

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### **3.1 Research Method**

##### **3.1.1 Method of Research**

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).

Since the data used in this research is a text in form of a novel, document analysis (content analysis) is chosen to be the most appropriate methodology in this research. Content analysis is taking the essence of a problem which is immersed in texts and a variety of approaches to analysis. It can be done through deep, personal reading and thinking about textual data that a researcher can develop authentic and well-polished conceptualizations and understanding. But it may also use more structured, analytical techniques, involving sorting, categorizing, naming themes, and counting.

### 3.1.2 Stages of Research

There are some stages conducted in this research, among others:

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 the description of events happening to 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 construction of insanity and to find out the psychological reasons of the main character's insanity.
6. Interpreting these textual data.

### 3.1.3 Subject of Research

The subject of this research is a novel entitled *The Blind Owl*. This novel is written by Sadeq Hedayat, a Persian author.

#### 3.1.3.1 Synopsis of The Novel

*The Blind Owl* tells about a man who suffered from a mental shock. He consumed opium and alcohol as well as wrote a story about his life for himself in order to lighten his suffering. Based on his point of view, there are told some events happening in his life, most of which frightened him so much. Since he is influenced by opium and insanity, the arrangement of his story is not in a linear

order. In that way, he tells the story of his parents and the murder of his wife, who has an affair with other men.

### 3.1.3.2 Author of the Novel

According to Iraj Bashiri (1984), Sadeq Hedayat was born in Tehran on February 17, 1903, to a northern Iranian aristocratic family. After his elementary school years, Hedayat studied in Saint Louis Academy, France. He studied the lives of great French and English men in the past.

In Europe, he also began reading many literary works, including those written by Kafka, Poe, Dostoyevsky, and Rilke. Among those great writers, he mostly adored Rainer Maria Rilke (a surrealist writer), especially his idea of death. In 1927, it influenced him to make a suicidal effort in Marne River but fortunately he was saved.

One of his novel, *The Blind Owl*, is considered as the most important modern persian novel by Princeton University Press. This novel is his masterpiece. Nevertheless, his works after 1940s are responded sarcastically. It made him so frustedated that in 1951 he succeeded to commit suicidal action.