

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents of background and question take researcher to explore novel. In the area, this consists of background, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, and definition of key terms.

### 1.1. Background

The polarity of man and woman is born as they are created in the world by God. This process of creation is told on God's say. In the beginning, they are created to equip each other as the complete creation. To manage the global society, God sent revelation to men. This is the basic legitimation of Adam that brings the perception of male as the center. Then, the next legitimation comes with Eve mythology of woman is from man's flank. In the last legitimation shows that Eve had a weak faith till she ate forbidden apple. Based on this weakness of woman biologically, in the next centuries, women are regarded as low quality human or inferiority (Ratna: 182).

After that, women are being assumed as the second people who always face gender inequality. They are get many discriminations in various aspect of life. According to Fakhri (12-23) that gender inequality is represented in various unfairness forms, such as marginalization, subordination, stereotype, violence and double burden. Marginalization is a process of limitation or isolation that is caused of the judgment by seeing different sex that makes poor. Subordination is an assumption that a role of sex does is inferior. Violence is harshness that is created of a kind sex, a family institution, law of country to other sex. Double burden is a burden of work that be felt by a kind of sex much more than other sex.

In the various cultural studies around the world, men and women are being assigned as the performer in different position. Men are seen as the owners of power in various aspect of life, such as economy, education, politic, literature and so on. The contrary of male, female is categorized as the inferior that be controlled of male's power and hegemony. Women are domiciled just for the domestic matter around the house. This brings women are not able to be independent, to think and to act. This is same with system that is ruled by patriarchal system, where it is a system or a traditional law that places father's (male) position as the center of authority.

Men have an authority gently at family's affair; where wife or daughter as women have been stereotyped in everyday be in limitation at voice, voting right, decision, so on. Women are just supposed to service the men. They have to do what men order and commend, even if they are belong to sacrificed their own will. This is represented on Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed*. In the novel there is woman character names Nila Wahdati. During her child life, she got discrimination of her father, such as she was prohibited to come out house. She was in high control of father's patriarchy to daughter. She was ruled in her various activity and attitude. She had to do what he said.

From this discrimination women begin awareness of their oppressing condition. They try to struggle and come out. They take the action to liberate from limitation of speaking opinion. Sofia (52-59) assumes that the action of woman in liberating from domination of patriarchy system is to brave in rejecting marginalization and speaking out the will freely, and to finish the oppressed relation by using the strategy. This awareness takes women to make an enlightening movement by doing emancipation.

Woman emancipation is movement for reaching the right equality in various aspect of life. Same as what Ratna (256) argues that woman emancipation is a movement to get right equality between man and woman; it is born from the effect of discrimination. In addition,

woman emancipation hypothecates the change of assumption, aspiration and way of woman's life. Wollstonecraft in Tong (21-22) thinks that women must be able to make autonomy of decision or judgment. Women have to own intellectuality to liberate them from oppressive role where women are weak human emotionally. They must begin follow their logic and liberate them from duties as wife, mother and daughter continuously.

Besides, woman emancipation is defined as the liberation of woman from low social economy class or from oppressed law and system that limits woman to grow and develop. Women are supposed to brave in speaking out not keep in their silence. This silence as the other aspect turns women in oppressing system. In her book *Silences*, Elaine Showalter (327) argues that women's silences of their exclusion arise from circumstances of being born into the wrong class race or sex, being denied education, being numbed by economic struggle, muzzled by censorship or distracted or impeded by the demands of nurturing. As in Khaled Hossaeni's *And The Mountains Echoed*, Nila tries to get out of her oppressive routineness. She speaks out from her silence by writing of what her own thought. She writes poem. This is the beginning of the egg of woman emancipation in her self cracks. By the act of her emancipation, she influences to another character names Pari as her daughter. Nila moves to France and take her daughter along with her there. France is not only considered as her motherland but also as a place that regard gender equality.

Talking previous research, there are several researches take topic of feminism. Here the researcher just shows three. First is from Rangga Mardilla, Chairil Effendy and Sesilia (2010) talks *Emansipasi Perempuan Dalam Jumoulan Cerpen Perempuan Kedua Karya Labibah Zain: Sebuah Kajian Feminisme*. Their works are almost same with the researcher's. It describes sub-problem forms of gender inequality and forms of struggle did by women. The results of used study show that the forms of injustice to women occurred in the form of marginalization in the public sector as in the society and the state, while in the domestic

sector occurred in the family and personality. The last one is Dede Suhaeriah's (2014). Her writing is about *Gender Equality and Characterization of The Main Characters in Muriel Maufroy Novel Rumi's Daughter*. The last one is from Wellney Yarra and Ann Akay Steele (2013). Their work exposes Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed* in a Feminist Perspective. The writings inspired the researcher to find problem are suitable to take from the same novel.

## 1.2. Statement of Problem

Talking about the background above for woman emancipation is too wide to discuss. So, the researcher limits the problem zone on Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed* and clarifies by making these following questions:

1. How does Nila Wahdati represent woman emancipation in Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed* ?
2. How does woman emancipation in Nila Wahdati influence to Pari, Mr.Wahdati, Nabi, Afghan People in Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed* ?

## 1.3.Research Objective

The aims of this research are:

1. To find out how Nila Wahdati represent woman emancipation in Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed*
2. To find out woman emancipation in Nila Wahdati influence to Pari, Mr.Wahdati, Nabi, Afghan People in Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed*

#### **1.4. Research Significance**

Academically, this research is not only addressed for the literary lecturer or student, but also for all people who cares about humanity in understanding Khaled Hosseini's *And The Mountains Echoed*. Moreover, researcher wishes this brings benefit to next researchers focusing on feminism theory. Practically, this research is for people who are interested in same topic or theory used in research to fulfill the great final requirement of student in finishing bachelor degree. Hopefully, this can be a piece of information about other side of woman emancipation.

#### **1.5. Definition of Key Terms**

Some terms in this thesis could have a different understanding. To facility the reader in understanding and differentiating the key terms used in this thesis, therefore the researcher gives a brief explanation. Here is a brief description of some of the terms contained in the thesis:

- a. Character: the person represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the person say and their distinctive ways of saying it – the dialogue – and from what they do – the action
- b. Emancipation: the act of setting free from power of another, from slavery, subjection, dependence, or controlling influence.
- c. Equality: a state of being essentially equal and equivalent
- d. Freedom: the condition of being free; the power to act or speak or think without externally imposed restrains
- e. Oppression: the State of being kept down by unjust use of force authority.

- f. Patriarchy: literary, rule by father and, by extension, a social system controlled by men. Patriarchy is a central stage of feminist criticism, which takes as one of its goals the unveiling of patriarchal structures in societies past and present. Feminists argue that many persuasive aspects of patriarchy are distinguished by the assumption of natural differences between men and women.

