

## ABSTRACT

This research paper is entitled *Characteristics of Javanese Women Portrayed in Bumi Manusia (A Novel Written by Pramoedya Ananta Toer)*. The aims of this research are: 1). to identify characteristics of typical Javanese women portrayed in the novel; 2). to identify characteristics of Nyai Ontosoroh as a main Javanese woman portrayed in the novel; and 3). to find out whether there are differences between Nyai Ontosoroh's and typical Javanese women's characteristics and to analyze why they are different.

The research was conducted by using a qualitative descriptive method. To collect the data, the novel was read carefully in order to find relevant textual evidence to answer the proposed research questions. Afterward, the data was analyzed by applying Marxist feminism to know why Nyai Ontosoroh's characteristics are different from typical Javanese women's.

The findings show that typical Javanese women have some characteristics, e.g., subordinated, obedient, submissive, patient and loyal, and they are able to repress negative emotions. Meanwhile, Nyai Ontosoroh as the main Javanese woman character in the novel has different characteristics because she is educated, autodidactic, successful as a business woman, modern, courageous to express her mind and opinion, free to express her emotion, and phenomenal. Based on those two findings, it can be concluded that Nyai Ontosoroh has different characteristics and better qualities than typical Javanese women, especially in terms of her educational background and economic independency. Regarding to Marxist feminism, those differences are due to both of Nyai Ontosoroh and typical Javanese women have different backgrounds, namely, social, economic, education, cultural, and psychological.

