

**AN ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL CLASS AND CLASS
STRUGGLE REFLECTED IN “CRAZY RICH
ASIANS” NOVEL BY KEVIN KWAN; A
SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

THESIS



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PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY
YEAR 2021/2022**

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THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree
of Sarjana Sastra**



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Batam, August 9th, 2022



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DECLARATION OF THESIS ORIGINALITY

I, Manuela Indriati Siahaan, NPM No. 151210043

Hereby declare, that the thesis entitled

AN ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL CLASS AND CLASS STRUGGLE REFLECTED IN “CRAZY RICH ASIANS” NOVEL BY KEVIN KWAN; A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

Is real work of myself and I realize that this thesis has never been published in other media before, partially or entirely, in the name of minds or others.

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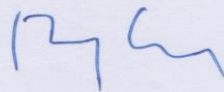
THESIS

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of
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This thesis has been to be examined on the date as indicated below

Batam, August 9th, 2022



**Robby Satria, S.S., M.Hum
Supervisor**

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini merupakan sebuah analisis terhadap novel berjudul “Crazy Rich Asians” karya Kevin Kwan. Novel ini bercerita tentang tipe-tipe kelas social dan perjuang kelas yang dilihat dari berbagai macam sudut pandang dan terjadi antara kaum sosial di dalam novel tersebut dalam memperjuangkan cintanya yang terhalang oleh perbedaan status sosial. Skripsi ini menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi dan menganalisis pembagian kelas sosial yang terdapat di novel ini dan perjuangan kelas social yang terjadi dalam novel ini. Metode yang digunakan dalam penulisan skripsi ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif yaitu penulis mendeskripsikan, menyelidiki, serta menganalisis data-data yang ada yang dikumpulkan dari buku-buku di perpustakaan dan internet yang berhubungan dengan penelitian ini. Teori yang digunakan adalah teori sosiologi dengan ahli Max Weber dan Karl Max. Teori kelas Maxisme bertumpu pada pemikiran bahwa sejarah dari masyarakat yang ada sampai sekarang adalah sejarah perjuangan kelas. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah cerita dalam novel ini telah menunjukkan bahwa dua karakter yang menjadi karakter utama yang berasal dari dua kelas yang berbeda yaitu kelas menengah dan kelas atas. Konflik kelas social yang terjadi di dalam novel ini terjadi dikarenakan perbedaan kelas yang terjadi antara dua karakter yang ada di dalam novel tersebut.

Kata kunci: Pendekatan Sosiologi, Kelas Sosial, Perjuangan Kelas Sosial

ABSTRACT

This research is an analyze the novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan. This novel tells of social classes and Class Struggle that seen from various perspectives and occur between social groups in this novel which are struggle for their love which is hindered by differences of social status. This thesis uses sociological approach and social class distribution analysis that exist in this novel and social class conflict that happened in this novel. The method used in this thesis writing is descriptive qualitative method that is writer describe, memory, and analyze existing data Excerpts from books in libraries and the internet related to this research. The theory used is the theory of sociology with experts Max Weber and Karl Max. Marxism's class theory rests on the idea that the history of hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle. The sociological theory by Weber is used to analyze the division of social classes contained in this novel, while Marxism class theory analyzes the conflicts that occur in this novel. The result of this research is the story in this novel has shown the relationship of two characters who are struggle for their love because they come from two different classes and the social class conflicts that occur in this novel occur because of class differences between the two characters in the novel.

Keywords: *Sociology Approach, Social Class, Social Class Struggle*

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO

*“Work hard will definitely be rewarded, believe in yourself,
God will do the rest”*

- Izumi Sano -

“I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me”

- **Philippians 4: 13** -

**“Consider nothing impossible, then treat possibilities as
probabilities”**

- **Charles Dickens** -

DEDICATION

**This thesis is dedicated to my supportive family and to
everyone who helped me accomplish this thesis
Thank you for always supporting me**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All praise to Jesus the Lord is merciful and compassionate researcher who has been blessed in completing this thesis entitled “An Analysis of Social Class and Class Struggle reflected in “Crazy Rich Asians” Novel by Kevin Kwan; A Sociological Approach”. The researcher wishes to express her gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Robby Satria, S.S., M. Hum. as her advisor who has contributed his ideas and time in arranging this thesis.

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5. All of friends who are studying at Putera Batam University which have given spirit and friendship to the researcher.
6. Mr. M. Siahaan and Mrs. Lamria Tampubolon, the writer’s parents for the love, support, and patience.

The researcher apologizes for all mistakes he has made along the studies and also if there are people offended in the writing of this thesis. The writer hopes that this thesis would be useful for the readers.

May God gives mercy, peace, and love for them. Amin

Batam, 24th January 2022



Manuela Indriati Siahaan

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TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
COVER PAGE	i
TITLE	ii
DECLARATION	iii
APPROVAL PAGE	iv
ABSTRAK	v
ABSTRACT	vi
MOTTO AND DEDICATION	vii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	viii
TABLE OF CONTENT	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of the Research	1
1.2 Identification of Problem	6
1.3 Limitation of the Problem	7
1.4 Formulation of the Problem	7
1.5 The Objective of the Research	8
1.6 Significance of the Research	8
1.7 Definition of Key Terms	9
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK	
2.1 Sociological Approach.....	10
2.1.1 Social Class	12
2.1.2 Social Stratification	14
2.1.3 Class Struggle	16
2.2 Review of Previous Study	17
2.3 Theoretical Framework	21
CHAPTER III METHOD OF RESEARCH	
3.1 Research design.....	23
3.2 Object Of the Research	23
3.3 Method of Collecting Data.....	24
3.4 Method of Analyzing Data.....	25
3.5 Method of Presenting Research Result	25
CHAPTER IV RESEARCH ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS	
4.1 Preliminary Analysis.....	27
4.1.1 Plot	28
4.1.2 Character	30
4.1.3 Setting	33

4.1.4 Point of View	34
4.1.5 Theme.....	34
4.2 Research Finding.....	35
4.2.1 Types of Social Class	36
4.2.2 The Factors Influence Social Stratification.....	40
4.2.3 The Representation of Social Stratification Issues.....	43
4.2.4 The Class Struggle of the main characters	48

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion	53
5.2 Suggestion.....	54

REFERENCE	56
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APPENDICES

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure2.2.....	12

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature is an absorption word from Sanskrit, namely shaastra, which means "text containing instructions" or "guidelines". Shaastra comes from basis word shaas which means directing, teaching, giving instructions, and tra which means instrument or means. Literature is also an expression of the human person in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, enthusiasm, beliefs in a form of concrete images that evoke enchantment with language instrument (Sumardjo and Saini KM (1991: 3)). This statement is also justified by Panuti Sudjiman (1986:68) explaining that "literature is a spoken or written works that has various superior characteristics such as originality, artistry, beauty in content, and expression. According to another literary experts such as Semi (1988: 8) opine that literature is a form of creative art work, where the object is humans and their lives by using language as the medium.

From the statements of the experts above, it can be concluded that literature is all spoken and written works that can be used as a reference in various activities such as in education and other fields because it is considered to have advantages or benefits that can develop human creative activities which are poured into language media, both orally and in writing so as to

produce beautiful works and have dazzling meanings. One of the results of literary works in the form of writing is a novel.

Novel is one of literary works in the form of prose. According to Sumardjo (1998: 29) says that novel is a story with the prose form in long shape, this long shape means the story including the complex plot, many characters and various settings. The story in the novel is the work of imagination that discusses the problems of human life or tells the human experience more closely in the form of a long fiction narrative and is told in various genres. According to Abrams (2012), there are several types of genres in novels that are most popular by reader, such as Romance, Mystery, Fantasy, Horror/Thriller, Historical Fiction, and Realist Fiction. One of the popular novels that is very interesting to discuss which contains with the elements of popular genres such as Romance and Comedy so that is be the Researcher choices as the object of the research in completing the thesis is "Crazy Rich Asians" novel by Kevin Kwan.

Novel "Crazy Rich Asians" (2013) by Kevin Kwan is chosen as the data source of this research. Researcher found that there are many phenomena indicate of the problem of social class in this novel. This romantic comedy genre was Kevin Kwan's first published in 2013. The setting of the novel is in Singapore and North America and it was a novel that adapted into a popular film with the same name and released in the United State on August 15, 2018. This novel was telling dramatically in 527 pages that talks about romance and comedy.

Many people are interesting with this novel because he claimed the novel was loosely based on his own childhood in Singapore and this novel become the international bestselling novel that has been translated into more than 30 languages and was followed by two sequels, *China Rich Girlfriend* in 2015 and *Rich People Problems* in 2017. Moreover, this novel was the top three position of the *New York Times* bestseller list for several weeks in 2018 and the film adaptation of this novel became Hollywood's highest grossing romantic comedy in over a decade. Not only that, in the same year for all his achievements in of his novel, He was named as one of the 100 most influential people in the world by *Time Magazine* (bookreporter.com 2018).

Another interesting thing from this novel besides the story is the author of this novel. The author of the novel whose title comes from the words that are currently viral in Asia named Kevin Kwan, a man who was born in Singapore in 1973 is the youngest of three children and comes from a well-established and highly respected Chinese family in his hometown. This is based on his family background such as His great-grandfather, named Oh Sian Guan, was the founding director of the Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation which is the Singapore's oldest bank. His paternal grandfather, named Sir Arthur Kwan Pah Chien M.D., was an ophthalmologist who became the first Western-trained specialist in Singapore and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his philanthropic efforts. His maternal grandfather, Reverend Paul Hang Sing Hon, founded the Hinghwa Methodist Church.

Kwan is also related to Hong Kong-born American actress Nancy Kwan and former Singapore finance minister Richard Hu, who is his father's cousin.

When he was 11 years old, Kwan and his parents decided to move to United States of America. Having lived in the west for a long time, makes Kwan's view of the lifestyle and habits that have long existed in his hometown such as differences of social class status that needs to be changed.

In daily life cannot be separated from various kinds of problems and in this universe one of the problems that exist usually find in around us is poverty. Talking about poverty is not a strange thing to hear and it is taboo in the modern era until now. This economic factor are the problems that most allow the occurrence of social class disparities in society. In fact, in some parts of this world social class is still the benchmark for the standard of life of a certain person or group and social class is not only talk about materialism but it's also about identity of someone of family.

Discussing about social class, the Researcher used Sociological Approach. There are many definitions about Sociology by expert, one of them is Swingewood in his book of *The Sociology of Literature* defines the sociology is objective and scientific study of human life in society, the study of its institutions and social process.

Social class is understood as a form of layer or hierarchy that occurs in a society. This layer will usually lead to discrimination that makes some people move to carry out the class struggle. The expected class goal is to increase social justice in a comprehensive and complex manner

indiscriminately, especially in the socio-economic dimension. Basically, social stratification is divided into three elements. Social groupings, social systems, and hierarchical levels. Max Weber is a social figure who tends to criticize the thinking of Karl Max. This sentiment occurred because Karl Max put more emphasis on humans as a priority than the awareness of the importance of the divine dimension. This paper is literature research with a qualitative approach. The methodology of this writing is a descriptive analysis study of Max Weber's social thought. The results showed two, namely; First, Max Weber's social stratification indicators are social power, social privilege means social privileges, and social prestige means social status. Second, Max Weber's social stratification consists of individual understanding (*verstehen*), rational and irrational-based social action, class struggle, and differentiation of power and authority. Which differentiation of class in society occur are usually based on economic factors, education, occupation, and the relationship between the status (position) of a family member and the status of other family members, when the position of the head of the family increases, the status of other family members also increases.

In various aspects of life, social class exists quite a lot countries even in the developed countries such as Singapore and North America. Social class is not permanent but it's difficult to change because in addition related to social status, it's also related to economic condition. however, the existence of social class is formed because of the financial differences that someone has

more than the other. Social interactions involving relationships between individuals in society will have two side effects, associative and dissociative. Associative impact will make their relationship closer. On the other hand, the dissociative impact of the relationship becomes more strained. The sparseness of these interactions can lead to social conflict. The main cause is differences in society with various triggers such as cultural differences, unequal interests, social changes that are too fast, to differences in thinking between individuals.

There are several experts of social class in literature, one of them are Max Weber. According to Weber (1864), Social class can be divided into three parts, they are Upper Class, Middle Class, and Lower Class and it is affecting the way a person or group of people perceives others. The differences like this that often lead to conflict between fellow humans. The conflict that causes by social class is still happen until this modern era and that's the reason that makes researcher attracted to analyze about social class and the conflict of social class itself. The researcher used the sociological approach as the shape of this research and needs an approach to analyze this novel. According to Weber (1964), this sociological approach arrived as a casual explanation of its course and effect.

Kwan in his novel also reflects on various phenomena related to social class and the resulting class struggle. Related to the topic, the researcher found some examples of Social Class and Class Struggle that really happened in our real life. The phenomenon of social class conflict is still widely found today, one of them is conflict of social class in Imperial of Japanese Family,

Princess Noriko that researcher found from website of m, liputan6.com. Princess Noriko is a second daughter of Prince Takamado and Hisako. Born into the Imperial of Japanese Family force her to obedient with all regulations there and one of the regulations is all the family of Japanese Imperial must marry someone who come from family of imperial too because imperialism is the highest caste of society in Japanese but on October 5th, 2014, she decided to married with a son of Priest of Temple that called Izumo Taisha Kunimaro Senge. Since then, she loses her title of nationality as a Princess and must leave the kingdom. This is one of the problems of social class conflict that causes by poverty and identity of Izumo Taisha Kunimaro Senge and family.

Therefore, the researcher entitled the analysis *“An Analysis of Social Class and Class Struggle Reflected in “Crazy Rich Asians” novel by Kevin Kwan: A Sociological Approach.”*

1.2 Identification of The Problem

After the writer reads the novel carefully, the writer found some interest problem. The problem which are going to be investigated in this study, are as follows:

1. The social classes reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.
2. The factors that influence social stratification in society found in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.

3. The representation of social stratification faced by each social classes reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.
4. The struggles from each character against society as reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.
5. The influence of differences social class to marriage found in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.

1.3 Limitation of The Problem

There are several fascinating cases that can be analyzed in this novel that the writer identifies on 1.2 point. In conducting the research, the writer limits the problem that faced in this novel and focuses to find the main points to be researched as follow:

1. The social classes reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.
2. The struggles from the main characters against society as reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.

1.4 The Formulation of The Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem, the researcher formulates the problem as follows:

1. What types of social classes reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan?
2. What are the struggles against social stratification as reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan?

1.5 Objective of The Research

The purpose of this study is to answer the formulation of the problem above, so, the objectives of the research are:

1. To reveal the types of social classes reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.
2. To figure out the struggles from the main characters against social stratification reflected in “Crazy Rich Asian” novel by Kevin Kwan.

1.6 Significance of The Problem

The researcher hopes that by conducting this research, this research will gain theoretical or practical knowledge.

1.6.1 Theoretically

This study is expected to give both theoretically and Practically contribution on the area of literature especially in this novel. Theoretically, the result of this research is hoped to develop the study and analysing the social classes, as found in “Crazy Rich Asians” Novel. Though the researcher might find many kinds of social classes, this research is directed to give more explanation and information on the kinds of social classes found in Novel of “Crazy Rich Asian” by Kevin Kwan.

1.6.2 Practically

Practically, this research is very useful because the author tries to apply the theory of literary studies, especially novels. In addition, this research can provide a clear picture and guideline for readers' understanding to understand

especially analyzing literary works so that it can be a reference for other researchers to conduct literary studies in the same field or research topic even though with different novels or even different perspectives.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

The Researcher desires to explain the meaning of the title consideration concisely.

Sociological Approach : Sociological Approach is an approach to find imaginary meanings in literary works that study about society, social class, romance, religion, nature, etc. The sociological approach can be used to develop what the researcher sees in society is conveyed in his own style and if the story reflects the social class conflicts of society at a particular time.

Social Class : Social class is as a form of layer or hierarchy that occurs in a society. This layer will usually lead to discrimination that makes some people move to carry out the class struggle. The expected class goal is to increase social justice in a comprehensive and complex manner indiscriminately, especially in the socio-economic dimension. Basically, social stratification is divided into three elements.

Social Class Struggle : Social class struggle is referred to class warfare and class conflict, which means it's a condition of tension and disputes between social classes in society such as political tension and economic antagonism between them as a result of socio-economic competition.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In this research, the researcher used sociological approach based on Max Weber and Karl Max theory. Sociological approach in literary work is an approach that to find imaginary meanings in literary works that study about society, social class, romance, religion, nature, etc.

2.1 Sociological Approach

Literature and sociology are reflections of the relationship between humans and the environment. There is a way to interact with the environment, it is related to real life. Sociology can be studied as a literary fact and its impact on the social environment. According to Weber, the definition and understanding of sociology is a science that studies social phenomena and actions. Social action itself here is very subjective to the individual and is defined on the behavior of others who are observed. Sociologists such as Alan Swingwood, Karl Marks, Max Weber and others agree that sociology is both an institution and a sociology. Sociology is related to literature unlike other social sciences. Sociology is interested in almost all aspects of human social life. Sociology can also be defined as a theme-focused social science which means that Humans are attached to their interactions and actions in certain social contexts (Weber, 1997).

Sociology always related to human activities with their environment. Study sociology not only about human behavior but sociological elements such as society structure, social stability, and social change. According to Laurensen (1972) states that "Sociology is basically scientific and objective study of people in society, the study of social institutions and social processes". Sociology as a science to study social relationships and obtain material from different sources literature.

Sociology is a social science which is the end result of the development of science. Furthermore, the sociology of literature is applied in research because it increases the understanding of literature in relation to society, explains that the image does not contradict reality even though literary works are consumed imaginatively, but the imaginative framework cannot be understood outside the empirical framework and literary works are not merely individual symptoms but rather social symptom.

In other words, the sociological approach is an approach to find imaginary meanings in literary works that study about society, social class, romance, religion, nature, etc. The sociological approach can be used to develop what the researcher sees in society delivered in their own style and if the story reflects about social classes conflict of society in certain time.

Related to the topic, the researcher used the theory by Max Weber to described the types of Social Classes and the theory by Karl Max to explain about the conflict of Social Class and their Struggle because different classes.

2.1.1 Social Class

Social class refers to hierarchical differences (or stratification) between people or groups of people in society or culture. Usually most people have social groups, but not all people have the same types of social class categories. Which differentiation of class in society occur are usually based on economic factors, education, occupation, and the relationship between the status (position) of a family member and the status of other family members, when the position of the head of the family increases, the status of other family members also increases. The term social class first came into widespread use in the early 19th century, replacing terms such as rank and order as descriptions of the main hierarchical groupings in society. The development of a new social class is defined in economic terms, either by ownership of capital or, conversely, by dependence on wages. Social class must be distinguished from status group; the former is based primarily on economic importance, while the latter is based on evaluations of job honor or prestige, cultural position, or family ancestry.

Social class arises because of differences in respect and status social. For example, a member of society is seen as respectable because he has a high social status, and a member of society looked down upon because of their low social status. Class is formed by the association of the grouping of individuals with the ownership of private property in the means of production. This results in a fundamentally dichotomous model of class relations as some have and others do not, some work and others live off the results of those who work

all class society is built around the main line of division between two hostile classes, one dominant and the other. others are subordinated. (Giddens, p. 37).

According to Weber (1864), Social class can be divided into three parts, there are:

1. Upper Class

The term upper class refers to a group of individuals who occupy the highest place and status in society. These people are considered the richest, being above the middle and lower classes in the social hierarchy. This class lives at the highest level of the social ladder above the middle class and lower class, they generally have the highest status in society and have a lot of wealth. Because of this, they also carry considerable power politically, economically, and financially. According to Weber (1978) The resulting types of social classes are the 'dominant entrepreneurial and propertied groups'; (Upper Class) the petty bourgeoisie; 'workers with formal credentials'; (the middle class) and 'those who lack them and whose only asset is their labor power'; (the lower class or the working class). In the United Kingdom, the upper classes are the aristocracy and royalty, with wealth playing a less important role in class status.

2. Middle Class

The middle class is a class of people who are in the middle of a social hierarchy such as between the Upper Class and Lower Class. According to Max Weber (1978: p.302), The middle-class is defined as consisting of professionalism owner who share a culture of domesticity and sub-urbanity

and a lot of relative security against social critic. The researcher also found another definition of Middle Class in a Journal. According to Ariel Heryanto (1999:11).

The Middle Class is positioned as an autonomous group within the relations of the state and the society. In Western culture, people in the middle class tend to have a higher proportion of college degrees than those in the working class, have more income available for consumption, and may own property. Those in the middle class are often employed as professionals, managers, and civil servants (Adam Hayes 2020). In this type of social class, the researcher does not give a quotation because in the novel it does not explain or describe someone who is related to or is in the middle-class status.

3. Lower Class

The group of people below the middle class, who has the lowest level or social position due to low income, lack of skills or education, and others such as the working class. The group of people below the middle class, who has the lowest level or social position due to low income, lack of skills or education, and others such as the working class. Lower class in the United States refers to individuals who are at, or near, the lower end of the socioeconomic hierarchy. The lower class is usually defined as service employees, low-level manual workers, and the unemployed. Those who work in lower class jobs are often referred to as the working poor.

2.1.2 Social Stratification

Social stratification is the classification of community groups into certain levels. According to the etymology of language, stratification comes from the Greek *stratum*, which means layers. Pitirim A. Sorokin, defines social stratification as the difference in population or society into a few levels of classes in a hierarchical manner (Soekanto 1990). According to Weber, there are three factors that causes the social stratification in society, they are:

1. Class

Family background is one of the determinants of someone's social status in society that can be seen from family's environment, economic status, education, family's origin, etc.

2. Status

Social structure is a level in society. One type of concrete example of social structure is the caste system. Social structure can be interpreted as a social order that exists in society which is also a network of basic social elements.

3. Power

According to Marxism because of the belief that society based upon social class relations and that those from different class groups have opposing interest. Economic classes are one of a few parts of the social dynamics that are common in the daily social order of society. Conflict can act as a trigger for the process towards creating social balance.

2.1.2.1 Social Stratification faced by the Main Character

Diversity in this community group is a social phenomenon that is horizontal and vertical. The differences in members of society in sociology is known as social stratification. This social stratification can classify each of different individuals and groups. The differences in social class that occur in society also cause conflict that cannot be avoided by each social classes such Prejudice and Discrimination.

1. Prejudice

Prejudice is an unfair, intolerant, or unfavorable attitude towards a group of people. Prejudice also can define as an attitude of strong and unfounded dislike, or hatred towards a certain person or group of people based on negative stereotyped beliefs because of an assessment without looking at the unique characteristics of a person or group of people based solely on their membership in that group. Many people form and have prejudices because prejudice can play an important role in protecting or enhancing an individual's self-concept or self-image.

2. Discrimination

Discrimination is the treatment of the main group that corners minority groups because of differences in ethnicity, race, religion, gender, and social status. In this research, the researcher focused on two discriminations, they are Racial Discrimination and Socioeconomic Discrimination. The Racial discrimination is a term that refers to discrimination against a person or group of people based on their race. Pramoedya Ananta Toer (1998:50), provides a

definition of racism as an understanding that rejects a group of people based on racial differences. Another discrimination that undeniable are socio-economic which is closely related to one's status, both in terms of economic conditions, family background etc. which often led to conflict and discrimination treatment between different classes. According to Weber (1864 – 1920) He argued that class referred to economic interests. It was a quantifiable economic position – group that shares a common set of life-chances and circumstances. According to Marxism because of the belief that society is based upon social class relations and that those from different class groups have opposing interests.

2.1.3 Class Struggle

Class Struggle arises when differences between individuals or groups in society are not neutralized or neglected. Class Struggle does not happen by itself. although the main cause of social conflict is differences in society such as conflicts of economic interest. According to Susan (2009, p 22) that explained in the book of *Sosiologi Konflik*, Karl Marx's theory sees society as an arena of inequality that can trigger conflict and social change and class conflicts that occur in society related to the existence of groups in power and control. Conflict is endemic to social relations, according to Marxism, because of the belief that society is based on class relations and that those belonging to different class groups have conflicting interests. These

conflicting interests make people make various efforts to be accepted in other classes, such as:

1. Pursuing Education

Social class is all people and families who are aware of their position in a layer, while their position is known and recognized by the general public. One way for a person to increase his social status is to have a high degree. According to Max Weber (1978), the upper middle class is made up of educated professionals with college degrees and comfortable incomes.

2. Building the look

Weber also connects economic social class with life opportunities, where the class divided in society is not always related to the ownership of economic capital. This is in line with the essence of Weber's thoughts written in the book *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (1905).

3. Sacrificing the Feeling

Sacrifice therefore differs from other prosocial behaviors in that it only occurs when the person initially has an immediate self-oriented preference but later decides not to pursue it, after considering the outcome for the partner or relationship. According to Bahr and Bahr (2001), the definition of sacrifice is 'giving up, destroying, permitting injury, or forgetting something of value for something of greater value or having a more pressing claim' (p. 1232).

2.2 Review of Previous Study

There are many studies that discuss social class in a literary work. phenomena related to social class become a major issue that never ends in people's lives, even in various parts of the world social class is present as barriers that limit human social status. As a result of the existence of this social class, it certainly triggers the emergence of various conflicts that occur between these social classes. Various phenomena related to social class itself have been discussed through research which will be described in the previous of the research. Besides that, in the previous of the research, several studies have discussed the similar topic with the researcher which is related to the novel of "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan and with this topic.

The first researcher was written by Dwi Listri Anisa which discusses the reality of social class contained in the novel of *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. This research is published in the form of a thesis that can be accessed and found in the Putera Batam University Library's. She analyzed the various Social Norms in the Georgian Era as seen in the rejection in *Pride and Prejudice*, and through what ways Elizabeth Bennet expresses her rejection in *Pride and Prejudice*. In her thesis, she wrote that Jane Austen in *Pride and Prejudice* tried to uncover social norms in the Georgian era time period. He also analyzes the ways in which Elizabeth Bennett shows her disapproval, such as runaway from the dialogue between Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Collins.

The second researcher was written by Mei Hariyanti, a student from Muhammadiyah Surakarta University that have been analyzed about Social Stratification of the Sociological Approach with the novel of *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. She analyzed Social Stratification in English society in the early nineteenth century as reflected in Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice*. The research objective of his thesis is to analyze the novel based on its structural elements and analyze the novel based on a sociological approach, by identifying the relationship between the novel and the social setting of the early nineteenth century in British society on a sociological basis. approach. Based on the analysis, the researcher drew several conclusions. First, based on the structural analysis of the novel, it can be concluded that in *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen conveys moral status. Second, based on a sociological analysis, it can be concluded that in *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen reflects the social reality of British society including social, economic, political, scientific and technological aspects, culture and religion in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

The third researcher was written by a student of Literature Department in Sam Ratulangi University, Manado. Her name is Pamela Clara Loindong that in her thesis, she analyzed and describe how Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* described the social life and state of the British Society in the early nineteenth century and to identify analyze and describe how social writers used a sociological approach, Aristotle's mimetic theory, Wellek and Warren's theory of the relationship between sociology and literature, and Max

Weber's theory of social stratification. *Pride and Prejudice* intelligently and realistically depicts British social life in the early nineteenth century. The depiction is through correspondence as a medium of communication and ballroom dance parties as a medium of socialization.

Furthermore, how society considers marriage as the highest ideal that a woman can achieve, the value of marriage and the requirements of what values a woman should have. Max Weber's theory of social stratification states that status and power classes are necessary and must be met to achieve certain positions in the social dimension. Through several characters in *Pride and Prejudice*, we can see the implementation of this theory.

After doing some research on the sources, the researcher found that several journals that also discussed about the sociological approach named Jost elbrück with his thesis is (Falaky, 2016), The purpose of the study in his thesis is to analyzed and understanding his conception of the sociology of international law, this article explores the impact of Huber's socio-political and intellectual environment on his work. At the heart of Huber's conceptualization of the sociology of international law is about the nature of the state and the main problem of the binding power of international law, which he ultimately finds resting on the collective interest of states in their binding power. In his early years, Huber held on to the idea that international law was an ordinary 'Machtrecht', but later he turned from this position without retreating from his sociological approach to international law altogether.

The second journal that discusses the sociological approach that has been analyzed by Dr. Arun Murlidhar Jadhav in a thesis entitled *The* (Jadhav & Hall, 2014), He analyzes several critics and scholars from Plato to date who have discussed various theories of sociological approaches to literary studies. The early social thinkers and literary critics such as JC Herder, Madame de Stale, HA Taine and others laid the foundations for a sociological approach to literature, but they ignored the author's worldview and the role of publishers, distributors, critics, public libraries and outstanding libraries in the creation and existence of literary works.

Related to those thesis and journals above can be concluded that there are the similarities and also differences between them with the researcher's thesis. The similarities are used the same approach namely sociological approach, discussed about the types of social class in society and the conflict that appeared by different social class and the different between those analysis above is they did not discuss about the struggle by the characters to be accepted in other class.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

In conducting this research, the writer applies sociological approach.

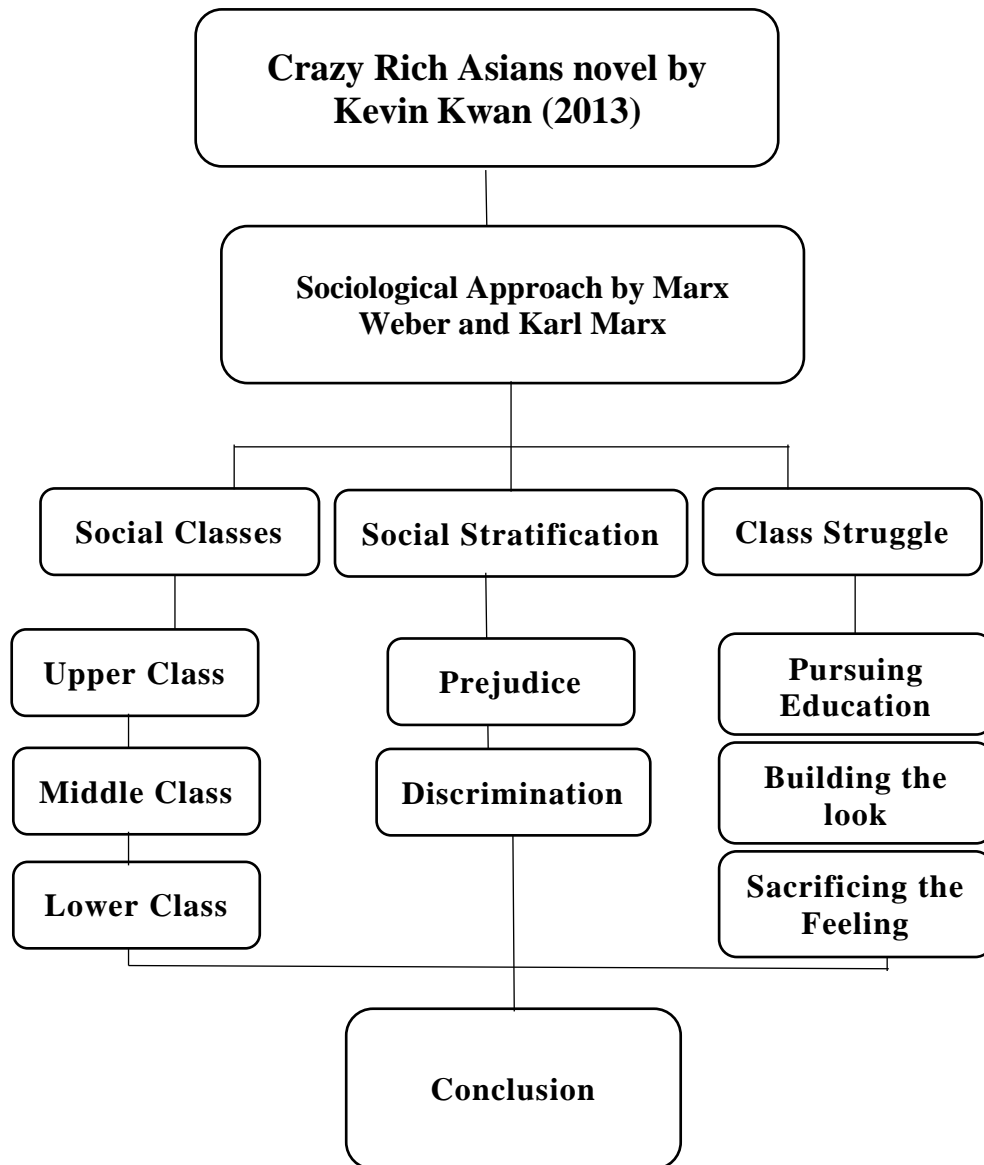


Figure 2.2: Theoretical Framework

Sociological approach is the main concept in this research. Literature in the concept of sociology is seen as a reflection of social society because literature is present in the midst of that social society. in a sociological

approach, problems related to conflict between humans are the main thing in a study. The researcher limits the research variables to social class as part of a sociological approach and there are some theories to describe about the types of Social Class, the researcher used by theory of Max Weber and to describe about the struggle the researcher used the theory of Karl Marx's.

According to Weber (1978), Social Class divided into 3 types such as Upper Class, Middle Class, and Lower Class. Each social class has characteristics that limit the social class space. the upper class is characterized by social status characteristics related to financial, family background, and land ownership in the concept of feudalism. The middle social class becomes the bridge over the three social classes. while the lowest social class is at the bottom class point. the presence of these social classes triggers conflicts between each class.

According to Marx (1818), There are several conflicts that can be caused by differences social status such as Class Structure in Society, Conflicting Economic Interest Between Different Classes, Classes are naturally antagonistic by Virtue of Their Interests.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research method is the structure, rules, activities, and procedures used by researchers to conduct research. Researchers discuss research design, research object, data collection method, data analysis method, and method of presenting research results in this chapter.

3.1 Research Design

This research design is qualitative research. Qualitative research as research that aims to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects. More fitting and suitable for researching matters relating to research, attitudes, motivations, perceptions and actions of the subject. In other words, this type of research cannot use quantitative methods. In this study, the researchers found problem data that could be obtained from theory, facts, and data taken from a literary work, namely the novel. According to Gerard (2001), the qualitative methods are usually concerned with testing previous hypotheses of theory. According to Aspers (2019) the qualitative method is a systematic subjective approach used to describe life experiences and give them meaning. Qualitative research is an iterative process in which an increased understanding of the scientific community is achieved by making significant new differences that result from getting closer to the phenomenon being studied.

3.2 Object of The Research

The Object of the Research was Social Classes and Class Struggle in “Crazy Rich Asians” novel by Kevin Kwan. This research related to the types of social classes and social class struggle. The researcher used the theory of Max Weber and Karl Marx. In conducting the research, the first thing to pay attention to is the object of research to be studied it contained with the problems that will be used as research material to find solutions. According to Arikunto (2010:29) "The object of research or research variable is something that is at the core of the research problem." Based on the explanation of theory above, the researcher focused on two problems in this research. The first is the strategy of reading social classes in the novel of “Crazy Rich Asians” novel by Kevin Kwan. The second is the strategy reading and analyzed social class struggle in the novel of “Crazy Rich Asians” by Kevin Kwan.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

The researcher used the document study to collect the data. It means that document study is the method of collecting data-based text to analyze the context. In this chapter, the researcher analyzes about primary and secondary data. According to (Lofland, Snow, Anderson, & Lyn, 1984, p.47) in Moleong (2007:15) state that primary data is the main source of the data. The primary data of this research is the one of Novel by Kevin Kwan which are taken from his book entitled “Crazy Rich Asians” that published in June 2013.

To enrich the materials and complete the research, the writer uses the secondary data. Consistent with Lofland and Lofland (1984:47) in (Lexy Meleong, 2007.p.15) state that secondary data is additional information and sources that support research. The secondary data of this research are all written works that support research to add information and understanding, including the adaptation movie version of “Crazy Rich Asians”, books of theory applied, books of methodology of the qualitative research, and some internet sources. There are some steps, which are too used to collect the data of this study. These are as follows:

1. Read and understand the novel “Crazy Rich Asians” by Kevin Kwan.
2. Choose materials or sources that are appropriate to the problem and research objectives.
3. Conduct a survey of paragraphs and dialogues in the novel.
4. Choose the data dialing with the problem to be studied.

3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

The data analysis method is divided into two main steps, namely; analyze the intrinsic and extrinsic elements in a novel. The first step, the researcher analyzes the intrinsic elements or elements of fiction, which means a set of aspects in fiction that are built from within the story itself. So, in this chapter the researcher analyzes the intrinsic elements of fiction which consist of plot, characters, setting, point of view, and theme. For extrinsic researchers get data from sources such as books or e-books. Research data in the form of

paragraphs and dialogue quotes from events in this study are simple. The steps to analyze the data are as follows:

1. Review the data that has been collected.
2. Determine the components of social conflict and social literature.
3. Develop theories that will be used for analysis.
4. Draw conclusions based on data analysis.

3.5 Method of Presenting Analysis Result

This method presents the results of data analysis using words or sentences. The data are qualitative reporting, meaning that research is conveyed using the form of words or paragraphs to convey research, and descriptively generate and describe to the reader about the research. The researcher chose this method because the researcher used sentences and paragraphs to clearly explain the research results. So, to provide a high level of understanding, qualitative descriptive methods are suitable for presenting research results.