

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introduction and a general description of the research which are divided into five parts, as following: The first part is a research background which contains the phenomena behind the existence of this study. In the second part, there is a research question that fits the research problems. In the third part, define the research objectives that deal with the research questions in the previous section. In the fourth part, there is the explanation of a research significance. Then in the last part, there is the definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Woman have a role in education, cultural values, character building and also impacts the people around them (Sugihastuti, 2000) . The character of a woman must be paid more attention to in order provide the values or norms that are applied in society. In literary works especially novels, the existence of women changes over time influenced by the author as a literary creator when literature was created. The quality of literary works such as novels influenced by characters because is determine by the ability of the author to describe the characters of the figures.

Besides the novel, the character in the film was also an aspect that attracted the attention of the audience because the film is a literary work that contains human behavior through the depiction of each figures. The main character plays an important role in analyzing a novel and film because the researcher traces the story by following the actions of the main characters in the story and scene. The female main character is a topic that is able to provide more knowledge for the audience about how women are represented and the relations with other characters in the literary works.

There are many novels which contain stories and struggles of women be used as objects in this study, one of them is Laksmi Pamuntak entitled *Amba*.

How in the end the researcher chose this novel to be the object of comparison among many literary works in the world, that is an extraordinary author in writing a story and managed characterization in the main character. *Amba* is novel that first published in 2013, and is currently being published in seventh cover editions on 2018. This novel was included in Indonesian Literature and had received many awards, for instance the winner of the LiBerature Preis in 2016.

Amba contain the story of the characters during the pre-independence and post-independence era of the transition period and from the Old Order to the New Order in 1965 by represented the state of Indonesia which experienced various contradictions, for instance the G30SPKI incident, political conflicts, and violences between groups, such in Pemuda Rakyat, Lekra, Pemuda Marhaenis, and many kind of religious groups. The reason why the researcher chose a comparable object in the form of a novel that even though the existed had been around for a long time it could survive as a literary work that was still red by literary connoisseurs.

It seems like a novel, the topic about woman also discussed in the film that contains in “*Titanic*” (1997) movie by James Cameron originated from the United States and included in English Literature. The film was produced by the 20th Century Fox, Paramount Pictures, and Lightstor Entertainment which released on January 5, 1998 in Indonesia, The reason why the researcher chose a film as the second object of comparison was along with the development of technology and the rises of globalization, films are no longer just an ordinary spectacle, but many moral messages was able to learned when someone watched.

As known the researcher is a student of English literature, in conducting this study the researcher was followed a provisions contained in comparative literature. One of them the researcher required to compare a literary works or other things with English Literature. In accordance with Bassnett’s (Bassnett, 1993) that Comparative literature compared the literary work of a country with another country and compared literature with other fields as the whole

expressions of life. In this case, the comparative literature had a wide area of studies.

The researcher who chose these objects was able to make the study of comparative literature more varied and high-quality works. The reason why the researcher analyzed the structure of the main character is because the female main character in this novel has the impressive and fascinate figure such as smart character, firm in argument, considered important of education, and does not want to be a limited freedom by others. Then the female main character in the film has similarities character such as having a firm argument, brave personality, and does not want to be restrained.

In the research, by all means there are previous studies or previous reading that can be a reference or basis for the research related to the object or topic to be compared. So in this comparative literary research, there are previous researchers who put forward the same topic of study, entitled "*Comparative Study of Cultural Structure and Values of Amba and Perjalanan Sunyi Bhisma Dewabrata's Novel*" by Uah Maspurah (2015). In the research had a similarities discussion with this study because this study analyzed the representation of the main character and the objects used in the study was also had similarities with the research currently doing.

The research contains the restoration of *Amba's* novel as an expression of desire, longing, and nostalgia which reminded of the wayang in modern times, as well as a form of affirmation in the socio-cultural norms that existed at certain times of the ideal puppet stories in *Perjalanan Sunyi Bhisma Dewabrata's* novel. This previous study was used in order to expand knowledge about the object under study because the purpose of the research also describes a structural analysis or the image of the female main character in the object that the researcher be compared.

In addition, the previous research in this study entitled "*Comparison of the Female Main Character in Cinta Suci Zahrana by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy with the Novel Mataraisa by Abidah El-Khalieqy*" by Lismarni, Nurizzati and

Muhammad Ismail Nasution aimed to analyzed the female main character in both objects of comparison, In this study, there are similarities in both characters such as like challenges, loved by many people. and underrated by male supremacy. While the two characters have differences in education, life principles, various problems experienced, and how to deal with other people.

The most of the previous research above are part of comparative literary studies which appeal to the object in the form of novels and tragedies which are included in Indonesian Literature, but in this study used comparative objects in different forms and categories, that are novel and film also originated from different countries with different culture and historical backgrounds, that are Indonesia and America. Based on the explanations, the researcher would like to conducted the study entitled “*Structural Analysis of The Female Main Character in Laksmi Pamuntjak's Amba Novel with (and) James Cameron's Titanic Movie*”.

1.2 Research Problems

In order to be more focused and in-depth study, the researcher orientates the problems to focused and formulated in two research questions, as follows:

1. How are the representation of the female main character and characterization in Laksmi Pamuntjak's *Amba* Novel and James Cameron's *Titanic* Movie (1997)?
2. How are the similarities and differences of the female main character and characterization in Laksmi Pamuntjak's *Amba* Novel and James Cameron's *Titanic* Movie (1997)?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the research questions above, the researcher limited and focused the study aimed at:

1. To Analyze the representation of the female main character and characterization in Laksmi Pamuntjak's *Amba* Novel and James Cameron's *Titanic* Movie (1997).
2. To Analyze the similarities and differences of the female main characters and characterization in Laksmi Pamuntjak's *Amba* Novel and James Cameron's *Titanic* Movie (1997).

1.4 Research Significance

The results of this study are expected to give benefits theoretically and practically, are as follows :

1. Theoretically

The result of the study expected to give contributions and be used for the development of literary studies to be able to provide many sources of literature, especially for analyzing the female main character using a structuralism theory and how the similarities and differences of the female main character in the two literary works.

Give, to give, be used, for the development, analyzing, using, are similar and differences

2. Practically

The result of the study was expected to be used as a relevant study (especially in the comparative literature) and provided input for the researcher or students of literature (both English or Indonesian Literature) to be able to conducted research with the subject analysis of the female main character, the depictions of the similarities and differences female main character in the two literary works.

1.5 Definition of The Key Terms

To clarify the concepts and equalize the understanding between the readers and the researcher in order to avoid ambiguity, the definitions of key terms are as follows: (1) **Literary work**: the results of human culture through the author's

imaginative and creative processing of expressed the ideas, thought, and expressions. (2) **Comparative literature:** study that compared differences and similarities in literary works which are used as objects of comparison between countries, nations on the one hand, and comparative studies between fields on the other.

(3) **Analysis:** the decompositions of a subject in the part and study of the section and the relationship between both for obtaining proper understanding of the meaning of objects. (4) **Structural analysis:** analysis that examined the structure of the novel both factual structure and story facts (plot, characters, settings), themes, and other literary means such as titles, viewpoints, styles, and tones. (5) **Female:** one of the human sexes who is expected to have attitudes and rights obligations motherly characteristic encourages herself to fulfilments organic and physiological aimed for the family and society..

(6) **The main character:** The character who told the most in the story or scenes, both as the perpetrator or the person affected by the event and continuously. (7) **The female main character:** a female figure who has an important role in a story and usually often appears in the narrative structure of the story and scenes. (8) **Novel:** The type of long prose contains a story of a person's life with the people around by highlighting the characterization of each character (Setiawan, Agustina, & Chanafiah, 2019). (9) **Film:** Literary work with audio-visual media that displays words, sounds, images, and combinations of the three parts (Sobur, 2004).