CHAPTER V

Conclusion and Suggestion

5.1 Conclusion

The researcher used the theory of religious diversity by Wallner (2000) and Gardenswartz & Rowe (1994), and also the theory of religion and conflict by Richardson (2012) for analyzing religious diversity and religious conflict in the movie. Diversity is a multitude of individual differences and similarities which encompass many different human characteristics such as race, age, creed, national origin, religion, ethnicity, and also sexual orientation. The diversity is divided more specifically into four different layers, namely the organizational dimension, the internal dimension, the external dimension, and personality (Gardenswartz& Rowe, 1994). The religion itself is classified into the external layer as it deals with the life choice of an individual. The religious conflict on another side is divided into two different types, namely the violent conflict and non-violence conflict (Richardson, 2012). These conflicts are influenced by several factors in which one of those is the religious elite and the misinterpretation of religious dogma. After analyzing all of the data in chapter IV, it was found that 17 cases are representing religious diversity, and 16casesare showing causes of religious conflict. It can be concluded that religious diversity has the highest total of all. Nevertheless, the point of Religious Conflict is also represented in the movie.

The first part of the findings is about religious conflict. Religious conflict in the movie was divided into little parts in each data. In conclusion, the conflict between Christianity and Islam began during the conquest of Jerusalem by Christians. The conflict has been prolonged for one hundred years. Many factors influence the occurrence of the conflict. Differences in the views of religious teachings in fact did not become a factor that most influenced the emergence of conflict. Instead, the data show that religious leaders are the most influential in the formation of conflict. As explained by Richardson (2012), religious elites often have personal interests and often manipulate religions to produce violence to reach their personal interests. Provocation, hate speech and misuse of religious dogmas are clearly shown in the actions of religious leaders from both sides in the film. Christian and Muslim religious leaders try to influence their followers to judge one another. As a result, various actions emerged both in the form of violence and social discrimination against adherents of minority religions. In the end,

the conflict between religions resulted in the recapture of Jerusalem by Muslims. Non-violent conflict represented through negotiation between Christian leaders and Muslim leaders to guarantee the right of their people shows the end of the conflict between religions.

The second part of the findings is about religious diversity. The religious diversity in the movie was divided into little parts in each data. Although there is a conflict between Muslims and Christians, diversity is still maintained in Jerusalem. The existence of religious diversity in Jerusalem is closely related to the King's character in the story. As explained by Richardson (2012), religious elites have a respected social status, extensive social connections, a sound understanding of the cultural-historical-regional context, and excellent communication skills, thus allowing them to influence and mobilize their followers. This kind of influence can be used either to create conflict or to reduce it. In the story, the King made a policy that allowed all religions to live in Jerusalem. The policy makes Jerusalem a very diverse place. People from different religions, racial and cultural backgrounds can live together in Jerusalem. The diversity itself can be proven through several aspects such as an explanation of the data of population in Jerusalem consisting of various religions and branches such as Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. Besides that, the data also shows the application of different religious cultures in Jerusalem such as the application of Islamic call of worship and also the use of church bells which represents the application of Christian religious culture. In addition, interactions between individuals with different religions and actions of tolerance are also evidence of diversity in Jerusalem. Because Jerusalem is a diverse place, people are forced to mingle with one another. All those who refer to such religions soon learn that professing faith in a society with a high rate of religious diversity demands that they learn to believe in something that is no longer absolute (Michel 1994; Pace 1996). Like it or not, such persons become aware that the symbolic boundaries of their respective systems of belief are no longer secure; they are not impenetrable borders. As a result, symbolic boundaries have become more like gates which can be freely crossed (Leavitt 2007).

The results of the research author have done have some similarities with the research conducted by Rahmadhani (2008). Research conducted by Rahmadhani (2008) aims to show the portrayal of Islam and the Muslims in the movie Kingdom of Heaven through various aspects of cinema such as symbol, camera viewpoints, and also portrayals of characters while the research conducted by the authors aims to explore the portrayal of religious diversity and the problems

caused by religious differences. Regarding this matter, the results of both studies show that unlike the stereotypes of western films which mostly depict Islam with unfavorable portrayals, the film "Kingdom of Heaven" objectively portrays both religions in which protagonists or antagonists exist on both sides. Besides, both author and Rahmadhani (2008) research results show that Islam also gets a better depiction. In addition, more acts of provocation and violence shown are committed by Christians than Muslims.

Regarding the many similarities, there is a significant difference between Rahmadhani (2008) research findings and the author in which Rahmadhani (2008) research shows that Christianity in the film is described as a fanatic, violent and hateful religion. On contrary, the author's research results show that the two religions are described more objectively, both Christianity and Islam have antagonistic and protagonist characters. Besides that, the results of the author's research also show that the emergence of interagency problems is more often caused by factors outside of religion itself such as political factors, seizure of territory, and abuse of dogma rather than caused by differences in ideology and teachings of religion itself.

5.2 Suggestions

The findings in this thesis show that the film "Kingdom of Heaven" represents Religious Diversity through several contexts such as the population of Jerusalem consisting of people with different religious backgrounds, tolerance, and interaction between people of different religions, implementation of different religious cultures in Jerusalem, as well as places of worship such as mosques and churches. It was also found that the matters relating to religious diversity rarely lead to conflict. The conflict in this film is more often caused by the influence of religious leaders and the misuse of religious teachings by the higher-ups to achieve personal goals rather than differences in the teachings of religion itself. However, this research does not focus on analyzing the ease of religious leaders to influence their followers. Therefore, for students and movie observers who want to research this film, it is highly recommended to analyze the causes of people for being influenced easily by religious leaders and the way religious leaders influence them.

Through the analysis of religious conflict, it was found that religious leaders both on the Christian and Islamic sides did the same thing, namely trying to influence their followers to achieve certain goals. But this study does not focus on discussing the goals of these religious

leaders. Therefore it is expected that students who want to analyze films and film observers can examine what goals the religious leaders want to achieve by utilizing their followers.

It was found that tolerance and interaction play an important role in supporting the context of diversity in Jerusalem. The movie shows that the tolerance of the King allow Jerusalem to become a very diverse place. However, this study does not explain in detail the actions that maintain interfaith harmony. Therefore, it is highly recommended for students and film observers who want to research this film to analyze the film "Kingdom of Heaven" in terms of people's behavior amid diverse society.

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