

PROTESTS AGAINST INJUSTICE IN “THE OUTCAST” NOVEL BY OKKY MADASARI (2014): LIBERAL FEMINISM APPROACH

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Abstract

This research is carried out to describe the role of liberal feminism in the Outcast novel. The outcast represents Okky Madasari (the writer) for those whose are banished because of their belief. This research is about a social problems which are faced by an Ahmadi as an excommunication. The social problems which are discussed in this research are injustice. The purpose of this research is to expose Maryam's struggle to get justice for a religion organization called Ahmadi. Based on the outcast novel the result of analysis shows that the role of liberal feminism is very important toward the social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm.

Keywords: *Injustice, Liberal feminism, Okky Madasari, the Outcast*

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INTRODUCTION

This research examines the role of liberal feminism is in the Outcast novel. The author of the outcast novel is Okky Madasari. The content story of a novel is generally longer than short story. Novel is one of literature form. It is supported by Wellek (1977) who states that “one way is to define “literature” as everything in print. Novel is one of literary work which is imaginative. The content of a novel is really different with scientific book. It is supported by Wellek (1977) who states that “another way of defining literature is to limit it to "great books," books which, whatever their subject, are "notable for literary form or expression." Here the criterion is either aesthetic worth alone or aesthetic worth in combination with general intellectual distinction.

Novel is actually author's imagination. There is an idea in a novel. The idea will bring the readers into a message. That message will make the reader easier to understand the story. The idea or what we called theme sometimes talk about social life. In fact, the literary work is the reflection of the society, real life or social condition. It means that the content of the novel is actually tells the reader about life. It is supported by Klarer (2004) who states that “These features of the novel which, in their attention to individualism and realism, reflect basic sociohistorical tendencies of the eighteenth century, soon made the novel a dominant literary genre.”

The primary resource on this story is the outcast novel by Okky Madasari. The novel exactly tells about the life of an Ahmadi which the main character is a woman named Maryam. The outcast novel tells about Maryam's life include of her family, her family's belief (Ahmadi), and her love . Maryam is the main character in this novel. There some character in this novel namely Alam, Mr Kahiruddin and Mrs. Khairuddin, Rohma, Rifky, Mr and Mrs. Zazuli, Gamal, Alam's father and mother, Jamil, Zulkair, Family, Fatimah's homeroom teacher, Fatimah's religion's teacher, Mr Ali and Mrs. Ali, Umar, Komang, Nuraini, Mr. RT. Rohmat, Mandalika.

The secondary resources on this novel are social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm. The position of this research is about liberalism exactly liberal feminism. The novelty of this research is about liberal feminism. It is chosen because the writer thinks that the problems above are caused by the low of liberal feminism.

It is known that liberal feminism itself is a form of feminism that argues that equality for women can be achieved through legal means and social reform. Liberal feminism leans towards an equality or sameness argument with men. Liberal feminism is an individualistic form of feminist theory, which focuses on women's ability to maintain their equality through their own actions and choices. Liberal feminism conceives of politics in individualistic terms and looks to reform present practices in society. “Liberal feminists” are often seen among other types of feminists as conservative and overwhelmingly white and middle class.

Thesis statement of this research is the outcast represents Maryam's protest against injustice towards an Ahmadi's organization. It means that this paper concerns about Maryam's protest against injustice towards an Ahmadi's organization in the point of view of liberal feminism. By saying that the outcast actually is protest Okky Madasari to a freedom of

socialization and the belief or faithful. Based on the story there are many effect that caused the low liberalism, where in this case is liberal feminism, namely: social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm.

Table 1. Studies on the Outcast Novel

Anxiety		Marriage norm		Sacrifice		Traumatic experiences	
Anxiety	of	Marriage	Norm	Maryam's		Traumatic	
Maryam in Okky Madasari's Novel (2012): a Psychoanalytic Approach.	Reflected at Okky Madasari's Outcast Novel (2014): a Psychoanalytic Approach.	at Okky Madasari's Outcast Novel (2014): a Psychoanalytic Approach.	the Outcast Novel (2014): a Psychological Approach.	Maryam's sacrifice in the Novel by Okky Madasari (2014): an Individual Psychological Approach.		Experiences in Okky Madasari's Outcast (2012).	

First the Outcast novel from the perspective of anxiety tells us about the anxiety that is faced by a human where in this case is a woman with the problem on her life. Discrimination is “the differential treatment of individuals considered to belong to a particular social group. To treat a member of a subordinate group as inferior is to discriminate against that person. Members of dominant group tend to use one standard of behavior among themselves and a different standard for any member of a subordinate group. The difference of a faithful sometimes makes a group of people fell about discrimination. From discrimination, it will arise an anxiety; people tend to fell afraid with their own way. Therefore, anxiety is concern and fear especially about what might happen (Hornby, 1995). Anxiety is an ego function which alerts the person to sources to impending danger that must be counteracted or avoided. As such, anxiety enables the person top react to threatening situation in an adaptive way (Freud, in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992). The anxiety of Maryam appears in three forms, realistic anxiety, neurotic anxiety and moral anxiety.

The second is the Outcast novel from the perspective of marriage norm. Everyone who has a relationship certainty wants to marry with her/his couple, to

live together, to have children and new family. Marriage is the purpose for whoever wants to have better life than before, because they can live together with their soul mate in their live. There are some requirements for having marriage at Ahmadiyah society and that become a conflict in Maryam’s life, so that become the conflict climax in this story that the researcher wants to research by using psychoanalytic approach, namely Id, Ego, and Superego.

The third is the Outcast novel from the perspective of sacrifice. Right people tend to sacrifice their effort to injustice to justice. Sacrifice has relationship with individual’s nature. So, that sacrifice is appropriate examined by individual psychological approach. According to Adler (in Ryckman, 1985), individual psychology is a science that attempts to understand the experiences and behavior of each personality should be to serve as a fruitful guide for therapist and ultimately for everyone, in affecting change toward more psychologically healthy behavior.

The four is the Outcast novel from the perspective of traumatic experiences. Traumatic experience must have been experienced by almost everyone, but in different level. In psychoanalytic theory, trauma is marked by “an event in the subject’s life defined by its intensity, by the subject’s incapacity to respond adequately to it, and by the upheaval and long-lasting effects that it brings about the psychological organization” (LaPlance and Pontalis, 1973).

By saying that the outcast actually is protest Okky Madasari to a faithful or a believe in a religion. Based on the story there are many effect that caused the low liberalism, in this case is liberal feminism, namely: social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm.

METHOD

While analyzing the novel, the writers used qualitative research. According to Anderson and Taylor (2009), qualitative research typically involves fieldwork in which the writers observed and recorded behavior and events in their natural setting. Creswell (2003: 182) writes qualitative defines that the writer made interpretation of the data. There are two kinds of data sources, namely *primary* and *secondary* sources. The *primary* sources in this research are documentations and observations. Its purposes are to analyze the liberal feminism in the outcast novel. I used two data sources, namely primary data and secondary data. The primary data source of the study is the Outcast novel written by Okky Madasari. The secondary data source from many sources as references, the author’s biography, the website from the internet about this novel and other resources that support the analysis.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this paper the writer will analyze the outcast from liberal feminism. Liberal feminism majorly affects our understanding of the equality or the sameness argument between men and woman. A liberal feminism will be easy to woman to fight an injustice. In this novel Maryam chooses and says her way briefly. In the other hand if there is no liberal feminism, a woman does not has any occasion to choose something. Hence, liberal feminism is an important factor which contributes woman social life.

Based on the explanation above we can say that it is important for a woman to participate in fighting the injustice so that there is no social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm. Let us find out more about the role of liberal feminismin society and how it affects for protests against injustice towards an Ahmadi’s organization in the outcast novel story.

The Outcast

Her mother climbed in. “It’s better not to get involved with outsiders. You might both regret it, you’ll both get hurt. It’s best to end it now.” Maryam got angry. She was beyond fed up. She had been patient for far too long. For years she had always tried to do as her parents said-go out with and marry someone from the same community, one of their own. But how could she tell her heart who to fall in love with? How could she resist if her heart choose to love someone else? Did they want to see their daughter never get married? Did they want to see their daughter get hurt because she couldn’t marry the person she loved? That night Maryam gave vent to her anger. She poured out all the feelings that she had been suppressing for years. (Outcast/Madasari/p.13)

Her father grew even angrier. He asked Maryam to return home with them. “There are many good men in our village!” he said. “Those who have been taught and raised the same way would respect and love you better than outsiders who believe they’re always right.” (Outcast/Madasari/p.13)

The first story tells about liberal feminism. Where Maryam has freedom to choose someone she loves. Whereas in the second story shows that Maryam should choose the man who has the same belief because her father thinks that an outsider will not accept what they are belief.

Maryam didn’t answer straight away. In truth, she was disappointed with him. Did he really have to tell his parents that she was an Ahmadi? Why did he regard this difference between them as so important? If they hadn’t said anything, no one would have been any the wiser. And why should Alam’s parents ask her to leave her faith and follow her husband’s? they essentially had the same religion, after all. (Outcast/Madasari/p.31)

Picking Up the Scraps

Let this mosque belong to us, and let the other mosques belong to others. Thus, Maryam’s family would only pray at their mosques, and never let the others take over this mosque. That was what Maryam always heard since she was young. (Outcast/Madasari/p.56)

Every Ahmadi child, like Fatimah-since they attended the elementary school-had been through the confusion, sadness, and fear when they found the label of ‘misguided’ on the faith they had been taught. As experienced by Maryam and made her cry for days in her room. But that was just a natural process. (Outcast/Madasari/p.63)

But the gratitude turned into anger, when Fatimah gave her father a letter from her teacher. The religion teacher told him everything through the letter. He insulted and blasphemed through the writing. He said, he never changed his mind. That Fatimah was a lost soul, she didn’t deserve the mark until she repented for her sin. (Outcast/Madasari/p.67)

The United

....Maryam walked along the houses. She didn’t hesitate nor embarrassed. The conversation she had with Jamil and Zulkhair had removed all of her feelings, except the urge to meet her family. (Outcast/Madasari/p.73)

Maryam felt Alam’s family was never able to accept her. She felt that the good actions they showed were just a con. They thought of her as an outsider, a stranger. In her mind, Alam’s family would always see her as a lost soul who would never change although she pronounced thousand of atonements. (Outcast/Madasari/p.101)

“Marriage isn’t always to have children,” Alam said that day. Maryam found her justification. She really wanted to be an adult who was free from any demands or obligations. (Outcast/Maryam/p.103)

“Moreover, I grew afraid of being an Ahmadi, Mother. I’m tired of being different. I also knew it’s hard to find an Ahmadi man. Especially... the 1998 riots, Mother... I wanted to marry Alam soon to be perfectly safe.” Maryam’s mother hugged her again, tighter. (Outcast/Madasari/p.115)

“She doesn’t have a child. And there is no problem in their marriage. Maryam is a good woman. She did make mistake, but more importantly, she returned to the right path,” added M.rs. Ali. (Outcast/Madasari/p.135)

Putting the Pieces Together

Maryam’s father said, “A wife is supposed to follow her husband.”
(Outcast/Maryam/p.147)

Framing Hope

“This village is calm now. Everyone lives harmoniously and peacefully. I’m asking you, don’t bother us anymore,” Rohmat said.

“What do you mean?” Maryam answered in a high voice. She widened her eyes.

“Who bother you? What do I do?”

“We both know what you do ...”

“I know nothing. I do nothing and suddenly you say I’m bothering you?” Maryam interrupted his sentence before he could finish it. (Oucast/Madasari/p.186)

“Lost people shouldn’t come in here,” Mr. Haji jumped in.

“Lost? Who are” Maryam’s voice wasn’t questioning, it was shouting.

“Whoever defined her religion,” Mr. Haji answered calmly.

“How do you know we defy our religion,” Maryam no longer cared about politeness. She deliberately addressed the two men with ‘you’ to show her resentment. (Oucast/Madasari/p.186)

“Who didn’t know that you are Ahmadiyah?” Rohmat replied.

“It doesn’t mean we defy...” (Oucast/Madasari/p.186)

“Maryam got up. Half-screaming she said, “I still have my rights to stay in this village. That house belongs to my family. I will report this to the police. To the court. Everyone who banished us will get punishment!”
(Oucast/Madasari/p.187)

She felt challenged. She shouted at the villagers, “Do you remember me? I am Maryam. Mr. Khairuddin’s daughter. Kakek Zainuri’s granddaughter.”
(Oucast/Madasari/p.186)

“That house belongs to us. That land is inherited by Grandpa. That house was built with my father’s effort. How could you cast us away from our own house?” Her voice grew louder. Her hand was pointing at the location of her house, then moved to the people.

Cooling the Flames

Before she gave birth to the baby, Maryam told Umar she wanted to give a Lombok name for her daughter. Not Arabic name, like parents’. For Maryam, that was the first and the easiest one to keep her daughter from the pain her family suffered. “Let this kid stay away from religion but close to goodness,” said Maryam repeatedly. Umar agreed. Regarding faith, he always agreed with Maryam. Everything they did was the form of love to their family and the oppressed people. Not out of faith. (Oucast/Madasari/p.217)

The Borderless/ Epilogue

Maryam writes the third letter to the government about the justice for Ahmadi. (Oucast/Madasari/p.247)

CONCLUSION

There are some aspects which occur in the Outcast novel, such as social problem, social discrimination, criminality, educations, religion, economic and business, anxiety, psychoanalytic, traumatic experiences, sacrifice, and marriage norm. The main character in this novel is a woman named Maryam. This story emphasize of Maryam’s struggle to get justice for a religion organization called Ahmadi. So, we could say that the role of liberal feminism is very important because a woman has the same argument with men.

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