CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Human Being and Character in Fiction

A human being lives in a material and spiritual world. He is connected with nature and the events of social life by innumerable material and spiritual threads. In this constant interaction between the individual and the world, there is a meaning which is denoted by the comprehensive term "life". The social effect of the individual's activity is determined to a great extent by his position in the structure of the social whole. The individual world forms around the things, institutions and relationships created by human beings, and around other people and their activity. Human activity is motivated by needs which are the objectively determined forms of a person's dependence on the external world, his subjective expectations of that world, his lack of certain objects and conditions that are necessary for his normal activity, self-fulfilment and development.

A person's life is not simply vegetation in the world, but a purposeful, historically shaped form of creative social activity. A person achieves maximum growth when he expresses this active essence to the fullest extent. Action is the clearest and most expressive revelation of the personality, the revelation of a person's state of mind and his goal. Activity is behaviour regulated by the mind, by consciousness, a process of interaction of living beings as integral systems with the environment.
People's characters are different. All the time we are in a state of expectation. From one person we expect help, kindness, sympathy, humour, from another stubbornness, ambition, from another, silent thoughtfulness or vigorous action. Sometimes, however, the response may not be quite what we expected. Conflicts may also often arise in the social life. A person thinks one thing but acts differently, or holds one view but expresses another. In one situation a person may say one thing, in another the opposite.

Character and characterization are closely related but essentially different concepts. Character refers to one of the persons in the story, the end result of the author’s effort to create a fictional personality. Characterization on the other hand, refers to the means by which the writer creates the sum of traits, thoughts, and actions which, taken together, constitute a character. As quoted from Bonazza (1982: 3) says, “character and characterization are closely related but essentially different concepts. Character refers to one of the person in the story the end result of the author’s effort to create a fictional personality. Characterization, on the other hand, refers to the means by which the writer creates the sum of traits, thought, and action which, taken together, constitute a character.” It can be concluded that character and characterization have relation closely. Like Lee says in his book Teaching Literature: A Collection of Essay on Theory and Practice that character is a person presented in a dramatic narrative work, and characterization is the process by which a writer makes that character seems real to the reader. The process includes showing the character’s appearance, displaying the character’s action, revealing the character’s thought, letting the character speak, and getting the reaction of others.
Character and Literature are two things that can’t be separated. It is very impossible that a literature does not have a characterization. Characterization is very important. It serves functions in a story. In a literature character guides readers through their stories, helps them to understand plots and ponder themes. Prose is one of the genre of literature, along with poetry, and drama. Prose is the ordinary form of spoken and written language whose unit is the sentence. The language in the prose does not have regular rhythmic pattern that is almost found in tradition poetry. Novel, essay, romance and short stories are example of prose.

Novel is kind of prose chosen by the writer to be analyzed. Peck (1988 : 102) states, “The late arrival of the novel on the literary scene tells us something important about the genre: it is, above all else, a form of literature which looks at people in society. Writers have, of course, always been interested in the world around them, but the development of the novel reflects a move away from an essentially religious view of life towards a new interest in the complexcities of everybody experience. Most novels are concerned with ordinary people and their problems in the societies in which they find themselves.” It means that Novel has often portray the real human situations. In the novel human called as character that portray the personalities of human beings. Kennedy (1983: 131) says, “in novel, a character may be defined as a verbal representation of human being. Through action, speech, description, and commentary, authors portray characters who are worth caring about, rooting for, and even loving, although there are also characters you may laugh at, dislike, or even hate.” and Quoted from Peck (1988 : 105) says, “. The people in a novel are referred to as characters. We assess them on the basis of what the author tells us about them and on the basis of what they do and say. This is important: we must avoid loose
conjecture about character and establish everything from evidence of the text. Another point to remember is that the characters are part of a broader pattern: they are members of society, and the author’s distinctive view of how people relate to society will be reflected in the presentation of every chapter. From these quotations can be conclude that characters are extremely important because they are the medium through which a reader interacts with a piece of literature.

Every character has his or her own personality, which a creative author uses to assist in forming the plot of a story or creating a mood. The different attitudes, mannerisms, and even appearances of characters can greatly influence the other major elements in literary work, such as theme, setting, and tone. The character is one of the most important tools available to the author. Authors take an indirect approach by indicating how their characters look and act, what they think and say, how they live and how other characters regard them.

Gill (1985:79) says, “An author can use letters, can rely on the conversation of characters, can write about characters’ thought, can concentrate on the expression on characters, faces, can employ a number of characters who tell the story from their point of view, and can invite the reader to have doubts about the reliability of the one who is telling the story”. It means that, in fiction, a character may be defined as a verbal representation of a human being. The glossary of term defines a character as a person presented in a dramatic or narrative work and characterization is the process by which a writer makes that character seems real to the reader through action, speech, description, and commentary.
2.2. Character Traits

According to Roberts and Jacobs (1993:132), a trait is a quality of mind or habitual mode of behaviour, such as always thinking one self, the center of attention. Sometimes, of course, the traits we encounter are minor and therefore negligible. But often a trait may be a person’s primary characteristic. Thus, characters may be selfish, unselfish, caring, carefree, impartial or biased, cruel, quite or noisy, generous, intelligent, inventive, honest, friendly, faith, hardworking, wild, messy, loveable, shy, patriotic, helpful, responsible and so on.

2.2.1. The Main Character

In reading the novel, usually the author will present several characters for the reader that will appear in the novel when the reader reads the entire story of the novel. However, all the characters that the author of the novel present to the reader has different function and role to each character that the author created in the story. Occasionaly, there are some characters that may dominate the entire story, and the others characters may not. The character whose appearance is the most frequently appear in the story usually hold the most important part of the story in the novel, and their traits as the center of the action and the theme of the story. These characters are called as the main characters.

2.2.2. The Minor Character

The minor character can be defined as the supporting characters of the major characters that their function is to illuminate the major characters. The appearance of the minor characters is usually infrequently, it is so much different from the
appearance of the main characters in the story who always dominate for the entire
story. The minor characters’ role are also seems not important as the main
characters’ role.

2.2.3. The way character disclosed in novel

According to Robert (1993:20) characters are the persons presented in
dramatics of narrative work, who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with
the moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say and what
they do in action. There are so many ways to learn and understand a character.
Roberts and Jacobs states that there are five ways how the writer present the
character and this five ways will help the reader to recognize the character.

1. Actions

Action may also signal qualities such as weakness, deceit, strong, inner conflicts
and scheming of personality. Action of character is the best way to understand
knowing who they are or recognize the character.

2. Descriptions both personal and environmental.

Besides reveal much about a character’s social and economic status,
appearance and environment also tells the readers more about the character trait.

3. Dramatic statements and thoughts.

Character uses speech to hide their motives. The function of speeches to the
characters is essential to keep the story moving along, then provide the material from
which the reader can draw conclusion.
4. Statements by other characters.

The characters usually say something about each others. It can be the goodness, badness, selfishness, foolishness about the others. It makes the reader understand the character and the reader can enhance our understanding of the character being discussed.

5. Statements by the author speaking as story teller or observer.

What the author says about a character is usually accurate because the author is the one who creates the character. For this reason, authors frequently avoid interpretations and devote their skill to arrange events and speeches so that readers may draw their own conclusions.

In analyzing the Right and wrong of human behavior, character also became one of the objects of analysis in this thesis, the view from this book may be really useful for the writer to recognize and understand more about character.

2.3. Review of related studies

Consulting and using the information from some thesis also needed in finishing this thesis. The first thesis is An Analysis of Morality and Its Effect Through Henrik Ibsen’s Play Ghost. by Tutwury Handayani. S. In the thesis, Tutwury talks about morality on the characters, she says that morality is the mirror of human’s conduct that has function as guide every action of human being. In this thesis, the writer does not explain more about theory of philosopher, so the reader does not know how she distinguishes the value of moral.

The second thesis is Moral Analysis of the Characters in Sandra Brown’s “Mirror Image” (2011), a thesis written by Riski Ananda. In her thesis, the writer
discusses about moral. In this thesis found so many explanations about moral that concern about the judgment of the goodness and badness of human behavior, pertaining to the discernment of good and evil. Riski’s thesis can help the writer in finishing this thesis especially because the eight of moral principle also used in this thesis. From Riski’s thesis, the writer knows how to apply the eight of moral principle in analyzing human behavior.

The third is The Importance of Human Life in Paulo Coelho in 2000 “The Devil and Miss Prym” by Padma Sari (2003). In this thesis, the writer discusses about the importance of human focus on the major character by using moral approach. In her thesis, Sari also talks about morality but not specific. The point of morality in her thesis is only about how someone’s life more important than ten gold bars without mention what kind of goodness and badness has been done by the characters found in the novel.

Sari (2006: vi) writes “because good or bad morality is not instantly gotten, it is gotten by process and affected by situation and people arround. The morality affect people and it can be seen from the behavior. People should choose and decide something based on their thought and not always following others. Nothing is eternal in this world, thus people should experience may things and learn from those experience.”

The statement above is right. Someone’s conduct can be influenced by people around and the situation, but people know what is right and what is wrong. They are free to make and choose a decision of being good or evil and the experiences of being good or evil will lead them to get better life in future.

As a manual third data, there are the differentiation between Sari’s thesis with mine, if Sari only discussed about the wrongness, this thesis does not only discuss
about the wrongness but also the rightness, not only about someone’s life is more important than ten gold bars but also the kinds of morality that found in the novel such as selfishness, murder, care and courage.

2.4. The Description of Morality

In performing any activity, a person always proceeds from a certain need and out of something, by means of something and for the sake of something or creates something. In social life, a person's activity depends on the character of his relations with the groups in which he is a member. The group itself acts as a special kind of subject of activity, with collective goals and motivations. In group behaviour, one observes such unique phenomena as imitation, emotional "infection", empathy, the subordination of individual activity to group standards and role requirements, and the appearance of a leader, a person exerting the most influence over the group.

Every man has an effect on others and linked into a large relation and all have interconnected on the earth. They are expressing judgment about their conduct. Some of the conducts are called goodness and badness of actions. The actions considered as proceeding from intention, deliberation and choice.

The word morality is closely to the word “ethics” the former derives form “moral”. a latin word, where as the latter from “ethos”, a Greek word. Ethics is used to identify “moral philosophy’. Thus, the etymology of the word “ethics” is similar to etymology of the word “moral”, because both of them are derived from a word, which means custom and tradition. Generally moral suggest in the meaning (teaching of) goodness and evil, which are received by people.
When we are talking about morality, it means we are talking about values of moral. Every one, man or woman, has sense of values. Concern to values, values may be defined as the rate of things as better or worse. Many philosopher argued about the real meaning of values and it becomes the greatest topic which has differences of opinion. As explain in Titus (1959 : 333) ;

“There is no agreement, as we shall see, as to how values are to be defined. in general, we can say that value judgments apprise the worth of objects. The term value has been variously defined as “that which satisfies a human need” or a human desire, and as the quality of things” which evokes some appreciative response.”

From the quotation above, it shows that the meaning of value seems abstract. We can not explain the nature of value to a person who does not know it, for example the word of “love”, we can not explain what exactly the meaning of love or the nature of love is, because there are many definitions about love. It depends on their experiences, some one says that love is pain and another says that love is happiness.

Titus (1959 : 376) says, “Today there is a tendency to use the terms moral and morality to refer to the conduct, and ethic and ethical for the study of moral conduct or the system or code which is followed.” From this statement, we can see that morality terms refers to conduct and ethics is the study of moral conduct.

Morality is concerned with the rightness or wrongness of rules. Morality is guidance, which is possesed by individual or society concerning to what is wrong and right according to moral standard. Moral standard is a standard, which interrelated to a case that has serious consequence, based on good reasoning not
power authority, more than own interest, impartial and its breaches is associated with feelings of guilt, shame, regret, etc. In other words moral value is standards to decide whether human conduct is right or wrong. Moral are divided into two parts; they are personal moral and social moral. There is fundamental difference between personal moral and social moral. Personal moral defines how personally respond to life from or with our integrity, and within our personal values. Social moral defines how one respond to environment, immediate community and the world community.

There are a lot of different opinions about the meaning of good and bad or right and wrong as well as value, moral standard has varied. It depends on their environmental. As explain in Titus (1959 : 377):

“Throughout the history of human society, moral standard have varied. From the primitive customs followed by the partly conscious early man to the carefully reasoned theories of life of the more mature man. Moral practices and the standards depend on the stage of social development, on the general level of intelligence, and on the knowledge available of the time.

Morality is synonymous with ethics. Ethics is the systematic philosophical study of the moral domain. Ethics and morality cannot be separated for they are closely connected, according to The World Book Encyclopedia (1983:292).

“the terms ethics and moral are often used interchangeably. Yet the philosophers find it convenient to distinguish between the two. Ethics refers to the systematic general science of right and wrong conduct. Moral or morality refers to actual pattern of conduct and the direct rules of moral action. Ethics would be an empty formal abstraction, because philosopher based ethics upon a reflective analysis of formal experience.”

Titus (1959 : 376) says, “Ethics is the normative study of the principle underlying the desirable forms of human conduct.” From those statement we can see
that ethics is the science of the moral. So the differences between moral and ethic are: moral is rules of human conduct, but ethics is a science which studying about good or bad of the conduct or it can be said that ethics refers to the systematically general science of right and wrong conduct. While moral or morality refers to the actual patterns of conduct. Both morality and ethics refer to people’s conduct or people’s behaviour. So morality is concerned with behaviour or conduct, which is interested in moral judgment and ideas about right and wrong.

The writer divided the right and wrong action based on the moral law or categorical imperative as the standard by Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) in Titus (1959:380). Kant’s moral philosophy is sometimes called formalism because he was looking for moral principle which are inherently right or wrong apart from any particular circumstances. These moral principal or laws are recognized immediately or directly as true and binding. According to Kant, moral philosophy is concerned not with what is, but with what ought to be. In man there is a sense of duty, the “I ought,” or the moral law, which prior to experience and which springs from man’s inner nature. The moral law is the will governed by reason. The moral law brings man into contact with the very order of the universe itself, since the laws of nature and the laws of reason are essentially one. Kant emphasized the good motive or the good will as central. Intelligence and courage good but they may be used to promote evil. Happiness may be gained in ignoble ways. A man may contribute to charity because he wants publicity or lacks the courage to refuse requests. The good will is the dutiful will, which act solely out of respect for the principle of duty. If a man acts from a good motive, the act is good regardless of the consequences. Kant does not say that consequences are not to be considered or that they are unimportant. He does
say that the moral quality of the act is not determined by the consequencess. If the motive is governed by reason and not may mere desire, it is absolute and unconditional admitting no exceptions.

Kant formulates the Categorical Imperative in three different ways:

- The first (Universal Law formulation): "Act only on that maxim (principal on action) through which you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law."

For example: Everyone must act for the same reason that I will act on. Everyone will eat food when they’re hungry and breaking their promises to friends when they would rather keep their money.

- The second (Humanity or End in Itself formulation): "Act in such a way that you always treat humanity, whether in your own person or in the person of any other, never simply as a means, but always at the same time as an end."

For example: Could everyone eat food when they’re hungry? Yes. Could everyone refuse to pay their debts when they’d rather keep their money? No, because that would undermine the whole point of having debts to be paid. No one would loan money out in that world. At this point we can already rule out the maxim of refusing to pay our debts out of convenience, so it’s an irrational and impermissible maxim and we have a duty not to act from that motive.
The third (Kingdom of Ends formulation) combines the two: “All maxims as proceeding from our own [hypothetical] making of law ought to harmonise with a possible kingdom of ends.”

For example: could we rationally do the maxim to be followed by everyone in our circumstances? Perhaps I can do that people eat when they are hungry, but not necessarily in every circumstance, such as when there’s limited food that needs to be shared with others who are also hungry.

Kant adds that we have a “perfect duty” to refrain from doing something that violates the third step in the sense that there are no exceptions. Whenever we are in the relevant situation, we must refrain from doing the act as much as possible. Since refusing to pay one’s debts when we prefer to keep our money doesn’t pass the third step. We have a perfect duty not to refuse to pay our debts for that reason. Kant also thinks we have a perfect duty not to commit suicide when we want to avoid suffering.

If we have a maxim that doesn’t pass the fourth step, then it’s an imperfect duty to refrain from doing it, which means we must refrain from doing it at least some of the time. Kant thinks we can’t always refrain from helping others, so we have a duty to help others at least some of the time.

So, in order to know if an action is morally acceptable based on the categorical imperative we must ask, “Is the action rationally appropriate for everyone else in the same situation?” If the answer is, Yes, then the action is morally acceptable.