

**ACTIVISM AND ANARCHISM IN THE NOVEL *GOD AND THE STATE*
BY MIKHAIL BAKUNIN (1883): AN EXISTENTIALIST STUDY**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Getting
Bachelor Degree in Department of English Education School Teacher Training Education**

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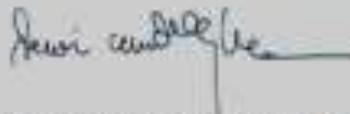
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Surakarta, 2 January 2022

The Researcher



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Abstrak

Mengeluh adalah ungkapan yang digunakan orang untuk menunjukkan kekecewaannya kepada orang lain. Penelitian ini bertujuan: (1) mengidentifikasi jenis keluhan yang digunakan dalam novel *God and The State*, dan (2) mendeskripsikan strategi keluhan yang digunakan dalam *God and The State*. Desain penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Data penelitian ini adalah kutipan-kutipan berisi tindak tutur keluhan yang digambarkan dalam novel *God The State (1883)*. Peneliti menggunakan teknik dokumentasi untuk mengumpulkan data. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif sebagai teknik untuk menganalisis data, dan tindak tutur pengaduan dari Trosborg. Dari penelitian ini, penulis menemukan strategi dan jenis pengaduan. Jenis-jenis pengaduan sebagai berikut; 1) pengaduan sebagai tindak kekerasan terdapat 13 data atau 26% dari total data yang ditemukan, 2) tindak pengancaman wajah terdapat 5 data atau 10% dari total data yang ditemukan, 3) perangkat mitigasi 17 data atau 34% dari total data yang ditemukan, dan 4) ketidaksantunan pengaduan terdapat 15 data atau 30% dari total data yang ditemukan. Strategi pengaduan sebagai berikut; 1) tuduhan ada 16 data atau 32% dari total data yang ditemukan, 2) ekspresi kejengkelan ada 22 data atau 44% data ditemukan, 3) menyalahkan ada 4 data atau 8% dari total data yang ditemukan, dan 4) tidak secara eksplisit mencela ada 8 data atau 16% dari total data yang ditemukan.

Kata kunci: tindak tutur keluhan, teori kesantunan, pragmatik

Abstract

Complaint is an expression that people used to show their disappointment to others. The aims of the study were: (1) to identify the type of complaints used in *God and The State* novel, and (2) to describe the strategy of complaints used in *God and The State* novel. This research design used descriptive qualitative research. The data of this research are excerpts containing speech act of complaints depicted in (*God and The State, 1883*) novel. The present writer uses the documentation technique for collecting data. In this research, the present writer using descriptive qualitative research as a technique to analyze the data, and speech act of complaints from Trosborg. Based on the study, the writer found strategy and type of complaints contained in the Downhill movie. The types of complaints as follow; 1) complaints as an abusive act there are 13 data or 26% of total data found, 2) face-threatening act there are 5 data or 10% of total data found, 3) mitigating device 17 data or 34% of total data found, and 4) non-politeness of complaints there are 15 data or 30% of total data found. The strategies of complaints as follows; 1) accusation there are 16 data or 32% of total data found, 2) expression of annoyance there are 22 data or 44% of data found, 3) blaming there are 4 data or 8% of total data found, 4) non-explicit reproach there are 8 data or 16% of total data found.

Keywords: the speech act of complaints, politeness theory, pragmatic

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature reflects various experiences, ideas, passions, people in their daily lives which are expressed in various forms and styles of literary works. Since literature is sourced directly from human life, it can increase our knowledge and experience about human problems including values, morals, culture and humanity. Millar (1970:18) states, it also increases human knowledge or insight, enriches the soul and makes them more civilized. This can help them understand the conditions and qualities of others. Therefore, literature helps humans to develop, both personally and intellectually. This statement provides an objective basis for knowledge and understanding. Among other things connecting them with the wider cultural, philosophical and religious world of which they are a part. Novel is a particular type of literary work. It is mostly defined as a reflection of life or everything we find in real life. The novel reveals several aspects in it, namely justice, hatred and dissatisfaction. Because novels talk about human activities and describe what happens around them. Aristotle (384 BC – 322 BC) says, It is wrong to believe that a statesman is the same as the monarch of a kingdom, or the manager of a household or the master of a number of slaves. Humans who hold this view assume that each of these people is different from each other not in differences in type, but in the number and size of the people being cared for. In this view, the one who takes care of a few people is a master, the one who takes care of the more is the manager of the household and the one who takes care of the more and the manager of the household is a statesman, or a monarch. This view eliminates any real distinction between a large household and a small town. It also removes the distinction between statesmen and monarchs on the fact that the latter has an uncontrolled and singular authority, while the former exercises his authority according to the rules dictated by the art of statesmanship and as a man who rules, he is in turn governed. But this is a view that cannot be accepted as correct.

At first glance, this novel raises the story of injustice in the government system in the past and raises the ideas of intellectuals to move towards changes that may be for the better.

At the beginning of the novel the reader is treated to a statement from Alexander Herzen which reads "This man was born not from an ordinary star, but under a comet". This seems to make the reader himself curious because the quote seems to be alive.

In the second paragraph, Paul Avrich (1970:5) says that Mikhail Bakunin as the author as well as the main character in the novel was the champion and driver of the revolutionary movement at that time. He was also known among European workers and

intellectuals as Karl Marx, as a contender for the leadership of the First International organization.

Based on the aspects above, the writer observes and analyzes God And The State by Mikhail Bakunin. Based on this, the writer is interested in reviewing the struggle of the main character in God And The State because of his opinion that the class struggle must begin with one's own freedom. So the writer chose this novel because it refutes the suggestion that the social contract will lead to security and harmony in the state. However, this is deemed inappropriate, the social contract will lead to arbitrariness, and will even lead to a system of human slavery.

The author chooses aspects of the main character of God and The State based on various considerations from accurate sources and from previous writers. That the main character has interesting ideas in the revolutionary movement to review.

2. METHOD

This type of research is a qualitative approach. According to Creswell, J.W (2014) qualitative research is the process of understanding human or social problems in words based on building a complex and holistic picture, reporting the results of detailed informants' views, and carried out in a natural environment. This research uses existentialism approach. Existentialism according to Sartre. Heidegger considers that humans are something that has an existence in the midst of the world or Dasein. This assumption is categorized as a philosophy of thought. While the concept of (there) according to Sartre is that humans can be called (there) because of their actions. This concept is then categorized as a philosophy of action. The theory is related to this research, where the researcher identifies the struggles and processes that the main character goes through to get human rights and freedoms.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Result

3.1.1 The Struggle for Class Abolition

“The Russian man who married the daughter of the empire's highest aristocrat was the first to believe that brave rebellious societies were capable of breaking away from tradition, prejudice, race and class interests and managing their own comforts” (p20).

The data above shows the abolition of class as a background by a rebellious society who dared to break away from tradition, by marrying a noble's daughter.

“To seize Education from the monopoly of the privilege holders and make it equally available to all” (p 11).

The data above shows that Bakunin's class abolition was motivated by seizing education from the grip of the monopoly of the ruling class so that it could be felt by the public regardless of social strata.

“He refuses to acknowledge the existence of a given law or the destiny of history. He rejects the view that social change depends on the gradual unfolding of "objective" historical conditions (p7).

The data above shows that Bakunin rejected the existence of law, that law and history were made by the victorious actors.

"He refuses to accept even the slightest restriction on human freedom." "Every slavery of man", he wrote. "At the same time limiting my own freedom". "I am a free person only insofar as I recognize the humanity and freedom of all those around me. In respecting their humanity, I respect myself" (p 15).

The data above shows that the abolition of class by Bakunin by way of rejection of the limitations of each individual and himself. Because every human being has the rights and obligations of each without any restraint.

"The emancipation of the workers must be the task of the workers themselves" (p17).

The data above shows Bakunin's abolition of class by warning the workers to pay attention to their fellow workers who are oppressed by the slavery system by working together, loving each other, and breaking down unhealthy tyranny.

3.1.2 Revolutionary Struggle

The originality of his ideas, the imagery he used in his speeches and his fiery zeal in delivering eloquent speeches, his tireless zeal for propaganda, coupled with the natural majesty of his personality and strong vitality, gave Bakunin the entrance to mingle with all revolutionary groups., and his endeavors leave deep imprints everywhere, even in those who, upon welcoming him, attack him for differences in object or method. (p21)

The excerpt of the paragraph above shows the struggle of the main character Bakunin as a revolutionary with high spirits and strong vitality, even though he has different objects with his rivals.

In international organizations, as well as in his writings, Bakunin articulated the basic ideas of syndicalism and anarchism, and developed the basis for anarchist analysis and strategy. At this stage, he abandoned the anti-imperialist nationalism he had believed in in his youth. (137)

The data above shows that Mikhail Bakunin or the main character in the novel explained to the world what was meant by the basic ideas of syndicalism, anarchism, and anarchist strategy which he made a pledge to the international community, thus creating an anti-imperialist nationalism understanding at that time.

Bakunin however could not stay away from the struggle. In 1870, he was involved in the uprising in Lyon, France, which in turn ignited the Paris Commune. The Paris Commune was closely linked to elements of Bakunin's anarchist programme. Anarchists such as Elisee Reclus, and those in the Pierre-Joseph Proudhon tradition who were deeply influenced by Bakunin's ideas. (p137-138)

The data above shows Bakunin is the true revolution he fought and fought injustice. In 1870 he was involved in the uprising in Lyon, France with the figures of the Paris Commune, he was Elisee Reclus who worked in Pierre-Joseph Proudhon and was influenced by Bakunin's ideas as a key figure in the Commune.

In 1849, he was arrested in Dresden for being involved in the Republican uprising that had taken place one year earlier, and then he was repatriated to Russia, thrown into the Peter-paul Fortress prison in Saint Petersburg. He was held there until 1857. (p136)

The data above explains that Bakunin in 1849 carried out a Republican rebellion and was captured in Dresden, then he was sent back to his hometown, Russia. He was put in a prison called Peter-Paul Fortress in Saint Petersburg until he was held until 1857. Bakunin vowed a revolution and continued to fight until he was exiled again to another country that carried out the same rebellion.

In 1863, he left London and went to Poland to join the rebel forces. However, unfortunately he couldn't reach his goal and instead spent a long time in Switzerland and Italy.(p136)

The data above explains that in 1863 Bakunin left London and then went to Poland to carry out his obligations as a revolutionary and joined the rebel forces. However, before the Bakunin left for Poland, he spent time in Switzerland and Italy instead waging a dispute with Marx and waging an uprising in Bologna, Italy.

3.1.3 Struggle for Purification of Common Sense

If people are to be wary of a government controlled by "savants", then they must all oppose the inspired idealists. The more sincere the believers and the poets of this paradise, the more dangerous they are (p103).

The data excerpt above shows advice or suggestions against idealists with the aim of purifying common sense.

In addition, there are several ways that the main character Bakunin does in obtaining his human rights and freedoms, namely:

1. Taking Part in Communal Rebellion

Despite Bakunin's declining health as a result of his years in prison, he continued to try to take part in a communal uprising involving anarchists in Bologna, Italy, but in disguise he was eventually forced to return to Switzerland and settle in the Lugano area (p138).

The data excerpt above shows the relentless struggle of the main character Bakunin for his freedom despite his declining health due to imprisonment.

2. Be A Staunch Opponent of Imperialism

Bakunin increased radicalism including being a staunch opponent of Russian imperialism and other powers in eastern and central Europe. His actions changed the course of his life, and his career as a professor was over. He was eventually deported for speaking out loudly against Russian oppression in Poland (p135).

The data above shows Bakunin's disapproval of imperialism by resisting through various efforts.

3. Join The International Working Men's Association

In 1868 Bakunin joined the International Working Men's Association (commonly referred to as the International), a federation of trade unions and trade unions with branches in many European countries, as well as in Latin America and (after 1872) in North Africa and the Middle East (p136).

One way that Bakunin uses to fight for human rights against the social slavery system is to join a trade union to fight for legitimate rights which should change the perspective of the social contract, as evidenced by the data quoted above.

3.2 Discussion

God and The State novel by Mikhail Bakunin in 2017, is a non-fiction novel that tells the story of materialists whose main character is Bakunin himself as the author and author of the novel. This hesitatingly expressed statement became impossible. perhaps with distrust, idealists are wrong and materialists are right. The fact that Proudhon speaks of, is simply a flower, whose roots go deep into the material conditions of existence. And like all human

history, intellectual and moral, political and social, is only the mediator of economic history. All branches of modern science, true and impartial science, agree to proclaim this great, fundamental and decisive truth the social world, more precisely the human world in short, mankind is nothing but the last and highest development at least on planet earth and as far as that we know of the ultimate bestiality embodiment. Every development always emphasizes the denial which is the basis or the place of departure, so that humans are at the same time and essentially unhurried and gradually eliminate the animal element in humans, and precisely this negation, is rational and natural, and rational only because of the natural iq at the same time. historically and logically, inevitably becomes the development and realization of all the laws of nature in the world that construct and create the ideal, the world of intellectual and moral beliefs, ideas.

In this study, researchers used several theories to support the findings in this study. The findings or results of this research are the problems, stories, and struggles of the main characters in this novel. The main character, played by Bakunin, is a Russian national who opposes the slavery system in the world.

For Bakunin, the slavery system is a system that is incompatible with human rights. Because the system is very inhumane and only concerned with the interests of one party. With Bakunin's opinion written in his novel, we as readers will be able to find out what the struggles were carried out by Bakunin in opposing injustice and how Bakunin was doing to oppose it.

The first struggle that was carried out by Bakunin was the struggle against class, which meant that Bakumin fought for the right to equal positions between humans. Does not see social status, wealth, and education. Bakunin thought that humans in this world should be considered the same, despite their different race, social status, and even skin color. Because humans only have the same place to live, namely the earth. Therefore the Bakunin fight for class distinctions in this world to be abolished and justice for whoever is rightly served.

This is in accordance with the theory that has been put forward by Weir, K. (2010). Who says in his research, that class differences will have a bad impact on social life in society, because it can cause conflict and hostility. In the end, neither party benefits, but both parties are equally harmed.

In addition, the struggle shown by the Bakunin figures is a revolutionary struggle. The struggle against arbitrary power over the people. Bakunin considered that the revolutionary struggle should be carried on forever, because Bakunin believed that every country would have an unjust leader and oppress its people.

The propaganda of the revolutionary struggle originally served as a sentence of rebellion against injustice in the world. A struggle that can cost life, energy, and material. But for Bakunin all this is nothing compared to the victory over the struggle that has been carried out. Because the Bakunin are aware that if the oppressed people are quieter, then those people will also suffer.

The Bakunin struggle is supported by the theory of Currie-Knight, K. (2020). In his research said that "if there is an inappropriate policy from a leader, then there is no other word but to fight". This theory teaches that injustice must be faced, not left alone even if it has to be paid with life. With the example of the Bakunin struggle, it indicates that intelligent people are aware of the situation and conditions that occur and do not remain silent if they are oppressed.

Another struggle of the bakuni is the purification of reason, the struggle against the idealist intellectuals. This struggle serves to oppose the mindset of intellectuals who have personal goals. In a country's life, idealism must be avoided and prioritize the common interest. If a leader is idealistic, then the obligation will not be carried out. The impact that occurs will make people miserable.

Bakunin's struggle against idealist intellectuals received support from the theory of Bakunin, M. A., Bakunin, M., & Michael, B. (1990). Which states that, if the intellectuals already have a high idealistic nature, they cannot be tolerated and must be resisted. This theory is in line with Bakunin's struggle for injustice in this world. The theory that makes, the reader can know that intellectuals will be very dangerous if they already have a high level of idealism.

In addition to the struggle, the Bakunin not only have a way but also realize the struggle in the form of real activities, one of which is participating in communal rebellions that fight for human rights. This struggle shows that ordinary people's resistance in fighting for human rights will continue if the leader's policies oppress the small people.

Bakunin's struggle for human rights is supported by the theory of Evans, D. (2017). Yang says in research that rebellion must be carried out with various peoples as long as the struggle against injustice and taking away the rights that should belong to us.

In addition, Bakunin also manifested his struggle in the form of being a staunch opponent of imperialism. Bakunin thought that imperialism should be abolished from this world because it is not in accordance with the social world community. Bakunin did not agree with the system, therefore the Bakunin opposed the system that was unfair and did not behave humanly.

This finding is also supported by Macke, B. A. (1991). Who said in his research, that the imperialist system should be avoided from this world. This can rob human rights, therefore imperialism should be opposed in accordance with what Bakunin pointed out.

Then Bakunin also realized the struggle for human rights by joining a trade union. The purpose of Bakunin joining the trade union was to contribute in the form of views on the policies of the social slavery system that existed at that time. Bakunin believed that trade unions could have a hand in reinstating workers' rights that were incompatible.

These findings are supported by research by Void, T. V. (1990). Yang said in his research that injustice in human rights issues can be realized or opposed by various means, one of which is what Bakunin did by joining the trade union council to fight for workers' human rights. Therefore what Bakunin has done is a good example, revolutionary or renewal, courage to face imperialism.

4. CLOSING

The novel *God and The State* by Mikhail Bakunin tells the story of materialists who oppose the existence of a system of social slavery under the pretext of a social contract that leads to animalistic nature or human greed in everything that happens on earth. A Bakunin figure of Russian nationality, had a noble wife and had the great ideas of an anarcho-syndicalist figure. Bakunin is also a great teacher, and has a rivalry with Karl Marx with his understanding of Marxism. In addition, Bakunin also participated in the communal uprising as a genuine revolutionary spirit and a learned opponent of imperialism. Bakunin delivered a fiery speech in defense of people's rights and abolishing social slavery. Then Bakunin was imprisoned for his involvement in these rebellions. Until age ends his body before his revolutionary story is

over. The conclusion of this research is Bakunin's novel shows reconciliation in politics by eliminating popular freedom for the sake of bourgeois power, which is represented by the constitutional monarchy of one country. A shallow speaker will be long-winded and incapable of putting together an original conception. In addition, shallow speakers are also unable to construct special ideas for themselves.

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