

ABSTRACT

Rr. Yudith Mariaran Tresnowati. 2004. **Latifa's Liberation During the Taliban Era in Afghanistan as Seen in Her Work *My Forbidden Face***. Yogyakarta. English Education Study Program. Sanata Dharma University.

This thesis discusses Latifa's novel entitled *My Forbidden Face*. This novel tells about Latifa's effort to achieve the freedom in her country. It describes the situation in Afghanistan in which it was taken over by the Taliban. In the Taliban era, the women position was extremely in a very bad condition. They were banned to perform significant actions.

There are two problems in the novel that are going to be discussed related to the topic of this thesis. Those are (1) How does the Taliban era influence Latifa's life as a teenage girl in Afghanistan as revealed in *My Forbidden Face*? (2) Why does Latifa have motivation to change her life?

To analyze the two problems above, this study carries out a library research to find out the data. There are two kinds of data sources; the primary data source is the novel itself, *My Forbidden Face*. While, the secondary data sources are from the Internet, some books related to the theories, and movies.

Two critical approaches namely the socialcultural – historical approach and the psychological approach are employed in this study. Feminism approach is also used considering the liberation performed by Latifa in this novel.

Latifa is a teenage girl who was born and raised in Afghanistan. She faces the era of the Taliban in which they try to create a pure Moslem country there. There are two conclusions that can be drawn from the analysis of the novel, *My Forbidden Face*. The first conclusion, it is stated clearly in the novel that the political situation in Latifa's country is endangered because many harsh actions occur almost everyday. Besides that, she is also banned to perform significant actions outside her apartment. Having this situation, a young girl can feel distressed and afterward, she can have a pessimistic opinion about her future. In contrary with the other teenage girls in their age, Latifa still has a hope for her future and she is not really affected by the Taliban. It happens because of her family and friends' supports. Their supports are needed in order to prevent the bad influence from society. In this case, Latifa's family and friends help her to solve the situation. The second conclusion, Latifa is banned to perform significant actions such as continuing her study in university and developing her skills and abilities outside her apartment. Those are Latifa's reasons so that she has motivation to change her life. The Taliban ban her and she dislikes that. The corner situation leads Latifa to perform the liberation such as opening the clandestine school and educating the children around her neighborhood. Without her family and friends' encouragement, Latifa will not be able to conduct this liberation. The result is she can change and bring some new experiences to her life.

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Skripsi ini mengulas novel karangan Latifa yang berjudul *My Forbidden Face*. Novel ini menceritakan usaha Latifa untuk meraih kebebasan dinegaranya. Novel ini menggambarkan situasi di Afghanistan saat berada dibawah kekuasaan Taliban. Pada era Taliban, posisi wanita berada dalam kondisi yang benar-benar buruk. Mereka dilarang melakukan kegiatan yang bermakna.

Ada dua masalah yang berhubungan dengan tema dari skripsi ini, yaitu (1) Bagaimana era Taliban mempengaruhi kehidupan Latifa sebagai seorang gadis muda di Afghanistan seperti yang terungkap di dalam buku *My Forbidden Face*? (2) Mengapa Latifa memiliki motivasi untuk merubah kehidupannya?

Untuk menganalisa dua permasalahan tersebut, studi ini menerapkan studi pustaka dalam mencari data. Ada dua macam sumber data; sumber data primer adalah novel itu sendiri, *My Forbidden Face*. Sumber data kedua adalah Internet, buku-buku yang berhubungan dengan teori-teori yang ada, dan film.

Dua pendekatan *critical* yaitu pendekatan *sociocultural-historical* dan pendekatan psikologi diterapkan dalam studi ini. Pendekatan *feminism* juga digunakan mengingat gerakan pembebasan yang dilakukan oleh Latifa dalam novel ini.

Latifa adalah seorang gadis yang lahir dan dibesarkan di Afghanistan. Dia mengalami era Taliban dimana rezim ini mencoba menciptakan negara Islam disana. Terdapat dua kesimpulan yang dapat diambil dari analisis novel ini. Kesimpulan pertama, terungkap secara jelas bahwa situasi politik di Afghanistan membahayakan karena hampir setiap hari aksi kekerasan terjadi. Selain itu, Latifa juga dilarang untuk melakukan kegiatan diluar apartemennya. Melihat situasi ini, seorang gadis dapat merasa tidak nyaman dan juga menyebabkan perasaan pesimis mengenai masa depannya. Berbeda dengan Latifa, diakhir novel, Latifa masih mempunyai harapan akan masa depannya dan dia juga tidak terpengaruh dengan keberadaan Taliban. Hal ini terjadi karena dukungan dari keluarga serta teman-temannya. Dukungan mereka dibutuhkan untuk mencegah pengaruh buruk dari masyarakat. Dalam hal ini keluarga dan teman-teman membantunya menghadapi situasi yang ada. Kesimpulan kedua, Latifa dilarang untuk melakukan kegiatan yang berarti seperti melanjutkan kuliah di universitas dan juga mengembangkan keahlian serta ketrampilannya diluar apartemen. Hal-hal tersebut yang mendasari Latifa sehingga dia memiliki motivasi untuk merubah hidupnya. Taliban melarang dia dan dia tidak setuju dengan larangan tersebut. Dalam situasi yang terpojok, Latifa berani melakukan gerakan pembebasan seperti membuka sekolah bawah tanah dan mengajar anak-anak disekitar tempat tinggalnya. Tanpa dorongan dari keluarga serta teman-temannya, Latifa tidak akan mungkin dapat melaksanakan hal ini. Hasilnya dia dapat mengubah hidupnya dan membawa pengalaman baru untuk dirinya.