

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter conducts the introduction of the study that includes the background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and organization of the study.

A. Background of the Study

Humans always have their own behaviors, thoughts, and actions as the product of human psyche (Siegfried, 2014). To have understanding about behaviors, thoughts, and actions of human, it is necessary to identify the concept of human psyche. Sigmund Freud works in the field of psychoanalysis explaining the concept of human psyche. Stated by Freud there are three elements called the id, ego, and superego in order to get understanding in studying human psyche (Siegfried, 2014). Freudian psychoanalysis is divided into three parts structural component as the formation to obtain comprehension the study of human. Freud also explained about mental images according to its function and purpose. Affirmed by Freud about the id's energy uses to satisfy basic desire through behavior without consider the proper one and purposes for gratification and to reduce tension (Salkind 91). As the basic form the id may become unrealistic and illogical desire in order to decrease the tension of human. The id discharges for the satisfaction, since the id works with pleasure principle. Furthermore, the id has no contact with reality instead the ego.

The ego has contact with reality and works with reality principle. The ego is the part that acts as a mediator between the id and outside world (Salkind 95). The ego as mediator must take decision for the id impulse to fulfill it or to reject it into reality. The ego would organize thoughts and makes sense of the id impulse, whereas the ego represents the premise and good sense. Therefore the ego must find a good sense of the id and then the ego could work to fulfill it into reality. On study of human psyche, the id couldn't be fulfilled if the superego contradicts the id.

The superego is like the id that has no contact with outside world but as the opponent of id the superego works with the perfection of moralistic and idealistic principles. It is said "The Super-Ego aims for perfection. It is made up of the organized part of the personality structure, which includes the individual's Ego ideals, spiritual goals, and one conscience" (Siegfried, 2014). The superego demands act in appropriate manner based on individual's standard, knowledge of religion, and his or her own conscience. Individual's desire through the id impulse couldn't be satisfied if the superego warns the ego not to fulfill it. The moral and ideal aspects of human may interrupt the ego to refuse the id impulse. If the id has an aggressive impulse, the superego acts to control as a strong consideration. The process of consideration that seeks moralistic and idealistic perfection goes through the ego as the decision making. That is all correlation among the id, ego, and superego.

Human usually has its own standard in moral perfection. If the id of human harms the moral standard when human tries to fulfill the id, the ego must feel anxious.

According to Freud “Anxiety is a felt, affective, unpleasant state accompanied by a physical sensation that warns the person against impending danger . . . Only the ego can produce or feel anxiety” (Feist 39). It means anxiety is kind of dreadful feeling of individuals which situation may be harmful for them and it is experienced by the ego. It could be illustrated when an individual comes with the desire to satisfy through the id but the ego couldn't fulfill it. There must be an approaching danger to defeat the id. It is said only the ego can feel anxiety but the id, superego, and outside world are involved. There are three kinds of anxiety; *neurotic anxiety* comes from id impulses as apprehension toward uncertain danger. *Realistic anxiety* is closely to possible danger relating to fear. *Moral anxiety* regards to morally right involving conflict between the ego and the superego. (Feist 40).

Additionally, dealing with anxiety Chapman stated that anxiety also as the strength of the warning and function to the ego as the psychic system is responsible for a real reaction to the danger signal (60). The ego's function occurs when human deals with a danger. The ego must need mechanism to reduce the tension. Human's anxiety must be resolved in order to survive from unpleasant feeling that affects to their mental health. It is the function of ego to cope anxiety. In the book of *Theories of Human Development* stated “A defense mechanism is a technique the ego uses to distort reality in the face of dangers that might interrupt healthy psychological development” (Salkind 94). The ego needs defense mechanism in the way to reduce and protect human from

anxiety. Regardless, it is normal occurrence to human keeping off the negative emotions, and thoughts.

The study of human development could be found in journal, articles, etc. While the reflection of human development could be found in literary works like poetry, short story, novel, drama, etc. It is stated in a journal that Freud's work appeared as the inspiration to many authors especially in literature region and theorists of human development (Vujnović 69). It can be said literary works are instrument showing human psyche in script form or in attractive action like drama. Vujnović in his journal also added:

The Freudian "psychoanalysis" begins its literary life with the appearance of psychological novels, initially expressing superficially, and then going deeper into the psyche of characters with new achievements in literary prose, to finally mature as a highly complex psychoanalytic method in the stream of consciousness novels. (69)

Novel has been proven as the most ultimate work showing psychological theory. Novel always has character in a story that the character must hold a strong description of human psyche. Character means a person that has moral and psychological feature in literary work and stands as one of elements in work of literature (McGee 5). In literary work a character leads to psychology that could be analyzed using

psychoanalytic approach. Thus this study will analyze psychological aspect in a character of a novel.

Life of Pi is an interesting novel based on true story. The main character named Pi in *Life of Pi* novel by Yann Martel portrays many psychological aspects about anxiety and defense mechanism theory of Sigmund Freud. This story has a strong situation where the main character experienced anxiety and coped with defense mechanism. The story tells about little Pi feels slight pain of his silly full name especially his friends who always make fun about his name. He decides to make a call name for himself. Furthermore when he gets older about 16 years old he has to move to another country that is very contrary with his current life in India. Pi feels worried about the next new life. In other hand, during his voyage to Canada the ship is sinking. He faces many obstacles to survive on his tragic accident that he is the only man who could live in the wild sea for 227 days with wild animals. The feeling of fear, worry, uneasy, and any kind of dreadful feelings in his life lead Pi to use defense mechanism in order to overcome his anxieties. This novel shows many psychological aspects to be analyzed.

B. Problem Formulation

This study analyzes Pi in *Life of Pi* novel by Yann Martel. It will focus on the following problems:

- 1) What are anxieties experienced by Pi in *Life of Pi* Novel?

- 2) How are Pi's defense mechanisms in coping his anxieties portrayed in *Life of Pi* novel?

C. Limitation of the Study

Psychoanalysis is applied in analyzing this novel of Yann Martel. This study will focus on Pi that relates to his anxiety and his defense mechanism in the novel. The other characters are excluded from the analysis because the other characters are not significantly performing psychological aspect and don't give enough contribution in this analysis. Prologues, monologues, and dialogues in the novel as data will be used to explain the analysis based on the theory of Sigmund Freud.

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives in analyzing Pi as the main character in Yann Martel's novel *Life of Pi* are as follows:

- 1) To portray the anxieties of Pi experienced in *Life of Pi* novel.
- 2) To portray Pi's defense mechanisms in coping his anxieties portrayed in *Life of Pi* novel.

E. Significance of the Study

This study will be helpful to other in following ways:

- 1) This study illuminates and gives wide knowledge to the reader in learning psychoanalysis of Sigmund Freud especially focuses on anxiety and defense mechanism happens in human's everyday life.
- 2) This study hopefully can give contribution through the references and help student of literature in Sultan Agung Islamic University to their proposal writing or final project dealing with anxiety and defense mechanism.

F. Organization of the Study

This study is divided into five chapters. Chapter I follow with introduction that consists of background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and organization of the study. Chapter II is reviews of related literature that consist of synopsis and related literature will use in analyzing the novel. Chapter III deals with research method that consists of types of the research, data organizing, and analyzing the data. Chapter IV consists of findings and discussions. Chapter V deals with conclusion and suggestion.