CHAPTER 3

Methodology

This research studies the roles and images of Muslim women in Muslim patriarchal society society as reflected in the novel *The Blood of Flowers* by Amirrezvani, by content analysis, which is a research technique used to make replicable and effective inferences by interpreting and coding textual material, as the method to analyze the events and dialogues related to the female characters.

The method of the study is as follows:

1. The researcher reads and collects the data from the novel.

2. The data was categorized to discuss how women are treated which are

    2.1 women are invisible and submissive

    2.2 women's dress is restricted

    2.3 women's limitation of education

    2.4 women are treated unfairly in polygamy and forced to get married

    2.5 women are sexual objects.

3. The researcher finds out if and how women can liberate themselves which are

    3.1 willing to learn something

    3.2 having consciousness

    3.3 negotiating for herself.

4. The situations and dialogues in the novel are gathered by note-taking to get findings and discussions. The researcher presents report of discussion in the form of analytical description. Radical and Marxist Feminist theory, the concept of patriarchal society and genders in Islam are employed as frameworks of the analysis.

5. A conclusion and further recommendation are drawn in the last chapter.

The Blood of Flowers is written by Anita Amirrezvani published for the first time in 2007. Amirrezvani spent nine years working on this novel because she wants to draw readers so deeply into the life of the seventeenth century women in Iran.

The story also narrates clearly women's struggles and how to create a life of her choices on the strength of her own hands, mind and will.