

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This research analyzes the relationship between humans and animals in Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* using deep ecology by Arne Naess. This research examines how Buck, the main character, faces a situation where he becomes a part of the wild world from just an ordinary domestic pet. Using this approach, this study reveals important concepts such as self-realization, intrinsic value, and depth that London emphasized in writing his work. Buck begins his life journey as the son of Judge Miller, a man who is influenced by the outside world and is a human being.

In this novel, Buck is kidnapped and sold to be a working dog during the Klondike gold rush. This is where the metamorphosis is experienced by Buck, where he must live a difficult life in the wild. Buck faces physical and psychological challenges that force him to use his own instincts. During this process, Buck not only succeeds in surviving but also finds himself through a journey of self-actualization. The concept of intrinsic value is very relevant to this narrative based on deep ecology analysis. London provoked the anthropocentric perspective that views animals only as instruments for human utility and profit.

London shows that Buck, who is just like other living organisms, has intrinsic value that does not depend only on its usefulness to humans. Through the analysis of human-animal interactions in the novel, London puts forward a compelling critique of the utilitarian perspective that using living things only for material gain and advantages. Furthermore, the application of deep ecology theory in this analysis also finds that Buck's journey is a profound philosophical transformation. Buck goes through three important stages in the process of self-realization that transforms him. The development occurs from an initial state of isolation to subsequent adaptation in the wild environment, which ultimately results in a

harmonious relationship with nature. At the end, Buck was not only surviving, but also finding the true meaning of his being through his deep relationship with nature. This is in line with the concept of deep ecology, which emphasizes the importance of the relationship of all living things in an ecosystem. The novel also explains the importance of seeing a bigger superficial perception of nature.

London not only argues that we should understand the intrinsic value of animals, but also encourages his readers to recognize that humans are an integral part of a larger ecological network. Using the depiction of Buck's integration into the natural ecosystem, the novel also explains that a harmonious relationship with nature can be achieved if humans reduce their egos and begin to adapt to coexist with other species. This study also strengthens London's critique of the negative impacts of anthropocentrism. Characters such as Manuel, Hal, Charles, and Mercedes, who view animals as nothing more than valuables, can be used as examples of human exploitation and greed throughout the story. On the other hand, John Thornton shows human empathy for nature, and shows how a loving and respectful relationship with animals can lead to increased sustainability in the ecosystem.

This research found that *The Call of the Wild* is not just a work of literature. This novel shows a deep philosophical analysis on how people, animals, and their surroundings should interact. It also showed how humans can have a more sustainable relationship with nature and achieve a higher level of consciousness, if they learn the complicated of life and recognize the intrinsic worth of all living relationships. Buck's transformation from a tamed canine to a fully fledged wild animal is a metaphor for how people might change and have a harmony with the nature. This instruct the value of environmental balance, embed compassion for all living things, and lessens the urge to dominate the environment and nature.

