

ABSTRACT

FILIA, RUTH KARINA. (2026). **The Representation of Religious Identity and Anti-Colonial Resistance in Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

The novel *Pachinko* was published in 2017 and written by Min Jin Lee. *Pachinko* tells the story of the first, second, and third generations of Korean immigrants living in Japan. Sunja dan Baek Isak are a married couple who represent the first generation of Korean immigrants in the Baek family. They face oppression from the government during the Japanese colonial period, which affect them economically, socially, and religiously.

This study aims to analyze textual representation of how religion served as a foundation of resilience for oppressed Korean immigrants in Japan. The study addresses three research objectication: first, how Baek Isak's religious identity is constructed in the novel *Pachinko*. Second, how religious construction within the socio-political structure of Japanese colonial rule in Korea is depicted. Lastly, how Baek Isak's religiosity produces resistance against Japanese colonial.

This study employs postcolonial approach to analyze how religion is positioned within the socio-political structure of Japanese colonialism and how religious positions serve as a form of resistance against colonialism. This study focuses on the main character, Baek Isak, as the primary research object. Additionally, various relevant books and journals are utilized as secondary text to support the research.

Based on the research questions, the findings indicate that Baek Isak drew in his past experiences as a source of motivation in life. Furthermore, small acts in daily life and the authority of the church helped reinforce Baek Isak's religious identity. Throughout his life, Baek Isak complied with various orders from the Japanese government even when it is against Christian values. The Japanese government, as a colonial power, created a social hierarchy that indirectly regulated social, political, and economic circulation. This led to inequality between Western missionaries and Korean missionaries. Therefore, Baek Isak, as a protestant pastor, use his faith as his foundation of resistance from the Japanese colonial government.

Keywords: *religious identity, anti-colonial resistance.*

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Novel *Pachinko* dirilis pada tahun 2017 dan ditulis oleh Min Jin Lee. *Pachinko* menceritakan kehidupan generasi pertama, kedua, dan ketiga imigran Korea yang tinggal di Jepang. Sunja dan Baek Isak merupakan pasangan suami-istri yang menjadi generasi pertama imigran Korea dalam keluarga Baek. Mereka mengalami tekanan dari pemerintah pada masa penjajahan Jepang sehingga kehidupan imigran Korea terdampak dari segi ekonomi, sosial, dan agama.

Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana agama menjadi fondasi pertahanan bagi imigran Korea yang tertindas di Jepang. Penelitian ini membahas tiga tujuan penelitian: pertama, bagaimana identitas keagamaan Baek Isak dibangun dalam novel *Pachinko*. Kedua, bagaimana konstruksi keagamaan ditempatkan dalam struktur sosial-politik penjajahan Jepang di Korea. Ketiga, bagaimana posisi keagamaan Baek Isak memicu perlawanan terhadap kolonialisme Jepang.

Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan teknik penelitian kepustakaan serta pendekatan poskolonial untuk menganalisis bagaimana keagamaan ditempatkan dalam struktur sosial-politik penjajahan Jepang dan bagaimana posisi keagamaan menjadi bentuk perlawanan terhadap penjajahan. Penelitian ini berfokus pada tokoh utama, yaitu Baek Isak, sebagai data utama penelitian. Selain itu, berbagai buku dan jurnal yang relevan digunakan sebagai data sekunder untuk mendukung penelitian.

Berdasarkan rumusan masalah, hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa tokoh Baek Isak menggunakan pengalaman masa lalunya sebagai motivasi hidup. Selain itu, tindakan-tindakan kecil dalam kehidupan sehari-hari serta otoritas gereja turut memperkuat identitas keagamaan Baek Isak. Sepanjang hidupnya, Baek Isak menjalankan berbagai perintah pemerintah Jepang meskipun bertentangan dengan ajaran kekristenan. Pemerintah Jepang sebagai negara kolonial menciptakan sistem hierarki sosial yang secara tidak langsung mengatur sirkulasi sosial, politik, dan ekonomi. Hal tersebut menyebabkan ketimpangan antara misionaris Barat dan misionaris Korea. Oleh karena itu, Baek Isak sebagai pendeta Kristen Protestant melakukan perlawanan terhadap pemerintah kolonial Jepang.

Kata kunci: *religious identity, anti-colonial resistance*.