

**UNVEILING CAPITALISM POTRAYED THROUGH KUANG'S
NOVEL *BABEL*, OR THE NECESSITY OF VIOLENCE**

SKRIPSI

By

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**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LETTERS AND LANGUAGES
UNIVERSITAS KRISTEN INDONESIA
JAKARTA**

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SKRIPSI

Presented to the Faculty of Literature and languages Universitas Kristen Indonesia in
partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra

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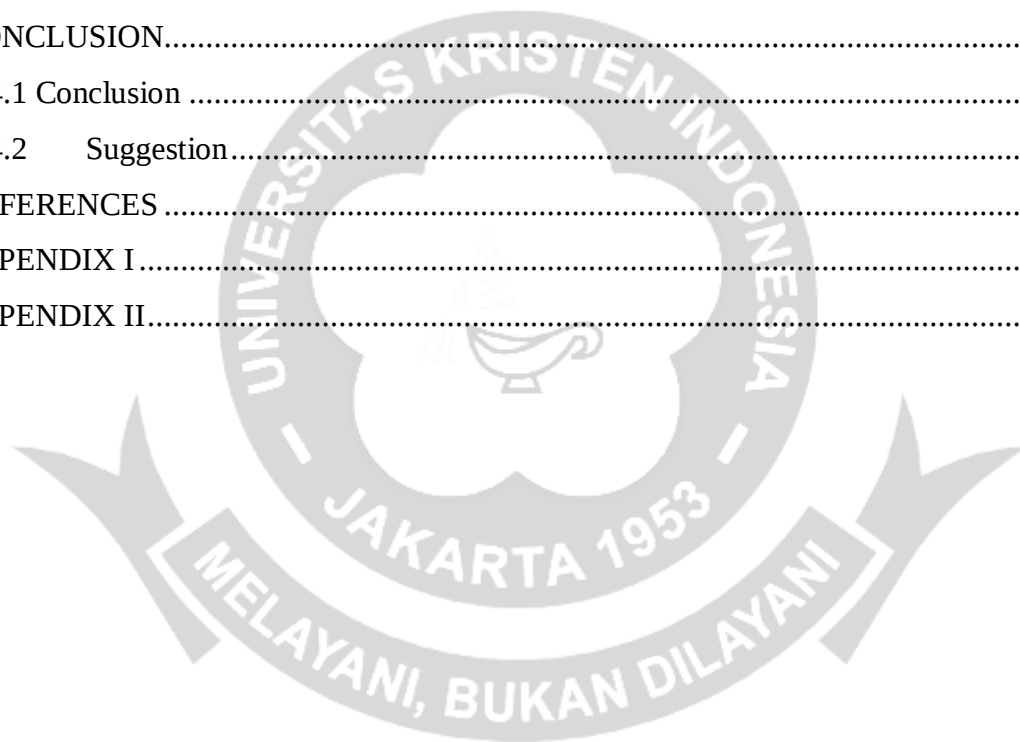
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ABSTRACT

This research is taken from the novel *Babel* by R.F Kuang. In her novel, R.F Kuang explores themes of colonisation and the exploitation of resources and labour, offering a dark yet imaginative portrayal of these historical processes. The purpose of the research is to 1) show types of capitalism depicted in R.F Kuang's *Babel*, 2) examine the impacts of capitalism towards the setting and characters in the story's environment, 3) and discuss the author's message on the topic of capitalism. This research employs a qualitative research method while also using theories such as Janet Adam Smith's theory of Capitalism, and Frantz Fanon's theory of violence. The result of this research reveals three types of capitalism present in the novel: academic capitalism, colonial capitalism, and state capitalism. Through these three forms of capitalism, the author illustrates the resulting impacts within the story. These impacts include exploitation and inequality within the narrative's environment, as well as cultural erasure and dehumanization. The novel also portrays resistance and rebellion as responses to capitalism. From these impacts, the study identifies the conveyed messages, which critique exploitation and dehumanization, while emphasizing the importance of awareness of cultural identity. This study concludes that capitalism that is portrayed in the novel *Babel* becomes a discussing theme on revelling the negative affects of capitalism towards minority groups and the younger generations and how these groups have the power to reshape the injustice and discrimination of the flawed system.

Keywords: Capitalism, Violence, Colonialism, *Babel*, or *the Necessity of Violence*, R.F Kuang

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini diambil dari novel *Babel* karya R.F. Kuang. Dalam novelnya, R.F Kuang eksplorasi tema-tema kolonialisasi dan eksploitasi sumber daya dan tenaga kerja, menawarkan Gambaran yang kelam namun imajinatif dari proses-proses Sejarah. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk 1) menunjukkan jenis-jenis kapitalisme yang digambarkan dalam *Babel* karya R.F. Kuang, 2) memeriksa dampak kapitalisme terhadap latar dan karakter dalam lingkungan cerita, dan 3) membahas pesan penulis tentang topik kapitalisme. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif serta teori-teori seperti teori teori Kapitalisme Janet Adam Smith, dan teori kekerasan Frantz Fanon. Hasil dari penelitian ini membuktikan terdapat 3 jenis kapitalisme yang terdapat dalam novel yang diteliti. 3 jenis kapitalisme ini merupakan kapitalisme akademik, kapitalisme kolonial, dan kapitalisme negara. Melalui 3 jenis kapitalisme yang ditunjukkan dalam novel, sang penulis novel dapat menunjukan dampak – dampak yang terjadi dalam cerita. Dampak yang dihasilkan oleh jenis – jenis kapitalisme tersebut merupakan eksploitasi dan ketidaksetaraan yang terjadi dalam lingkungan cerita, beserta juga penghapusan budaya dan dehumanisasi. Terdapat juga penolakan dan pemberontakan yang merupakan hasil dari kapitalisme dalam novel. Dari dampak – dampak tersebut, ditemukanlah pesan – pesan yang disampaikan mengenai kritik terhadap eksploitasi dan dehumanisasi berserta kesadaran terhadap identitas budaya.

Kata Kunci: Kapitalisme, Kekerasan, Kolonialisme, *Babel*, *or the Necessity of Violence*, R.F Kuang