

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHARACTER'S
FEMINISM IN KATOUH'S *AS LONG AS THE LEMON
TREES GROW*
THESIS**



**BY:
AMIRA SAVA LUTFIA
REG. NUMBER 03010322003**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL
SURABAYA
2026**

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I am the undersigned below:

Name : Amira Sava Lutfia
NIM : 03010322003
Department : English Literature
Faculty : Adab and Humanities
University : UIN Sunan Ampel

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Reg. Number. 03010322003

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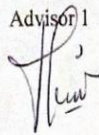
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by
Amira Sava Lutfia
Reg. Number 03010322003

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Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

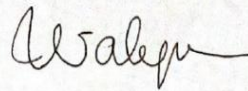
Surabaya, 24 December 2025

Advisor 1



Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A.
NIP. 197604122011012003

Advisor 2



Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.
NIP. 197002051999032002

Acknowledged by
The Head of the English Literature Department



Dr. Endratno Pili Swasono, S.Pd., M.Pd.
NIP. 197106072003121001

EXAMINER SHEET

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Amira Sava L (03010322003) entitled **The Construction of The Character's Feminism in *Katouh's As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*** has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Surabaya, 5 Januari 2026

Board of Examiners:

Examiner 1

Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A.
NIP. 197604122011012003

Examiner 2

Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum.
NIP. 197002051999032002

Examiner 3

Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.
NIP. 199203062020122019

Examiner 4

Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum.
NIP. 198207042023212023

Acknowledged by:

The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Humanities
UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya



Prof. Dr. H. M. Zuhri Zuhri, MA
NIP. 197003121995031002

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Nama : Amira Sava Lutfia
NIM : 03010322003
Fakultas/Jurusan : Adab dan Humaniora / Sastra Inggris
E-mail address : contact.amirasava@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Lutfia, A. S. (2025). *The Construction of The Character's Feminism in Katouh's As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A., (II) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.

This study aims to investigate Salama Kassab's feminism in Zoulfa Katouh's *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow* through her life story as a courageous woman who survived the Syrian conflict. Her experience was two-fold because she served as a surgeon while also taking responsibility for her family's survival. Furthermore, the circumstances led Salama to respond in unexpected ways, which influenced the construction of her feminism. Thus, the research specifically addresses two interconnected concerns: (1) How does Salama present herself as a feminist in *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*; (2) How does society influence Salama's presence in *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*.

The study employs a qualitative approach with the application of descriptive textual analysis to examine the novel systematically. Data were collected by reading and noting relevant dialogues and narrative excerpts that address Salama's feminism. The analysis proceeded by identifying Salama's feminist actions through three aspects: the role of education, the struggle for civil rights, and the demand for equality in personal relationships, relating these to the principles of Mary Wollstonecraft's liberal feminism. Subsequently, the analysis identified social factors such as trauma, societal chaos, and imposed roles that triggered Salama's feminist consciousness.

The findings of this research reveal that Salama's feminism is manifested through three aspects: the utilization of her education as a core strength in becoming a surgeon, the assertion of her civil rights by actively voicing her perspective, and the desire to establish an egalitarian marriage. Salama seeks a union founded on mutual respect, shared goals, and the recognition of her independence as an educated woman. Regarding the second research question, the results indicate that the regime's brutality, which led to the loss of her family, forced her to develop self-reliance and adopt roles traditionally dominated by men. Salama shows herself to be an educated woman capable of making wise decisions and taking full responsibility for her actions.

Keywords: gender roles, Syrian conflict, patriarchy

ABSTRAK

Lutfia, A. S. (2025). *Pembentukan Feminisme pada Salama dalam Novel As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow* karya Zoulfa Katouh. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A., (II) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji feminisme Salama Kassab dalam novel *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow* karya Zoulfa Katouh melalui perjalanan hidupnya sebagai seorang wanita pemberani yang bertahan hidup dalam konflik di Suriah. Pengalamannya bersifat ganda karena ia bertugas sebagai dokter bedah sekaligus bertanggung jawab atas kelangsungan hidup keluarganya. Selain itu, kondisi yang dihadapi Salama mendorongnya untuk merespons dengan cara yang tidak terduga, yang mempengaruhi pembentukan feminismenya. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini secara khusus membahas dua isu yang saling terkait: (1) Bagaimana Salama mempresentasikan dirinya sebagai seorang feminis dalam novel; (2) Bagaimana masyarakat memengaruhi kehadiran feminisme Salama.

Studi ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan penerapan analisis tekstual deskriptif untuk mengkaji novel tersebut secara sistematis. Data dikumpulkan melalui pembacaan dan pencatatan kutipan dialog serta narasi yang relevan dengan feminisme Salama. Analisis dilanjutkan dengan mengidentifikasi tindakan feminisme Salama melalui tiga aspek: peran pendidikan, perjuangan hak-hak sipil, dan tuntutan kesetaraan dalam hubungan pribadi, dengan mengaitkannya pada prinsip-prinsip feminisme liberal Mary Wollstonecraft. Kemudian, analisis mengidentifikasi faktor-faktor sosial seperti trauma, kekacauan masyarakat, dan tuntutan peran yang memicu kesadaran feminis Salama.

Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa feminisme Salama muncul melalui tiga hal: penggunaan pendidikannya sebagai kekuatan utama untuk menjadi dokter bedah, penegasan hak-hak sipilnya dengan berani menyuarakan pendapatnya, dan keinginannya untuk membangun pernikahan yang setara. Salama ingin sebuah hubungan yang didasarkan pada rasa saling menghormati, tujuan hidup yang sama, serta pengakuan atas kemandiriannya sebagai perempuan berpendidikan. Terkait pertanyaan penelitian kedua, hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa kekejaman rezim yang menyebabkan kehilangan keluarganya telah memaksa Salama untuk menjadi mandiri dan mengambil peran yang biasanya didominasi oleh laki-laki. Salama membuktikan dirinya sebagai sosok perempuan terpelajar yang mampu mengambil keputusan bijak dan bertanggung jawab penuh atas segala tindakannya.

Kata Kunci: peran gender, konflik Suriah, patriarki

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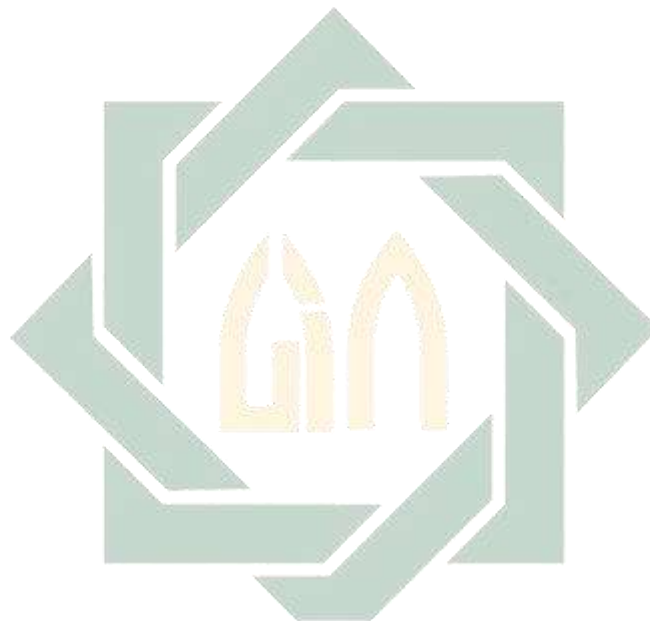
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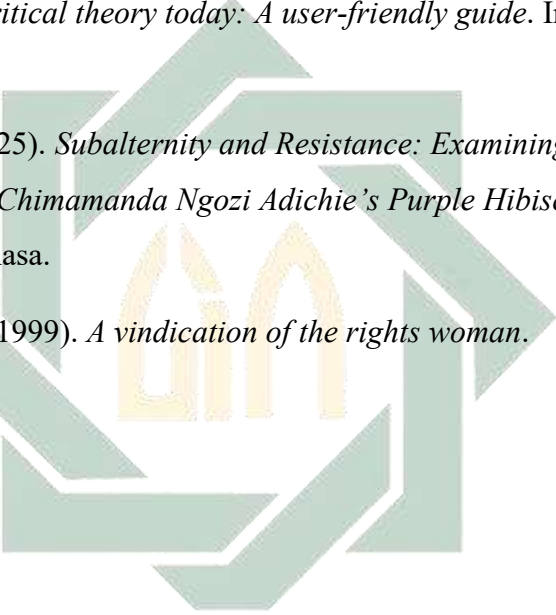


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