

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

The phenomenon of violence has been widely known to the public and has often been the focus of most societies. Physical violence and psychological violence are only forms of violence that are easily recognizable and their effects are also easy to observe. However, many people are unaware of any other form of violence that almost always happens in school every day. The form of violence is "symbolic violence". This form of violence is almost never the point of attention of various parties, whereas if observed, it is this form of violence that gives a considerable impact, especially for the society.

According to Pierre Bourdieu (1991), symbolic violence denotes more than a form of violence operating symbolically. It is "the violence which is exercised upon a social agent with his or her complicity". Symbolic violence include gender relations in which both men and women agree that women are weaker, less intelligent, more unreliable, and so forth. Also, the gender relations are the paradigm case of the operation symbolic violence, or class relations in which both working-class and middle class people agree that the middle class are more intelligent, more capable of running the country, more deserving of higher pay.

Besides that, Wacquant (1992) suggest that the legitimation of cultural and social capital as a source of social power is form of symbolic violence, indirectly through cultural mechanisms in the society. The system is thus obscured and constitutes symbolic violence in that it is a violence exercised upon a social agent with his or her complicity, particularly when those with less capital accept the social conditions as legitimate and the evaluation standards as fair and objective.

*The Patience Stone* (2010) is the story of an Afghan woman who spends her days tending to supposedly comatose her husband that paralyzed by a bullet lodged in his neck. The woman, in the course of the story, reveals her loneliness as well as her resentment

and hatred towards her husband for sacrificing her to the war. The longer she talks to him, the bolder she becomes, opening up to him her deepest desires as well as the pains and afflictions she has gone through. The woman revisits her past and unearths many bitter stories involving her father and husband, who have both abused her physically. Her past, right from the time of her childhood and adolescence to her marital life, stereotypically stands for the lives of countless Afghan women who experience violence in the hands of their male kin at home. Having found her voice, the woman freely recalls and talks about her father's brutality towards her as well as her mother and sisters, about how he would beat them whenever he gets in debt from gambling. Encouraged by his enforced silence, she continues her dramatic monologues about her sorrows and miseries. However, it is only towards the end of her shocking revelations that she unveils her most horrible secrets, involving self-prostitution, a sexual affair with a teenage boy as well as her hypocritical yet unwilling act of consummating her passion with an unknown man in order to conceive a child, which she is unable to do with her husband. Through his anonymous heroine, Atiq Rahimi has presented a harsh critique on the codes and prejudices as well as female oppression and gender inequality prevalent in Afghanistan's patriarchal society (Revista, 2017, p.10)

Therefore, the researcher used novel *The Patience Stone* (2010), because it examined depictions of symbolic violence against women as a highly engendered phenomenon resulting from gender inequality and a sexist hierarchy of power prevalent in Afghan society. Furthermore, this research is outlined based on symbolic violence which are depicted in *The Patience Stone* through the female characters that notably main protagonist.

In addition, the relevance of the this study deals with provided subsidies to developed strategies that consider the context of symbolic violence that opens space for deconstructing social prejudices and functions of qualities for each gender, also explain the symbolic violence as described Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone* (2010), and analyze the some contributing factors in there.

## **B. Scope and Limitation**

Based on the background above, to make this research simple to understand and can made the reader properly, the scope of this research is literary analysis and the limitation is symbolic violence in novel *The Patience Stone* by Atiq Rahimi (2010) based on theory of Language and Symbolic Power of Pierre Bourdieu (1991).

## **C. Research Questions**

Based on the explanation of the background, it is found that the research question in Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone*, those are:

1. How is the symbolic violence as described in Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone* ?
2. What are the contributing factors of the symbolic violence as appeared in Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone* ?

## **D. Purposes of the Study**

Based on statements of the problem above, the purposes of the study in this research are:

1. To explain the symbolic violence describe in Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone*.
2. To analyze the contributing factor which make a symbolic violence in Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone*.

## **E. Significances of the Study**

This research is expected to give some benefits for teacher, student or people that read this study, which can be written as follows:

1. For teacher, this research can give inspiration and provide contribution in literary teaching.
2. For students, this research can be good reference and give more information and theoretical understanding about symbolic violence.

3. For other researchers, This research may be useful for another researcher to understand about symbolic violence which connected to story in novel *The Patience Stone* by Atiq Rahimi that have described that the symbolic violence against women refers to any act of violence towards woman

## **F. Definition of the Key Terms**

To make this research more easy to understand, this research has some important points which become the key terms for this study, those are:

### **1. Literary Analysis**

Literary analysis is an opinion-based type of essay that makes a point about a work of literature, usually a poem or short story, though longer works and nonfiction can be used too. Typically, a literary analysis makes a point about a literary work, then supports that point by discussing the work's literature elements (e.g. irony, symbolism, and point of view), main themes, and implied ideas that are not necessarily apparent within the literature itself (Jones ,1995).

### **2. Symbolic Violence**

Symbolic violence denotes more than a form of violence operating symbolically. It is "the violence which is exercised upon a social agent with his or her complicity". Symbolic violence include gender relations in which both men and women agree that women are weaker, less intelligent, more unreliable, and so forth (Bourdieu, 1991).

### **3. Arena**

Arena is an area that have rules of play and have structured space with the distinctive functional rules, also the arenas for habitus that suits the structure and how it works (Bourdieu, 1991).

### **4. Habitus**

Habitus is a result of occupying the position in the social world for a long time. It is created by some sort of interaction between times and the disposition by past even and the current structure and reproduced by the ruler and applied to the unconscious person (Bourdieu, 1991).

## **5. The Patience Stone novel**

Atiq Rahimi's *The Patience Stone* (2010), of which the original title is *La pierre de patience* is the story that portrays a reality of life of an intelligent woman under the oppressive weight of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. The woman takes care of her husband lying brain-dead with a bullet lodged in his neck. Sitting by his side each day, she speaks to him opening up her deepest desires, pains, and secrets and never knows if he really hears. It reveals that her husband has never understood her, mistreated her, and showed her no respect. Her confession releases the weight oppression of marital, societal, and religious form.