

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Novel is a life story, a design to create an epic totality of life. From here, everything can be regarded. The genre has historical roots both in the fields of the medieval and early modern romance and in the tradition of the novella. Samuel Richardson argued that Fictional prose is narrative of considerable length and some complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience through a connected sequence of events involving a group of person in a specific setting. In short, Novel is particular society of life. Reality and novel is having strong correlations. Novel can represent that situation (politic, economic, social, culture, and religion) at the time the novel written.

Novel *Inside the Kingdom: My Life in Saudi Arabia* is the most popular novel in the world, it written by Carmen bin Ladin. Published in 2004, *Inside the Kingdom: My Life in Saudi Arabia* is a personal account of her life as a Saudi Arabian wife and mother. The book contains insights into life in the bin Ladin family and her relationship with them and her former husband. She claims that no matter how westernized her ex-husband or other bin Ladin family members may be, they still feel strong familiar and religious ties and would financially support and shelter Osama bin Ladin if necessary. Novel *Inside the Kingdom: My Life in*

Saudi Arabia got the Leslie's best of 2004. In this novel, she wrote that she had only seen Osama on two occasions and they did not really speak. She emphasizes that the bin Ladin family is a large one, and not all of family are directly associated with Osama.

Carmen bin ladin (also known as bin Ladin, born Carmen Dufour 1954 in Geneva, Switzerland) was a member of the bin Ladin family. She was raised in Lausanne, Switzerland by her mother along with three other sisters (Salome, Beatrice, and Magnolia). Her father was Swiss, hence the name Dufour, and her mother was Persian (Mirdoht-Syehbani). Carmen was married to one of Osama bin Ladin's older brothers, Yeslam bin ladin until 1988. They were married in 1974 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. She has three daughters, Wafah Dufour, Najia, and Noor.

Carmen was a westernized woman who found it difficult to adjust to the restrictive life in Saudi Arabia. Carmen met Yeslam bin Ladin in 1973, when he rented a floor her mother's house in Geneva for the summer. She was already accustomed to luxury. But Yeslam came from a background of quite staggering wealth. He was 24, a little older than she. After they married, they moved to Los Angeles to study at the University of Southern California and then in 1976 Yeslam asked her to return to Jeddah with him, so he could work in the family firm (multibillion dollar construction company, the bin Ladin corporation). She reluctantly agreed, "I loved my husband" she says.

Inside the Kingdom: My Life in Saudi Arabia tells about the life of Carmen bin Ladin in Saudi Arabia, when she was living in Saudi Arabia, his younger

brother, Osama bin Ladin was a young man and Carmen had little interaction with him. However, even after she left the family, she was aware of his growing militancy. The break up of her marriage, and how her life changed after the bloodcurdling events of September 11th 2001, Carmen bin Ladin heard the news that Twin Towers had been struck. She instinctively knew that her brother in law was involved in these horrifying acts of terrorism, and her heart went out to America. She also knew that her life and the lives of her daughters would never be the same again.

Carmen Bin Ladin wrote the book “Inside the Kingdom” to inform the public of how she became involved with the Bin Ladin family. She fell in love with a very western Saudi Arabian who took her to California so they could continue their education. When they returned to Saudi Arabia she was unprepared for the changes in her husband and what was expected from her as a Saudi woman. Her life as a Saudi woman consisted of visiting other family members for tea and to discuss their children, most other subjects were foreign to Saudi women. A Saudi woman’s sole responsibility is to have babies, they do not clean or cook they have servants for that. Carmen would wait for vacations out of Saudi Arabia so that she did not have to wear her *abaya* and could dress and act western. Sitting in the passenger seat next to her husband was a treat. Carmen was not raised Saudi she was raised in Geneva, Switzerland by a Persian aristocrat mother and a Swiss father. So, after she married with Yeslam, she has to survive to learn and follow

two different cultures in their life and try to make herself feels good around her society.

Culture is defined as the whole of human knowledge as a social creature which he uses to understand and interpret the environment and his experience, as well as a foundation for behavior-behavior. Thus, culture is a set of rules, guidelines, plans, and strategies that comprise a set of cognitive models that belongs to man, and used selectively in the face of its environment, as manifested in behavior and actions.

According to J.A., Banks, & McGee in their book entitled *Multicultural education* said that, most social scientists today view culture as consisting primarily of the symbolic, ideational, and intangible aspects of human societies. The essence of a culture is not its artifacts, tools, or other tangible cultural elements but how the members of the group interpret, use, and perceive them. It is the values, symbols, interpretations, and perspectives that distinguish one people from another in modernized societies; it is not material objects and other tangible aspects of human societies. People within a culture usually interpret the meaning of symbols, artifacts, and behaviors in the same or in similar ways.

The term "cross-cultural studies" appears in the social sciences in the 1930s inspired by the cross-cultural survey conducted by George Peter Murdock, an anthropologist from Yale University. In 1969, the Joint Douglas R. White, Murdock made a cross-cultural study of samples of standard (Standard Cross-Cultural Sample), which is widely used in the field of cultural studies. The sample

consisted of 186 cultural documentations. This term originally referring to comparative studies based on cultural data compilation. However, the term gradually obtained the expansion of meaning into an interactive relationship between individuals from two or more different cultures.

In the context of the first sense, cross-cultural research is a study in various fields of science that is done by comparing the various elements of several cultures. Comparative studies in the field of politics, economy, communications, sociology, cultural anthropology, philosophy, literature, linguistics and music (ethnomusicology) is some form of review in this context.

In the context of the second sense, cross-cultural research is directed at the study of various forms of interaction between individuals of different cultural groups. Cross-cultural studies in this perspective is taking daily human interaction as part of a culture that needs to be examined carefully, because as with an understanding of anthropological view of culture as a whole way of life (way of life).

Cross-cultural study is an adaptation of the term *cross-cultural* to describe a branch of literary and cultural studies dealing with works or writers associated with more than one culture. Practitioners of cross-cultural cultural studies often use the term *cross-culturalism* to describe discourses involving cultural interactivity, or to promote (or disparage) various forms of cultural interactivity.

In *inside the kingdom* novel which is written by Carmen, told that, while she lives with Bin Ladin family, her lives is forced, because she has to obey all of the

rules which is done in Arab, and how the position of woman in Arab perspective. Carmen come from a family that belongs to western background, while she decides to married with Yeslam who belongs to eastern family (Arab). It is not an easy things for Carmen to adaptation or survive with her new environment condition, because western and eastern culture are very different each other. For example in the terms of how women should wears clothes. In Arab, she has to cover all of her body by wearing *abaya* and veil, because in Arab rules (culture) only certain people who can see or usually called by “muhrim”. While in western culture, she can go outside without cover all of her body by her clothes and veil. This is the simple example of the differences between Arab and Western culture.

There are four reasons why the writer chooses this novel to be analyzed. First, this novel is an international best seller. As an international best seller, off course this novel has many reactions and criticism from society. One criticism from the publisher argued that this international bestseller gives the shocking account of what it's like to be a woman-even a wealthy woman from a privileged family-in Saudi Arabia today.

She Married Osama Bin Laden's Brother. Now She Dares to Tell Her Story. This international bestseller gives the shocking account of what it's like to be a woman-even a wealthy woman from a privileged family-in Saudi Arabia today. In an unprecedented act, Carmen Bin Laden dares to throw off the veil that conceals one of the most powerful, secretive, and repressive countries in the world-and the Bin Laden family's rule within it. (The Publisher)

Secondly, Writer thinks that in *Inside The Kingdom* novel, there are so many educational values, such education in society system, culture, religious

norms, and human right. Writer can find that one culture with another culture has differences.

Thirdly, it is controversial factor. When published in 2004, *Inside The Kingdom* novel got so many reactions and criticism from society around the world. Most of reactions and criticism are positive. Some society supports Carmen as woman that acts as wife of Yeslam Bin Laden and mother of her three daughters, Not only support but is also very proud with her struggle.

And the last reason, this novel is a fascinating book from beginning to end, and one that highlights just how restrictive life is for women under the fanatical Wahabbism practice in Saudi Arabia.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher uses sociological approach in analyzing the novel with the title in this research paper “LIVING IN TWO DIFFERENT CULTURES AMERICA AND ARAB IN CARMEN BIN LADIN’S *INSIDE THE KINGDOM* (2004): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.

B. Literature Review

Inside The Kingdom is an interesting novel. This novel is one of best seller books which were published in 2004. The research of this novel is not a new thing. The writer found a researcher who analyzed this novel before. There is Henry Arini (2008), in her research entitled “Gender inequality in Carmen Bin Ladin’s

Inside The Kingdom; Feminist Approach.” This study aimed to analyze gender inequalities principles in Carmen bin Ladin’s Inside the Kingdom viewed from a feminist approach. Based on the analysis, the writer draws some conclusions as follow: first, Carmen faced two cultures, West culture and East culture. West is American and East by Saudi Arabia. Carmen showed in Saudi Arabia that women as an object that must against patriarchal culture to get equalities in position, role right, and participation that is reflected in her character. Second, in this novel the major character is also as the narrator because this novel is autobiography types of novel.

Second researcher, Arina’s research (2009) which is aimed to analyze gender inequalities principles in Carmen bin Ladin’s inside the kingdom viewed from A feminist approach. Besides, this study is also aimed to examine the structural elements of the novel. In this study, the writer employs qualitative study in which there are two data sources. The primary data sources and the object of the study are the novel itself. While the secondary data sources are biography of the author and other relevant information. The writer collects the data from both primary and secondary data sources in sort of a document as evidence. Based on the analysis, the writer draws some conclusions as follow: first, Carmen faces to cultures, West culture and East culture. West is by America and east by Saudi Arabia that women is an object that must be against patriarchal culture to get equalities in position, role, right, and participation that is reflected in her character. Second, in this novel,

the major character is also as the narrator because this novel is autobiography types of novel

From the literature review above, the present research is different from the previous study. This research focuses on the two different cultures that faced by Carmen through her marriage with Bin Ladin family using sociological approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is how Carmen manages herself to live in two different cultures between America and Arab.

D. Limitation of the Study

The limitation of the study is how Carmen solves her problem about living in two different cultures between America and Arab

E. Objectives of the Study

1. To analyze the novel based on structural elements by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot and theme.
2. To analyze the novel based on sociological approach

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is purposed to give additional information to literature research especially those dealing with Carmen Bin Ladin's *Inside The Kingdom*.

2. Practical Benefit

This study can develop the writer skill ability in applying the Sociological approach in Carmen Bin Ladin's *Inside The Kingdom*.

G. Research Method

In her research, the writer uses library research by using restrictively qualitative method. In this study, the writer has some steps as follows:

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Carmen Bin Ladin's *Inside The Kingdom* novel.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

In doing this study, the writer uses two sources of data, primary and secondary data sources:

a. Primary Data Sources

The primary data source is the novel *Inside The Kingdom* by Carmen Bin Ladin

b. Secondary Data Sources

The secondary data sources are the biography of the author, the historical background of America (Western) and Arab (Eastern), the sociological theory books and other relevant information that are related to the study and also website about Carmen Bin Ladin's *Inside The Kingdom*.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

Method used in this research is library research which is conducted by collecting and recording both of the primary and secondary data. Some steps of collecting data applied in this study are follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly until the writer gets adequate information.
- b. Identifying the topic of the novel
- c. Determining character that will be analyzed
- d. Reading some related books to find out the theory, data and information required.
- e. Making notes of the important in both primary and secondary data.
- f. Classifying the data into some categories.
- g. Drawing conclusion to get last result.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique that is used for analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. In this case, the writer tries to describe the structural elements of the novel and then analyzing it. The writer uses those data to analyze the problem which is faced by Carmen through her marriage with Bin Ladin family using sociological approach.

H. Paper Organization

In order to the research is easier to follow, the research paper is organized into six chapters. The first chapter is introduction which explains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research paper organization. The second chapter is underlying theory of sociological approach; it covers nature of sociological, major principles and theoretical application. The third chapter is the social background of America and Arab in the late of 20th century. The fourth chapter is the structural analysis. The researcher describes the structural elements of the novel *Inside The Kingdom* and discussion. The fifth chapter presents the Sociological analysis and discussion related to the problem of the novel. Finally, the sixth chapter is the last one, integrating the overall discussion and bringing it to the conclusion of the study and also the suggestion of the researcher.