

**SI TENGGANG'S EFFORT IN FINDING CULTURAL IDENTITY
DEPICTED IN MUHAMMAD HAJI SALLEH'S
*SI TENGGANG'S HOMECOMING***

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

Wardani, Dwi Sinta. 2015. **Si Tenggang's Effort in Finding Cultural Identity Depicted in Muhammad Haji Salleh's, *Si Tenggang's Homecoming***. Study Program of English, Department of Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Arcci Tusita; Co-Supervisor: Fredy Nugroho Setiawan.

Keywords: cultural identity, post-colonialism, *Si Tenggang's Homecoming*

In post-colonial era, binary opposition between West and East affects the mentality and identity the Eastern. For some occasions, the Easterners imitate the Western culture in order to have equality. It may lead to identity crisis in finding cultural identity. The process of finding cultural identity is depicted throughout in a poem written by Muhammad Haji Salleh entitled *Si Tenggang's Homecoming*. In this poem, Salleh as the writer portrays how Si Tenggang, as the figure of the poem adopts the new culture in the Western country when he studies abroad. Therefore, this study investigates the finding of cultural identity in Si Tenggang when he experiences a cross cultural exchange with the Western culture and adjustment process after his homecoming. Post-colonial criticism and other theories proposed by Homi K. Bhabha, namely mimicry, hybridity and ambivalence and the last post-colonial identity, a theory proposed by Stuart Hall are used to analyze the material research.

The result of this research shows Si Tenggang's adaptation in American culture and Si Tenggang's re-establishment in Malaysian culture. Throughout this analysis, there are differences between Si Tenggang's journey and his homecoming. During studying abroad, he learns many things about culture and variety such as mimicking the new culture. Thus, after his homecoming Si Tenggang becomes a hybrid figure who is different from common Malaysian. He becomes wiser and mature. Consequently, people in his native country questions his identity as Malay. At that time, he is ambivalent. Yet, after convincing himself and his society in the native country, he is sure with his identity as hybrid figure and positioning himself at the Third Space. It is concluded that cross cultural exchange has influenced cultural identity in Si Tenggang.

The following researcher is suggested to explore Si Tenggang's experiences by using biographical approach. It is aimed to examine the correlation between the poem with the author's life.

ABSTRAK

Wardani, Dwi Sinta. 2015. **Usaha Si Tenggang dalam Pencarian Identitas Budaya tercermin dalam *Si Tenggang's Homecoming* karya Muhammad Haji Salleh.** Program Studi Bahasa Inggris, Departemen Bahasa dan Sastra, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing (I): Arcci Tusita; Pembimbing (II): Fredy Nugroho Setiawan.

Kata Kunci: identitas budaya, pendekatan poskolonial, *Si Tenggang's Homecoming*

Pada masa poskolonial, oposisi biner antara Barat dan Timur mempengaruhi mentalitas dan identitas bangsa Timur. Dalam beberapa kesempatan, bangsa Timur meniru budaya Barat agar memperoleh kesejajaran. Hal ini akan mengarah pada krisis identitas dalam pencarian identitas budaya. Proses identitas budaya tercermin dalam puisi yang ditulis oleh Muhammad Haji Salleh berjudul *Si Tenggang's Homecoming*. Dalam puisi ini, Salleh sebagai penulis menggambarkan Si Tenggang, tokoh dalam puisi mengadopsi budaya baru di negara Barat ketika belajar di luar negeri. Dengan demikian, penelitian ini menunjukkan temuan identitas budaya pada tokoh Si Tenggang ketika dia mengalami pertukaran lintas budaya dengan negara Barat. Kritik poskolonial dan teori yang diusulkan oleh Homi K. Bhabha yaitu, mimikri, hibriditas dan ambivalen serta teori identitas poskolonial yang diusulkan oleh Stuart Hall digunakan untuk menganalisa materi penelitian ini.

Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan adaptasi Si Tenggang di budaya Amerika dan pembentukan kembali Si Tenggang di budaya Malaysia. Dalam keseluruhan analisa ini, terdapat perbedaan antara perjalanan Si Tenggang dan kepulangannya. Selama belajar di luar negeri, dia mempelajari banyak hal tentang budaya dan keragamannya, seperti meniru budaya baru. Dia menjadi lebih bijaksana dan dewasa. Dengan demikian, setelah kepulangannya, Si Tenggang menjadi tokoh hibrid yang berbeda dengan masyarakat Malaysia pada umumnya. Pada saat itu, dia dalam kondisi ambivalen. Namun, setelah meyakinkan diri sendiri dan masyarakat di negeri asal, dia yakin dengan identitasnya sebagai tokoh hibrid dan memposisikan dirinya pada Ruang Ketiga. Disimpulkan bahwa pertukaran lintas budaya telah mempengaruhi identitas budaya pada Si Tenggang.

Peneliti selanjutnya disarankan untuk mengeksplorasi pengalaman Si Tenggang menggunakan pendekatan biografi. Hal ini bertujuan untuk menguji keterkaitan antara puisi dan kehidupan pengarang.

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