

## CHAPTER THREE

### CONCLUSION

Having analyzed the social conflicts using Frantz Fanon's theory of post colonialism, I arrive at the following conclusion. There are five social conflicts in A Bend in the River. The first social conflict is between a group of Africans and Europeans. The second social conflict happens between the new president and two of the army, they are Colonel Yenyi and Iyanda. The same conflict also occurs between a number of Africans and Father Huismans. The fourth social conflict is between the Europeans and the Liberation Army. And the last conflict happens between the new government and some foreigners like Noimon, Salim, Raymond and his wife, Yvette.

I find that those conflicts are closely related to the theme of the novel. The first social conflict, which happens between Africans and Europeans, occurs because of the Europeans' domination in the new government that then arouses the Africans' fury. The second social conflict happens owing to the continuity of slavery that finally makes the native Africans furious and turn to violence. In the third social conflict, I find the cause of the conflict is because of Father

Huismans' idea of civilization. At first, the Africans seem to accept the Europeans' values, but eventually they realize that it is oppression. They lose their freedom to show their own character as well as their skills. Moreover, Father Huismans has to die tragically. The fourth social conflict occurs for the reason that the Europeans still indirectly dominate the region; for instance, the natives think that their children have been given false interpretation by the priests and the teachers. Finally, this fact arouses the Liberation Army's fury. And the fifth social conflict emerges between the native Africans and the foreigners who still live and work in the natives' region. Therefore, it makes the new government decide to nationalize the town.

By focusing on the outcome of those five social conflicts, I discover that the theme of the novel is revealed through those social conflicts. The theme is *oppression that continually happens in the aftermath of colonization will arouse the ex-colonized nation's fury*. All of the social conflicts stem from the oppression that continually happens in the ex-colonized country. Realizing that they are now an independent nation, the native Africans become furious at their ex-colonizer.

Moreover, I also find that Fanon has the following notion. It is compulsory for the oppressed nation to be free from the oppressor. This freedom can be gained through decolonization, as done by the natives through violence. Actually, there is no way back to their old culture, but he believes that the oppressed nation can create a new idea to develop a new nation through their struggle.

In addition, I also notice that the author has a special intention in writing this novel. A Bend in the River is dominated by social conflicts between the

native Africans and their ex-colonizer, which are the Europeans. Naipaul concentrates on these conflicts and gives a depiction of how an oppressed nation tries to gain freedom culturally and politically from the oppressor. And he also tries to make the readers imagine if one person is oppressed continually, he will be furious and try to take revenge even he has to kill his oppressor. On the other hand, Naipaul succeeds in portraying the condition in which native Africans become horrible and have the heart to kill brutally because of the continual oppression. And violence is their only way to gain freedom.

To end my thesis, I would like to give my personal opinion concerning the novel from what has been discussed in the previous chapter. The conflicts in A Bend in the River can be taken as an example. It may happen in our real life, especially in some Third World countries like Africa. Many independent nations do not realize that in some cases, they actually have not got freedom either culturally or politically. The natives in A Bend in the River have courage to fight against the colonial system which still prevails even they are already independent. These conflicts may happen in our country because oppression that continually happens to an individual or a group of people can arouse their fury. All of us may confess that western countries are superior to other nations and they have done all of things that make us admire them. But it does not mean that they can suppress their inferior all the time. Independent nations have their own rights to be truly free from their oppressor. One day, if we are more aware of the condition, we will reclaim our rights as the native Africans have done in Naipaul's A Bend in the River.