

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the author discusses the background of the research, identification of the problem, Identification of the Problem, review of related literature, research questions, the scope of the study, and objectives of the study.

1.1 Background of the research

Many books and works tell about the colonialism of a country; governments usually do this with power and technology superior to other countries. Several things regarding colonialism and colonized land are; First, colonialism is related to the movement of migrants from one area to another and become permanent residents or settle in the area their visited, where the population migrates to new places. However, they remained loyal to their country. Then, another government-controlled country did not belong to them, which means that the territory was taken over by a stranger who influenced the native population. Finally, these actions gave history to the countries they colonized and were referred to as occupied land.

The topic in this research is colonized land or colonization, which will discuss what colonialism is and its impact. According to Jorissen (2003), colonialism and literature mean, at the same time, considering the question of language. Colonial and colonized languages will experience conflicts at various levels, such as finance,

control, compliance, cultural authority and prestige, and cultural linguistics. Since European colonialism began in the early premodern, it may be permitted to reflect here from the late fifteenth century. European colonialism began with Portuguese colonization, from the early modern period to the second half of the 20th century. The Portuguese language was part of a program to force the colonized to conform to European-Christian.

From Fichter's book entitled *British and French Colonialism in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East: Connected Empires Across the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Centuries* (2008) two thousand eight, French colonial historians are aware of the historiography of the British empire. This book was partly due to various colonial rivalries between Britain and France. Publications on British imperial history appeared in English, now the language of European academics, which attracted the attention of French colonial historians.

The author will examine colonization in English literature using a novel by Conrad. Turning first to the intertwining of England and colonialism, teaching English was an essential part of the colonial endeavor. English has become one of the critical languages in which colonialism has been written (Penycook 2002:8). According to Penycook (2002), the theory and practice of teaching English (ELT) originating from the former colonial power still shows traces of colonial history. Because of the long history of direct relationship between ELT and colonialism and because the theory and practice derive from European culture and ideology, which is the product of colonialism. This situation shows that colonialism is one of the causes of the spread of

the English language.

Joseph Conrad, whose real name is Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski, was born on December 3, 1857, in Berdichev, Ukraine. Some of his books are *Lord Jim* (1900), (1902), *Nostromo* (1904), and *The Secret Agent* (1907). Joseph Conrad is a writer who provides an overview of exploring the sea to the 'Black Ocean' in Africa; one of his books tells about this in the *Heart of Darkness*.

The story of Joseph Conrad tells about the experience of someone who had been a captain of a ship anchored in the Thames, England. His name is Charles Marlow; Marlow is also a narrator in this story who tells his experiences. Marlow shared occurrences that he experienced and what he saw while in Africa, including slavery and the sale of ivory there. The act of colonization felt more when Marlow was visiting people who are natives who are enslaved. The natives are known as immoral, dirty, and cannibals. However, one character named Kurtz is greatly admired in the region and can be said to be a God; the people there adored Kurtz.

Heart of Darkness tells what happened to people in the Congo, Africa. People suffered in their own country led by white people; they should resist the oppression because it is their land. However, there is no movement of resistance, and according to the book *Heart Of Darkness*, there is a part that says the tribe worshiped one of the white people.

'Kurtz got the tribe to follow him, did he?' I suggested. He fidgeted a little. 'They adored him,' he said (64). The author does not even know what this white man named Kurtz did to the Congolese people, but they adored the man and did not attack

him. They feel sad when Kurtz is brought back by his people.

The author chooses this topic because few studies have examined the issues, and the novella *Heart of Darkness* uses the reader's response to colonialism in literature. The author also wants to know the reader's reactions to the colonized. The author hopes that this research can make the reader understand the occupied land. With all this in mind, the author will conduct a study entitled Readers' Responses from the Colonized Lands in the *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad.

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

We can only determine a text's meaning after reading it. Several effects affect the reader's feelings during understanding and assessing the literary works discussed in this study. These two factors are intertwined and aid in deducing opinions that differ from the reader's. This study delves deeper into the story's topic and how readers adapt them to their understanding.

1.3 Review of Related Literature

The author will discuss seven literary studies related to topics and works, six academic studies for colonialism, and 1 for the novella. The author will discuss literature related to the case; these six writers talk about colonialism. Discussion about Colonialism and the Environment written by Paliwal (2020) discusses the

politics, limitations, and greed inherent in capitalists over a civilization that impacts the environment and human relations with nature. Since being colonized, people have become influenced by being materialists; Western countries have introduced this; this is one of the harmful effects of colonialism that brought humanity to the streets of slaughterhouses to plunder resources for profit. Colonization also occurred in Sub-Saharan Africa by Heldring (2012); in his study, he said that colonialism had a considerable effect and could operate through many. The impact itself can slow down and slow down the development of a country, providing advantages and disadvantages.

Next, Gilley (2017) discusses the same topic, namely colonialism. He discusses the dire conditions of colonizing a country. His study records several colonial cases documenting Western colonialism, usually referring to the British, French, German, Belgian, Dutch, and Portuguese colonies from the early 19th century to the mid-19th century. 20 (3). Where he also said that colonialism could come in this day and age. Ziltener and Daniel Kunzler (2013) also discuss colonialism. However, they discuss it differently, namely by using a chart that can describe the impact that occurs in the colonized country. They found that colonialism had begun in eleven countries in the 16th century. Nine followed in the next two centuries. Most countries only observed it in the 19th century, some even in the 20th century (293). He was counting when colonialism started and when each country ended. As Matasci (2020) discussed in his research, colonization also affects education. He discusses education in Africa during colonial and Postcolonialism.

There is debate about the usefulness of schools in metropolitan and colonized cities.

Various arguments and positions have emerged regarding the role education should play in African society's economic and social transformation. The impact of colonialism is discussed by Piola and Happy Anastasia Usman (2019), where this impact occurs on the Ibo tribe in Umuofia, Nigeria-Africa. European colonization that occurred in Africa can be seen as a positive impact or a negative impact. Colonialism has terrible effects such as massive exploitation of natural resources, unfair taxation system, weak industry, and dependence on the pillars of the resource economy. Ethnic conflicts in Africa that pitted each other were formed in colonialism. But on the other hand, the mechanisms and systems used by the colonizer in a colony are a separate legacy for the colonized country.

One literature discusses the work used by the author for his thesis, namely *Heart of Darkness*, according to Marfu'ah (qt in Rosmarin, 1989) entitled *Darkening the Reader: Reader-Response Criticism and Heart of Darkness*". Her essay analyzes the novel through the lens of contemporary critical theory. In particular, she criticizes the novel's interpretation of darkness. By reversing the order of things, darkness is not the opposite, a kind of evil but a now reliable white man. On the contrary, the black men in these stories tend to behave more morally and civilly than the white men. Nearly every critic points out that darkness remains the setting and mode of Marlow's final confrontation with Kurtz, as it was in the original. As a result, it continues to be the term Marlow uses to express his most interesting (and, of course, forever unanswered) questions about Kurtz and himself.

This study focuses on several studies that provide different perspectives on colonization and the *Heart of Darkness*. The author concludes from the review that has been obtained that colonialism can change a country and impact the land and review the work; The author concludes that this book can show the Darkness that exists in humans. The author will use one of the works of Joseph Conrad, which can describe colonialism very well. Therefore, this study will examine the reader's response to Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*.

1.4. Research Questions

This research will answer the following questions:

1. What do the readers understand about colonial issues in Joseph Conrad's?
2. What effects do the readers receive when reading?

1.5. Scope of the Research

This research will focus on the topic of colonization and colonized land. This research will include the perception of some readers from Andalas University English Literature student to provide reader responses through a questionnaire made by the author. Readers are expected to fill in their opinions on the issue of colonization and colonized lands after reading the novella *Heart of Darkness* by

Joseph Conrad. This research will focus on the reader's responses which will be used as data for the continuity of this research.

1.6. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the reader's response regarding colonialism from the story.
2. To determine the reader's response to colonial issues after understanding the story from the novella *Heart of Darkness*.

This research also aims to enrich the reader's insight about the colony so that the reader can see the meaning of the topic and novella from various sides from other readers' responses.

Hopefully, this research can also be a tool or reference in analyzing related research in the future. In addition, it can also be a good resource for people who will use the topic of colonization to understand the subject better.

