ABSTRACT


The objectives of the study are to describe the characteristics of Geisha and their roles to the Japanese culture. Besides, it tries to examine the gender conflict faced by geisha; in this case, which is represented by the main character Sayuri as a geisha. I try to identify the conflict by using feminist approach, but I focus on the men’s perceptions point of view toward feminism itself. By using this theory, the conflict could be explained clearly. This study is expected to give contribution to the students who held same research about the gender conflict.

The problems of the study are to describe the meaning of geisha and their roles to the Japanese culture, to describe the men’s perceptions toward women’s existence, and the last one is to describe the men’s actions toward women as reflected in the novel.

The method used are reading the novel comprehensively, then collecting the data which is divided into some steps such as identifying overall the data in the form of quotations used, inventorising, simplifying, and classifying into appendices.

The result of the study shows that geisha as women find many conflicts deal with gender problem in Japanese society. They want to prove that women also have important role in Japanese culture. Moreover, they want to give evidence to men if geisha’s existence is not like what many people think. As women, they can also influence and have essential role as men have in Japanese society. It indicates that men should not ignore to their contributions in society.