

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Hadji Murad is the last novel written by Tolstoy before he died in 1910 and it was published in 1904 in Russian language. Then it is translated into English by Louise and Aylmer Maude. This novel which contains 135 pages and 25 chapters is written based on Tolstoy's experience when he became a Russian army. The setting of place is at Chechnya, Russia and the setting of time is during the Caucasian War in 1851-1852. The novel captures an episode of the Caucasian War in Chechnya where the Muslim-Avars of Chechen, the Caucasian native ethnic group, fight back against the conquest under the command of Imam Shamil. As the title, Tolstoy takes Hadji Murad based on a real figure named Hadji Murad, an Imam Shamil's naib, as its major character.

Tolstoy is a Russian writer that is known as a great writer in the world and a master of realistic fiction. *Hadji Murad* is one of his master pieces of short story. Other short stories written by Tolstoy are *The Death of Ivan Illych* and *Family Happiness*. Tolstoy was a complicated and paradox man with extreme moral. He was also famous as a moral thinker and a social reformer. In 1851, he went with his older brother to the Caucasus and joined the army and took part in Caucasian war. It was about this time that he started writing. His first work, the autobiographical novels *Childhood*, *Boyhood*, and *Youth*

(1852-1856) which got many good responds was written in Caucasus (Simmons, 1946: 55-119). In the time he got involved in Caucasian war, he saw that War became the greatest crimes. In 1857 and 1860-1861 he joined for a tourist mission to Europe and saw many tragic and traumatic events. It made up his mind to write many literary works with anti violent as its major issue, one of them is *War and Peace* (1869).

The story began on a cold November evening. Hadji Murad rode into Makhmet, a hostile Chechen *aoul* that lay some fifteen miles from Russian territory. Hadji Murad used to be a leader of Avaria. He was very famous and had many *murids*. But then there was conflicts in the government that made Hadji Murad was replaced by Shamil. Then Shamil took his family and announce Hadji Murad to be a fugitive.

Hadji Murad and his supporter then made a decision to get some help from Russian Empire to get his position back. The first step they did was to get Hadji Murad to Prince Vorontsov. At 23rd November, as it had been agreed by both Hadji Murad and Vorontsov, they met. At the meeting Hadji Murad told them his surrender to the Russians then they all rode to the fort.

It was easy to do the first plan, but the next step was very hard for Hadji Murad. He met many Russian governments that didn't like him, though there were some that liked him and admired him. He had to make some deals with them and did hard political bargains. Even, Nicholas made a decision to make use of Hadji Murad in the Caucasus. So then Nicholas placed Hadji Murad in Major Petrov's house.

The climax of this novel starts from the remove of Hadji Murad's family to Vedeno soon after his desertion to the Russian and was kept under guard awaiting Shamil's decision. Shamil plans not to surrender to Russian but to endure and flatter Hadji Murad, but if he refused they will kill him. That makes Hadji Murad make his decision that he must fly to the mountains, and break into Vedeno with the Avars still devoted to him and either die or rescue his family. But it did not end successfully because a thousands rubles was announced to be rewarded for the capture for Hadji Murad alive or dead. Before they can reach the mountain, he was stuck in encircled. There was a Russian military commander named Karganov and his army and Avars commander named Hadji Aga of Mekhtuli with his followers in the other side. These two side attacked Hadji Murad and his murids. But Hadji Murad decided to entrench himself and to resist as long as strength and ammunition lasted. Shot after shot was heard, many of Karganov's and Hadji Aga's men fell, but Hadji Murad and his murid stood still. But then, Bata were down, then Eldar, Khanefi, Khan Mahoma, and after two bullets struck him and rose with all his strength, finally Hadji Murad fell too by a shudder passed through him. Hadji Aga was the first to reach him, he struck him on head and with two blows cut off the head. Karganov, Hadji Aga, and all the militiamen gathered together, like sportsmen round a slaughtered animal, near the bodies of Hadji Murad and his men.

This novel got many good responses like below:

"Finally, Hugh Aplin's excellent translation of Leo Tolstoy's novella Hadji Murat allows the reader to discover the century-old roots of a

conflict that Putin's policies in Chechnya are certainly not ready to solve. Here is a Tolstoy concentrating entirely on a tragedy of honour and attempted redemption, giving up the indulgence in discursive digressions (what Colm Toibin, in his intelligent introduction, calls 'his need to preach') so much in evidence in the big fat novels." (Manguel, 2003)

But there is a not too good response like from Italo Calvino (quoted in Turner, 2012) that says:

"It is not easy to understand how Tolstoy constructs his narratives. What other fiction writers make explicit – symmetrical patterns, supporting structures, counterbalances, link sequences — all remain hidden in Tolstoy. But hidden does not mean non-existent: the impression Tolstoy conveys of transferring 'life' just as it is on to the page ('life', that mysterious entity to define which we have to start from the written page) is actually merely the result of his artistry, that is to say an artifice that is more sophisticated and complex than many others."

The major character is a very good example for the reader. Hadji Murad was illustrated by Tolstoy as the one that kept struggle though he was trapped by two sides that are in conflict: the Russian Empire and Imam Shamil, the leader of Caucasian Muslim-Avars. But he still fights and struggles to take back his family that are arrested by the Russian Empire. Another character that is interesting in the novel is Nicholas, the king of Russian Empire. Tolstoy illustrates him as a greedy and dictator leader.

This novel takes Russia as its setting of place. Russia is a country that is known as an introvert country, Atheism, dictator, and Communist, and has a long and interesting history. By the 18th century, the nation had greatly expanded through conquest, annexation, and exploration to become the Russian Empire, the third largest empire in history (Taagepera, 1997). Then

the setting of time is from 1851-1852. It is the time of Caucasian war where the Russian Empire was trying to conquest Caucasus. This war ended with the annexation of the areas of the North Caucasus to Russia and the ethnic cleansing of Circassians.

This novel is full of tension and tactics. There are also many conflicts in the novel. Tolstoy not only illustrates conflicts between the Russian Empire and the Chechen, but he also illustrates conflicts inside the Russian Empire and conflicts inside the Chechen. And not like many other novels that ended happily, this novel ended tragically with the dead of the major character.

Tolstoy wrote this novel in details. He illustrates the situation with detail. He also describes the characters with very detail. Besides that, Tolstoy wrote this novel in a very brilliant way. He made this novel as a puzzle so the reader must use his imagination and logic to understand the whole story.

It is weird to know that Tolstoy, a Russian army, wrote a novel about Muslim tribes that was also Russian Empire's foe. It is weirder to know that the major character of the novel, Hadji Murad, was the one that was admired by Tolstoy during the Caucasian war. In fact, he illustrates the struggle of Chechen Muslim-Avars and the cruelty of the Russian Empire in doing the conquest rather than illustrates the glorious things about Russian Empire.

It is clear that *Hadji Murad* is a great classic novel and got world's eye on it. So with the explanation above the writer will observe *Hadji Murad* novel using Marxist Criticism by Karl Marx. So the writer constructs the title

**STRUGGLE AGAINST TYRANNICAL REGIME IN TOLSTOY'S
HADJI MURAD (1904): MARXIST CRITICISM.**

B. Literature Review

There are three studies that deal with *Hadji Murad*. The first study is done by Paul Friedrich entitled *Tolstoy, Homer, and Genotypical Influence* (Friedrich, 2004). It is a comparative literature study whose objective is to find and to describe Homer's influence on Tolstoy's novel. Paul Friedrich used four different perspectives in his study: biography, fundamental values and themes, phenotypical traits, and genotypical poetics. To do so, Paul Friedrich refers mainly at Tolstoy's *The Cossacks* and *Hadji Murad*. Paul Friedrich concludes that Tolstoy is influenced by Homer and the type of influence is genotypical influence which means Homer's work is the source of Tolstoy's work.

The second study was done by Jeff Love entitled *Tolstoy: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Love, 2008). The object of his study is to find patterns in Tolstoy's art and thought. To do so, Love refers to aspects of Tolstoy's life, considering briefly the narrative efforts to give form and meaning to life, and Tolstoy's *The Cossacks*, *War and Peace*, *Anna Karenina*, and *Hadji Murad*. Love comes to a conclusion that Tolstoy's style in art and thought are striving and the plurality, movement, and change.

The third study was done by Michael Church entitled *A Thistle in Russia's side* (Church, 2005). It is a historical study about the past conflicts of

the Caucasus that reflected in Tolstoy's novels *The Cossack* and *Hadji Murad*. Church found that in *Hadji Murad*, there is a parallel between two main figures pitted against each other, there are Shamil and Nicholas I. They represent two poles of absolutism - Asiatic and European. He also found that Hadji Murad is symbolized by a thistle that Tolstoy had once self-laceratingly failed to uproot.

C. Problem Statement

For the main problem of the study, the writer proposes "How is the struggle to fight against tyrannical regime in Chechnya during 1851-1852 reflected in Leo Tolstoy's *Hadji Murad*?"

D. Limitation of The Study

The writer will focus on describing the struggle to fight against tyrannical regime on the major character, Hadji Murad in the *Hadji Murad* novel based on classic Marxist approach by Karl Marx.

E. Objectives of The Study

The objectives of the studies are:

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

F. Benefits of The Study

By investigating Leo Tolstoy's *Hadji Murad*, two benefits can be gained as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

It gives contribution to the larger body in knowledge particularly literary studies in Leo Tolstoy's *Hadji Murad*. It is expected that we have a clear and concrete view on how the Marxist approach is applied in analyzing the novel.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to help the writer get deeper understanding about the novel.

G. Research Method

This research paper will cover:

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Leo Tolstoy's *Hadji Murad* published in 1904.

2. Type of the Data Source

Type of data in this study is text that consists of words, phrase and sentences. For the data source, there are two categories data in this research: primary data source and secondary data source. The primary data source is the text of *Hadji Murad* by Leo Tolstoy, published by Pennsylvania State University and the secondary data source are

references and materials related to the study whether picking up from the books or internet.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The data is collected through the documentation. The researcher collects the records the evidence from the primary and secondary data. The researcher also reads the novel repeatedly, taking notes of information in both primary and secondary data, and drawing the conclusion.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

Technique of data analysis in this study is using the descriptive analysis, in which the writer tries to describe the structural elements of the novel and identifies the relationship between the novel and social background of Caucasus society during 1851-1852.

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper organization of “Struggle Against Tyrannical Regime In Tolstoy’s *Hadji Murad* (1904): Marxist Criticism” is as follows: Chapter I is introduction, which explains the background of the study, literary review, problem statement, research limitation, objective of the study, benefits of the study, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory which consists of Marxist Literary Criticism and structural elements of the novel. Chapter III is the social historical background of

Caucasus society during 1851-1852 includes social, economic and political, science and technology, cultural and religious aspect. Chapter IV is structural analysis of the novel and discussion. Chapter V consists of analysis based on Marxist perspective. And Chapter VI is the conclusion and suggestion.