THE REPRESENTATION OF FEMINIST IDEOLOGY IN SULTANA’S
CHARACTERISTICS ON PRINCESS BY JEAN P SASSON

A THESIS
Submitted to the Faculty of Letters and Humanities
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Strata I

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgment has been made in the text.

Jakarta, 20 Juni 2009

Siti Masturoch
LEGALIZATION

A thesis entitled “An Islamic Feminism Analysis on Main Female Characterization of Jean P Sasson’s Princess” has been defended before the Letter and Humanities Faculty’s Examination Committee on June 2009. The thesis has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Letters Scholar.

Jakarta, 20 Juni 2009

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ABSTRACT

SITI MASTUROCH. Feminist ideology in Sultana’s characteristics on *Princess* by Jean P Sasson’s. English Letter Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities. Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University. Strata I Degree 2009.

This analysis aims to know how the writer characterized Sultana and how Sultana as a main female character represents the feminist ideas. The feminist approach is used to analyze women problem. The data of the main character and characterization are collected by finding the evidences from the statement in the story and based on the behavior, and her speaking. To get the feminist values, the data are taken from books that related to feminist ideology. Then the writer uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze main female character on Jean P Sasson’s *Princess*.

“*Princess*” is a famous story which was written by Jean P Sasson. It presents about woman’s spirit to change patriarchal culture in create the young women awareness in the world. Sultana is the main character in this story. She can prove that woman can be as equal as men. She is able to achieve a high education and she does not want to be defeated by male in expressing her ideas and making her ideas come true. In family, she wants to see her bridegroom before married because in Kingdom Saudi Arabia the bridegroom and bride do not know each other, in other word the marriage is arranged by their parents and family. In marriage, Sultana is decisive woman, she will not accept a second wife and she loves her children very much and always takes care of them. In society, Sultana could struggle for her ambition to get higher education and reach the master of philosophy degree and she joined with her friend to form the women association to change tradition culture in her country, such as to get the freedom of movement and to vote.

Finally, the writer finds out that Sultana has character who represents feminist ideology by being an educated woman, independent, optimism, courageous and decisive woman.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In The Name of Allah, The most Gracious, The Most Merciful

All praises to be Allah SWT. The real writer’s guide, who amazingly guides her in the process of making this paper and salutation be upon the most honorable prophet an messenger Muhammad SAW, his family, companions and adherents.

The writer would like to express her sincerest thanks to her advisor Mrs. Danti Pudjianti S.Pd, M.Hum for her continuous and valuable guidance and advice in order to complete the paper.

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5. Her great honor to her beloved parents, who always motivate and give moral encouragement to finish her study. Thanks mom, dad for your blessing. You are always in my heart forever.
6. Her brothers, Urip Buchori and Dr. Fachrul Rozi who always support her in every part of her life and accompany her where she wants to go. She love them very much.

7. Her little sister Fika Amalia, she always make her laugh when she bored.


May the Greatest Allah SWT blesses and takes care of them all. Again, to them, the writer would like to say thank you so much. The writer realizes that this paper is not perfect, therefore the writer would like to accept any constructive suggestion and advices to make this paper much better.

Pamulang, May 2009

Siti Masturoch
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The background of the study

Literary works are created by people. People use literary works as media to express their ideas, feelings, or the descriptions of someone or something. Literary works have significant influences to the society. Moreover, they have potentials to make social construction of the people or the society. Literary works can be used as an intellectual movement, entertainment, art or symbols of traditions or beliefs.

In this paper, the writer tries to analyze one of the greatest literary work which was written by Jean P Sasson, American novel is entitled Princess. Sasson’s Princess, Sultana’s Daughters, Sultana’s Circle are example of literary works which convey feminist movement. The main character is a female who strives to be self motivated. The male-oriented society that dominates her life, resembles the world that women had to deal with at the time when Sasson created her work. Many people admire Sasson for portraying Sultana as a woman who is able take action and escape the conventional expectation of her. Sasson specifically concentrates on the roles society determine for women and how they must find escape. According to Tracey, from women color press referred Princess

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1 Jean P Sasson was born in New York but since she was young she worked for administrative in the Kingdom Hospital in Saudi Arabia for twelve years.
as a miracle; it very sad and at times shocking… “I was aware that the women in Saudi Arabia have little say in the important aspect of lives but this really opened my eyes as to how much they are downtrodden by the male population of Saudi Arabia, the story has significant impact to the improvement of women’s condition in Saudi Arabia”.

*Princess* describes about the characterization of *Sultana al Saud*, as the main character, who is able to run her life independently. Even though she lives with her royal family as a dependent little girl (dependent to her father), but she could prove herself that she could do her wish.

It began when she was a little girl, Sultana always feels that herself be underestimate by her father and her brother. In family, Sultana is tenth daughter of eleven children, only one son, fear ruled in her home, fear that cruel death would claim the one living male child, fear that no other sons would follow. Sultana’s father only loved his sons from other his wives. Sultana wanted to be loved by her father, but nothing. She did or said made the slightest change in his indifference toward her. Sultana faces any unfair in her life, Sultana also very hates her brother, Ali. Since she was a young girl, unloved by her father, and tortured by a cruel older brother, she longed for the opportunity to tell the entire world how too many young Saudi girls live lives clouded by sadness or anger that their brothers are greatly loved while they as females are merely endured.

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2 [http://www.yahoo.co.id](http://www.yahoo.co.id), the critics of Princess (November 17th 2008)
Sultana also suffer womb cancer illness, it caused she could not have many children more, and that reason become advantage for her husband to marry again. But Sultana never feels weak she face her illness and fight for it and she try hard for reach her desire come true.

One of the reasons why the writer chooses this novel is because the main character is a woman. To study the image of woman in the literary works, it will be better to use feminist approach. Feminist tried to liberate women from inferiority of knowledge. They did their struggle by making women position as a field of study. As a result gender studies and women studies have occurred. In the relation to literature, there is a new mainstream that tries to discover about women in literary work and anything that related to women in literary work. The study aims to enrich knowledge about experiences, needs, and life of women. Afterwards, the study that makes women as a field of study that occurred in literary works is defined as feminist literary criticism. In literature, feminism correlated with ways to understand a literary works which is not only dealing with production but also reception. The basic idea in feminist literary research is the

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3 Inferiority of women in society also reflected in the knowledge. Feminist school try to liberate women from oppression and restriction in the knowledge. Because many fields in the knowledge only give a little interest in or utterly ignore women as a field of study.

4 Soenart Djajanegara, *Kritik Sastra Feminis*, (Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2003), p.32

5 Closely related to the analysis of images of woman in literature which produced by men and women without regard for their writers’ gender but rather about human experiences based upon the egalitarian vision of humanity.

effort to understand the position of women. Women’s rule will become the central topic in this research.\footnote{Suwardi Endaswara, \textit{Metodologi Penelitian Sastra}, (Yogyakarta: Widyatama, 2003), p. 146} it can be analyzed through that approach if the literary work is related to woman as one of the character in the story or talks about women.\footnote{Soenarti Djajanegara, \textit{Kritik Sastra Feminis}, (Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2003), p.5} Therefore the writer wants to do this study under the title of “\textit{Feminist Ideology in Sultana’s characters on the Novel Princess by Jean P Sasson.”}

\textbf{B. Focus of the Study}

This study focuses on the Novel of “\textit{Princess} “ by Jean P Sasson, which is analyzing the character of Sultana as main female character through feminist ideas.

\textbf{C. Research Question}

Based on the background of the study and the focus of the study above, the writer would like to propose the statements of the problem as:

1. How is Sultana described in the novel of \textit{Princess} ?
2. How are Sultana’s characteristics reflect feminist ideology?

\textbf{D. The Significance of the Study}

The writer hopes the result of the study can be used:

1. To help the readers in understanding the image of the woman in the novel.
2. As a reference to understand feminist ideas on literary work.
3. To motivate individuals interest in literature to do further analysis.
E. The Methodology of the Study

1. The Objective

The objective of this study is to know feminist ideas of Sultana’s character in the novel *Princess* by Jean P Sasson.

This study tries to describe:

a. Sultana’s characterizations in the novel of *Princess*

b. The relationship between Sultana’s characters and feminist ideas

2. The Method

To examine and to have some answers from the problem that are presented in the statement of the problems of this study, the writer uses qualitative method in doing this study.

3. The Technique of Data Analysis

The writer analyzes Sultana’s character in the novel *Princess* by using descriptive analysis technique. In this analysis, the writer explains the data that exist in the novel with theories characterization and feminist, especially feminist ideas.

First of all, to get the right the characterization of Sultana and the feminist values, the writer reads the work deeply and understands it comprehensively.

Then the writer gives mark to some words or line as evidences of its.

Second, the writer analyzes the evidences of Sultana’s characterizations and classifies them into several characterizations.
4. The instrument

The writer is the instrument of this study by reading deeply identifying the feminist values that occurred in Sultana, the writer analysis the main data, the novel Princess to find out the evidences and other expects related to the characterizations Sultana as main female character in the story and the feminist ideas.

5. The Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis is the novel Princess, written by Jean P Sasson; published by Windsor Brooke books in United States of America, and other references that have connection with the object as secondary data.

6. The time and place of the Study

This research runs in Ciputat, in English letters Department of Adab Faculty and Humanitie, State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, and started from November until June 2009.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In Literary works characters and characterization are important elements because they build the story. A story could not be called as a story without any characters in it. In narrative or dramatic works it usually uses the term character and characterization to refer to human creatures that live in fictional story. According to Nurgiyantoro in his book *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*,

“tokoh cerita (character) adalah orang-orang yang ditampilkan dalam karya naratif, atau drama yang oleh pembaca ditafsirkan memiliki kualitas moral dan kecenderungan tertentu seperti yang diexpresikan dalam ucapan dan apa yang dilakukan dalam tindakan. Sedangkan karakterisasi (characterization) menunjuk pada penempatan tokoh-tokoh tertentu dengan watak-watak tertentu dalam sebuah cerita.”.  

A. Character

A character is someone in a literary work who has some sort of intensity (it need not be a strong on), an identity which is made up by appearance, conversation, action, name, an (possibly) thoughts going on in the head.

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Based on the definition above, the writer concludes that character in literature is an attended verbal representation of human being. Specially, the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behavior.

According to book Introduction to literature written by Larry M. Sutton, character can be divided into four types, they are; Flat, Round, Static, and Dynamic\textsuperscript{11}

a. A flat character embodies one or two qualities, ideas or traits that can be readily described in a brief summary. They are not psychological complex characters and therefore are readily accessible to readers. Some flat characters are recognizing as stock characters.

b. Round characters are more complex than flat or stock characters, and often display the inconsistencies and internal conflict found in most real people. They are more fully in developed and therefore are harder to summarize. Round character according to Perrine is “complex and many sides; they might require an easy for full analysis. It undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality or outlook.”\textsuperscript{12}

c. Static character does not change throughout at work and the reader’s knowledge of that character does not grow

d. A dynamic character undergoes some kind of change because of the action in a plot

\textsuperscript{11} Larry M. Sutton, et al Journey, An Introduction to literature, (Boston; Book Press, 1971), p.16

\textsuperscript{12} Encyclopedia Americana: Volume 6, 1985, p. 367
B. Characterization

Characters and characterization are different; Richard Gill said that a character is a person in literary work and characterization is the way in which a character is created. From those distinctive, character is the product and characterization as a method.\textsuperscript{13}

The way characters are presented is called characterization. Characterization means how the writer tells the readers about the physical and non-physical characteristic of the person told in the story. It might be done by giving description in her words or by being shown in her action or her thought. A characterization is a spoken contact between the writer and the reader.\textsuperscript{14}

From those understanding we can conclude that characterization is a method used by the author in developing history and character is the product of the story.

According to Perrin Lawrence, there are three principles that need to be observed in characterization, they are:

a. The characters are consistent in their behavior; they do not behave one way on one occasion and a different way on another unless there is clearly sufficient reason to change.

\textsuperscript{13} Richard Gill, \textit{Mastering English Literature}, (London; Macmillan, 1995), p.105

\textsuperscript{14} Ajeng Annisa Safitri, \textit{Feminism Approach Based Character Analysis on Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God}, (Jakarta, 2007) p. 18
b. The character are clearly motivated in whatever they do, especially if there is any change in their behavior, we must be able to understand the reason for what they do, if not immediately, at least by the end of the story.

c. The characters are plausible or life like.\textsuperscript{15}

Based on the three principles above, characterization will be easily investigated.

C. Feminism

1. Feminist Ideology

Feminism is the belief in the right of women to have political, social, and economic equality with men. The word feminism originated from the French word \textit{feminism} in the nineteenth century, either as a medical term to describe the feminization of male body, or to describe women with masculine traits\textsuperscript{16} it is a discourse that involves various movements, theories and philosophies which are concerned with the issue of gender difference, advocate equality for women and campaign for women’s rights and interests.

\textsuperscript{15} Perrine Lawrence, \textit{Literature, structure, sound and sense}, (London; Harcourt Bruce Jovanovic, 1984). 5\textsuperscript{th}, p. 41

\textsuperscript{16} Jane Pucher and Imelda Imelda, \textit{Fifty key concept in Gender Studies}, (Trown Bridge, Wiltshire: The Cromwell Press Ltd, 2004)
In western societies, feminism remains a predominantly modern set ideas of practices both derived from and opposed to the enlightenment. Feminism in general, of course has along political history, developing as a substantial force, in America and Britain at least, throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Women’s right and women’s suffrages movements were the crucial determinants in shaping this phase, with their emphasis on social, political and economic reform.

According to Soenarti Djajanegara the aim of feminist movement is “(…) meningkatkan kedudukan dan derajat perempuan agar sama atau sejajar dengan kedudukan serta derajat laki-laki”. Thus, it is clear that feminism’s aim is to have equal right and position between men and women. Although there are many school of feminism itself, the main objective of feminism is to encourage the idea that women and men are totally different in biology but have the same position and rights.

In the early nineteenth century, feminist movement demanded in the law, economic, social fields. They considered the political right was not needed. In economic, feminist demanded property right. Before marriage, the property belonged to their father and their brothers. After the women got married, it automatically became the property of their husbands. Furthermore, almost working fields were

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19 Soenarti Djajanegara, *Kritik Sastra Feminis*, (Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2003), p.4
limited for women. In social fields, feminist demand was to get the same opportunity in education as men. As we know traditional people wanted the women to be good housewife who manage household and family. As a result they could only spent their lives in domestic. On the other side, women was not given the chance to get higher education, occupied certain positions and profession. Traditional society\textsuperscript{20} considered that a woman who had reading and writing skill was more than enough. If they continued to the higher level it should develop their rules as wife, mother in family, such as, needlework, cooking and nursing.

According to the feminist the traditional values become the basic cause of the inferiority or the subordinate position for women. Those values are being inhibited for women’s expansion to be the personhood. That feminist belief that when women profess the traditional thought she became an independent individual, that cannot be proud of herself. Usually she depends on men: father, brother or husband. Traditional values, such as in Victorian era, propose to all women to only be good wife and mother in private and domestic sphere to take care the household to be passive and depend on men, they are ought to not active in a public sphere.\textsuperscript{21}

\textsuperscript{20} Traditional society in middle east which the people still using cultural values in their social life, especially in middle class had women as dependent, passive, the ‘angel in the house’, separated from public life and confined to home, marriage and morality.

\textsuperscript{21} Soenarti Djajanegara, \textit{Kritik Sastra Feminis}, (Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2003), p. 6
According to Wollstonecraft in the book *Feminist Thought* by Rosemary Putnam Tong, explains that society must give an education to all women, just like as men, because all human being have an equal right to get an opportunity to expand the capacity of their intellectual activity and morality, so they can become a personhood.

The demand to declare women’s aspiration is getting stronger, because feminist feels that their demands are not fulfilled yet, feminist regards that they will not progress if the government still dominated by men. Their status and position can only achieve if the government is represented by women. That’s why their main demands is suffrage. The feminist asks for the government to fill their demands. Feminists consider that they can achieve an equal right and position in the politic through education. Feminists fully aware that the only way to enter political field is by education. By getting education they can sharpen their intelligence; thus they can enter political field.

Feminism is a movement, and set of belief, that problematize gender inequality feminist believe that women have been subordinated through men’s greater power, variously expressed in different arenas. They value women’s lives and concerns, and work to improve women’s status. 22

The others definitions are, *In Encyclopedia of Feminism* written by Lisa Tuttle (1986), feminism from the word femina (latin). It means ‘woman’ or ‘having the qualities of female’. Therefore, feminism takes sides to women who are discriminated

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exploited, and ignored. Feminism means talks about oppression, domination, hegemony, unfair and violence. Feminism means ideology, not discourse. The nature of feminism is opposition resistance, anti and free from oppression, domination, hegemony, unfair, and violence. So that, arrangement of society, which is hierarchy and oppress women in aspects of class, nature, feudalistic, and social contract, must be changed to a new social relation (the ways of education, family, community, and society), where is women (equal with men) to become a subject in power and the sources.  

Feminist tried to liberate women from inferiority of knowledge. They did their struggle by making women position as a field of study. As a result gender studies and women studies have occurred. In the relation to literature, there is a new mainstream that tries to discover about women in literary work and anything that related to women in literary work. The study aims to enrich knowledge about experiences, needs, and life of women. Afterwards, the study that makes women as a field of study that occurred in literary works is defined as feminist literary criticism.

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23 Arimbi Heroeputri and R. Valentina, Percakapan Tentang Feminisme as Neoliberalisme, (Jakarta: Institute Perempuan dan Debt Watch, 2004), p. 5-10

24 Inferiority of women in society also reflected in the knowledge. Feminist school try to liberate women from oppression and restriction in the knowledge. Because many fields in the knowledge only give a little interest in or utterly ignore women as a field of study.

25 Soenarti Djajanegara, Kritik Sastra Feminis, (Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2003), p.32
Soenardjati has three subdivisions that focused in literary critic in literary work, or known as the feminist ideological criticism; the critic about women author in the literary works or the gynocriticd and the reference critic of literary standard based on women’s viewpoint. The analysis of women’s description in a literary works itself. In the other hand, this critic tries to make an analysis about how the image of women built in the literary works, which are dominated by men. This critic called feminist ideological criticism. It has aim to research about misunderstanding and bias about women and all of caused why they are marginalized or even not regarded as significant component of the society in the literary works. Soenardjati has stated about feminist ideological criticism; a literary critic that is used by many people is ideological criticism. The feminist literary criticism is values women, especially feminist activist as a reader. The main focuses of the women’s reader is the image and stereotype of women in literary work. This critic also tries to find out the misunderstanding about women often are not appreciated, but is ignored in literary critic.

An outstanding analysis about the image of women in literary work has discerned in dome cases, like classical literary work, that women were marginalized as a creature with no education, no money, an ideological antipathy, unoriginal, private and domestic has a housewife, a girl, or servant who taken care of the household.  

26 Feminism needs to accepts its enlightenment legacy and its basic in

humanism (Lazreg, 1999). This implies a set of moral values based on respect for the freedom and autonomy of individual human subject.

The gender order is imagined generally in agrarian society and women’s role as mother are guardians of cultural identity, symbolizing stability in the face of change (Helie-Lucas 1994). Men are creative in the public sphere; women are centered in private domain where cultural continuity is guaranteed along with the identity of family, community and nation.  

Women are refusing to be cast in the role of passive and problematically complex territory for men to fight over. They are self-determining subjects, and many often pay a high price.  

Feminist literary criticism is a tool to help in analyze a text which tells about women according to sexual stereotype in literature as literary criticism and it shows that ideology or ways, which is not satisfy, are used to analyze women’s writing unfairly and insensitively.

There is so many theory that can used in literary criticism but according to the statement of Soenardjati who assumed that a work which questions about unbalance gender relationship and promotes the creating of a more balance social order between men and women as a feminist literary work, *Princess* by Jean P Sasson can be categorizes as the feminist one.

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28 Ibid, p. 5
In literature, feminism correlated with ways to understand a literary work which is not only dealing with production\textsuperscript{29} but also reception.\textsuperscript{30} The basic idea in feminist literary research is the effort to understand the position of women. Women’s rule will become the central topic in this research.\textsuperscript{31}

It is clear enough that feminist ideological criticism is an effort to interpret the text and to know more about the image of women throughout the text. Through this, it can be considered much how do this critic is needed in order to analyze the phenomena of women reveal in literary work. Without this approach, it must be hard to understand more.

\begin{itemize}
\item[\textsuperscript{29}] Closely related to the analysis of images of woman in literature which produced by men and women without regard for their writers’ gender but rather about human experiences based upon the egalitarian vision of humanity.
\item[\textsuperscript{30}] Nyoman Kutha, \textit{Teori, Metode dan Teknik Penelitian Sastra}, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2004), P. 184
\item[\textsuperscript{31}] Suwardi Endaswara, \textit{Metodologi Penelitian Sastra}, (Yogyakarta: Widyatama, 2003), p. 146
\end{itemize}
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH FINDING

A. Character Analysis

The character is people in the story, they do some actions according to their part and role in the story or we also can say that character is person presented in dramatic or narrative work they present the actions that build the story. The presentations of the characters can be flat, round, static or dynamic. These types are depending on the role of characters in the story.

The way characters are presented is called characterizations. Characterization means how the writer tells the readers about the physical and non-physical characteristic of the person told in the story. It might be done by giving description in her words or by being shown in her actions or her thought. A characterization is a spoken contact between the writer and the readers.32

After reading and understanding the works deeply and comprehensively, the writer gives some marks in some words or lines as evidences of characterizations. Then the writer analyzes the evidences of Sultana’s characterization and classifies then into several characterizations.

Here, the characterization of Sultana al-Saud and the evidence of characterizations based on the novel of Princess written by Jean P Sasson.

1. Sultana as an educated woman

According to Rosemary Putnam Tong society must give an education to all women, just like as men, because all human being have an equal right to get an opportunity to expand the capacity of their intellectual activity and morality, so they can become a personhood.\(^{33}\)

From those explanations, the writer can analyze that woman must given an opportunity in education as men. By getting education they can sharpen their intelligence to expand themselves. So that, they can able to be the personhood.

In family, Sultana could struggle for her ambition to get a higher education, even though her father ignored because in his opinion only Qur’an and hadits may ringing in his palace. But Sultana stayed with her desire to get a higher education.

“Only when we evolved as spirited stallions, with a strong will of our own, would we progress and leave the era of those primitive behind us, only we modern, educated women could change the course of women’s lives” (Chapter 12 Page 143)

Most Arabian male didn’t like a brilliance woman, because it makes them in position lower than she. Sultana reached her master degree in philosophy.

“I needed a real purpose, I decided I would return to school take philosophy subject; there were now colleges for women in my country. I would discover the normalcy of life and leave behind the mindless routines of a royal princess” (Chapter 19 Page 232)

It is obligatory on every Muslim male and female to get education, acquire learning and search for knowledge; the woman has got as much right as the man has got for acquiring knowledge and education.\textsuperscript{34}

In Arab society, for females are reconciled to a stern society that frowns upon the voicing of the female’s opinions. But Sultana has a brave to give an opinion, it descibed when Sultana give opinion about politic world in her country. Not used to a woman interested in the greater scheme of things.

“I announced to Kareem that I liked these strange, loud people, the Americans. When he asked me why, I had difficulty in voicing what I felt in my heart. I finally said, “I believe this marvelous mixture of cultures has brought civilization closer to reality than in any other culture in history” Kareem looked at me in amazement. (Chapter 12 Page 147-148)

Sultana’s desire is in line with feminist ideas which is always suggests women to develop them before and after marriage, women is supposed to get knowledge as high as possible. So that she can achieve the honour in their environment or she can achieve the position and status as men in society.

2. Sultana as an optimistic person

Optimism is the term for positive thought in the next, hopely it will be be better and become true\textsuperscript{35}.

\textsuperscript{34} Muhammad Sharif Chaudry, \textit{Women’s Rights in Islam}, (Delhi, Adam Publishers and Distributors, 1997), p.116

\textsuperscript{35} Oxford Dictionary, p. 407
Sultana’s realize that she live in patriarchy environment, even her mother and her sister are weak women but not Sultana, she really optimist to face her life next.

“I first became aware that I was a female who was shackled by males unburdened with consciences. I saw the broken spirits of my mother and sisters, but I remained faithful to optimism and never doubted that I would one day triumph and my pain would be compensated by true justice”
(Chapter 1 Page 26)

Sultana always has spirit to change her life from the primitive tradition, because A major obstacle to change and relief from ancient customs are the women Arabia themselves.

“Oh, only when we evolved as spirited stallions, with a strong will of our own, would we progress and leave the era of those primitive behind us”
(Chapter 12 Page 143)

Sultana’s optimism also shows that she can manage her life to be better and change the bad tradition which birthday of Boys are expected than daughters birth, she opened mind her thought become optimism that daughter is same special treat than boys.

She wants to change patriarchal culture that has attached to Arabian countries by educate her children become good human.

“As far I was concerned, a female child was my desire. My land was bound to change, and I felt myself smile with anticipation of the agreeable life my baby daughter would know”
(Chapter 14 Page 173)

The authority of a Saudi male is unlimited, his wife and children survive only if he desires. In Sultana’s house, male is the state. From an early age, the male child is
taught that women are of little value; they exist only for his comfort and convenience.

Sultana’s mother fear that cruel death would claim the one living male child, fear that God had cursed their home with daughters.

“My mother feared each pregnancy, praying for a son, dreading a daughter. She bore one daughter after another-until there were ten in all” (Chapter 1 Page 19)

Difference with Sultana, she really want daughter when she pregnant. Her husband and family, praying for the birth of a son. Their reward would be great if a male child appeared, if a female child was born, there would be great disappointment.

But Sultana’s desire for had a daughter was not real.

“All thoughts of a daughter vanished when my yawning son was placed in my arms. A daughter would come later. This male child would be taught different and better ways than the generation before him. I felt the power of my intentions creating his future. He would not be backward in his thinking, his sisters would be given a place of honor and respect, and he would know and love his partner before his wed, one man has created change that influenced millions. The new beginning of women in Arabia could start with my own blood”(Chapter 14 Page 173)

After her second and third pregnant she has daughter that she really want, with same ambition to educate her daughter become good human, more high education, and they freedom to raising their ambition and they could love with whom they love. When all family expect son from her pregnant, Sultana wants daughter.

3. Sultana as a Courageous woman

Courage is the ability to control fear when facing danger, pain and opposition.\textsuperscript{36} In this novel, Sultana who lives in patriarchal society, which are the rule

and authority in the male. Sultana get bad threaten from her husband, Kareem. From the moment their wed, they live happiness, after some years, Noorah, her mother in-law thought Sultana as her competitor, not as a welcome member the family. From the moment Sultana’s wed, Kareem’s mother, Noorah thought of Sultana as her competitor, not as a welcome member the family. Noorah’s belief that Sultana is a wedge between she and her son, Kareem. Kareem is her eldest child, the most beloved son. Saudi customs of the old days demanded that the wife of the firstborn son do his mother’s bidding. But Sultana ignores it.

“Like all young women, I knew of this tradition, but reality tends to fade from my thoughts”
(Chapter 13 page 151)

Sultana’s courage also described in each conflict with Noorah. When Sultana has a conflict with Noorah because of her jealousy that Sultana was separate her from Kareem, the most beloved son. In the evening with bad mood, Kareem heard they were a conflict. Kareem was lost more than a million dollars in the stock market. Because no Arab man will ever contradict his mother, Kareem slapped Sultana three times across the face. Then Sultana slaps back.

“My strong character was formed by age five. I have the tendency to be nervous at the sight of trouble looming. As the danger draws near, I become less nervous. When the peril is at hand, I swell with fierceness. As I grapple with my assailant, I am without fear and fight to the finish with little thought of injury, the battle was on. I swung at Kareem with a rare he saved his face by a quick move to the left”(Chapter 13 Page 158)

37 Jean P Sasson, Princess. (United States of America, Windsor-Brooke Publisher, 2004) p. 151
Sultana’s courage also appears when she faced unfair situation, it happens when her brother insult women as only inferiority in this world. Sultana doesn’t want to be defeated by her brother, she wants to be superior and against every discrimination. It described when her brother Ali humiliates the women in front of Sultana.

“Ali declared that women and men would be meeting in the deserts for sexual misadventures! . . . and I leaped at Ali, grabbed a handful of his hair, and began to pull as hard as I could” (Chapter 16 Page 195)

in this event Sultana appears to become courage to fight with her brother even she knows her brother is loved son by her father, but she never care about it, she only want there is nothing discrimination between male and female. Sultana could prove that she had courage and had sense of heroism for defend her rights as a woman.

4. Sultana as an Independent woman

Independent is the quality of someone, which is not dependent on other people or thing; it is not controlled by other people or thing.\textsuperscript{38} A woman who does not depend on man anymore is called independent, especially in financial. In this story, even though Sultana had a husband who she loves, she could be an independent individual. She also could her wish without fear anything.

As a single woman, Sultana doesn’t want her life ruled by other people especially to her father, she knows a daughter is his superiority. Not to Sultana. She regard a woman has the rights to choose a husband. In Arabian family is so patriarchal and hierarchical in correlation with age and gender, the old man and the men have the authority of the young and the woman. In family, a father has the important part in authority and policy. He hopes and ensures a loyalty without critics from his wife and children.

In this case Sultana really wants to see her bridegroom before she will be married to the man, different with her sisiter, Sara, she really passive. Sultana has a stronger intention in getting something.

“I was going to meet the man I would marry before I married him! My sisters and I were electrified, for it was just not done in our society; we were prisoners who felt the ever-present chains of tradition lighten” (Chapter 11 Page 129)

It shows diferrent between Sultana and her sister Sara, Sara is passive woman could not do anything only submit her life to her father, but Sultana’s opinion that father has no right oh her desire, she show her against to patriarchy.

“I became brave and asked Father if I could meet Kareem before the wedding” (Chapter 10 Page 127)

Even her father may also give a strong punishment for every kind of disintegration. In this structure, gender becomes so polarized; man must be strong and dominant while woman must be weak, depending on man and inferiority. Therefore,

the inferiority of women in traditional Arabian families is supported by custom and law which are still obeyed by the majority of the people. But Sultana never feels scared with those custom, on the contrary she would change by herself those custom, that a woman has the rights to choose a husband before she going to meried. And if the woman does not like that man she could refuse it.

Sultana’s independent character is also shown when she decided to run away her children because her husband, Kareem wants marry again.

“Sultana I am a man that can afford many children. I desire ten, twenty, as many as God sees fit to give me, Sultana, I am going to wed another. As the second wife, she will be there to provide me children. I need nothing further from her, only children. My love is always with you.” (Chapter 18 Page 216)

Then Sultana plan the schedule when she has to run away from her house.

“After packing my wealth of jewels in a small travel bag, I prepared my travel papers with utmost ease. Finally I was ready” (Chapter 19 Page 220)

In this case Sultana doesn’t care about money. Women who live in patriarchal society before married, their property belong to their fathers and their brothers. After they get married it automatically becomes the property of their husbands. But Sultana doesn’t care with that thought, she only want runaway from superiority her husband by escape with her children. No matter how much she spent money, she has the property itself. Her escape from her husband are her desire. This desire appears from her self-consciousness as a person. She feels that she has the rights to choose her desire. Even more she really love her husband but she will never let her children taken from her.
“The sound of Kareem’s voice interrupted my deep and troubled thoughts. I watched him as he walked briskly across the thick grass. I made a sudden resolve to become the old Sultana, the girl who used to make her husband laugh with great joy and abandon. I smiled at his long, athletic legs bound by the tightness of his thobe. The sight of him still gladdened my heart”

(Chapter 18 Page 215)

Although women in Saudi Arabia have a pre-eminent role within the family, it would be a mistake to think that the role of women in Saudi Arabia society is confined to home-making. Women also have the rights to join in public problem.40

It described when sultana wanted to join with the women association, whose they were have courageous for vote their rights and Kareem anger with Sultana’s ideas.

“I wanted to meet with the women, to share in their glory. When I proposed my idea to Kareem, his reaction violently closed the possibility. He threatened to have me shut in the house should I attempt such an outrage. At that moment, I hated my husband, for I knew he was capable of fulfilling his threat; he was suddenly wild with fear for our country as well as of the havoc we women could bring to the Royal Family, within a few days I built my courage and tried to locate those brave women”

(Chapter 20 Page 241)

Syed Ameer Ali sums up the status of women as wife in the following words:

“On her marriage she doesn’t lose her individuality. She doesn’t cease to be a separate member of society”41

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40 Ibid. p. 150

41 Muhammad Sharif Chaudry, Women’s Rights in Islam, (Delhi, Adam Publishers and Distributors, 1997), p. 16
Thus, the writer can analyze that as an independent woman, Sultana could decide what she wanted to do, included her decisions to run away her children. She could afford her needs by her own money. It means that Sultana did not have economical problem. This thing (economy) made her in equal position with men, here with Kareem.

5. Sultana as a Decisive woman

Decisive woman is having or showing the ability to decide quickly.\textsuperscript{42} When woman lives in condition with no excuses to decide what she really wants, it must be because of the system of patriarchy. And it is true, through the character of Sultana who makes quickly decision for divorce from her husband when he states that he wants married again. Because she knows Kareem only bored with her.

“I understood the implications of his taking a second wife. The desire for children was not his basis. The issue was primitive. We had been wed for eight years; sexual license was his aim. Obviously, my husband was weary of eating the same dish and sought a new, exotic fare for his palate” (Chapter 18 Page 217)

“Sultana, I have made a decision, a very difficult decision, some months ago. I have not discussed this matter with you due to your illness, Sultana, you are , and will always be, the most important woman, wife, in my heart” (Chapter 18 Page 215)

Then Sultana make a decision for ask divorce from her husband

“At last, my rage was spent. A deadly calm fell over me. My mind was made up. I told Kareem that I wanted a divorce; I would never submit to the humiliation of his taking another wife” (Chapter 18 Page 217)

\textsuperscript{42} Ibid, p. 301
The quotation above, the writer assumes that Sultana’s characterization are represented as educated, optimism, independent, courage and decisive woman.

B. Sultana’s characteristics reflect feminist ideology

From those brief explorations of Sultana, the writer find Sultana’s characteristics reflect to feminist ideology.

Although she had been born into a royal family of Kingdom, but when it came to personal freedoms, she had few. She lived in patriarchy environment but she face it as a challenge and brave to do her wish. She grew up and become mature, she become independent in action, mind and economy. She discovered the strength of her personality by way of the challenges of several contrasting environments.

Sultana try hard for make her wish become true, to achieve equality and to overcome oppression. In addition, she must fight patriarchal domination against those who believe woman to be inferior to men and tried to threat them as such. Three central male figures threaten her desire for equality and dignity Al-Saud as her father, Ali as her brother, Kareem as her husband. They are deafeted by Sultana, she can against it by her actions and her thought.

In childhood, Sultana describes some of her childhood interactions with her brother Ali and other members of her family. In family, Sultana describes how the education of girls is viewed in Saudi culture and she can achieve what she wants to becomes master degree of philosophy even though her father ignored her ambition, but Sultana stayed with her ambition to get a higher education. She also wants to see her bridegroom before married because in Saudi Arabia married couple unusually know each other; they depend on their parents or their family. In Marriage, Sultana is
decisive and courage woman. She act what she wants to do without feel afraid, Sultana does not want to be defeated by her husband, Kareem. She will not accept a second wife for her husband, she over taking care of her children, she does not want the right of taking care her children taken by her husband, and she ran away with her children. Sultana is courage woman, when Kareem slapped her because of his frustration in the office then Sultana becomes his object annoyance. Kareem slapped her three times on Sultana’s face, and without fear Sultana slapped him back and fight to the finish without thought of injury. and fight to the finish without thought of injury.

Her desire to fight the patriarchy is reflected through her characteristics, when she face difficult situation she is able to solve by herselfs with courage and brave, without affarid to peoples, and she always decide her problem by herselfs without pressure.

All the characterizations such as educated, optimism, independent, courage and decisive woman are the characteristics that the feminist submits for all the woman in the world. So, women are able to be in the same position as men, to stand up in their own feet and to be proud of themselves. At the end of the story, Sultana returns to her family in Saudi and continue her life to be a housewife. This return does not mean that Sultana becomes a subordinate and domesticated person again. It is a sign of equality where she is now a wife with every right acknowledged by her husband. This is the ideology exposed by the novel, that being independent, educated, courageous, and decisive do not mean a woman must leave her husband and her domestic life. A housewife can still be feminist.
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

*Princess* is Sasson’s famous work which is so well-known with feminist movement. *Princess* is a literary work which described life experience of a female character in the middle of patriarchal world. The main character is a female who strives to be self-motivated.

*Princess* is the novel Through the character of Sultana al saud was written by Jean P Sasson, Sasson has shown how a woman, even though being domestic, still can be brave person to abandon the house chores rather than do something that she does not like. It is proved in the character of Sultana, there is no character of a woman for being coward, passive or even dependent to men. A woman can be imagined as private and domestic but has positive attitude such as courage and she can make own decision when the situation and condition she does not like, which is shown by Sultana through the novel.

Although Sultana’s life is domesticated, Sasson has brought her into a glorify challenge against the patriarchy. When Sultana opposes her husband, father, brother, the representation of patriarchy, Sultana becomes the symbol of women’s rebellion against the patriarchy. Feminist teaching a woman is not different to men. In case to develop themselves before and after married.
From those explorations of strong female character’s consciousness of Sultana, the writer concludes that Sultana does not only described as educated woman and independent but courage, optimism and decisive woman. She is also a woman who fights against the system of patriarchy and tries to promote the emancipation of women.

The ending of the novel, Sultana returns home and continuous her role as mother and wife emphasizes that promoting emancipation for woman can be done anywhere, including from home (a place where mostly inequality to women happen).
B. Suggestion

The writer suggests for those who are interested in this study about literature, especially in the novel *Princess*, to use feminist approach in comprehending the understanding the image of woman in the novel. Besides that, any one who is interested to do deeper study about character and characterization that related to feminist ideas, can also uses feminist perspective as an approach in analyzing the literary work. The writer also expects that the research will be useful to the reader who wants to analyze characters and their characterizations in any type of novel.

Finally, the writer hopes that study will enrich readers’ knowledge of literature, especially for the students of English Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University Jakarta, as an additional reference.
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