**A Study of Tom Stoppard’s *Travesties***

**under the light of Paul Ricoeur’s Theory of ‘Narrative Time’**

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**Abstract**

Tom Stoppard, the British contemporary playwright, is regarded as a writer whose texts reveal a confusion of time and as such his plays have been analyzed with regard to historicity and the way he glances at historical past or with regard to chaos theory. This research intends to investigate temporal concept in his play, *Travesties*,in order to know the intended meaning out of exposition of the past through memory, lived experience and historicality. This play is analyzed to know how the temporal concept is related to narrativity for constructing a coherent structure out of chaotic use of time-play. For this purpose, Paul Ricoeur’s theory of time is taken into account to examine the temporal concept which is aptly matched with Stoppard’s ideas in two strands. In the first place, Stoppard is greatly obsessed with time; and in the second place, his obsession with time fits into post-classical Narratology which is in accordance with Ricoeur’s concern. ‘Narrative time’ in *Travesties* is analyzed through compartment of plot to explain various subjects such as art, history, and politics with which Stoppard deals, by way of hermeneutics. This study aims to expose temporality in Stoppard’s narrative through analysis of different phases of Ricoeur’s Mimesis, memory, historicality, dialectical practice of Stoppard’s mind, the writer’s multilayered identity and figurative language in search for meanings in the fields of aesthetics, historicity, and politics.

**Key** **words**: *Narrative Time, Historicality, Post-classical Narratology, Memory, Hermeneutics, Paul Ricoeur.*