

**REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANTS' LIFE
IN MOHSIN HAMID'S *EXIT WEST***

A THESIS

**Presented in a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Completing the Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature**



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2021

APPROVAL SHEET I

This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of NUR LAILI HIDAYAH entitled “REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANTS’ LIFE IN MOHSIN HAMID’S *EXIT WEST*” has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee.

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APPROVAL SHEET II

This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of NUR LAILI HIDAYAH entitled “REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANTS’ LIFE IN MOHSIN HAMDI’S *EXIT WEST*” has been examined and approved by the thesis Examining Committee as the requirement for Sarjana Degree in English Literature.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillahirobbilalamin all my praises and gratitude are for the first place to the most gracious and the merciful Allah swt who always guides, blesses and gives the writer opportunity to finish her thesis entitled: Representation of Immigrants' Life in Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*. Sholawat and Salam are also delivered to the prophet Muhammad saw who has become Great model of all human being in this entire world.

The writer realized that this thesis could not be finished without getting assistance, guidance, encouragement, understanding, suggestions and valuable advice from many people. Therefore, the writer would like to express her deepest gratitude to the following parties:

1. Linusia Marsih, S.S., M.Pd. for her patient guidance, criticisms, great attention, and advice toward me in writing this thesis.
2. Drs. Danu Wahyono, M.Hum as the Dean of the Faculty of Cultural Science.
3. Mateus Rudi Supsiadji, S.S., M.Pd. as the Head of English Literature Department.
4. The lecturers of English Literature Departmentf and staff members of the Faculty of Cultural Science for their guidance, direction and administrative service during the years of the writer's study.
5. The writer's beloved parents, Mr.Akiya and Mrs. Pani, and the writer's brother Ferdiyan Kiki Aswaya, thanks a million for giving their guidance, sacrifice, and prayers to Allah swt, for her successes during her study at Faculty of Cultural Science Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya.
6. Mrs. Rasianah, Ms. Anita and Mr. Ansori, both parents who have always provided enthusiasm and joy when they were bored.
7. All my brothers who are always there when I need help. Thank you for all the help, prayers and advice.
8. All of her friends especially Yuni Kartika Sari, Ade Sandra Ramadhani, Sarah Cristina, Siti afifa Ekawati, Fitri Agustina, Musniati, R. Berlian Piscesa who have help her so much so that she can finish this thesis, and other friends that cannot be mentioned one by one.

Furthermore, she really realizes that this thesis still needs constructive suggestions from the readers in order to make it more perfect and hopefully it can be useful for the readers, especially for the students of English Literature Department.

Surabaya, 05th July 2021

Nur Laili Hidayah

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ABSTRACT

The research is about immigrants' life reflected in Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*. The objective of the research is to find factors that encourage Saeed and Nadia, the main characters, to migrate and to reveal the representation of the life of immigrants in Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*. Three theories are applied in this study i.e. representation, transnationalism, and migration. In analyzing the factors that encourage Saeed and Nadia to migrate Everett S. Lee's theory of migration is applied and in analyzing the representation of the life of immigrants, theory of representation by Stuart Hall and theories of transnationalism by some theorists are applied. Moreover, this research is designed as descriptive qualitative research with sociological approach. The source of the data in this research is Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West* which was published by Riverhead Books, New York in 2017 and the data are words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs related to the topic of the research. The results of the analysis show that driving factors that encourage Saeed and Nadia to immigrate are 1) area of origin including the war that is breaking out in their country, loosing houses and flats, loosing jobs, and paralyzed municipal services like electricity, piped gas and water; 2) area of destination including hope for a better life; 3) personal factors which is about love and freedom; 4) In the proces of migration, Saeed and Nadia face intervening obstacles, namely difficulty in finding the door used for migration that has not been guarded by the militant group, leaving loved ones, and rejection from the government of the country where they migrate. When living as immigrants Saeed and Nadia have to deal with several problems. When they live as illegal immigrants in Mykonos, London and Marin, they not well received by the natives, Then they also cheated their friends and they ran out of money, they are traumatized, struggle to defend the mansion, fight with the Nativists, face uncomfortable feelings towards their fellow immigrants, religion, they finally decided to settle in Marin. After conducting the analysis, the writer finds out that After doing the analysis, the writer found that to live as an immigrant is not easy. Despite the many obstacles faced, the immigrants in the novel *Exit West* are depicted as still struggling to get a decent life.

Keywords: Representation, Immigrants, Migration, Transnationalism