

Chapter I Introduction

This chapter consists of six sections. The first section explains the background of the study. The second section explains identification of the problem. The third section explains research question. The fourth section explains objectives of the study. The fifth section explains limitation of study. The sixth section explains significances of the study.

1.1 Background of The Study

Literature is a science that describes the work to explain the value of humanity contained. Therefore, a literary work can be said to be worth when in the literary works contained properties or important things that are beneficial to the reader. Reading literature can know and recognize specific of people's lives, because they essentially literature is a reflection of the life of society.

Literature is a piece of writing valued as works of art compared to technical language. Literature is a permanent expression in words of some thoughts or feeling idea about life and the word (Rees, 1973:9).

Literary work is a very important work of art that had a great impact in our life, because we could express ourselves by words which could describe our feelings and thoughts. There are two kinds of literary works, fiction and non-fiction. Fiction literary works includes: poetry, prose and drama. While non-fiction literary works includes: biography, autobiography, essay and literary criticism.

Poetry is part of a literary work; poetry describes a wide variety of spoken and written forms, styles, and patterns, and also a wide variety of subjects. Because of the variety, it is not

possible to make a single, comprehensive definition (Roberts, 1955:547). The poem is arranged in lines, but does not follow measured rhythmical patterns, nor does it rhyme. The most important thing about it is that, as it engages us and amuses us, it also rings of truth. Robert Frost said, "Poetry is the kind of things poets writes" (Miller, 1981: 44). To define poetry is not easy because not everything can be named or explained. So it is enough to sharpen your perception as a reader and to permit a fuller understanding of what it is in a poem that gives pleasure and creates form and meaning.

By reading poetry, we will discover ourselves and our world, expressing of the fact of art and imagination as a human life manifestation with language as medium and has a positive effect on human life (humanity), writers of literature want to expressing their ideas, feeling, emotion or imagination in their mind so reader will feel what the writers feel and in the last side reader can take what is the meaning of it. Poetry helps us learn more about human life. Understand how human character and emotion are influenced by natural surroundings. Understand more about a particular of life, like social, culture, politic, education, etc.

According to Durkheim (1973) moral has important role in society life. Restrain and authority that applied by collective awareness appears in moral side. Morality in all its forms is never met with except in society. It never varies except in relation to social, condition. The duties of the individual towards his self are, in reality duties towards society. This statement supported and similar to Poepoprodjo who divided moral into two kinds, Poepoprodjo (1998: 188) says that "*moralitas adalah kualitas dalam perbuatan manusia yang menunjukkan bahwa perbuatan itu benar atau salah, baik atau buruk*". Moral value is the standard of good and evil, which govern an individual's behavior and choices. Moral value teaches us to love each other.

Robert Frost is an American poet, teacher, and also a lecturer who wrote many famous poems. He got four times Pulitzer winning Prize. Robert Frost's poems describe about human life especially about village and nature and theme of his works content social and philosophical values. More importantly, perhaps, he concerned about social life that happened at that time. However, there is something that people have to keep in mind, without morality, there would not be society.

Based on the writer has stated above, the writer feels that this poem has a meaningful moral value to be discovered. Therefore, the writer would like to figure out what kind of moral value found in selected seven poems by Robert Frost.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

The poems that the writer would like to analyze are literary works by Robert Frost, because the writer thinks that Robert Frost poems are good and give him inspiration. By reading the poems, we will find more information about moral values which play an important role in our lives. Therefore, it means that it can be drawn so many lessons that the author provide for the reader through the poems. One of the lessons that can be acquired from the poems is its moral lesson.

The writer is interested in Robert Frost literary work, because Robert Frost's poems describe about human life especially about village and nature and theme of his works content social and philosophical values. Moral values are the standards of good and evil, which govern an individual's behavior and choices. Individual's morals may derive from society and government, religion, or self. It can be seen in his famous poem "The Road Not Taken". In this poem Robert Frost wants to emphasize that 'you are what you think' as a human, we are the object of what is

going to be in our life. Be focus of what will we do in our life, in a short word; do the best in your life.

1.3 Research Questions

1. What are the meanings of selected seven poems by Robert Frost?
2. What forms of moral values does the poem deliver in the selected seven poems by Robert Frost?

1.4 Objectives of Study

1. To find out the meaning of selected seven poems by Robert Frost.
2. To find out what form of moral values does the poem deliver in the selected seven poems by Robert Frost.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Robert frost has written many literary works especially in poetry. To limit the analysis, the writer only analyze moral values from the selected seven out of thirty three poems in the book “Mountain Interval” by Robert Frost namely: *Fire and Ice*, *Neither out Far Not in Deep*, *Out, Out, Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*, *Provide, Provide*, *Acquainted with the Night* and *The Road Not Taken*. I chose those seven poems because it seems like those poems have interesting moral values.

1.6 Significances of the Study

The result of the study is expected to give meaningful contribution to the writer himself and the readers generally in understanding a poem. The writer means to make everyone enjoy

literary works, appreciate and get interested in them. Here are the detailed significances of the study:

1. To be expected to become a reference of how to find and analyze moral values in literary works, especially in the form of poetry.
2. To become an example of how literary worker delivers the messages in his/her work.
3. For English Department Faculty of arts and letters can inspire them to improve their creative thinking skills.