

Chapter I

Introduction

Basic Consideration

Literature is something that can reflect of the real object. The object can be living or inanimate objects. Literary work can reflect the human's life with various life problems represents the author's problem and give us the knowledge to understand the value of life. Many researchers use as reflects of people's lives. These works are in the form of human expression to something, works of literature created by writers for in interest by the lovers of literature. A literary work is a work that has a verbal and meaningful structure, an act of the writer's imagination, as the presentation of experience in social reality (Muhamad, 2006).

The short story is one genre of literary work which presents a concise prose fiction that comprises all intrinsic components such as theme, character and characterization, plot, setting, the point of view, moral that can be read in one single setting. Fifty famous short stories retold by James Baldwin is a bunch of short stories that gives us a portrait of legendary historian famous, in this case, the heroes and the king's life or an event in history. The short stories such as that the researcher has conducted in this study entitled "The Moral Values of James Baldwin Short Stories" in fifty famous short stories retold (1896). James Baldwin itself was an eminent African American prolific writer of literary work, such as poetry, novels, short stories, plays, and essays, as well as a civil rights activist. These short stories were retold by him at that time.

From fifty famous short stories of James Baldwin (1896) the researcher only has chosen four short stories. They are King Alfred and the Beggar, King Alfred and the cakes, a story of Robin Hood and the last is King John and The Abbott. This research finds out the moral values that portrayed from the social life of those leaders in the short stories by using sociological approach, the researcher interested in the leadership of the leader who has slight differences in the way they lead their society, and that is about their behavior. There are two kinds of moral value that the researcher conducted in this research; they are individual moral value and social moral value. Moral refers to the concern with what is good or right in people's relationship with each other. As Bertens asserts "value is something that interest for us, something that we look for, something that pleases, something that loved, and in short value is something good" (as cited in Amin A. H., 2013).

The moral is the message conveyed or which the reader can be learned in a literary work, in this case, a short story. However, there is also a moral message that should not be learned; in this case is a negative moral value. In addition, moral can be said as for right or wrong, good or bad, praiseworthy or blameworthy, acceptable or unacceptable, and prohibited or permitted. According to Hurlock (as cited in Susana, 2018) "moral is an ethical norm, a thought of life upheld by most specific societies, it is mainly concerned with the understanding of good and bad, then the good is reputed as moral, while the badness is considered as the immoral attitude". Additionally, moral is the part of value but not all the value is moral, and also moral values are linked with the human attitude

about goodness and badness. Someone's opinion about morals and values are usually prejudiced by the view of life.

Talks about moral values from the stories, these stories are the amazing short stories about kindness, determination, generosity of leader, etc. The researcher is interested to analyze the moral values by distinguishing the attitude of them. Basically, the leader had a good personality or behavior. They were honorable king and hero who have different personalities. King Alfred was one of the kings in England that has a good personality with his soldiers, he was a hero and he also had nicknamed as "Alfred the Great". Then, King John was the worst king that England ever had, he cruel to his people, he was one of the most contentious monarchs of Medieval England and also he was the most related with the signing of the Magna Charta in 1215. The last is Robin Hood, according to legend he was a criminal who lives in the Sherwood Forest area, near Nottingham, in central England. Robin Hood and his people spending their days hunting deer king, testing their skills in terms of archery, and robbing the rich man. However, he has a good personality; he always helps the poor or someone that needs help, some even called him a hero of the poor people.

Therefore, the researcher wants to find out the moral values found in these short stories because some of the reasons, such as the story tells about the commander or the leader who can handle the society, where leaders in these stories were very thoughtful leaders, respected people, because they were very good, helpful people, etc. The researcher has observed how the relationship between the leaders and society, how the leaders led the society, how they solved

their problems at that time. Additionally, the researcher finds the moral value in the stories, means that the researcher has seen from the behavior of the main character every story with the society. Therefore, the researcher has conducted the research used sociological approach. Why? Because these short stories tell about the life of the society and this study focused on the social life of the three leaders in the short stories.

Research question

Based on the basic consideration of this research, the problem that analyzing in this research formulated with the question *what are moral values portrayed in the four short stories of James Baldwin?*

Research Objective

The purpose of this research is to explain the moral values portrayed in the four short stories of James Baldwin.

Research Significance

This section will provide a brief description of the various signs of the study. Every research has their own significance. The research about moral values also has some significance. For the readers, they can take some benefits such as; they can know the stories of James Baldwin, they can get all the information about the stories. In addition, this study investigates the moral value of those leaders. King Alfred, Robin Hood and King John who had differenced ways of leading the people, but basically they are the good leader. The reader can know

the moral value that the researcher investigates in this study, and then they can apply it in their life.

For the students, especially the next researcher, this study can be used as the reference. For example, the students can take the theories or can know the theories source of this research. The last significance is for the teacher. These stories can be used as the media of learning, for example, the teacher can use the story on fill in the blank questions, can be used on Narrative text material, etc.

The scope of research

The scope of the research to finds out the moral values of four short stories, they are King Alfred and the Beggar, King Alfred and the cakes, Robin Hood and the last is King John and the Abbott. This research aimed to find out the moral values of the leader itself, the relationship between the leaders with society. The relationship in this case, how the leaders defend his kingdom or territory, how the leaders resolve any problems that arise. Also, this research only used sociological approach, because the researcher only observes the social life of the story through the moral values of the leaders itself.

Previous studies

There are some researches that have been conducted on analyzing the moral values in literary work. The first, the researcher found research conducted by Rafy Fitriani, Rivi Antoni, and Pipit Rahayu. They are the students in the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, English study program at Pasir Pengaraian University. They studied moral values “Oliver Twist” novel. Their research was descriptive qualitative. The source of data was the novel by Oliver

Twist. They find out the moral values in the novel “Oliver Twist” used a sociological approach, based on the perspective: functionalist perspective, symbol perspective, and the conflict perspective. After that, they found some moral values such as steadfastness, sympathetic to others, bravery, honesty, cooperativeness, thankfulness, and kind-hearted.

The next research was written by Widiastuti entitled “The Moral Values in Novel Ketika Cinta Bertasbih”. She pointed out some moral values which were used for character building (such as responsibility, dedication, strength, optimism, faith, bravery, and so on). In additions, she other found aspects of the novel such as the comprehension of culture, religion, economic, and ethics which were favorable to grasp the meaning of the moral education.

The other research was written by Anis Kusmiyati “An Analysis of Moral Value in Ahmad Fuadi’s Novel Rantau 1 Muara”. She was an English Department student in Faculty of Language and Literature Universitas Wijaya Putra. This research intended to describe the moral values based on the main character. In other word, to discussed the morality of the main character from individual moral, social moral, and religion moral. The researcher used the descriptive qualitative method with a data analysis approach. In this research, the researcher used the theory of moral by Burhan Nurgiyantoro the book’s title is “Teori Pengkajian Fiksi”. The moral itself included problems of human life. Generally, the problems of human life can be divided into three parts. From this study the researcher found three kinds of moral values, there are some of the kinds of moral values: (1) Interactions of the human to themselves is called individual moral, such as

discipline, confidence, self-respect and bravery, responsibility and independence, patience, consistency, hard worker, and optimism. (2) Interactions of the human to others and the environment is called social moral, such as solidarity with others, care for others, help each other, and love for others. (3) Interactions of the human to their God is called religion moral, such as syukur/thanks to God, dzikir/remember to Allah, tawakal/trust in God who orders everything, doa/pray to Allah, and obedient to Allah and His messenger.