

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five sub-chapters. They are background of study, research questions, research objectives, scope and limitation of study, and significances of study.

1.1 Background of Study

Migration is one of the big phenomena in human life. With many consequences and uncertain results, however people choose to be migrants willingly whether they are forced or not. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), a migrant is person who move or has moved from his or her homeland across an International border or within a State, regardless of their legal status, whether it is the voluntary or involuntary movement, what the causes of the movement, and the length of their stay (Castelli, 2018: 2). From these explanations, it can be said that migrants are people who move or have moved from their homeland across an International border or within a State, regardless their legal status and reason that encourage them to do be migrants. In addition, Meilaender said that people move for many reasons. They have very different circumstances and very different motives for their journeys. For example, a poverty-stricken family flees starvation, an international sports star relocates to a country with lower taxes, a man moves to another country to live together with his foreign wife, hordes of people try to escape an invading army. These all are migrants, then their destination countries that accept them are similarly diverse, in

which these countries have different reasons for wanting to accept or reject various would-be immigrants (Meilaender, 2001: 9). It can be said that people become migrants because of variety reasons. It is because they have very different circumstances and motives in their journey. However, their destination countries are similarly diverse, there are destination countries that accept the migrants that would-be immigrants and contrariwise.

Bodvarsson and Berg stated that immigrants are settlers who enter to other countries and decide to live there permanently, (Bodvarsson & Berg, 2009: 14). It means that immigrants are people who leave their homes and become settlers in other countries, then they decide to live permanently. Thus, it can be concluded that people become immigrants are when migrants across political boundaries or move to other countries and they decide to live permanently in their destination countries. Here, the difference between migrants and immigrants are clear enough that migrants and immigrants do not mean the same thing.

Accordingly, migrants are people who move from their homes to other countries, that is cross International borders or within States, regardless their legal status and reason because they have very different circumstances and motives in their journey. Whether, it is voluntary movement or involuntary movement. They can come back to their homeland or move to other countries. It maybe because they do not want to live permanently in their destination countries or their destination countries reject them to live permanently. While, simply immigrants are migrants who decide to live permanently in their destination countries. In detail, immigrants are people who decide to leave their homeland and cross International borders, then

they are voluntary to live there permanently. On the other hand, their destination countries accept them to be immigrants.

In addition, immigration is a complex phenomenon, in which when people become immigrants, there is possibility that they do not want to leave their own culture, so that they still maintain their own culture in other countries. In fact, immigrants who maintain their memory of culture, religion, and general orientation toward their homelands in the foreign land called Diasporas. According to Safran (2004: 10), diasporas are people who have moved from their native countries to other countries, so it can be said that they are immigrants, but diasporas comprise special kind of immigrants because they retain their memory about their homeland like culture, religion, and general orientation in host land. They relate to their homelands in some way symbolically or practically. Actually, they still have the doubt to the foreign land, in which diasporas are afraid about their full acceptance by the foreign land. However, they have commitment to their survival, that is become a different community and many of them retain a myth of return. In fact, there is cultural awareness inside them, in which they understand with their own cultures. They accept their condition become the form of their awareness to preserve their own cultures in new land, besides they try to be part of homogenous whole. On the other hand, there are factors that affect them become diasporas and as the cultural awareness type, one of the factors is social. Social factor can affect them to be aware with their own culture and recognise their condition.

This study attempts to analyse cultural awareness as type of diaspora which can be found in the literary work. It is because, the literary work is the

representation of real life. Thus, the writer decides to analyse cultural awareness as type of diaspora in a literary work. Nowadays, the existence of diaspora is growing.

The writer uses *Family Life* novel by Akhil Sharma as the source of data, which was published on 2014. He is Indian who live in America. In his novel, he tells about the family life of Indian family that choose to immigrate to America for better economic life. Mr. Mishra as an accountant and Mrs. Shuba as a high school teacher of economic are Indian marriage couple and have two sons. Their first child is Bhirju and second child is Ajay, he is main character in this novel. Ajay tells about his family life in India and America. Actually, the decision to move to America is his parents' decision, especially his father. Mr. Mishra wants to emigrate to the West country since in his early twenties and America liberalized its immigration policies in 1965. He thinks that India cannot help his economic problem because India does not care about his economic life. Thus, he has self-loathing and want to be rich people. Then, the appearance of Emergency in India also become his reason to move. In America, they live in Queens apartment that considered as a port of entry for Indian, so that the environment supports him and his family to preserve their own cultures. In addition, the presence of sects and the worship place of their religion become their supporting system to still be aware with their own cultures. It means that there is cultural awareness inside them.

The writer chooses to apply Diaspora theory proposed by Steven Vertovec to analyse this novel. The theorist defines the concept of diaspora in three discernible meanings, that are diaspora as social form, diaspora as type of consciousness, and diaspora as mode of cultural production. Also, the theorist

proposes many factors that can compare the life of diaspora in the homeland and new land, namely cultural composition, social structure and political power, and community development. Because this theory explains clearly about diaspora, so writer thinks that this theory is suitable for the *Family Life* novel.

It is found that there is one using *Family Life* novel as the source of data, and four studies using diaspora theory in conducting their studies. Here, one study uses *Family Life* novel as source of data, that is a study which was written by Fung Man (2016) entitled *A comparison of the 2014 and 2015 Winners for the Man Booker Prize and the Folio Prize*. In addition, there are four studies that apply the diaspora theory. First, the study was done by the study was done by Dominic Mazorodze Pasura (2008) entitled *A Fractured Diaspora: Strategies and Identities among Zimbabweans in Britain*. Second, the study was done by Marlon Simmons (2012) entitled *Politics of Diaspora*. Third, the study was written by Mashira Khan Pritoma (2013) entitled *Exile Literature: Identity Formation of Diaspora*. Fourth, the study was done by Ratika Kaushik (2017) entitled *Homing Diaspora/Diasporizing Home: Locating South Asian Diasporic Literature and Film*. Referring to those previous studies, no studies that discuss diaspora in novel, so this present study will discuss cultural awareness of diaspora in *Family Life* novel.

1.2 Research Questions

The focus of this study is on the cultural awareness of diaspora in Akhil Sharma's novel entitled *Family Life*. The problem of this study is formulated into the questions below:

1. What are the cultures in new land that is denied by Indian diaspora in *Family Life* by Akhil Sharma?
2. What are the cultures in new land that is recognized by Indian diaspora in *Family Life* by Akhil Sharma?
3. What are the factors that affect cultural awareness of Indian diaspora in *Family Life* by Akhil Sharma?

1.3 Research Objectives

From research question above, this study will try to discover:

1. The cultures in new land that is denied by Indian diaspora in Akhil Sharma's novel entitled *Family Life*.
2. The cultures in new land that is recognized by Indian diaspora in Akhil Sharma's novel entitled *Family Life*.
3. The factors that affect cultural awareness of Indian diaspora in Akhil Sharma's novel entitled *Family Life*.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of Study

In this study, the writer discusses the cultures that are denied and recognized by Indian diaspora and the factors that affect cultural awareness of Indian diaspora in *Family Life* novel by Akhil Sharma. The scope of this study is the applying of diaspora theory proposed by Steven Vertovec to analyse the novel. In addition, the analysis is limited on the words which describe the cultures that are denied and recognized by diaspora and the factors that affect cultural awareness of diaspora under four general rubrics, namely, migration processes and factors of settlement, cultural composition, social structure and political power, and community development. Therefore, the result of this study needs to be developed by next researchers.

1.5 Significances of the Study

This study has two significances, theoretical and practical. Theoretical significance explains about the connection between the findings of this research and the existing of theory that is applied in this research as the theoretical framework. Practical significance explains about the advantages of the findings of this research for other researchers or readers.

Theoretically, this study finds out the cultures that are denied and recognized by diaspora group and factors that affect cultural awareness of diaspora cultural awareness of diaspora in *Family Life* novel by Akhil Sharma in which the writer is applying diaspora theory proposed by Steven Vertovec as the theoretical framework of this research. Practically, this research has advantages especially for

students of English Study Program in University of Trunojoyo Madura. It is because this research will be the information and one of their inspirations when they apply the diaspora theory to apply in literary work or use *Family Life* novel as the source of data. However, the writer hopes that this research makes readers or other students understand about diaspora theory and how to apply it at literary criticism.