

**HERO'S JOURNEY OF AISHAH IN MARTIN LING'S MUHAMMAD :
HIS LIFE BASED ON THE EARLIEST SOURCES**

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



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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

Yogyakarta, August 15th 2022

The signature,

A handwritten signature in black ink is written over a yellow 10,000 Rupiah Indonesian banknote. The banknote features the Garuda Pancasila emblem and the serial number 8DCAJX949687956. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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Atas perhatiannya, kami ucapkan terima kasih.

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By : Agfitia Saraswati Ustifah

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to describe the stages of Aishah's journey and how does the Aishah stages appropriate with the stages of a hero's journey in Joseph Campbell's theory. Joseph Campbell is a mythologist who made the concept of the Hero's Journey described in his book *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* and refined by Christopher Vogler in his book *The Writer's Journey*. The researcher chose Martin Ling's *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources* because this novel is not only focused on the journey of the Prophet Muhammad but also tells the journey of the prophet's wife, Aishah. However, here the researcher uses hero's journey to see how does the position of Aishah's stage is. The researcher chooses to analyze Aishah's journey because Aishah's journey can be analyzed by Joseph Campbell's hero's journey. The method used is a qualitative method by applying descriptive analysis. Based on this theory, the hero's journey is divided into three stages, there are Departure, Initiation, and Return. From the analysis, Aishah only through the journey until the Return stage, and even it is not finished until the end. The results of this study conclude that Aishah's journey is fit with the concept of hero's journey from Joseph Campbell, although it is only until the first part of the Return stage.

Keywords: Aishah, *Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*, Hero's Journey.

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan tahapan-tahapan perjalanan Aishah dan bagaimana tahapan-tahapan yang dilalui oleh Aishah sesuai dengan tahapan-tahapan perjalanan seorang pahlawan dalam teori Joseph Campbell. Joseph Campbell adalah seorang ahli mitologi yang membuat konsep Perjalanan Pahlawan yang dijelaskan dalam bukunya *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* dan disempurnakan oleh Christopher Vogler dalam bukunya *The Writer's Journey*. Peneliti memilih karya Martin Ling *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Early Sources* karena dalam novel ini tidak hanya berfokus pada perjalanan Nabi Muhammad saja tetapi juga menceritakan perjalanan istri nabi, Aisyah. Namun disini peneliti menggunakan perjalanan hero untuk melihat bagaimana perjalanan Aishah. Peneliti memilih untuk menganalisis perjalanan Aishah karena perjalanan Aishah dapat dianalisis dengan perjalanan pahlawan Joseph Campbell. Metode yang digunakan adalah metode kualitatif dengan menerapkan analisis deskriptif. Berdasarkan teori ini, perjalanan pahlawan dibagi menjadi tiga tahap, yaitu Departure, Initiation and Return. Dari analisa, Aisyah hanya melalui perjalanan sampai tahap Return, dan bahkan tidak selesai sampai akhir. Hasil penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa perjalanan Aishah sesuai dengan konsep perjalanan pahlawan dari Joseph Campbell, meskipun hanya sampai bagian pertama dari tahap Return.

Kata Kunci: Aishah, *Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*, Perjalanan Pahlawan.

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MOTTO

Allah is the most beautiful planner than yours. So, just believe it.

- Unknown –



DEDICATION

I dedicate my graduating paper to,

My beloved parents Bapak Bambang Tri Sugiyanto and Ibu Supriyanti

My beloved husband Harry Nopriangga Septa

My dearest sister Selinta Prihastiana Ustifah

All of lecturers English Department

My beloved best friends Maulida Arifatul Munawaroh and Diah Prima Fajarwati

My beloved friends in English Department



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Assalamualaikum Wr. Wb.

First of all, the greatest gratitude is only to Allah SWT who has given the opportunity and blessing. So, the researcher can be able to complete the graduation paper. Furthermore, the researcher would like to thank all the staffs and lecturers at Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga, especially English Literature, for the knowledge, help, and support so that the writer can complete the project. Those people are:

1. Prof. Dr. Phil. Al Makin, S.Ag., M.A. as the Rector of Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga.
2. Dr. Muhammad Wildan, M.A., as the Dean of Faculty of Adab and Cultural Science, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga.
3. Ulyati Retno Sari, S.S., M.Hum. as the Head of English Literature Department of Faculty of Adab and Cultural Science, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga, and as the academic and research advisor who has given the writer supports, guidance, advice, and motivation from the beginning to the end of this process so that the writer finally be able to finish this paper. Thank you so much.
4. All of my lecturers in English Literature Department, Dr. Witriani, S.S., M.Hum., Danial Hidayatullah, S.S., M.Hum., Dr. Ubaidillah, S.S., M.hum., Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, S.Pd., M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D., Dwi Margo Yuwono, S.Pd., M.Hum., Bambang Hariyanto, S.S., M.A., Aninda Aji Siwi, S.Pd., M.Pd., Harsiwi Fajar Sari, S.S., M.A., Nisa Syuhda, Rosiana Rizqy Wijayanti, S.S., M.A, Febriyanti Dwiratna Lestari, S.S., M.A, Jiah Fauziah M.Hum (RIP), and others. Thank you for the knowledge, advice, and motivation.
5. My beloved father and mother who have supported and prayed for me in every condition.
6. My beloved husband, Harry Nopriangga Septa who has accompanied me in every condition.

7. All of my friends in 2015 English Literature

8. All of my friends in class A.

Finally, I know there are a lot of my mistakes in writing this graduate paper. Therefore, I will really appreciate the readers who give criticism and suggestions to improve this graduating paper.

Wassalamualaikum. Wr. Wb.

Yogyakarta, 25th July 2022

The researcher

Agfitia Saraswati Ustifah



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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Fiction is interaction between human and God, human and nature and its human life as an individual. Fiction not necessarily use can talk, but fiction also can be described as interaction between human and problem of life. Problems of human and humanity, and life are observed by an author and presented by his view in a form called fiction.(Nurgiyantoro, 2018, p. 2). According to Abrams, Fiction is equated with narrative prose, such as novels and short stories, even fiction is often considered synonymous with novels.(Nurgiyantoro, 2018, p. 5).

“A novel is fictional piece of prose that specially written in narrative style and presented as a bound book. Novels tell stories, which are usually defined as a series of events described in a sequence. The novel has been a part of human culture for over a thousand years, although its origin are somewhat debated. Regardless of how it began, the novel has risen to prominence and remained one of the most popular and treasures examples of human culture and writing” (What Is a Novel?, n.d.). According to Yudiono, novel can not be separated from humans, especially society because the role of readers and novelists must involve the society. (K.S, 1986)

The researcher choose the novel with entitle *Muhammad : His life based on the Earliest Sources* because it tells about birth of a baby from the lineage of Prophet Ibrahim. The baby was named Muhammad. His prophetic traits began to appear since he was a child. Prophet Muhammad was very loyal and devoted to

God and his religion. He is the last prophet in Islam. The prophet married with several wives in the last journey because of his religious mission and God's orders. One of the Prophet Muhammad's wives, named Aishah. This novel is not only focused on the the personal life of the Prophet Muhammad, but also tells about things related to society. As for example is the chapter 52 which tells which tells about wars that involve people becoming war troops.

The researcher chose Aishah to be analyzed because she was a woman who came from a prominent tribe of Quraish (Bani ni Tayim from Abu Bakr and Bani Kinanah from Umm Ruman). Bani Tayim are well-known as a brave family who defend their honor and prioritizes generosity, and glad to help others. As being represented in history, Aishah was gentle, brave, firm, generous, and calm. When she married the prophet, she lived in the Nabawi mosque complex made of bricks with a palm frond roof and animal skin bedding filled with dry grass. Her simplicity does not decrease her sanctity and majesty. (Tidjani, 2016)

According to Tidjani, it has been summarized how the virtues, excellence and intelligence in his knowledge of Aishah. She is the wife of the prophet Muhammad with a sharp memory such as remembering every answer of the Prophet to the questions he asked. (Tidjani, 2016, p. 33)

Her knowledge was recognized by several previous scientific experts. One of them is Ibn Kathir who stated "never found someone like 'Āishah in the strength of her memory, scientific capacity, eloquence, and intelligence of reason. (Sāmiyah Manisī, *Silsilat Nisā' Mu'mināt*, p. 40.) Based on his knowledge and

intelligence, he was placed in the fourth position of the seven companions of the Prophet who narrated the most hadiths.(Istiqlaliyah, 2016).

According to Campbell (2004) heroes are person who had given his life for something greater than himself. Based on this statement, it means that everyone can be a hero anytime and anywhere. However, there is still a need a call to adventure, a challenge and a painful evolution in there. It can be found in human being. No exception in the story of Aishah who has a strong, brave, and authoritative character according to the concept of a hero described by Campbell.

The researcher interested to analyze the journey of Aishah in Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources by Martin because the important role of Aishah in the Islamic world that is very visible. It can be seen from her intelligence and her struggle to spread what the prophet said after the prophet died. Additionally, his struggle was also recognized by the pals of the prophet. Moreover, Aishah r.a. including superior than other Prophet's wives. The novel also describes in detail some of the journeys of the character Aishah r.a. in faith to her God like the passage at the *Muhammad : His life based on the Earliest Sources* by Martin Lings page 279 "*Verily I desire God and His messenger and the abode ofthe Hereafter.*"

Based on the phenomena above, the researcher applies Hero's Journey theory by Joseph Campbell. Aishah's role can be categorized as a hero. It can be seen from her struggle and adventure. This issues are necessary to be analysed.

A myth-based structure is The Hero's Journey. There are three main sections, which are incredibly flexible, are the separation and the hero's journey,

where he sets off in search of (perhaps reluctantly) adventure. Second, the initiation, where the bulk of the adventure takes place and the hero first appears. The return comes last. The protagonist has completed their mission and obtained the desired result (treasure, love, or knowledge). He needs to go home now. These are the fundamental components of any Hero's journey, and there are many ways to use them to enhance, examine, and develop narratives. (Hobscheid, n.d.)

1.2 Research Question

According to the background above the researcher analyze about:

How does Aishah's stage according to Joseph Campbell's concept of a Hero's Journey in the the novel Muhammad by Martin Lings?

1.3 Objective of Study

Based on research question above, the objective of this research is to discuss about how the stages of Joseph Campbell's hero's journey appropriate to story of *Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*.

1.4 Significance of Study

Theory of Joseph Campbell Hero's Journey is appropriate with this research to give a prove the fit or not with the novel, especially novel Muhammad. This research can add more information related with novel especially about hero's journey. In addition, research contribute in the literature whether in academic or non-academic.

1.5 Literature Review

The researcher found some previous research which relate with Hero's Journey.

First, *Hero's Journey of Sam and Jack in The Day After Tomorrow Film*, written by Anindita Dewi Nurcahyani, from UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. 2017). Based on this research, the hero does not trough all stages of Joseph Campbell theory.

Second, The Hero's Journey of Moana n Moana (2016) movie written by Khoirifatin Awwalina, a student UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2018). It is an animated film based on Polynesian Tribe Folklore. The hero in this research is woman. in this research, the hero just trough 2 stages in the beginning and just trough two phases.

Third, *I Spit On Your Grave : A Study On Hero's Journey*. This research written by Taufik Andy Prastiyo, He is student of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2017). His research is about hero who will finish her second novel but she has to face some trials and troubles. Finally, she can finish the novel but, in this research

not through all the stages, it is just through departure and initiation. Even though in the departure there is one stage that she does not through.

Fourth, *He Stages to Be A Hero: The Analysis of Hercules Journey in Hercules (2014) Movie*. This is the research by Totok Zunianto from UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2016). This research about the character namely Hercules. He was accused of killing his own wife and children and he was expelled. Based on the research, the hero passes two phases without *Return*. But the stages of hero fits with the stages of Joseph Campbell.

Fifth, the research of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta with the title *The Holy Male Gaze in Martin Ling's "Muhammad: His Life Base on The Earliest Sources" Novel*. In this research, the researcher found the gaze of male especially the Prophet to his wife Aisyah. She use the book entitled *Narratology: Introduction to the Theory of Narrative* by Mieke Bal to analyze character of Aishah narrated by the male author in the novel.

1.6 Theoretical Approach

1.6.1 Hero's Journey

A theory allows researchers to make predictions about their research. On the other hand, the research is to prove whether the theory is true or not. If a theory is proven true, there will be more research related to the theory. (*What Is a Theory?*, n.d.) In the literature theory is like knife to dissected some case or to analyze the research. The researcher uses Joseph

Campbell on his book *The Hero with A Thousand Face* to find the journey of the character of Aisyah in the novel *Muhammad* by Martin Ling's.

The Hero with A Thousand Face has three sections. First is Departure. There are five steps in departure section ; adventure , refusal of the call , supernatural aid , the crossing of the first threshold and the belly of the whale (Campbell, 2004, p. 45). The first step of Departure is call to adventure in which the hero begins his journey from " world of common day into a region of supernatural wonder " (Campbell, 2004, p. 28).

The second is Initiation, initiation is divided into six steps; the road of trials , the meeting with the goddess , woman as the temptress , atonement with the father , apotheosis , and the ultimate boon (Campbell, 2004, p. 89)

The third is the last stages of this theory called Return. Similar with the second stage, this stage also has six steps ; the refusal of the return , the magic flight , the rescue from without , the crossing of the return threshold , the master of the two worlds , and the freedom to live (Campbell, 2004, p. 179).

1.7 Method of Research

1.7.1 Type of Research

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method as data analysis technique. Ratna states that descriptive analysis is aimed at describing the facts continued by the analysis (2004: 53). The researcher analyzes the

character's journey based on data research. Then, the researcher analyzes it by using Joseph Campbell theory which the title *The Hero with A Thousand Face*.

1.7.2 Data Sources

This data consists of the words, phrases, and sentences, which illustrate the character of Aishah in the novel Muhammad by Martin Lings. The other data are from books, journals, and internet, which are relevant to the research.

1.7.3 Data Collection Technique

This research uses library research for data collection technique. First, researcher reading the story then understanding the narrative especially the part of hero's journey of Aishah. According to Neuman (2003:140) mention that the qualitative research based on the informal wisdom which developed by researcher experience. From that statement, the researcher reading the novel repeatedly. Second, the researcher chose the chapter which relate with the character of Aishah. Third, the researcher analyze the chapter while finding the reference which relate with *Hero's Journey Of Aishah In Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based On The Earliest Sources*.

1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique

Data analysis technique is the method to process the data until it can be easily understand (oleh, 2019). Colleting the data without any analysis just be useless because the research question cannot be answered.

Shamoo and Resnick (2003) explain data analysis as the process of using statistical and logical techniques to explain, condense and evaluate data. First, the researcher analyze the data, the researcher writes the background of this research. Second, the researcher make research question. Third, the researcher finding the chapter which relate with the character of Aishah then the researcher analyzes using Joseph Campbell theory which the title *The Hero with A Thousand Face*.

1.8 Paper Organization

This paper is divided into four chapters. The first chapter is about the introduction of the research; background of the study, research question, objective of the study, significances of the study, literary review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter describes intrinsic element of Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources. The third chapter is the analysis of the data. The last chapter is conclusion and suggestion of the research.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter presents conclusion and suggestion of the research Hero's Journey of Aishah in Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources use the Joseph Campbell's Heroes Journey for the next researcher. All of them are explained below.

Conclusion

The conclusion of this research is every character can be a hero but the researcher chose Aishah to be a hero in this analysis. She is categorized as a hero. She through the steps in her journey. **The steps** is appropriate with the the Campbell's Heroes Journey Theory. Although, she does not through "woman as temptress" and her story finish until the return especially stage "refusal to the return", but her stages as a hero is in sequence. Actually, after refusal of the return there is a next story about Aishah but it does not give an effect to Aishah, because in the next story, Aishah just mentioned not to be discussed like the chapter before. Finally, the journey of Aishah based on the Joseph Campbell Heroes Journey is finish in the Return part "refusal to the return."

Suggestion

After the researcher have done this research hopefully, the next researcher can analyze another focus, character and theory to give more information related with the Hero's Journey of Aishah in Martin Ling's Muhammad : His Life Based on the Earliest Sources.

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