

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Literature is one of the materials that we have studied from elementary school to university. It has obviously roles in many aspects of life, since it gives great contribution in broadening knowledge. The term literature itself means another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination. It is anything that is written to express thought, feeling, and attitude toward life. While, William Henry Hudson in his book entitled *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* says that:

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

Further, literature can be classified into poetry, novel, and drama or play. These forms deal with the truth of human life or ways of life such as human value, moral, love, or passion, which take place in the society. In *An Outline of Literature*, Edward H. Jones asserts that: “literature consists of poetry, novel, and drama or play and it depends on both the reader and the writer’s knowledge and experience.” (1981: 1)

In this thesis, the writer tries to analyze a novel such as the object of the research. Novel is the interpretation of the authors about emotions, expression, experiences, and through their imagination. In the other side, novel contains

description of real human's life that is reflected into interesting stories. Rene Wellek and Austin Warren in *Theory of Literature* say, "the novel is the picture of real life and manner, and of the time in which it is written." (1949: 205)

Appreciating the novel leads the reader to know at least a little about the background of writing and the writer himself. In writing process of the novel, the authors or novelists cannot separate from their society. Their social environment will contribute the way of writing of novel. Donald Heiney and Lenthiel H. Downs in *Recent to American Literature* say that "since authors are not isolated from their culture but must necessarily write in a social environment, the changing temper of time acts as an important influence of their work." (1973: 11). Meanwhile, many novelists tend to use their experience as an object of their novel. They transmute fact and their experience to serve their fictional purpose. Based on the Mark Twain's statement that is written by Michael Wisman in *About Mark Twain*, he says, "most valuable capital or culture or education usable in the building of novel is personal experience." (<http://www.geocities.com/swaisman>)

The object of this thesis is one of Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. This novel was first published in the United States in 1885 and it is his masterpiece. However, he could scarcely have estimated that *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* will be one of the world's great books and central document of American culture. The effect of Mark Twain on American literature cannot be measured. In the *Growing Years of American Literature*, Ernest Hemingway says, "all modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called *Huckleberry Finn*." (1958: 91) This novel deals with the

personal experience and it is also rich with the human nature like in love, hate, goodwill; those are mingled in a chain of interesting events. The reader could share such experience as friendship and loyalty that is illustrated in the two characters (Huckleberry Finn and Jim) exciting along Mississippi under the shadow of slavery. It also talks about historical fact that differentiates the right of White from the Black that puts the White as the superior.

From the illustration above, the writer attempts to make further analysis in the great novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* to find out the relationship between Mark Twain's life and his works. The titled selected is The Study of Mark Twain's Life and Huckleberry Finn's as Reflected in Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

1.2 Statement of the Study

The objective of the study in this thesis is a novel by Mark Twain entitled *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. This study is focused on the author's character and the main character in the novel. The writer tries to find out the similarity of character between Mark Twain and Huckleberry Finn. In this thesis, the writer arranges the statement of the study as follows:

1. How is the character of Mark Twain?
2. How is the character of Huckleberry Finn in the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*?
3. What are the similarities between Mark Twain's and Huckleberry Finn's character as reflected in the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to answer all of the questions, which are written in the problem of the study. They are:

1. To know the characters of Mark Twain
2. To know the characters of Huckleberry Finn in the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
3. To find out the similarities between Mark Twain's and Huckleberry Finn's characters are reflected in the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

1.4 Limitation of the Study

Realizing that there are many features that take a part in the novel creation process, the writer just wants to focus this analysis on the author's character and main character (Huckleberry Finn) in Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* to find out the similarities of both characters. On the other hand, setting will be served at glance as aid information to answer the problem.

1.5 Significance of the study

After reading and studying the thesis, the writer hopes the result of this study can give clear description about the relationship between literature and reality in our life, in this case, a novel and the author's experience. The author attempts to represent the real life in literary works. There are many things in our social environment, which influence the writer in the way of writing.

The writer also tries to share the essence of literary work, especially *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, as a novel that has relevance with the problem of American society in several years ago, especially about slavery. The next, we can take some valuable lesson from this novel for our better life that people in this world have the same right in any matters. On the other hand, this thesis will give additional information to other researchers who want to make further analysis on *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.