

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, statement of research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the study

Migration is an interesting phenomenon nowadays. Migration is a process of moving from one country to another country. Habte stated that immigration is one of the most significant social phenomena in globalization era (Habte, 2009:5). Migration happens in any place in the world as the effect of globalization. When people migrate they cross the boundaries of culture and nationality. When people migrate from one country to other country they have to adapt with new country.

Migration is related to lot of things. Migration happens along with the transportation and communication development. Migration is a part of urbanization and globalization moreover migration is related to the changes in a whole world. Migration is closely related to the climate change, economics development, sustainable development, social engineering, laboring system, cultural and ethnic conflict. It is a complex phenomenon related to number of aspects in life.

Nowadays, many people moved from one country to other countries for many reasons. Julianne Hammer in *Palestinian born in Exile* stated that migration happens in third world country than in the west as the effect of war (Hammer, 2005:2). People rarely migrate in their own choice. Most people, especially from third world country

move to other country in order to find a better life. When someone moved to a new place they will face a new condition.

As an interesting phenomenon, migration becomes one of famous topics presently. Migration has become one of famous things which are now emerges in many field. It leads to emerge of any other aspects such as demography, ethnical, diaspora, and hybridity. All of those aspects become new popular term. Along with migration, diaspora becomes a popular term in past decade.

According to *Key concept in postcolonial studies* diaspora is the voluntary or forcible movement of peoples from their homeland into new region (Aschroft, Griffith & Tiffin 1998: 68). Diaspora is one of kinds of migration. It refers to movement of people from their homeland to a new place whether in their own intention or not. In relation with other kinds of migration, diaspora has fundamental differences with other kind of migration.

There is a fundamental difference between diaspora and migration. Migration is seen as one-way process but diaspora is a process of moving while still maintained relation with the homeland (Hutnyk, Kalra & Kaur, 2005: 15). People move to and settled in new place is migration, while diaspora give some benefit for the homeland. Diaspora is being in both homeland and place of settlement. Diaspora still related with their homeland though in new place.

The term diaspora as a concept and meaning has shifted through time. As Thomas Faist statement below:

Since the late 1970s, 'diaspora' has experienced a veritable inflation of applications and interpretations (Baubock & Faist, 2010:12).

Diaspora had different interpretation time to time. The old concept of diaspora is refers to the Jews and Armenians who moved from their country. Later on, it also serves to religious minority groups in Europe as its extent. Then, the newest interpretation of diaspora refers not only to ethnics but also to religious group community. Recently, diaspora uses as a concept of migrant group who migrate for a certain reason, while retain with the wish of back home (Baubock & Faist, 2010:12).

Each interpretation of diaspora that have been mentioned above has its own characteristic. Each concept is taken from three characteristic. The first is the cause of migration or dispersal. The second is cross-border experience from homeland to destination and the third is the integration of the migrant to the host country. In addition, along with migration, Diaspora moved from their homeland for a number reason. The reason can be in religion, cultural, and searching of work.

Diaspora had become a topic in different field namely cultural, ethnical study, sociology and literary work. There are many authors who narrate the story about migration and diaspora namely John Steinberg, Kazuo Isiguro and Khaled Hosseini. The way the author delivered the message within their story are vary, though all of them stand for the same reasons that is to show wonderful topic through their story, they tried to give vivid moving portrait of life stories throughout their work. Khaled Hosseini recalls the story of diaspora within his novel.

Khaled Hosseini is one of famous authors' recently. He is one of well known and beloved novelist in the world. He was born in Kabul, Afghanistan in March 4, 1965, which is called as the countries of golden age between 1960s-1970s. He spent his childhood in separated places, before finally moved to United State. In 1988 he had graduated from Santa Clara University, and then started Medical school in University of California which later graduated in 1993.

Khaled Hosseini started his debut in writing short story. Nowadays he has produced some great works namely *The Kite runner* (2003), *A thousand Splendid suns* (2007), and *The mountain echoed* (2013). *The Kite Runner* is a great English novel produce by Afghan born writer. It achieved #1 *New York Times* Bestseller and became an international bestseller and adapted into a film in 2007” (Bloom, 2009:10)

The Kite Runner written by Khaled Hosseini narrates about the life of two children in their homeland, Afghanistan. They are close friend with a great happy life of their childhood before finally have to face great changes when there is Russian invasion, and Taliban Terrorism. The two children had to be life in separated places because one of them migrates to other countries. He becomes an immigrant from the third words country namely Afghanistan who moved and then settled in California after the Russian invasion.

In addition, Hosseini showed in the novel the kindness of some Afghans who had left their home country. As Harold Bloom said “Specifically, he wrote of the experience of those who came to California” (Bloom, 2009:12), It engages the reader by narrating the experience of Afghans who moved to California. It narrates about

their movement and struggling to adapt and survive in new totally different country. It shows close relationship and kindship of Afghans and people whose bloods are related to keep their culture.

The study analyzes the first novel of Khaled Hosseini entitled *The Kite Runner* published in New York, America in 2003. It is a great novel produced by Afghan descendant American writer. The writer believed that this novel reflect clearly about diaspora because it was written by someone who experience it by himself. The story of the novel becomes the representation of the Afghans experience by the time they move to other countries.

There have been several researchers who have analyzed *The Kite Runner* written by Khaled Hosseini. They are Nina (2008) Miswari (2010), Mulyono (2010) Wardana (2011), and Nila (2013). The theories that are used in those studies are characterization, intrinsic element, psychosocial, sociology of literature, and figurative language. None of them analyze diaspora of the novel. In fact there is diaspora portrayed in the novel. Therefore, this study focuses on analyzing the experience of Afghans as diaspora.

Since the story of the novel tells about Afghans diaspora who moved to other country because of the Russian invasion but still maintain the relationship with Afghanistan, therefore the analysis of diaspora in the novel revealed based on post-colonialism theory. Like the statement by Mikics David “Post-colonial studies, a new academic field, increasingly in popular in 1980s and 1990s, that concentrates on the

effects that western European and American colonialism have had on the rest of the world (David, 2007:239).

Here, then, is the first characteristic of postcolonial criticism-an awareness of representation of the non-European as exotic or immoral ‘Other’ (Barry, 1995:193). The writer tries to analyze diaspora of the character in the novel. People whose life under a colony or under new culture, like Afghans people will try to adapt with new culture while keeping their former culture. Diaspora becomes the major focus in this analysis because this novel tells about the Afghans who live in California.

1.2 Statement of research problem

Based on the background of the study above, the writer proposes the statement of research problems as stated below:

1. What is the type of diaspora portrayed in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini?
2. What are the criteria of diaspora portrayed in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini?

1.3 Objective of the study

The objective of the study is to know the effect of the Russian invasion toward Afghanistan. Especially, to convey the type of diaspora based on experience of Afghans diaspora portrayed in Khaled Hosseini’s novel entitled *The Kite runner*.

In addition it is also as an attempt to explain the criteria of diaspora portrayed Khaled Hosseini's novel entitled *The Kite runner*.

1.4 Significance of the study

This study is expected to be able to provide both theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically the result of the study is expected can strengthen and enrich the theory of post-colonialism. Meanwhile this study hopefully can inspire others to analyze a literary works using post-colonialism in the future. Moreover, the study is expected to be source of information and references for other researcher, lecture, and student about Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, post colonialism and diaspora.

Furthermore, practically this study is expected to give contribution to the society especially to young generation, teenager and kids. It expected to give awareness to all people about important of tolerant between the young generations of Indonesia toward other people from other countries. It is also expected to strengthen the solidarity between Indonesian people any time and any where especially, for those who live abroad.

1.5 Scope and limitation

Based on the theory which is applied to analyze the novel, the scope of the study is on the discussion of diaspora as one concern of post-colonialism to know the type and criteria of diaspora within the novel. Then, this study limits on the selected narration and utterances of the novel indicating diaspora.