

## ABSTRACT

TERESIA RIANI NABU. **Cultural Hybridity Resulted from Crisis of Identity as the Impact of Westernization Revealed through Kiyooki's Characteristics Seen in Yukio Mishima's *Spring Snow***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2009.

An author, through his work, may present a problem of cultural identity in certain society. Yukio Mishima's *Spring Snow* gives a clear description about the problem of cultural identity in Japanese society when Westernization takes place in Meiji Era. In this thesis, the writer analyzes Kiyooki's character who lives by absorbing the two different cultural traditions, the old Japan and the modern Western. The contrast between spirits of the East and West then leads him to undergo his identity crisis. Here Kiyooki's identity crisis represents the crisis that is experienced by the Japanese people in the Meiji Era. They can no longer attain their indigenous culture purely since their enthusiasm to imitate the Western has made them lose the true essence of their old tradition.

There are three objectives that the writer wants to achieve in this study. First, it is to find out the characteristics of Kiyooki in the novel. Second, it is to explain how Kiyooki undergoes his identity crisis. Third, it is to see how Kiyooki's characteristics reveal the idea of the cultural hybridity.

To analyze the text, the writer uses the library research method. The review on related studies, theories, and historical background needed in this study were gathered from library research and online sites. The writer considered the socio-cultural historical approach was appropriate to be applied in this study because the novel tells about the condition of the Japanese society when the Westernization happens in the Meiji era. By applying this approach, the writer can reveal the impact of Westernization on the indigenous culture of the Japanese society which creates their identity crisis.

In the analysis the writer finds that Kiyooki is characterized as being sensitive, melancholy, elegant, arrogant, introvert, unambitious, selfish, rebellious, and strong-minded. Being a young nobleman has formed his sensitive, melancholy, elegant, arrogant, and introvert characteristics. Kiyooki undergoes his identity crisis as he reaches his manhood to start feeling irritated with his own nature. His elegance seems awkward for the people who live in the era when the old tradition is no longer important to achieve. It keeps him away from his surrounding and imprisons his personal freedom to love Satoko, a daughter of a waning aristocratic family. Kiyooki finds a dilemma whether to keep the old tradition or to ignore it. In solving this crisis of identity, he finally realizes that the comfortable life in the modern era has made him lose the will power of the old samurai causing his fragility. In his effort to get back into the true meaning of an old samurai spirit, Kiyooki gets lost in the modern Western spirit that unconsciously has penetrated in

his very soul. His rebellious characteristic shows his regard to his old spirit shown by his will power but at the same time disregards his family honor by using it selfishly for the sake of his personal interest causing in Satoko's getting pregnant of his child. The idea of cultural hybridity is revealed by the characteristics of Kiyooki which represent the old Japanese culture as the samurai spirit and at the same time represents the idea of the modern Western spirit of individualism and independence.

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Seorang penulis, melalui karyanya, dapat memaparkan masalah identitas budaya masyarakat tertentu. Novel *Spring Snow* yang ditulis oleh Yukio Mishima memberikan sebuah gambaran jelas tentang masalah identitas budaya masyarakat Jepang ketika Westernisasi terjadi di Era Meiji. Dalam skripsi ini, penulis menganalisis karakter Kiyooki yang hidup dengan menjalani dua budaya yang berbeda yaitu tradisi budaya Jepang kuno dan tradisi Barat modern. Perbedaan tradisi Timur dan Barat yang dijalaninya kemudian menyebabkan Kiyooki mengalami krisis identitas. Krisis identitas Kiyooki merepresentasikan krisis yang dialami oleh masyarakat Jepang di Era Meiji. Mereka tidak bisa lagi mempertahankan budaya aslinya secara utuh sebab antusiasme mereka untuk meniru budaya barat membuat mereka kehilangan makna sejati dari tradisi lama mereka.

Ada tiga tujuan yang ingin penulis capai dalam analisis ini. Pertama adalah menemukan sifat-sifat Kiyooki dalam novel. Kedua adalah menjelaskan bagaimana Kiyooki mengalami krisis identitasnya. Ketiga adalah mengetahui bagaimana sifat-sifat Kiyooki menunjukkan adanya hibriditas budaya.

Untuk meneliti teks ini, penulis menggunakan metode penelitian perpustakaan. Tinjauan pustaka, teori-teori, dan latar belakang sejarah yang dibutuhkan dalam skripsi ini diperoleh dari penelitian buku-buku di perpustakaan dan situs jaringan. Penulis memutuskan bahwa pendekatan sosiokultural-historis baik untuk diterapkan dalam skripsi ini karena novel tersebut menceritakan tentang kondisi masyarakat Jepang saat berlangsung Westernisasi di Era Meiji. Dengan menerapkan pendekatan ini, penulis dapat mengungkapkan dampak dari Westernisasi pada budaya asli masyarakat Jepang yang mengakibatkan krisis identitas mereka.

Dalam analisis penulis menemukan bahwa Kiyooki digambarkan memiliki sifat sensitif, pemurung, elegan, angkuh, tertutup, tidak ambisius, egois, pemberontak, dan berkemauan keras. Menjadi seorang bangsawan muda telah membentuk sifat-sifat sensitif, pemurung, angkuh, dan tertutup dalam dirinya. Kiyooki mengalami krisis identitas ketika ia menginjak usia dewasa saat ia mulai merasa terganggu dengan sifat-sifatnya sendiri. Sifat elegannya terlihat janggal bagi orang yang hidup di masa ketika tradisi lama tidak lagi dianggap penting. Sifat tersebut menjauhkannya dari lingkungan pergaulannya dan menghalangi kebebasan pribadinya untuk mencintai Satoko, putri keluarga bangsawan yang mengalami kemunduran. Kiyooki menghadapi dilema untuk menjaga tradisi lama atau mengabaikannya. Dalam mengatasi krisis identitasnya, Kiyooki akhirnya menyadari

bahwa kenyamanan hidup di masa modern telah membuatnya kehilangan kekuatan tekad seorang samurai kuno yang mengakibatkan kerapuhannya selama ini. Dalam usahanya untuk kembali menemukan makna sejati dari semangat samurai kuno, Kiyooki dikecohkan oleh semangat Barat modern yang tak disadarinya telah merasuk dalam kehidupannya. Sifat pemberontaknya menunjukkan penghargaannya kepada tradisi lama lewat kekuatan tekadnya. Namun dengan menggunakannya secara egois untuk mencapai keinginan pribadi yang akhirnya mendatangkan aib keluarganya dengan kehamilan Satoko, Kiyooki telah mengabaikan tradisi lama. Hibriditas budaya ditunjukkan lewat sifat-sifat Kiyooki yang merepresentasikan budaya Jepang kuno seperti semangat samurai dan pada saat yang sama menunjukkan gagasan individualis dan kebebasan modern masyarakat Barat.