

ABSTRACT

RIVAI NOVRIZAL, RIZKY. (2019). **The Martian as the Representation of British Empire in H.G Wells' *The War Of The Worlds***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

The War of the Worlds by H.G Wells is a famous and influential novel. This novel is about the invasion of the Martians to earth in order to replenish their resources. The Martians were depicted as a representation of the British Empire. Through this novel, Wells criticized the British Empire attitude towards the colonized countries as well as their imperialist agenda.

This study was composed by using library research method that used the novel *The War of the Worlds* as the primary data and for the secondary data, some books and journals contain criticism on the novel, literary theories, and historical reviews of the novel are used. This study used the theory of character and characterization, theory of setting, theory on society in the novel, and the relation between literature and society. The review of the British Empire (1497-1997) was used to get a better understanding of the British Empire, from the rise until the downfall. The sociocultural-historical approach applied in order to help the writer understand the society of British Empire colonies.

The first analysis of the study shows that the Martians were having a physical limitation which makes them relied heavily on machines. Despite the fact that the Martians unable to do physical activity, they were highly intelligent creatures with advanced technologies and weapon. With their technological advancement, the Martian could easily invade the earth as well as annihilated the human. The second is the comparison between the Martian's society and Human society. The society of the Martian was very advanced and also a workaholic and well organized compared with the society of human which very traditional and primitive. The third analysis of the study shows that the Martian with their high intelligence and technological advancement were representing the British Empire itself.

Both the British Empire and The Martian were having the same motive and attitude during their conquest to the new world/continent which is gaining valuable resources. However both of them would slowly declining and suffered downfall, with the Martian failed to predict the earth's bacteria that destroyed their body cells and killed them while the British Empire with the cost of war which resulted in debts followed by their failure to financially support their colonies therefore they had no choice but to granted independence for their colonies.

Keywords: British Empire, the Martians, colony

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The War of the Worlds karangan H.G Wells merupakan novel yang terkenal dan paling berpengaruh, menceritakan tentang invansi bangsa mars ke bumi untuk mencari sumber daya. Bangsa Mars digambarkan sebagai representasi dari Kerajaan Inggris. Melalui novel ini, penulis mengkritik Kerajaan Inggris kebijakan imperialisnya dan perlakuan terhadap koloni-koloninya

Studi ini menerapkan metode perpustakaan dan menggunakan novel *The War of the Worlds* sebagai data primer. Data sekunder diperoleh dari buku-buku dan jurnal yang memuat ulasan novel, teori literature, dan latar belakang sejarah dari novel tersebut. Teori-teori yang diterapkan terdiri dari teori karakter dan karakterisasi, teori setting, teori masyarakat dalam novel, dan hubungan antara literatur dan masyarakat. Sejarah kerajaan Inggris (1497-1997) juga digunakan untuk mengetahui sejarah dari kerajaan Inggris. Pendekatan sosiokultural-historis juga digunakan untuk memahami masyarakat dari kerajaan Inggris saat itu.

Analisis pertama menyimpulkan bahwa bangsa mars merupakan ras yang tidak mampu melakukan aktivitas fisik dan bergantung sepenuhnya pada kecerdasan dan alat-alat untuk mempermudah melakukan segala pekerjaan namun seiring waktu, planet mereka tidak mampu lagi memenuhi kebutuhan sumber daya berbekal dengan kecerdasan dan kecanggihan alat- alat, bangsa Mars kemudian menginvasi bumi. Analisis kedua menyimpulkan adanya perbedaan masyarakat antara bangsa Mars yang sangat moderen dan canggih dengan Manusia yang lebih sederhana dan primitif menyebabkan bangsa Mars dapat dengan mudah menginvasi bumi. Analisis ketiga menghasilkan bukti bahwa bangsa Mars dan Kerajaan Inggris mempunyai motivasi yang sama yaitu untuk mencari dan menguasai sumber daya, kemudian bangsa Mars dan Kerajaan Inggris juga memiliki kecanggihan teknologi dan pada akhirnya keduanya juga mengalami kemunduran dan kejatuhan yang disebabkan oleh faktor internal yaitu bangsa Mars yang tidak kebal terhadap serangan bakteri di Bumi dan Kerajaan Inggris yang menanggung beban hutang yang besar akibat dari perang yang akhirnya membuat mereka tidak mampu membiayai dan harus melepas semua negara-negara jajahan.

Kata Kunci: British Empire, the Martians, colony