

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of The Study

Literature is a kind of art. It has many good points and functions. Literature is closely related with human life, because literature is produced by human being as a medium to express the senses and thought in attractive form. It is composed into interesting work bearing pleasure and enjoyment. It also reflects human experiences toward life or as a written expression of human thoughts, feelings, and attitudes toward life. To Edward H. Jones Jr. in *An Outline of Literature* explains that literature is simply another way that we can experience the world around us through our imagination, feeling and thought (1968:1). In its broadest sense, literature includes all written materials. It means that literature falls into history books, philosophical works, short stories, novels, poems, and plays. In other word, literature is a vital records of what men have seen in life and what they have thought and felt about those aspect of it. Beside that, studying literature will arise one's spirit and motivation in life.

Through the explanation above, we know that drama is one of literature. The word drama itself comes from the Greek word to do or to act. According to Sister M. Agnes David in his book *Modern American Drama*, that 'Drama is character in action or a drama is a story intended to be spoken and acted on the stage' (1960:12).

In drama, there are certain features that are not found in novels or poems, such as dialogues that can be heard, mimicries, gestures, actions, and appearances or decorations which are created by dramatist that can be seen on the stage. All of these things are powerful in creating atmosphere in attracting the audience in such away so people will easily follow and understand the story.

A drama has greater power in creating atmosphere as well as characterization and it can also make deeper impression in our minds and feelings than a novel. In drama we can see the actions, gestures, the way of walking, standing, sitting, hearing the voice of each actor, the intonation when they are happy or sad. By watching a drama we can see more clearly the events of the story rather than reading a novel. In other words, by watching a drama we can see the action, atmosphere, setting, the expression of love and happiness, hatred, sadness et cetera more clearly than in a novel.

A drama – a tragedy, a comedy, and a tragic comedy is a play of literature that is written to be acted on stage, as statement below :

Plays are meant to be seen on stage, but equally true, reading a play may afford certain advantages. One advantage is that is better to know some master piece by them than never know them at all (X.J.Kennedy, 1966:833).

It is valuable for one to study the great works of George Bernard Shaw. His works has is a study based on the play of George Bernard Shaw. His idea is to reform society from poverty, because poverty is the greatest crime in society. Higgins in *Pygmalion* wants to reform society by educating a woman, Eliza Doolittle, of low class phonetics and social manners so that she will have the same

social manners as those of high classes. Shaw creates delightful characters so that he is successful communicating his idea by entertaining them with this jolay.

The writer chooses a drama *Pygmalion* for this thesis and has formulated the title : The Influences of Eliza Doolittle' Ambition on Her Behavior In George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. Most of this drama discusses the mental development of a lady, in which, this character comes from low class and from broken family. The story of *Pygmalion* is not a romance, as it would rightly have been called if Professor Higgins and Eliza Doolittle had fallen in love and got married. It is a problem play and the problem goes much deeper than the bare story told in *Pygmalion*.

Different classes of society is very important for a group of people in a certain place to maintain their existence in the world, while up to know still exist in society. According to Beth B. Hess, Elizabeth W. Markson, and Peter J. Stein in *Sociology* say that :

Socioeconomic system is based on a combination of education, occupation, and economy. There are three levels of society, namely, the high class, middle class. And the low class. Many low classes people are looked down by these of the other classes who usually belong to rich people. The statement can be proved by magazines or newspapers that tell how difficult low classes people live while the higher classes people live in luxury and like to hold great party. It is well-known everywhere that low classes people are uneducated. (1988:171)

The writer wants to relate the above mentioned fact with Eliza Doolittle's condition in *Pygmalion*. We know that family has important role in mental development of a child. The major determinant of a child is creation primarily of her family, especially her parents then the influence of environment is important

too. A child who comes from broken family, from lower class and under pressure in her childhood usually grows up to be a bad temper. Man or woman it is impossible for her to grow up of being a good lady. However, Eliza does not do it. Although, she grows up in bad environment, comes from lower class and from broken family, she still has strong personality and grows up to be a good lady. Eliza's ambition can influence her behavior and change the situation and the condition of her family and her life.

The writer is really impressed by the way Eliza Doolittle's character and action change from time to time, especially her ambition that influence her behavior. Although she has no education like others, she solves all her problems and becomes a good looking lady.

1.2 The Statement of The Problem

The thesis performs several problems to discuss, especially which is related with the causes and influences of someone's ambition on behavior in which the ambition intends to move someone

The writer will classify the problems to discuss in this thesis as the following :

1. What is the cause of Eliza Doolittle's ambition?
2. How are the influences of Eliza Doolittle's ambition toward her own life?

1.3 The Objectives of The Study

In line with the statement of the problems above, the objectives of this study are as the following :

1. The writer wants to know the cause of Eliza Doolittle's ambition.
2. The writer wants to know the influences of Eliza Doolittle's ambition toward her own life.

1.4 The Scope of The Problem

In this thesis, the writer is going to discuss *The Influences Of Eliza Doolittle's Ambition On Her Behavior in George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion*. In order to make discussion more specific, the writer feels necessary to limit the scope of the study to avoid more complicated discussion and unimportant matters. From the drama *Pygmalion*, the writer would like to focus on Mr. Higgins, Eliza's father, and Eliza as the main character in the play. So, the other elements of drama will not be deeply discussed. Then the problem of this discussion focuses on the influences of Eliza Doolittle's ambition on her behavior. The writer wants to prove that the bad environment of Eliza has given effects for her successful life.

1.5 The Significance of The Study

By making this thesis, the writer hopes that it can create some significance toward the readers as follows :

1. To make the readers have a clear description about what the writer is going to do in this study.
2. To the readers in order they can educate well and more care to their children.