

# The Social Conflict in the Novel “Pasar” by Kuntowijoyo Based on Max Weber’s Perspective

Abdul Basid<sup>1</sup>, Siti Umami Habibah<sup>2</sup>, Dita Armitha Sari<sup>3</sup>, Enjang Burhanuddin Yusuf<sup>4</sup>

{abdulbasid@bsa.uin-malang.ac.id<sup>1</sup>, 16310020@student.uin-malang.ac.id<sup>2</sup>, 16310039@student.uin-malang.ac.id<sup>3</sup>, enjang@iainpurwokerto.ac.id<sup>4</sup>}

Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, Indonesia<sup>1,2,3</sup>  
Institut Agama Islam Negeri, Purwokerto, Indonesia<sup>4</sup>

**Abstract.** This study aims to elaborate the forms of social conflict, the causes of appearing social conflict, and the impacts of appearing social conflict to the social relationship and individual in the novel “Pasar” by Kuntowijoyo based on Max Weber’s perspective. This research is descriptive qualitative research. The primary data source is a Novel ‘Pasar’ by Kuntowijoyo and the secondary data sources are books, articles, and journals related to Max Weber’s theory. The techniques of data collection are reading and noting. The techniques of data validation are increasing persistence, triangulation, and discussion with experts and friends. The technique of data analysis is Miles and Huberman models that consists of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The results show that the forms of the social conflict are resistance by moving the merchandise to a new market and unpaid ticket. The causes of appearing social conflict are market chief’s birds that damaged seller’s merchandise in the market and unpaid taxes. The impacts of social conflict to the social relationship and individual are the relationship between the traders and market officials is not harmonious, bank market closed, and the market officers are not respected any more.

**Keywords:** Cause, form, impact, novel, social conflict

## 1 Introduction

Conflict is a phenomenon that often happens in social life because of some factors such as differences in character and power between individuals, and economic differences. Everyone will face different conflicts in the phase of their life. They will try and compete with each other to realize their goals. Each of human will not be released from social conflict in their life. Therefore, it is possible that there will be disputes between groups or individual, because basically social conflict aims to the same purpose. It is to get the power over the other. In fact, whoever has strongest power; he can do anything he wants freely.

Conflict is something that can’t be avoided and eliminated from human life. A person can change objects, the basic direction of his life, as well as his means but cannot eliminate conflict from his real life (Jauhari, 2012, p. 75). Conflict occupies a basic position on social integration and social change revealed in the political realm (struggle for strength) and economy (competition) (Latelendercker, 1983, p. 324).

In addition, social conflict inspires author to write literary works. An author makes a literary work as a reflection of human social life. One of the author who wrote a literary works with the social conflict is Kuntowijoyo. He wrote the novel "Pasar" that described the life of Javanese people and all the polemics around them. This novel also tells about their glorious values such as culture, soul and attitude. The novel elaborates on how the changes of social behaviors of individuals can cause social conflicts.

To reveal clear forms of social conflict, to understand the causes of appearing social conflict, and to analyze the impacts of social conflict in the novel "Pasar" by Kuntowijoyo, the researchers used Weber's conflicts theory because of some factors. The first is Weber states that the basic concept of his theory about conflict includes: (1) Social relations indicate the existence of a characteristic of a system and from that relationship raises a conflict of interest; (2) social facts including systems that can cause conflict; (3) conflicts including symptoms that exist in the social system; (4) conflict leads more to the form of bipolar; (5) conflicts can also arise in power and limitations in the distribution of resources; and finally, (6) changes in social systems including the impact of conflict (Wirawan, 2015, p. 70).

The second is Weber also classifies conflict into two other types, namely (1) conflicts that lead to obtaining power and authority over others that can occur in the arena of political organization, religion, and education, and (2) conflict in ideas and ideals. He argued that ideas and ideals are often opposed to dominating a view and used as a tool in other disputes to convince one another that what is the main goal is not only power but also to win the right principles and ideas (Wirawan, 2015, p. 71).

Thus, Weber declared the idea that the structure of society does something for the good of everyone (Nazsir, 2009, p. 17). He claimed the authority or the power. But both of them have different tendencies. Weber defined power as an impetus for someone to get what they want despite resistance from various parties for their actions (Berry, 1995, p. 193). Power leads to individual opportunities or a number of people in general actions to realize their interests even though they have to face resistance from other individuals or groups involved. So what needs to be emphasized here is the purpose of the conflict and its importance, namely to get power by always being ready to face all opposition from others (Zeitlin, 1995, p. 199).

In the context of social conflicts studies, the researchers find some of studies about social conflict in literary works. They are (1) Basid, et.al concluded that the form of social class disagreement on the main character in the drama *The Heirs* is oppression; and the cause of social class opposition to the main character is the relationship between bourgeoisie and the proletarian class; and the implementation of hierarchical system in *Jeguk Hugh School* (Basid A. e., 2018, pp. 119-127); (2) Basid and Sari stated that the cause of social conflict between subordinate and super ordinate class is different perspective and economy aspect (Basid A. d., 2018, pp. 51-66); (3) Fatim and Basid analyzed the types of social conflicts in novel "Memoar Seorang Dokter Perempuan" by Nawal el-Saadawi based on George Simmels perspective are personal conflict, internal conflict, and external conflict (Fatim, 2017, pp. 393-411).

In this study, the researchers aim to describe the forms of social conflict that occurred in novel "Pasar" by Kuntowijoyo based on Weber's perspective, to reveal the causes of appearing social conflict in novel "Pasar" by Kuntowijoyo based on Weber's perspective, and to understand the impacts of social conflict in novel "Pasar" by Kuntowijoyo based on Weber's perspective.

## 2 Method

This study entitled “The Social Conflict in an Novel “Pasar” By Kuntowijoyo Based On Max Weber’s Perspective is descriptive qualitative research because data results are descriptive data from the observed object (Muhammad, 2011, p. 30). The primary data source is novel “Pasar” by Kuntowijoyo and the secondary data sources are books, journals, and articles related to Weber’s theory. The techniques of data collection are: (1) reading technique (Mestika, 2014, p. 23). In this step, the researchers read the novel overall to understand the storyline and what the novel talk about; (2) noting technique (Muhammad, 2011, p. 211). In this step, the researchers note and write the quotes as the data about the social conflict, its causes, and its impacts.

The techniques of data validation consist of three steps. They are: (1) Increasing persistence (M. Djunaidi Ghoni, 2012, p. 321). In this step, the researchers ensure the validity data obtained about the forms of social conflicts, its causes, and its impacts by reading Weber theory, and the novel for several time; (2) Triangulation (M. Djunaidi Ghoni, 2012, p. 322). In this step, the researchers ascertain that all the methods used, the theory, and the data sources are correct and related to one another; (3) Discussion with experts and friends (M. Djunaidi Ghoni, 2012, p. 324). In this step, the researchers discuss analysis and interpretation with friends and expert to make them sure and correct.

The technique of data analysis is Miles and Hubermann model (M. Djunaidi Ghoni, 2012, p. 306) that consist of: (1) data reduction (Siswanto, 2005, p. 71). The researchers select and divide the data in the form of social conflict, its causes, and its impact in accordance with Weber’s perspective; (2) Data presentation (M. Djunaidi Ghoni, 2012, p. 308). The researchers present the data after classifying them into tables consist of forms of social conflict, its causes and its impacts; (3) Conclusion drawing (Siswanto, 2005, p. 75). The researchers read the classification data and summarise data based on forms of social conflict, its causes and its impacts.

## 3 Results and Discussion

Based on the research problem, the researchers display the forms of social conflict, the causes of appearing social conflict, and the impacts of social conflict in novel “Pasar” by Kuntowijoyo based on Weber’s perspective in the sub-chapter of the results and discussion. Each point will be presented in the form of a table along with the researchers analysis and interpretation as follow:

Forms of social conflict

The researchers found two forms of social conflict in Novel “Pasar” by Kuntowijoyo based on Weber’s perspective. They are: (1) disobedience from market traders; (2) accusations against the market chief. Each form of conflicts will be explained below:

**Table 1.** Forms of social conflict

Forms of social conflict	Actions
Disobedience	Unpaid ticket
	Moving the merchandise to a new market
Accusation	Corruption

The first is Disobedience. According to Weber, conflicts can arise in power and limitations in distribution. One of the types of conflict based on his theory is a conflict in terms of ideas. Everyone will insist on maintaining the idea and its actions they did as a right thing which is also accompanied by their interests. This is illustrated in the novel “Pasar” as found in table 1. Their actions happen because they have their individual interests to earn profits and are based on their view that these actions are the right thing they should do.

Based on table 1. The forms of social conflict, the defiance of the traders is illustrated by the two actions they do, such as not paying a ticket, and moving to a new market. In the social condition of the majority of traders who are not from the top, of course they have the goal to be able to sell their merchandise as much as possible or in other words there are economic interests they are aiming for. This is as Weber's statement that conflicts and divisions arise accompanied by personal interests both material and ideal (Wirawan, 2015, pp. 69-70). However, because of the market chief's birds that fly to the market area disturb the merchants' merchandise; they feel disadvantaged by this happening. As reflected in one of quotes in the novel:

*Count, Sir! Three pigeons have matched my rice.  
How much to pay, if I count. Still asked for more market tickets! I should ask for compensation! (People nod. They lose, lose! Really don't want to pay!)* (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 36).  
... the crowd broke up. The pigeon, Kang. The pigeon, Yu. Harm us, Kang. Harm us, Yu. Don't pay for a ticket, Kang. Don't pay for a ticket, Yu. Your wares have been eaten by pigeons, right? (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 36).

Traders agreed to don't pay market ticket which is usually billed by Paijo, the market ticket officer. Complaint from the first trader in general about birds that offend their merchandise and his statement to don't pay a ticket gives a great influence and encouragement to other traders to take the same action. This is represented by mutual agreement between traders to not pay the tickets. Based on one of the types of Weber conflict, namely conflict in ideas and ideas, the form of agreement among traders is a representation that the idea of the first trader is successfully maintained and believed by other traders that the things they did is right. This is reflected from the reaction of other traders who nod their heads in response to the ideas from the first traders, although that is opposed by the market officials, because it has broken the market rules. This agreement is also supported by the conditions of other traders who are the same as the first traders, and accompanied by their own personal interests to get the profit. They feel disadvantaged by birds at the market area. The birds eat rice and some other merchandise and leave faeces in the market area which causes them loss and disturb their comfort. In addition, regarding this matter, Weber also stated that the form of social action carried out by someone realized from the events happening at that time. Therefore, in this case, the ticket strike action is reflected in the chaos that occurs in the market due to the birds. Another action as a form of the disobedience to market officers is displacing their merchandise from the old market to the new market owned by Kasan Nagali. He is one of the characters in the novel who is portrayed as an arrogant trader. The second action as a form of insubordination is reflected in the following conversation:

*Paijo : Kasan Ngali set up a new market in the yard  
The chief : Hh?  
Paijo : Yes, new market, sir.  
Paijo : The fence is opened, the merchants enter and sell there, isn't it?  
The chief : yes, sir (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 73).*

Kasan Ngali opens his yard to be used as a place for merchant stalls and creates a new market, till the traders move their wares to Kasan Ngali's yard. He uses the opportunities by utilizing the market conflict. This happening illustrates that what Kasan Ngali did is motivated by his personal desires and interests. The purpose is to show his power to do anything with the assets he has. It can be seen from his actions in which forms a conflict not only between traders and market officials, but also a dispute between him and the market chief. Those facts are in line with Weber's statement that all of human actions are done based on the basic of their desires and interests achieved.

The second is accusation. Another conflict happened in the novel "Pasar" by Kuntowijoyo is an accusation against market officials, which leads to allegations of corruption. This accusation is presented in the form of a letter from the tax office that indicated for the market chief.

*.... His hands trembled. This is a letter from the tax office. What was expected? His memory of the market came again. He tore off the cover and read it. Almost did not want to believe, even though he had expected it. A bill that he had forgotten to enter the market tax money that month. his head was dizzy, circling. So long as it became a chief market, it was once received such a warning. and what hurts is a matter of money again! He murmured. "The sub-district head is a witness, it is not my fault!" He hurriedly asked himself from the sub-district. His hand narrowed the letter out (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 256).*

After receiving a reprimand, it is represented how the market chief as the responsible person for paying delinquent market taxes. Obviously, the tax that has not been paid is not because the money taken or used by the market chief or Paijo, but because of uncollected ticket money. Since the commotion in the market because of chief of birds market ultimately made the traders feel disadvantaged and reluctant to pay for the ticket.

In Weber's view, he rejects the idea that the structure of society does something for the good of everyone (Nazsir, 2009, p. 17). The actions taken by traders do not pay for market tickets. That shows a picture that humans tend to not do things for other people, but prioritize their mission and interests. Because not paying for the market ticket will make it difficult for the market chief as the person responsible for paying taxes, until finally came a warning letter from the tax office.

The causes of social conflictBased on the steps taken by the researcher in this study, the researchers find two causes of appearing social conflict in novel Pasar by Kuntowijoyo that summarized in the following table:

**Table 2.** The causes of social conflict

Forms of social conflict	The causes of social conflict
Disobedience	Market chief's birds
Accusation	Unpaid taxes

*First* is market chief's birds. The factor behind the first social conflict in the form of insubordination is market chief's birds. In the novel, it is illustrated that the market chief has pets which their cages are in front of his offices around the market. The birds fly to the market and disturb the merchants' merchandise such as eating their wares and dirt around the market.

*Paijo* : *Who is it, then?*  
*Trader* : *Pigeon!*  
*Paijo* : *The pigeon again. Bored!!*  
*Traders* : *Yes, they take Lombok. Then leave this. (pointing to turn on the merchandise).*  
*Paijo* : *What is that?*  
*Trader* : *Bird phlegm, what's more.*  
*Paijo was over whelmed. People around justify the Lombok traders. Pigeon again!*(Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 37).

Traders feel disadvantaged by the presence of these birds. The merchants feel that their wares which damaged by birds had disturbed the financial capital and the profits they could get from their merchandise. As expressed by Weber in his theory that conflicts arise accompanied by personal interests, one of them is in the form of material (Wirawan, 2015, p. 70). The personal interests of traders are of course to gain profits, but in reality they feel disadvantaged by the existence of these birds. So, this is where the conflict arises between the market chief and the traders to get the interests in the form of insubordination. They no longer want to pay market ticket money and move their merchandise stalls to the new market owned by Kasan Ngali.

*Second* is unpaid tax. The actions of traders who are reluctant to pay tickets also have an impact towards market chief and Paijo which have caused a new conflict. That is accusations lead to corruption. The market chief gets a letter from the tax office through the sub-district head. As explained in the previous subtitles that this is the impact of the unwillingness of traders to pay tickets, so market chief cannot pay taxes to the head office.

*Now it is realized right. His first assignment was to enliven the market, draw as many tickets as possible. Yes thought deeply, there was also her fault. That person is not always right, oh. But no more just because of such a small mistake has been charged with that kind of accusation!* (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, pp. 256-257).

There are two important points can be taken. They are: (1) the market chief realizes that the arrears are due to the absence of collected ticket money. This can be seen in the sentence "draw as many tickets as possible", and (2) the market chief finally admits his own mistakes because of his birds. Therefore, the underlying factor of the second social conflict is due to unpaid market payments from the previous month because traders do not pay ticket money. There is no income to pay taxes. As explained in the previous subtitles that the traders feel disadvantaged and have an impact on the profits they get. In other words, the unwillingness of traders to pay market tickets because of their losses by the birds caused the absence of collected ticket money. The payment of taxes to the head office leads to accusations of corruption by market managers.

In this case, traders are certainly more concerned with the profits of their merchandise and choose to do things that are beneficial to them regardless to the impact caused. This is similar to Weber's explanation in his conflict theory that conflicts and divisions lead to social change in society are also accompanied by personal interests both material and ideal (Wirawan, 2015, p. 69).

The impacts of social conflict

The social conflicts that happen between market traders and market officer in Novel Pasar by Kuntowijoyo have an impact on the social conditions of the society as follow:

**Table 3.** The impacts of social conflict

Forms of social conflict	The impacts of social conflict
Disobedience	The relationship between market ticket holders and traders is not harmonious
Accusation	Market bank closed
	The market chief is not respected

The first impact of social conflict is the relationship between market ticket holders and traders is not harmonious. The market chief has one worker, namely Paijo who is in charge of attracting market tickets. In addition to being ordered to take care of market chief, Paijo is also served to get around the market and dun traders as their ticket starts in the morning. Before the situation changed drastically, the traders are still obedient to existing regulations and willing to pay for market tickets. However, due to the presence of market chief's birds, the relationship between the two is no longer harmonious. If they are dunned, the traders must have scolded him and curse the birds. This is reflected by the paragraph below:

*It's over. The woman who entertained her every morning now pointed her knife at him. Like a knife, it really pierced his heart. If so, the women can be really terrible. There is still rice and the woman in his stomach, so her stomach feels nauseous, like just throwing up. What else do you want to deny? He thought that the seller of rice is the best person on the market. Now she also is hostile him ... (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 41)*

The second is market bank closed. In the market area, there is a market bank as a place for traders to save their merchandise. However, after the dispute in the market, it makes the bank market become quiet and many traders begin to be reluctant to save. Because they feel that their profits have been eaten by the birds and ended at the closing of the Bank. This is reflected in the conversation between Paijo and Siti Zaitun as bank market officers:

*The chief : Ah, Ning. The world has changed, now.  
Zaitun : Of course it always changes, sir.  
The chief : It's getting worse.  
Zaitun : Right, sir. My bank will go bankrupt (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 30)*

The bank is not supposed to be quiet from people saving. The market bank, which is initially visited by traders wanted to save, immediately turn deserted because there are fewer traders. This situation happen continuously until a bank official named Zaitun decided to close the bank because there are no more traders who want to save their money in the bank. Of course, this happening occurs because of the birds. The third impact is market chief is not respected. The market chief is a person who has lived in the market area for a long time. Many people are reluctant to him. However, after some conflicts happened in the market between him and the traders, some people does not respect him again.

*Zaitun : Yes. For your interest, you are willing to sacrifice the traders! Strange unexpected. No warning!  
The chief : Misunderstanding, Ning!  
Zaitun : That's a reality!  
The chief : You know!  
Zaitun : You and ticket attendant are no longer respected by people!  
The chief : What is this! (Kuntowijoyo, 2017, p. 124)*

Market banks are included in the part that affected by social conflicts in the market. As explained in the second point, the market bank is finally deserted from the traders who saved up till decided to close the bank and return to Zaitun's hometown. This irritates her and makes her angry to the chief market because of the birds which causes many problems in the market. Because of that, she does not respect the market chief and shows her resentment at both of the market chief or ticket man by scolding him and answering his questions curtly.

Three impacts of social conflicts indicate the existence of social changes in the market community. This is evident from the market conditions that begin comfortably and a good inter-community relationship finally turns into chaotic and not harmonious. Max Weber stated that social conflicts in society can cause changes in the social system (Wirawan, 2015, p. 70).

## 4 Conclusions

The researchers found that the forms of the social conflict are resistance by moving the merchandise to a new market and unpaid ticket. The causes of appearing social conflict are market chief's birds that damaged sellers merchandise in the market and unpaid taxes. The impacts of social conflict to the social relationship and individual are the relationship between the traders and the market officials isn't harmonious, the bank market is closed, and the market officers are not respected any more.

The researchers concluded that all actions based on personal interests will enable the emergence of social conflict, such as social facts that exist in human social life. This can be a trigger for conflicts between individuals or groups. So that as a result, conflict can cause social change in society.

## Acknowledgements

The researchers would like to dedicate this article to The Forum of Young Researchers, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim, Malang, Indonesia that motivated and supported us to write this academic article.

## References

- [1] Basid, A.: d. Konflik Sosial Dalam Novel Mei Hwa dan Sang Pelintas Zaman Karya Afifah Afra Berdasarkan Perspektif Ralf Dahrendorf. *Jurnal Pena Indonesia, Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Vol 4, No 1*, 51-66 (2018).
- [2] Basid, A: e. (2018). Pertentangan Kelas Sosial Pada Tokoh Utama dalam Drama The Heirs Berdasarkan Teori Sastra Marxis. *Jurnal Kembara, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malan* , 119-127.
- [3] Berry, D: Pokok-Pokok Pikiran Dalam Sosiologi. Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada (1995).
- [4] Fatim, A. N: Konflik Sosial dalam Novel Memoar Seorang Dokter Perempuan Karya Nawal el-Saadawi Berdasarkan Perspektif George Simmel. *Prosiding Senabastra IX Seminar Nasional Bahasa dan Sastra IX di Universitas Trunojoyo Madura* , 393-411 (2017).



- [5] Jauhari, I. B: Teori Sosial; Proses Islamisasi Dalam sistem Ilmu Pengetahuan. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar (2012).
- [6] Latelendercker, L. O: Ongelijkheid Een Inleiding in de Geschiedenis van de Sociologie. Diterjemahkan oleh Samekto. Tata Perubahan Dan Ketimpangan. Jakarta: PT. Gramedia (1983).
- [7] M. Djunaidi Ghoni, F. A: Metode Penelitian Kualitatif. Cetakan Pertama. Yogyakarta: Ar-Ruzz Media (2012).
- [8] Mestika, Z: Metode Penelitian Kepustakaan. Jakarta: Yayasan Pustaka Obor Indonesia (2014).
- [9] Muhammad.: Metode Penelitian Bahasa. Cetakan Pertama. Yogyakarta: Ar -Ruzz Media (2011).
- [10] Nazsir, N: Teori-Teori Sosiologi. Bandung: Widya Padjajaran (2009).
- [11] Siswanto: Metode Penelitian Sastra. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar (2005)
- [12] Wirawan: Teori-Teori Dalam Tiga Paradigma. Jakarta: Prenadamedia Group (2015).
- [13] Zeitlin, I. M: Rethinking Sociology A Critique of Contemporary Theory. Diterjemahkan oleh Anshori dan Juhanda. Memahami Kembali Sosiolog. Yogyakarta: Gajahmada University Press (1995)