

## ABSTRACT

Roza Puspita. 2022. *Female Subjectivity: Alienation and Liberation Through Sexual Difference In Ayaan Hirsi Ali's Infidel And Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Yogyakarta: The Graduate Program in English Language Studies. Sanata Dharma University.

This thesis examines the alienation and liberation of women's subjectivity in Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Khaled Hosseini's *Infidel* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, respectively. The premise of the analysis is given as two primary questions. This thesis first demonstrates the alienation of Muslim women's subjectivity in an Islamic society dominated by males. Second, this thesis assesses the main characters' battle for liberation from patriarchal hegemony.

This thesis employs Luce Irigaray's sexual difference theory and Pierre Bourdieu's doxa theory to address the issues. In the analysis, there are two key conclusions. First, the conventional interpretation of Islamic doctrine by male-dominated interpreters has alienated women in both the public and private spheres. It prevents women from entering the public without mahram/male leadership, obtaining an education, and hierarchical right as the witness which impacted to the public violation as women committed crime. All prohibitions are enforced in the name of Islam, notwithstanding the fact that they are based on the biased interpretations of traditional interpreters. It follows the same pattern as the private realm, where love, intimacy, relationships, and physiological needs are addressed. In the guise of religion, male family members make women their object. As a result, women are compelled to enter arranged marriages, maintain their virginity, commit domestic violence, and be the victim of polygamy. In this patriarchal religious nation, the status of women is far lower than that of males, which causes women to lose their subjectivity. In the guise of religion, they just serve as a mirror to reflect the positive qualities of men, and their lives are governed by the rules or standards imposed by patriarchal hegemony.

In both works of literature, the protagonists strive for independence. In *Infidel*, a Muslim woman's efforts to discover her liberty and become the voice of Muslim women seeking their own emancipation are depicted. However, she failed to comprehend what freedom entails, as the manner in which she fights for the liberation of Muslim women violates Muslim women's rights, and she refuses to acknowledge the differing perspectives of other Muslims in attaining their liberty and their right to practice religion. *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, on the other hand, demonstrates that women may achieve liberty and develop respectful relationships with other subjects by respecting their sexual differences, just as Laila and Tariq did, despite Mariam's death. However, Mariam also finds liberation from herself, since she constantly acknowledges that she is a harami and useless daughter who brings dishonour to the family. Ultimately, she can find her independence and subject status by making her own happiness-related decisions.

*Keywords: Alienation, liberation, Muslim Women*

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Tesis ini meneliti keterasingan dan pembebasan subjektivitas perempuan di Ayaan Hirsi Ali dan Khaled Hosseini's kafir dan seribu matahari yang indah, masing-masing. Premis analisis diberikan sebagai dua pertanyaan utama. Tesis ini pertama kali menunjukkan keterasingan subjektivitas perempuan Muslim dalam masyarakat Islam yang didominasi oleh laki-laki. Kedua, tesis ini menilai pertarungan karakter utama untuk pembebasan dari hegemoni patriarki. Tesis ini menggunakan teori perbedaan seksual Luce Irigaray dan teori doxa Pierre Bourdieu untuk mengatasi masalah tersebut. Dalam analisis, ada dua kesimpulan utama.

Pertama, interpretasi konvensional dari doktrin Islam oleh penerjemah yang didominasi pria telah mengasingkan perempuan baik di bidang public maupun swasta. Ini mencegah perempuan memasuki public tanpa kepemimpinan Mahram/pria, mendapatkan pendidikan, dan bekerja di luar rumah. Semua larangan ditegakkan atas nama Islam, terlepas dari fakta bahwa mereka didasarkan pada interpretasi bias dari penafsir tradisional. Ini mengikuti pola yang sama dengan ranah pribadi, di mana cinta, keintiman, hubungan, dan kebutuhan fisiologis ditangani. Dengan kedok agama, anggota keluarga pria menjadikan wanita objek mereka. Akibatnya, wanita dipaksa untuk memasuki pernikahan yang diatur, mempertahankan keperawanan mereka, berfungsi sebagai pengasuh keluarga, dan menjadi istri dan anak perempuan yang tunduk. Di negara agama patriarki ini, status perempuan jauh lebih rendah daripada laki-laki, yang menyebabkan wanita kehilangan subjektivitas mereka. Dalam kedok agama, mereka hanya berfungsi sebagai cermin untuk mencerminkan kualitas positif manusia, dan kehidupan mereka diatur oleh aturan atau standar yang diberlakukan oleh hegemoni patriarki.

Dalam kedua karya sastra tersebut, para protagonist berjuang untuk kemerdekaan. Dalam *Infidel*, upaya seorang wanita Muslim untuk menemukan kebebasannya dan menjadi suara wanita Muslim yang mencari emansipasi mereka sendiri digambarkan. Namun, dia gagal memahami apa yang dimaksud dengan kebebasan, karena cara dia memperjuangkan pembebasan wanita Muslim melanggar hak-hak wanita Muslim, dan dia menolak untuk mengakui perbedaan perspektif Muslim lain dalam mencapai kebebasan dan hak mereka untuk menjalankan agama. *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, di sisi lain, menunjukkan bahwa perempuan dapat mencapai kebebasan dan mengembangkan hubungan hormat dengan subyek lain dengan menghormati perbedaan seksual mereka, seperti yang dilakukan Laila dan Tariq, meskipun kematian Mariam. Namun, Mariam juga menemukan pembebasan dari dirinya sendiri. Pada akhirnya, dia dapat menemukan kemandirian dan status subjeknya dengan membua tkeputusan terkait kebahagiaannya sendiri.

*Kata kunci: keterasingan, pembebasan, wanita Muslim*