

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I am going to draw a conclusion from the analysis in the previous chapter. From the analysis, I can see that both female major characters are from different social backgrounds. Shuda comes from a lower caste that cannot do so many things for herself. She only succumbs to her fate. Shuda only dreams of having a happy family, marrying a good man, having children and being a good wife. Different from Shuda, Anju is portrayed as a woman who comes from high caste. She is completely different from her cousin Shuda. It can be seen from their characteristics and their way of thinking. Shuda is more likely to succumb to the restrictive traditional Indian culture. Anju is rebellious, which is probably because of her family wealth and social position that makes her dare to rebel against the traditional Indian culture.

The other difference is that Anju is an open-minded person. Anju considers education as an important thing for her life while Shuda considers education as an unimportant thing because Shuda thinks it is not necessary for to be educated because she comes from the lower caste.

Out of their differences, it is also clearly shown in the analysis that Shuda and Anju possess similar characteristics. They are caring persons. I believe that this is one characteristic that helps their life. Their supportive relationship, despite their status and social standing, has helped them to overcome the oppression. Even though they possess some differences on their social background and their portrayal but they have an inseparable friendship. It makes them treat each other kindly. They care to show how much they love each other. In my opinion, the way Divakruni shows their inseparable friendship conveys that, through their friendship, both of them can support each other and change their life into a better one. Anju helps Shuda change her characteristic from being dependent into independent.

Shuda is an interesting character. Her characteristic shows the stereotype of Indian women in general who always obey the rules of the tradition and culture. On the other hand, in the end of the story the readers find that she changes from submissive to rebellious one. She dares to change when problem strikes her. She rebels by running away from her husband and his family, and decides to be a single mother. It makes her become an independent woman. It shows that women also have limitations for their obedience. They also have a chance to have a proper life and not to live control. From Shuda's characteristic, Indian women can be aware that they have chance to change to be someone better.

According to me, Anju is also an interesting character. She is different from the stereotype of Indian women. She is portrayed as a rebellious woman from the beginning till the end of this novel. It shows that there are some of Indian

women who can not accept their existence and who have to live under the rules and traditions. It can be seen from Anju's characteristic. She is known for speaking her mind. She is an open minded person. She is more likely to accept a new culture. Furthermore, Anju's characteristic can make other women in India realize that they can be anything they want.

I think Shuda and Anju represent Indian women, who live under tradition and culture which tied their life strongly. From their story, the readers will realize that even though they live in a modern life, they are still expected to hold the old tradition. Moreover, according to me, from Shuda and Anju's story, the readers will know that women always be the victim of the society. They are treated differently because of their gender and social background. They should be inferior because of their gender.

Through the female protagonists in the novel the readers also find that women's obedience also have limitations. In addition, through Anju and Shuda's life the readers can find that one's condition has impact to someone's life. One can change one's condition to be better if one wants to change and is supported by one's surrounding.

In my opinion, Divakaruni is successful to convey her brilliant ideas in this novel. The way she mixes the ideas between traditional Indian culture, social background and gender makes this novel sound extraordinary. Besides that the way she describes the idea by using poetic language, makes the readers not feel bored reading this novel. She is also successful to convey his idea through the way she portrays the female major characters Anju and Shuda.