

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the introduction of the research. It consists of background of the research, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, problem limitation, and organization of writing.

1.1 Background of The Research

Culture is one of aspects that are available in the human life. Human can create and arrange culture. Culture affects human life, until can form our minds, behaviors, traditions, customs, norms, values, even myths. Sometimes, culture can appear conflict between classes because many different ideologies that contradict between one class and the other class. All of conflicts can lost if we can save it well. So, we can also create the product of culture according to the same mind. The statement has been also argued by Gramsci, culture is as organization, discipline of person's spiritual, it is attainment of a high consciousness, so he/she can comprehend value of his/her history, function in the life, rights and obligations (in Faruk, 2013:139).

Gramsci states that culture moves according to period of human history, so the literature will automatically changes according to culture at the time and since some centuries ago, in addition, it is called as the product of culture, it is also called as reflection of society life. He argues that literature relates to the human in the society: effort of human to adapt themselves and effort to change the society. He also argues that it is reflection of life that relates to reality of social. In this concerning, the life includes the relation between society (Damono 2014: 9).

Therefore, Simon states that hegemonic power can be accepted by human's awareness system if they can comprehend the common sense. He argues that hegemony is a process which continues to move along with the movement of the mind and the culture of society that does not stop. Therefore, Gramsci describes human history as a process of ideological compromise between social classes that never stops (in Kurniawan 2012: 80).

Literature, according to Gramsci, is influenced by cultural aspects and practical contents. He states that society are more interested on the contents of a literary work as it can practically take a position on the literary quality. He also defines that if a literary work affects the system of public awareness and they accept the common sense of revolutionary contained in a literature work, so, the literary work will have meaning of hegemonic (Anwar, 2010: 74-75).

Kurniawan argues literature is a medium in the distribution of ideology that serves to build the process of hegemony. He states literature of its position becomes important in hegemony because, in addition to literature as a distribution medium for the process of hegemonic ideology, literature also shows a world where practices of hegemony occur. For him, this is where the literature as a representation of ideology has a material form (Kurniawan, 2012: 81).

Thus, by looking at the characteristics of literary works on the aesthetic aspects, the literary work by Gramsci is more sociological-historical, which related to the distribution process of hegemony in creating a new culture for society (Kurniawan, 2012: 83). He states that aesthetic aspects will appear sociological-historical and relate to the distribution process of hegemony and if the author can appear the sociological-historical, he will can creating a new culture for society in the literary work.

Novel is one of literary works as medium to distribute process of hegemony and discovers many realities of social. Damono argues that the novel as main genre of literary in the age of this industry, can be considered as an attempt to recreate this social world: human's relationship

with his family, environment, politics, state, and so on. He states that in terms of pure documentary, it was clear that the novel deals with the texture of social, economic and political which also become concern with a sociologist (Damono, 2014: 9).

Khaled Hosseini tries to represent practices of hegemony in one of his literary work. It is his novel titled *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is a novel that tells of the tragic events that are experienced by two female characters and are background by the war in Afghanistan in 1960 to 2003. This novel tells about two woman from different background, they are Mariam and Laila. Mariam and Laila live in violence that Rasheed did. The rules from the certain regime made them suffer in the period. Violence and inequalities are gotten by them.

Hosseini make the character in his novel get strain incident in every chapter because the novel consists of four chapters. He tells about more strain incident. Many wars that happen in the country and the war are led by the leaders which dominate the country in the certain period. In the novel, there are some leaders which dominate Afhganistan. They have many purposes to put into effect their government in order that they can dominate society with their rules. Mariam and Laila are two female characters in the novel who must get or accept and do the rules, if they can not do it, so they will get the punishment from them. Their dominance and rules make the society must bent down to rules although they are not willing it.

The theory used for analyzing novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini (2007) is the theory of Hegemony by Antonio Gramsci (1976). Hegemony's theory was born and it is continuing the theories from Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Simon (in Wajiran, 2012) stated that the first concept of Gramsci about hegemony related to a class and its member put into domination on the lower class with the way of violence and persuasion.

In human life, there will always be the leader and member, then it becomes an oppression if gave instruction lead to forcefulness that must be followed how the form of instruction or

result of gave instruction. The social class that lead, put into the leadership which have to get the dominance in order to become main dominance and must continue to lead, it is called by Gramsci as hegemony (Patria & Arief, 2009:117-118). Hegemony is not only relation of domination using the dominance, but relation of agreement with considering ideology and politic leadership. Hegemony is an organization of consensus. In some paragraphs of his work, *Prison Notebooks*, Gramsci uses word *direzione* (leadearship, instruction) replacement with *hegemonia* (hegemony) and contradictory with *dominazione* (domination).

The theories from Gramsci, especially interpretation of hegemony, are available in the novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. The country conflict among Afghanistan society is a factor that effects their lives. Domination of the leader in there made the rules which hold on their life either men to women. But, the women must get many rules from the leader. That caused their freedom to be definite. In the novel, Mariam and Laila are female characters who experience all of it. Therefore, many narrations in the novel are relevant with the Gramsci's hegemony.

This research get helps from the previous study by some researchers who have researched their object of study. All of them give the researcher many references for this research. The first previous study is from Shalikhatin Pawestri's graduating paper (2015) at Yogyakarta State University whose title is *Hegemoni, Kekuasaan dalam Novel Bibir Merah Karya Achmad Munif*. The research are focused on problems that relates to ideology formation, form of hegemoni with using the hegemony theory from Antonio Gramsci. Result of his graduating paper are the first, some formation of ideology such as otoritarianism, feudalism, capitalism, socialism, and vandalism, the second, form of dominance hegemony that operated to create two area which are civil society and political society, the third, fiction elements for representation about hegemony of domination which are theme, character, setting, and plot in the novel *Bibir Merah* by Achmad Munif.

The second previous study is from Angga Ramses Wijakangka (2008) at Malang State University in the form of journal title of which is *Analisis Hegemoni Kekuasaan dalam Novel Pabrik karya Putu Wijaya*. Theory that is used is the domination from French and Reven about coercive and intensive power. The result of research are form and function of domination of coercive power and insentive power in the *Novel Pabrik* by Putu Wijaya.

The third previous study is from Herning Puspitarini (2014) at Diponegoro University in form of graduating paper title of which is *Hegemony Mitos Nyai Roro Kidul terhadap Kekuasaan Jawa dalam Novel Sang Nyai karya Budi Sardjono*. Theory that is used is hegemony from Antonio Gramsci. The result of research are kinds of hegemony of myth Nyai Roro Kidul, resistance on hegemony of myth Nyai Roro Kidul and the resistance result of myth Nyai Roro Kidul in the novel *Sang Nyai* by Budi Sardjono.

The fourth previous study is from Irma Anita Sary (2013) at STKIP PGRI Jombang in form of article title of which is *Hegemoni Gramsci dalam Novel Sekali Peristiwa di Banten Selatan Karya Pramoedya Ananta Toer*. Theory that is used is hegemony theory from Antonio Gramsci. The result of research are curtural, ideology, and hegemony in the novel *Sekali Peristiwa di Banten Selatan* by Pramoedya Ananta Toer.

So, this research will be analyze the hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. This thesis is different with the others because the theory from Gramsci become theoretical foundation in analyzing novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* that is focused on the hegemonic power.

1.2 Statement of Problem

In the human life there will always be the power because there are the domination class and the subordinate class in the social class. The domination classes will fight to maintain their power and they regard the culture as terrain where the human is moving. Therefore, they as

domination class try to distribute the formation ideology to the subordinate class in order that they have the same mind and concept. According to Gramsci, it is called hegemony. The phenomenon often occur in the human life, moreover Khaled Hosseini reveals it in his novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Therefore, appear the problems that will be analyzed in this research, as below:

1. What hegemonic powers are described in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*?
2. How do fiction elements represent hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the background and the formulation of the above problems, of course, this research is expected to achieve the desired objectives. From there are the main goal of this research can be achieved, while some of the main objectives in this research as below:

1. To get important description and interpretation of hegemonic power described in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.
2. To get important description and interpretation of fiction elements represent hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

1.4 Research Significance

Based on the research objective, the results of the research are expected to provide benefits theoretically and practically. The theoretical and practical benefits are:

1. Theoretical Significance

- a. The result of research is expected to expand the repertoire of science, especially in Department of English Language and Literature, and especially for readers of literature.

b. The result of research is expected to expand knowledge about the hegemonic power and fiction elements represent hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

2. Practical Significance

a. The results of this research can add references for the next study English Literature and add insight to the readers about the hegemonic power and fiction elements represent hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

b. This research is expected to be used as a reference for the consideration and motivating new ideas that are more creative and innovative in self-advancement.

c. Give contribution to the research in the sphere of literary.

1.5 Problem Limitation

Based in the statement of problems, issues that will be addressed in this research is only related to the hegemonic power and fiction elements represent hegemonic power in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* that become the object of this research. The hegemony power relates to social problems and process hegemony with using theory of hegemony from Antonio Gramsci. Whereas, fiction elements represent hegemonic power is about theme, character and characterization, setting, and also plot in the novel.

The object of the study that will be analyzed in the research object is the Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. The object of the study become a limitation so that the analysis did not spread to the other aspects.

1.6 Definite of Key Terms

This paper is divided into five chapters, chapter I, introduction, consists of background of the research, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, problem limitation, and organization of writing. Chapter II, theoretical foundation, consist of the theories that are used in analyzing and support this research. It describes the theory: 1.Sociology of Literature, 2.Hegemony of Antonio Gramsci, 3.Fiction Elements. Chapter III, research method, consist of research method, the data, the data source, technique of collecting data, and the technique of analyzing data. Chapter IV, analysis and discussion, consist of descriptions about interpretation data in table that have been found in the novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and apply the theories that support in analyzing the data, such as theory of hegemony from Antonio Gramsci. The last, chapter V, consist of conclusions and suggestions that describe conclusion of the whole analysis and suggestions that relate to the analysis for the better research.

