

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes the background of the study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and thesis organization.

A. Background of the Study

The New Order is a term used to separate the power of Sukarno era (Old Order) with the Suharto era. As the period that marked a new era after the September 30 Movement uprising in 1965. The new order was born as an attempt to total correcting irregularities committed during the Old Order, the realignment of all aspects of the lives of the people, nation, and the state of Indonesia, Pancasila and the UUD 1945, a genuine and consistent and regain the strength of the nation to raise national stability in order to accelerate the process of development of the nation.

The Indonesian killings of 1965–1966 were an anti-communist purge following a failed coup of the 30 September Movement in Indonesia. The most widely accepted estimates are that more than 500,000 people were killed. The purge was a pivotal event in the transition to the ‘New Order’; the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) was eliminated as a political force, and the upheavals led to the downfall of president Sukarno and the commencement of Suharto's thirty-year presidency. It affects the people who

had participated in the Communist Partay (PKI), getting alienation from government. (Cribb, 1990: 5)

The rationale of the slaughter following the 30th September movement was that the communists were thought to be deeply involved in the abduction and murder of the Generals, and therefore they were traitors. Many of the communist party members, unaware of their implied collusion in the coup, cooperated with calls from the government, and denounced the coup. A day or so later following the coup, the Communist party told its members to cooperate with government forces and in many cases were unknowingly led to their deaths in the confusion. (Roosa, 2006: 21)

For some months after the attempted coup of 1965, Indonesia's political future was in doubt. In the end, Soeharto established what was known as Indonesia's 'new order', to contrast it from the 'old order' of Sukarno's days. The new order began with much popular support from those groups that were anxious to be freed from the troubles of the past. There was talk of a new generation of young leaders and a new age in intellectual life, of a 'generation of 66' (angkatan 66). But within a few years the new order elite, at its heart a military faction supported by a small group of civilians, had alienated many original allies. (Ricklefs, 2001: 342)

The period 1965–1975 attracted mixed judgements from observers both within and outside the country. Rightists admired the Soeharto government for destroying PKI and adopting pro-Western policies. Leftists despised it for doing the same. Among less committed observers, there were

many who admired the government's achievements in stabilising the economy, but who condemned its human rights record and corruption. (Ricklefs, 2001: 342)

Having risen to power in the wake of the G30S affair, Soeharto remained at the apex of Indonesian politics for over three decades. The regime he constructed, known as the New Order ushered in an era of economic development and modernization lauded by many as one of Asia's most profound economic miracles. Others, while acknowledging that economic development and social stability experienced during the new order brought many benefits to Indonesia, have criticized the regime on several grounds, not least for the stifling and repressive political environment it maintained. Until the Asian economic crisis of 1997-1998 brought Indonesia's long boom to a shuddering halt, perhaps most observers, including most Indonesians, pardoned the new order for its failings and excesses as the price to be paid for economic development and political stability.

After knowing how the entry of a New Order era. Which will be the researcher discussed in this study, how is New Order era reflected in the novel using historicism approaches. According to Wellek and Weren (1942)

Is it possible to write literary history, that is, to write that which will be both literary and a history? Most histories of literature, it must be admitted, are either social histories, or histories of thought as illustrated in literature, or impressions and judgments on specific works arranged in more or less chronological order.

The term literary theory (theory of literature) also includes the theory of literary criticism and theory literary history.

In the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*, the author presents a reflection of the life of a family who should to deal with the rigors of an age ruled by guns. Marni and her family should be subject and obedient to the rulers of the New Order. Each week, Marni had to give up part of their income to give to the soldiers who asked for a security deposit. Marni was forced to hand over money that he got with difficulty to the soldiers because they do not want to get political sanctions are labeled as PKI (Partai Komunis Indonesia). Not only provide a security deposit, any election held Marni, also should to pay a sizable campaign donations to Mr. Lurah for government party.

The novel opens with a story of a mother and child, Marni and Rahayu, who was born and raised in a different era. Marni is an illiterate Javanese woman who still practices ancestor worship. Through her offerings she finds her God and puts forth her hopes. She knows nothing of the God brought in from that faraway land. Rahayu is Marni's daughter, part of a new generation shaped by education and an easier life. She is a firm believer in God and in common sense. She stands against the ancestors, even against her own mother. To Marni, Rahayu is a soulless being. And to Rahayu, Marni is a sinner. Each lives according to her own creed, with nothing in common. Then come the sounds of the jackboots, constantly disrupting and destroying souls. They are the ones with the authority, the ones who play with power as they desire. They are the ones who can turn the skies and the fields red, and blood yellow, their guns ready to strike anywhere. Marni and Rahayu, these women

from two generations who have never understood each other, finally find something in their lives that they agree on.

The story happened in Magetan, East Java administration in 1950-1994, namely the Old Order and the New Order. The story is also told in the PKI rebellion, forcing to choose Golkar in every election, mysterious shooting, violations of adherents of the belief, mass rape, ect. In 1998 Soeharto resigned as president. No more rebellion and cruelty because many smart people now. So, they know where is good and bad, and know the effects of their actions. Governments make laws and give punishment for violators. Finally, they find something in their lives that they agree on. Both are victims of those in power. Both fight against the guns.

Okky Puspa Madasari known as Okky Madasari is an Indonesian author and journalist. Okky was born on October 30th, 1984 in Magetan, East Java, Indonesia. She graduated from Gadjah Mada University's International Relations Department in 2005 with Bachelor Degree in Political Science. She has chosen to become a journalist and writer ever since her graduation. In 2012, she took sociology for her Master's degree from the University of Indonesia. She married to Abdul Khalik, a journalist with English-language newspapers in Indonesia. (The Jakarta Post, 2003-2012, and Jakarta Globe, 2012-present).

Her first novel *Entrok*, an epic about life under totalitarian and militarism during the Indonesia's New Order era. Her second novel *86* (2011) vividly describes the prevalent corruption within the country and especially among its

civil servants. The novel was shortlisted as top five in the Khatulistiwa Literary Award in 2011. Her third novel *Maryam* (2012) which describes how Ahmadis are violently thrown away from their own home and homeland without any protection from the government won the 2012 Khatulistiwa Literary Award. *Pasung Jiwa* is her latest novel, released in May 2013. It addresses individual struggle to break free from his or her own individual limitation as well as the caging of norm, tradition, religion, state and economic dominance of the few riches. The novel was shortlisted by the Khatulistiwa Literary Award in 2013.

The Years of the Voiceless is Okky's first novel. In Indonesian version the title of her novel is *Entrok*. It has been translated into English. It was published on July 1st, 2013 under the title of *The Years of the Voiceless* by Gramedia Pustaka Utama with ISBN-10: 979229676X and ISBN-13: 978-9792296761. It tells a story about how Indonesians live under the ruthless dictatorship of Suharto's regime and how they struggled to survive under oppression of the military's dominance. This novel consists of 266 pages. This novel tells the story of a mother and child who lives in a different mindset.

Okky's novels consistently voice human rights and freedom, and are always against any form of repression. Okky is a realist, with all of her novels attempting to portray the face of Indonesia. While she tells mostly about Indonesia and its people, the issues she carries in her novels showcase basic and universal humankind's problems. Her novels have won nation-wide praises, with Apsanti Djokosujatno, one of Indonesia's prominent literary critic from the University of Indonesia, claiming that they are already categorized as

canon and will become classic. She goes further to dub her as the next Pramoedya Ananta Toer. Okky's first novel, *Entrok* (2010), tells a story about how Indonesians live under the ruthless dictatorship of Suharto's regime and how they struggled to survive under oppression of the military's dominance. In various interviews, Okky has clearly positioned herself on many issues. More than just appealing to the masses or attracting wide readership, she believes that writing is a way of fighting for the advancement of humanity. In her novels, she also consistently tries to voice problems within the society, including discrimination, oppression and unjust treatment by the state or the ruling elites.

The reason why I research the novel is as follows. First, because of the great appreciation to Okky Madasari's works, the writer of the thesis is interested in investigating one of her novels, entitled *The Years of the Voiceless*.

Second, *The Years of the Voiceless* has an attractive plot. Okky Madasari makes the story in the novel alive. It is the phenomenon that is occurred in the reality. The story of *The Years of the Voiceless* is told in detail. The event that follows the story is the real of the event that happened in Indonesia since new order era. We must respect with other although we have different of generation because Indonesia has different of culture, ethnic, religion, ect.

Third, Indonesia has diverse cultures and different styles of leadership, which rises the New Order regime, which is dominated by discrimination and

imposition. The writer interest to know Okky Madasari's point of view, that reason to create the Novel.

Finally, it is to supply theoretical framework in the research of literature in Magister Language Study, especially UMS. It gives positive contribution to the development of the large of knowledge and to enrich the literary study. It also used by other researcher to analyze *The Years of the Voiceless* novel use other perspective.

The Years of the Voiceless receives enthusiastic reception from the readers as follows:

Review from Keith Loveard (2013) entitled *The Victims Speak*. He state the late playwright and poet WS Rendra liked to remark that there was "no certainty of life" during the Soeharto era. This book makes it clear that anyone could become a victim and that, to some degree, almost everyone without a link to power was indeed one. Fiction does not necessarily require the objectivity that ideally should form the basis of any history. This novel reworks history to suit its own purposes and chooses to ignore the positive side of Soeharto's rule, in which he came to be known as "the father of development". Clearly, many more such stories wait to be told.

Review from Katrin Figge (2013) entitled *Women Find Their Voice In a Powerful Java Tale*. She state Okky unravels an important part of the country's history in her book. Through the eyes of two strong-willed women she shows how government policies affect the lives of people who are politically unaware and just trying to make the best of their situation. At its core, "The Years of the

Voiceless” is the tale of a bittersweet mother-daughter relationship, in which two women can’t seem to find a way to connect again, even through they love and admire one another. Okky’s ability to effortlessly weave many different layers into one story makes this book a compelling read and catapults her into the literary spotlight.

Based on the previous response, the researcher will observe the New Order in *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by using Historicism Theory. So, the researcher construct the title “**Scattered Pieces Of The New Order Reflected in Okky Madasari’s The Years Of The Voiceless (2013)**”

B. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the writer focuses on Indonesian’s New Order in Okky Madasari’s *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by using Historicism perspective.

C. Problem Statement

The major problem of the study are as follows:

1. How is the concept of Indonesia’s New Order in reality and literature?
2. How is New Order reflected in Okky Madasari’s *The Years of the Voiceless* (2013)?
3. Why Okky Madasari represents New Order as *The Years of the Voiceless*?

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To enlighten history of Indonesia based in history book and literature.
2. To describe the New Order era reflected in Okky Madasari's *The Years of the Voiceless* (2013).
3. To Explain the point of view by Okky Madasari's in *The Years of the Voiceless* (2013).

E. Benefits of the Study

By presenting this research paper, the writer hopes that study has the benefits are divided into theoretical and practical benefit as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is projected to give novel contribution and information to the large body of knowledge particularly in the literary studies.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and other Universities who have interested in literary study on the novel from historical aspect.

F. Research Paper Organization

The writer is going to organize this research in order to give clear understanding the content of this study. This research is divided into six

chapters. *Chapter I* is introduction which explains the background of the study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, benefit of study and research paper organization. *Chapter II* is previous study and related literature. *Chapter III* offers the research method. It consist of type of the research, object of the research, data and source, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data. *Chapter IV* analyzing the social background of New Order. *Chapter V* analyzing of New Order in Okky Madasari's *The Years of the Voiceless* Novel using historicism approaches. *Chapter VI* is the last one, to know point of view the author by biographical criticism and integrating the overall discussion, and bringing it to the conclusion of the study and also the suggestion of the researcher.