CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In this life we always hear the statement that life is a struggle. This statement is always drilled into children by parents and guardians. It is also pushed hard onto the students by teachers. This statement implies that in this life there must be an effort from us to be able to move forward; to be successful. When a person has no enthusiasm to move forward, it is certain that person will be a loser for the rest of his life. The person can only blame circumstances, themselves and others. For that whoever we are, if we want to be successful then there must be a struggle in this life. This is actually a teaching in Islam where Allah SWT says in Surah Ar-Ra'd Verse 11 which means "Indeed, Allah does not change the condition of a people so that they change the situation that is in themselves." [Qs. Ar-Ra'd Verse 11].

Struggle is something that is needed in life, if God allows life without obstacles and struggles, it might paralyze us, because we will always be arrogant with all facilities, until finally we fall and lose. It means that in this life there should be a hard effort in order to achieve an ideal which is difficult and very important. Thus, struggle can be defined as an effort and hard working to achieve something good usually by experiencing difficulty.

Ahmad Fuadi's novel *Ranah 3 Warna,* which constitutes his second series novel after the first novel *Five Towers,* tells about life in the Islamic Boarding School. It tells us about Alif's life as the protagonist of the novel, and Alif's endeavours in his life becomes the focus of this research. After his graduation from *Pondok Pesantren Madani* 'Madani Islamic Boarding School' in Ponorogo District, East Java, he wants to continue his study in engineering to be an engineer like his idol, B. J. Habibie. The story of this novel is supposed

to happen in 1993/1994. At that time, the only way to be a student of the state university is by passing an entrance test as a requirement which is called UMPTN (State University Entrance Examination). One can register to take the entrance test if he has a Senior High School certificate whereas Alif just has a certificate majoring in Islamic Religion from the Islamic boarding school. In his boarding school, Alif also studies chemistry, mathematics, and physics but not as much as in the regular Senior High School. Remembering that the opportunity to be an engineer seems to be impossible, he decides to go to the United States of America to achieve his other dream. Moreover, his father's death has also made him face some difficulties in his life, especially concerning his financial matters. Besides, he also finds some obstacles when he wants to be a writer. He must figure out how to overcome those obstacles, and must struggle for his life. In achieving his ideals in the struggle, he adopts some *hadits* 'sayings' of the prophet Muhammad: *Man jadda wajada* 'One who is persevering will be successful' and *Man shabara zhafira* 'One who has patience will gain a good luck'. These two *hadits* 'sayings' are adopted as Alif's incantation in the struggles of his life.

The researcher feels interested to conduct his research on the protagonist's struggles in this novel due to some reasons. Alif's struggles constitute the dominant theme in this novel. Struggle plays a very important role in everyone's life. In life, everyone must have some goals to be achieved, both material and immaterial, and in achieving the goals, they always find some problems, obstacles and difficulty and so they need to exert their potential to struggle hard in order to achieve the goals. Besides, *Ranah 3 Warna* is one of the national bestseller Indonesian novels. This novel has also been produced in the form of movie, which indicates that it is really a very interesting novel to read. Therefore, feeling interested to the dominant theme in the story and the ways how the protagonist of the novel by the name of Alif has carried out his life endeavours to materialise his goals, the researcher has made up

his mind to conduct a research based on the novel entitled Struggles in Ahmad Fuadi's Trilogy Novel, *Ranah 3 Warna*.

1.2 Problem Identification

One of the most important first tasks of research is to identify and define clearly the problems to be studied and the points should be fixed to get a picture of the research objectives.

Considering the points discussed in the background of the study, the problems that will be discussed are formulated as follows.

1. What are the protagonist's struggles in the novel?

2. How does the protagonist manage his struggles to achieve his goals?

1.3 Objective

Objectives are the single most important aspect of research design and implementation, including individual and tangible steps that will be taken in a research. Objectives shape the questions asked in the research, guide the analysis and report and point the researcher to the right decision. Thus, research objectives arise from strong explanations of the problem identification.

Considering the statements of the problems above, the objectives of this study are:

1. to reveal the protagonist's struggles depicted in the novel, and

2. to analyze how the protagonist manage his struggles to achieve his goals.

1.4 Scope

The scope of a study is concerned with the aspects which are covered in the study in relation to a certain topic. The scope also states the aspects which are not covered or included in the study. Thus, it consists of an outline of the contents of the analysis including the main

findings. Details are to be added in when describing what is being researched, why it is being researched and how this study was conducted.

The novel *Ranah 3 Warna* consists of many aspects as explained in the background of the problem. All of the aspects of the novel are very interesting to be researched. However, this study focuses only on the aspect of the theme of the novel; namely the protagonist's struggles, including how the protagonist by the name of Alif manages his struggles and what the goals of his struggles are. There are several things that the protagonist wants to achieve in his struggles, i.e. his struggle for accredited certificates of the Senior High School, for admission to the university, for his life after his father's death, for his career as an author, and for the selection of students' exchange to the United States.

1.5 Significance

The practical significance of this study is that everyone should realize that life is a struggle. In this life struggle should be conducted with perseverance, patience and consistency as depicted by the protagonist Alif who struggles full-heartedly to achieve his ideals. A number of things become his obsession. Alif as the protagonist of the novel struggles to get accredited certificates of the Senior High School, to get admision to the state university, to lead hard life after his father's death, to get a career as an author, to compete for the selection of students' exchange to the United States.

Throughout the story, Alif shows the readers a powerful paradigm that goals should always be pursued even though over some obstacles. The most important capital in a struggle is perseverance as well as patience. A hard work does not always result in good effects all of a sudden; the good result may appear at the end. So, if in the middle of the process one gets frustrated and decides to give up, surely he will fail and suffer a great loss.

The theoretical significance of this study indicates that the three motives of struggle namely struggle for existence, struggle for survival and struggle for power are applicable to the data. The struggle for existence covers the protagonist's struggle to get the Senior High School Certificate and to get admission to the State University. The struggle for survival is the protagonist's struggle to earn his living after the death of his father. The struggle for power covers two aspects namely his struggle for his career as an author and his struggle for the selection of student's exchange to the United States. Thus, the theory selected does match the data of the study.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Sociology of Literature

Aras (2015) says literature which intertwines within such fields as history, philosophy, sociology, psychology and so on is a discipline wherein language is used as a medium of expression so as to interpret man, existence and culture, personality and individual differences which have always been studied and discussed by writers, philosophers, artists, psychologists and psychiatrists. There is a very strong correlation between literature and psychology for the fact that both of them deal with human beings and their reactions, perceptions of the world, miseries, wishes, desires, fears, conflicts and reconciliations; individual and social concerns, by means of varied concepts, methods, and approaches.

To Noam Chomsky, literature is one of the most significant means to obtain knowledge, concerning man and his life, his unique experiences and the idiosyncratic values: "We will always learn more about human life and personality from novels than from scientific psychology" (Lodge, 2002). Kagan & Havemann (1968) describe psychology as the science that systematically studies and attempts to explain observable behavior and its relationship to the unseen mental processes that go on inside the organism and to external events in the environment. The meaning of psychology in literature is explained by Wellek and Warren (1977) as 'psychology of literature', we may mean the psychological study of the writer, as type and as individual, or the study of the creative process, or the study of the psychological types and laws present within works of literature, or, finally, the effects of literature upon its readers (audience psychology).

In *Theory of Literature* Wellek and Warren (1977: 81) explain that there are several definitions of literary psychology based on the subject of research, they are:

1. Psychology of literature that studies the psychology of the author as an individual. It means that an author is a human being who cannot be separated from the nature that has the desire and emotion. Based on his passion and emotional background he can create a literary works.

2. Psychology of literature psychology that studies the creative process. It means that this study looks at how the process of a work can be made into a whole literary work.

3. Psychology of literature that studies the types and principles of psychology applied to literary works. It means that this study looks at how topics and case in psychology are applied in the character of literary works.

4. Psychology of literature that studies the influence of literary works on the reader. It means that this study sees the influence of literary work on the reader, whether it affects the way of thinking and the way of life of the reader or not.

Psychology and the study of art will always have to turn to one another for help, and the one will not invalidate the other. Both principles are valid in spite of their relativity (Jung, 1990).

Gultom & Astarini (2018) claims that one of the major tasks for a scientific psychology of traits is to distinguish internal properties of the person from overt behaviors, and to investigate the casual relationships between them. Wellek & Warren (1977) assert that to avoid circularity, it is essential to seek to identity the underlying physiological and social bases of traits, which are the true causal influences on behavior. In the psychological approach, the author's perceptions, dreams, conscious or unconscious mind, the differences between the personality of the author and the author in the text are also taken into consideration.

Problem complexity can be streamlined by applying psychological theory. People's minds can be molded through psychology so that they see the issue as a challenge rather than

as their fate. The difficulties that people encounter is not as difficult as they think. If people approach issues positively, they can find solutions to every issue. In this situation, psychology plays a significant part in developing a positive way of thinking. Psychology can be used to understand more deeply about message, characterization and other elements of the novel. Psychology can help reveal the reasons for character behavior (Guerin, 1979: 1).

Personality is the key element in both psychology and literature might be described as the total pattern of characteristic ways of behaving and thinking that constitute the individual's unique and distinctive method of adjusting to his environment (Kagan & Havemann, 1968). As psychology is actually related to psychoanalysis in literature, in addition to the characters, the author and the writing process, are also subjected to psychoanalytical approaches. To reveal the relationship between literature and psychology, it is widely held that psychology enriches the power of creation and production process (Wellek & Warren, 1977).

In this research, the researcher refers to Krishnananda (1989) theory of stuggle in which he claims that generally, struggle will fall under three main types, namely (1) struggle for existence, (2) struggle for survival, and (3) struggle for power.

2.2 Struggle

Merriam Webster defines struggle in three ways: (1) to try very hard to do, achieve, or deal with something that is difficult or that causes problems, (2) to move with difficulty or with great effort, (3) to try to move yourself, an object, etc., by making a lot of effort.

Everyone must have some ideals to achieve in their life but not all of them are successful to achieve them easily. Sometimes they need to exert more energy with difficulty to achieve the ideals. Such hard efforts to achieve some goals are known as struggle.

Human life is regarded as a process of successive achievements, and every movement in this process is a step taken towards the actualisation of the ideal which beckons one to itself. Krisnananda (1989: 1) notes, "Life is characterized by effort at existence. This inherent urge within every human being is a permanent feature observable through history. Effort and struggle are directed towards the achieving of an end which is realized as one's ideal and which mostly remains as a future to the reality of the present state of affairs. The all-round struggle of humanity through the passage of history for achievements of different kinds in the various fields of activity is an indication that life is involved in a restlessness of the human spirit which is eager to overcome its barriers of action and limitations of understanding".

Moreover, something which is achieved by struggle with hard effort must be relevant with its method. Gandhi (2005: 6) notes, "methods applied in one stage of struggle is closely related to and cannot even partially detached with the objective to be achieved". He believes that everything good will never be realized in a bad way. Every good ideal will never be achieved without a good method. Thus, both the purpose and the method must go hand in hand, inseparable from each other and function synergistically.

The theory of struggle applied in this study is mainly adopted from Krisnananda (1989) in which she notes that struggle can be divided into some types, those are: struggle for facing the difficulties in the form of hunger and thirst, struggle for facing the difficulties in the form of heat and cold, and struggle for facing the difficulties in the form of fear of death. She further notes, "Life is a struggle and it has been, at least at its lowest level, for overcoming difficulties in the form of hunger and thirst, heat and cold and the fear of death, all of which ever remain as the invariable concomitants of life in general" (Krisnananda, 1989: 1).

Krishnananda (1989) states that there are many kinds of struggle faced in life, but generally, they will fall under three main types, namely (1) struggle for existence, (2) struggle for survival, and (3) struggle for power.

2.2.1 Struggle for Existence

Human existence is a personal beings and social beings. As individual human beings are required to develop themselves, so that they can be useful for themselves and for other people. Everyone has different abilities. There are many kinds of career to choose in one's life such as to be a teacher, a farmer, a businessman, a merchant, and so forth. As mentioned in Jackson (2003: 310) "the struggle between rich and poor, the forms of which vary according to the changes in relations to production, than as a history of social organism which 'adapt' to ecological conditions".

The struggle for existence never gets easier. However well a species may adapt itself to its environment, it can never relax because its competitors and its enemies are also adapting their niches, (Ridley, 1994: 61-62).

The 'positional' consumption plays a vital role in the evolutionary strategy of the selfish gene. We are driven to consume, according to this theory, because of a continuing need to position ourselves in relation to the opposite sex and with respect to our sexual competitors. This strategy offers us or rather it offers our genes – the best chance of successfully passing on genetic material to the next generation, (Jackson, 2003: 301).

Darwin states that struggle for existence is including dependence of one being on another, and including (which is more important) not only the life of the individual, but success in leaving progeny, (Darwin, 1859: 116).

It means, to be comfort in their environment, people need to struggle for their existence as the member of society.

2.2.2 Struggle for Survival

Human beings who have to fight are usually deprived of the needs of their life. For example, people who came from lower-class economy will certainly have problems with their daily life. The revenue certainly will not be enough to satisfy hunger and thirst and also the need for clothing and shelter. With minimal income they have to be satisfied with goods which are not in branded class. Place of residence should also considered to the minimalist type and with a small size. As a result, this shortage could have negative effects such as fights, theft, even murder. As proposed by Darwin "The extinction of species and of whole groups of species, which has played so conspicuous a part in the history of the organic world, almost inevitably follows from the principle of natural selection; for old forms are supplanted by new and improved forms." (Foard, 1996: 2).

Security is affecting humans in order to survive. How would it be if they lived in the war condition? Surely this can interfere with human life. As a result of insecurity, a person would not be able to survive in his life. In other words, human beings will be surpressed by a weak or a strong man who has a weapon.

Furthermore, Darwin added: "As natural selection acts solely by the preservation of profitable modifications, each new form will tend in a fully-stocked country to take the place of, and finally to exterminate, its own less improved parent-form and other less-favored forms with which it comes into competition. Thus extinction and natural selection go hand in hand."

The theory of natural selection made four important contributions. Buss (2009: 140) mentions:

> *The first contribution is, it explained change over time in organic design. Second, it furnished the causal process by which different species originate. Third, it explained the seemingly purposive quality of the component parts-their adaptive functions, or the particular ways in which these characteristics and survival. Fourth, natural selection unified all species past and present, including humans, into*

*one grand tree of descent. We knew for the first time in history our
true place in nature.*

Supposedly, the struggle is not necessary if it is accompanied by damage. But for people who do not have good emotional condition, it can give bad consequences for himself and his environment. Good attitude of life understanding can give positive influence on human struggle. Patience is also something that should be considered in the struggle for human life, by which man will be able to survive well.

Darwin identifies three classes of survival struggles that from the core of important research in evolutionary psychology today: "As more individuals are produced that can possibly survive, there must in every case be a struggle for existence, either one individual with another of the same species, or with individuals of different species, or with the physical conditions of life" (Darwin, 1859:63).

In this kind of struggle, human must survive of their existence as a part of society, who has to adapt with their environment with various kinds of people.

2.2.3 Struggle for Power

Certainly, all individuals play a role in making, re-making and circulating meaning. But some individuals or groups have more power than others within the communicative process. People are positioned differently by the power relationships into which are embedded, and those positions impact on the access individuals have to media production and circulation systems. The positioning of people is contextual issue. Hence, the human relationship and the way some individuals gain more powers than others through their positioning to others.

Power is a slippery phenomenon with numerous definitions. Power will be seen as the capacity to get one's own way when interacting with other human beings. Weber expressed this best when saying that those with power are able "to realize their own will even against

the resistance of others" (1998: 53). Lukes added an interesting rider to the Weberian notion "Having power not only grants one the ability to have one's interests prevail over others, but is also the ability to stop conflicts from emerging by preventing oppositional agendas from even being raised".

2.3 Review of Related Literature

Earlier studies related to the protagonist's struggles of a literary work are quite numerous, but only three works are adopted as a comparison as presented below.

The first work was written by Martha Angelia (2009) from Petra Kristian University, Surabaya, Indonesia in her research report entitled: *A Study of the Main Character's Efforts to Overcome his Obstacles in Reaching his Dream as Seen in Dickens' "Great Expectation".* This novel was written by Charles Dickens, who is one of the greatest English novelists in the Victorian period. It tells about the struggle of the main character Pip to overcome his obstacles in reaching his great expectations to climb the social ladder. Therefore, climbing the social ladder is the main theme of this novel. This novel portrays how people from the lower class struggle to change their life and how they try hard to overcome their obstacles in order to have a better life. In this study the researcher discussed how the main character struggles to overcome his obstacles in climbing the social ladder. As suggested in the topic of the research, the analysis was oriented at the findings related to how Pip, the main character gets rid of the obstacles and he has to face various problems namely living in poverty, his family's condition and his low self-esteem. But, through his effort that is by getting good education and studying hard, winning his sister's heart, finally, he is successful to improve the condition of his life -- he can overcome various obstacles and succeed to reach his dream; he is successful to climb the social ladder. It is also illustrated that if people want to work hard and have strong will, they will reach their dream.

Angelia's work is indeed almost similar with the present study in one respect but quite different in the other. Her work is oriented at the ways of the main character of Charles Dickens' novel *Great Expectations* to solve the problems he faces, whereas the present study is oriented at the types of the protagonist's struggle in the novel *Ranah 3 Warna*by Ahmad Fuadi. (http://repository.petra.ac.id/4377/).

The second work was a research report by Amilia entitled *Struggles of the Main Characters in Thomas Hardy's Wessex Tales.* In this unpublished thesis, the researcher focuses on the main characters' struggle against fate in Thomas Hardy's *Wessex Tales*. She chooses four main characters to be analyzed: Matthaus Tina, Gertrude Lodge, George Barnet, and Charles Darton. All of them have the same cases to struggle against their fate. They struggle against their fate because they cannot accept and surrender to their fate. She decides to discuss the ways the main characters struggle against their fate as the main topic. The theory applied in this research was the theory of conflict and the theory of characterization to analyse the characters. The finding indicates that the four main characters struggle against their fate endlessly. The point is no way to give up; they never surrender until the end of their life. Thus, such a research is different from the present study as it simply analyzes the struggle of the four main characters of Thomas Hardy's *Wessex Tales* against their fate with perseverance and endlessly. It is different from the type of struggle analyzed in this present sudy. (http://repository.petra.ac.id/2156/).

The third related work is a research work conducted by Miss Baga Amira (2010) entitled: *Celie's Emancipation Process in Alice Walker's "The Color Purple"*, from the Department of English, Faculty of Letters and Languages, University of Constantine, Algeria.

This study examines the protagonist's emancipation process in Alice Walker's epistolary novel *The Color Purple*. Walker does not limit herself in describing the sufferings

of African American women but suggests to all women a path to follow in order to free themselves from the evils of patriarchy and sexism. Celie, the protagonist, is able to change her status of a sexually abused slave woman and free herself economically, physically and spiritually. Writing letters to her sister Nettie combined with a sisterhood relationship with her sister Nettie, stepdaughter Sofia and close friend Shug are the key elements in this emancipation process. Celie's relationship with these women as well as writing helps Celie to assert her female body, achieve spiritual freedom and gain economic freedom. Thus, this research was oriented at the analysis of the struggle for women emancipation and freedom which is different from the present study, which is concerned with the study of the protagonist's struggle of Ahmad Fuadi's novel *Ranah 3 Warna*.