

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

Moral in human life has a very important position. Moral values are very necessary for humans, both as individuals and as individual even members of a community group or nation. A civilization of the nation can be valued through the moral character of its people. Man, in his life must obey the norms, rules, customs, laws and the law that exists in a society. Relating to norms, rules, customs, laws and laws that govern human life made by agreement of a group of humans or rules that originate from the law God (revelation) so that humans can live in accordance with agreed norms in community of human life and law from God.

Moral is the etiquette in life, customs or habits used in developing individuals or social groups to achieve maturity. Morals can control the behavior of human, especially children who are growing up (teenager) so that they do not create any conflict in society. On the other hand the absence of morality is often blamed as a causal factor increasing juvenile delinquency(Winarno, 2018).

One interesting novel to read is a novel by Nathaniel Hawthorne. This is because, the novel by Nathaniel Hawthorne is perfect for reading in various circles. Many of Hawthorne's stories appear in Puritans in New England, and his greatest novel, *The Scarlet Letter* (1850) is a portrait of Puritan American classics. This novel tells the story of a love and forbidden love between priest Arthur Dimmesdale, a sensitive and religious young man, with Hester Prynne, a sensual

and beautiful city citizen. Originating in Boston during the early Puritan occupation, this novel prioritized Calvinist obsession with morality, sexual pressure, error and confession.

The main character in the *Scarlett Letter* is a woman named Hester Prynne who was imprisoned for adultery and one day in the summer, she and her adultery baby were humiliated on the stage meant by New England people at that time, to humiliate a sinner. The author conveys one of the moral messages of this novel is how important it is to uphold the values of honesty, because the root of all the tragedies of his writing is dishonesty which creates character misery.

Research on scarlet letter novels has been carried out by researchers, both nationally and internationally. One of the previous studies using the same object, the scarlet letter novel, was a study entitled *An Analysis of Symbolic Images in The Scarlet Letter* by (Gao, 2017) from ShanXi. Normal University, China. This research focuses on symbolic techniques for analyzing Scarlet novel letters. This research, analyzes novels from symbolic drawing techniques. This paper consists of three parts. The first part introduces the author, including his background, learning experience and work, and the influence of his novels. The second part introduces symbolism, including its definition and effect. In the third part, to express the hypocrisy of religion at that time, to express the spirit of women's rebellion, he interprets symbolic images from three aspects: nature, color, time. Through analysis of symbolic images, readers can find deep meaning from the context, which can strengthen people's understanding of novel characters, scenes and plots.

The second previous research entitled Representative of New Women's Image - Analyzing Feminist Awareness Hester Prynne in Scarlet letter novel by(Wang, 2011) from Department of Foreign Languages, Tianjin University of Technology, Tianjin, China.This research attempts to analyze the feminist awareness of Hester by respecting the spirit of his rebellion, independence, and strong mind, in this way to evaluate Hester Prynne as a representative of the image of a new woman.This research focuses on exploring Hester's figure better, because seeing as a new woman also has a positive social meaning in encouraging women today to pursue noble ideals of equal status between men and women.

Based on the description above, it is clear that there are differences and similarity with this research. First researchers focused on the symbolic aspects of scarlet letter novels and the second research focused on feminist awareness of Hester. The difference is that this study focuses on the moral values and social values in scarlet letter novel, which is the difference between this research and previous research while in the similarity in this research is uses the same object, the scarlet letter novel.

The moral and social phenomena in scarlet letter novel are closely related to the problem of human relations with God, human beings with oneself, and the relationship between humans and other human beings in social distribution. The type and form of the message of moral and social values needed in literary works will depend on the beliefs, desires, and interests of the author concerned. The types and moral teachings and social values themselves can include problems that

can be said to be unlimited. Its scope covers all issues of life and life, all issues concerning human dignity.

By looking at the reality and phenomena that exist in the surrounding environment and news, whether through social media or mass media, researchers are interested in analyzing moral message in scarlet letter novel. This research of this novel was carried out, specifically regarding the message of moral and social values contained in the scarlet letter novel. This novel present stories that are full of moral values and social values so that the writer is interested in reviewing this novel further based on the descriptions above. This research will analyze the moral and social values in the scarlet letter novel. Therefore, the title of this research is “Analysis of moral messages in Scarlet Letter Novels by Nathaniel Hawthorne: A moral philosophical approach”.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, the researcher identifies moral messages that found in the novel by using moral approach.

1. The Moral messages in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
2. The Social values found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
3. The technique of delivering moral values in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
4. The life philosophy found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
5. The implementation of the moral and social values contained in the scarlet letter novel.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

Based from the identification of the problem above, the researcher has 2 problems which need to analyze. Due to the limitation of time that the researcher has, the researcher limits the problem only about Moral value and Social value to convey the moral messages. The problem is identified as follows:

1. The Moral messages found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
2. The Social values found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

Referring to the limitation of the problems above, the researcher makes formulation of the problem into two questions form in order the researcher knows what relevant data to answer formulation of the problem on this research. The formulation of the problem as follow:

1. What are the moral messages found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel?
2. What are the social values found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel?

1.5. Objective of the Research

1. To analyze the moral messages found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.
2. To analyze the social values found in “The Scarlet Letter” novel.

1.6. Significance of the Research

The significance of the research can be divided into two types, there are theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretically

The researcher useMoral approach to analyze the novel, because in Scarlet Letter novel has so many moral messages through the moral values and bad social value. The research hopes that this research will give advantages to everyone who concern and interested in literary study especially Moral approach.

2. Practically

The researcher expects that this study will enrich the readers' knowledge and give more understandings and references in analyzing literary works. This research is a requirement for the researcher to fulfillment for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

1. Moral Messages

Message that contains teachings, lectures, oral and written, about how humans must live and act, so that they become good human beings. The direct source of moral teachings is a variety of people in positions of authority, such as parents, teachers, community leaders, and wise people. The sources of these teachings are traditions and traditions, religious teachings, or certain ideologies.

2. Moral Value

Form an objective picture of the truth that is carried out by someone in a community environment.

3. Social Value

The value adopted by a community, about what is considered good and what is considered bad by the community.