

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background, research questions, aims of the study, method and technique of the research, clarification of key terms, and organization of the paper.

### 1.1 Background

Nowadays, social themes in literatures related to real life phenomena have become popular themes. One of literary works which presents social theme is the novel by Alan Paton entitled *Cry, the Beloved Country* which becomes the subject of this research. The novel discusses the issue of racism among South African who could not get a proper education, because of their skin color. The story is about a bondage, the education issue of black people, black's people crime, and many other racism - related issues.

Racism in *Cry, the Beloved Country* is represented in many aspects, for example in the aspect of educational background. The novel portrays some black people as uneducated people and has lower education than the white people. Racism is not only performed by the white people toward the black people, but also by the black people toward their own kind. The issue of racism as evidenced in the novel has attracted the writer to conduct a study on it.

The writer will limit her discussion only to the situation of racism in the African society as portrayed in the novel *Cry, the Beloved Country*. The writer would like to show that racism influences one's life, including one's thought, speech, behavior and social relationship. This study is framed by the theory of racism by Ore (2000:9) " Race denotes a group of people who perceive themselves and are perceived by others as possessing distinctive hereditary traits". This theory will also be used as a tool to explore the relationship between the whites and the blacks existing within the novel.

The study is expected to provide information on the issue of racism which is represented in the novel. In addition, this research may be used as a tentative model for criticism of literary works for English literature classroom. The writer hopes this research can contribute to the development of the literature program in the English Education of Indonesia University of Education.

## **1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic**

There are some reasons that motivate the writer to conduct the research. The first reason is the writer is interested in finding out how racism is represented in the novel, and the second is the writer finds the novel presenting the issue of racism exercised by the characters in which the differences of race among black people and white people.

## **1.3 Research Question**

The study attempts to analyze the novel by using racism theory. To guide the study into more detailed explanation, the writer bases the research on the following question:

1. How is racism represented in the novel through the experiences of the characters?
2. How do the characters react toward racism?

## **1.4 Aims of Study**

The study is aimed:

1. To disclose the representation of racism in the novel.
2. To identify the representation of racism in the novel.

3. To identify the reaction of the characters toward racism.

### **1.5 Scope of Study**

The research is analysis on Alan Paton's novel entitled *Cry, the Beloved Country*. It focuses on the issue of racism representation in the novel. The research will mainly identify the form of racism represented in the novel depicted by the characters, which is categorize into three racism categories, they are individual racism, institutional racism, and societal racism. The research will also find out how racism is represented in the novel.

### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

The result of the research is expected to give current information about racism in the novel. In addition, this research may be used as a tentative model for criticism of literary works for English literature classroom. The writer hopes this research can contribute to the development of the literature program in the English Education Department of Indonesia University of Education.

### **1.7 Research Procedure**

To conduct this research, the writer uses a descriptive- qualitative method and textual analysis. A descriptive method is "a method to study various issues, rules, and situations in a society, including its perceptions, relations, attitudes, activities, processes, and effects which are related to a particular phenomenon" (Hasan,2002). By using this method, the writer attempted to define and describe data collected. This method is very appropriate to this

research because the writer was able to find out, define, and explain issues in the novel rather than testing hypothesis.

The data were collected through two techniques namely library research and document/text analysis. Library research is used to get information about the theory of racism and the novel.

Since this study focuses on the analysis of written text, a close reading method is applied as a tool to find textual evidences from the text. The textual evidences then are categorized to make data interpretation easier. Further, the result of the categorization is going to be analyzed by using the theory of racism from Tracy E Ore, Gay, and Better and finally the writer draws conclusions from the object she investigated.

### **1.8 Clarification of Key Terms**

In relation with the present study there are several terms that should be clarified:

1. Representation refers to the construction in any medium (especially the mass media) of aspects of 'reality' such as people, places, objects, events, and cultural identities (Chandler,2005).
2. Discrimination is the practice of treating somebody or particular group in society less fairly than others: age, racial, and sex (Hornby, 2000).
3. Racism, also called racialism, the unfair treatment of people who belong to a different race; violent behavior toward them. The belief some race of people are better than other (Hornby, 2000).
4. Novel is a fictitious prose narrative or tale of considerable length (now usually one long enough to fill one or more volumes) in which characters and actions representative of the real life of past or present times are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity (Hawthorn, 1985).

## **1.9 Organization of the Paper**

Organization of this paper will be organized as follows:

### **CHAPTER I**

This chapter consist of background of the study, reason for choosing the study, scope of study, research question, aims of study, method and technique of the research, clarification of key terms, and organization of the paper.

### **CHAPTER II**

It consist of theoretical foundation that provide the basis for conducting the research problems.

### **CHAPTER III**

This chapter contains the methodology of the research and stages of the research, the object of the research, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis, and about the author.

### **CHAPTER IV**

It provides findings and discussion . This chapter reports the result of the analysis.

### **CHAPTER V**

This chapter provides the result of the analysis and suggestion for further research.

