

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions

In conclusion, the analysis of Abdulrazak Gurnah's novel *Afterlives* identified hybridity, mimicry, and ambivalence as key components of the postcolonial third space. Hybridity emerged as a central theme, as characters navigated multiple cultural influences and created new identities that challenged traditional binaries. Mimicry was evident in the characters' adoption of the German language and customs, highlighting the power dynamics inherent in colonial relations. Ambivalence was reflected in the characters' mixed feelings towards both the colonizers and the colonized, showcasing the complexities of identity formation in a postcolonial context. These findings underscored the significance of the third space as a site of cultural negotiation and resistance in postcolonial literature.

The analysis of passages from *Afterlives* further revealed a nuanced exploration of this third space through the characters' navigation of cultural exchange, language, literature, and education, highlighting both the potential for resistance and creative expression within colonial contexts. The novel delved into the complexities of mimicry as a survival tactic and a form of cultural negotiation, showcasing the characters' struggles with identity and assimilation. Additionally, the ambivalent attitudes towards colonial institutions like the Schutztruppe underscored the contradictory emotions and lasting impacts of colonialism on individuals and societies. Overall, *Afterlives* offered a profound reflection on the

multifaceted nature of postcolonial experiences, emphasizing the ongoing negotiation of cultural identity, power dynamics, and the search for agency in the aftermath of colonial rule.

B. Suggestions

For the suggestions, readers were suggested to deepen their engagement with literature by exploring novels and texts that addressed postcolonial themes, similar to those depicted in Abdulrazak Gurnah's *Afterlives*. By applying critical thinking, they were suggested to analyze how migration, diaspora, and identity influenced narratives and characters in various literary works. Participating in book clubs or discussion groups that focused on postcolonial literature was also suggested to enhance their understanding and allow them to share insights about the complexities of these themes.

Subsequently, researchers were suggested to expand their theoretical frameworks by incorporating postcolonial theories, such as those proposed by Homi K. Bhabha, into analyses of other literary works to explore cultural and identity intersections more deeply. They were suggested to foster interdisciplinary collaboration with scholars from diverse fields to enrich their research on postcolonial literature and its impact on understanding social and political issues. Additionally, focusing on how postcolonial theory could address contemporary global issues, such as migration and diaspora, was suggested to keep their research relevant and impactful.

Lastly, novelists were suggested to benefit from integrating postcolonial themes into their work by creating more nuanced and diverse characters and

settings that reflected the complexities of cultural intersections and hybrid identities. By giving voice to marginalized perspectives, they were suggested to enrich their storytelling and provide a more inclusive view of postcolonial issues. Engaging with academic research on postcolonial theory when developing plots and characters was also suggested to enhance the depth and relevance of their literary works.

