

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Islamophobia is a phenomenon that affects non-Muslims. People have an overwhelming dread of Islam as a result of this tendency. This culture of terror is a result of the widespread acts of terrorism carried out by Islam, which is frequently associated with a violent religion that imparts extreme doctrine to its followers. Islam's teachings themselves have a significant impact on the lives of its followers. Islam establishes rules, ethics, and social norms that govern human life. In addition, Islam incorporates local customs and cultural practices with theological ideas in order to adapt to diversity (Khair, 2007).

Today, Islamophobia is a major problem in the West for three main reasons. First, within the context of the expanding sociocultural groups in the West, Islam is seen as a distinct entity. Second, the recession that happened was manufactured as a threat against Islam by the West. Third, discussing Islamophobia is inextricably linked to the events of the 9/11 World Trade Center, Theo Van Gogh's murder, and the Charlie Hebdo massacre. A sequence of events that are thought to be related to Islam are exploited by the perpetrators to justify their acts of terrorism by instilling fear and anxiety in the populations of Europe and the US (Pradipta, 2016).

Since the World Trade Center attacks in New York City on September 11, 2001, the term "Islamophobia" has grown in popularity. The United States

of America has unilaterally accused Muslims of being the terrorists' cause. Since the events of 9/11, the Department of Justice has looked into over 1,000 cases of violence, threats, attacks, destruction, and arson directed at residents of American countries of Arab, Muslim, and Sikh descent, as well as Asian and South Asian descent, as well as those who are deemed to be members of these groups.

There is considerable discussion over the origins of Islamophobia, particularly among pundits who make their own claims. The September 11 attacks, the emergence of extremist organizations like ISIS, terror attacks worldwide, the acceptance of refugees from Middle Eastern and African conflict zones by the governments of Europe and the United States, the implementation of Islamic law, and other factors were mentioned as some of the causes.

The harsh demeanor of the former is an illustration of this type of Islamophobia. The travel ban targeting nationals of seven Muslim-majority nations was implemented by US President Donald J. Trump. In a number of commercials, he expresses his dislike of Islam. According to [bbc.com](http://bbc.com), one of them says, "Many Muslims nurtured a "hatred" against America, and a ban should be in place "until our country's officials can figure out what is going on."

Trump's anti-Islamic policies are demonstrated in the ad above. For national security purposes, Trump will forbid any Muslim from dating in the United States. Trump seems to believe that Muslims are terrorists who would

destroy the United States and that we should be on the lookout for his whereabouts.

A novel is a literary work that tells a story that is somewhat true to everyday life in the community. A novel is a literary essay with a deeper, more intricate plot with five characters, more performers, and more intricate, difficult situations.

Literary works impart a lesson or lesson in the story so that it can be applied to everyday life. In accordance with Jauhari (2010:4) definition of literary works, "Karya Literature is a medium or tool for conveying a message to reader," this issue is relevant. Potentially delivered message could take the shape of human values that offer profound education and a fulfilling existence. One value based on internal principles that relates to the good and evil of something acts Religious principles are taught in religious contexts.

Novels are often classified into two categories: serious novels and popular novels. Nurgiyantoro (2005:19) asserts that in terms of language and message delivery, this popular novel is simpler to read than a serious one. At the moment, travel novels are the most popular kind of novels. The narrative of the author's journey is told in this book. New The voyage is similar to other novels in that it follows a plot and with a compelling battle to follow, this novel's extra worth is its message. The author's narrative makes the lesson easier to understand. Since it's based on actual events, it's more relatable.

In mid-December 2015, a movie adaptation of the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* (BTDLA for short) was released. The spiritual

experience of the authors, Rangga Almahendra and Hanum Salsabiela Rais, in America inspired the book. In order to complete an assignment, Hanum and Rangga, a married couple, in this story they make a religious journey from Europe to the interior of America. Hanum works at the newspaper company Heute. After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center (WTC) skyscrapers, Wunderbar was given an assignment to write an article criticizing Islam. He made use of the chance to persuade Westerners particularly Americans that Islam is not terrorist in order to improve their perception of the religion. Simultaneously, Professor Reinhard sent an invitation to Rangga's spouse, Hanum, to attend a conference in Washington, DC, and arranged for the affluent benefactor Phillipus Brown to give a guest lecture on campus.

Many qualities that can be copied emerged from this journey. For example, Fatimah's (2015) research indicates that religious values include *Hablum minallah* and *Hablum minannas*. Seven religious values are associated with Allah, which are: the value of faith, the value of effort, the value of trust, the value of patience, the value of guidance, the value of monotheism, and the value of God's assistance. Meanwhile, four religious qualities can be found in human relationships: tolerance for other people's religions, reciprocal respect and admiration, refraining from seeking revenge, and mutual aid.

In addition to having admirable characters, the journey of the novel. This work is worth analyzing from a social perspective, namely with a literary sociology method, because it discloses social phenomena or what might be

called events history, such as the events of September 11, 2001, which murdered thousands of people and prompted the world to accuse Islam of being a terrorist organization.

So that the message of the *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* can be conveyed well. From this explanation, the researcher is interested in doing research with the title Islamophobia In Novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*.

## **B. Scope of the Study**

The power and ability of novel has become an audio-visual communication medium that reaches many social segments and is enjoyed by people of all ages and social backgrounds. It is from this basis that convinces experts that novel has the potential to influence its audience. There are various themes in the film's content, two of which are about race and religion. *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*, for example. After the novel was shown, there were pros and cons to the message in the novel. Because *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* places more emphasis on contemporary Islamic issues that are currently in the world's spotlight, including Islamophobia.

The novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* displays Islamophobia, which is a form of Western society's ignorance of Islam. This novel shows the treatment of American society that demeans Islam such as religious intolerance, suspicion and hatred of Muslims and anti-pluralism towards other

teachings. This research is about how to analyze framing in the *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*.

The purpose of this research is to explore what the messages are da'wah of Islam and what are the elements of Islamophobia depicted in the novel this. By using a descriptive qualitative approach to the type of literature study, the data collection technique in this study is documentation. Researchers use media representation theory as an analytical tool to identify islamphobia in films because it can help us understand how Muslims are represented and how the representation of audience perceptions. The result of this research is that power, hatred and knowledge of Islam are the causes of Islamophobia.

### **C. Problem Formulation**

Based on the background presented above, the problems in this study are formulated as follows:

1. How does islamophobia operate as reflected in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*?
2. How does the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* present messages of Islamic da'wah?

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

From the research questions presented above, there are few objective of the study, as follows:

1. To identify the islamophobia operates as depicted in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*.
2. To find out the da'wah message in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*.

#### **E. Review of the Related Studies**

In this part, the researcher discovered several earlier studies that are pertinent to this study.

First, the journal proposed by Sabirin, Syaril (2021), Representation of Islamophobia in film (Roland Barthes' semiotic analysis of the film The Moon Is Split in the American Sky). In this journal, the researcher talk about religious issues that occurred after the collapse of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers on September 11, 2001. The incident was caused by a group acting in the name of Muslims by committing suicide attacks on United States citizens. aims to analyze the signs that represent Islamophobia in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*.

Second, a journal proposed by Kasiyarno (2022) entitled "A Mutualism Between American and Islamic Values In Rais and Almahendra's *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*." In this journal, the researcher talk about mutualism between Muslims and the American land through a long journey since the very early of American history. In the trend of Islamophobia aftermath 9/11, the bond is analyzed with a new perspective through discourses in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* (2016), written by two

Indonesian Muslims authors, Hanum Salsabiela Rais and Rangga Almahendra. It describes the relationship between American values and Islamic teachings in a mutualistic association. The moral lesson of the novel clearly shown that Islam still has significant contribution to the world and has been in a mutual relationship with American country along history.

Third, a journal proposed by Wazhmah Osman (2019) entitled *Racialized Agents and Villains of the Security State: How African Americans are Interpellated against Muslims and Muslim Americans*. This journal is about studying modern American warfare and policing to draw parallels in the way citizens and foreign nationals experience similar regimes of violence and subjugation and highlight the intertwined oppression of marginalized groups at home and of marginalized groups abroad. It analyzes media representations of people from the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia (menasa) regions to better show the workings of empires. In particular, the US military-industrial complex, together with the US media industry, have played a significant role in stereotyping dangerous post 9/11 people as violent terrorists. Simultaneously, US media forged organic alliances between African Americans and the nation's security apparatus, thereby creating discord and division between African Americans and other Arab and Muslim Americans.

The difference with the research carried out lies in the problem part. Even though there are similarities in the research, what differentiates this research is the object discussed in this research, namely the analysis of novel "*Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*".



## **F. Research Method**

In this study the researcher used descriptive qualitative researcher, with the type of library research (Library Research). The qualitative research does not use statistics in collection data but provides an interpretation of the results. Descriptive research produce descriptive data in the form of words, notes that related to the meaning and values of research. Descriptive research only describes situations or events. Research with this type intends to make a description. This research does not seek or explain relationships, does not test hypotheses or make predictions. This research emphasizes purposeful analysis to explain how Islamophobia occurs in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika* by using a semiotic theory model as an analytical method.

### **1. Data and Data Sources**

The data of this research were taken from the novel "*Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*". The object of research is the sentences containing dialogue in the novel. In this research, data sources will be divided into two types of data sources, namely primary data sources and secondary data sources. Primary data sources is a data source directly related to this research and the primary data source of this research is the novel "*Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*." Meanwhile, secondary data sources are data sources related to this research, in the form of books, novels, journals, news, and so on.

## **2. Technique of collecting data**

To obtain data, the author conducted document research, meaning the author only studied sentences or words contained in the novel *Bulan Terbelah Di Langit Amerika*. Perempuan as primary data or the main target in his analysis, without conducting interviews. Apart from that, the researcher also collected data from books, magazines, the internet and other literature related to this research. According to Sugiyono, documentation can be in the form of writing, drawings, or someone's monumental work. Written document are for examples diaries, life histories, stories, biographies, regulations, policies. Documents in the form of images, can be photos, live images, sketches and others. Documents in the form of works are such as works of art in the form of pictures, sculptures, films, and others. Documentation was used in order to collect data related to this research.

## **3. Technique of Data Analysis**

After the primary and secondary data are collected, they are classified according to the research questions that have been determined. After the data are classified, data analysis is carried out using the islamphobia analysis technique according to Peter Hopkins. According to Peter Hopkins, there are 8 ways to find out islamphobia in everyday life, namely:

- a. It isn't only experienced by Muslims
- b. It is shaped by geopolitics
- c. It ignores the diversity of Muslim communities

- d. It's different for men and women
- e. It can make Muslims wary of public places
- f. Attacks vary in intensity and nature
- g. Islamophobia is reproduced institutionally
- h. Young people build new strategies

Islamophobia analysis, a data analysis method used to find out what islamphobia is in everyday life.

## **G. Theoretical Approach**

This research belongs to American studies, because American studies is an interdisciplinary study. That's why in this study, the researcher used two theoretical approaches, namely the Sociological Approach and the Da'wah Approach.

### **1. Sociological Approach**

The sociological approach is used as one of the approaches in understanding religion. This makes sense since sociology will help to accurately and proportionately understand various areas of religious studies. Sociology can be understood as a discipline that characterizes society as it is, with all of its layers, structures, and other interrelated social symptoms.

Because religion was revealed for social objectives, it may be easily comprehended through a sociological lens. For instance, the Qur'an has verses discussing interpersonal relationships and the factors that contribute to suffering. If individuals who comprehend them are familiar with the

social history of the period when the religious teachings were revealed, then all of these things will make sense.

For instance, the story of the Prophet Yusuf who was a slave before rising to become the ruler of Egypt occurs throughout Islam. was raised from slavery to become Egypt's ruler. To explain why the Prophet Aaron was required to help Moses in the performance of his tasks. Social science alone will be able to provide both the answer and the wisdom. Sociology is one of the instruments used to understand religious teachings since without social science, these events are hard to describe and hard to understand their meaning. One of the resources for comprehending religious doctrine. Given that many religious doctrines have a social component, it is easy to see why sociological analysis of religion is important. Because of the volume of religious focus on this social issue, religious individuals are therefore encouraged to use social science as a tool to better understand their faith (Adibah 2017).

In summary, sociology is a science that examines current events, particularly social connection patterns, and seeks to provide broad, logical, empirical, and comprehensive explanations. Connection to the Sociological Methodology. At least three theories functional theory, interactional theory, and conflict theory can be applied in research. However, some scholars also include two more theories role theory and interest theory.

To see ways of islamophobia everyday life according to Peter Hopskin.

## **2. Da'wah Approach**

Islam is essentially a religion of da'wah, or teaching and guidance regarding truth and virtue to be applied in all aspects of life, including social interactions in societies that are homogenous, pluralistic, or multiethnic. Aside from that, Islamic da'wah is a duty that all Muslims must fulfill in their day to day lives in accordance with their specific capacities. It should be underlined that in the context of Islamic da'wah, a well-thought-out strategy or plan cannot be executed flawlessly if those carrying it out lack the necessary skills.

According to Zulkiple Abdul Ghani (2003), preachers have a significant role in guaranteeing the success of the implementation of da'wah initiatives, serving as planners or managers of the movement as well as its implementers.

The Da'wah approach was used in this paper to find out messages existing in this novel.

## **H. Research Plan**

1. Preparation (Gaining approval from the supervisor of undergraduate thesis, and Working on the revision of undergraduate thesis proposal)
2. Data Collection (Re-understanding the theory used, looking for data that helps research)
3. Data Analysis (Analyzing the data that has been obtained, reprocessing the data for research purposes)

4. Write down the report (Writing down the result and discussion of the analysis)
5. Submission (Submitting the final report)

## **I. Presentation**

The systematics of writing in this study are described in four chapters, namely:

1. Chapter I Introduction, this chapter contains about Background Of The Study, Scope Of The Study, Problem Formulation, Objectives Of The Study, Review Of The Related Study, Research Method, Research Plan, Presentation.
2. Chapter II, This chapter contains research previous studies and theoretical studies used to analyze the problem being researched.
3. Chapter III Research Results, which contain data presentation and data analysis as well as a discussion of the findings.
4. Chapter IV Closing, This chapter contains conclusions from the results research and suggestions from the results of research that has been carried out.