An Analysis of *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith from the Orientalist Perspective

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to analyse the novel *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith from the Orientalist perspective. The analysis was based on Edward Said's book, *Orientalism* by focusing on the concepts such as religion, language, identity, culture, family and traditions between the East and the West. It is possible to find out various examples overlapping the Western invention Orientalist concept in *White Teeth*. The process of emerging the connection between East and West, the colonial period, the Eurocentric concept, immigration in the post-colonial period, and the inter-cultural interactions contributed to world literature, especially literature in English, as inspirational sources. Considering the sources and references, this study also focused on British colonies, immigrants in England, and their cultural interactions. The novel includes characters from England, Bangladesh, and Jamaica. Such a cosmopolitan society and their relationships provide hard evidence for Orientalist theory. Consequently, the characters and allegorical elements in the novel convey the story of experiences, causes and effects during the post-colonial period to the reader through a fictional work.

Keywords: White Teeth, Zadie Smith, Orientalism, Edward Said, Post-Colonialism