

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion

This research portrays the images and roles of Muslim women in *The Blood of flower* by Anita Amirrezvani. It observes the way female characters are placed in a patriarchal society. Analyzing Amirrezvani's *The Blood of Flowers* based on Feminist perspective shows that female characters experience different kinds of gender discrimination.

Patriarchal society creates many gender inequality and unfairness. Culture and religious belief also influence how women are treated and they struggle as a result of gender discrimination. According to the analysis, Muslim women's subordination manifests itself in five aspects: women are invisible and submissive in public sphere, women's dressing is restricted, women's education is limited, women are treated unfairly in polygamy, and women are sexual objects. The inferiority of women is perceived as natural and women are obviously seen as second-class people in the framework of Muslim patriarchal society. In facing the discrimination, the main female character shows her acceptance towards her struggled life. For examples, she is forced to live and work as servant in her cousin's house, she sacrifices herself to sign a temporary marriage contract in return for many rugs' orders from her contract husband, and she experiences educational deprivation because she is not a man who can learn freely. The female protagonist has a poor life with not much choice and asset after her father dies. She struggles under patriarchal ideology which assigns different roles, rights and responsibilities to men and women. Naheed, the female protagonist's friend, shows no resistance as she accepts a man whom her parents have chosen for her even though she does not love him. Amirrezvani shows how religion, tradition and culture are connected to the restriction of women's power and freedom to social activities.

However, the novel depicts an important female resistance when the female protagonist decides to abandon all the sufferings and builds up her new life. She has begun her consciousness-raising for her education and she negotiates for herself. She

tries to learn to knot carpets because she believes that it will raise her status. She dares to refuse the temporary marriage contract with a man who will never take her as his official wife. It is interesting to see how female characters encounter their different struggles but there is only the female protagonist who shows resistance and expresses her thoughts while struggling. For further study, the novel *The Blood of Flower* could also be compared to other texts with similar theme on how Muslim women are portrayed to see whether the portrayal is different or similar.



ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University
All rights reserved