

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the background, statements of problem, research objective, research significances, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background

In the creation of literary work develop human relations with the world, it is caused the literary life in reality social life. In this case, same with the creation of another things. Since the creation of literary work is involves the human with his or her environment, a literary work can not be separated with the creator of subject. A literary work is produced by the author, and the author is a member of society. The author can be positioned as social being. Then, there is a relationship between the author and the society. As Wellek (1962: 96-97) stated that the author has been citizen, has pronounced on question of social and political importance and has taken part in the issues of his time.

A literary work is the author's creation which reflect the social reality. It is created over the result of experience, thought, reflection, and the culture of the author about something that happened in his or herself, and society. Here, the author is the most important person to define the condition in his reality of life through his literary work. He or she revelas their mind, represents what they want in their life and social reality. This is what he later expressed through literary works he created. He tried to express something about objective reality that he found. He wanted to notice to the other parties about something that is regarded as a problem or human (Esten, 1978: 9-10). Through of the literary work, an author wants to change the social view of his society to provide a solution for a better view and attitude in social life. However, the author has a sensitivity in choosing the substances based on social reality and certainly the author has a

personal view, and his or her personal view can not be separated from the social context.

According to Goldmann (1980: 97) stated that the author as collective subject creates literary work to express what they feel and they think about their society life. Through his ability, the author can explore the wealth of society, then he or she puts it to literary work and enjoyed by the readers. The wealth of literary work are; first, depend on the author's ability to describe the results of his experience. Second, depend on the reader's ability to understand a literary work itself.

In genetic structuralism theory, a literary work is basically the structural activity motivated by presentation of the subject of literary work to achieve a balance with its social and natural environment (Faruk, 2003: 61). Goldmann believes that literature is a structure, and this is contained within the sense of structuralism.

From the statement above, the writer concludes that the author reflected his reality social life and witnessing the fact by using his imagination to create the great literary work. Since the author awares that he or she is a kind of society, and the society is the most influential of literary work, he or she assembles society to be aware of the reality and make up the consciousness to make enchancement in life. Literature does not just fall from the sky, but there is a relation among the writer, literature, and society (Damono, 1984: 129). Every author can be deliberately to convey his or her view toward society through his or her work. Then, in this research the writer will analyze a novel titled *The Road To Wigan Pier*.

The Road To Wigan Pier is one of novels created by George Orwell which shows about the condition of social reality (author's social background). In this novel Orwell reflected the realities of his social life, and this is a structural activity motivated by the environment.

George Orwell was an English poet who engaged in the manufacture of novels, essays, and literary criticism. He is a writer who claimed that the good prose it should be “transparent”. As stated in his essay entitled *Shooting an elephant* and *politics and the English language*. Orwell usually use political themes for his writing/work. In 1936 a socialist book explained how much unemployment alive and living in the area of job classes in southern England and conditions of unemployed coal workers. In *The Road to Wigan Pier* (1937), Orwell tried to feel alive over two months in southern England, giving interviews to the workers who work in a coal mine in Wigan pier, their family, their neighbor, and the workers. He wanted to feel by himself how to live in such an environment with uncomfortable conditions. When he felt it, he knew it was so uncomfortable and miserable. His journey to Wigan pier, could be called with a study intended to creat an essay about the poverty condition of British society in the lower social classes.

Previous study related on novel have been carried out from Mustakim (2012), that analyzed Joseph Conrad’s *The Secret Agent* used genetic structuralism theory. On his research, he described about Conrad’s political view. Conrad reflected his work and his social reality, expressed in the critique of colonialism and socialism which often proceeds by revealing colonialist and racist attitudes in colonial literary text, engages with the whole culture. In his literary works, criticism is always seen as a political act in the service of some moral principle.

For the next previous study related on novel have been carried out from Kurnia (2011), that analyzed Jhon Steinbeck’s *of Mice and Man* used sociological approach—genetic structuralism theory. On his research, he described about Steinbeck’s world view. Steinbeck reflected the condition in his society in a novel entitled *of Mice and Man*. When this work is made, Jhon Steinbeck lived when America was in a great depression. At that time, the immigrant

never stop coming, even when exclusionary and restrictive immigration laws cut the immigrant flow from other countries. This novel focused on California laboring class, similar with the condition on his surrounding when he made this work.

The reason why the writer chooses the novel entitled *The Road to Wigan Pier*, because in this Orwell's work is reflection of the real incident in its era. It will be interest to be analyzed because it is showed tragic phenomenon, and it is all contained in this novel as well as in reality life because the story is reflected from the reality background of the author. Furthermore, for these backgrounds the writer proposed to conduct a research entitled "*The Reflection of Social and Political Background in George Orwell's The Road to Wigan Pier*".

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background of problem that has been explained above, the discourse of this study is about a novel entitled *The Road To Wigan Pier* by George Orwell. In this research, the writer wants to analyze the elements of the novel by using genetic structuralism for understanding the condition of social dan political background on George Orwell's work.

Based on the statement of problem can be formulated into the research questions as follows:

1. What are the social and political background in George Orwell work's *The Road to Wigan Pier*?
2. How does the social and political background in Orwell's *The Road To Wigan Pier* reflect the reality?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the research question above, the purposes of the study on this reserach are:

- a. To find out the social and political background on George Orwell work's *The Road to Wigan Pier*.
- b. To find out how does the social and political background in Orwell's *The Road To Wigan Pier* reflect the reality.

1.4 Research Significances

On this research, the writer expects this study is useful and helpful in developing scientific in literary field. Especially for the student of English Department who want to know and analyze about the political and social background. This research also provided to the people who want to get the further analyze about the relation between the textual structure of literary work, especially novel with the contextual structure such as society and culture by using the theory of genetic structuralism.

1.5 Definition of Key Term

Definition of key term in this research presents social, politic, novel, and genetic structuralaism.

- 1.5.1 Social: Social in literature in this study means as the common life, literarture also has aspects to construct, include social aspects in which common life it is very important as basic of life. The social life can be expressed on the literary, artistic, or

philosophical plane only through the intermediary link of the collective consciousness (Goldmann, 1978: 9).

1.5.2 Politic: Politics is defined as the origin of the distribution and organization of power in a structure of social activity (Faruk, 2003: 100). In political literature terms he make a point of giving attention to the relation and conflict among the various interest organizations, groups, and individuals, those are directly involved in the process of production, reproduction, distribution, and consumption of literature.

1.5.3 Genetic Structuralism: Genetic structuralism is one of the literary sociological theory developed by Lucien Goldmann (1977, 1981) of France. Genetic structuralism reviewed a literary work concerned with the author's world view social groups. The characteristic of genetic structuralism is to understand and review a literary work based on genetic aspects or its origin, which concerned with the author's world view and his social groups, along with historical social conditions underlying the creation of literary works. In understanding the origins of literature, genetic structuralism viewed the literature as an expression of author's world view.

1.5.4 Novel: Novel is one form of literature which provided a great benefit for the development of humanity and human life. Novel is one of branches of the prose, focused on setting, plot, point of view, narrative technique, and structure. Every passage tells a story and introduces some interesting and exciting conflict or tension.