

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### I. Background of the Study

Literature is a self-expression of human beings that reflects experience, thought, feeling, idea, spirit, and belief in a form of concrete descriptions, which arouses desires through language as its tool (Jakob Sumardjo and Saini K.M., 1986). Since literature comes from the soul reflection and thoughts of human beings, it is progressively related to psychology.

Rene Wellek and Austen Warren (1977) state that literary psychology has four possible meanings: the psychological study of author as a type or a person, the study of creative process, the study of psychological types and laws applied to literary works, and the study of literature influence on readers (readers' psychology). Among of the four possible meanings, the third meaning is mostly related to literature.

One of psychological theories commonly used is psychoanalysis, which was developed by Sigmund Freud. H.B. Jassin (in Tirtawirya, 1978) argues that European literature in the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century was mostly influenced by psychoanalysis and many authors applied psychoanalysis to analyzing the characterization of their works' characters. That phenomenon leads to a literary mainstream, called surrealism. Surrealist literary works present some symbols as

the mask of unconscious mind. The application of psychoanalysis to analyze a surrealist literary work is aimed at disclosing the meaning of those symbols and finding out information of psychological symptoms in it.

The application of psychoanalysis to surrealist literary works is challenging to be done in a literary research. Therefore, in this research paper, the writer attempts to analyze a surrealist novel by using the psychoanalytic approach. The novel is entitled *The Blind Owl* written by Sadeq Hedayat, a Persian writer. The novel tells us about a man who suffers from insanity. This novel reveals the character's minds, feelings, and dreams. By focusing on the main character's neurosis, the title of this research paper is "Insanity of the Main Character in a Novel Entitled *The Blind Owl* by Sadeq Hedayat (An Analysis of The Main Character's Insanity with A Psychoanalysis Criticism)".

## **II. Statements of Problem**

This study is conducted to answer the following questions:

1. How is the main character's insanity described in the text?
2. What aspects in the text cause the main character's insanity?

## **III. Aims of the Study**

Based on the research questions formulated above, the aims of the study are:

1. To analyze and find the main character's insanity described in the text.
2. To analyze and find aspects in the text that cause the main character's insanity.

#### **IV. Research Procedure**

In this research, the writer employs a descriptive analysis method. Ratna (2004) states that the descriptive analysis method is done by describing and analyzing facts. The descriptive analysis study is divided into seven types, namely (1) case study, (2) survey, (3) developmental study, (4) follow-up study, (5) document analysis, (6) trend analysis, and (7) correlation study (Sevilla et al, 1993). Accordingly, the writer chooses a document analysis (content analysis) by focusing on texts as information source of the study.

To obtain textual data, the writer takes the following steps:

1. Reading the novel chapter by chapter.
2. Finding textual data to support the major character's characterization.
3. Finding additional textual data to support description of events happening in the main character's life, his reaction to these events, and his reasons of reacting so.
4. Collecting these textual data.
5. Analyzing these textual data by employing psychoanalysis to describe the main character's neurosis and to find out the psychological reasons of the main character's neurosis.
6. Interpreting these textual data.

## **V. Organization of the Paper**

The writer organizes five chapters as follows.

### **CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION**

This chapter comprises the background of the study, statements of problems, aims of the study, research procedure, and organization of the paper.

### **CHAPTER II: THEORETICAL FOUNDATION**

It consists of theoretical foundations that provide a basis for conducting the problem research.

### **CHAPTER III: RESEARCH PROCEDURE AND DATA PRESENTATION**

This chapter discusses the method used in the research and gives presentation of the data obtained in this study.

### **CHAPTER IV: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter consists of the research findings and discussion.

### **CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

This chapter presents conclusion, which interprets the result of the research, and the implication or suggestion in line with this research