

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Literature is an imitation of life in which the author keeps its values into his mind expresses it into literary work. Literature is always related with culture and society. Literature is a branch of art, which uses language as a media. We can experience and involve in literature to the same extend that we are involved in life by reading of literature. William Henry Hudson supports it in his book entitled *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* states:

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

Literature is also created to be enjoyed for the people. It is creation of human being. The authors express theirs feel in word in literature and want to describe all of aspect of human being life. Moreover, the readers will get impression and pleasure of reading literature. Griffith, Kelly Jr. in *Writing Essays about Literature* states:

Literature is a subject matter that creates certain expectation in your audience. Because literature is a complex product of the imagination, readers of essay about literature expect you to interpret it-to explain, to clarify, to analyze, and to give the meaning of it. (1990:3)

It means that the author may describe literature as a describing of the imagination of the experience by people. Sometimes, the authors describe through their literary work in many kind of aspects, such as love, satire, suffering,

adventure, and so on, to make and help the readers understand more about life and its surrounding through the literary works.

The nature of literature is based on two categories: Semantics qualifications and Aesthetic aspect, which include the term of composition, style, form, and sound pattern. As we refer to Horace statement in Wellek and Werren's *Theory of Literature* state the functions of literature are of two main things, namely: *Dulce*, which literary translated as "beauty", it means that literature is functioning to exert the beauty of the object of the literary work itself and the second is *Utile*, it means that literature is always useful for the sake of the literature itself and for the surrounding (1956:18). Literature can be the reflection of human behavior in the past time and also the direction of our time in the future.

There are three kinds of literature. It is drama, novel, and poetry. Drama is meant to be seen on stage. In X.J Kennedy in his book entitled *Literature, an Introduction to fiction, Poetry and Drama* state: "a play is a work of story telling in which the character are represented by actors" (1979:833). By knowing drama that represented on the stage, the audience can enjoy the play through the actors and actresses on the stage, but equally true, reading a play may afford certain advantage. One of the advantages is that it is better to know some masterpieces by reading them than never to know them at all.

Drama as one of the literary work and usually it's presented on the stage, and drama is a work of story telling in which actors and actresses represent the characters, but it is interesting to read also. From this, the writer chooses William Shakespeare's great work that is *Antony and Cleopatra*. According to the critic

Bernard Beckerman in *Dynamic of Drama* "a play is mere skeleton; performance fleshes out the bones" (Griffith, 1990:73). It means that in a play (drama) must be represented on stage, because if we read the play, we can miss qualities of the playwright intended as a part of the play.

By reading a play, we must use our imagination through the play, and it is something interesting also. We can use our imagination about the characters and the situations of the play take place. Play consists of the dialogue, which is explained about the characteristics of the character and the situations. From the dialogues we must create the appearance and the personality of the characters, their relations to each other and the action that arises from these relationships (David, 1961: 1-2).

In William Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, we can find the political ways of Cleopatra reign in Egypt. She the first time falls in love with Caesar, and also falls in love with Mark Antony, as we know that her love is not always true. There is a trick to run her purpose. And also because of her affairs with Antony, she has to face her death. It is tragic ending for her and her lover (Antony) because as we know that Cleopatra is a tough woman. She wants to do everything to make her purposes all successful. She also involves in the military in her reign. It happens when Caesar wants to attack her palace, in other way she is helped by Mark Antony to face that Caesar's attacks by land, but indirectly Cleopatra who is the one arrange the plan to against Caesar's army by sea. Because of his love to Cleopatra, Antony does not listen to his aid suggestion to fight by land. Through explanation above, the writer eager to know by analyze the political ways of

Cleopatra's reign in her throne in this thesis. And the writer is interesting to analyzing William Shakespeares's play *Antony and Cleopatra*.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In majoring this analysis, the writer focuses on the three main problems, they are:

1. What is Cleopatra's political motivation through her romantic relationship with Mark Antony?
2. What is the effect of such political motivation of Cleopatra ?

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

A literary works has many elements to be discussed and it is impossible to discuss all the elements of it. Avoiding some problems out of the context, the writer will be concentrate only in analyzing Cleopatra's political ways in her romantic relationship with Mark Antony and effect of such political motivation of her love with Mark Antony, in order to get more detailed understanding on the topic of discussion on William Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*.

1.4 Objectives of the Problem

The objectives of this research are to settle the problem we have above. Thus, the objectives of this problem are to find out and analyzing the following terms:

1. To know about Cleopatra's political motivation through her Romantic relationship with Mark Antony.

2. To figure out about the effect of such political motivation of Cleopatra.

1.5 Significance of the Problem

The significance is the writer wants to know about the political ways, which appears in Cleopatra's character in this play. In Cleopatra's reign, there is some political intrigue that she that she uses in her reigns, it's all because she also has a beauty that she uses for one of her power to do on her politics. What she does in her character is effecting trough the other characters, and the writer wants to learn about the political ways of Cleopatra in her reigns in Egypt, also about the effect of her love through the others characters, and about her act in the military and political in the battle that happened in her era.

And it since also can be the reference for the further research on politics in other play. Also, this can be the reference for other researcher for analyzing about politics in more detail and more deep about political ways of Cleopatra on William Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*.