

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Woman as if becomes interested study to be discussed in all territory, we always know and hear the discussion about woman in all sectors, such as in social, law, politic, economy, religion even art and culture. We probably have to realize the woman position as if marginalized under domination and political will to get the power in past. This condition makes woman activities revolt and appear the feminism action, it means to ignore all; of marginalized, subordinated, and controlled things by dominant culture. This Action of woman liberation give impact for literature work as culture shape. This is informed because literature work can be said as medium to give response about all events happened in real life and to give social critics for writers.

Like some figure used literature work to against patriarchy and political culture. They are Virginia Woolf who wrote *A Room of One's Own*, Women in past period literature work had been presented as another figure. They didn't have autonomy as men who have freedom to do something by their-selves. When described the women, each writer showed up the gap of separability among men and women. On a number of literature work, women were presented to make men felt as genuine men (Tong, 1998: 267).

Women on literature work also tended to be presented on outcast position. Obedience for traditional values had immortalized women on their low position and literature work had recreated the reality. According to

Langland (1984: 4).Laksmi Pamuntjak as the one of Indonesia writer tried to serve the describing of Indonesia socio-cultural. She was born in Jakarta, December 22th, 1971. Her family is the owner of popular publishing in past, Djambatan. She finished her formal study on political science, study of Asia, Murdoch University, Perth, Australia in 1993. When she came back to Jakarta, she had ever worked for some offices while she wrote for some newspapers and magazines. Her writing on political, literature, music, movie and culinary ever published some medias, such as, Tempo magazine, Djakarta magazine, Prisma socio-economic journal, and The Jakarta Post daily. (<http://p.laksmifiler/671.gosas.co.id>).

In 2006, she and six her friends, Amarzan Loebis, Alif Alim, Arif Zulkifli, Goenawan Mohamad, Ian White, Teguh Ostenrik who incorporated in a team “Buru Tujuh” had done the research to Buru island to seek the humanity facts which happened on location. The result of this research became the created basic her novel work by title of Amba had been translated to English by title of The Question of Red. (<http://p.laksmifiler/671.gosas.co.id>).

The first figure on The Question of Red novel is “Amba”, is a woman seeks uprooted love that caused by upheaval of politic in 1965. Her seeking had arrived in Buru island, it became the evacuation of politic custody by the Soeharto (orde baru) government. We will know the character of Amba from here, Amba is a smart woman and she has the more advanced mind of her era. Then, we will understand the reason why Amba didn't accept Salwa's love,

According to Amba's parent that Salwa is ideal man for her. Amba preferred language and poetry as her passion and it brought her to a hospital in Kediri. Made her met up by her love, he is Bhisma, a doctor from Leipzig, East German. A sympathy doctor and doubt to communist, he beard hard responsibility on himself. A lot of good and sympathy men around her ((Salwa, Bhisma, Adalhard, Zulfikar dan Samuel) but there is no one of their love who got the response of Amba except Bhisma. An awesome character is Adalhard, he knew that impossible to stand in Bhisma position in Amba's hearth, but Adalhard kept accepting and taking the responsibility for her child father.

Laksmi Pamuntjak does not only succeeded to make a novel but also a historiography that won't to judge who is right and who is false. Our insight in 1965 refers on history book of government edition and of course it is not objective and never reviewed as fair as possible about PKI and ally as losers. PKI is sadistic people, they don't have religion and they love to killed people by slaughter them. Laksmi was success to avoid history anachronism by didn't judge them but explained the past situation history accurately.

Laksmi emphasized about woman struggle and resistance to seek existence as humans. Her existence was presented by the woman release and ability to show up her-self in the middle of politic, culture and tradition restraint. For being exist human is the core of human personal. The existence delivered human for interpreting the truth of the true identity seeking. According to Sartre (2002: 45), Existentialism confronts the humans on their-

selves without reference and point of foothold. The first is humans had been created, face to face by their-selves, and define their-selves. An existentialist looks their-selves as undefined existence because they know that they begin their life or existence from nothing. They will not be “something” they make their life become “something”. Humans are the human. They aren’t what they think in their-selves, but they are what they want. Humans are nothing except what they have done something which makes them become something. According to Sartre, existence precedes essence and it will make humans to be responsible for their life.

Therefore, existentialism locates the humans on position as their-selves, and to put the whole of their life responsibility on their-selves. Humans have responsibility for their-selves, it doesn’t mean that responsibility involve individual only but also involve the responsibility for all humans. The word of “subjectivity” should be understood by two meaning. On one side, subjectivity means the freedom of individual subjects and on another side humans can’t exceed subjectivity. When humans choose their-selves, it doesn’t mean each person of us should choose their-selves too, but also for choosing their-selves, humans choose for all because effect of actions they had chosen to create their-selves. (Sartre, 2002: 46-47)

Self-existence is a duty should be done by each individual to appear on the life authenticity. On self-existence, humans find their-selves freedom. To reach it, humans need freedom for all of injustice which limits the latitude. If connected by woman, existence can be understood as how the way of

woman understands their existence as human by a number of choices. Beauvior (2002: 102) also says woman needs freedom as the first requirement for her existence discovery. He realizes the limitation causes women present without the true of their-selves and they are alienated by myths which established by society through patriarchy on all aspects, women is hard to face public pressure so that needed the courage to brake in all limitation their-selves alienated. There are three reasons why the literature work of Laksmi becomes the data source for this research. First, the issue that be talked about actual woman issue and have relevance about present life, and have benefit for better future life, especially for woman. Second, the issue about woman related the strength of patriarchy influence on modern life which laden by openness. The phenomenon is an irony because this system to show up the influence strength when feminism is speaking up about the right of woman position. Third, woman figure on novel of Amba is representation a few marginalized woman as second grade gender, but because awareness of the intellectuality and autonomy importance, she can show up the existence. She ignores the woman position which is inferior, resigned, budge, accept fate as humans because her nature as woman on existentialism view, woman didn't assumed as created humans only but also able to can understand herself and realize her existence.

B. Literature Review

The researcher personally thought that *woman existence* is a unique issue to be a research object. It shown with the previous studied by Usman (2009) that was created before this research with title “ woman existence reflected in El khaliqy’s *Atas Singgasana* novel “ on that research usman described life ,and how a woman show her existence as a real woman. There are three manner for a woman to show her existence , first from woman’s choices. Skill to refused violences, and realize that education is important things to improve qualities of life. Rasiah (2005) also wrote a study titled "Existence of Women in the Novel Jane Eyre Charlotte Bronte Works: Overview of Feminist Literary Criticism". In her research, Rasiah concluded that the women in the novel were able to free themselves from all forms of oppression gender. Figures Jane Eyre was able to demonstrate its existence as an independent human being, both economically and socially. To obtain these self-existence Jane Eyre face many problems that threaten freedom itself. These issues arise from people who still view and put women as second class, which emerged from the men and even the women themselves. Men realize its existence as a superior human desire to feel threatened by women who are also demanding equal to the superiority

C. Problem Statement

Based on the previous background of study, the Reseacher aims at analyzing the

problem “ How was woman existence reflected at Laksmi Pamuntjak’s *The Question of Red* novel ?”

D. Limitation of the Study

The Resesacher focused on the research in analyzing woman existence toward the main character ”*Amba*“ at Laksmi Pamuntjak’s *The Question of Red* novel on a Feminist Approach.

E. Objective of the Study

Conducting the research, the reseacher formulates the objectives of the study , as follows :

1. To describe *The Question of Red* novel based on structural elements of novel.
2. To analyzed woman existence reflected Laksmi Pamuntjak *The Question of Red* based on A Feminist Approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The researcher expected a lot that the research which investigates the issue woman existence toward main character *Amba* in this *The Question of Red* novel bears many benefits :

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and contribution of knowledge to the academic reference. It can be also a

reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies on this *The Question of Red* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to enrich knowledge and experience for the writer in many things and for the student Muhammadiyah Unniversity of Surakarta or for other universities where have same interest in literary study on the literature from psychoanalytic Approach.

G. Research Method

The research method employed in this study is descriptive qualitative method, which merely focuses on the analysis of textual data, includes:

1. Type of the Study

In this research , the reseacher uses qualitatives researchstudy which takes the sourcedata from words and other written text. Qualitative study is concernedwith providing description of the phenomena that occur naturally. This studyattempted to present the data from perspective of the observed subject

2. Object of the Study

The writer uses the novel *The Question of Red*

3. Types of the Data and the Data Source

The reseacher defines the source of data into ‘primary data’ and ‘secondary data’. The primary data is the novel itself, while the secondary

data is taken from the internet and other materials that relevant to support the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The data collection is done through documentary or library research that is the researcher seeks the data from printed media, the novel in this case, as the primary data and the other sources as secondary data. The following steps are the procedure to conduct the study: first, reading the novel repeatedly, second: taking, important notes in both the primary and secondary data, which is relevant to the study.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis in this research is descriptive. This is an interpretation of the novel analysis to get characteristic of the data to feminist analysis of *The Question of Red novel*.

H. Papper Organisation

This research paper organization of woman existence reflected laksmi pamuntjak *The Question of red novel* is classified into five chapters. Chapter I was introduction, which consists of the background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory. This chapter deals with some theory that the researcher used to make this research. Those are: notion of individual of psychoanalytic, the major principles of individual psychology, and structural element of the novel. Chapter III is structural analysis and

discussion of the novel. Chapter IV is Liberal Feminis theory analysis. This chapter explains the Leberal Feminist of *The Question of Red* novel. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.