Racism Portrayed in I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give

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Abstract. This research is intended to describe the racism that found in I Am Thunder; to describe the racism that found in The Hate U Give; and to find out the similarities and differences of racism that found in I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give. This research used a descriptive qualitative method, which was done by collecting, grouping, and analyzing the research data. The data in this research were dialogue and event, which are related to racism in both of novels. The data were collected by reading the both of novels and compare the both of novels. Based on the data analysis it was found that four forms of racism were found in both of novels they are stereotype, prejudice, rejection and discrimination. After analyzing racism by four forms of racism, the writer finally found similarities and differences. Both of the main character in these novels treated badly in society because of their race, they can't be their own selves in public and should fight against racism, but the main characters have different race, Muzna is a Britain Pakistani while Starr is a Black American. The prejudice and stereotype to these cultures are different. People thought that Britain Pakistani deals with terrorist and ISIS while Black American deals with crime, thug and gangster.

Keyword: Comparative, I Am Thunder, Race, Racism, The Hate U Give

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1 Introduction

The diversity is actually misused by humans to give a value to each human. This phenomenon is very common in society. In America, black Americans are three times more possible to die because of police in the US than white people. For example, the case of George Floyd. George Floyd was a black American who experienced brutality from white police officers who made him have to lose his life. Black Americans always feel the brutality and injustice to them because of their skin color. Similar problems are often found in literary works. Literature is often used by the author to describe the condition of the society that usually covered up in the society. George Floyd as the phenomenon of racism that makes the writer interested to analyze the racism that appeared in literary works.

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I Am Thunder is a novel written by Muhammad Khan that published in 12th January 2018. It is a Britain novel about Muzna, a 15th Years Old Muslim teenager that trying to fit into a new high school in London. Muzna has a dream to be a writer. In UK, non white writers are very rare in publishing. She also struggles with controlling parents who only care about her studying to be a doctor. Her life is a jumble of teenage angst she stifled by the sharp edge of racism and bullies every where. Until the gorgeous and confident Arif shows an interest in her, encouraging Muzna to explore her freedom.

Novel The Hate U Give is written by Angie Thomas and published in 2017. The Hate U Give is about racism to the black people with their bad stereotype in society. The story is about Starr Carter 16th Years old black girl that live in two different worlds. She cannot be the same "Starr" when she is on her school and her neighborhood. She is act like white people when she is on her school because she wants a normal life in her school. One Night, Starr saw her best friend Khalil, shot by a police when Khalil is unarmed. Khalil's car suddenly stopped by a police with no reason, the police check on Khalil and shot him because the cop thinks Khalil will take his gun. Khalil's death is on the Headline News. Some black people in their neighborhood made a protest for Khalil. Moreover, there are some people that still blame Khalil because Khalil is a drug dealer. Khalil is need money to help his family but some people who blame him didn't know the truth. Starr is the only one witness of that tragedy cannot stay silent any longer. Starr has seen a tragedy in her neighborhood like this so much, but at this time she thinks to exposed it to the public. But she was also afraid that her life and her family would be threatened.

Both of these novels, describe about racism which became the motif of the two novels that still happens in reality. I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give is a story about injustice that given to the minority among the majority. Racism as the motif of the two novels became the basis for the writer to analyze both of these novels. Racism has been a social problem for many decades that somehow can not be lost. Based on the phenomena above the writer chooses to analyze these novels with comparative analysis.

Kasim (1996) states that a comparative literature can be said as a study that includes a comparison of literary works of national literary which are different, the relationship between literary works with science, religion, and the works of art, and it also talks about the theory, history, and literary criticism.

Racism is one of the social issues that mostly discussed in the Novel. According to Bernice Lott's book entitled Multiculturalism and Diversity, Racism is both an institutional and interpersonal phenomenon that includes negative attitudes (prejudice), beliefs (stereotypes) and act of avoidance and distancing (discrimination) that can be over or covert (Maluoso, 1995). Racism cannot be defined without first defining race. Among social scientists, 'race' is

generally understood as a social construct. I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give are novels that made racism as the outline of the novel.

2   Research Method

In analyzing racism that portrayed in both of novel, the writer used descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive qualitative method produces descriptive data in the form of the written words in novels. Meleong (2005) stated "The qualitative research is research to understand the phenomena about what is experienced by the subject study, for example is behavior perceptions, motivation, the action, and others, in holistic and by the description ways of in the form of words and language, in a special context of nature and by using various methods of nature." The theory above is very suitable to this research because all data are analyzed in the form of word and sentences. The writer used the text in novel as the primary data of this research. For comparative method, this research emphasis on differences of cultural, the nation and society system. The writer obtained the data after reading both of these novels and understand the contents of both of these novels. The writer chose character, setting and plot in exposing racism that portrayed in the society in the novel. After the writer had finished reading and collecting data from both of the novels, the writer analyzed the data based on the facts which were appeared in both of the novels to conduct a comparison. From both of these novels, it was found the most significant data which supported this topic and then data were interpreted. Then, the writer made interpretation based on the data which already taken before. After that, the compared and analyzed the two literary works I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give. The next step is the writer made further analysis about racism in both of novels. Finally, the writer made conclusion and the suggestion.

3   Result and Discussion

In analyzing racism that portrayed in both of novel, the writer will use descriptive qualitative method. Descriptive qualitative method produces descriptive data in the form of the written words in novels. The motive of these novels basically talks about Racism which is described in the dialogue and events that showed by most of the main character and their relatives. There are four types of Racism, they are Discrimination, Rejection, Stereotype, and Prejudice.

3.1   Discrimination

Table 1. Type of discrimination found in the data

	A	B
	I Am Thunder	The Hate U Give
1	'Who wants to read Asian fairy tales?	"If this was out in Riverton Hills and his

	Nobody, that's who.' (Chapter 1; page 11)	name was Richie, we wouldn't be having this conversation." (Chapter 4; page 39)

Based on the table above, the table showed the data from the both of novels that deal with discrimination as a form of racism in the story. The first data with the code A1 and B1 showed discrimination that happened in the both of novel. The data A1 mentions that Asians have a different chance to be a writer in the Britain. And the data B1 mentions that the cases like Khalil's will quickly be solved if the victim is white. It means there is discrimination of the black people in front of the law.

3.2 Rejection

Table 2. Type of rejection found in the data

	C	D
	I Am Thunder	The Hate U Give
2	'Cos if that's it, well, can't the Muslims be sent off to learn about it elsewhere? (Chapter 15; page 85)	Hailey didn't come. Her dad didn't want her spending the night in "the ghetto." (Chapter 3; page 28)

The data C2 and D2 mention that both of them show rejections from the majority to be the same place with the minority. The data C2 is a dialogue by Sade who wanted all of the Muslim from their class move and study in the other class. The data D2 mention that Hailey wasn't allowed to stay overnight in Starr's house. The difference is, the data C2 is happened in the school in the middle of teaching and learning process, meanwhile the other one is happened in the friendship.

3.3 Stereotype

Table 3. Type of stereotype found in the data

	E	F
	I Am Thunder	The Hate U Give
3	If it's a Muslim, he's a—''Terrorist,' I interrupted. (Chapter 24; page 125)	If it's revealed that I was in the car, what will that make me? The thug ghetto girl with the drug dealer? What will my teachers think about me? My friends? The whole fucking world, possibly? (Chapter 7; page 78)

The data E3 is a dialogue by Arif that said a stereotype that has been attached on Muslim, and the data F3 is a dialogue by Muzna who afraid her friend know that she was the witness of Khalil's murder. She afraid everybody will say her as a thug girl, like the stereotype that attached on black people for so long.

3.4 Prejudice

Table 4. Type of stereotype found in the data

	G	H
	I Am Thunder	The Hate U Give
2	Pawsey was searching for that one false move; that single sliver of evidence to pass me on to the police. She was getting nothing from me.(Chapter 36; page 182)	"Okay, smart mouth, let's see what we find on you today." "You ain't gon' find nothing," Khalil says. One-Fifteen pats him down two more times. He turns up empty (Chapter 2; page 20)

The data G2 and H2 mention that both of the performer of the prejudice search for Muzna and Khalil's fault in the form of verbal communication and physical search but both of them got nothing from Muzna and Khalil.

4 Conclusion

Based on the analysis of this thesis in previous chapter, the writer comes to the conclusion and suggestion that related to the result of this thesis. In this chapter the writer presents the conclusion from the novel entitled I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give. The differences and similarities that deal with racism have been explained from both of these novels.

Both of these novels have got the similarities that deal with racism that portrayed in society. The motive of these novels basically talks about racism that felt by the main character and their own race. In the novel I Am Thunder, the main character Muzna already felt the racism when she was a child and when she was a teenagers, she felt the racist treatment increasinglyin her society. Sometimes she even can't be herself in the public, when she wore hijab, her father always told her to put off the hijab. She also has to get some difficult decision to continue her life as a minority and she also lose her friend when she has to defend on their value as a Pakistani. In the novel The Hate U Give, the main character, Starr Carter also felt the racist treatment in her society. She also can't be herself in the public, she hide her personality as a black American when she was in the school. Starr also has to get some difficult decision to

continue her life as a minority she has to fight for a justice to his friend, Khalil. Both of the main character also has a meaning on their name, Muzna means a Rain and Thunder and Starr means Star. Britain and America as the nations of the main characters in the novel are democratic and liberal country but still have racism as a social problem.

There are also some differences between I Am Thunder and The Hate U Give. In I Am Thunder, the main character, Muzna is a Britain Pakistani with her physical characteristic that have hair in her face and body. Muzna felt the racism among the society mostly because there are prejudice and stereotype that Muzna as a Britain Pakistani is a terrorist or ISIS. Her religion has the most powerful part that made her felt the racism. The scene in I Am Thunder is taken in London, England. In The Hate U Give, the main character, Starr Carter is a Black American with her dark skin as her physical characteristic.She felt the racism among the society mostly when she tried to fight a justice for his friend Khalil. There are prejudice and stereotype to the black people that the black people related to drug, crime, and gangster. The scene in The Hate U Give is taken in Garden Height, a fiction place in America.

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