AN ANALYSIS OF OPPRESSION FACED BY SOLOMON NORTHUP AS A BLACK SLAVE IN STEVE MCQUEEN’S FILM “12 YEARS A SLAVE”

THESIS

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This thesis is submitted to meet one of the requirements to achieve Sarjana Degree in English Education Department

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I declare that the work presented in this thesis was carried out by my self and does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any university. To the best of my knowledge this thesis does not contain any materials previously publish or written by another person except where due reference is made in text.

Malang, November 6th 2014

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Listi Puji Astuti
MOTTO AND DEDICATION

No amount of guilt can change the past and no amount of worrying can change the future.
(Umar ibn al-Khattab r.a)

"Cukuplah Allah bagiku; tidak ada tuhan selain Dia."
(QS. At-Taubah: 129)

When one of you prays and make du’a, make your hope great as there is nothing greater than Allah.
(Al Ghazali)

DEDICATION:

I dedicate this thesis to:

My beloved father (Alm.) and little sister (Almh.),

My beloved mother and little sister,

and my awesome friends.
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Alhamdulillah, all praise is to the Almighty Allah, the Merciful and Charitable. Because of His guidance, blessing and affection, the writer is able to accomplish this thesis as a partial of fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana in English Education at faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Muhammadiyah Malang. Shalawat and Salam also expressed to the Prophet Muhammad.

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Malang, 28 October 2014

The Writer,

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ABSTRACT

As one of the kind of literary works, film portrays its story and carries the filmmaker’s message through depictions, including oppression toward black slave. Black slave with oppression is the fact of social phenomena and problem that occurred in human social life. Oppression is explained as the condition of individual which gets exercise or treatment in a harsh, cruel, bad or unjust manner from another which has more power. In this study, “12 Years a Slave” film is analyzed since it reflects the real condition of black slaves that get oppression during slavery period. Moreover, the film also has an interesting story which is filled with courage and desires of the main character to extricate from the forms of oppression.

In this study, the oppression toward black slave focused on those experienced by the main character, Solomon Northup. Related to this case, the purpose of the study is to describe (1) the forms of oppression (2) The causes of oppression forms, and (3) the efforts done by Solomon Northup to be liberated from oppression forms.

The research design of this study was a descriptive qualitative research because this study focused on social phenomena of oppression toward black slave. Moreover, the data of this study were not presented in numerical analysis. In this study, liberal humanism approach was applied since the central concern was a universal truth about humanity. Furthermore, the object of the study was the actions and dialogues which related to the term of oppression case which faced by Solomon Northup as the main character in the “12 Years a Slave” film.

The result showed that (1) there are four kinds of oppression forms that were found in the film, namely exploitation, powerlessness, cultural imperialism and violence; (2) there are four causes of oppression forms which experienced by Solomon Northup; and (3) there are some efforts to overcome oppression forms which done by Solomon, such as explaining his truly identity, offering his talents to his master, and asking for help to another slaves, and revealing his true identity to another White American who against to oppression forms.

Key words: Oppression, Black Slave, Film, 12 Years a Slave

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