ABSTRACT

During colonial period in India, the British educated the Indians, the colonized. The British, in doing this, aimed at establishing their colonial power in India. The Indian accepted the education given by the British, the things that they should have refused as it was given by the British, the one that colonized and made the Indians suffered. The Indians did not realize the intention of the British that they just wanted to colonize and exploit their nation and its resources. Therefore, it raised ambivalence that Bhabha explains as a form of complexity of attitudes shown by the colonized; there is a tendency of adopting the colonizer’s way of life, yet they still eagerly want to preserve their nation. In this study, the writer analyzes Tha’mma’s educational background to find out the form of colonial education that affected Tha’mma’s life and, might, caused the ambivalence to occur. From the analysis, the writer found that Tha’mma was involved in the process of teaching colonial education. Due to her involvement, there was such acculturation and assimilation between Indian’s and the British culture. Tha’mma’s ambivalence also affected her attitudes as she seemed to go against her own nationality. Furthermore, after the ambivalence in character Tha’mma had been observed, it can be seen that her ambivalence was caused by her involvement in spreading the colonial education and it weakened her position in the eyes of the colonizer, the British.

Keywords: ambivalence, education, mimicry, post-colonialism