CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Globalization brings both positive and negative effect. It gives great development in science, technology, economy, education and art. The development of art runs fast and music or song is one of the branches of art that has big influence for the people. Music is an entertainment that tells a story by mental image that giving the illusion and it is necessary because it becomes part of human life in this modern era. As William (1824:2) said “The only reality in music is the state of mind which it induces in the listener”. Music may represent the bad or good of human feeling; it is able to express their thoughts, experiences, emotions, and faith. Besides that, music also invites the hearer to come into the new world or new life, when they are listening to the lyrics of the songs. The effects of the music are not only influencing the people’s emotion but it is also changing brain waves and make the brain more receptive in learning.

In addition, music is a part of literary work. Literary work is the art of written work. Literary work is commonly classified into two major forms; fiction and nonfiction. The kind of literary works are poem, song lyrics, novel, movie, drama, and etc. Music and literary works are very useful since they have various values such as moral, religious, educational, and sociological values. As Goode (1977:4) has stated that values are:

The standards that people share. These standards are used to judge whether something is good or bad, beautiful or ugly, right or wrong moral or immoral. .... Values are typically supported by specific norms, that is, more detailed directions for proper behavior. Norms are the more specific rules or definitions of how we are supposed to act in a given situation.
The statement above explains that the sense of values are related to man’s belief of what is good or bad in the sense of moral behavior. Therefore, to decide which one is right or wrong is the man himself. It can be found out in one of the fragment of song lyrics by Maher Zain entitled “Insya Allah”. The lyrics are;

Every time you feel like
you cannot go on
You feel so lost
That your so alone
All you is see is night
And darkness all around
You feel so helpless
You can’t see which way to go
Don’t despair and never loose hope
Cause Allah is always by your side
Insya Allah (3x) you’ll find your way

The fragment lyrics “Don’t despair and never loose hope, Cause Allah is always by your side, Insya Allah (3x) you’ll find your way” show that there is a sense of moral value which reflects the belief. The standards of belief are patient, struggle, and believe in Allah. Because if we are in trouble, we have to ask for directions to God earnestly, as God the Almighty will give us the way out. As Allah swt in Surat Al-Baqara: 286 says “Allah tidak membebani seseorang melainkan sesuai dengan kesanggupannya” (Allah does not burden a person but according to his ability). Generally, every writer has plenty of imagination stated in the lyrics. The message contains many ideas, such as social, satire, prise, motivation, education, till a romantic. Literature is also one of media to show some of the meaning, one of them is moral value that presented by author. By the songs, poems, movie, or the other literary works, the author tries to teach and deliver good moral for the people.
People have to improve and maintain their good moral. Morality is a common word to say, but it is very difficult to imply in human’s daily life. Since people were born, they have been taught about morality, however as the time goes by, the morality is decreasing. Morality is something that must be owned by human because without morality human will not be respected by other people. It will be easy for people to socialize with other and they will be accepted in the community. As Hurlock (1985 ) (in Niken, 2014:14). says “Moral refers to what is good or bad people’s relation to others”. Moral values can not only be obtained by discussion in formal situation or books, but also people can use songs to deliver the moral message of the songs. In this case, people will get bored when they get moral values from textbooks and the advice from their teachers or parents. Moral values can be well delivered by using music, because many people use song to express their feeling at the moment. It can give enjoyment, fun, and pleasure in studying. As Ursery (2002:1) stated “moral values are the people beliefs about what is important in life”.

As already be known, every song must have lyric. Lyric as quoted from the http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyrics is “a set of the words that accompany music, either by speaking or singing”. The word of “lyric” derived from Greek “Lyricos” meaning “singing to the lyres”, “the rhythm of the entire globe written out like poetry”. It contains the message that is used to express human feeling and experiences. It has imaginative quality and specific characteristic of language used in, such as denotation, connotation, figurative and symbol. In this study, the writer would like to please the reader by presenting the message that can be found in the lyrics of a song suggested the moral for many people who like listening to music.

In the music industry, there are many bands or solo singers. One of the solo singers is Maher Zain. He is the new star of Modern Islamic Music with his meaningful values of songs
that aim to inspire and entertain people and send a message of peace and hope to the world. He has many popular songs and now he has two albums, Thank You Allah and Forgive Me. In January 2009, Maher Zain began to work on an album at Awakening Records. His first debut album was “Thank You Allah” 2009, with 10 songs and second debut album was “Forgive Me” was released in 2012.

Maher Zain has released two albums where both are well known all over the world. The hearers also want to memorize the songs and sing the songs anytime in every place. Because every song has many words which have power to influence people. He always presents moral values or message in his songs.

From discussion above, it is very challenging or interesting to do a research about the moral values in song lyrics. Therefore, the writer takes the title of this study as “An Analysis of Moral Values in Maher Zain’s Selected Song Lyrics”

In addition, related to the contents of literary work, Zerrafa (in Escarpit, 1971:32) said that “the novelist seeks to reveal the essential disorder within the individual and society;” it means that, the writer tries to make sense of our lives and makes us more human, to do what is good in our live, to follow and practice our religious teaching, and to live more peaceful in the world. In other hand, in analyzing the values, it is also important to apply the theory of Hermeneutic, as according to Schleiermacher, (in keserci 2013:2) “Hermeneutics was generally understood as techniques for understanding passages of a text that may be difficult to understand.”. It means that Hermeneutics is a practical art, which is used in things such as lecturing, interpret other languages, describing and explaining the texts, and as the basis of the
art of understanding; an art which is specifically required when the meaning of something (text) is not clear.

1.2 Problem of The Study

In analyzing Moral values in Maher Zain’s selected song lyrics, the problems will be centered into two questions.

The questions that are relevant to the problem are:

1. What are the moral values found in Maher Zain’s Selected Song Lyrics?
2. What is the significance of Moral values in life portrayed in the lyrics?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The writer has some objectives in writing this study, they are as following:

1. To describe the moral values in Maher Zain’s Selected Song Lyrics.
2. To describe the significance of moral values in life portrayed in the lyrics.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The writer limits the study only in the moral values from Maher Zain’s selected song lyrics. The moral values that are going to be discussed in this context are the standards that Maher Zain wants to share. These standards are covering the belief to judge what is right or wrong, good or bad, moral or immoral stated in the lyrics of the song. Thus, the writer restricts the analysis of moral values in terms of struggle, sacrifice, and attention from the composer as a person or an individual. Maher Zain has tens lyrics, so, it is important to select the song lyrics that reflect the values. The writer chooses 10 hit songs from Maher Zain’s albums, They are (1) “Thank You Allah (Alhamdulillah)” , (2) “Insya Allah”, (3) “The Chosen One”. (4) “Freedom”, (5) “For The Rest Of My Life”, (6) “Number One For Me”,
(7) “Forgive Me”, (8) “Open Your Eyes”, (9) “So Soon” And (10) “Love Will Prevail”. Because those selected songs contain several values which is the background and the reason why the writer chooses this study.

1.5 Significance of The Study

The writer hopes that the result of this study will be beneficial both theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretical
The writer expects the result of this study can be advantageous to the world of literature as complement the study of song and contribute the development of moral values as reflected in Maher Zain’s album.

2. Practical
1. To build the appreciation for the people towards the song lyrics and the moral values contained in it
2. To widen the horizon of students about values and other aspect from lyrics
3. To get inspiration from the moral values for all students, and to build good character in each person.