

ABSTRACT

THE RESISTANCE OF SLAVE IN COLONIAL ERA: A POSTCOLONIAL STUDY TOWARD *SURAPATI* AND *ROBERT ANAK SURAPATI* NOVELS BY ABDOEL MOEIS

This research is conducted based on the problem of slavery found in Indonesian literary texts. Using a deconstructive technique, this research intends to show (1) the relations between the colonizer and colonized people found in the novel *Surapati* and *Robert Anak Surapati* (*SdRAS*), (2) the resistance of slaves to his masters, (3) the characteristics of *SdRAS* novels according to postcolonial perspectives.

The result of this research shows unequal relations between the colonizer, Dutch, and colonized people, native Indonesian. These unequal relations can be found through Dutch's expression by stereotyping Indonesian as animals, and by referring to their skin color. The Dutch characters in the novel viewed themselves more civilized than those indigenous characters, and this categorization was formulated based on skin colors. This point of view constructed the colonizer's mind and behaviors that impacted to the emergence of negative depictions of native Indonesians as left behind, slow, lazy people, and other animal likes such as monkey. Such negative depictions and domination (discrimination, racism, and marginalization) led Indonesian slaves into resistance in the form of mimicry and mockery by mocking Dutch colonizers. These were performed as an effort to abolish their powerful position. Mimicry and Mockery, however, reveals the hybrid attitude of colonized Indonesians which, at the same time, shows that ambiguity of the discourse constructed in the novels. Therefore, according the postcolonial approach, the novels *SdRAS* can be characterized as ambiguous novels. These novels show their resistance to the dominant on the one hand. They are also hegemonized by colonial discourse on the other hand.

Key words: *Resistance, Slave Surapati and Robert Anak Surapati, Postcolonial*