

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the background of research, the reasearch questions, the research objective, the significances of research, the clarifications of terms, and the organization of writing.

1.1 Background of the Research

A novel is a literary work in the form of prose and usually tells or describes the life of humans who interact with the environment and also each other. Even for some circles of literary connoisseurs, the novel is also regarded as a literary work that is very closely related to society because the novel is considered an imaginary work of fiction but very clearly describes an event or phenomena that exist in society. As stated by Craven (in Endraswara, 2012: 13) the life of literary narratives represents something prepared for the reader to understand the truths about life.

Novels are formed by two elements, namely extrinsic and intrinsic elements. An extrinsic element is an element that is outside the literature that also influences the creation of a literary work, this element includes the background of the author, belief, the author's life view and so on. This element includes various portraits of social life that the author base to create a literary work. While intrinsic elements are elements that are in the literature that also influence the creation of a work that consists of themes, plot, angle of separation, background, and characterization.

In relation to a moral value with a literary work, it is reasonable because refer to understanding literature etymologically, the word “literature” defined as writing that teaches something good. Moving from the etymological sense of the literature, a literary work has a function to teach the norms or moral to its readers, so that readers are expected to have a better morale after reading a literary work. According to Poespoprojo (1998: 18), morality is a quality in human actions that indicate that the deed is right or wrong, good or bad. Morality includes about the goodness of human actions. As the Poepoprojo said, it can be said that morale is an existing order in the society that shows something that can be said good or bad.

According to Santayana (in Hasan and Dendy, 2002: 233) literature also serves as a guided life. It's just that the life guide is sublimated in such a way that it's impossible to dictate what should not be done. This is also in line with what is expressed by Sayuti (in Endraswara, 2005: 174) literary works are evocative and suggestive. Evolutionary literary works will be able to provide the power that humans (who live) are more aware of their existence as being responsible for life, and suggestive literary works will have more potential to provide an alternative suggestion.

However if a work of literature is created provide a good moral understanding for society, it can also be said that a literary work is created as a preventive measure of the moral decline that occurs in that society. Thus it is clear that this shows that literature is created or created to frame the actions of people who experience moral decline to be more humanist in the future life. In

completing its function as a tool used to teach its moral values, literary works are divided into several types of works which one of them is a novel.

The novel entitled *A Christmas Carol* is Charles Dickens's most widely known novel. The novel *A Christmas Carol* is the sixth novel by Charles Dickens and the most popular since it was first published on December 19th, 1843. The novel *A Christmas Carol* was originally written only in casual time, along with Martin Chulewit's novel, but it is precisely this novel that became the novel which is important and influences Dickens's thoughts and imagination in writing ahead. In this novel *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens took a clear picture of the background of English social life in the 1840s.

If we relate to social conditions in England at the beginning of the 18th century, at this time there was a very visible social change. The 18th century or so-called Victorian era is marked by rapid changes to all aspects of life, from the advancement of science, medicine, technology to the rapidly increasing population as a result of the industrial revolution. In this Victorian era, can be regarded as the era of prosperity of the British nation. Because in this era of British transportation and industrial progress to be able to export to the British Commonwealth royal. In this era also began to develop many political movements such as socialism, liberalism and organized feminism. But behind all the progress of England as a positive impact of this industrial revolution, there are also various problems due to the negative effects of industrial revolution that occurred in English society such as social disparities between the elite and the working class where the rampant phenomenon of tension between the rich and the poor, hunger,

the workers feel increasingly miserable, harmed, and so forth. Portraits of these negative effects are very clearly illustrated in the novel, such as:

“ ‘Would it apply to any kind of dinner on this day?’ asked Scrooge.

‘To any kindly given. To a poor one most.’

‘Why to a poor one most?’ asked Scrooge.

‘Because it needs it most.’

‘Spirit!’ said Scrooge, after a moment’s thought, I wonder you, of all the beings in the many worlds about us, should desire to cramp these people’s opportunities of innocent enjoyment.’

‘I!’ cried the Spirit.

‘You would deprive them of their means of dining every seventh day, often the only on which day can be said to dine at all,’ said Scrooge; ‘wouldn’t you?’ (Dickens, 2017: 66-67)

With a variety of phenomena that occurred in the early social conditions of the 18th century, the researcher will analyze moral messages taught by a great writer Charles Dickens through a media novel entitled *A Christmas Carol* which photographs how the decline morals of the elite who then led to social inequality, ignorance of the poor, and so on. In analyzing the moral messages contained in the novel *A Christmas Carol*, a theory that can be used is a moral theory in literature in which this theory views a literary work as a preventive of the moral decline that occurs in society. Later than that, the moral messages gained from researchers will relate to the social conditions of 18th in England.

Previously there are some research that supported this research, namely with regard to representation of moral message by Lisda (2016) in the “*Islamic Values In Sami Yusuf’s Song Lyrics Album In My Ummah*”. The reasearcher takes the conclusion that the analaysis found Islamic values contained in the moral messages in the lyrics of the song in the album works of Sami Yusuf My Ummah. Islamic values are present as a moral message in the lyrics of the song, derived from the teachings of Islam and the Qur'an, which teaches respect for fellow human beings, compassion and respecting parents, respect for others and behave in manners as a Muslim, keep the peace between religious communities and repent if committing sin and stay away from bad deeds and do good deeds, as well as in Islam are also taught about maintaining good relations with Allah and man.

Then by Azhar (2013), “*Moral Message Characterization of Carl Alen in Man Man Manuscript Nicholas Stoller*”. The conclusions of this study were deduced from the analysis of problem analysis in the manuscript. The analysis is taken from the answers to research questions. All the facts of Carl Allen in this drama are also meaningful to himself. All the characters are combined with each other to create great moral values between the next character situation, the authors suggest to English students who have a desire to understand morals in literature, to elaborate a broader moral understanding with various forms or means of delivery. Also relation characterization of Moral Understanding or other intrinsic elements such as plot, the point of view, setting, symbol, and others.

Afterwards the study by Asagap (2011) in “*The Moral Message in Queen’s Song Lyrics in Two Albums; Hot Space 1982 and Greatest Hits*”. The researchers

concluded that Queen's lyrics of two Hot Space albums 1982 and Greatest Hits had various moral messages contained. In this case, these moral messages have universal moral values. Therefore, in this study the authors focus on the analysis of moral messages contained in Charles Dickens' novel *A Christmas Carol*.

1.2 Reasearch Questions

Based on the above background which reasearchers explain about the moral massages in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* novel and relation between the moral messages and social condition of English society in 18th century, the reasearchers limits the analysis of this moral message in the following questions:

1. What moral messages are in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* novel?
2. What is the relationship between the moral message in *A Christmas Carol's* novel to the social conditions of English society in the 18th century?

1.3 Reasearch Objective

1. To examine the moral message contained in *A Christmas Carol's* novel as a preventive form of moral decline on the social conditions of English society in the 18th century.
2. To know the relationship between the moral message contained in *A Christmas Carol's* novel to the social conditions of English society in the 18th century.

1.4 Significance the research

This research is expected to be useful both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research can be useful as a reference and enrich the concept of science widely and from research in accordance with the field of science in a study. Especially in the field of literature that uses moral studies, as well as providing an understanding of moral messages to the 18th English society expressed by the author through the media novel.

While practically useful to make the reader literate moral messages expressed by the author in the novel, also able to see the other meaning of a moral message is for real life.

1.5 Clarifications of Terms

There are the clarifications of the key terms used in this reaserch. The reaserchers clarify the key point, as follow:

- A Christmas Carol is a novella by Charles Dickens which first published in London by Chapman & Hall in 1843. (Wikipedia)
- Charles John Huffam Dickens or commonly known as Charles Dickens is a famous romance writer or novel from England from the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain. (Wikipedia)
- Moral is the general sense of morality refers to the generally accepted (bad) notion of good deeds about deeds, attitudes, duties, and so on; morals and moral character. If a sense of ethics and morality are intertwined with each other, we can say that between ethics and moral

thinking about the same object, which equally discusses human action and then determines its good or bad position. (Nurgiyantoro, 1994:320)

- Novel is the term which now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose. As an extended narrative, the novel is distinguished from the short story and from the work of middle length called the *novelette*; its magnitude permits a greater variety of characters, greater complication of plot (or plots), ampler development of milieu, and more sustained exploration of character and motives than do the shorter, more concentrated modes. (Abrams, 1999:190)
- Social conditions are the state of society of a country at a given moment
- Victorian is simply identifying from the historical era in England roughly coincident with the reign of Queen Victoria, 1837-1901. It was a time of rapid and wrenching economic and social changes that had no parallel in earlier history—changes that made England, in the course of the nineteenth century, the leading industrial power, with an empire that occupied more than a quarter of the earth's surface. The pace and depth of such developments, while they fostered a mood of nationalist pride and optimism about future progress, also produced social stresses, turbulence, and widespread anxiety about the ability of the nation and the individual to cope, socially, politically, and psychologically, with the cumulative problems of the age. (Abrams, 1999: 329)

1.6 Organization of Writing

This research is divided into five chapters and the description are as follows:

Chapter I. In the chapter one, there is an introduction of the research and the researchers will explain about background of the research, the research questions, the research objective, significances of the research, the clarifications of terms, and the organization of writing.

Chapter II. This chapter contains about theoretical foundation that are relevant to the research and divided into seven sub-chapters, there are: English social conditions in 18th century, theory mimetic reflection in literature, understanding moral, moral in literature, novel, Charles Dickens, and *A Christmas Carol Novel*.

Chapter III. The third chapter explain about methodology used in the research, that consists of the research method, the source of data, the data, the technique of collecting data, and the technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV. The fourth chapter is finding discussions and explain the result of the research clearly, that consists of the research findings and the explanation of the research questions.

Chapter V. The last chapter in this research contains about the conclusion and the suggestion of the research