

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

After analyzing the short stories “Good Advice Rare than Rubies”, “The Free Radio”, “The Prophet’s Hair” and “The Harmony of the Sphere” which are published in collection of Salman Rushdie’s short story *East, West* (1995), the writer concludes that Salman Rushdie is actually trying to construct new images of women and challenge the traditional gender role of women in Indian patriarchal culture through his female characters. Through his four female characters, Miss Rehana, The Thief’s Widow, Huma and Mala, Rushdie constructs new images of women which challenge the traditional stereotypes of Indian women. Those images are independent, determined, tough, and intelligent. Rushdie delivers these traits through their struggle in facing their problems against their culture, society and environment. Additionally these female characters prove their capability by their action in those short stories. First, they are considered as independent women because they can handle their own problems without depending on men. Second, the image of tough women is proved by their capability in surviving in such cruel society. And the last the image of determined and intelligent women are described by their action in deciding a smart decision. the last image of progressive is proved by their capability in adapting themselves in new culture.

Furthermore, the writer also examines those traits by using Helen Cixous's *Patriarchal Binary Thought*. According to these binaries, men and women have their own trait which is opposite to each other in the binarism. For instance, the traits of independent / non-emotional / aggressive / tough-skinned / competitive / clumsy / experienced / strong / active / self-confident / hard / sexuality aggressive / rebellious are the words that describe masculinity. On the other hand, dependent / emotional / passive / sensitive / quite / graceful / innocent / weak / flirtatious / self-critical / soft / sexuality submissive / accepting are the words that used to describe femininity. Usually in this binary, men are always positioned on the left side of binary which is believed as the superior and women are on the other side and believed as the inferior one. The result of analysis, however shows us that those female characters occupy the left pole of the binary opposition. Based on that result we can simply say that Rushdie's female characters succeed in challenging the traditional stereotypes of women in Indian Patriarchal culture and set new ideal images of women by being independent, determined, and intelligent. The writer also concludes that through these short stories Rushdie undermine the patriarchal ideology and has feminist agenda, which gain equality, based *Patriarchal Binary Thought*.