

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the study, statements of research problem, objectives of the study, and significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

Restlessness is inmost experience of someone that appear due to the friction of a phenomenon that happen in daily lifes. In this case, the intended meaning is about incompatibility between reality and what expected by everyone that occure in society. For instance, the restlessness of racial segregation, unequel politic policy, war, etc. Depart from these restlessness it will be produce the great works to the author of literary work becuse a process to improve or maintain habits that exist in society which illustrates how culture and society that may change from time to time can be shown or triggered by literary works as the global influence containing of various polemics that occur in society where it have a high artistic value and sourced of social fact.

Essentially, literary works not as iconic objects set apart from a world of intention and effect, but as a socially determined communicative practice between reader and author, and, as such, analogous to other forms of communication. R. Fowler (1981:187) The entire literary work is an expansion of a basic theme, and our ability to move to and from between text and theme must depend on some

rather consistent psychological mechanisms of the author (expressiveness) whereby simple meanings are processed into more complex meanings.

Critics from Plato and Aristotle on have known that literary work is essentially "social" has social causes, contents and effects. The question is how valuable that insight is. With the personalization of romantic art, and the self-subsistence of symbolist art, the tendency to stress the distinctiveness of literary expression grew, reacting against deterministic social accounts of literature. Those which saw it as a social mirror or a social product. Aristotle's 'imitation' combines a sense of the literary work as the representation of some pre-existent reality, with a sense of the work itself as an object, not merely a reflecting surface.

In cultural studies, Gerald Graff by *Literature against Itself* (1979:187) said that literature is accounted as merely one of many forms of cultural "signifying practices." A chief concern is to specify the functioning of the social, economic, and political forces and power-structures that produce all forms of cultural phenomenon and endow them with their social "meanings," their "truth," the modes of discourse in which they are discussed, and their relative value and status. It is because effected institutions and product such as literature and questions traditional value hierarchies. Thus it scrutinizes the habitually privileging of race, class and gender, and also subvert the standard distinctions between high and low art. Among modern defenses of the view that literature is mimetic, in the broad sense that it has reference beyond the text to the world of human experience.

Depart from some elaborations above, literary works have a large influence toward social life. Although it is actually very difficult for the writers to depict reality in earnest, because in the literary creations there are imaginations, experiences which is subjectively, and there are impressions to be realized by the authors.

Literary works can changes the structure of social values and culture in society which are considered not gives a freedom to the human being. for instance, novel *Siti Nurbaya* and *Salah Asuhan* by Marah Rusli (1922) which is become the way as the form of protest against the traditionalism that considered unnatural at the time. Perhaps the aim of the literary work is in order to contains of messages of life. Thus, it can be concluded that a literary work is comes from the background and the basic human impulse to reveals their existence and perceived as an expression of the real life. It is need to recognized that the literary works is a form of criticism that bridling the social values in purpose to get a better life. In this regard, literary works as the implications of indecision attitude would be more interesting if viewed from the authors side as the person who responsible to the works by using expressive criticism.

Based on the description above, the writer is interested to analyze the novel "Message from Nam" by Daniel steel because this novel describe about the restlessness of the Authhor (Danielle Steel) toward social condition when the novel was created. This study conducted by using expressive criticism approach.

Danielle Steel is an American author, she has written 88 novels. She is America's favorite author so that the publisher would dare to say, "America reads Danielle Steel" because all of Americans has known Danielle Steel. Her name has been entered in the Guinness Book of Records for exceptional achievement. Within 381 consecutive weeks, there is always at least one book in the list of The New York Times bestseller. One of her popular novels is *Message from Nam*.

Message from Nam starts with a poem entitled "The Boys Who Fought in Nam" and from those very first few pages and the powerful message contained in those lines. The novel touches on many historically significant events of the 1960s-1970s, in addition to the Vietnam war. It starts with the main character, Paxton Andrews, sitting in a classroom in her high school in Savannah, Georgia on the day John F Kennedy was assassinated. The entire country was grieving at that time due to the loss of the President, The sense of loss, fear, disbelief, and sorrow felt on that day was described as being felt on the day John F Kennedy's life was ended in Dallas, on 11/22/63. *Message from Nam* also touches base on the continued conflicts regarding the Civil Rights movement and integration.

Paxton Andrews suffers so many unimaginable losses throughout the course of *Message from Nam*. She ends up becoming a journalist, and after the war first robs her of a loved one, she goes to Vietnam for knowing what happened in there. There she is haunted by the atrocities of war and a beautiful country stained by death. She sees beggars and small children without limbs, other small children in the streets dealing heroin, and the constant threat of land mines, bombings, or worse. Through a column entitled "Message from Nam", she begins to write

articles featuring the hard truth about what was going on in Nam. She is changed irrevocably by her experiences in war torn Vietnam and instead of finding answers, she is forever faced with more questions.

Another powerful part of the story is how the soldiers fared during and following the war. It's heartbreaking to think of what so many young American men faced for their country and when they finally got to come home, they no longer felt they belonged. As one soldier tells Paxton in the book, "We leave Vietnam feeling like we're heroes, but when we get home we're treated like criminals".

As the record, Danielle Steel is a popular romance author, but *Message from Nam* is not "just a romance". In fact, the romance felt very secondary to the historical components of the story. There are multiple love stories featured in this novel and each one felt real.

The novel *Message from Nam* has two major historical backgrounds. The first is civil rights movement of the 1960s. This movement is based on the development of the condition of the people and the situation at that time. At the beginning of the 20th century appeared many anti tradition that sued the values that are considered appropriate in the lives of many people, ranging from the political, social, economic, and cultural. The second is Viet Nam war that occurred in 1957-1975 in Viet Nam. Indirectly, Daniel Steel through this novel invites the reader to see what actually happened in the past by designed a romantic

stories in it. The main strength of Danielle Steel's novel is not the plot, but the theme and the background.

1.2 Statement of Research Problem

Based on the elaboration in the background of study, the writer formulated some of problem as followed:

1. What is the expression of Danielle Steel that appear in the novel *Message from Nam*?
2. How is the social condition of America in 1950-1960 reflected on the novel *Message from Nam*?

1.3 The Objective of Study

Based on the statement of research problem above, the objective of study is intended to give descriptions as followed:

1. To describe the expression of Danielle Steel that appear in the novel *Message from Nam*?
2. To explain the reflection of the novel *Message From Nam* on America's social condition in 1960s-1970s and Vietnam War.

1.4 Significances of study

This study is expected to be able to work well, which can achieve the optimal goal, generate reports of systematic and can be useful in general. There are two benefits to be expected from the results of this study, the theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, this study uses expressive criticism to contribute the development of expression of literature theory. The writer hopes the readers

understand well about Restlessness of Danielle Steel in the novel *Message From Nam*. Practically, the study will be the task of the next writer to develop this study.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The scope of the study is the social condition in the novel *Message From Nam*. Expressive criticism is used as the theory in this study, so this study focuses on how the social condition that is displayed in the novel *Message from Nam*, which is described as whole by author especially the social condition of south american in 1968 and Viet Nam War. The limitation of the study is focuses on the expressive aspects that literary work is essentially an expression of the author's feelings or imaginative process.