

**THE PORTRAIT OF BRITISH CULTURAL INVASION
TOWARD 'OTHER' IN DEFOE'S *ROBINSON CRUSOE*:
A POSTCOLONIAL READING**

A Thesis

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By:

EFRIZAL

03185039



**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT - FACULTY OF LETTERS
ANDALAS UNIVERSITY
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ABSTRAK

Dalam penelitian ini penulis menganalisa hegemoni kekuasaan kolonialisme Inggris terhadap masyarakat jajahannya, yang ditampilkan dalam novel *Robinson Crusoe* karya Daniel Defoe. Penulis memaparkan proses dan dampak pencapaian hegemoni kolonialisme Inggris terhadap masyarakat terjajah. Hal tersebut tersirat dari dua tokoh utama novel ini, yaitu: Robinson Crusoe dan Friday.

Penulis menggunakan teori hegemoni dalam lingkup kajian pascakolonial. Melalui pendekatan pascakolonial dapat diketahui bagaimana praktek hegemoni yang dijalankan oleh penjajah terhadap bangsa jajahannya. Penulis menggunakan penelitian kepustakaan dalam pengumpulan buku-buku dan referensi yang berkaitan dengan topik analisis. Kemudian dilanjutkan dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk mengambil kutipan-kutipan yang mendukung analisa penulis. Hasil analisa tersebut dipaparkan melalui metode deskriptif.

Setelah penelitian ini berhasil diselesaikan, penulis menemukan bahwa tokoh Robinson Crusoe adalah diskursus kolonialisme Inggris yang menyiratkan proses pencapaian dan pelestarian hegemoni kolonial. Sementara itu, tokoh Friday merepresentasikan masyarakat dibawah jajahan Inggris. Kekuasaan kolonial Inggris membangun hegemoninya dengan cara menghancurkan akar ideologis budaya asli masyarakat jajahannya, dan kemudian menggantinya dengan budaya Inggris terkait tiga aspek yaitu: bahasa, agama dan nilai-nilai sosio-kultural Inggris. Hal ini bertujuan untuk menundukkan masyarakat terjajah tanpa membuat mereka merasa terjajah atau ditundukkan. Dampak hal ini terhadap masyarakat terjajah adalah mereka hidup dengan menjalankan budaya kolonialisme Inggris dengan dasar ideologi 'pelayan' yang tunduk dan mengabdikan kepada kekuasaan Inggris.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Research

Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* has become a classic in colonial literature. It is one of the earliest novels written in English. Daniel Defoe was born in the Parish of St. Giles, (he later added the aristocratic sounding "De" to his name and on occasion claimed descent from the family of De Beau Faux.) Both the date and the place of his birth are uncertain with sources often giving dates of 1659 or 1661 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Defoe sited on March 6th 2008)

Robinson Crusoe tells story about great adventure stories of Western culture. This novel was published in seventeenth century. Related to the research, the writer tends to analyze Robinson Crusoe because this novel is a product of English colonial culture in the colonial era. It is set in the seventeenth century, during the expansion of European countries especially British Empire toward American, African, and Asian countries. During that time, British Empire became the most powerful country in the world. Therefore, it is appropriate to represent the depiction of colonization practice implicitly, and hence it is proper to analyze by means of postcolonial theory.

The novel itself is about a British character named Robinson Crusoe who has strong willingness to control other people, in this novel, an indigenous man named Friday. Actually, Crusoe tries to dominate all of the environment around him. He exercises his influences to other people who come to the island. All of the people

who come there should obey his rules. All of Crusoe's spirits has the similarities with the spirit of British colonizer to dominate native people.

All of these points show us about the core concepts of colonialism. Although Daniel Defoe does not come from the colonized countries and he never lived in the colonized land but the story in the novel contains such postcolonial issues. It has some aspects dealing with postcolonial issues, such as: when Robinson Crusoe set foot on the island and declares it as his own land, a new page has been inscribed in the history of colonialism. This means that when Crusoe starts to live in the island, he tries to exploit all of the provision in the island. He exercises his domination to the creature around him. Even he reclaims that anyone comes to the island should be under his rules, based on what he learns from British ideology, culture, and Christianity. The writer sees the relation between the main character Crusoe with Friday and others symbolizes the relation between British colonizer with the colonized people. Here Crusoe has successfully changed Friday to behave based on Crusoe's culture and religion. Since the postcolonial study becomes one of the popular topics today, and it will be very useful if the writer gives a little contributions to the topic through this research, therefore, the writer entitles this research **The Portrait of British Cultural Invasion toward 'Other' In Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*: A Postcolonial Reading**

1.2 The Statement of Problem

The main problem that the writer wants to investigate is the process of Crusoe's hegemony toward Friday. Since Crusoe is cast ashore in an Island, he

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Every colonization process brings the impacts to the colonized people's life. Their life is in the shadow of the colonialists. One of the ways in which colonizers used to legitimize their power toward the colonized is by exercising their hegemony.

Hegemony means the domination of colonizer toward the colonized in every aspects of life. After analyzing *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe the writer concludes that the exercising of colonizer's hegemony is clearly pictured through the hegemony of Crusoe toward Friday. The hegemony represents the hegemony of British colonizers toward the colonized people.

Crusoe is an Englishman. He manages to leave his family in Hull to have a sea voyage. But unfortunately he is shipwrecked on an island. He trains himself with all of the skills for twenty eight years in the island. He masters all of his environments. At one moment he secures a savage from the cannibals who come to the island. Since that time Crusoe exercises his colonizer's hegemony toward Friday. He makes Friday his slave who has to obey all of his commands. Friday was sixteen years old when he met Crusoe. Later, he is influenced and dominated by Crusoe in almost every aspects of his life. The process of hegemony practiced by Crusoe toward Friday represents British colonizer's hegemony toward the colonized. Crusoe exercises his domination toward Friday in three aspects of life. First, Crusoe exercise his hegemony toward Friday by influencing him to speak

his language, that is English. It is impossible for Crusoe to exercise his domination if Friday does not understand him. Therefore, he tries to make Friday able to speak English. Through this language Crusoe imposes Friday with all of British ideology and culture. So that in a few times Crusoe succeeds to change Friday to understand English and speak it fluently. All of these represent the process of exercising British colonizer's hegemony toward the colonized people. They treat the colonized people to speak their language. They impose all of their ideology through their language toward the colonized. Therefore they will perpetuate the existence of their hegemony toward the colonized people.

Secondly, Friday is influenced to be a Christian. Friday who has indigenous belief before is converted to Christian. Crusoe dominates Friday by imposing him with all of the Christian notions. So that in a short time Crusoe is able to change Friday to have the same faith with him. He makes Friday to forget all of his indigenous belief. All of Crusoe's actions toward Friday have one major purpose. It is to make his domination over Crusoe last forever. All what Crusoe does toward Friday is the representation of the hegemony of British colonizer toward the colonized. They influenced the colonized people to change their indigenous faith into the Christian. They used religion as the tool to perpetuate their domination toward the colonized people.

Thirdly, Crusoe changes Friday to use all of the British cultural values. Friday who originally was a cannibal change to be civilized person after being together with Crusoe. Crusoe imposes Friday with all of the British values. So that, Friday changes to behave like a British person. He eats, drinks, clothes, and

behaves like a British person. All of these represent the domination of British colonizer toward the colonized people. They influence the colonized people to change their indigenous culture with all of the British cultural values. Crusoe's hegemony toward Friday is undoubtedly the representation of British colonizer's hegemony toward its colonized objects.

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