A POTRAIT OF THE DEAF-BLIND WOMAN IN REACHING HER BACHELOR DEGREE IN "BLACK" FILM DIRECTED BY SANJAY LEELA BHANSALI (A FREUDIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY)



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ABSTRACT

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa perwatakan Michelle McNally sebagai tokoh utama dalam film berjudul "BLACK" yang disutradarai oleh Sanjay Leela Bhansali. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini ialah metode deskriptif dengan analisa penelitian kualitatif. Didalam menganalisis data, penulis menggunakan pendekatan psikologi yang berfokus pada teori personaliti dari Sigmund Freud. Hasil dari penelitian ini menjelaskan bahwa kesuksesan yang diraih oleh tokoh utama merupakan hasil dari kerjasama struktur personaliti yaitu; Id, Ego, dan Superego. Id mencakup hasrat, kebanggaan, keinginan, dan kebutuhan dari Michelle. Id menggambarkan seluruh mimpi-mimpi yang diikuti oleh rasa bangga terhadap dirinya sendiri. Pada elemen ini, Michelle membangun ambisiambisinya dalam dunianya yang terbatas. Sedangakan, Ego mencakup seluruh usaha dan aksi-aksi Michelle untuk mewujudkan impian-impiannya. Pada elemen ini, Michelle mencoba mewujudkan mimpi-mimpinya melalui usaha dan perjuangannya. Namun, elemen yang paling signifikan dalam kesuksesan Michelle ialah Superego. Superego mencakup seluruh motivasi dari kedua orangtua Michelle dan dari cara Guru Michelle membimbing dan mengajarnya. Kolaborasi dari ketiga struktur personaliti inilah yang membentuk personaliti dari tokoh utama menjadi sosok wanita penyandang buta tuli yang mandiri dan percaya diri. Selain itu, terdapat pula konsep aktualisasi diri didalamnya, dimana seluruh usaha dan perjuanagan Michelle merujuk kepada pengakuan orang lain terhadap Michelle. Michelle dengan sukses menunjukan keberadaannya dan pengaktualisasian dirinya kepada orang lain disekitarnya.

Kata kunci: Personaliti, Perjuangan, Buta-tuli, Pengakuan, Aktualisasi Diri.

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ABSTRACT

This study is aimed at analyzing the characterization of Michelle McNally as the main character in "BLACK" movie directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali. The method of this study was descriptive with an analysis of the qualitative research. In analyzing data, the writer use psychological approach which focuses on Sigmund Freud's theory of personality. The result of this study explains that the main character's succeed is the outcomes of among personality structures, namely: the Id, Ego, and Superego. The Id contains of Michelle's desires, prides, wants, and needs. It describes the whole of Michelle's dreams followed by her pride feeling of herself. In this element, Michelle built her numerous ambitions in her limited world. Meanwhile, the Ego contains of her actions and efforts to make her desire come true. In this element, Michelle tries to make her all dreams come true threw all her efforts and struggles. However, the most significant element which makes Michelle success is the Superego. The superego contains all motivations from her parent and the way her teacher leads her in order to gain her ambition. The collaboration of those three personalities forms the personality of the main character to become a confident and independent deaf-blind woman. Moreover, there is a concept of self-actualization within them. Whereby, all of Michelle's struggles and efforts deals with the others people's recognition to Michelle. She was successfully shows her existences and self-actualization to the others people.

Key words: Personality, Struggle, Deaf-blind, Recognition, and Self-actualization.

Introduction

Self-actualization was a fundamental needs which is capable in influencing the whole aspect of human life, either personal or interpersonal. Humanistics psychologists believed that every people has a strong desire to relize their own potentials in order to achieve the high self-actualization. According to Maslow, human needs devided into five dividen from the lowest up to the highest one in which known as the "Hierarchy of Needs". These five "Hierarchy of Needs" namely; physiological, safety and security, love or belonging, esteem, and self-actualization. Maslow represented his "*Hierarchy of Needs*" in form of pyramid whereby the basic needs were settled underest and the fundamental needs were in highest (Minderop, 2010).

Sefl-actualization could be shown by a person in any case of life, either in reality or in fiction such as in novel, drama, film, poetry, etc. A fiction story generally known as a literary works in which it also known as "imaginative works" wherein the author was capable in expressing their ideas, feeling, or his thought freely in form of written or spoken. As Wellek and Austin (1995) defined that literature is a creative activity, whereby the creativity itself called by literary works. As an "imaginative works", literary works portrays the cultural product which is reflects or represents the reality of society in a particular time. It bassically represents the description of human life based on the previous experienced or its own creative imagination (Susanto, 2012 : 32).

In describing the character or figure that were in a literary works (fiction) was based on how the author described the characterization of their own characters. The author generally recognized several considerations in describing their characters like values or the positive morality that would be sticked on the character. Hence, a story fiction would not only consumtive but also educative for the viewer. One of the nice character that must be seen is the characterization of Michelle McNally, the main character in "BLACK" movie dirrected by Shanjay Leela Bhansali.

Black is a Hindi movie starred by Asheya Kapoor (as little Michele McNally), Rani Mukherjee (as Michelle McNally) and Amitabh Bachchan (as Debraj Sahay). This story revolves around a deaf blind girl who able to reach her

bachelor degree in university for normal and ordinary people. The film draws inspiration from Helen Adam Keller's life, who was an American author, political activist, and lecturer. She was the first deafblind person who earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Michelle McNally described as unfortunate child; she had an illness when she was two years old which caused her become blind, mute, and deaf. This fact makes her feel living in a dark world, neither eyesight nor hearing. Even she cannot speaking well to other. Living in the dark world same as living in a "*BLACK*" space, and this situation have been accompanied Michelle McNally in the whole her life. Yet, that was not occurred for long time to Michelle untill her mother (starred by S. Pattel) found a techer for her, Debraj Sahay.

Debraj Sahay taught Michelle everything, she started to know several letters and spoke using sign language, her bad habit and behahviour also changes constantly. She grown smarter every days. Till one day she was accepted in a university for normal people, that was the first completely struggle for Michelle iin facing the new liife, with a society and friends.

The life of Michelle was dramatic and full of conflicts, either the conflict outside or the conflict inside herself. Thus, the personality of Michelle is important to be researched further. In this research, the writer focused on the psychological aspects of Michelle as the main character. Hidayat (2011) defined that psychology is a reflection of human everyday behaviour toward the way of human thinking themselves. The psychological aspect of human influenced their behaviours, attitutes, and personalities. There were three personality structural which had be introduced by Sigmund Freud, namely *Id*, *Ego*, and *Superego* (Susanto,2012). Psychology had a strong relationship with literary works because of its function was to provide an access in learning the characterization of a character of in a story.

The Id is a biological aspect of the original system in human personality, from this aspect another personality is grows. It contains all things inborn that become a guidence of id in functioning to avoid the discomfort and the pursuit pleasure of feeling. Id has two ways in pursueing the pleasure, namely: a reflex action and the primary process, the reflex actions for instance sneezing or blinking,

while the primary process like when people are hungry they will imagine food (Suryabrata, 1993:145 - 146). This kind of action is called as imagination process which is characterizing illogical, cannot differentiate between imagination and reality. In process of life human needs to capable in distinguish between them in order to build other personality, that is *ego*.

The *Ego* is a part of personality that have to obey the *Id* in searching the reality that the *id* needs. *Ego* able to distinguish between imagination and reality, it also able to control the tensions in certain limits due to it works based on the principles of reality. By using the principles of reality, ego able to postpone its satisfying needs through others satisfying which appropriate with social, environment, and conscience principles. Moreover, ego used to think rationally in deciding these needs (Susanto, 2012).

The *Superego* could be defined as values and laws representations from a comunity in which the individual itsefl included within it. The *superego* is a characteristic of the personality that obtained in a chilhood through education, sosialization, instruction, prohibition, and or punishment. The someone *superego* would be formed well if in he/her occurs a well childhood. Converserely, it would be worse if he/she occurs bad childhood. Freud divided *superego* into two categories, namely the conscience and the ego-ideal. The conscience prevents us from doing morally bad thing, while Ego-ideal motivates us to do what is morally proper. Hence, the *superego* become a guidance of someone in controlling himself.

The terms of psychology was common defined as the study of mental process and behavior, in which its subject was commonly organism particularly a human or a person. Needs is one of the psychological aspects of human which drives in the whole life activities. The basic need of human is the elements that have to be required by humans in maintaining the harmony of both physiological and psychological aspect. King (1987, cited in Potter, 2005) claimed that the fulfillment of the human basic needs were focused on three systems namely, personal, interpersonal, and social system. This is in a line with Maslow's theory which represented that the basic of human needs in terms of 'The Hierarchy of Needs' in form of pyramid. Maslow's clarified that there are five of human basic needs based on it level from the bottom to the top, namely; psysiological, safety and

security, love or belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization (Mubarak, 2007). In conclusion, humans' actions are motivated in order achieve theirs certain needs. Those five of human basic needs suggest that people are motivated to fulfill the basic needs first before moving on to other advanced needs.

Primary data of this study were taken from a movie dirrected by Shanjay Leela Banshali entitled *BLACK*. And the data would be supported by other sources which are taken from various internet sites, dictionaries, and books that relevance with the primary data. In collecting the data, the writer takes several following steps:

- 1. Watching the whole story of the movie "BLACK" dirrected by Sanjay Leela Banshali.
- 2. Taking a note the monologues or dialogues of the main character, dialogues of the main character with other character, and dialogues of another character with others character reffering to the main character.
- 3. Identifying the characterization of the main character in the movie through the monologues or dialogues of the main character, dialogues of the main character with other character, and dialogues of another character with others character reffering to the main character.

This thesis was used Dynamic structuralism approach in which focused on the narrative structure and the description of actual object through analyzing, conveying, and describing the main issue of study. As it is stated by Kurniawan (2001:16) that the structure is not static, but dynamic. It proved that dynamic structuralism was being the improvement of the previous structure, which only focused on its structure, not on how to structure was. After collecting the data which are related to the title of this research, the analysis would cover the following steps:

- 1. Describing the characterization of the main character based on the monologues or dialogues of the main character, dialogues of the main character with other character, and dialogues of another character with others character reffering to the main character.
- 2. Quoting the dialogue which described the characteristic and the characterization of the main character.

- 3. Explaining the characteristic and the characterization of the main character based on the data by using the personalities theory of Sigmund Freud..
- 4. Concluding the result of the discussion.

Findings and Discussions

Findings

- The Id

Michelle McNally as the main character in this movie described as a person who had lots of desires, brave, stubborn, strong, fragile and unstable in the early her childhood but she is actually tough and not easy to give up in reaching her dreams. The character of Michelle McNally experienced the biological aspect which shows the work of Id theory of Sigmund Freud. The Id was represented in the entire of Michelle McNally's characterizations and it can be seen in her conversations with other characters, in her monologues, even in her every single gesture in her actions. The whole of Michelle's struggles were showed in this movie. She had a difficult life as a deaf-blindness woman. For some people who suffering physical inability, it would be hard to gain the dream that had been dreamed, even to hope them all is tough for them. Destined with deaf and blindness woman was not an option for Michelle. No hearing, seeing, even could not speaking well were not being a huge problem for her to gain her numerous dreams in the middle of her tough life. And finally, she did. She was able to change her ability become unlimited chances in gaining those dreams. And now, her efforts were paid off. She had a name; she passed her study and got a Bachelor Degree of Arts. Even, her father was not ashamed anymore to tell others that she is his daughter.

- The Ego

In this movie, the ego can be seen from all Michelle's actions. Whereby, when she dreamed, she was not only dreams but also tried to make those all come true. There is a scene when Michelle faced with her internal conflict. This scene told that when she felt a strange feeling to her teacher, Debraj Sahai. Yet, she realized that was wrong, she was asking too much from him.

- The Superego

The superego element was represented Michelle's changing in attitude, behavior, and characterization after the teacher thought her. Before she got the treatments she was so rude, liar, unstable, sensitive, and fragile. However, in the first few days she got them she start to understand several words piece by piece like water, mother, father, and teacher. This also brings Michelle to a success when she adult. The whole leads, educations, prohibition, instructions, even reinforcements from the teacher were able to built Michelle's character batter. Moreover, the support that she got from her parents, especially from her mother also affects her confidence in reaching her dreams.

Discussions

The Main Character's Characterization Viewed From the Id Point of View

In analyzing the Id point of Michelle's characterization in both monologues and dialogues that Michelle had done. The writer saw that the Id content of desires, wants, and needs were portrayed in describing the characterization of Michelle McNally. Moreover, there are other of Id content beyond those three content which the writer have told about like faith, feeling disappointed, fears, genetically descended of Michelle from her father. The Id which common known as genetically descended explain how actually Michelle's characterization. The conclusion is the role of Id made her become a strong woman, patient, taugh, brave, having well character, and stong stance. This Id become a fundamental principle for Michelle in struggling, and making her to be dependent woman. And those all Id content make her one step closer to success.

Both of Freud's and Maslow's theory have the strong relation in establishing of Michelle's characterization as the main character in this film. These three of personalities structures of Freud's Theory (Id, Ego, and Superego) that Michelle has did not work alone, but rather exist the intervened of Maslow's theory of needs within them.

Beyond her suffering, Michelle also have the basic needs as same as the others that had to be met. Born in a rich of Anglo-Shimla family did not make Michelle hard in obtaining all her needs. There are three from five basic needs viewed from Maslow's theory that Michelle gain from her family namely; the

physiological needs, safety and security, and love. Those three needs were fully met by her family, especially the love from her mother. Those three needs as well made Michelle feel exist in the middle of her family. Whereas for self-esteem, the forth needs was obtained Michelle after she succeed in reaching her Bachelor Degree. It was the top turning point of Michelle to show off her actualization to others whose had underestimated her. in that time Michelle truly succeed to prove that she had a big potential and is deserved to get the recognizance from others.

The Id structure is the most dominant personalities having a strong correlation with the 'Hierarchy of Needs', it is due to in this personality there were the psychological aspect of Michelle's characterization, such as; needs, wants, and desires. These psychological aspect were included in deficiency needs. After the need was met, then Michelle tried to realized them by doing several acts and efforts in which it was aim at a purpose to reach her desires. After many attempts, finally her struggles were paid off by the honor and recognizance. She was actually getting her self-actualizations. It can be proved that both of Freud's and Maslow's theory able to run alongside in Michelle's triumph. It means that the personality structure of a human could not work well without the fulfillment of the human basic needs first. They are must be in a line to be complementary and reinforce each other.

- The Main Character's Characterization Viewed From the Ego Point of View

The Ego element can be viewed as a key of the personality aspect, because it able to distinguish between imaginaery and reality. It also able to control the path that is chosen, selecting the needs and the ways to comply, and choose the objects that can meet the needs. The principle of the Ego is based on reality and it develops from the Id. In this film, the Id of Michelle McNally made her become a hard working woman, this fact making her not easely to give up. Michelle choose her path and took action to accomplish her destiny. Thus, the writer of this thesis assume that the Ego of Michelle effect her characterization through the actions she took to fulfil her dream.

The Main Character's Characterization Viewed From the Superego Point of View

The superego is the aspect of personality which is acquired from both parents, formal or informal education, and the society. In this story, Michelle got lots of attantion from her parents, and she also were acceptanced by the people around her. Whereas, she got intensive learning from her educational side. From those considerations, the writer of this thesis concluded that the Superego affects the characterization of the main character in the way she thinks and the way she perceives something. Moreover, the changes of Michelle's attitudes from an uncontrolle little girl become a beautiful polite woman is also influenced by this aspect. From the whole personality aspect, the role of Superego is the most dominant personalities in Michelle's success in showing her existancies.

Conclusion and Suggestion

- Conclusion

The whole characterization of Michelle McNally relate to the Id, Ego, and Superego. The Id contains of Michelle's desires, prides, wants, and needs. It describes the whole of Michelle's dreams which followed by her pride feeling of herself. In this element, Michelle built her numerous ambitions in her limited world. Meanwhile, the Ego contains of her actions and efforts to make her desire come true. In this element, Michelle tried to make her all dreams come true threw all her struggles. She succeeds to prove herself to the others that every people are deserved to have their dreams. And she did to make her dreams real in her tiny world. Both of these two elements are the important elements that Michelle have in which the Id pushed Michelle to formed the dreams in her mind while the Ego tried to make them come true threw her efforts. However, the most significant element which makes Michelle success is the Superego. The superego contains all motivations from her parent and the way her teacher leads her in order to gain her ambition. And it works. The previous Michelle's experience in her family, society, and education were shape well her superego. In this element represents the hard life of Michelle in facing all of her life challenges.

The triumph of Michelle in this film portrays the balance of those three personalities' structures by Sigmund Freud which is described the concept of Michelle's struggles in obtaining her ambitions. In the other hands, the writer found other analyzes regarding the characterization of the main character in this film,

namely, the concept of self-actualization of Abraham Maslow's theory. In his theory, Abraham Maslow clarified the "Hierarchy of Need" that told us every people have their own needs which is shaped in pyramid. One of the important needs of human is self-actualization. In which, there is a strong relation between these both Freud's and Maslow's theory. In Freud's theory the writer found the struggle of Michelle in order to gain her dreams and she succeed in making her dreams real. While in Maslow's theory, the writer found that Michelle's triumph was affect her existences in her environment. Even though Michelle was suffering, but she was truly actualize herself without thinking no matter how inability her. She works harder and harder every day. And in the end, she has a "name", she get others recognizance that she had been existed in this world.

- Suggestion

After giving some conclusions about the discussion, some suggestions are given as a part of this thesis.

- ✓ Film or movie is one the most famous literary works, thus it has thousands viewer in any level of age. Before watch a film, the viewer may have to know whether that film is appropriate or not for them, particularly for viewer under sixteen.
- ✓ The writer of this thesis hopes that this thesis can use it as an instrument to enrich their knowledge about someone's characterizations through their psychological aspects of the Id, the Ego, and the Superego by Sigmund Freud.
- ✓ The writer expects that this thesis can give some contributions to the readers, especially for the students' of FKIP of Mataram University.

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