Abstract

The main theme of the thesis is based on the novel, which has a huge following of readers far and wide, titled *The Romance of the Red Chamber*. This is, by no means, its only known title. The other also much known title is *The Story of the Stone*, which emphasizes on the narrative of the novel told by a stone in the novel.

The topic of discussion in this thesis is with regard to the specific features of the Chinese families system, as described in the novel. The first chapter (that right after the introductory chapter) shall deal with the detailed descriptions on the workings of the families system on various members of the Jia family, which is coincidentally a noble family in its times, delving into the rites and rituals as practiced by the family during special occasions, and architectural features of the Jia family’s abode, the content of which by no means arbitrary, they work together to symbolize who is the figure of authority in the family.

The second chapter emphasizes on the author’s view on the Chinese families system, as told to readers through his use of language and arrangement of the narrative. Finally, the significance of *Daguan Yuan* (literally meaning Grand-view garden) in the novel as a symbol of the author’s utopian ideals would also be discussed.