

AN ANALYSIS OF FEMINISM IDEA REPRESENTED BY QUEEN ELIZABETH I IN THE SHEKHAR KAPUR'S FILM ENTITLED *ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE*

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Abstract: Literature is human's expression. Literature gives information concerning human experience which consists of the realities of human problem, feeling, situation and relationship. By watching or reading literature, people can obtain enjoyment and valuable information related to our life. Film is human's expression that reflects the human thought, act, behavior, lifestyle, and anything related to human kind.

This study was conducted to analyze Queen Elizabeth's 1 feminism as a Queen of England in *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* film. The analyze focused on what feminism idea used, kinds of feminism done, and how she applied the feminism.

This study used qualitative design. The object of this study was film entitled "Elizabeth: The Golden Age" while the data were derived from dialogue or conversation and scenes of film. The writer used feminism criticism approach; it is a type of literary criticism, which wants to justice in considering woman expand.

Based on the result of data analysis, it shows that: (1.) Feminism idea that represented through Queen Elizabeth I on the ShekharKapur's film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, she was a Queen of England (Supreme Leader in England), decided not to get marry (Single), and lead England in the war to against the Spanish armada (Commandant). (2.) Kinds of feminism done by Queen Elizabeth I was liberal and radical feminism. The liberal feminism can be seen when she had a powerful position than men so she had big power to lead and ordered them. It was happen when Spanish armada attacked, she instructed her ministers to do something. Another symbol of liberal feminism is she was a woman who had power position to lead in the war, before England's armada go to the war she gave spirit that they must be not defeated. The radical feminism, she was the woman who decided not to get marry and lived in the single scene. (3.) The way how Queen Elizabeth I applied the feminism in Shekhar Kapur's film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* by, making the rule for the people, ignoring every man who wished to marry her and lead in making a war strategy to against the Spanish's armada.

Keywords: Analysis, Feminism, Film.

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Introduction

Literature is human expression. People usually have many ways in expressing their feeling, experience, thought, imagination and idea. Kusnosoebroto states that literature is rooted in one of the most basic human desires, and men have taken pleasure in the imaginary adventures and experience of imaginary people (1988:1). It means that literature is connected with life because it describes the events and the things that can happen in a society, what human being has experienced in people life or it describes the reality.

Then, one of literary works that can impress the viewer and give some values about life is film. Film is art that shows the illustration how people live in the certain places, how people think and act to certain things in social life, and film shows the real life of the society although sometimes the story is fiction. Scorsese (2002:394) states that film is part of our artistic heritage, some say that film is history. Therefore, film is meant to be learnt from what happened to the past. Film is also media of communication and education which represents the situation and condition of human life. There are many advantages for the film viewer. First, the viewer will feel comfortable and see the reflection of the real life, so they can relieve their own grief, uncertainty and other problems in their heart. Then, they can enrich their sense of humanity and grow up becoming a wise person when they face some problems with other person. Besides giving many advantages, film is also one of

literary works which has many things to be observed.

Then, one of thing in literary works that can be observed is feminism. Feminism is believes in the right of women to have political, social and economic quality with man. According to Hum (1998, in Silviah 2006), feminism incorporates diverse ideas which share three major perception, namely: gender is a social construction which oppresses women more than men, patriarchy (dominance of men) shapes this construction and women experiential knowledge is a basis for a future nonsexist society. By this point above, there are many pressures that women accept from any sides of human life and did not have freedom to expression their potential.

Based on the reason above, the writer is interested to analyze film. The film analyzed is *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* by Shekhar Kapur, a film in which it talks about feminism done by Queen Elizabeth I who lead England and against Spanish armada which attack England. Therefore, it is really interested to know what feminism she used, identify what kinds of feminism done by Queen Elizabeth I in lead England, to find how the Queen Elizabeth I lead England.

Review of Literature

According to Kennedy (1983:5), "Literature is a kind of art, usually written that offer pleasure and illumination". In addition, according to Koesnosoebroto (1988:1), "Literature has it is roots in one of the most basic him an desires, i.e., the

desires for pleasure. Readers derive pleasure from literature's power to imitate life." Based on those definition above, it can be concluded that literature is a work of art that can give pleasure and illumination that is reflected on human being's life, whether that the literary works are the writer's own experience or another person experience or the literary works may even be his imaginative and experience.

Connolly (in Koesnosoebroto, 1988:3) mentions two main division of literature that are literature of knowledge and literature of imagination. The literature of knowledge presents of interprets facts, ideas, or happenings. The literature of imagination interprets experience by a factitious presentation of persons, ideas and events.

Literature is inextricably tied up with the materials and methods of reading and writing" (Pope, 2002:7). Therefore, in a long time literature always connected with reading and writing. However, now days, when the technology of media of communication was more advanced, the society now if literature is not only how words are read from the page but also how the whole worlds of sight and sound, recorded and one of the production is film (Pope, 2002:44).

Film

Film has become one of the most popular media in literature nowadays. Film is a new form of literary work. It is different of the other previous literary works, such as novel and drama. But, film has also the

sameness as drama and novel because it uses actors as major means of expression and has elements contained in drama, short story, or novel. Film is one of the results of the development of drama which is very popular in the world. Film is a motion pictures which requires convention and has abilities to change the setting quickly and sound effect dramatically, so that the viewers are satisfied without setting in front of the stage (Schnidt, Bogarad and Crockett, 2006:1418). They also said that film like drama, required convention. For example, movies generally have music in the background it's a score that helps to determine tone mood. It meant that film shares many things with drama, especially elements.

Kinds of Film

According to Dirks (2010), Main Film Genres, there are eleven genres of film. They are action, adventure, comedy, crime and gangsters, drama, epics/historical, horror, musical (dance), science fiction, war (anti-war), and western film.

Feminism

Feminism means essentially that women's or gender perspective is applied to a variety of social phenomena. According to Humm (1998), feminism incorporates diverse ideas which share three major perceptions, namely: gender is a social construction which oppresses women more than men, patriarchy (dominance of men) shapes this construction and women experiential knowledge is a basis for a future

non sexist society. It means that feminism deals with the problem about oppression which is a social construction. And, the oppression is mostly occurred to women because the condition in society is dominated by men.

In line with Hum, Alvesson and Skoldberg (2000:210), feminism has three central elements, namely: first, gender is to understand all social relation, institution and process. Second, gender relations are seen as problematic since they are associated with conditions of dominance, inequality, stress and conflict. Third, gender relations are regarded as socially constructed, which means that they are the result of socio-cultural and historical condition, and can be altered by human action.

Based on the theories above, it can be concluded that the condition of oppression, dominance of men and inequality between men and women in getting rights in society are not naturally available since human is created. But, it is constructed by society itself because their culture and historical condition. That phenomenon can be changed because actually the society is the creator of that phenomenon. Thus, it can be concluded that actually the social problems faced by feminism can be solved by the society itself by changing the rules which makes women oppressed.

Kinds of Feminism

Feminism has four kinds, that is: Liberal, Radical, Marxist and Socialist.

Research Design

The writer on this study used descriptive qualitative research because it was intended to find out the concerning with the status of phenomenon related to feminism idea done by Queen Elizabeth I in Shekhar Kapur's film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*.

Findings

The feminism idea represented through Queen Elizabeth I

There were some feminism represented by Queen Elizabeth I as a queen in England, they were:

(1) Queen of England (Supreme Leader in England)

Queen Elizabeth I was a Queen, she was the supreme leader in England. She was a woman who successfully led England by herself. As a woman, she had power over all of her people. Here, when the Queen Elizabeth I walked all of the people knelt to her. It shows that Queen Elizabeth I was a supreme leader of England because everyone knelt when she walked through them, there was even a woman who carried a baby asked her to bless the baby. It indicated that Queen Elizabeth I was a leader who is respected by her people.

(2) Decided not to get marry (Single)

Queen Elizabeth I did another effort as a symbol of feminism by deciding not to get marry. In this case, Queen Elizabeth I refused every man who suggested to marry her. The fact as a Queen (woman), she should have

children or descendant as heir to the throne. It shows when Queen Elizabeth I didn't like when Walsingham talked about her marriage by moving her face because she decided not to get marry or lived in the single scene (single). Queen Elizabeth I expressed it by moving her face, she changed into loathe expression when Walsingham spoke at the boat about her marriage when they were on the dinghy.

(3) Lead England in the war against the Spanish Armada (Commandant)

Another effort as a symbol of feminism idea used by Queen Elizabeth I was when she led England in war to against the Spanish's armada. As a woman, she had power position become a commandant whole war. Queen Elizabeth I led the England Armada as a commandant. She led the armada in the field when they would go to battlefield. She led the armada with wore war and rode a white horse to make the armada keep energetic.

Kinds of feminism done by Queen Elizabeth I

This section presents the kind of feminism done by Queen Elizabeth I in the film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*. Based on the result of data analysis, it was found that Queen Elizabeth I did:

(1) Liberal Feminism

This film exposed that the main character of film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*. Queen Elizabeth I used liberal feminism. She had occupied position

equal with the men, especially a powerful positions. She was a Queen, a woman who led England and had big power on it. She considered that every woman had the same right as men to be a leader. There were no differences or inequality. She thought that she could lead England by herself. These reasons had brought Queen Elizabeth I to be a supreme leader of England. She had a powerful position than men so she had big power to lead and ordered them. Another proof as a symbol of liberal feminism is when Queen Elizabeth I led England in war to against the Spanish's armada. She was a woman who had powerful position, to lead in the war. In her consideration, every woman had same right as men to be a leader. She thought that she could lead England in the war to against the Spanish's armada.

(2.) Radical Feminism

This film explains about Queen Elizabeth I's radical feminism views. She was an anti-patriarchy woman. She was a woman who decided not to get marry and live in the single scene (single). There was freedom for women to marry or not. She considered that every woman should have freedom to choose sexual preferences, essentially nothing is taboo. She thought that woman was natural mothers, and the right of female reproduction was important. Queen Elizabeth I claimed that she was a virgin Queen, Its means that she was unmarried, had no children and lived without couple, but she was

like a mother to the people of England. She chose to live and led England by herself. Gladen (2008) stated that radical feminism is similar to socialist feminism in that it emphasizes on the need for dramatic social change in order to achieve genuine equality for women. So, that is why Queen Elizabeth I included as a radical feminism views.

How Queen Elizabeth I 1 Applied the Feminism

This section presents the way how Queen Elizabeth I applied the feminism. There were some ways how Queen Elizabeth I applied the feminism as a Queen in England, they were:

(1) Make the rule for the people

Queen Elizabeth I made the rule for her people because she had power over the people and every law made was based on her decision. One of them was shown when she got a meeting with the ministers to make a rule. The Queen decided not to give punishment on the people over their beliefs. It is proved by statement of Queen Elizabeth I "I will not punish my people for their beliefs. Only for their deeds" (Minute 00:04:09-00:04:12). It shows that Queen Elizabeth I did not give punishment to the people who choose Catholic for their belief, she would only punish her people for their deeds. It can be concluded that every punishment meted out must be through by her approval.

(2) Ignore every men who wish to marry her

Queen Elizabeth I ignored every men who wished to marry her because she decided not to get marry and lived in the single scene (single). She ignored every prince who came from another country which wished to marry her. Queen Elizabeth I ignored every prince from another country who came to marry her because she did not want to get marry. Walsingham offered some princes but Queen Elizabeth I looked like uninterested with them. She showed it by the statement to Walsingham "Still mad, you mean" (Minute 00:10:36) then change the conversation topic when Walsingham told that King Erick still madly in love with her, the men who wished to marry her.

(3) Led to make a war strategy to against the Spanish Armada

Queen Elizabeth I led in making a war strategy to against the Spanish's armada by having a meeting with her ministers. In her position as a queen, she had the right to led in make a war strategy. At the time she was very smart to make the war strategy. Queen Elizabeth I led the meeting to making the preparation of war strategy to against the Spanish Armada. She estimated there were about twenty five thousand armies of Spanish and French who would sail to cross the Thames. She plan, that before Spanish arrived in the themes they had to defend the Thames entrances at Tilbury with at least four thousand armies. One of the

ministers said that England only had three thousand armies. Heard it, Queen Elizabeth I looked anxious and disappointed especially if the Spanish and France combined their powers, England armies would surely lose. So, she had a strategy to attack them at sea, before they joined. One of the ministers conveyed the possible worst that could happen, so they had to be ready. It made Queen Elizabeth I more anxious, but this strategy still should be done.

Conclusion

This study is intended to answer the research problems which are related to the main character of the film entitled 'Elizabeth: The Golden Age'. The problems are; (1) What are feminism idea that represented through Queen Elizabeth I on the Shekhar Kapur's film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*? (2) What kinds of feminism are done by Queen Elizabeth I on the Shekhar Kapur's film 'Elizabeth: The Golden Age'? (3) How does Queen Elizabeth I apply the feminism on Shekhar Kapur's film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*?

The research findings show that Queen Elizabeth I used some feminism ideas in order to lead England. those are (1.) Queen of England (Supreme Leader in England), when she walked all of the people knelt on her, shows that she was a supreme leader of England. She also had power to permit her guest's ship to anchor in her country, especially if the guests gave profit to her country (England). (2.) Decided not to get marry (Single), so she refused every male who would like to marry her, (3.) Led England in

war to against the Spanish armada (Commandant), she make the England's armies to keep energetic in war against the Spanish's armada.

Queen Elizabeth I did some kinds of feminism ideas, they are (1.) Liberal feminism, she had a powerful position than men so she had big power to lead and ordered them. It was happen when Spanish armada attacked, she instructed her ministers to do something. Another symbol of liberal feminism is she was a woman who had power position to lead in the war, before England's armada go to the war she gave spirit that they must be not defeated (2.) Radical feminism, she was the woman who decided not to get marry and lived in the single scene.

Queen Elizabeth I applied feminism, they are: (1.) Make the rule for the people, as a woman who was a Queen of England, she had power over the people and every law made was based on her decision, the rule is she did not give punishment to the people who chose Chatholic for their belief, she only punished her people for their deeds. (2.) Ignore every men who wish to marry her, it was because she decided not to get marry and lived in the single scene (single). (3.) Lead in making a war strategy to against the Spanish armada. Elizabeth had right to lead in making a war strategy, the strategy was that before Spanish's armada arrived in the Themes, they had to defend the Themes entrances at Tilbury with at least four thousand armies. So, they had to attack them at the sea, before Spanish and France joined the war.

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