



**THE REPRESENTATION OF COLONIALISM IN RUDYARD KIPLING'S
*THE JUNGLE BOOK***

THESIS

Written by:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS JEMBER**

2019



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Submitted to the English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Jember
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Sarjana Sastra in English
Studies

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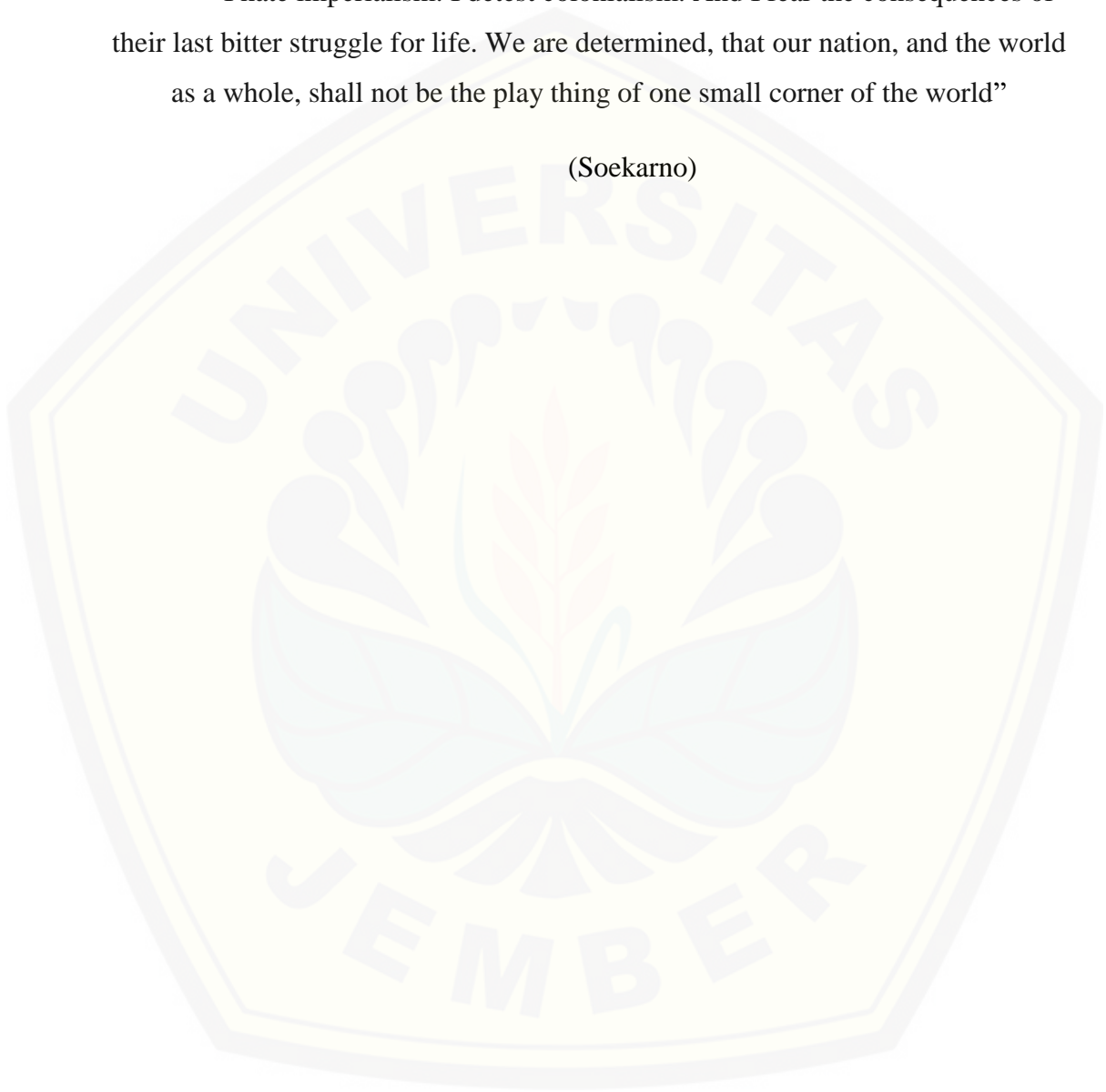
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my parents Muhammad Maulud and Misnaeni Rachman, my sisters Monika Kusuma Wardhani, Dimaniar Masita and Ragita Apriela, my brothers Bima Yantarga and Wahyudi Adi Winarto, my cousins Estu Dyah Ekasari and Nadia Emylia Pramesti, also my nieces and nephew Malikha Gendis Yantarga, Nadifa Mehreen Himanoura, Alesha Zahra and Tegar Aditya Rachman for their love, support, materials and the endless pray that they have given me throughout my life. This thesis is also dedicated to my self as an achievement in studying in English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Jember.

MOTTO

“I hate imperialism. I detest colonialism. And I fear the consequences of their last bitter struggle for life. We are determined, that our nation, and the world as a whole, shall not be the play thing of one small corner of the world”

(Soekarno)



DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled “**The Representation of Colonialism in Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book***” is originally part of my own writing. This research and the analysis of the data in this thesis have never been done for any publication. I also declare with my best knowledge that the sources and assistance received in the preparation of this thesis are from recognized and original sources..

Jember,

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SUMMARY

The Representation of Colonialism in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*, Bramtara Valda Maranov, 150110101050, 2019; 46 pages; English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Jember.

This research tries to reveal the discourse of colonialism in the time the novel was written in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book* (1894). It focuses on analyzing the experiences of the characters that lived in the colonial environment. Those characters are Mowgli and the people of the jungle, Rikki-Tikki-Tavi and Kala Nag. To analyze the discourse of colonialism, I use Stuart Hall's representation theory and the discursive approach by Michel Foucault. This research uses qualitative data. The data of this research are divided into two kinds, the primary data and secondary data. The primary data are taken from the narrations and dialogues from *The Jungle Book* novel by Rudyard Kipling in 1894 and the secondary data are taken from books, journals, articles, and previous research that have similar objects or topics to support the analysis of the primary data.

First, I read *The Jungle Book* novel by Rudyard Kipling (1894), to find and know about the discourse of colonialism in the text. The second is categorizing the data that I found to make the mapping easier, and then I read similar issues about colonialism in 18-19th century in India. It will support me to concern the contextual condition of colonialism in India in 18-19th century. The third step is analyzing the data using the theory of representation by Stuart Hall and helped with the discursive approach by Michel Foucault with intention of discussing the colonialism discourse practice which is represented in the novel entitled *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling. The last, I try to find the critical position of the author, this step is focuses on the position of the author as the member of culture that produces the discourse, whether he is in pro or contra

position of colonialism that happened in that time. The critical position of the author will be revealed by relating the discourse of colonialism in India in the text with the contextual background in the time the text written.

The result of this research shows that the depiction of colonialism is shown in the form of the elements of the story, such as characterization, setting and experiences of the characters who lived in the colonial environment. Born in Anglo India parents, and in the time when Britain colonized India, the nature of his life affected his works. His life started in colonial environment, especially from colonizer class and become greater after his comeback to India after he finished his study there. In the time the text written, colonialism happened when Britain colonized India and took advantages from the country. Therefore, Rudyard Kipling as the author of the novel positioned himself as a major apologist of colonialism; it can be seen through his literary works, especially *The Jungle Book* which contains the discourse of colonialism and also from his personal life as a man in colonial environment.

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CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Children literature is one of the most interesting story that entertain not only children, but also teens and adult. The children literature usually has a simple story and language because it is written for children, besides the simple story and language, children literature may contain a message, or an ideology of the writer, of the year that the story written. *The Jungle Book* (1894) by Rudyard Kipling is one of the most popular children literatures in the world. It tells us about a man's cub Mowgli who raised by wolf in the Seeone Pack in the Hindi jungle.

The Jungle Book tells us about a boy named Mowgli, who survived from a tiger's attack named Shere Khan. He survived because he found by Father and Mother Wolf, while Shere Khan wants Mowgli, Father and Mother Wolf protect him from Shere Khan. Then, Mowgli becomes the member of the Pack, under the authority of Akela the leader of the Pack. Shere Khan warns them that Mowgli is his own, but Mowgli grows in the jungle, in the Pack that teaches him a lot of knowledge to survive in the Jungle. Mowgli also become friend with Baloo the Bear and Bagheera the Panther. Mowgli spends his childhood learning the ways of the jungle from Baloo, hunting with Bagheera, and living with his Wolf family. They are united and teach Mowgli to survive and fight back against his enemies. It is very similar with the contextual background at that time, when the British came and colonized India, the Indian struggling for their freedom against the colonizer. Mowgli described as the obedient native character, and Shere Khan as the disobedient native character is the comer that tries to endanger the jungle. Beside the story of Mowgli and people of the jungle, there are short stories with other characters that also construct the discourse of colonialism, such as Rikki-

Tikki-Tavi who lives with the British family, and Kala Nag that remembers the historical event that happened in the story.

In the 18-19th century imperialism and colonialism happened in India, in that time south Asia was dominated by Britain. Imperialism is a policy in which a large country can hold control or governance over other regions, so that the country can be maintained or developed. An example of imperialism occurs when the country conquer or occupy those lands (the lands of the regions). Imperialism refers to the political and monetary dominance, while colonialism refers to the process of a country taking physical control of another, both imperialism and colonialism focus on the suppression of an other. So, in that time England colonized India, and took the authority of the country (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Western-colonialism/European-expansion-since-1763>).

The occupation of Western nation in India began with the arrival of Vasco Da Gama in India in 1498 (<https://www.history.com/topics/exploration/vasco-da-gama>). The Western succeeded in occupying important places on the south coast of India which then widened and finally the British won power in the Indian subcontinent, and then marked by the establishment of the English East India Company in 1600. British opponents in fighting for India are France. The seven-year war (1756-1763) between England and France that spread to America and India was finally won by the British. France surrendered all of its territory to Britain. The India subcontinent, in the nineteenth till mid of twentieth centuries, was politically under British control (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Western-colonialism/European-expansion-since-1763>). Although in the eighteenth century to the next period, the Mughal Dynasty remained in power, the true holders of political and economic power after that were the British. Therefore, at the time, it could be said as a period of British colonization of India which was later marked

by the retreat of the Mughal rulers and the rise of British rule in India. This process peaked in 1857 when the Mutini or Sepoy rebellion of British colonialists took place. At that time, the Mughal Dynasty which became a symbol of Islamic power in India began to end, and officially, Britain began to rule.

The arrival of British in India was because of the cash vacuum of countries in Europe after the post-crusade defeat. Because trade from the Far East through the Middle East was closed due to the fall of Constantinople in the hands of the Ottoman Turks, and India was used as a source of raw materials and also the area of marketing of industrial products.

I think that *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling also contains the struggle of India at that time, and also contains what the writer's thought about it, because the writer also born in the time that imperialism and colonialism of England in India. The characters of *The Jungle Book* portrait the colonialism, Mowgli, Shere Khan and the people of the jungle as native Indians, with addition illustration of colonialism happened in the story when the native people slaved and living nomadic, beside the character of the story, the plot and the elements of the novel also build the discourse of colonialism in the novel.

This research focuses on how Mowgli, Shere Khan and the people of the jungle, and the other elements that construct the discourse of colonialism which is using theory of representation by Stuart Hall, to portrait the colonialism.

1.2 Research Question

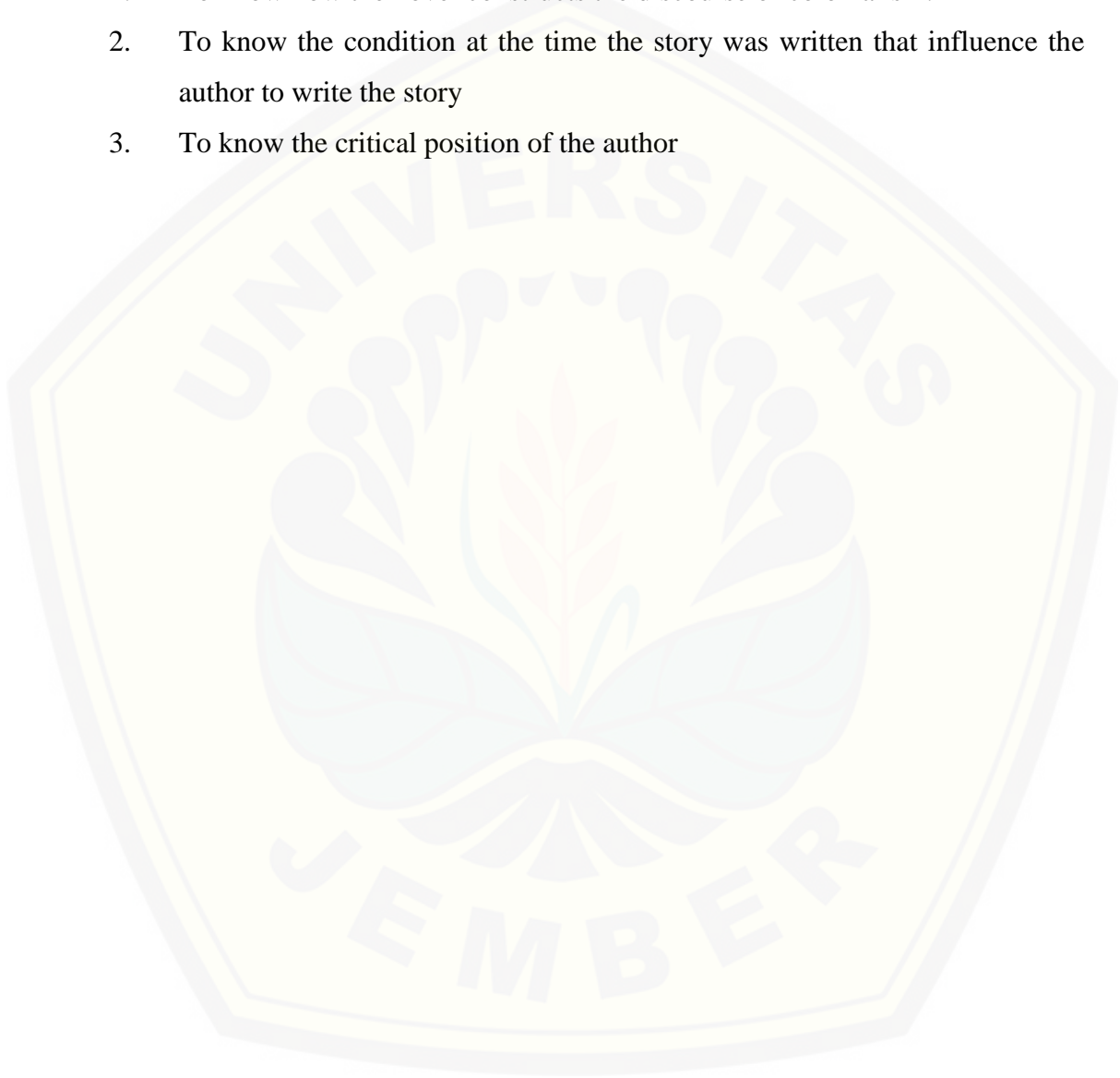
Based on the background and the topic to discuss, the question of the research are:

1. How does the novel construct the discourse of colonialism?
2. How is the contextual condition of British colonialism in India?
3. What is the critical position of the author?

1.3 The Goal of the Study

The main goals of the study are to answer the research questions, which are:

1. To know how the novel constructs the discourse of colonialism.
2. To know the condition at the time the story was written that influence the author to write the story
3. To know the critical position of the author



CHAPTER II. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter is literary review that contains theories and previous research. The supporting theories and the previous researches are used to analyze the data and strengthen the hypothesis. Literature review is an important part of the thesis which there are extensive references to related research and theory in the field. The literature review has function as a part that shows how related work in the field has shaped and influenced the research, and it will show the gap and the similarities between the previous one that used to help in working this thesis.

2.1 Previous Research

Literature review is used to guide the research, and it is an important part of thesis that supports a research, and I will get information that support the research through the previous studies. The literature review helps the writer to know their strengths and weaknesses through the previous studies and the gap. The literature review provides the author's base knowledge in the area that they are interested. It is not only from the research that has been done in the past but also appraises, correlates various books, sites, research article, and other relevant sources that are directly related to the current research. Therefore, the literary review of this research is used to give support and knowledge to this research. There are two previous research that I used. The first previous research is *The Representation of Beauty Discourse in Scott Westerfeld's Uglies Series* a thesis by Siti Hanifa (2016). The second previous research is "The Garden and The Jungle: Burnett, Kipling and The Nature of Imperial Childhood" an article by Mary Goodwin (2011).

The first previous research used Stuart Hall's Theory of Representation which focused on the encoding process and the concept of discursive model by Michel Foucault to correlates between the discourse and power behind the beauty construction. Siti analyzed the construction of beauty discourse in the first three novel of *Uglies Series (Uglies, Pretties, and Specials)*. The Result of this research showed that the different construction of beauty discourse by the two groups intended the similiar aim which is to gain power over the society. By using those approaches, the discourse within the selected stories revealed. This research helps me to apply the representation theory in the field to reveal the colonialism in *The Jungle Book*.

The second previous research analyzed the colonial of England in *The Jungle Book* by showing how England brings "fear" to the jungle, and this article can help me in working this thesis. Both *The Secret Garden* and *The Jungle Book* offer intriguing messages about class and caste that relate in important ways to national identity. Therefore, it has a contribution in this research as a guidance to analyze the story, and as proof that colonialism was happened in that time. The article strengthens the discourse of colonialism in *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling, so it helps me to build the discourse in the field.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical frameworks are presented briefly in this chapter. This chapter has a function to give the other clarification related to the theory, in order to make an appropriate application in this research. It discusses and explains some important theories and concepts related to the topic of discussion. The theories are used to analyze the problems in the next chapter, they also used to make the discussion clearer. Moreover, the descriptions of the theory will be employed based on books, journal, article, and expert opinions in literature.

2.2.1 Theory of Representation

This chapter will explain Stuart Hall's theory of Representation which is used to analyze the problem in this research. Representation is the production of a meaning in our minds through language. Language is one of the "media" through which thoughts, ideas, and feelings are represented in culture (Hall,1997:1). Language is a communication tool that is used to send meanings and knowledge. In Language, we use signs and symbols - whether they are sounds, written words, electronically produced images, musical notes, even objects – to stand for or represent to other people our concepts, ideas, and feelings are represented in a culture (Hall,1997:1). It means that language is a variety product of human being to interpret meanings and to communicate meanings and knowledge in any ways. There are two systems of representation, first is mental process is a system by which all sort of objects, people and events are connected with a set of concepts which we carry around in our heads. Second is language process, used to represent our concepts or meanings. We use symbols, sounds, written words, etc. to stand for or represent to other people our feelings, concepts, and ideas.

Culture is one of the most difficult concepts in the human and social sciences and there are many different ways of defining (Hall, 1997:2). The meanings are produced and exchanged in a certain society through a media called "language". There are lot of different ways to construct a culture in certain society. Representation connects meaning and language to the culture (Hall, 1997:13).

There are three important approaches in the theory of representation. There are the reflective approach, the intentional approach, and the constructionist approach (1997: 15). First, in the reflective approach, language has function as a mirror, to reflect the true meaning as it already exists in the world (Hall, 1997: 15). This approach understood that language reflects the meaning of something, it

is like mimetic, and language works by reflecting or describe the truth of things that already exist in society.

The second approach is intentional approach. Language expresses the author or speaker's personal intended meaning whose imposes his or her unique meaning on the world through language (Hall, 1997:25). The author is not only source who creates the unique meaning in language. It means that the personal thought of the author must be negotiated by other meaning such as life, society, etc. which are exist in language used system. Moreover, the unique meaning can be understood when personal meaning of the author can negotiate into rules, codes, and conventions of language.

The last approach is constructionist approach. Hall states that the meaning depends on the language system or other system that we use to represent our concepts (1997: 25). It means that a meaning is constructed through language.

In this research, I use the constructionist approach because the object that will be analyzed is the colonialism in *The Jungle Book*. The author of *The Jungle Book* tries to represent colonialism through the characterization in the novel, and he uses the text in the novel as a media to represent his critical perspective.

In the constructionist approach, there are two main concepts. Those are semiotic approach by Ferdinand de Saussure and the discursive approach by Michel Foucault. In application of the constructionist approach, I use the discursive approach by Michel Foucault. Foucault explains that there are three concepts in discursive approach to representation, which are: concept of discourse, the issue of power and knowledge, and the question of the subject (Hall, 1997: 43). Foucault states in Hall's book that the theory of representation does not only use language to construct meaning, but also need discourse as a system of representation to analyze the meaning by using knowledge.

“By ‘discourse’, Foucault meant a group of statements which provide a language for talking about – a way of representing the knowledge about – a particular topic at a particular historical moment. Discourse is about the production of knowledge through language.” (Hall, 1997: 44)

Michel Foucault point out that he concerned with the production of knowledge and the meaning, not over language but by using the discourse (Hall, 1997:44). Therefore, the construction of meaning is concern over the discourse. Foucault also explain in Hall’s book “We can only have knowledge of things if it has a meaning, it is discourse – not the things itself – which produces knowledge.” (Hall, 1997:45). It means that the knowledge that constructed in our mind is produced by the discourse.

This theory of representation is suitable with my research because the discourse in the novel will be revealed and a thing will be easier to understand. By using those approaches, the discourse within the story will be revealed.

CHAPTER III. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Type of Research

This research uses qualitative data to analyse. Qualitative research can be taken to refer to research that is based on descriptive data that those not make (regular) use of statistical procedures. I use qualitative data that focuses in the descriptive text that purposed at analyzing data and information as much detail as possible. The data are collected in the form of sentence, clause, word, paragraph, and dialogue taken from *The Jungle Book* novel. The analysis is constructed in the form of quotation from primary and secondary data. Thus, Qualitative method seems appropriate to be used in this research to analyze the data related to The Representation of Colonialism in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*.

3.2 Data Collection

The data of this research are collected based on the documentary method. The data collection uses written material as a basis of research, the data collection is the use of written material as a basis to support the research such as books, journals, and other written data. The data are divided into two types, primary data and secondary data. The primary data are taken from *The Jungle Book* (1894) as the object of the research. Therefore, the secondary data of this research are taken from books, journals, articles, and previous research that have similar objects or topics to support the analysis of the primary data.

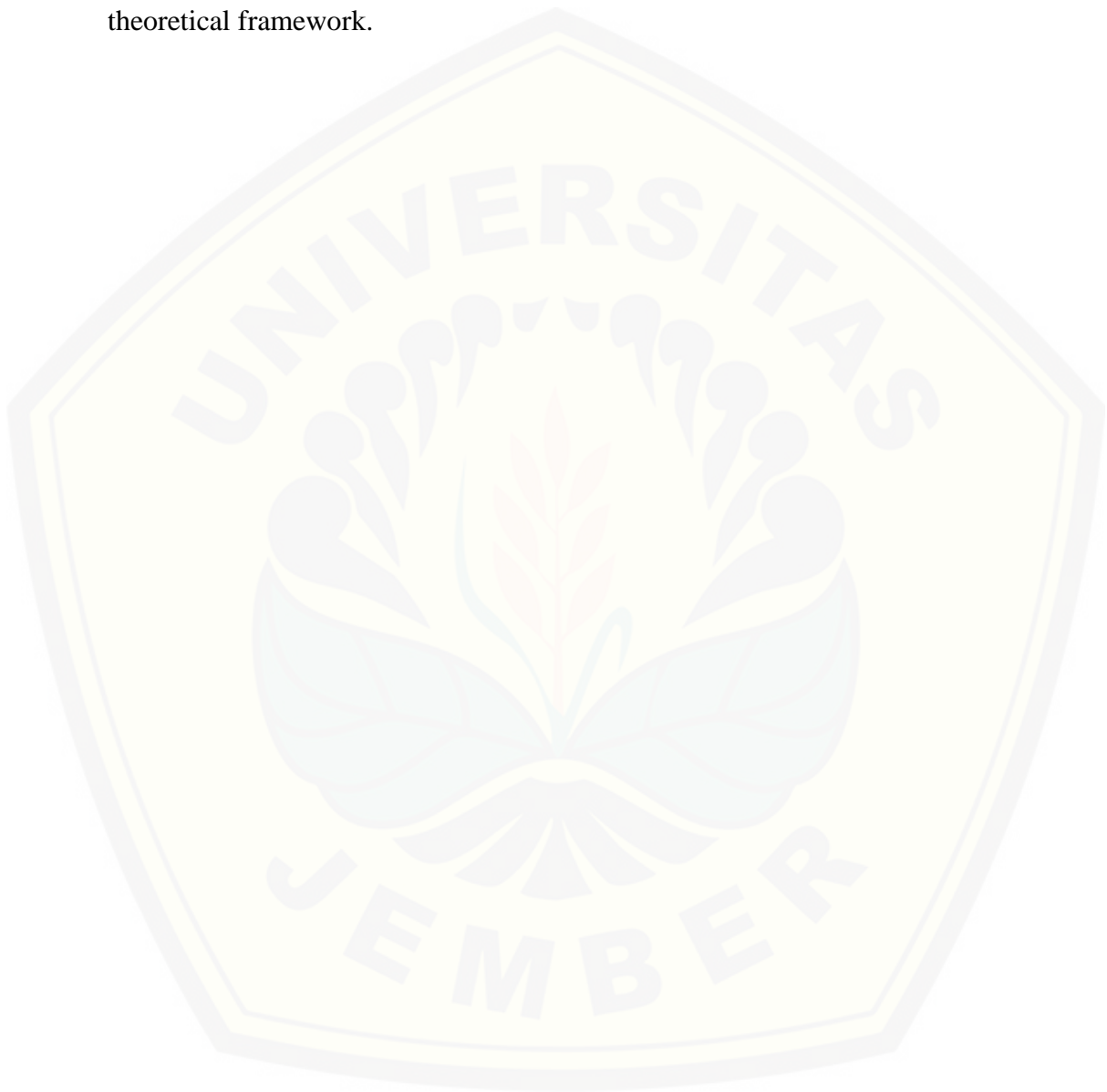
3.3 Data Processing and Data Analysis

Data processing begins by categorizing the data that are collected based on primary and secondary data, and then the data are classified based on the research questions. So, it will be easier for the writer to do the analysis.

The first step is reading *The Jungle Book* novel by Rudyard Kipling (1894), to find and know about the discourse of colonialism in the text. After I read the novel, then I find the discourse of colonialism that is the data itself. The second is categorizing the data that I found to make the mapping easier. After categorizing the data, I read the similar issues about colonialism in 18-19 century to support the data that I found in this research. Those issues or supporting data found from articles, journals, and books. From those sources I can find some supports concerning contextual conditions of colonialism in India in 18-19 century. The third step is analyzing the data after being categorized based on the research question. I analyze the data using the theory of representation by Stuart Hall with the intention of discussing the discourse of colonialism practice which is represented in the novel entitled *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling. As Hall states that language is one of the “media” through which thoughts, ideas, and feelings are represented in culture, I use representation as a product of a meaning through language. So, the theory helps me to reveal or interpret the discourse of colonialism in the novel, and it is helped by discursive approach. As Foucault states that discourse is about the production of knowledge through language and we can only have knowledge of things if it has a meaning, it is discourse, not the things itself which produces meaning.

The last, I try to find the critical position of the author, this step focuses on the position of the author as the member of culture that produces the discourse, whether he is in pro or contra position of colonialism that happened in that time. I

get the information of the critical position of the author by relating the discourse of colonialism in India with the contextual background in the time the text written. Then, I made a conclusion from my research to get a briefly explanation of the result of discussion and briefly answer of the research questions based on theoretical framework.



CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION

The novel *The Jungle Book* written by Rudyard Kipling represents the colonialism that happened at that time, when Britain colonized India. The colonialism can be seen in the form of the elements of the story, such as characterization, narration, setting and the experiences of the characters. The main character, Mowgli represents an Indian boy who lived in the jungle with its “law of the jungle”. The law of the jungle can be seen as colonial rule, because all the people of the jungle must obey it, if they break the rule of the jungle, it will endanger their life. There are two groups of character, the first is the obedient native characters who try to keep the law of the jungle safe, such as Mowgli and the people of the jungle and the second is the disobedient native characters who try to break the law of the jungle, such as Shere Khan and his subordinate.

The Jungle Book was written in the 1894, the moment when the superiority of Britain spreads in India, the novel portrays the native Indian should obey the colonialism rule and the colonialism rule is a thing that unable to be inviolated. The depiction of the characters also shows that the British is very powerful, whether the Indian characters are weak and uncivilized.

Rudyard Kipling as the author of this novel positioned himself as the defender of British colonialism. He was born in British family, in colonizer environment. He writes India as uncivilized country with weak people who need British as their hope to civilize India in economy, politics, and culture. He conveys the discourse of colonialism in which the characters of the story should obey the colonial rule. The characters are portrayed as Indian natives who are unable to do anything with the greatness depiction of British.

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