

ABSTRAK

Pada abad ke-19, aturan keagamaan Hindu bersifat sangat eksklusif terhadap ajaran agama lain. Hal ini kemudian menyebabkan agama Kristen dan Islam mengalami diskriminasi. Keshab Chandra Sen pernah ditolak dan dikecam oleh tokoh-tokoh Hindu ortodoks karena pemikirannya yang bersifat inklusif terhadap ajaran Kristen. Pemikiran Sen bertentangan dengan ajaran Hindu ortodoks yang memuja dewa-dewa, sementara Sen menolak penyembahan berhala dan lebih meyakini Brahman dalam bentuk trimurti (Brahma, Shiva, Wisnu).

Berdasarkan latar belakang di atas, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji gagasan inklusif Keshab Chandra Sen sebagai bentuk perlawanan ajaran keagamaan Hindu yang konservatif pada abad ke-19. Keshab Chandra Sen menawarkan pemikiran yang menekankan keterbukaan antar umat beragama, dengan tujuan membangun masyarakat yang lebih toleran, saling menghormati dan menghargai agama lain. Untuk mencapai tujuan tersebut, metodologi yang digunakan adalah studi pustaka dengan mencari literatur yang berkaitan dengan karya-karya Keshab Chandra Sen, sejarah Brahma Samaj, serta sumber sekunder lainnya yang membahas tentang keagamaan di India pada masa itu.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penerimaan Sen terhadap Yesus Kristus mendorongnya untuk mendirikan gerakan spiritual dan sosial yang disebut *Bhāratvarsya Brahma Samāj* (Brahma Samāj). Di satu sisi, dengan itu, Sen mengadopsi ajaran moral Yesus Kristus, seperti belas kasih, pengampunan, pelayanan kepada Brahman dan sesama, serta penyangkalan diri yang total. Kontribusinya membawa kemajuan signifikan bagi masyarakat India. Di sisi lain, ia berhasil merumuskan undang-undang yang mendukung pernikahan janda, sistem kasta yang lebih seimbang, pendidikan perempuan, dan melarang pernikahan anak. Wajah agama pun tampak lebih terkait dengan keprihatinan-keprihatinan sosial.

Gerakan reformasi sosial dan agama yang dipelopori Sen juga dapat memberikan sumbangan besar dalam menyikapi masalah intoleransi agama saat ini, di abad 21 ini, seperti peperangan, terorisme, pandangan eksklusif, serta penolakan terhadap pembangunan rumah ibadah dan pertikaian yang membawa korban jiwa. Konsep keterbukaan yang diajarkan oleh Sen membuka jalan bagi toleransi antar umat beragama, dengan bersikap terbuka, menghormati, dan menghargai kepercayaan agama lain.



ABSTRACT

In the 19th century, Hindu religious laws were highly exclusive toward other religious teachings. As a result, Christianity and Islam faced discrimination. Keshab Chandra Sen was rejected and condemned by orthodox Hindu figures due to his inclusive views on Christian teachings. His ideas contradicted orthodox Hindu doctrines, which venerated multiple deities, while Sen rejected idol worship and believed in Brahman in the form of the Trimurti (Brahma, Shiva, Vishnu).

Based on the background above, this study aims to examine the inclusive ideas of Keshab Chandra Sen as a form of resistance against the conservative religious teachings of Hinduism in the 19th century. Keshab Chandra Sen offered a perspective that emphasized interreligious openness, with the goal of building a society that is more tolerant, respectful, and appreciative of other religions. To achieve this objective, the methodology used is a literature study, by exploring writings related to the works of Keshab Chandra Sen, the history of the Brahma Samaj, as well as other secondary sources that discuss the religious context in India during that period.

The results of the study show that Sen's acceptance of Jesus Christ encouraged him to establish a spiritual and social movement called *Bhāratvarsya Brahma Samāj* (Brahma Samāj). On one hand, this led him to adopt Christ's moral teachings, such as compassion, forgiveness, service to Brahman and others, and complete self-denial. His contributions brought significant progress to Indian society. On the other hand, he successfully formulated laws supporting widow remarriage, a more balanced caste system, women's education, and the prohibition of child marriage. As a result, religion became more closely linked to social concerns.

The social and religious reform movement pioneered by Sen can also make a major contribution to addressing religious intolerance in the 21st century, such as war, terrorism, exclusivity views, and opposition to the construction of places of worship, as well as conflicts that result in loss of life. Sen's concept of openness paves the way for interfaith tolerance by promoting an attitude of openness, respect, and appreciation for other religious beliefs.

