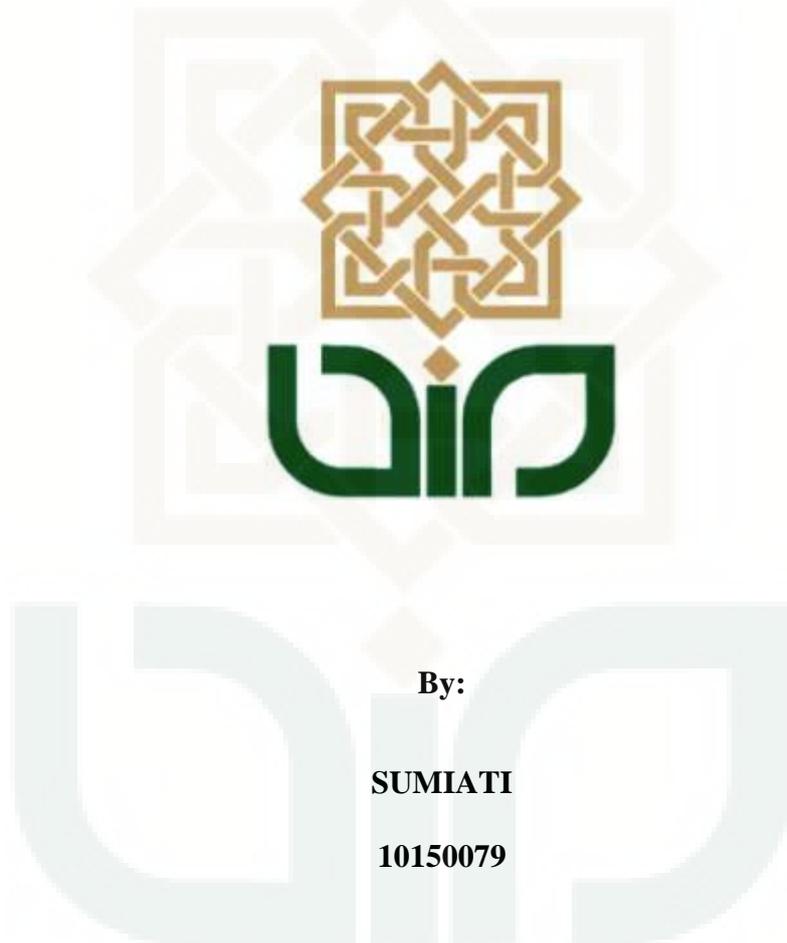


**MARIAM'S PERSONALITY IN FACING EXTERNAL CONFLICT AS
SEEN IN A *THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS* NOVEL**

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Gaining the Degree of
Bachelor in English Literature



By:

SUMIATI

10150079

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF ADAB AND CULTURAL SCIENCES

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY SUNAN KALIJAGA YOGYAKARTA

2015

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Other writer's opinions or findings included in that thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with the ethical standards.

Yogyakarta, 5 June 2015

The Writer,



SUMIATI
Student No.:1010079



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA
FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA

Jl. Marsda Adisucipto Yogyakarta 55281 Telp./Fak. (0274) 513949
Web : <http://adab.uin-suka.ac.id> E-mail : adab@uin-suka.ac.id

PENGESAHAN SKRIPSI/TUGAS AKHIR

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Mariam's Personality in Facing External Conflicts as Seen in A Thousand Splendid Suns Novel

Yang dipersiapkan dan disusun oleh :

Nama : **Sumiati**

NIM : **10150079**

Telah dimunaqosyahkan pada : **Kamis, 18 Juni 2015**

Nilai Munaqosyah : **A/B**

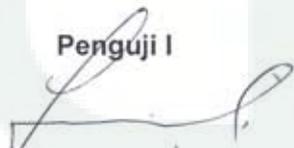
Dan telah dinyatakan diterima oleh **Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya UIN Sunan Kalijaga**.

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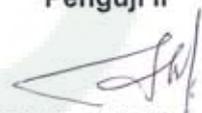
Ketua Sidang


Ulyati Retno Sari, M.Hum
NIP 19772005012002

Penguji I


Danial Hidayatullah, M.Hum
NIP 19760405 200901 1 016

Penguji II


Witriani, M.Hum
NIP 197208012006042002

Yogyakarta, 25 Juni 2015
Dekan Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya




Dr. Zamzam Afandi, M.Ag
NIP 19631111 199403 1 002



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA REPUBLIK INDONESIA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA
FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA

Jl. Marsda Adisucipto Yogyakarta 55281 Telp./Fak. (0274) 513949
Web:<http://adab.uin-suka.ac.id> E-mail: adab@uin-suka.ac.id

NOTA DINAS

Hal : Skripsi
a.n Sumiati

Yth.

Dekan Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya
UIN Sunan Kaliaga
Di Yogyakarta

Assalamu'alaikum wr. wb.

Setelah memeriksa, meneliti dan memberikan arahan untuk perbaikan atas skripsi saudara:

Nama : Sumiati
NIM : 10150079
Prodi : Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Adab dan Ilmu Budaya
Judul : **MARIAM'S PERSONALITY IN FACING EXTERNAL
CONFLICTS AS SEEN IN A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS
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Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb.

Yogyakarta, 5 June 2015

Pembimbing

Ulyati Retno Sari, M. Hum

NIP. 19771115200501 1 002

**MARIAM'S PERSONALITY IN FACING EXTERNAL CONFLICTS AS
SEEN IN A *THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS* NOVEL**

By: Sumiati

ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini meneliti novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Penelitian ini fokus pada analisis karakter utama dalam menghadapi konflik eksternal dari Mariam. Novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* menyuguhkan aspek personalitas yang kuat dari karakter Mariam, terutama dalam hal konflik eksternal. Konflik merupakan aspek yang selalu ada dalam kehidupan, baik kehidupan nyata maupun dalam dunia fiksi, karena konflik merupakan bagian penting dari plot sebuah cerita. Sebagai sebuah penelitian kualitatif, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan konflik-konflik eksternal yang dialami oleh karakter Mariam, apa faktor penyebab dari konflik eksternal yang dialaminya serta bagaimana kepribadiannya dalam menyikapi konflik tersebut. Analisis terhadap konflik eksternal dalam penelitian ini menggunakan teori psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud; struktur kepribadian yang terdiri dari *id*, *ego* dan *superego*. *Id* sebagai sifat alami manusia selalu berprinsip pada kenikmatan namun *superego* sebagai standar moral berupaya untuk merepresi *id* yang menyimpang. Hal ini mengakibatkan konflik eksternal pada karakter Mariam dikarenakan keinginan *id* tidak sesuai dengan *superego*, sedangkan faktor penyebab dari konflik external Mariam mengakibatkan cara penyelesaian masalah yang kurang tepat. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menemukan bahwa tokoh utama pada novel ini mengalami beberapa konflik, diantaranya konflik Mariam dengan ibunya, konflik Mariam dengan suaminya dan juga konflik mariam dengan peratural social yang ada. Penulis juga menemukan beberapa factor konflik yang diantaranya adalah tekanan dan hinaan ketika Mariam masih kecil dan ketika sudah besar. Dia selalu diejek sebagai *Harami* yang berarti anak haram. Penyebab konflik yang lain adalah dari suaminya yang melakukan kekerasan rumah tangga dan kekerasan seksual. Dalam tekanan yang Mariam alami, akhirnya dia membunuh suaminya untuk menyelamatkan hidupnya.

Kata kunci: *id*, *ego*, *superego*, Mariam, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

**MARIAM'S PERSONALITY IN FACING EXTERNAL CONFLICTS AS
SEEN IN A *THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS* NOVEL**

By: Sumiati

ABSTRACT

This graduating paper conducts a research of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel. It focuses on the analysis of the main character; Mariam external conflict. Novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* offers the strong personality aspect of Mariam character, especially in facing external conflict. Conflict is the aspects that always exist in the real life and in the fiction, because conflict is a main point of the plot of story. As the qualitative research, this research is aimed to find out the external conflict that faced by Mariam character, what are the triggers or the factor of the external conflicts of Mariam and how are finally conflicts resolved. In analyze external conflict the writer uses psychoanalysis of Sigmund Freud; structure of personality that consist of id, ego, and superego. *Id* associated as primitive desire always having pleasure principle, and *superego* associated as the external rule which always tries to push the deviation of *id*. It caused external conflict in Mariam's character because the desire of *id* undesirable by *superego*, while the factor that caused of Mariam's external conflict makes Mariam's problem solving inappropriate. In this research the writer found that the main character of this novel faced some conflicts. Some of the conflicts are Mariam conflict with her mother, Mariam conflict with her husband, and Mariam conflict with the rule of society. The writer of this research also reveals the trigger or the factor of the conflict, some of they are pressure and mocking when Mariam was childhood and when Mariam was adult. She always mocked as *Harami*, which means illegitimate child. Other triggers of the conflict are domestic violence and sexual abuse. Feeling the pressure, finally Mariam kills her husband to save her life.

Key Words: *id*, *ego*, *superego*, Mariam, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

MOTTO

Maka nikmat Tuhan manakah yang kau dustakan?

(Ar Rahman: 13)



DEDICATION

For My Beloved Mother and Father,



ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Alhamdulillah rabbil 'alamin, I express greatest gratitude to Allah SWT. for giving me uncountable blessing in finishing this graduating paper. *Shalawat* and *salam* always delivers to the greatest Prophet Muhammad SAW. and his family, who guides us from *Jahiliyyah* to *Islamiyyah*.

Finishing this graduating paper was not a simple thing at all if without help and support from many people especially parents, lecturer, and friends. In this memorable moment the writer would like to thanks to all people who help and support the writer because this study would not have been completed without some contributions and guidance from them. The writer wants to express gratitude to:

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Yogyakarta, 5 June 2015

The Writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature is a product of creative thinking of human being with aesthetic and artistic aspect. It is as an expression of author's feeling and as valuable art. According to De Bonald literature is an expression of society. It means literature is not only fictional work which pure of imagination but it might also inspired from reality which shows the real condition of the society where the literary work is written (Wellek and Warren, 1993: 110). Wilbur also states that the function of literary works is as the picture of the real life condition. They usually tell about the social condition of the society. It can be said that literature is reflection of human's life. It describes what and how human life is and it usually reflects the events that happen in a society (Wilbur, 1962:24).

Among many kinds of literary work such as poem, drama, short story, film and etc, novel is one kind of literary works which is famous in the world. According to Jones a novel is a long story written in prose. The characteristic of novel is long, and contents several themes. For the example a novel might content love, family and friendship as main theme, but it also contents life struggle and war as secondary theme. It is different from a short story in the other ways. That reason makes novel different from the other literary works (1968: 80). Novels have many kinds of plot form-tragic, comic, satiric, or romantic (Abrams,

1971:112). From this classification, the content of novel records many depictions of human's lives which always change every time depending on growth of the era.

As depiction of human's live and its culture, the writer of novel talks about the real condition of human life. Indeed, it talks about true story of human's story with basic issue of humanity in the social life inside. Based on the characteristic and the background, the novel which talks about universal issues called as serious novel or literary fiction. According to Nurgiyantoro, serious novel or literary fiction is a novel which articulates basic issues of humanity; it always relates to social life of society in a place in which it is told on fiction (1999:56). Thus, serious novel as literary fiction becomes different from another genre of fiction through its setting whether it is real or imagined mind.

Swingewood also noticed that the culture of society has big influence in author mind and idea, without any objection that the author themselves have their own idea which is out of their culture (1998:25). Thus, author's idea is autonomous. It is original from author mind without influenced from their culture.

The novel which is strongly influenced by their culture is very interesting to be analyzed. It is because that novel captures the true story of human civilization. Human's story gives lesson to other; it also gives information related to culture, creativity and human activities talked in the novel.

Among the novels which talks about the culture, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is important to be analyzed. The novel does not only talking about the culture in the Middle East, but also talks about Islamic culture and the social conflict inside. The background of this novel is war in Afghanistan

In the conflict of society and Islamic culture, there is an interesting figure of conflict which is important to analyze, it is about woman. It can be seen from the novel that women in Islamic culture merely assumed as second class with no right event for their own selves. Thus, when talking about conflict of society and Islamic culture, the figure of women is very important to be raised up.

A Thousand Splendid Suns is a novel written by Khaled Hosseini. A novel was released in 2007 by Penguin Group USA. The novel takes a setting in Afghanistan. This novel tells a story about Mariam as main character where her life was under war. On the other hand she lived with her mother who always forbade Mariam to go to school and play with her friend. And then when she was 15 years old, she was forced to get married with widower. And finally her marriage ended with sadness and domestic violence. Mariam's life was full of conflict since she was born until she died. But, Mariam faced her conflict optimistically and full of hope. That is why the writer is interested to analyze the external conflicts faced by Mariam.

The author of this novel captures the conflict of women's life which is often encountered in the society of Afghanistan. Conflict in the fictional work is the important thing; it is a framework which builds the story. As Nurgiyantoro stated "Conflict can be defined as something happens and unpleasant faced by the characters in the story, if the characters are free to choose, they will not choose the incident befell to them" (Nurgiyantoro, 2012: 122). The portrayal of conflict captured in the character of Mariam. Mariam in the novel was captured as a

woman who faced conflict in her life, while she believed that every conflict comes from God, and God would not give the problem which could not be solved.

The conflict of Mariam began when she was treated badly by her mother, Nana. Nana often yelled and mocked Mariam as *harami*. *Harami* is an illegitimate daughter. Mariam stayed far away from her father, Jalil. Jalil lives in Herat, and he visited Mariam every Thursday to give Mariam and Nana daily needs. Along Mariam stayed with her mother, Mariam felt that she never got affection as other children got. Her mother prohibited Mariam to go to school and play. Mariam only got education about five daily prayers and learning about reciting Koran from *mullah* Faizullah. On Thursday when her father came, he gave her some gifts and told about splendors of Herat and cinemas. All made Mariam comfortable beside him.

One day Mariam felt so curious about Herat city and Jalil's house. This made Mariam decided to go to meet her father in Herat, but her mother did not allow her, and she said if Mariam kept going to Herat, Nana would die. And it became true, after she came back from Herat, Mariam found her mother died. Now she stayed alone in her house. Mariam's father wanted Mariam to move into his house. Then Mariam stayed in Herat with her father, three step mothers and nine step brothers/sisters. After few days she stayed in Herat, her step mother arranged a marriage of Mariam with Rasheed, a man who was unknown and unloved. After she married, she lived with her husband, Rasheed. She was happy enough until she was pregnant, but Mariam loss her embryo before born. Indeed Mariam felt sad and her husband began to treat Mariam rudely. Mariam's life was

back again in sadness and emptiness. She faced strong external conflict either with her mother, with her husband or her society. She always faced the difficult situation, and Mariam should do an action. When Mariam was on her chaos, she killed Rasheed. She could not think who Rasheed was, and what the risk that she would get if she killed her husband.

In facing the conflict, Quran teaches the believers to still have hope and does not easily desparate from theirs problem. Allah has said trough the Quran in An-Nisa

وَلَا تَهِنُوا فِي ابْتِغَاءِ الْقَوْمِ

إِنْ تَكُونُوا تَأْلَمُونَ فَإِنَّهُمْ

يَأْلَمُونَ كَمَا تَأْلَمُونَ وَتَرْجُونَ مِنْ

اللَّهِ مَا لَا يَرْجُونَ (النساء :

(104)

“And don't be weak in the pursuit of the enemy; if you are suffering (hardships) then surely, they (too) are suffering (hardships) as you are suffering, but you have a hope from Allah (for the reward, i.e. Paradise) that for which they hope not, and Allah is Ever All-Knowing, All-Wise” (An Nisa, 104-04)

In the novel, Mariam who lived in the difficult situation faced some conflicts, either external or internal conflict. Regarding the conflict, this research focused in external conflicts, the writer uses psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud to analyze the data. To limit the analysis, the writer uses structure of personality only for the id, ego and superego. The id is related to the nature of Mariam, the ego and superego are related to Mariam's nurture for examples: society's rule, Islamic values, family condition, etc. In addition, the writer uses conflict in literature theory to describe the external conflicts faced by Mariam and relating to nurture of Mariam.

1.2 Problem Statements

Based on the background of study, the researcher conducts some questions:

- 1.2.1 What are the external conflicts of Mariam?
- 1.2.2 What are the triggers or the factors of the conflicts?
- 1.2.3 How are Mariam's personalities in facing conflict and how are the conflicts finally resolved?

1.3 Objectives of Study

Related to the problem of statements above, the aims of the research are:

- 1.3.1 to describe the external conflicts of Mariam
- 1.3.2 to find out the triggers of Mariam's conflicts

1.3.3 to explain how Mariam's personality are in facing conflict and how they are finally resolved.

1.4 Significances of Study

This research will give important point related the conflicts between oneself and society. And there are two significances of this research:

1.4.1 Theoretical Significances

Theoretically, this research is analysis about the external conflicts of Mariam's character. So it can be useful for the readers who study about external conflict as seen in Mariam's character and can be a reference for the next researcher who analyzes in the same field.

1.4.2 Practical Significances

Practically, this research increases the understanding about external conflict in the real life and it is important the human because a human is a social creature who always needs other people. Indeed, this research can be useful for

- English Literature students. Hopefully this research can be used as a reference for English literature students especially student of Islamic university in which they are familiar with Arabic culture.
- Researchers, this research can be a reference for them in conducting similar research. This research can be a stimulant for them to improve the research about conflict and psychoanalysis.

- Lectures, hopefully this research can be useful for them in lecturing about woman in conflict, Arabic society and psychoanalysis. This research is also used as reference for them in guiding their students.

1.5 Literature Review

There are some researches that have discussed the same object, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel so far. The first researcher is Lindsay B. Shapiro from Florida University. Her thesis entitled “Middle Eastern Women’s Issues: An Analysis of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and the *New York Times*.” Her research question is: have American journalists at *The New York Times* covered middle eastern women issues thematically similar to those in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*?. Her research discusses about the similarities between the content published in *The New York Times* in terms of middle eastern women’s issues and the novelistic themes presented in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel.

Then the second researcher is Linta Wafdan Hidayah. She is a student from Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang (2009). Her thesis is entitled “Aggression in Domestic Violence Based on Frustration-Aggression Described in Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.” This research uses theory Frustration-Aggression of psychological criticism. And her problem statements are (1) what kinds of aggression in domestic violence

described in Khaled Hosseini's "*A Thousand Splendid Suns*"? (2) How are the aggression in domestic violence described in Khaled Hosseini's "*A Thousand Splendid Suns*" explained based on frustration-aggression hypothesis?.

The third research is Yulia Djiono's graduating paper from Bina Nusantara University. His thesis is entitled "An Analysis of Gender Discrimination toward Mariam and Laila in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hossaeni (2009)". The research questions of this thesis are (1) how far patriarchal system dominates Mariam and Laila in in the novel as representative of women in Afghanistan? (2) What is the impact of gender discrimination?. The theory of this research is the patriarchal system of modern feminism.

The fourth researcher is Wahyu Rizki Umbara from State Islamic University of Syarif Hidayatullah. His thesis is entitled "An Analysis of Neurosis Syndrome Reaction in Mariam's Character in Khaled Hossaeni's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*". The research question of this thesis are (1) what are the Mariam's characteristics described in the novel? (2) how are Mariam's Neurosis Syndrome Reaction as reflected in the novel?. This research uses theory of abnormal psychology from Adler Alfred. The theory serves three aspects of neurosis syndrome. They are anxiety reaction, obsessive-compulsive reaction, and phobic reaction.

The last researcher is Fajar Nur Indriyany from State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga. Her thesis is entitled "Mariam's Search for Meaning of Life in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*". Research questions of her thesis

are (1) how does Mariam's spirituality guide her to meaningful life? (2) how is the process until Mariam find the meaning of life?. Her research theories are psychology theory and logotherapy theory. Her thesis focuses on search for meaning of life.

Based on previous research this research is different. This research focuses on what external conflict that was faced by Mariam and its cause until finally the conflict is resolved.

1.6 Theoretical Approach

1.6.1 Psychoanalysis

This research is aimed to analyze the external conflict that faced by Mariam as the main character in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel. In this research the writer uses psychoanalysis theory and conflict in literature. Psychoanalysis was popularized by Sigmund Freud through his work. Freud developed ideas which became a base of psychoanalysis and he reached a climax in his first work "*The Interpretation of Dream*" (1900). And then Freud had classic theory psychoanalysis with concept: conscious, preconscious and unconscious. Where is unconscious pictured larger then conscious and in the large unconscious found motivate, desire, idea and feeling that pressured.

Freud also divided structure of personality into three main systems: id, ego and superego. Each of them has different function, characteristic, component, and work principle but, they have strong connection so that their influence to human behavior cannot be separated. As states by Freud that "The id wants to satisfy its

basic motivational urges but the superego or conscience is opposed to that and the ego tries to resolve the conflict” (Eysenck, 2009:9). From the statement above, it can be classified that id’s characteristic: it is derivative since human born, the origin system personality, tight connected with physical process, Id work’s characteristic is based on pleasure principle, only recognizes subjective reality and only distinguish happiness and unhappiness (Semiun, 2006:61).

Another part of personality is *Ego*. It is as medium to compromise between *id* and *superego*. The conflict between *id* and *superego* makes the *Ego* plays its rule. As cited in Hall about *Ego*:

Ego refers to the rational master of the personality. The *ego* serves two masters – *id* and reality- and it is constantly mediating striking compromises between their often conflicting demands. It is called as reality principle. It has to remember that *ego* is as the key of *id* to help it in fulfilling its purposes. So that, the main role of *ego* is to intervene between the instinctive need of organism and the environment need. And its main purpose is to survive an organism life (Hall & Lindzey, 1993:66-67).

While the ego appears because of transaction requirements related with real world, ego is a secondary principle which think realistic, ego controls all functions of intellectual and cognitive. And superego: internal realization of values and ambition of traditional society, moral authority of personality, reflected idea not real, prioritize perfectness not pleasure (Semiun, 2006:68)

Generally *Id* is seen as the biological component of personality; *Ego* is seen as psychological component; and *Superego* is seen as social component (Hall & Lindzey, 1993:68). In this research the writer analyzes structure of personality of Mariam as the main character in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel. *Id* as a part

of personality that it is very primitive and works according to pleasure principle for example, some people not realize that sucking thumb is not benefit for life but it is pleasure only (Semiun, 2006:63).

1.6.2 External Conflict

A story without conflict is flat, because the conflict will bring the story from the event to the next event. According to Wellek and Warren conflict is "dramatic," suggests some matching of approximately equal forces, suggests action and counteraction (1949:22). It means that conflict is important thing to start up the story. External conflict is the conflict that occurs between the characters and something outside, perhaps conflict between person and nature or person and person. So it is conflict can be differentiated into two category, they are physical conflict and social conflict (as cited in Nurgiyantoro, 2009:124). As stated above, in this analysis the writer has found some conflicts of main character related to the social conflict. First is conflict between Mariam and her own mother, the second, the conflict between Mariam and her husband and the third is Mariam's problem related to social rule.

1.7 Method of Research

1.7.1 Type of Research

In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. It is a method to analyze behavior of subject without influencing it anyway (Shuttleworth; 2013; 2). Qualitative research is concerned with collecting and

analyzing information in as many forms (Blaxter 1996:61). Thus, qualitative method is proper method to be used to analyze, explain, and narrate data in words or paragraphs.

1.7.2 Data Source

The main data source of this research is the novel written by Khaled Hosseini and published by Penguin Group on May, 2007 (Hosseini, 2007:1). Then, the secondary data are acquired from some articles, journals, book references, and internet which are available and relevant to this research.

1.7.3 Data Collection Technique

In order for collecting the data the writer applies library research. The data collected are the data that having similar with the topic of research. The data collected are some referential book, journal and article related to the research and the theory of research. Here are some steps of collecting the data; the first step is reading the novel holistically, then the writer selects some important data related to the research topic to be analyzed. The second step is describing the data in the novel. The last step is analyzing the data.

1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique

This research uses descriptive analysis, where all the data analyzed to get the result and conclusion. The method includes some steps in analyzing data. First, the writer identifies data that proper with problem statements. Second, the writer classifies the data of conflicts that faced by Mariam. Third, the writer

analyzes the work of id, ego and super ego that related to the conflict of Mariam. Forth, the writer draws conclusion for the problem statements.

1.8 Paper Organization

This paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter discuss about general information of this research. It includes background of study, problem statement, significances of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter discusses about intrinsic elements of the novel, such as character and characterization, plot, summary and etc. The third chapter is discussion the analysis of the data. And the last chapter is conclusion of the research.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

A Thousand Splendid Suns is one of the famous Khaled Hossein's novels. This novel talks about family conflict. It also deals with love, culture, religion, truth, and knowledge. Indeed, in analysing this novel, the writer takes a lesson. It is about awareness that sometimes the rule of society and culture placed human in the difficult situation. Mariam is the victim of culture that woman are not allowed to get higher education. This novel also talks about how in marital relation, the relationship between man and woman should be equal, if one of them is under pressure; it is possible for them to do irrational thing. Killing her husband is the only way of Mariam to save her life.

After presenting the result of analysis in the previous chapter, the conclusion and suggestions are taken in this part. The conclusion is drawn based on the formulated research questions, while suggestions is intended to give information to the next researchers who are interested in doing further research in this area.

4.1 Conclusion

After analyzing the data, the writer concludes some points. The conclusion is based on research question formulated before. The writer uses psychoanalysis to break down the data and focuses on external conflict. In psychoanalysis, personalities are divided into three, *Id*, *Ego* and *Super Ego*. *Id* is primitive desire while super ego is external rule. So the conflict between a person with external

rule is external conflict. In this study, the writer focuses on the analysis on the external conflicts faced by the main characters in Khaled Hossein *A Thousand*. From the result of the data analysis, the following findings are obtained:

From the analysis, the writer found that the main character faced some external conflicts; the first conflict is her conflict with her mother who called her as *harami*. The second conflict is her conflict with her own husband. Mariam faced her husband because he always did something badly toward her. The last external conflict is her conflict with society in which Mariam should obey the rule of society. Along with conflict, there are some triggers in why Mariam should face the conflict. The first trigger is as *harami*, Mariam who mocked as *harami* is under pressure. The second trigger was her own husband who did something badly after she lost her own embryo. The last trigger was educational background; Mariam was uneducated woman who got education in reciting Qur'an and praying only. Thus, it was possible when Mariam had no smart solution in facing her own husband. These triggers influenced conflict resolution in which Mariam finally kills her own husband to save her life.

Finally, this study concludes that the kind of conflict faced by the main characters is external conflict. The way of the main characters to solve their conflicts is unpredictable.

4.2 Suggestions

Based on the analysis presented previously, there are several points could be recommended.

For the readers who are interested in literary work, it is important to know every conflict that happened in the story deeply. Since it help the reader to comprehend the story, for the students, to determine the conflict is not easy way because there are many kinds of conflict revealed by many authors but they state different opinion. Hence, it is suggested for the next students who are interested in doing further research in this area to use this analysis as started point in conducting research and there are many aspects of novel in which interested enough to be analysed, i.e. the language, plot, theme, setting and character.

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**APPENDIX
CURRICULUM VITAE**

SUMIATI

RT 05 RW 04 Ds. Kedungwringin. Kec. Sempor, Kab. Kebumen, Central Java
Mobile: (+62) 857 2963 6769; **Email:** sumidee2@gmail.com

Place of Birth: Kebumen

Date of Birth: September 19, 1990

EDUCATION

2010 – Present: English Department, Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences
(Expected in 2015)

2007 – 2010 : Nasional Vocational High School of Bantul (Social Worker)

ORGANIZATION

- **Sanggar Nuun** Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences 2012
- **Sanggar Ilir** 2013
- **IMAKTA** (Ikatan Mahasiswa Kebumen di Yogyakarta/Student Association of Kebumen) 2013-2014

INTEREST

Traveling, Reading, Acting and Cooking

REFERENCES

1. Ulyati Retno Sari, M.Hum.
Lecturer, UIN Sunan Kalijaga
Jl. Marsda Adisucipto, Yogyakarta
Phone: +62-274 513949
HP: +62-815 796 4931
2. Arif Budiman, MA
Lecturer, UIN Sunan Kalijaga
Jl. Marsda Adisucipto, Yogyakarta
Phone: +62-274 513949; HP: +62-815 796 4931