

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

This chapter collects the results of the research and interprets them in the form of conclusion of the representation of Italy, India, and Indonesia in *Eat, Pray, Love*. This chapter also provides suggestions for further analysis.

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the results of data analysis, some points can be concluded. First, the representation portrayal of Italy, India, and Indonesia as exotic destinations can be seen through three levels of exoticism; cultural level, religious level, and economic level. The levels of exoticism are the points which determine the level of the observed object's ability to fulfill the observer's desire for exotic experience. According to Gilbert, Italy is exotic due to its cultural level which involves the language, natives, and culinary. Differently from the first destination, India is appealing because of its religious aspects such as religious figure and ritual which fulfill Gilbert's desire to get devotional experience. Finally Indonesia, Gilbert believes that the country is fascinated due to the balance of both worldly and spiritual pleasure which manifests the social life in the island of Bali.

Gilbert considers Italy, India, and Indonesia as different to her own homeland but still has the similar position in the social level. The social level is seen through her world view and the natives of three countries' world view which are compared and contrasted. From the comparison, Gilbert awares that each culture has different value and is evaluated differently. Moreover, she awares the

differences should be perceived as heterogeneity by respecting the badness and goodness of each culture. Compared to the nineteenth Europeans' stereotype of the Other which Said states (1978), Gilbert's representation about the three countries, especially India and Bali, is contrasting

The perception towards the observed object as exotic thing does not always leads to a negative representation if the observer respects the existence of heterogeneity. However, the perception is influenced by the background knowledge and the motivation of the observer for travelling to the destination country. The perception may also changes as the observer sees the reality, experiences and immerses to the social life of the target culture.

5.2 Suggestion

Considering to the findings of the research, some suggestions are given for further research which focuses on the analysis of travel writing. First, a further study is suggested to analyze travel writing not only by focusing on textual analysis but also reader to author centered analysis.

Next, the further researchers can adopt different theories. There are a lot of topics that can be analyzed in this writing even though the main theme of travel writing is description of experience during the journey. Marxism, gender, feminism and psychoanalysis are instances of topic that can be used as the approach to reveal and deepen investigation of travel writing analysis. The researcher may also conduct a comparative study towards travel writing written by the author who has a different background knowledge and occupation.

Specifically, related to the analysis of *Eat, Pray, Love*, the research can be approached through feminist and psychoanalyst perspectives. Therefore, travel writing is not limited to the representation of the other, but it can be widely explored using various literary theories.

