ABSTRACT

Dreamer is a novel published in 1998 by an African-American author named Charles Johnson. This novel set in the Civil Rights era America in 1966. This novel told about Chaym Smith as a man who had a physical resemblance with Marthin Luther Jr. However, the issues of classism and class-struggle are portrayed in this novel especially in the figure of Chaym Smith who has a different standard of living from Marthin Luther King Jr. This research used qualitative method to analyze the novel. The theory used in this study is Marxist Criticism especially the issue of classism and class-struggle. This research analyzes the differences between the figures of Chaym Smith as a proletariat and Marthin Luther King Jr. as a bourgeois that have been portrayed in this novel. The result suggests that Chaym Smith belongs to the lower social class, he is poor and uneducated, that is why he can be simply controlled by the upper social class. Smith has to be perfectly the same with Marthin Luther King Jr in every part of King’s life and that is the reason why Chaym Smith has been oppressed by the ideology of Marthin Luther King Jr. Moreover, King has a better standard of living than Smith. Thus, although they have a physical resemblance. The differences lead to the conflicts and clashes that also creat a class-struggle as depicted in the novel.

Keywords: Dreamer, Classism, Class-struggle, Class Oppression.