

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature texts are universal and transcend history: literature is the production of historical context. Historical is also the reception which is aesthetically for literary work. (Bennet: 113) Literature and Historical also have relation. It is because the text is produced with specific historical context. Literature cans representation of specific historical moment, events or periods. Literary text is part of history when still process of being written.

While there are many writers use their experience to make literary work. Usually in every literary work talks about writer country that have history problem or the writer country that sacrifice of societies live from history in writer country. That makes some literary work become important, it is because tells about writer. Social history usually gives bad impact in history. It is because culture of colonizer bring in the country that colonize and can change the own of colonize culture. Literature is history that happened in writer age. History is not only knowledge but also a process resulting from human activity. History is relation of literature that influence with social experience (Amuta 2).

Amuta also describes that history is not only knowledge at the history but history also the process in human activity. History is supported by human activity. It makes literature in the past is the history of human activity. (81)

Besides that, there is the proof that literature has relationship with history. The proof reveals of someone and there is through history that makes next

generation know about the condition at the age, so that the literary is the one of proof about history. That makes the literature arrange of history and the history can influence literary work. Usually literature has connection with the history. (82)

Then Amuta said literature is the subject to get shape from historical problem. That makes the history include in creativity and the media with imaginative experience of someone. The literary that tells about history must arranged by creativity and produce with the fact. So that, history is produce of the literature and have meaning. (82)

Every writer has different way to make their literature. Every writer looks at the historical artifact, so that makes the different kinds of literary. The condition at the period can influence the writer to design their literary work. The basic literature includes historical, and historical is to challenging the age in the country and find the expression in the literature at the past. (83)

She describes that literary work is part of form from reality and called context (as history). Reality and context make totality in literary work. Literary work is also imagination to intensify the social experiences and real or fact in literature condition. (87)

While the novel that influence by historical problems is *Twelve Years a Slave*. It is about history in writer live. *Twelve Years a Slave* is the novel collection that write by Solomon Northup. It was published in 1855c. *Twelve Years a Slave* is an inspiration from a real story by Solomon Northup live. *Twelve Years a Slave* tells about African colonialism in America. The novel tells about writer experience. He

is African American man. He is Solomon Northup as the main character. He has black skin but at first he is freeman and living together with white people.

Twelve Years a Slave tells about the vague reality of discrimination, the relationship between societies, politics and race. *Twelve Years a Slave* is about freeman become slave for twelve years. However, Solomon Northup is the freeman. He is African-American.

At the beginning of the story, Solomon has black skin and he is African American. He lives with happily with his family. One day, there are two his friends ask him to follow them as violinist in a circus. However, his friends have not good plan for him. His friends give him of poison. When he woke up, Solomon Northup is alone and he lives in prisoner in the slave pen of James H. Burch, a brutal slave in Washington, D.C. When Solomon protests his captivity and asserts his right to freedom, Burch responds by beating him into submission and threatening to kill him if he ever mentions his freedom again.

Actually, we can correctly that the African or African is discriminated against by American. America assumes that African are not educated, if they are given the opportunity to get an education and American think that the African just slave and cannot become free people. African just also live become slave in America and not to get better live. From this case, it represents colonialist mindset action in literature; it is about the discrimination about otherness and the focuses on the African-American society in America.

The writer uses *Twelve Years a Slave* in her research because there are historical problem that influence this novel. The issues that support historical

problem, process of colonialism and etc. Besides, the story gives knowledge the history and the experience of slavery. In addition, this research is aimed to knowing the process of post colonialism that happen in *Twelve Years a Slave*.

Instead of the above, aforesaid literature and history include in the novel, the research used this novel because the novel have real experience of the author, it is because in the first chapter in the novel tell about that is the true story of writer experience and also shows the history that happen in the past. *Twelve Years a Slave* novel is an autobiography written by Solomon Northup. This novel also tells about the difficult of Solomon life since he becomes slave. However, there is producer makes this novel become film.

From the quotation above, we can conclude “Literature can contain historical problems. History may influence literature”. It is because the writer tells about condition their life in the past that has influence in their work. They also want to show the condition at that time, the history and the culture.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on background of the study and focus in the process of post colonialism of study above, the writer would like to specify the main problems into the questions below:

- 1.2.1 How are the processes of post colonialism in the novel a *Twelve Years a Slave* happened?

knowledge about the way of other side of the lives and things of white people Americans.

Practically, the writer also expects this study will give an inspiration for other studies especially in English Letters Department of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Thus, this study will help the readers to study more about this short story and analyzing another aspect of “*Twelve Years a Slave*” in different area.

1.6 Method of the Study

Every research has a method to make clearer about the data and analysis process. There are some methods in research field. In this case, the writer uses descriptive analysis. According to Dee in *Qualitative Data Analysis: A User-Friendly Guide for Social Scientists* said that the core of descriptive analysis relates to the processes of describing phenomena, classifying it, and seeing how the concepts interconnect. Descriptive studies can be contrasted unfavorably with more analytical and theoretically oriented research, as though description is a ‘low level’ activity hardly worth attention (qtd. Lailiyah).

The data observation is library based. Therefore from library data the writer has opportunities to have good data from books, e-books, and online resources. In presenting the data analysis, the writer takes some steps as follows:

1. Reading and understanding the whole of short story entitled “*Twelve Years a Slave*”.
2. Collecting the data that relates to the statement of problems.

3. After gathering the data from *Twelve Years a Slave* novel, the writer categorizes the data.
4. Classifying the data based on the objectives of the study and analyzing the data one by one.
5. Giving the conclusion from the analysis result.

1.7 Definition of Key Term

To avoid misunderstanding on the terms used in this study, the writer gives a brief definition of each term in this study one by one as follows:

- 1.7.1 Slave: is the people must work and cannot get better live, their live just to work, and not to educated. (Ashcroft: 212)
- 1.7.2 Slavery: is the form that there is slave including in this country. (Ashcroft:212)
- 1.7.3 Process: is a series of actions that you take in order to achieve a result (Cambridge dictionary)