

ABSTRACT

Human beings are basically individuals who may experience a sense of loneliness and alienation as human possibility, and there is existence in human beings themselves, but what kind of existence offered by Kobo Abe through the “figure of I” in the novel *Tanin No Kao* became interesting to study. This research is analyzing the “figure of I” in *Tanin no Kao* by Kobo Abe with statement of problems as follow: **1. What are the forms of alienation that happens to the “figure of I” in the novel *Tanin No Kao* by Kobo Abe; 2. What are the forms of existence which is shown by the “figure of I” in the novel *Tanin No Kao* by Kobo Abe?**

The method used in this research is a qualitative method that focuses on content analysis. This research method uses a novel research object called *Tanin No Kao* by Kobo Abe. This research used qualitative methods with source references will be the source of the literature. This research will use Indonesian translation version translated by Henry Eko Yulianto and Japanese language version as the main reference. This study aims to describe the alienation that occurs in figure of I and Outlining the existence which is shown by the “figure of I” in the novel *Tanin No Kao* by kobo abe.

This research will use the concept of alienation suggested by Riesman and existential philosophy of Martin Heidegger. The use of existential theory is grounded in human concept open to his world and for others, according to Heidegger openness based on three things are important, which indicates the existence of human being, namely *Befindlichkeit*, *Verstehen*, and *Rede*.

The conclusion that can be drawn from this research is a form of alienation that occurs in the “figure of I” with close themselves and refrain from the slightest contact with others, and finally figure of I feel comfortable with solitude, comfort with inanimate objects than being with other people. While the form of existence is *existence fürsorge*, an existence which show that humans maintain each other, which means people do not shut themselves from others, but open to others.

Keywords: Alienation, existence, *Befindlichkeit*, *Verstehen*, and *Rede*