

**RIGID SOCIAL STRUCTURES OF THE 19TH CENTURY
ENGLAND THROUGH JANE AUSTEN'S NOVEL *PRIDE AND
PREJUDICE***

A THESIS

BY:

KESYA APRILLIA BALQIS

Reg. No.: 71210411007



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UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
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UNIVERSITAS ISLAM SUMATERA UTARA
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Supervisor

Prof. Dr. M. Manugeran, M.A

Dean of the Faculty

Head of the Faculty

Dr. Purwanto Siwi, S.S, M.A

Dr. Ely Ezir, M.S

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The Writer

KESYA APRILLIA BALQIS

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APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

Biography of Jane Austen

Jane Austen was an English novelist born on December 16, 1775 in Steventon, Hampshire. She is recognized as one of the most important writers in English literature, especially for her works depicting social and marital life in the early 19th century. Austen came from an educated family and started writing from a young age. Some of her famous novels, such as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Emma*, feature strong and intelligent female characters, and provide sharp criticism of the social norms of her time. Although her work was not widely recognized during her lifetime, Austen is now considered a pioneer in the genres of romantic novels and social realism. Jane Austen died on July 18, 1817 in Winchester, England, at the age of 41. Although she only published six novels during her lifetime, her legacy lives on and influences many writers and readers around the world. Her works have been adapted into various forms of media, including film, theatre, and television, demonstrating the enduring appeal of her themes, such as love, social class, and female identity. As such, Jane Austen remains a symbol of classic literature and continues to inspire new generations of writers and readers today.

APPENDIX B

Jane Austen's Literary Works

1. *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)
2. *Sense and Sensibility* (1811)
3. *Mansfield Park* (1814)

4. Emma (1815)
5. Northanger Abbey (1818)
6. Persuasion (1818)
7. The Watsons (1804)

APPENDIX C

Summary of Pride and Prejudice

Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is set in rural England in the early 19th century and focuses on the Bennet family of five daughters. In this story, Mrs. Bennet is very ambitious to marry off her daughters for the sake of their future, given that the Bennet family has no male heir, so the family estate is in danger of falling into the hands of others if Mr. Bennet dies. The arrival of Mr. Bingley, a wealthy young man, to Netherfield is a great hope for the Bennet family. Jane, the eldest daughter, immediately catches Mr. Bingley's eye, while her best friend, Mr. Darcy, who is more reserved and seemingly arrogant, meets Elizabeth, the second daughter of the Bennet family. Elizabeth Bennet is intelligent, critical and assertive. Her first meeting with Mr. Darcy at a ball creates prejudice in her mind, as Darcy seems to underestimate her. Conflicts and misunderstandings arise, exacerbated by the gossip and slander circulating, especially those spread by Mr. Wickham regarding Darcy's character. On the other hand, the relationship between Jane and Mr. Bingley hits a snag when Bingley suddenly leaves for London, which turns out to be influenced by Darcy's interference as well as Bingley's sister who feels Jane is not socially appropriate enough.

In the midst of various conflicts, Mr. Collins, the Bennet cousin who is to inherit the family home, comes to propose to Elizabeth but is rejected. He then marries

Charlotte Lucas, Elizabeth's best friend, for financial security. Meanwhile, Lydia, Bennet's youngest sister, elopes with Wickham, which almost tarnishes the family's good name. In this situation, Darcy quietly helps solve the problems that arise, showing another side of himself that Elizabeth has not known. Slowly, Elizabeth begins to see Darcy's kindness after receiving explanations and letters from him regarding the reasons behind his actions towards Jane and Bingley, as well as the truth about Wickham. In this process, Elizabeth realizes that her own prejudice and pride have blinded her judgment. Meanwhile, Darcy also learns to be humbler and get rid of his sense of superiority. As a result, their relationship develops from hostility to mutual understanding and love.

Finally, after facing various obstacles, Darcy again proposes to Elizabeth and this time is accepted, while Jane is also reunited with Bingley. The novel ends happily, emphasizing the importance of overcoming prejudice and pride to find true happiness. Through this story, Austen criticizes social norms, class distinctions, and gender roles, and highlights the importance of honesty and integrity in human relationships.

APPENDIX D

The Characters of the Novel

- 1. Elizabeth Bennet:** The female protagonist is known for her intelligence, sharp personality, as well as her initial prejudice against Mr. Darcy. Throughout the story, she undergoes significant development, learning to overcome those prejudices and judge people based on their true character.
- 2. Fitzwilliam Darcy:** The male protagonist, a wealthy nobleman who initially appears arrogant and proud. However, underneath his cold demeanour, lies a deep

kindness and loyalty. Throughout the story, he also undergoes significant development, learning to humble himself and overcome his pride.

3. **Jane Bennet:** Elizabeth's older sister, known for her beauty, gentleness, and kindness, is a more passive figure than Elizabeth, but still has her own strength of character.
4. **Charles Bingley:** Mr. Darcy's friend, an amiable, kind, and wealthy man, is in love with Jane Bennet and is a more sociable figure than Darcy.
5. **Mr. Wickham:** A handsome and cunning officer, he initially attracts Elizabeth with his charm and negative stories about Mr. Darcy, but he is actually a con artist who takes advantage of others.
6. **Lady Catherine de Bourgh:** Mr. Darcy's aunt, a proud, arrogant and powerful woman, tries to prevent the relationship between Darcy and Elizabeth.
7. **Mr. Collins:** Mr. Bennet's ignorant, pretentious, and obnoxious cousin, he is a clergyman with a tendency to give excessive and often out-of-place compliments.
8. **Mr. Bennet:** The father of Elizabeth and Jane, he was sarcastic and often observed his family's antics.
9. **Mrs. Bennet:** The mother of Elizabeth and Jane, possessed of anxious and ambitious tendencies, sought to marry off her daughters to wealthy men.
10. **Lydia Bennet:** The impulsive and reckless youngest sister, who pursues pleasure without thinking about consequences.
11. **Caroline Bingley:** Charles Bingley's sister who was haughty and tried to separate Bingley from Jane, and showed dislike for Elizabeth.
12. **Colonel Fitzwilliam:** Darcy's kind and wise cousin, who gave Elizabeth a better view of Darcy's character.

13. **Mary Bennet:** The serious and intellectual middle sister, often trying to show her knowledge and morality, but lacking in social matters.
14. **Charlotte Lucas:** Elizabeth's pragmatic close friend, chose to marry Mr. Collins for financial security even though there was no love in it.