

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, formulation of the research question, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and the definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the study

Education is one of important factors, in determining a country development. It can bring a country in advance or even in decline. Education has important role to create and develop young generations' potential to have the spiritual strength of religious, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and the skills needed for themselves and society. Every country in this world tries to find the best way of improving its best education system to form qualified young generations. It is done since they will be activators in a country in order to make the country in prosperity.

Nowadays, every school is insisted to be able to facilitate students to have good characters. The school takes some efforts to realize the government's policy through the application of a curriculum. The implemented model is, then, called character building. Consequently, every subject should contribute to the development of students' good characters. As a result, every school has significant roles to build students' characters. Although building students'

characters is not a new issue and it must be taken into consideration by every school, the issue nowadays, needs a serious attention.

It is widely known that educational process does not only stop in the transfer of knowledge but also the transfer of value and even the transfer of action. Therefore, this process of education develops a person both academically and mentally. Many teachers teach moral and religion subjects to introduce kindness, honesty, tolerance, and hard work. However, the values of those good characters cannot be easily understood and implemented by the students. It still needs a real model to be imitated.

Character building is not a process of transferring knowledge and memorizing the materials to have an exam. Character building requires habituation. It refers to real action of becoming honest, being ashamed to cheat and also being ashamed to be lazy.

In formal schools, teachers play important roles in education not only to teach but also to educate. The students are expected to develop their good characters through learning in school. School is a second home for students, where they are studying and socializing themselves with their friends. When they are at home, the students become entirely the responsibility of parents. Educating is not just delivering course material and giving the students scores when they can answer the questions correctly. Educating, on the other hand, is an effort to build positive character traits in students is necessary. So, they grow up to be a qualified person, civilized and noble character .

The fact shows that there is misunderstanding in the public. People assume that education happens only at school, so that parents sometimes have less attention to the quality of their children's education at home and in their environment. Cultivating the value of character does not only happen through formal and non-formal education. But along with the development of science and technology, education undergoes a paradigm shift that it also occurs outside of the classroom through the mass media, both printed and electronical. The diversity of media presentation models has taken an important role in education.

In general, values of character building are trained and implemented in a real life, including formal, informal, and non-formal school or institution. However, those values can also be found or learned in the literary works. As representative of real life, literary works are composed based on the real life. Hence, a literary work is the representative of life itself. As a representation of life, literary works show how every character behaves. In literary work, the readers can learn how the characters solve their problems. The values presented in the literary work may be performed by a certain character. Through their social interaction in the story, the readers can identify and even learn more appropriate aspects of life, such as love, hard work, patience, tolerance and other good values. In short, literary works guide and show the readers values that can be implemented in their daily life.

Among the kinds of literary works, novel is written for the purpose of sending message to the reader. Novel as a literary works that so far only as entertain readings, or as a satisfying hobby, has a lot of values contained in it. The

values can be in the form of religious, discipline, democratic, self-stand, creative, friendly and many more. Novelist tries to internalize the values to the readers that slowly formed public opinion in a way that is very smooth.

One kind of novel containing some values of character building is *Negeri 5 Menara* translated by Angie Kilbane. It is the first book in a trilogy written by A.Fuadi—a former TEMPO & VOA reporter, photography buff, and a social entrepreneur. This novel is inspired by a true story. The writer takes it because it is very entertaining. The story tells about family, simple life of people, culture, love, dreams and friendship. In this novel, there is the powerful phrase “*MAN JADDA WAJADA*”, he who gives his all will surely succeed. In this thesis, the writer, as a future teacher of English assumes that this novel has positive relevance with the education.

Negeri 5 Menara has won several awards, including the 2010 *Khatulistiwa Literary Award*, the 2010 *Favorite Fiction Writer and Book from the Indonesian Reader Awards*, the 2011 *Best Fiction Novel and The Best Fiction Writer awarded by the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia*. In 2011 Fuadi was awarded the *Liputan6 Award SCTV* for the Education and Motivation Category, and and the 2013 *National Intellectual Property Rights Award*. This novel not only offers entertainment but a lot of values of character building that build the readers' character.

The process of intellectual achievement does not come in a day or instantly but it needs sacrifice, patience and self-restraint as represented by major characters; Alif Fikri, Baso Salahuddin, Raja Lubis, Said Jufri, Atang, and

Dulmajid, in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane. United by punishment, these six boys quickly become friends and together become known as the *Fellowship of the Manara*. The boys from across archipelago, Alif from Maninjau—West Sumatera, Baso from Sulawesi, Raja from Medan, Said from Surabaya, Atang from Bandung, and Dulmajid from Sumenep. They pass their days in the Madani Pesantren with full of new experiences that they never gotten before. New subjects, new rules, new language used, and new society built their character which bad was changed to be good. Their stories in achieving success in both sad and happy stories or may be in hard life can give the reader new knowledge about the values of character building brought by the major characters.

Based on those reasons, the researcher is very interested in conducting a research entitled "The Values of Character Building Represented by Major Characters in The Novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi Translated by Angie Kilbane". This study is expected to provide a positive contribution in education institution, especially in terms of educating and developing students' positive character.

B. Formulation of the Research Problem

Referring to the background of the study above, the study is intended to answer the following single question "What are the values of character building represented by major characters in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane?"

C. Purpose of the Study

Referring to the formulation of the problems above, the study aims to find out the values of character building represented by major characters in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane.

D. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give contribution for teacher, students, and other following researcher. For the teacher, the result of the study can be applied in the school area. The teacher can educate the students with various good character during teaching and learning. Meanwhile the students, the study can be used as a medium to build positive characters. Finally for the future researcher, the study can be used as a reference in conducting relevants study related to value of character building found in other literary works.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

There are a lot of values that can be observed in the novel, such as: religious, dicipline, honesty, hard-work, self-standing, curiosity and so forth. However, this research only focused on the values of character building represented by major characters; Alif, Raja, Baso, Said, Atang and Dulmajid in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of some terms used in this study, those terms needs to be defined as follows :

1. Value

Jonas (1992:36) defines value as the addressee of a yes. Sometimes the value given to an object are something that everybody agrees but not all people giving the value objectively. Meanwhile, Bertens (2005:139) concludes that there are three characteristics of value to make the definition is easy to be understood. Firstly, value is personal and is related with the subject. The value emmbed on something is personally decided by the subject. Secondly, value is practical and is not found in a theory. The last, value does not deal with material worthiness of something.

Nurgiyantoro (2007:320) stated that value and literary work are not separatable. They are each other interconnection. Since what is contained in the literary work will be consumed by the readers. They will be appraiser of how is the content, how is the characters, and every other details. Then, they will interpret what had they gotten in the form of estimation.

There are a lot of kinds of value. One of them is the values of character building. The Ministry of Education in the *Panduan Pelaksanaan Pendidikan Karakter* (2011: 9) specifies there are eighteen values of character building include religious, honest, tolerant, diciplinary, hard-working, creative, self-standing, democratic, curious, nationalistic, patriotic, appreciative, friendly, peaceable, well-reading, unyielding, socially responsible, and enviromentally

responsible. In this study examines those eighteen values that are represented by the major characters in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A.Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane.

2. Character building

Character is closely related to personality. Talking about character there will always turn up in our mind the positive and negative one. Yet, in this discussion the researcher will discuss about the positive character. Someone can be called as a person of character if his/her attitudes, behaviours and measures are appropriate to moral norm (Naim, 2012 : 54). Hence, the person who broke the moral norm cannot be called as a person of character. He/she needs to build up his/her positive character to be a better person. In this context about character building means the way to rebuild and improve the positive character in the readers' attitudes and behaviours from the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A.Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane.

3. Novel of *Negeri 5 Menara*

Negeri 5 Menara is the first book in a trilogy written by Ahmad Fuadi other than *Ranah 3 Warna* and *Rantau 1 Muara*. A. Fuadi is a former TEMPO & VOA reporter, photography buff, and a social entrepreneur. He went to George Washington University and Royal Holloway, University of London. The novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane is published by PT. Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta, 2011.

4. Major Characters

According to Nurgiyantoro (2007:177) the major characters are the characters who always be priority in the novel. They are the characters who have dominantly accounted. In the some novels the major characters can be found in every pages of the novel. For the example, in the character of Aku (Sri) in the novel of *Pada Sebuah Kapal* part I, or the character of Aku (Michel) in the same novel part II. Meanwhile, the major characters in the novel of *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane are Alif, Baso, Raja, Said, Atang, and Dulmajid.

5. Literary work

A literary work can be defined as a creation dealing with words as raw material to create an idea or a story in a meaningful pattern, such as poetry, drama, novel, etc. They are created by an author such as, poet, stage actor, short story writer, and novelis. Literary work is a tool to communicate between the author to the readers (Suroso et. al, 2009:3). The author conveys his ideas, opinions, feelings, and expressions through the literary work he wrote. In this research the researcher uses the literary work in the form of the novel entitled *Negeri 5 Menara* by A.Fuadi translated by Angie Kilbane.