

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Study

Allah creates Qur'an which consists of stories, instructions, prohibitions and laws to guide human beings to get prosperity and avoid the misery in the world and hereafter. Allah asks all people to follow His instructions and avoid prohibitions during their life in earth. However, those things are not only restricted for Muslims but it also applies to every single person in the earth as it can be seen from His word in Surah Ali Imran that “This [Qur’an] is a clear statement to [all] people and a guidance and instruction for those conscious of Allah. 3:138” (Qur’an). This verse explains that all of Qur’an’s messages are enlightenment that provides a lot of directions nowadays up to future for all of people around the world especially as the reminder for Muslims to reach their life’s hope and evade them from the sins (Shihab, “Tafsir Al-Misbah Volume 2” 211).

Allah’s instructions must be something good for all people and His prohibition is to avoid human being from sadness. No matter they are Muslims or not. One of the instructions is to help each other in goodness and not to cooperate in badness. Qur'an says that “And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is severe in penalty. 5:2” (Qur’an). This verse shows how people have to cooperate in every kinds of goodness rather than the badness although with the people who have different belief (Shihab, “Tafsir Al-Misbah Volume 3” 15 ).

Prophet Muhammad applied one of Allah's instructions such as by making a charter which consists of clearly defining rights and obligations to unite Jews and Muslims in order to defend against enemies in Medina. This is named Medina Charter which represents the framework of the first commonwealth organized by the Prophet. Beneath order of Prophet Muhammad, all of the believers in Medina, whether Jews or all individuals of whatever origin who have made common cause with them, who shall all constitute one nation. Prophet Muhammad arranged them to always pay attention to each other; he tried to make all believers help each other to maintain protection and develop the city in equality (Ibn Kathir).

However, there are some people are acting contradictory to Allah's instruction because their passions and desires control their self to engage in badness or cooperate in crime. It is like what Qur'an says in Surah Thaha that " So do not let one avert you from it who does not believe in it and follows his desire, for you [then] would perish. 20;16 (Qur'an)". Those people who ignore Allah's instruction are the humans beneath control of their own desires which makes them engage in crime and chaos in the world (Shihab, "Tafsir Al-Misbah Volume 8" 287).

One of the stories in Qur'an is about some people who are conspiring against Allah's instruction by engaging in crime to capture or even kill Prophet Muhammad before he escapes to Medina. It happens because those who disbelieved in Allah afraid that Prophet Muhammad will get a lot of new followers in Medina. Because of that, they agreed to eliminate Prophet Muhammad by sending a secret group consists of several men that each of them is

the representative of each tribe in Makkah and that each man should strike a blow at him with his sword so that responsibility of the guilt would rest equally on all tribes. They think if their plan runs well, Bani Hasyim as the tribe of Prophet Muhammad unable to fight back against all of tribes in Makkah to take revenge for the death of Prophet Muhammad. However, when the group is waiting for Prophet Muhammad outside his house, they do not know that the person who is sleeping on Prophet Muhammad bed is Ali bin Abi Thalib. Prophet Muhammad escapes through window and deceives that group by asking Ali bin Abi Thalib to replace his place on bed. Prophet Muhammad can sets that plan because he gets information from Allah through His angel Gabriel about that assassination plan like Allah says in Surah Al-Anfal “And [remember, O Muhammad], when those who disbelieved plotted against you to restrain you or kill you or evict you [from Makkah]. But they plan, and Allah plans. And Allah is the best of planners. 8:30 (Qur’an)”

The condition of Prophet Muhammad story in Qur'an has similarity with the condition of American society in 20<sup>th</sup> century when some people conspired to kill the most important person in U.S.A. There were some people who had responsibility for extraordinary crime by assassinating the most important person in U.S.A. It was considered as a conspiracy because it was impossible if it was done by an individual assassin if the protections were very tight. It needs some complex strategies and the participators of some important people who provided the assassin requirements.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was an American politician who served as the 35th President of the United States from January 1961 until his assassination in November 1963. At 12.30 P.M, he was shot while riding motorcade through Dallas, Texas. Although there were three official investigations (Secret Service, FBI, and CIA) investigated it, a definitive verdict in the John F. Kennedy's murder remains elusive and in September 1976, call for a congressional investigation climaxed with the creation of the house select committee on it. The committee's report, the assassination of J.F.K was the result of the conspiracy at that time (Newton 188).

Six years after the report of J.F.K assassination, on June 17, 1972, Watergate scandal began with five burglars captured in the Democratic National Committee headquarters, located in the Watergate Office Building in Washington, D.C. The five burglars are Bernard Barker, Virgilio Gonzalez, Eugenio Martinez, James McCord, Jr., and Frank Sturgis, those persons were the Watergate's five prowlers. This scandal was the conspiracy set by undercover unit organized by Richard Nixon's White House staff. Their activities were bugging the offices of political opponents and people of whom Nixon or his officials were suspicious (Newton 379).

Conspiracy was an aspect of the long standing populist strain in American political culture, an especially intense strain, to be sure, and one that can have violent, racist, and antidemocratic effects (as well as salutary and democracy enhancing ones) on the political and social order, but a strain that is neither independent from nor necessarily threatening to the country's political institutions

or political culture (Fenster 9). This was an aspect that existed in American politics culture from long time ago especially the styles of conspiracy sometimes had some violent, racist, and antidemocratic effects.

Two propositions dominated discussions of conspiracy. The first maintained that conspiracy, here as the conviction that a secret, omnipotent individual or group covertly controls the political and social order or some part thereof, circulated solely on the margins of society. The second proposition, equally prominent when concerned commentators discuss conspiracy, maintained that conspiracy has come to predominate American political culture (Fenster 1).

According to Newton's preface, in a similar vein, while legal definitions of conspiracy required the plotting of a crime, society accepted a broader meaning that includes any covert combination against the public interest, whether or not laws were broken (Newton v). Both explanations from Fenster and Newton were indicated that conspiracy was the way of person or group set some plans to get something secretly whether or not laws were broken by their plans in order to make their plans finished.

The way of conspiracy was going well when they can manage their plans or strategies secretly. Because of the way that conspiracy existed only by running behind the scene. Only some people who had some important authorities and the desires to do that can be joined into the members of conspiracy. If they did not make the classifications for the conspirator, it can be detected easier what exactly the purpose of the conspirator and the way they ran it. Like Fenster said in his book, each suggested that although the underlying truth of a conspiracy remained



understanding of the U.S condition based on the author's experiences. Because many conspiracies that happened continuously in America are able to become popular culture and it can be studied in popular literature. As stated by Radway, if there is a popular literature, means there is a powerful source to study popular culture (qtd. in Kusumajanti 3).

In 1980 there was a novel that got New York Times best seller under titled *The Bourne Identity*. It told about amnesia CIA's agent with a lot of remarkable survival and combat abilities who sought to discover his real identity. At the same time he needed to fight with several shadowy groups and professional assassins who tried to kill him. The author of this novel was Robert Ludlum and he was an American author of 27 thriller novels. The number of copies of his books in print is estimated between 290 million and 500 million. They have been published in 33 languages and 40 countries. Ludlum's novels were often inspired from conspiracy and he wrote that one of his novels such as *The Matarese Circle* inspired by rumors about the Trilateral Commission.

This novel showed that Robert Ludlum was the author who wrote the novel which contains of CIA's conspiracy resided around the conspiracies that exist in America. At that time, there were many conspiracies in America which is believed in the involvement of government secret agency such as CIA as the most active agency that took responsibility for several conspiracies. Mark Zepezauer in his book stated that CIA has involved in J.F.K's, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr.'s, and R.F.K's assassination.









However, the conspiracy of Jason Bourne seemed interesting enough to discuss. He was a portrait of a secret agent who got the result for his failure when he cannot maintain conspiracy that set by some secret people including him to capture and kill the most famous criminal called Carlos. The treatment from the shadowy group or professional assassins which contained violence and cruelty made him in trouble during his escape.

By giving the literary background stated above, I'm really interested in the novel and intend to analyze more deeply the conspiracy represented in the story of Robert Ludlum's *The Bourne Identity*.

## **1.2 Statement of Problems**

Based on the background of the study explained above, I am interested in analyzing the problems, which are formulated as follows:

1. How does the main character participate in conspiracy?
2. What does the effect on the main character's life as the part of the conspiracy?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

In accordance with the statement of the problem stated above, this study has two objectives that can be stated as follows:

1. To examine how the main character participates in conspiracy
2. To reveal the effect of being the part of the conspiracy on the main character's life.

#### **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

In order to prevent non-relevant problems, the study will be limited to the novel of *The Bourne Identity*. The study focuses on the conspiracy represented in the novel. To answer statement of problem stated above, conspiracy becomes the most important point to analyze. The scope of this study is upon the conspiracy around Jason Bourne; his effort to free from the conspiracy that created by unknown group.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

This study is significant to prove that Islam is the right belief. Because Qur'an says for all people that they should obey Allah's instruction to get prosperity and leave everything that He forbids to avoid sorrow are the main values. This study is also significant to be conducted due to both the theoretical and practical functions. Theoretically, I do hope that it enriches the reader's development of knowledge in the literary theory that is related to conspiracy. Therefore, the readers are expected to comprehend more about it, especially for those who have interest in the study of conspiracy throughout literature. Then practically, this study hopefully can give useful contribution for the readers in understanding the content of *The Bourne Identity* and the novel as the reflection of human experience. I hope that this research can be a helpful reference for other researchers who are interested in conducting further research on the same topic.

## 1.6 Method of the Study

This research is library base. Therefore I make good use of some books including the novel itself as the primary sources and reads information of some internet sources and other sources such as magazine and journal that support this study to improve the knowledge. In presenting the analysis, I mainly use descriptive method. The research follows the following steps:

1. Reading the novel to get the complete and well understanding on the whole story
2. Selecting and collecting the data in form of narration and conversation from novel related to the problem
3. Analyzing the data collected by firstly categorizing them into two points, dealing with two points of the statement of problems. Then, each point is analyzed using related theories which refer to the objectives of the study
4. Making conclusion based on the result of data analysis.

## 1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid any different perceptions between the writer and the readers in understanding the study, it is essential to give some definition of key terms used in this study. Here are the key terms explained:

1. Conspiracy : Is the way of person or group set some

