

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first chapter is introduction in contains of the background. In the background, the discussed is about a portrayal, Pakistan, character, patriarchal and previous studies. The next points are research of questions, research objectives, and significance of the research.

1.1 Background of The Research

A literary work can be a way to express and depict of women's right to gain the state equality in politics, social, and economy with men. Generally, women show in literary work by using dominant character or creating a women story to get how women are described in a literary work. Especially in the novel, it brings up a bolder story, one of them is a feminist genre and it is very popular in the society. Undoubtedly, the genre of this novel is written by women writers who has a background that fits with the plot of her novel and because she is interested in feminists.

Beside the paragraph above, we can find many characters in the novel. Characters within women or men characters are the most important thing that will be described in analyzing the novel, because the problem which found in the novel comes from those characters. In this paper, the researcher will describe about women's position in patriarchal handcuff within the novel. This study will make a focus on a main position which found in this research. Those points are included in portrayal of women.

The portrayal is defined as a show or describes something. The word of portrayal can be used to explain about picture. The portrayal about something is portrayed by ourselves with the culture which is influence (Gamble, 2004, p.48). In the other words, this paper take some women characters that portrayed in the

novel; how women is described and told by the author to the readers and describe an idealized woman which found in those women portrayals.

In this study, the researcher will take the focus on one of the most famous female writers from Pakistan, Qaisra Shahraz. The author of some novels and short stories. She is famous for her courage to mix up feminist-related conflicts until she was awarded to be the first place in the list of 50 Most Influential Women in Pakistan.

Some novels are written by Shahraz include *The Holy Woman* (2002), *Typhoon* (2007), *Revolt* (2013), *A Pair of Jeans and Other Stories* (2013) and *The Concubine and The Slave Catcher: And Other Stories* (2017). The Holy Woman has been translated into Indonesian and makes the public hunt for research material in its feminist scope. Likewise also in this study that took the focal point on the idealized image of women in the Novel The Holy Woman. This genre shows a woman satisfying to rake some rules in her country to become an idealized woman.

There are some previous researches to this topic. The first, the research is titled *Citra Perempuan Dalam Novel The Holy Woman: Satu Kajian Feminis* by R. Myrna Nur Sakinah from Padjadjaran University. She explained that Zarri Bano's position as a daughter and also a woman cannot determine her life freely. She was wrapped up in a patriarchal culture that had been instilled by her father, it becomes a part of her father's order.

Then, the second research is titled *The Struggle of Zarri Bano Against Patriarchy in Qaisra Shahraz's The Holy Woman* by Tajul Mafakhir from State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. He mentioned that social status of Zarri Bano in the family has a binding body Zarri Bano with the family tradition that has been established for generations, becoming a substitute heir to preserve the family's land, if the current sole male heir died. Zarri bano tried to change her father insane mind because she is educated woman and she felt too dear if she became a victim of her family's tradition because of inheritance.

The last, the research is titled Challenging Gender Stereotypes: A Text Analysis in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman* by Shamaila Haleem. She explained that gender stereotype can be challenged; hence men can deviate from their traditional roles as an authoritative, oppressing and gender-biased being. Literary text can portray the changed gender roles as is done by Qaisra Shahraz in this novel where Sikander, the male protagonist takes untraditional role. Sikander's character is revealed through this example from the text where he becomes angry at the decision of making Zarri Bano a Holy woman, he wants to stop her from sacrificing her life.

Although Shahraz admits that she is not a feminist writer, some of her works have slapped women's social conditions around the world, especially in the scope of Muslim women. She explains that every piece of her work on women is just a sense of empathy towards the condition of Muslim women who have been mixed in their world by the Western element. It made Shahraz very concerned about the situation. Often, in this modern time the laws of patriarchy and gender stereotypes are still valid and very difficult to erase. This is plainly illustrated by *The Holy Woman's* novel that Zarri Bano must be confined and obedient to her father's wish to become *Shahzadi Ibadat*. The short explanation above produced the problem of this research, that is why Zarri Bano's father has a desire to make her daughter as a *Shahzadi Ibadat* and why she did it.

1.2 Statement of Problems

As the explanation of the background above, it produced the problem research, that is why Zarri Bano's father has a desire to make her daughter as a *Shahzadi Ibadat* and why she did it. This research was conducted to answer the following research questions:

1. How are women generally portrayed in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*?
2. How Zarri Bano as the idealized woman is depicted in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*?

3. How the representation of the Holy Woman as a patriarchal system which found in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the research questions, this research aims to:

1. To find out the women portrayed in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*.
2. To find out the idealized woman in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*.
4. To find out the representation of the Holy Woman as a patriarchal system which found in Qaisra Shahraz's *The Holy Woman*?

1.4 Significance of The Research

This research study can provide many advantages for getting knowledge of literature field, especially deals with the theory of feminism which focused on women side. Further, this study would also be a review on the portrayal of women in The Holy Woman's culture, and the other of significance from this research as follows:

1. Theoretically

The result of this research is expected to be useful for literary studies in general, in the feminist cases which focus on patriarchal and portrayal of women. Especially for women, to make them realize about women side in another culture and how it becomes an important discussion to investigate women's life widely and deeply.

2. Practically

This research gives more knowledge in literary field especially in feminist study and also it is used to a reading resource in discussing and writing, and also becomes a reference in analysing study in feminist side.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

This section will be presented some definitions of key terms in this research to avoid any misunderstanding in reading this research. These terms below may have different meaning and understanding. Thus, it will give a brief explanation in order to emphasize the meaning of the term in literature. The definitions in this research are:

- 1.5.1 Portrayal of Women:** The portrayal of female character as a weak, expressive, shy, submissive, emotional and irrational being; sets mind for gender discrimination and division of human characteristics into two separate categories. The dominant factor is always associated with a male while the recessive one is referred to a female.
- 1.5.2 Idealized Woman:** Woman is formed to be like a man wants, woman is exploited in every side till she becomes a submissive woman. She is demanded to be someone new in the sake of fulfilling men's desire.
- 1.5.3 Feminist Literary Criticism:** A theory which critiques a literary work from its feminist side with feminist paradigm and feminist point of view.

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