

**DEMOCRACY AND FEUDALISTIC BETWEEN DAISY MILLER AND
MRS. COSTELLO THROUGH SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH
AS REFLECTED IN DAISY MILLER (1879)**

Edi Ardian

Islamic University of Indragiri
E-mail: ediardian23@yahoo.com

Abstract

There are several kinds of literary works. They are a poem, novel, fiction, drama, etc. *Daisy Miller* is one of the famous and popular novels. This novel is written in the spring of London. The Author is Henry James. The writer analyzed this novel by the sociological approach. This research applies qualitative research in which the data are taken from the analysis document and material from books and internet research. Data analysis concerns the interpretative technique that focuses on examining data. The main source of this research is the novel *Daisy Miller* this research is going to answer the research questions what is the characteristic of democracy and Feudalistic is as reflected in *Daisy miller* novel? And what are the phenomena between democracy and Feudalistic in *Daisy Miller* novel? From the analysis the author concluded that *Daisy Miller* is a representative of American woman as same as democracy in the American Custom, She is going abroad to Switzerland which is peaceful country inhabited by all kinds of people of different race, ethnic, language, skin color, religion, profession, from all over the world. The Henry James as the author showed Daisy Miller as a vulgar and as free as a representation of American culture that has correlated with social life. On the other hand, the author describes Mrs. Costello as a Feudalistic of European culture. Mrs. Costello is a representation of European social-life that always distinguishes between high and low status and it is one of the characters of Feudalism. The feudalistic was that the power of the ruling class or Aristocracy rested on their control of the farmable lands, leading to a class-based upon the exploitation of the peasants who farm these lands.

Keywords: *democracy=demokrasi, feudalistic=feodal, high and low status=kelas atas dan bawah.*

Abstrak

Ada beberapa jenis karya sastra seperti puisi, novel, fiksi, drama, dll. *Daisy Miller* adalah salah satu novel yang terkenal dan populer. Novel ini ditulis pada musim semi London. Penulis novel ini adalah Henry James. Peneliti menganalisis novel ini dengan pendekatan sociology. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif yang datanya diambil dari dokumen analisis dan bahan dari buku dan internet. Analisis data berhubungan dengan teknik interpretatif yang berfokus pada pengolahan data. Sumber utama penelitian ini adalah novel *Daisy Miller*. Penelitian ini akan menjawab pertanyaan yaitu: 1. apa ciri khas demokrasi dan feodalistik sebagaimana tercermin dalam novel *Daisy miller*? 2. Dan apa saja fenomena antara demokrasi dan Feodalistik dalam novel *Daisy Miller*? Dari

analisis tersebut penulis menyimpulkan bahwa Daisy Miller adalah perwakilan dari perempuan Amerika sebagai bentuk demokrasi dalam budaya Amerika, Dia pergi ke luar negeri ke Swiss yang merupakan negara damai yang dihuni oleh semua jenis orang dari berbagai ras, etnis, bahasa, warna kulit, agama, profesi, dari seluruh dunia. Henry James sebagai penulisnya menunjukkan Daisy Miller sebagai seorang yang vulgar dan bebas menggambarkan perwakilan budaya Amerika yang berkorelasi dengan kehidupan sosial. Di sisi lain, peneliti menggambarkan Mrs. Costello sebagai seorang Feodalistik yang mewakili budaya Eropa. Mrs. Costello adalah representasi sebagai kehidupan sosial Eropa yang selalu membedakan antara status tinggi dan rendah, hal itu adalah salah satu karakter Feodalisme. Feodalistik yang menggambarkan kekuatan kelas penguasa atau Aristokrasi bertumpu pada kontrol mereka atas tanah yang dimiliki, mengarah ke kelas yang mengeksploitasi petani sebagai kelas bawah.

Kata kunci: *democracy=demokrasi, feudalistic=feodal, high and low status= kelas atas dan bawah.*

INTRODUCTION

Literature is taken to include oral, dramatic, and broadcast compositions that may not have been published in written form but which have been preserved. The broader sense of literature as a totality of written or printed works has given way to a more exclusive definition based on criteria of imaginative, creative, or artistic value (Chris Baldick: 124). There are several kinds of literary works. They are a poem, novel, fiction, drama, etc.

This novel is written in the spring of London. The setting place in Vevey, Switzerland Rome Italy. This period is the Victorian Age and

also this period emerged the realism mainstream. The Henry James as the author of "Daisy Miller" novel. This mainstream emerged in 1860-1914, was critical of the condition and situation that has occurred and describing of the sociology of society. This novel was still in the Victorian Age is especially remarkable because of its increase in progress in all the arts and sciences and mechanical inventions. A glance at any record of the industrial achievements of the nineteenth century will show how vast they are and it is unnecessary to repeat the list of the invention, from spinning looms to steamboats and from

watches to electric light. All these material things, as well as the growth of education, have their influence upon the life of a people and also were influenced by the social life community, the effect of many inventions like mechanical and technology to influence, to determine the future literature accurately.

Henry James as the realist author criticized the condition in his era. Henry James was born in 1843, his parents were Henry James Sr and Mary James. Henry James had three brothers and one sister. Henry James ancestor, William James was an 18 years old Irishman who arrived in America in 1789. According to family legend, the ancestor arrived with a very small sum of money and later gained a small fortune through the establishment of a store in New York. Later, he ventured into banking and the manufacture of salt which paved his way as a powerful man in the upper Hudson area, as a young child, Henry James had only private tutors and never gained any strict education. The year Henry James turned twelve years old his

family moved to Switzerland and later to France and Germany. After the competition of his family's travels, Henry James returned to America and enrolled in Harvard Law School for a while. He withdrew soon after his enrollment because he desired to pursue writing rather than an education. His father's leisurely lifestyle as a traveler and writer allowed Henry James to meet people like Ralph Waldo Emerson and Bronson Alcott. His youthful years in Europe left a great impression. Later in his life, James moved to England where he established citizenship as a protest against America's failure to enter the war against Germany. James purposely developed his novel with a conscientious slowness and refinement. James was interested in the society of people who possessed of his ideas. Henry James was the first writer to introduce the theme of an American in Europe. Character in "*Daisy Miller*", Daisy Miller is a young exceptionally pretty, young lady from the United States who shocks the more formalized European society by her spontaneous

acts. Henry James in his work always crash and compare the American and European custom. He also wrote about feminism, social-reformation and intrigue politic, etc.

From the biography of the author above we can elaborate that Henry James as cosmopolitan novelist America and also he is a critic. He is a great novelist in the nineteenth century. He was introduced as “*International topics*” about social relations between American and European. He is also a traveler from one country to another country. Henry's works always American society and the Hierarchy of social life. The famous works of art of Henry James are *Transatlantic Sketches* (1875), *The American* (1877), *Daisy Miller* (1879) and the *Portrait of a lady*.

In this paper, the writer chooses the *Daisy Miller* novel. Especially this novel was a classic novel and its popular novel. It is very interesting to analyze this based on a sociological approach.

Concerning the study, there two its primary objectives; this research is going to reveal the

difference between Democracy and Feudalistic between *Daisy Miller* and *Mrs. Costello* as reflected in *Daisy Miller* novel, and it is going to find some proofs of Democracy and Feudalistic as reflected in the *Daisy Miller* Novel.

Based on the previous explanation, the writer formulates the problems as follow:

1. What is the characteristic of democracy and Feudalistic is as reflected in the *Daisy miller* novel?
2. What are the phenomena between democracy and Feudalistic in *Daisy Miller* novel?

We can elaborate that the background of the author always influences his work and the social-life situation of the author always shows and critic of phenomena in society when he lived in each period of society. Such as the romanticism era, the realism era and the modernism era, it means these eras are very influencing in their works. If we analyze of social-life, of course, it has correlated with the culture of society. According to Wilfred L.

Guerin et. al (1999: 241) in A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature, said: four goals include in cultural studies and of course it has correlated with a certain society. It means that how the condition of social life in *Daisy Miller* novel they are:

1. Cultural studies transcend the confines of a particular discipline such as literary criticism or history, it means that analyzes diverse social and political interest and addresses many of the struggles within the current scene.
2. Cultural studies are politically engaged. Cultural critics see themselves as “oppositional” to the power structures of society; they question in qualities within power structures, including the classroom, and seek to restructure relationships among dominant and subordinated cultures.
3. Cultural Studies denies the separation of “*High*” and “*low*” or *elite* and *popular culture*. All forms of cultural production need to be studied concerning other

cultural practices. A cultural study is committed to examining the entire range of society's beliefs, Institutions, and communicative practices, including arts.

Cultural Studies analyze not only the cultural work that is produced but also the means of production; it means that it has correlated with the Marxism, that shows differentiates of social class, Labor, Land of tenure. He also had shown about materialism culture as the effect of Capitalism which emerged of separated class in society. Socialist Utopia that distinguishes between labor and leisure and makes Transformation in Community. In "*Daisy Miller*" novel we can get the points of social-life in a certain society.

Besides that, Suwardi Endaswara said: if we analyze the methodology of works art, it is better to analyze the background of the author because the social condition of the author could influence of the works of art. So, many scientists who want to analyze the sociology of literature which correlates between

the social-life of the author whether his environment and certain social-life. In this case, we can get point that the “*period*” is very important data as analyze reference especially for the sociological approach and also the “*period*” became “*prove*” for the literary criticism. All literature, however fantastic or mystical in content is animated by a profound social concern and this is true of even the most flagrant nihilistic work (Glickberg: 1967: 75). This statement as a representation of the work art has great pay attention to the phenomenon of social. Works of art describe the phenomenon in society. The realist like Henry James saw the reality as suitable for his idealism. Although the sociology approach appeared at the end of the nineteenth century it is interested in to analyze. The sociological approach as the reflective who want critic of human life in society as reflected in this novel.

METHOD

This research applies qualitative research in which the data are taken from the analysis document

and material from books and internet research. Data analysis concerns the interpretative technique that focuses on examining data. The main source of this paper is the novel, *Daisy Miller*. The supporting data is taken from a sociological approach in literature. These novels will use a sociological approach. The novel is a classic novel, so the sociological approach will be suitable to apply to know more about the idea of popularity and effect for the public.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Before analyzing of *Daisy Miller*, I think it is better to know the summary of “*Daisy Miller*”

"At a Hotel in the resort town of Vevey, Switzerland, a young American named Winterbourne meets a rich, pretty American girl named Daisy Miller, who is traveling around Europe with her mother and her younger brother, Randolph. Winterbourne, who has lived in Geneva most of his life, is both charmed and mystified by Daisy, who is less proper than the European girls he has encountered. She seems wonderfully spontaneous if a little

crass and "uncultivated". Even though Mrs. Costello his aunt strongly disapproves of the Miller and flatly refuses to be introduced to Daisy, Winterbourne spends time with Daisy at Vevey and even accompanies her, to Chillon Castle, a famous local tourist attraction. The following winter, Winterbourne goes to Rome, knowing Daisy to be there and is distressed to learn from his aunt that she has taken up with several well-known fortune hunters and become the talk of the Town. She has one suitor, in particular, a handsome Italian named Mr.Giovanelli of a certain background whose conduct with Daisy mystifies Winterbourne and scandalized the American community in Rome's fashionable society. Mrs. Walker and Winterbourne attempt to warn Daisy about the effect her behavior is having on her reputation but she refuses to listen. Daisy spends increasingly more time with Mr.Giovanilli. Winterbourne begins to have doubts about her character and how to interpret her behavior. He also becomes uncertain about the

nature of Daisy's relationship with Mr.Giovanili. Sometimes Daisy tells him they are engaged and other times she tells him they are not. One night on his way home from a dinner party, Winterbourne passes the Coliseum and decides to look at it by moonlight braving the bad night air that is known to cause "Roman fever" which is malaria. He finds Daisy and Mr.Giovanilli there and immediately concludes that she is too lacking in self-respect to bother about. Winterbourne is still concerned about Daisy's health. However and he reproaches Giovanilli and urges him to get her safely home. A few days later, Daisy becomes gravely ill and she dies soon after, before dying she gives her mother a message to pass on to Winterbourne that indicates that she cared what he thought about her after all. At the time, he does not understand it, but a year later, still thinking about Daisy, he tells his aunt that he made a great mistake and has lived in Europe too long. Nevertheless, he returns to Geneva and his former life"

Based on the summary above we can elaborate that *Daisy Miller* is a representative of American woman as same as “The American Custom”., she is going abroad to Switzerland which is peaceful country inhabited by all kinds of people of different race, ethnic, language, skin color, religion, profession, from all over the world. The novel is shown that people especially the high-class society and Daisy Miller as a vulgar and so free as a representation of American culture that has correlated with social life. From the summary above we can get the proofs based on my analyzing especially for sociology side such as:

“I wanted to bring Randolph or Eugenio or someone, but Daisy just pushed me off by myself...” (Page: 65)

From the statement above we can get the point that Henry shown social Democracy. Based on the theory above, that culture has a hard correlation with political interest. The essence of the statement above that everyone has an equal right. Even children can ask their parents to do something and their parents

reward their children's rights. Benyamin R.Barber said: Democracy is a form of Government, it manifest-itself in a culture of society. Democracy means that people can choose anything and freedom of thought, speech, and movement (Jacques Attali: 1996:15)

Democracy context in *Daisy Miller* describing is American culture that always has the freedom to speak, to speech, and movement. Henry James as the author describes the social character of American and it is differentiated from Europe. Democracy's social condition of equality is highly respected for the individual within the community. The rightful authorities are the right to life, the right of association, and express opinion, freedom to do something freely, etc. Other proofs said:

“But he saw that she cared very little for feudal antiquities and that the dusky traditions of Chillon made but a slight impression upon her...” (Page: 41)

In this case, the proofs that Daisy Miller as a girl did not like to

valuate others because one of character American people do not care for others and interfere of other's problem, she has freedom to do something as she likes to do as the thing is logic to her, no one can forbid her. One of the characters of social life in American is individualism, I mean the individual is important, a person has the ultimate right to be himself/herself and one of the essences of Democracy is individual side, in social Democracy the people have the freedom to do something as mention above. Henry James wants to expose the social-life in American in this novel.

"Will you give me a lump of sugar?...yes, you may take one, he answered, but I don't think sugar is good for little boys".
(Page: 9-10)

That negotiate is allow in Democracy have a deal with, without forcing anyone. In Democracy, we free to deliver what we want or what we need but we keep on the rule, we never distinguish others of age, gender, social status to do it. Agitation, persuasion, is the process

of Democracy. From the "Daisy Miller" novel we can get the individual character as a fact of social Democracy in American. Henry James as the first writer to introduce the "Daisy" a young, exceptionally pretty, young lady from the United States who shocks the more formalized European Society by her spontaneous acts. She also as a pretty American girl who is traveling around Europe with her mother and her younger brother, Randolph. Though she is a woman she is like a man, Henry James describes equality between woman and man in American culture. Some of the symbols shown in "Daisy" :

- a. One is important or meaningful
- b. One has dignity
- c. One is a subject, not an object.
- d. One has the right to conduct his own life.
- e. One has the right to achieve happiness.
- f. One has the right to pursue perfection in life.

On the other hand, the author describes the Feudalistic as European culture. As the Theory above that

"Cultural studies denies the separation of "high" and "low" or elite and popular culture" (1994:241). Henry James describes the one character "Mrs. Costello" is a representation of European social-life that always distinguishes between *high and low scale* and it is one of the characters of Feudalism. We can see the statement below:

“...*Daisy Miller place in the social scale was low. I am afraid you don't approve of them he said*”. (Page: 25)

Hereby, Mrs. Costello regards as Daisy comes from low social status. Feudalist always evaluates based on social status. Henry James was as a realist author (Kathryn: 1993: 52). He wants to criticize the social condition when he was living in his Era. This Era still in Industry Revolution or Victorian Age that increase progress an all the arts and sciences and mechanical inventions and the effect of it emerged the different class between high and low class.

Karl Marx defines feudalism was that the power of ruling class (the Aristocracy) rested on their

control of the farmable lands, leading to a class-based upon the exploitation of the peasants who farm these lands, the Feudal same as the "hierarchy" or "Kasta" (2000:112). From the statement above that Mrs. Costello as a representation of European people that Feudalistic and its character to regard Daisy Miller comes from a low scale. Henry James had criticized when e life in his Era. The effect of Industrial emerged a new class in society and also was be called capitalism. According to Karl Marx, the Capitalism influencing of the people's life (2000:164), they are:

- a. Money or wealth became the parameter of people's life.
- b. Making competition among people, so achieve the material or money in life.
- c. Making differentiate classes in society, Capitalism also made people as a representative between labor, landowner, and capitalist. This statement emerged the Feudalistic that regard their selves came from high, it is the effect of capitalism

when the beginning of the Industry Era.

CONCLUSION

From the elaboration above between culture and society have a hard correlation. We can conclude the sociology of "Daisy Miller" that was being represented by Henry James. Henry James describes and Crash of culture between Americans and Europeans. One aspect that he had compared between Social Democracy as an individual manifests that shown by the character of "Daisy" and Feudalistic as are represented by Mrs. Costello as representative from European. Democracy has the freedom to speak, to speech and to move. The rightful authorities are the right to life, the right of association, and express opinion, freedom to do something freely, etc. but the feudalistic as representation as European social life that always distinguishes between *high and low scale*. The feudalism was that the power of ruling class or Aristocracy) rested on their control of the farmable lands, leading to a class-

based upon the exploitation of the peasants who farm these lands, the Feudal same as the "hierarchy" or "Kasta".

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