

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

After reading the novel and analysing it carefully, I come to the conclusion that Pi has four important characteristics; he is persistent, resourceful, unique and religious. By presenting Pi's various characteristics, the novelist succeeds in achieving his purposes.

Pi's persistence is shown through several events. The most obvious example is when he changes people's opinion of his name. The novelist also shows Pi's persistence when religious leaders disapprove of his embracing three religions simultaneously. The novelist also reveals Pi's persistence through the hardships that he experiences when he is drifting on the sea for more than 200 days with a tiger on the same boat. He does not waver. Never thinking of giving up from this immense trouble proves that he is really persistent.

To reveal that Pi is a resourceful person, the novelist presents Pi with obstacles that may be difficult for most people to overcome. This is evident when Pi fears that he may not be able to recognize his friend who is in the crowd. His solution proves to be effective when he creatively decides to rub his eyes. He succeeds in his attempt without hurting his friend's feeling.

The novelist presents Pi as a unique character. His uniqueness can be seen from his embracing three religions (Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam), which is against the common custom. Keeping the tiger alive instead of killing it is also evidently the novelist's way of revealing Pi's uniqueness. The novelist wants to show that we should live peacefully together with others in spite of our differences. If we help one another, instead of fighting anyone who has different ideas or opinions with us, the world may be a better place to live in.

That Pi is very religious is evident from the description of his interests in embracing the three religions. Pi's dedication to religions since his childhood provides evidence that he is indeed a religious person. As a matter of fact, the novelist implies that the most significant thing is not the religion or religions but our personal relationship with God, where God is love.

I think the novelist's purpose in presenting Pi's persistence is to suggest to us that we should never give up when facing difficulties. There are inevitable troubles and difficulties in life. However, as human beings who are endowed with the ability to think, we should try to do our best to overcome any difficulties and be able to survive. Pi's enormous obstacle makes us think that our problems are smaller and less difficult to solve, and his success in overcoming his problems should encourage us to do better.

Through Pi's resourcefulness, I think the novelist wants to say to us that there are solutions to every problem. This characteristic is well connected with Pi's persistence. Like Pi, we should believe that there are always solutions to our problems and that we should never give up in our efforts.

Pi's unique characteristics provide us with a new perspective. The usual way of thinking is being questioned. For instance, we always see a tiger as a dangerous and harmful animal. However, Pi's making this wild animal as his companion may change the common perception. The novelist intends to encourage us by implying that it is always possible to turn our rivals, opponents, even enemies into friends. He wants us to produce synergy even with the enemies so that a better life may be attained in this 'chaotic' world.

The portrayal of Pi, who embraces several religions, is undoubtedly intended to tell us that conflicts should be avoided although we have different faiths and beliefs. Although Hindus, Christians, and Moslems have different beliefs, there is only one God, who loves them and whom they should love. In my opinion, if everyone pays more attention to their personal relationship with God instead of saying bad things about other religions, the world will be a more peaceful and comfortable place for everyone to live in.

Stumbling blocks should not make people stumble. They should instead be used as stepping-stones to a better life. Moreover, diversity should not be a cause of conflicts. It should enrich the world, which would otherwise be monotonous.