ADLN - Perpustakaan Universitas Airlangga

ABSTRACT

This study aims to find the cultural and identity crisis faced by diaspora

through his language. A person becomes a diaspora when he has been through a

movement that made him separated from his homeland. As a global language,

English is a language that naturally retained by the diaspora. This condition found in

the character of Nan Wu as a Chinese American Diaspora in Ha Jin's novel "A Free

Life". Nan use English language in his everyday life in America. In his using of the

language, the denial of standard use of English, and the adaptation in the language

were collected as the data in this writing. Those data were analyzed by abrogation and

appropriation theory of Post-colonialism study. From the analysis the writer found

several findings. The first finding is Nan's state of diaspora due to exile. The second

finding is Nan's vernacular transcription in his diction that indicates his cultural

experience of uncertainty and disappointment. Moreover, from the second findings

above, the writer found the identity crisis of in-between-ness in Nan's character as the

third findings. Therefore this writing concludes that language in post-colonial

literature posses the ability to communicate the state of mind and state of position of

a diaspora that understandable from cultural and identity context.

Keywords: Abrogation, Appropriation, Chinese diaspora, In-between-ness

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