CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Literature is a term used to describe a spoken or written material. This term used to describe a spoken or written material. This term is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific work. It includes work of poetry, drama, fiction and non fiction. Literature is also an expression of emotion, passion, feeling of the writer towards the life, society, experience, and politic. In this case literature represents a language, people, culture, tradition, and historical.

Most of people always ask why people like to read literature. Then now we are going to see the advantage of reading literature. There are so many advantages we get by reading literature. The first is to appreciate the contributions literature has to made history, the second is to see the tragedy, then to explore other cultures and beliefs, to appreciate why individuals are the way they are, to help us see ourselves as others do, to learn better ways to behave, and the last is to further our mastery language.

Edgar V. Roberts in literature : An Introduction to Reading or Writing. Fourth Edition (1995:1), “Literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. It links us with broader cultural, philosophic, and religious world of which we are a part. It enables us to recognize human dreams and struggles in different places and times that we would never otherwise know. It helps us develop mature sensibility and compassion for the condition of all living things human, animal, and vegetable. It
gives us the knowledge and perception to appreciate the beauty of order and arrangement, just a well structured song or a beautifully painted canvas. It provides the comparative basis from which we can see worthiness in the aims of all people, and it therefore helps us see beauty in the world around us. It exercises our emotions through interest, concern, tension, excitement, laughter, and sympathy. Through our cumulative experience in reading, literature shapes our goals and values by clarifying our own identities both positively, through acceptance of the admirable in human beings, and negatively, through rejection of the sinister. It encourages us to assist creative, talented people who need recognition and support. It is one of the shaping influences of life. Literature makes us human.” In writing literary work the writer always has something to tell such as telling about society and their morality of life which has great values to be taken. Taylor (1981:1) said that literature like other arts, is essentially an imaginative act, that is, an actor the writer’s imagination selection in selecting, ordering and interpreting life experience. In other words, literary work tends to be the representative of the activity of human real life, that concern on many things especially about morality of life. Literature can be divided into three genres, such as: (1) novel (a work of prose fiction written in the narrative, usually in the form of stories), (2) drama (literature designed to be performed by actors who played works of art orally among the players or dialogue, (3) poetry (expresses a conversation or interchange that is grounded in the most deeply felt experiences of human beings).

Novel is one of literary works which is include as narrative, that describes fictional character and event. Since novel is a narrative fiction, it deals with imagination of human experience in a society. Novel often describes the life of
certain people at certain time which makes it challenging and interesting to read. It gives not only amusement to enjoy but also reflection of life to be understood. Tylor (1981, p.46) states that novel is a prose work of quite some length and complexity, which attempts to reflect and express something about the quality of values of human experience or conduct. It is subject matter may be taken from patterns of life as we know it or set in an exotic and imaginative time and place. It means that novel is designed to portray human life which often contains about the goodness and badness of behavior.

*The Sands of Time* is one of famous novel written by Sidney Sheldon, which was published in 1988. The Sands of Time is the tale of four nuns that are Lucia Chermine, Megan, Greacilia, and sister Teresha. they are abruptly forced to flee the secure environment of their Spanish convent and face a hostile world they long ago abandoned. Suddenly these four women find themselves pawns in a violent struggle between the outlawed Basque underground movement, led by the charismatic Jaime Miro, and the Spanish army, under the command of the vengeful Colonel Ramon Acoca, who is bent on destroying all of them. The Sands of Time is an unforgettable adventure, told against the backdrop of the fascinating countryside of Spain. It combines history, romance and suspense with the unexpected.

The writer chooses *The Sands of Time* to be analyzed from the point of view of morality because there are two bad attitudes which are selfishness and murder portrayed by Lucia chermine. These kind of attitudes can defect social system and caused human social’s degradation. But there are also good attitude showed by Jaime Mario with the Brieverly and care, which can inspire the reader to be a good person. Besides morality is one of interesting subjects to discuss because it is related to
human behaviour which can affect other people. Behavior is also able to create a problem in the society. It is even possible that the problem causes decrease of the morality of people. Talking about morality, of course it brings us to clarify what the morality is like. Cobuild (1987 : 189) defines morality as an idea that denotes forms of behaviour which is good or bad, either in your opinion or in the opinion of society. On the other hand it means that morality is the generalization of judging good or bad conduct in every man’s idea.

It is true that the sense of morality reflects the goodness or badness of man’s conduct. The association of this conduct is idea meant to imply the rules that organize individual or social living interaction. The interaction suggest nation that human lives in a society and there is no society lives without having relation or interaction to one another.

Titus (1959 : 377) states “Throughout the history of human society, moral standards have varied. From the primitivecustoms followed by the partly conscious early man to the carefully reasoned theories of life of the mature modern man. Moral practices and standards depend on the stage of social development, on the general level of intelligence, and on the knowledge available at the time”. What the care of this statement is, morality grows out from the customs and traditions of the group and the habits of the individual.

In this thesis, The morality analyzed by using the intrinsic and extrinsic approach by Warren and Wellek, and also by applying the Kant’s theory that is Categorial Imperative. He is one of philosopher from Jerman. According to Kant, human beings occupy a special place in creation, and morality can be summed up in
an imperative, or ultimate commandment of reason, denotes an absolute, unconditional requirement that must be obeyed in all circumstances and is justified as an end in itself.

So, discussing about morality may develop our awareness to make life is better. By understanding these moral, people can know and more understand the moral. Therefore people can be more respectful and care to others. The writer is interested to choose this novel as the subject matter of the discussion because there will be found many aspects of morality that sometimes happen in real life of society, such as faith, selfishness, care and murder. Finally, this thesis focuses on the morality that reflected through characters found in the novel entitled *The Sands of time* by Sidney Sheldon.

1.2. Problem of the Study

In order to describe Sidney Sheldon’s *The Sands of Time*, the problem which are going to analyzed are:

- How are the values of morality reflected in characters through Sidney Sheldon’s *The Sands of Time*?

- What had happen to characters’ life by maintaining the good moral until the end of struggle in *The Sands of Time*?
1.3. Objective of the Study

In regard to the problems of the study, specifically, the objective of this study are,

- To explain the values of morality reflected in character through Sidney Sheldon’s *The Sands of Time*.

- To describe the life of characters who maintain the good moral until the end of struggle in *The Sands of Time*.

1.4. Scope of the Study

In doing an analysis, we need to limit the fields which are going to analyzed. It is to makes sure that the analysis is not out of context. In this thesis the scope of the analysis is limited to Jaime Mario’s rightness in terms of faith and care and Lucia’s wrongness in terms of murder and selfishness.

1.5. Significance of the Study

Theoritically, this thesis can help all the readers to enrich knowledge about morality reflected in characters through Sidney Sheldon’s *The Sands of Time*. Practically this thesis can be used as the reference for students of literature for further study, and can be added to the library collection.