

Conclusion

Human rights are more universally known in the age of globalization but in practice, it grows more complicated than ever to realize them. This thesis points out the social injustice which is easily ignored and taken as normal phenomena in today's world. The social injustice would not disappear in the evolution of globalization as Horst Kohler, the IMF director in 1990s, claims in *Life and Debt*.¹ Instead, it would become more and more complicated because the local and global power relations are reorganized not only in the scale of nation-states but also in that of "global village." I choose illegal immigrants and tourists to approach the issue of global social injustice. Both kinds of migration can be regarded as a practice of human right and in their global mobility, they expose more intense struggles among the global, the local and different social status. The literary representations of these migrants discussed in this thesis reveal how the reorganized social-spatial-economic hierarchy in global mobility may impact and re-negotiate the human rights which urgently need to be secured and respected.

The right of global mobility highlights various difficulties in implementing human rights at the global scale. Practicing their right to migrate, numerous low-class immigrants find themselves encounter serious difficulties in having their rights fulfilled in other countries and they live in a miserable condition.

Chapter One summarizes some theories from the geographical and spatial aspect to theorize the global struggles for realizing human rights. Étienne Balibar,

¹ The film, in the beginning, quotes Horst Kohler, the Director of IMF, who declares that globalization works for the benefit for all people, especially the poor because, as he says, "there is no good future for the rich if there is no better future for the poor."

Saskia Sassen, and David Harvey endeavor to capture the transformations of the essential geographical elements of human rights in the era of economic globalization. For instance, the concept of border no longer refers to the fixed territorial border but becomes a much more flexible and dispersed one occurred in every form of global capital and people flow. On the other hand, the role that nation-states play in practicing human rights/citizenship is also transformed. They used to be regarded as the protector of their citizens by making laws to prevent any violation and by developing their military power to defend the national spaces. Now they gradually turn into one of the players of spaces to accumulate more capital for the interests of the nation-states themselves. Understanding the major spatial transformations in practicing human rights through some theories, Chapter One indicates few contemporary difficulties of human rights. These challenges of rights/citizenship directly (re)organize the global order among different nation-states and people and cause the social violation occurred globally in our everyday life.

The literary works studied in Chapter Two and Chapter Three offer us one way to understand the violation of rights in certain people's everyday life. In Chapter Two, I analyze how the illegal immigrants and refugees would be seriously harmed because of all different players who have the access to manipulating the dispersed borders. In *In This World* and *Dirty Pretty Things*, the immigrants and refugees migrate with the hope for having a better secured life but in fact, they face a cruel world in which different groups of people are waiting to benefit from the process of their migration. The border policemen charge two teenage immigrants for crossing the national border. The smugglers exploit them for providing the smuggling service. The legal

immigrants take their kidneys as the price for getting them fake passports and citizenship. Because of economic globalization, the borders are no longer firm and consolidated as the territorial borders used to be. They are inconsistent and dispersed everywhere so that different agents may have much more opportunities to play with these borders for their own interests. These two films display how miserable the life of illegal immigrants and refugees may be when they struggle to survive in this new global order of dispersed borders.

In addition to examining the life of illegal immigrants and refugees represented in the filmic works, I deal with those who have no mobility at all through studying the representations of global tourism in my last chapter. *A Small Place* and *Life and Debt* reveal the violation of rights in the local's life in Antigua and Jamaica from the perspective of the tourists who can enjoy their hyper-mobility to visit other countries. In both works, the hyper-mobility may become a power to violate others' rights. In the past, the mobility of the colonists began the traumatic history of both Caribbean countries. Today, the tourists consume the living spaces and the everyday life of the local without knowing the reality covered by the beautiful hotel or the romanticized colonial heritage. As Kincaid suggests, they come to turn the poor life of the local their entertainment and pleasure. Besides, in Black's film, the international companies freely come and go to the Free Zone to terribly exploit the Caribbean labors without any just punishment. In contrast with the local who can not move or leave for anywhere, the hyper-mobility of the tourists and the international economic agents represents a great power in two works. Their hyper-mobility enables them to oppress and control the life of those who have no mobility to escape.

The literary works represent the everyday practice of human rights. Human rights and global mobility are the concepts that solidly affect the way how people live, especially in the age of economic globalization. People from different countries intensively contact with one another in every aspects of daily life. How people treat one another and how they realize others' human rights would decide the global social order and peace. Any difficulties in practicing human rights today would cause great impacts on the lifestyle of different people and the value of human beings. However, these effects and impacts in everyday life are rarely represented in the scale of global economy, politics, or laws. Through the literary works about today's world, we see how the goal of human rights are endangered and how the danger of rights reorganizes the global order and directs the everyday life of different people in different social conditions.

Studying the concept of human rights and global mobility through the representations of the practice of rights in everyday life, I probe into the life of people struggling to survive in the lowest level of society in economic globalization. The illegal immigrants and the poor local Caribbean people are seriously exploited and oppressed for their survival. They are forced to exchange their belongings, their labor and their organs for a chance and a space to live in this world. The supranational organizations, the governments, the border and immigration police, the citizens or legal immigrants, and the tourists are all involved in the process of exploitation and violation, whether they are aware of it or not. The representations of the life of the illegal immigrants and the Caribbean people reveal the dark side of the reality which is concealed under the beautiful but false promise of the flourishing global economy. To have the

knowledge about the reality conveyed through these literary works and some social theories is our starting point to fulfill the aim of human rights, because during the process of exposing reality, we may also give the weak an opportunity to speak for themselves and claim for their basic rights.