

ABSTRAK

Tesis ini merupakan pembacaan poskolonial atas buku *Engineers of Happy Land: Perkembangan Teknologi dan Nasionalisme di sebuah Koloni* (2006) karya Rudolf Mrazek yang menjelaskan tentang perkembangan teknologi dan modernitas hingga memicu nasionalisme di Hindia Belanda terutama pada awal abad ke-20. Menggunakan poskolonialisme Homi K. Bhabha, penelitian ini menjawab dua rumusan masalah. Pertama, bagaimana kaum terjajah menegosiasi wacana penjajah tentang teknologi dan modernitas. Kedua, bagaimana praktik ruang ketiga, mimikri-mockery, hibriditas, dan ambivalensi yang digambarkan dalam buku *Engineers of Happy Land* berkembang di masyarakat Hindia Belanda. Dari hasil pembacaan poskolonial menunjukkan hubungan antara subjek-subjek terjajah dan penjajah tidak selalu berada pada situasi penuh ketegangan. Negosiasi subjek-subjek terjajah terhadap wacana kolonial tentang modernitas dan teknologi adalah berupa peniruan dan membentuk identitas diri yang bergerak maju mengikuti kemajuan zaman. Di sisi lain dalam identitas terjajah yang hibrid, muncul situasi ambivalen ketika subjek terjajah sebenarnya tidak sepenuhnya diam dan hanya meniru dalam menghadapi gempuran wacana kolonial yang sebenarnya mengandung watak orientalis, diskriminatif dan menindas. Mereka memproduksi wacana tandingan yang subversif terhadap dominasi kolonial melalui pengetahuan, budaya, aturan, dan lainnya. Mrazek sendiri dalam mengkonseptualisasi dan menyajikan narasi sejarah dalam bukunya tampak memfokuskan keberadaan teknologi di tengah masyarakat kolonial yang semakin termodernisasi dan menjadi arena inkubator embrio nasionalisme yang apabila didekati, banyak ditemui ambivalensi dalam kajian poskolonial.

Kata Kunci: *Mimikri, Hibriditas, Ambivalensi, Engineers of Happy Land, Poskolonialisme Indonesia*

ABSTRACT

This thesis is a postcolonial reading of *Engineers of Happy Land: The Development of Technology and Nationalism in a Colony* (2006) by Rudolf Mrazek which explains the development of technology and modernity that trigger nationalism in the Dutch East Indies, especially in the early 20th century. Using Homi K. Bhabha's postcolonialism, this research answers two formulations of the problem. First, how the colonized negotiated the colonial discourse about technology and modernity. Second, how the practice of third space, mimicrymockery, hybridity, and ambivalence described in the book *Engineers of Happy Land* developed in the Dutch East Indies society. From the results of postcolonial readings, showing that the relationship between colonized subjects and colonizers was not always in a situation full of tension. Negotiation of colonized subjects against colonial discourses on modernity and technology is in the form of imitation and forming self-identity that moves forward with the current development. On the other hand in a hybrid-colonized identity, the ambivalent situation arises when a colonized subject is actually not completely silent and just imitates in the face of the opposing colonial discourse which actually contains orientalist character, discriminatory and oppressive. But they produce subversive counter discourse to colonial domination through knowledge, culture, rules, and others. Mrazek himself in conceptualizing and presenting historical narratives in his book seems to focus on the existence of technology in colonial society which is increasingly modernized and becomes an arena of embryonic incubator for nationalism which, when approached, often finds ambivalence in postcolonial studies.

Keywords: *Mimicry, Hybridity, Ambivalence, Engineers of Happy Land, Indonesian Postcolonialism*