

ABSTRACT

MARIA KRISTIANINGRUM. **Representation of French Society in the 18th Century through Setting to Reveal Freedom of Religion of Stevenson's *Travel with a Donkey in the Cevennes***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2008.

Literature can represent the truth about reality and reveal its own meaning. The phenomenon of reality and its meaning can be seen through setting, such as religious controversy issues in French started in some centuries ago. The novel *Travel with a Donkey in the Cevennes* views this issue, the freedom of religion.

The main objective is done through three steps. The first objective is to identify the setting in the novel. It explains how the setting in the novel is described. The second objective is to identify how the setting represents French society in the eighteenth century. This part matches the description of the setting with the actual condition of French society in the eighteenth century to prove that the setting represents French society in that period. The last objective is to reveal the freedom of religion through the representation of French society in the eighteenth century.

The writer applied library research method in this analysis. The sources were books and website about the theories, approach, and criticism that are used to analyse the problems. The writer also collected related studies about opinion, and information about the novel and author. This thesis used the socio-cultural historical approach to reveal the ideas behind a work of literature.

As the result of the analysis, the writer concludes that first, the setting is described through geographical location, the occupational and daily manners of living of the characters, the time and period in which the action takes place and general environment of the character. All of them explain the poverty and difficult condition for people like the peasants, shepherds and sellers. Meanwhile the clergy is prosperous in life. The setting also explains the religious view and moral condition in the society. Second, the description of setting has similar characteristics with French society in the eighteenth century, which shows that the setting truly represents French society at that time. The setting represents the peasants, clergy and the French society's view toward religion in the eighteenth century. Third, the result of the representation is focused on the characteristic of society in the society's view toward religion. Religious tolerance is shown off by religious fanaticism as the binary opposite. Religious fanaticism looks like having a religion with its pure faith. In fact, religious fanaticism presents that having a religion is an obligation that forces someone to do it. Basically, having a certain kind of religion is individual right. Someone may not oblige someone else to profess the certain one. Thus, tolerance for other people is required. The prominent of religious tolerance shows that religious tolerance reveals freedom of religion. Finally, the essence behind the representation is revealed.

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Karya sastra dapat merepresentasikan realita kebenaran dan mengungkapkan pesan di dalam karya itu. Fenomena dari kebenaran dan artinya dapat diungkapkan melalui latar belakang cerita, seperti masalah tentang agama di negara Perancis yang telah dimulai pada beberapa abad lalu. Novel *Travel with a Donkey in the Cevennes* memperlihatkan masalah ini yaitu tentang kebebasan beragama.

Tujuan utama penelitian ini dilakukan melalui tiga tahap. Tujuan pertama yaitu mengidentifikasi latar belakang cerita dalam novel. Hal ini menjelaskan bagaimana latar belakang cerita dalam novel digambarkan. Kedua, mengidentifikasi gambaran latar belakang cerita yang merepresentasikan masyarakat Perancis abad ke-18. Bagian ini mencocokkan gambaran latar belakang cerita dengan kenyataan masyarakat Perancis abad ke-18. Tujuan terakhir penelitian ini mengungkap kebebasan beragama dilihat dari representasi masyarakat Perancis pada abad itu.

Penulis menggunakan studi pustaka dalam menganalisa. Data bersumber dari buku dan situs *website* tentang teori-teori, pendekatan, dan kritik yang digunakan dalam menganalisa rumusan masalah. Penulis juga mengumpulkan data tinjauan studi yang memuat opini, dan informasi mengenai novel ini dan pengarangnya. Skripsi ini menggunakan pendekatan sosio-kultural historikal untuk mengungkap gagasan dibalik karya sastra ini.

Sebagai hasil analisis, penulis menyimpulkan bahwa pertama: latar belakang cerita dijelaskan melalui keadaan geografis, jenis pekerjaan dan kebiasaan tokoh-tokohnya, tempat terjadinya peristiwa dan kondisi umum tokoh-tokohnya, yang kesemuanya itu menjelaskan kemiskinan dan kondisi sosial yang sulit bagi masyarakat seperti petani, penggembala dan pedagang. Sementara para rohaniwan menikmati kehidupan yang makmur. Latar belakang cerita juga menjelaskan pandangan masyarakat yang berkaitan dengan agama dan keadaan moral. Kedua, gambaran latar belakang cerita mempunyai kesamaan dengan karakteristik masyarakat Perancis abad ke-18 dan hal itu membuktikan bahwa benar representasi masyarakat Perancis abad ke-18. Latar belakang cerita merepresentasikan petani, rohaniwan, dan pandangan masyarakat Perancis terhadap agama pada abad ke-18. Ketiga, hasil representasi masyarakat difokuskan pada karakteristik masyarakat, yaitu pandangan masyarakat terhadap agama. Toleransi beragama ditonjolkan melalui fanatisme beragama sebagai oposisi binernya. Fanatisme beragama memperlihatkan bahwa mempunyai agama secara murni dari iman. Pada kenyataannya, fanatisme beragama menunjukkan bahwa menganut agama merupakan suatu kewajiban yang memaksa seseorang untuk melakukannya. Pada dasarnya, menganut suatu agama adalah hak pribadi.

Seseorang tidak diperkenankan memaksakan agama kepada orang lain. Maka dari itu toleransi beragama diperlukan. Sangat pentingnya toleransi beragama menunjukkan bahwa toleransi beragama mengungkapkan kebebasan beragama. Akhirnya arti dibalik representasi terungkap.

