

ABSTRACT

Utami, Ika Pratiwi. 2009. The Comparative Study of Geisha's Life in *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden and Ronggeng's Life in *Ronggeng Dukuh Paruk* by Ahmad Tohari. Semarang: English Department, Faculty of Language and Arts, Semarang State University.

This final project is about The Comparative Study of Geisha's Life in *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden and Ronggeng's Life in *Ronggeng Dukuh Paruk* by Ahmad Tohari. The purpose of the study are to get clear information about Geisha's life revealed in the novel, to get clear information about Ronggeng's life revealed in the novel, and to compare Japanese culture in *Memoirs of a Geisha* and Javanese culture in *Ronggeng Dukuh Paruk*.

This research is a descriptive qualitative. The objects of the study are *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden and *Ronggeng Dukuh Paruk* by Ahmad Tohari. The sources of the data in this study are both of the novels. The data that were taken from the novels are in the forms of sentences, dialogues, and utterances. The data were collected by means of reading, identifying, inventorying, classifying, selecting, and reporting. I used observation sheets which contained questions about the novel related to the research problems. Since this is a qualitative research, the questions were composed on the basis of their relevance to the questions instead of following a certain pattern of structured interview.

From the data analysis I conclude that 1) as one of Japanese culture geisha's life has their own unique culture, it includes believing in superstition, conducting many rituals, talented in many arts, wearing attractive and colorful kimono and having well arranged economic system, 2) as one of Javanese culture ronggeng's life also has their own unique culture including believes in irrational belief, conducting traditional ceremony, symbol of passion and happiness, talented in singing and dancing and wearing tighter *kebaya* and *jarik*. 3) the similarities are they separate with their family, believed in superstition and started in a very young age; and the differences are geisha keep secret the clients' identity, performs individually and taught by the geisha senior, while ronggeng tell the clients' identity, performs in group and taught by the shaman.