

REVOLUTION AS A NECESSARY MEANS OF SOCIAL CHANGE REFLECTED IN
SUZANNE COLLINS'S THE HUNGER GAMES TRILOGY



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REVOLUTION AS A NECESSARY MEANS OF SOCIAL CHANGE REFLECTED IN SUZANNE COLLINS'S THE HUNGER GAMES TRILOGY: A MARXIST APPROACH

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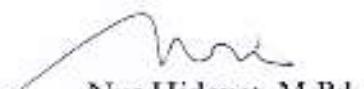
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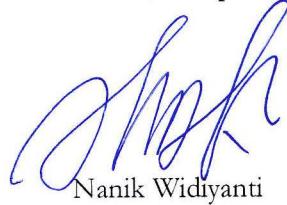
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ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah: (1) untuk mengidentifikasi ciri-ciri revolusi di dalam novel trilogi the hunger games yang di tulis oleh Suzanne Collins, (2) untuk menganalisis bagaimana proses terjadinya revolusi dalam trilogi the hunger games yang di tulis oleh Suzanne Collins, dan (3) untuk mengungkapkan konsep pemikiran Suzanne Collins tentang revolusi di dalam novel trilogi the hunger games. Peneliti menggunakan penelitian kualitatif deskriptif karena tidak ada penghitungan data di dalam penelitian ini. Penelitian kualitatif adalah mendeskripsikan data dan tidak menggunakan prosedur statistik, dan juga tidak membuat hipotesis dan mengujinya tetapi hanya focus pada analisis setelah peneliti mengambil data. Peneliti mendapatkan data dari novel termasuk narasi, monolog, dan dialog. Teknik pengumpulan data dari novel termasuk membaca novel secara berulang-ulang, membuat catatan, menggaris bawahi kata-kata yang penting, menyelesaikan data, dan membuat kesimpulan. Teknik menganalisis data adalah interaktif deskriptif yang membandingkan tiga prosedur, yaitu: pengurangan data, memperlihatkan data, dan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan: (1) Ciri-ciri revolusi yang tercermin dalam trilogi the hunger games, (2) proses terjadinya revolusi dalam trilogi the hunger games, (3) Menyangkut konsep pemikiran Suzanne Collins tentang revolusi.

Kata kunci: Revolusi, Suzanne Collins, Trilogi The Hunger Games, Marxist.

ABSTRACT

The aims of this research are (1) to identify the characteristics of revolution at Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games Trilogy, (2) to analyze the process of revolution at Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games Trilogy, and (3) to reveal underlying concept of Suzanne Collins's thought about revolution at The Hunger Games Trilogy. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative research because there is no calculating data in this research. The qualitative research are describing data and not using any statistic procedure, and the researcher do not set hypothesis, and test it but focus on analyzing after taking the data. The researcher gets the data from the novels includes the narration, monologue, and dialogue. The techniques of collecting data are reading the data repeatedly, taking notes, underlying the important words, arranging the data, selecting the data, and drawing conclusion. The technique of data analysis is descriptive interactive which comprises three procedures, namely: data reduction, data display, and conclusion. The results of this research show: (1) The characteristics of revolution reflected in The Hunger Games Trilogy, (2) The process of revolution in The Hunger Games Trilogy, and (3) The concept of Suzanne Collins's thought about revolution.

Key words: revolution, Suzanne Collins, The Hunger Games Trilogy, Marxist.

1. INTRODUCTION

Revolution is the rapid change of the most popular countries that want to change. One of the figures who influence the birth of revolution is Karl Marx. He argued that revolution is the era where civilization revolute into new era with new changes. There are two revolution histories which influenced the world, French revolution and Russian revolution. Revolution is as a way to change the countries that people have tired of living in confinement feudalism rulers. Revolution is not only popular among the political but also in literature. A writer who comes from America named Suzanne

Collins presents literature work that illustrates how the revolution is. In her books titled The Hunger Games Trilogy, Suzanne Collins described how revolution happens very epic and stunning.

The Hunger Games Trilogy, The Hunger Games; Catching Fire; and Mocking Jay, these three novels have magic power that attract the readers to read these novels. From the first novel Suzanne described suffering, rebellion, serious poverty, and hunger, impact of war, discrimination, and buffetings. All of facts made people in Panem want to rebel. In addition the government always killed people who rebel in front of public place. It makes the society never have braveness to against the Capitol for what happen. The emergence of major character, Katniss Everdeen, with her brave nature gave occasion for citizens the appearing of hope to the society. Then the second novel, the Capitol think that they must kill Katniss because they realize Katniss is harmful and dangerous. She brings hope for her followers. Since President Snow realized that cogitation he has prepared a hunger games to kill her in the square and show the directory of Capitol to Panem society. But he was wrong the rebellion was already begun behind Katniss's team. Even she never knew the plan. Afterward in the third novel the Capitol shattered district 12. The remainder of shattering have gathered with district 13. It is known destroyed many years ago. Katniss is the source of rebellion power that is done by her team (the hunger games trilogy: Suzanne Collins).

Before writing this research the writer have found some previous studies on the hunger games trilogy. The first study about the hunger games trilogy is conducted by Jennifer Sweeney on 2012 from State University of New York at Binghamton. She focused on the fashion that are wear by the Capitol and people in the 12 districts. The second research is created by Megan Peters in 2013. In his research he focused on the country named Panem. It is capitalism or nationalism country. The third research is created by Kelly Oliver, she focused to dig up the major character Katniss Everdeen. She is as the emblem of "extravagant girl". And on The Hunger Games, she has ambiguous gender identity both masculine and feminine, paternal, and maternal and has ambivalent desire.

Revolution is a historical process that refers to a movement, to overthrow an old regime and effect complete change in the fundamental institution of society. Revolution is the rapid and fundamental changes of society and class structure of a country. Social revolution coupled with the rebellion of the lower classes or the oppressed class (Theda Skocpol:2). Revolution here means a movement that is made by citizens to overthrow the government authority that has made society life discriminated. So because of the discriminated that is done by the government then it makes the society around 12 districts suffer, hunger, and get serious poverty. Then they do a rebellion to this situation to make social revolution. They want a better life after this dark period because revolution is a necessary means of change.

Marxist theory explains that social theory about human live in the world. Marxist theorists tend to focus their interpretations on considering how literary texts depict class oppression, strife, and social inequality to serve critique elements of capitalistic Western life. Marxist theorists also consider how literary texts subvert even overturn ordinary forms of social and political order then it will present new forms of social and political perception and interaction.

There are five major principles of marxist theory, Those are: dialectical materialism, Historical materialism, class struggle, alienation, and revolution. The result of class struggle is revolution. Revolution is an indication to the society which survived from crisis (Permanasari, 2011:18). According to (Theda Skocpol:2), Social revolution coupled with the rebellion of the lower classes or the oppressed class. The lower classes or proletariats change the social structure from old into the new one. By the revolution that is made by the lower classes, the lower classes sweep the class stratification to stop discrimination, exploration then make a new society for a better life. A revolution for change usually occurs because people react out of fear, anger, failure, survival, suffering, rebellion, serious poverty, hunger, discrimination, and buffettings. There are some causes of revolution: 1) Enlightenment ideas, human has new and better ways of doing things, this enlightenment ideas make people want change; 2) Economic Distress/ money problem; 3) Social injustice, where a group of people are treated unfairly by another group of people.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

In this study the writer uses qualitative research to analyze these novels. Qualitative research is a library research while data source need literary data. According to Moleong (1983:3) on Libriani thesis, Qualitative research is research which result in the descriptive data to observed people or behaviour. The steps of conducting qualitative research are (1) determining the object of the study; (2) determining the source of the data; (3) determining the method of data collection; (4) determining the technique of data analysis.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

1) The Characteristics of Revolution Reflected in Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games Trilogy.

There are some characteristics reflected in Suzanne Collins's the hunger games trilogy, they are as follows:

a) Low economic development

In this trilogy the hunger games Suzanne Collins described low economic development that are become one of characteristic revolution especially in the first novel. In this trilogy the hunger games Suzanne Collin described primitive stage of living people in the districts. They also live traditionally because buying luxurious food such as chicken is too expensive. They changed that with turkey. Sheep milk is like crime. That's called primitive life. It shows that they live with low economic. When they needed wild onion she just took it from the woods. Even when they wanted to eat something delicious like baker, they must trade baker with another two or three squirrels. She also could not recognize the good grain because she always eat baker using tessera ration that would make the bake being brown mush. And for pudding, they could not recognize what are the ingredients of it. She thought even she hunt

many days to gather meal, it will be not as delicious as food in Capitol. It is so far different with Capitol version. This described the poor situation of people in district.

I try to imagine assembling this meal my self back home. Chickens are too expensive, but I could make do with a wild turkey. I'd need to shoot a second turkey to trade for an orange. Goat's milk would have to substitute for cream. We can grow peas in the garden. I'd have to get wild onions from the woods. I don't recognize the grain, our own tessera ration cooks down to an unattractive brown mush. Fancy rolls would mean another trade with the baker, perhaps for two or three squirrels. As for the pudding, I can't even guess what's in it. Days of hunting and gathering for this one meal and even then it would be a poor substitution for the Capitol version (**Hunger Games: 65**).

b) Suffering population, poor leadership, and economic uncertainty

One of the reasons why society wants to a change is suffering population. Based on the novels, suffering population in Panemis caused by hunger games. Hunger games is created to memorable the last rebellion that happen in Panem. That game made all the representatives must kill one and others. Only one representative will win this game. This game really create suffer at society because they have to kill each other to survive of their own life although they must kill their friends from same district or representative from other districts. The death always shadows them in the hunger games. Peeta Mellark said that when we imagine in the hunger games, we have to imagine how it feels in the arena o f hunger games. To be there is like insect trapped under a bowl filled with steaming air. All aroundnd us are alive jungle green and ticking. The giant clock ticked away of the representative life. Every our in the hunger games arena is horror. Even though in the past two days, sixteen people have died and some of them are killed by you. And your life will be dead by morning when you could not survive from other representatives. The hunger games one save one as the victor. And sometimes that plan is that it would not be you because he loved Katniss. The existence of hunger games makes people suffer. This game is also watched by people around Panem.

Peeta nods but takes his time speaking. "That last night...to tell you about that last night...well, first of all, you have to imagine how it felt in the arena. It was like being an insect trapped under a bowl filled with steaming air. And all around you, jungle green and alive and ticking. That giant clock ticking away your life. Every hour promising some new horror. You have to imagine that in the past two days, sixteen people have died some of them defending you. At the rate things are going, the last eight will be dead by morning. Save one. The victor. And your plan is that it won't be you." (**Mockingjay:20**).

c) Replacing old order

The existence of suffering population, poor leadership, and also low economy caused why people in districts want a change. That thing is caused by the old order is fail. The society wants a change because the governmett system of Capitol is very bad. And they want to change the system of government with democracy system where the society can deliver their aspirations freely. The democracy system can protect the interest of citizens because the citizens of a democracy government have the right to vote on political, social, and economical issues as well as the representative. In this trilogy the hunger games Suzanne Collins describe society's struggle to change of major decision such as erasing the hunger game program and chose the new president. They hope democracy system pave the way for changes in the government without having the use of any of violence. This makes people in districts feel great and provide them with the ideal sense of involvement and participation as well.

"If we win, who would be in charge of the government?"
Gale asks.

"Everyone," Plutarch tells him. "We're going to form a republic where the people of each district and the Capitol can elect their own representatives to be their voice in a centralized government. Don't look so suspicious; it's worked before." "In books," Haymitch mutters.

"In history books," says Plutarch. "And if our ancestors could do it, then we can, too." (**Mocking Jay:45**)

d) Gradual process

The enthusiasm of people that want a change was interpreted as kindness. What the Capitol did to the district 13 after the first rebellion was quite horrible. A man from district 10 named Dalton, he told about the past situation. He moved from his district to district 13 for a many years by walking. Districts 13 need people because after dark war rebellion, the Capitol gave district 13 pox epidemic that kill a brunch of them and left a lot of infertile. District 13 needs us as a stock new breeding. After he moved to district 13, he was not being kept in pens. He and all people in district 13 were being trained for work. Children were being educated. Those over fourteen have been given entry-level ranks in the military and were addressed respectful as soldier. All of the single refugees were granted automatic citizenship by the authorities of District 13.

This enthusiasm was interpreted as kindness. But a man named Dalton, a District 10 refugee who'd made it to 13 on foot a few years ago, leaked the real motive to me. "They need you. Me. They need us all. Awhile back, there was some sort of pox epidemic that killed a bunch of them and left a lot more infertile. New breeding stock. That's how they see us." He's very likely right about 13, because there don't seem to be nearly enough kids around. But so what? We're not being kept in pens, we're being trained for work, the children are being educated. Those over fourteen have been given entry-level ranks in the

military and are addressed respectfully as "Soldier." Every single refugee was granted automatic citizenship by the authorities of 13 (**Mocking Jay:13**).

e) The rebellion of the oppressed

Suzanne Collins described how people in districts rebell the Capitol. First the society assembled in districts 13 to collect the power. They used propaganda campaigns that are presented in television. Propaganda can be very powerful tool for swaying people's minds. It also can explode right in the oppress' face. Between Capitol and rebels, they attack each other by using propaganda video. KatnissEverdeen as the symbol of revolution took as an actress in the propaganda video. She burn the spirit of the people in Panem by saying that she is one of the suffering people, the Capitol can torture and bomb them or burn their districts. Katniss also point to the planes burning on the roof of the warehouse across. The fire was catching. If all people around districts burn, the Capitol and Presidents are also burn with them.

I'm moving in toward the camera now, carried forward by my rage. "President Snow says he's sending us a message? Well, I have one for him. You can torture us and bomb us and burn our districts to the ground, but do you see that?" One of the cameras follows as I point to the planes burning on the roof of the warehouse across from us. The Capitol seal on a wing glows clearly through the flames. "Fire is catching!" I am shouting now, determined that he will not miss a word. "And if we burn, you burn with us!" (**Mockingjay:51**).

2) The Process of Revolution

The process of revolution happened in The Hunger Games Trilogy's Suzanne Collins first caused by conflict of class struggle between Capitol and Districts. As we know that there are two different groups of people living with big difference. They are bourgeois and proletarians. Capitol represented as the bourgeois that exploit people in districts to maintain their needs. Capitol is a place that is described as a city with variety of glittering, and people living in luxury. People in Capitol have all the things that the districts people cannot afford. Whereas people in districts known as the lower classes. That places are unpleasant. The member of this community are so poor, that starvation is not uncommon. For example in district 12, they work in the mines and they are extremely poor. This makes people in districts having power to ruling over all the Panem.

For the opening ceremonies, you're supposed to wear something that suggests your district's principal industry. District 11, agriculture. District 4, fishing. District 3, factories. This means that coming from District 12, Peeta and I will be in some kind of coal miner's getup... (**Hunger Games: 66**).

When I was younger, I scared my mother to death, the things I would blurt out about District 12, about the people who rule our country, Panem, from the far-off city called the Capitol (**Hunger Games: 7**).

In addition, the existence of annual program called hunger games. It is as a massentertainment that makes people in districts sufferings. Each district must contribute two representatives. They must battle to kill one another. This game is watched by all people in Panem. Only one winner that will win this game. Hunger games program is a sport program that is held once a year for celebrating the day of rebellion that was done by the district 13. It's also for showing the power of Capitol. Who will do rebellion they will be kill brutally like in the hunger games. This situation adds more suffering of people in districts, so they want a change for better life.

The rules of the Hunger Games are simple. In punishment for the uprising, each of the twelve districts must provide one girl and one boy, called tributes, to participate. The twenty-four tributes will be imprisoned in a vast outdoor arena that could hold anything from a burning desert to a frozen wasteland. Over a period of several weeks, the competitors must fight to the death. The last tribute standing wins (**Hunger Games:19**).

3) Suzanne Collins's Thought about Revolution

In The Hunger Games Trilogy, Suzanne Collins addresses revolution as a critic of class struggle in capitalist society where the lower classes against the upper classes in the future modern era. The lower classes are proletarians. They work hard with their power and thought to look for wage from the upper classes, whereas the upper classes (bourgeois) exploited the proletarians for expanding their infestation. The two differences interest between the lower classes and upper classes that cannot be solved with discussion, where both of them took different ways to solve that problem. The upper classes tried to maintain and expanding their infestation (Conservative) and the lower classes tried to overthrow the upper classes (revolutionary). Therefore revolution happen is this novel caused by conflict of class social. The division of districts can be seen when the representative from each district must wear something that suggest that district's principal industry, such as district 11 is agriculture, district 4 fishing, district 3 factories, district 12 from coal mining, others district.

For the opening ceremonies, you're supposed to wear something that suggests your district's principal industry. District 11, agriculture. District 4, fishing. District 3, factories. This means that coming from District 12, Peeta and I will be in some kind of coal miner's getup... (**Hunger Games: 66**).

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis in the previous chapter, the researcher concludes as follow. First, there are several characteristics of revolution reflected in the hunger games trilogy. Low economic development is shown from how people in districts working only for supply the Capitol's need. The existence of

suffering population can be seen clearly that people in districts live with suffering, hunger, starvation. How difficult they look for food, survive to live, so many children that must be feed, carry on back the residue food on the street also the existence of the hunger games program as the annual program. They must kill each other to survive life. It also shows the poor leadership because the government should be welfare their society not to add more suffer with any reason. People in districts want to replace their President Snow order because they consider his older is not representative. They want new state structure that is democracy system. In The Hunger Games Trilogy, revolution does not happen overnight. It needs period of time. Begin from the appearance of brave character Katniss Everdeen who inspires all people till how the revolution organized. The existence of rebellion from people in district as the oppressed society to the oppressor, Capitol.

How revolution reflected in the hunger games trilogy, the existence of different division classes, twelve poor districts and Capitol with its luxury life style, where twelve poor districts must work hard to supply Capitol's need. They cannot feel the result of their own work. They live in starvation, suffering, and hunger because what they have must be given to the Capitol. They as the working class are exploited by the land classes, the Capitol. Opposite, the Capitol life is far away from starvation. Capitol represented as the bourgeois that exploit people in districts to maintain their needs. Capitol is a place that is described as a city with variety of glitterings and people living in luxury. People in Capitol have all the things that the districts people cannot afford. This also described of capitalist society. People in districts, as the lower classes, rebel and struggle over the power to exploit, and give rise to a more equal society. That's the reason people in districts want a change. When revolution comes they hope equality to both Capitol and people in districts.

Suzanne Collins addresses revolution as a critic of class struggle in capitalist society where the lower classes against the upper classes in the future modern era. The lower classes are proletarians. They work hard with their power and thought to look for wage from the upper classes, whereas the upper classes or bourgeois exploited the proletarians for expanding their infestation. The two differences interest between the lower classes and upper classes that cannot be solved with discussion, where both of them took different ways to solve that problem. The upper classes tried to maintain and expanding their infestation (Conservative) and the lower classes tried to overthrow the upper classes (revolutionary). Therefore revolution happen is this novel caused by conflict of class social. Not only caused by social conflict of social class but also revolution happen in these novels caused by the government's authorities that made people in districts more suffer. Capitol made hunger games program as an annual program. Each district must have two volunteers to join in this game, and they must fight to death for only one winner.

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