

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Several people think that living in a new place is a better choice. There are many reasons people move to other places. For example, most people come from other country to meet adorable things they have never seen before. Moreover, another reason is continuing study in a qualified university or seeking a job. However, moving to a new country is not an easy thing. There are many challenges for people dealing with a new circumstance such as environment, social, and culture. The key to success is by adapting to society they live in.

Living in different country means learning about different culture. People have to learn culture of a new country to adjust toward the new environment. Culture is the most interesting point in a region or country, because culture is an identity of a community. Lederach (1995) said that culture is created by set of people for the social realities around. Culture is usually sharing knowledge and schemes for perceiving, interpreting, expressing, and responding. So, culture means the way life of people in a group which is passed to the next generation. Culture becomes one of the causes of people's movement known as migration.

According to Demko, Ross, and Schnell (1970) migration is the most complex component of population movements. Migration itself can be defined as population change followed by social economic change, and can be regarded as human adjustment to economic, environmental, and social problems. So, it can be concluded that migration is population movement from one place to another and is always imitated by behavior changes of the society. That is the definition of migration. Then, Oxford dictionary (8th edition) defines that the process of coming to live permanently in a new country is called immigration.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2016) in the journal of *International Migration Report 2015* declared that in this interconnected world, international migration has become a reality that touches nearly all corners of the globe, often making distinctions between countries of origin, transit and destination. Modern thought and transportation make people easier to move. On the other hand, globalization also can accelerate the movement of commodities and services around the world through free trade. International migration also involves the movement of people who have different cultural backgrounds with the culture of the destination country. This difference is more or less will cause problems. Immigration in large quantities and continuing will change the demographic composition of the recipient country. Immigrants who initially came as workers or refugees do not have willingness to return to their home countries. They prefer to stay in the host country after completion of their employment. Those who live in a long time will get citizenship. In the next period, citizens of foreign descent will form a minority with a significant

number of vulnerable discrimination, especially if they have a political and cultural background of the country of residence.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2016) reported that the most popular country as a destination of migration are Europe, Asia and America. Those countries have good economics and become advanced countries. To support the sentence above, Global Economic Outlook report in the *World Economic Situation and Prospect 2015* said that Europe is entered into the developed countries along with United State and Japan. United State is super power country which brings a lot of influences to many countries in the world. Meanwhile, based on the statement of Andrew Moravcsik (2010) said that, Europe is the second super power country. Education, commerce, social model of European, and other aspects such as the informational, educational, and legal sophistication of European policies are by products of highly developed economies. So, Europe also is included into the country with popular destination of migration.

A group of people who is less appropriate in doing the migration to new country will feel a cultural shock. If they cannot adapt to the situation and condition in the new countries, they will get difficulties and do not enjoy their lives. The migration itself can evoke many cultures, behavior, and attitudes which is different from the original country. They look like a salad bowl, from many varieties of identities and cultures become one. That is called multiculturalism. Yasmin Alibhai and Brown stated:

Multiculturalism is characterized as a feel-good celebration of ethno cultural diversity, encouraging citizens to acknowledge and embrace the panoply of customs, tradition, music, and cuisine that exist in multi ethnic society (Alibhai, Yasmin and Brown, 2000: 49).

From the definition above, multiculturalism is a good way to show and share cultures. But, multiculturalism also can cause different thought and different meaning among societies.

Stratton and Ien Aang (2015) said that multiculturalism can also be defined as enhancing the pride of ethnic and racial and sacrifice the social cohesion in society. However, according to Sartori cited in Michaela Kvasnová's article, multiculturalism is a very dangerous ideology because it constructs differences that are not (or not necessarily) even present. The main problem happens when multiculturalism is presented as an important value within society and works as a diversity machine (Kvasnová, 2008:3). Kvasnová also explains that multiculturalism can caused negative impacts such as xenophobia and national tendencies, social exclusion, and fragmentation of society (Kvasnová, 2008:4). Logically, this phenomenon occurs because there is no tolerance within the culture. Therefore, multiculturalism itself have positive and negative impacts.

One of the negative aspects of multiculturalism is identity crisis. Shahyan Rizgar cited in Heckmann states that immigrants who live in United

Kingdom try to defend their origin culture and roots, but it becomes a hard process because of the increase and influence of multiculturalism. Thus, a multicultural society can affect an immigrant's culture or identity (Rizgar, 2016:18-19). In the new environment, identity becomes a precious one. This identity crisis becomes phenomenon to people who do migration. They feel discriminated in the middle of society, It commonly happens to the second generation of the immigrants. According to the theory of Erik Erikson in Tiwari's journal, he says that:

The term identity crisis and believed that it was one of the most important conflicts people face in development. An identity crisis is a time of intensive analysis and exploration of different ways of looking at oneself. Erikson's interest in identity began in childhood (Tiwari, 2013: 6).

Based on the theory above, identity crisis is a problem that usually happens in childhood and has correlation with the children development. Shahyan Rizgar (2016) says that as the first generation, the parents always want to teach to their children about their identity. But not all of them are successful, because maintaining identity is a long process and it is changeable based on place and time. The second generation of the immigrants tries to adopt the dominant culture with their familiar culture in order to have a different identity. They also want to escape from their family's roots and history. This phenomenon occurs in multicultural societies. The second generation just follows their own interest

without taking care about their family roots. It also happens to families where the parents have different nationalities and cultural backgrounds.

In addition, the identity crisis itself can create assimilation. Logically, immigrant in a new place will be imitated the society they live in. In Europe, the number of immigrant is increasing rapidly. By using freedom strategies, Europe expand the spaces of immigrants people and remain indefinitely in a country of destination (Baubock, 2011:14). Thus, Europe is becoming the destination of migration through its freedom where people can do everything they want and assimilate with the society. Park and Burgess (1969) explains that the process of becoming member of society in which persons and groups acquire the memories, attitudes, and behavior from the dominant group or persons and by sharing their experience and history are consolidated with them in a common cultural life is called assimilation. Park and Burgess point of view, as mentioned in Raymond and Bardin's journal, said that:

Assimilation requires acceptance by the out-group, in which persons and groups acquire memories, sentiments, and attitudes of other persons or groups, and by sharing in their experience and history, *are incorporated with them in a common cultural life* (Raymond and Bardin, 1974:359).

In the same journal, Hirsch also points out that the assimilation is the process of becoming a member of community. It means that assimilation of the new community can not occur without being accepted by the community.

Many literary works such as movies and novels describe about immigrant society, culture, and assimilation. Oxford dictionary (8th Edition) defines, novel is a long story to fill a complete becomes a book in which the characters and events are usually imaginary. Reading the interesting of literary work enrich our knowledge. In the other hand, we also get the moral value from literary works. Novel has an important moral value to make their readers think about the novel itself. Some readers argue that through message the readers can easily to know and accept the things that described in the novel. Furthermore, the readers can improve their language, the books they read create the language in which they converse. Novel also gives us the information about the development that happens to other countries at that time. By reading novel, the readers feel and enjoy the plot of each chapter.

Anita and Me written by 'Meera Syal' is an Indian-British novel. This novel describes about an Indian family who migrates to British with her daughter, Meena. Meena becomes a second generation of Indian family in British. In this novel, Meena's mom always gives Meena advices and suggestions about Indian culture. Daljit, Meena's mom, is an Indian where the culture and customs in that country is rooted in her. Her mom wants to show to others that Indian culture is good enough. But, Meena always tries to avoid her original culture. She decides to become a British girl after she gets a friend named Anita. Meena always imitates the way Anita lives. She does not want to eat Indian food and wants to get present in Christmas. Meena becomes a bad

Indian girl with bad attitude, she doesn't reflect an Indian girl in general. Meena always wants to escape from her family roots and history.

Most of this novel talks about the immigrant, multiculturalism, identity crisis and assimilation. Identity crisis that shows in the novel has been correlated to the attitude of Meena as the main character. Meena has a bad social norm as Indian girl, she does not show a good behavior as she got when she was in India. Social norms are customary rules of behavior that coordinate our interactions with others. Once a particular way of doing things becomes established as a rule, it continues in force because we prefer to conform to the rule given the expectation that others are going to conform (Lewis, 1969). So, social norm also has a big influence in the multiculturalism, identity crisis, and assimilation because there are kind of behavior, life style, and attitude that included by.

There are some considerations why *Anita and Me* is interesting to be studied. The first reason is the impacts of multiculturalism. Multiculturalism may evoke many kinds of impacts, such as identity crisis and assimilation. The second reason, this phenomenon of multiculturalism is close to the society. Clearly, it would be provided a great beneficial to people who are dealing with. Therefore, the title of this study is: *Examining Identity Crisis and Assimilation as a Response toward the Existence of Multiculturalism Reflected in Anita and Me Novel*.

B. Limitation of the Study

This study illuminates identity crisis and assimilation as a response toward the existence of multiculturalism. The purpose of this study is to identify the identity crisis that sustained by the main character and to analyze the types of assimilation as a way in solving the identity crisis problem reflected in *Anita and Me* novel. In the term of data, this study limits into textual source by analyzing novel.

C. Problem Formulation

The writer tries formulating the problems as follows:

1. How does the existence of multiculturalism evoke an identity crisis in *Anita and Me* novel?
2. How does Meena as the main character solve the problem of identity crisis in *Anita and Me* novel?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the study above, the final project focuses on the following objectives:

1. To identify the existence of multiculturalism evokes an identity crisis in *Anita and Me* novel.
2. To analyze Meena as the main character in *Anita and Me* for solving the problem of identity crisis.

E. Significance of the Study

In this writing process of proposal writing, there are some following expectations from the author bellow:

1. This study has been made to give some benefits to the readers especially for the students of Collage Language Sultan Agung Islamic University who are interested in analyzing the multiculturalism in the society and all the things correlated with cultural identity, multiculturalism, identity crisis, and assimilation.
2. This study gives some good effects to the readers, who are more care to their own culture, and also respect with others who have the differences of culture. So, we can be the respectful person in our lives.

F. Organization of the Study

This study consists of five chapters. The first chapter is introduction. This chapter includes the background for choosing the study, identification, the limitation of the study, problem formulation, the objectives of the study, significance of the study, and the last is outlines of the study. The second chapter are synopsis and review of related literature. It consists of some theories related to the study: multiculturalism, identity crisis, and assimilation. The third chapter presents research method. It includes types of research and data organizing that consists of data collecting method, types of data, and analyzing the data. The fourth chapter contains findings and discussion how the existence of multiculturalism evokes an identity crisis and how the main character solve the identity crisis problem in *Anita and Me* novel. The last chapter provides conclusion and suggestions.