

Title: The Destructive Nature of Bourgeoisie on Armenian Family Values in Alexander Shirvanzade's *Chaos*

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According to Antoine Barnave, one of the most prominent leaders of the French Revolution, class distinctions illustrate how people in the upper-class share fiscal benefits, and lower-class people struggle (qtd. in Heller 186). After the Revolution, the bourgeoisie strengthened its power. However, this economic power generated social outrage and further increased the economic gap between classes and a new war was born (Heller 204).

In Marxist theory, the goal of the bourgeoisie is to control the means of production through industrialization, where people from this class value capital and attempt to advance their economic influence in the social hierarchy. This research paper is a Marxist critique of Alexander Shirvanzade's novel *Chaos* (1898). The novel explores themes of dehumanizing exploitation as well as its subsequent chaotic nature. At the beginning of the 19th century, Baku was famous for its immense oil resources, which made the city the industrial center of Transcaucasia (Russian Empire). In the novel, the author depicts an industrial city, where he examines the adverse effects that oil growth had on the bourgeoisie. *Chaos* thematically illustrates the exploitation of working-class people by oil magnates. For the Alimyan family, Shirvanzade unveils their reality: a corrupt society with unchecked financial power in the hands of an employer devastates the family. The emerging oil industry made Caucasia a state oil monopoly. *Chaos* is a very accurate representation of the personal impact of bourgeoisie consciousness on Armenian families.

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