

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter is the last chapter of the present study. It comprises two sections. Section 5.1 presents conclusion of the present research based on the findings and discussion in the previous chapter. Meanwhile, section 5.2 puts forward suggestions for further research.

5.1 Conclusions

After elaborating the issue of power relation, the writer comes to a conclusion that there are some points that can be drawn from the study. First, the relevance of postcolonial theory is not limited to the term colonization; in fact it can be used to analyze any individual relationships through its essential aspects, that is power, though it isn't in the context of colonization.

Second, novel is a potential means to be studied in many fields. Since it is the representative of real life, it is also a means to introduce a culture's identity. Hence, through a novel, we can enter a 'world' that we do not acknowledge before. Through a novel, we can study one's character, culture, history, and the like. And so is *The God of Small Things*. Roy, through a novel has unwrapped the culture and the history of India. Roy even says, "There's no division on my bookshelf between fiction and nonfiction. As far as I'm concerned, fiction is about the truth" (Johnson,

2001). The novel itself is the representation of the political situation in India, as Roy is getting tired of the way her country is going. Therefore, to be a novelist, Roy says "has license to write things differently. .. As a writer, I have the license and the ability I guess, to move between feelings and numbers and technical stuff, and, you know, to tell the whole story in a way which an expert doesn't seem to have the right to do." (Johnson, 2001). From the quotation, we can again take a conclusion that novel is not only a means to represent real life but as well to criticize our surrounding.

Third, power is omnipresent since there is no limitation of who possesses power. *The God of Small Things* presents issue about the Untouchables who are greatly marginalized. Nevertheless, it appears that power is not possessed by one self, or a structure, or a class, rather it is exercised. So the inferior characters can have power as well. In the novel, this power is held by the inferior, exercised in the form of skill or knowledge. Yet, power can be also produced by the oppressed since there is always a possibility of resistance. The amount of resistance will depend on the amount of power exercised upon the oppressed themselves.

Fourth, in *The God of Small Things*, to the Untouchables, 'love' and 'truth' are absurd if not non-sense. Either culture, law, religion, party or government treat them unfairly. There is almost no hope to be treated as human, because they are only seen as God's creature, no more than that. In the novel, *The God of Small Things* refers to Velutha, a character that is pictured as 'just a small thing'; not to be touched, not to be seen, not to be

loved. No matter how hard Velutha's effort to be a better man, still he is only an Untouchable and hence he does not deserve a better life. Therefore, by raising this problem, the writer hopes that we can raise our sympathy for people whose their existence almost forgotten. Additionally, to increase our sensibility for those who do good turns in our lives, but somehow we consider these people as 'small things'.

5.2 Suggestions

- The issue of power relation which emphasizes on the issue of people's interaction had been widely studied because it is so common in life. Since Foucault's theory of power is limited to some issues, it will be good if other's theory of power is applied in the next research.
- The issue of the Untouchables is interesting to study. Since the issue is a very deep-rooted social problem, then it is suggested in the later studies that it viewed by other theories, such as psychoanalysis or cultural studies.
- As research by literary study is highly interesting, then it is recommended that teaching literature in school would be developed in such a way that the students has deeper understanding of what they have to do.
- Novel is the most chosen genre to be studied in literary research, thus there is no harm to try to explore other forms of literature such as drama, film, lyric, poem, etc. Each must have its unique figures to learn.
- *The God of Small Things* is a rich novel full with conflicts. There are so many optional topics to be discussed such as the issue of gender or

sexuality, representation of class, cultural identity, child abuse, or even its rounded plot. So, there are still many areas that can be explored from *The God of Small Things*.

