

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a literary work, which expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings and attitudes toward life through a written language. Edward H. Jones in *An Outline of Literature* states that literature is simply another way in which we can express and communicate thought, feeling, and attitude toward life through a written language (1968:1). Literature can be defined as imaginative writing in the sense of fiction. People like to tell about things that happen to them and they want to listen to the things which happen to other people through some ways such as reading literary works.

Hudson in his book *An Introduction to Study of Literature* states that:

Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it which have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. (1965: 10)

It means that literature is the reflection of people's behavior in the past time and a direction to lead their time in the future. People can find many kinds of literary works in the daily life. Literature includes all written materials, such as, historical book, philosophical work, novel, poetry, and drama. The researcher is interested in analyzing poetry as people can find the spirit of life by understanding poetry. Leahy's opinion, "Poetry is a patterned form of verbal or written expression of ideas in concentrated, imaginative, and rhythmical terms. Poetry usually contains rhyme and specific meter, but not necessarily (1963: 5). The poet writes the

poems by exploring his or her ideas and arranges them into beautiful rhyming words that are full of imagination.

Furthermore, Johnson states that poetry is metrical composition or the art of writing pleasure with truth by calling imagination to help of reason (1965: 64). It can be said that poetry is the interpretation in human life by using the emotional and imaginative to absorb the real meaning inside.

From 1723 to 1800 Americans were in the Revolutionary Period. This influenced the literature of the time. Battles in the American Revolution were not fought just with traditional weapons, but also with words: pamphlets, essays, songs, speeches, and poems. Largely because of all this revolutionary spirit, the arts began to flourish, and people were inspired to express their ideas. In this time period, epic poetry started showing up for the first time in American literature. One of the famous figures of literature is Philip Morin Freneau. He is a famous American poet in American revolution period. Philip Freneau's poem expresses about American's life and American Heroes.

{ "Poetry of the American Revolution Era". p.1 of 4 (<http://narchuleta.hubpages.com/hub/poetry-american-revolution>) accessed on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 19:17 }

It means that literature in America was influenced by the condition of the Revolutionary Period. The poem in Revolutionary Period is expresses about the American's life and American heroes.

The researcher is interested in analyzing Phillip Freneau's poem entitled "The Indian Burying Ground". To make his poems beautiful and aesthetic, Philip Freneau uses imageries. Brooks and Werren (1960: 555) state "The representation of any sense experience is called imagery. Imagery does not consist merely of "mental picture," but may make an appeal to any of the senses". That statement is clearly described that imagery is the sense of experience. It is related to the five senses of man, that is, sight, sound, smell, taste and touch. In his poems entitled

“The Indian Burying Ground” Freneau uses imageries to show the way of the Indian Funeral. By analyzing the imageries, the readers are able to understand and imagine the way of the Indian funeral, how the Indian believe life after death.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The researcher finds some problems that occur and are interesting to be analyzed. The problems are as follows:

1. What are the kinds of imagery describing the Indian culture of funeral?
2. What are the kinds of imagery describing Indian culture dealing with the life after the death?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

In regard with the questions that are formulated in the statement of problem, the researcher wishes:

1. To analyze the imagery that shows the Indian culture of funeral.
2. To analyze the imagery that shows the Indian culture dealing with the life after the death.

### **1.4 Limitation of the Problem**

In this study, the researcher discusses imageries in the poem. Philip Morin Freneau has many poems. In this study the researcher chooses Philip Morin Freneau’s poem entitled “The Indian Burying Ground”. The researcher analyzes kinds of imagery, which portray Indian culture of funeral and Indian life after

death, as they are expressed in “The Indian Burying Ground”. The researcher focuses in analyzing visual imagery, kinesthetic imagery and auditory imagery.

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

There are some significant elements related to the topic discussed. Generally, the researcher hopes that the analysis will give valuable information about Philip Freneau’s “The Indian Burying Ground” to the readers. The researcher also tends to enrich the knowledge about literary works, especially about Philip Morin Freneau’s “The Indian Burying Ground”. Moreover, this research is hoped to encourage the students to analyze this poem from other aspect. This research is significant since it can be used as the reference for the further study on poetry.