

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter presents the conclusion of the study and recommendation for further study.

5.1 Conclusion

This study investigates how men's power manifested upon women and how women resist men's power in the novel *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy. Based on the findings, interactions between men and women construct power relation in their relationship. Power relation between men and women influences kinds of relationship built; a good relationship or bad relationship. For that reason, in order to build a good relationship, the agents involved have to be wise when they manifest their power.

Male characters investigated exercise three kinds of power; coercive power, reward power, and expert power. Men often exercise their power to make themselves recognized, respected, and obeyed. Based on the findings, the most exercised power performed by men is coercive power. Coercive power exercised by men upon women always relates to the coercion actions that relatively often make women feel forced and uncomfortable. For that reason, men have to be careful in manifesting their power to avoid women feel disappointed.

Men use three ways in exercising their power; verbally, physically, and psychologically. Based the findings, the interactions between men and women often occurs when they involves in a conversation (verbal actions). In this case,

diction becomes important things to be considered. For that reason, men and women have to watch their speeches in order to avoid hurtful words, which can ruin the relationship between them.

Power relation often relates to gender role performed by men and women in their relationship. Based on the findings, a bad relationship is constructed when the agents involved, one or both of them, are not good in performing their gender role. For that reason, gender role becomes something which must be understood and performed well by them; both men and women. Respecting each other has to be the essence when they perform their gender role.

Gender role is cultivated by the system applied in the society. Based on the findings, patriarchal system, which justifies men's domination over women, is the most system applied in society, especially in Egypt. However, patriarchal system itself is often viewed as system that justifies men can treat women at their will. This circumstance often raises problems for women from being treated badly. For that reason, the understanding about patriarchal system has to be more explored in order to find a good atmosphere in every relationship where the system is applied.

Patriarchal system cultivates men as superior and women as inferior. The findings strengthen the fact that men often feel that they are in charge to rule women. There are many textual evidence prove that women obey men's decision. Men's power is influential for women in many aspects of life. For that reason, men's power has to be performed wisely in order to keep the harmony of

the relationship between men and women, especially in husband/ wife spouse relationship.

Patriarchal system, for example in Egypt society, becomes important issue since it seems strong influencing men in manifesting their power over women. Based on the findings, patriarchal ideology can be seen in the way male characters investigated show their dominance over women. Men dominance can be seen in social and economic sphere such as Rudolf who is described as a rich man, he owns copious wealth and it makes everyone respect him. He uses his wealth as attractive power to attract many women to satisfy his desire. Bahadur also does the same thing. As a father, he thinks he is fully in charge to manage family's economic including selling his daughter. He clearly harasses women's identities in society by assuming women are only an object of sex. For that reason, women should not be easily tempted with men who use their wealthy as their attractive power. In addition, men awareness about women's presence in society have to be more improved by some kinds of actions or activities such as conducting counseling about gender in society.

Female characters investigated exercise their resistance in order to respond men's power exercised on them. Women use two kinds of resistance in responding men's power exercised on them; open resistance and close resistance. Based on the findings, open resistance is the most effective resistance exercised by women to reach the goal of the resistance. Open resistance exercised by women gives direct respond to men's power exercised on them; therefore, the resistance describes clearly, what women feel. For that reason, it

would be better for women to exercise open resistance to respond men's power exercised on them in order to reach the goal of the resistance.

Female characters investigated use two ways in exercising their resistance against men's power exercised on them; verbal action and extreme action. Based on the findings, verbal action is the most frequently resistance performed by women against men's power since it seems effective to reach the goal of the resistance, even to resist men's power containing abusive actions performed by men. For that reason, it would be better for women to perform verbal action when they exercise their resistance.

Related to abusive actions performed by men upon women, men often show that they are stronger than women are. Based on the findings, physical violence also happened when men exercise their power upon women. Gender discrimination becomes a continuance of physical violence performed by men upon women. Men often exploit women's physical weakness as a gap for exercising their power and reaching their goal. Considering men physically are stronger than women are, men should be wisely using their strength in manifesting power upon women.

. This study strengthens the fact that women in Middle East or Egypt society are noted often become the victim of violence performed by men. In the context of the novel, four of five females characters investigated experience from being discriminated by men. For that reason, increasing society's awareness about how to treat women and avoid gender discrimination becomes crucial solution to be done in order to minimize the violence against women.

5.2 Recommendation

This study has revealed the power exercised by men and resistance performed by women in the novel *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy. Since the novel has potential issue to be discussed, the writer recommends the following:

1. Further study can discover more topics provided by other literary works in order to find new experiences and knowledge.
2. The patriarchal values depicted in the novel reveals some negative impact from its existence. For that reason, the writer recommends that the patriarchal values must be analyzed in further study associated with its existence and its negative impact.
3. Gender discrimination often exists in the relationship between men and women. For that reason, the writer hopes the solution of this problem can be revealed by further study, which it can be found by analyzing literary works that raise any gender discrimination issues.