collage Social Science & Humanities
Debre Darkos , Amhara, Ethiopia

Lecturer, Faculty of Language and Art, Yogyakarta State University,
Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia.

Abstract:

This article aims to describe about the techniques of make understanding for the space of audience or target group in the satire drama in the stage. The researcher would watch the theater in YouTube and in the stage and also read the script which written by *Bereket Belayneh* in the type of satire drama, its function in terms of political and social issues. In the addition to the above mentioned these script and play must show the use of satire for political and social criticism for the audience clearly with easy understanding. The other thing that plays show transmitted of the message to the higher officials in the comic entertaining way to the audience of the satire drama. Besides techniques, purpose and different features of satire has investigated from the relevant references. Its researcher mainly has shown the technique of making understand for the audience that have been watched the satire theater on the stage. *Bereket Belayneh and Girum Zenebe Eyayu fenges* Ethiopian Satire Theater focusing on political satire to find the satire and comic elements used in the humor in order to ridicule the political evils and suggest solutions with in artistically color. The primary sources of this article are *Bereket Belayneh and Girum Zenebe Eyayu fenges* Ethiopian Satire Theater. It's have used as methodology a qualitative descriptive analysis and have use the document study which is that in library, research digital media spots and the relative relevant materials.

Keywords: Satire Theater, Audience, Actor, political.

1. Introduction

Since long times ago Ethiopian political situation the peoples have use different methods of literary works to criticize the government and to show some useful directions. These kinds of political criticism develop the culture of politics in the country. As well as in the theater art will be highly encouraging as character of community empowerment. Theater art by itself nature have the most useful for political, economic, and cultural public empowerment. As we know some of developed countries have grand art companies to employee the people to making awareness creation in related to the current our postmodern digital world situation. Therefore, “political public space in the satire theatre: case study on the performance “*eyayu fenges*” Ethiopian satire theater” has scientific discussion as the following main body of its study. **The brief History of Satire in Ethiopia;**

In the time of contemporary/Modern theatre in Ethiopia in the 20th century by French-educated *Bejrond Teklehawariat Teklemariam*, dramatic genre and form shifts have largely been influenced by religion, politics, or economic condition. Ethiopia is a country that has long time golden history in the land of ancient civilization and the district of trade in Africa. According to Yonas Adamu Chernet (2014) has describe on his research which is “the country of Ethiopia has the history of three thousand years. Starting from that the people of Ethiopia has their own methods of administration system. Through this system peoples may have positive and negative side or support or oppose in all period governances. On the time of supporting or opposing their governance people used different methods.” As the above the researcher has mentioning that about Ethiopia related to satire theater art, the people have own method to describe the feeling for the government and the higher political officials. Among the opposing methods of Ethiopian people,

satire has great role. So starting from the ancient time people were used satire as weapon of attacking evil things and individuals and for criticizing their leaders. During the supremacy of Tewodors II people used different methods to condemn and appreciated the Emperor. At that moment people used different forms of satire such as poem. Poetries presented in different occasions (Ashebir, 2018).

1. Political public space in the satire theatre: case study on the performance “*eyayu fenges*” Ethiopian satire theater

Eyayu fenges is Ethiopian satire theater that performing by one actor full time stage theatre written by a man namely Bereket Belayneh who is Ethiopian poetry and play writer and performed by Grum Zenbe that a man who is radio journalism program narrator and actor of plays. It has been produced two years ago and have traveling world.



Figure 1 *eyayu fenges* satire theatre Player Girum Zenebe

According to the main focusing of the theater are about Ethiopian political, social, economic issues with in comic and tragically performance.

Eyayu fenges satire Ethiopian theater producer and play script writer have used different technical methods to make clear understanding for the audience it's about addressing the target message. Audience is a group of people who participate in a show or encounter a work of art, literature in which they are called "readers", theatre, music in which they are called "listeners", video games in which they are called "players" or academics in any medium.

So in order to this paper study focus area, Satire is a genre of literature, and sometimes graphic and performing arts, in which vices, follies, abuses and shortcomings are held up to ridicule, ideally with the intent of shaming individuals, corporations, government, or society itself into improvement. The target of political satire is usually a specific government, for as Hodgart declares, “most of the best satirists have been against the established government” (1969). According to the above satire drama/play or theater as character aimed to opposing

the current official government that’s what they did in the opposite of people interest like corruption and relative things.

2. Discussion

Eyayu fenges Satire Theater to make understanding the content of theater for targeting audience’s technical performing system.

This art work critics is investigating actor and director participation in an interactive *Eyayu fenges satire theater* performance. During the performance, acting members were enticed to act upon and contribute to the performance by sharing their opinions, emotions, values and other thoughts, by means of facial interaction, dialogue and body language messages that were integrated into the performance itself. The critics aimed at understanding the main characteristics of the theater participation in the interactive performance.

Satire is a genre of literature, and sometimes graphic and performing arts, in which vices, follies, abuses, and shortcomings are held up to ridicule, ideally with the intent of shaming individuals, corporations, government, or society itself into improvement. So in a situation of Ethiopian politics, economic and public interests are discussed in the satire theater with in hummer system. So people /audience have giving the attention with that self-issues that in the theater including as a central content. In addition to the below there is a reason to making clear understanding the content of the theater as technical method in *Eyayu fenges* satire theater are;

a) **Flashbacks;** Flash bucking is one of technical element in theater as well as in *eyayu fenges* Satire Theater to memorize the past story to making understanding for the future story have reacted that during on the stage present story.

b) **Illusion of reality;** this is the main and the mandatory part to making understanding for the audience that performing the fact current story in the circumstance of the situations. The audience those know and have seen in the real life activity and when saw in the theater will be surprised and satisfied for that sounding of all the community fact.

c) **Fantasy;** this is making the imagination of the story that the actors when they have tried to make image of the story, the audience also have an opportunity more understanding, because they will have the make-believe of the content in the theater. So that *eyayu*

fenges have used the different season to different style. For example; during the stage *eyayu fenges* comes to stage from backstage with formal dressing code. Then he said "...thanks my jacket ... I have already updated my status with in a second..." it indicates for about some of arrogant people have not maturity but they have acting as brilliant people. The message targeted to addressed for politicians. Politicians usually they have acting as a perfect man with in great protocol in same of celebration, events opening to public speech. May be the speech written by other speech writers.

d) **Metaphors;** There is a lot metaphor to using an example of the main story and the comparison story to making entertaining, comical, funny, jokey with in *eyayu fenges* Satire Theater for about comic entertaining. As example let's see in the play; *eyayu fenges* as a character name he has using mental-disorder man character. It's symbolized the people that have been disturbed related to the interruption of lack of good government or corrupter officials. As we know theater play as art always represented the people of life.

e) **Anachronisms;** In *eyayu fenges* Satire Theater have a lot of political critics like about corruption and criticize the authority chairman fault of good government. The people have experience about the politics bad game but it's very dormant things because of the dictatorship government. For example in *eyayu fenges* play the actor when he has performing have been insulting the dictator political party officials. The audience has been shocked and great glad feeling.

3. Conclusions

In titled of this paper "political public space in the satire theatre: case study on the performance "*eyayu fenges*" Ethiopian satire theater" has been analysis in the contemporary Ethiopian satire drama.

According to my point of view *Eyayu fenges* Ethiopian Satire Theater are very popular one Actor full time Theater has been used the below different technical method to make great understanding to all types audience . As my critics and also the theater

audience *eyayu fenges* are very interesting and clear contents that delivery the important political, Social and economic aspects.

Ethiopia has an opportunity to get the most political, economic and social benefits in as ambition of community empowering within many issues of the current state situation. The people of Ethiopia if have a chance to be audience of satire theater will be beneficially.

References

- [1] Aron Yeshitila. (2010). Ethiopian Theatre at a Glimpse,wordpress.com/2010/05Ethiopian-theatre-at-a-glimpse.
- [2] Girmaw ashebir.(2018). Analytical axiology of the political background in "vision of Tewodros" Ethiopian historical theater.ijstrm. India.
- [3]Hodgort Matthew. (1969). Satire. London: world university library.
- [4] Yonas Adamu Chernet. (2014). Political Satire in Abebe Tola's "Yabe Tokichaw Shimutochi" and "Yabe Tokichaw Mitsetochi" Essays. International Journal of Literature and Arts.

Author Profile



Girmaw Ashebir received the Bachelor Art (B.A.) degree Ethiopian language and literature- Amharic from Dilla University, Ethiopia and M.Ed. in Art education specialized by theatre from Yogyakarta State University, Indonesia 2012 and 2019, respectively. During 2012-2019, he stayed in Dilla University and Debre Markos University as Assistance Lecturer and public relation officer under Ethiopian Ministry of education. Currently he is Lecturer, collage social science & humanities, Department of Amharic language and literature, Debre Markos University, Amhara, Ethiopia. And his second author is lecturer faculty of language and art, Yogyakarta state university, Indonesia.