

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Living in the society is not free from problems. Oppression one of the big problem that exist in the world. Like in *Slumdog Millionaire* movie there is oppression between bourgeois and proletarian. Each people have a different maintain a goal, but it has a same purpose to make a better life. Many people lives to make a life better than before. The must work hard and struggle to get better. The have the same opportunity to get their property, prosperity, and happiness. The change their destiny and make a life better thing as the wish.

Slumdog Millionaire is a 2008 British romantic drama film directed by Danny Boyle, written by Simon Beaufoy, and co-directed in India by Loveleen Tandan. It is an adaptation of the novel *Q & A* (2005) by Indian author and diplomat Vikas Swarup. *SM* movie is produced in 2008. The film premiered in America November 12th 2008 and around the world in January 2009. *Slumdog Millionaire* is a movie that have genre drama *SM* movie is produced by Fox Searchlight Pictures and Warner Bros. Pictures and written by Simon Beaufoy. That movie is directed by Danny Boyle. His complete name is Daniel Boyle. He was born on October 20th, 1956 in Radcliffe, Lancashire, England, UK. He is a British film director and producer. He is a graduate of Thornleigh Salesian College in Bolton and at Bangor University. He has directed several successful movies. They are: *Shallow Grave* (1994),

Trainspotting (1996), *A Life Less Ordinary* (1997), *The Beach* (2000), *28 Days Later* (2002), *Millions* (2004), *28 Weeks Later* (2007) (producer), *Sunshine* (2007), *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008).

The film opens with a police inspector (Irrfan Khan) in Mumbai, India, interrogating and torturing Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), a former street child from the Dharavi slums. At the opening scene four options are written as possible answers on how Jamal Malik won 20 million rupees: A) He cheated, B) He's lucky, C) He's a genius, D) It is written. In 2006 Mumbai, eighteen-year-old Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), a former street child from the Juhu slum, is a contestant on KBC (the Indian version of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?), and is one question away from the grand prize. However, before the Rs. 20,000,000 question, he is detained and interrogated by the police, who suspect him of cheating because of the unlikelihood that a simple "slumdog" could possibly know the answers. Jamal recounts, through flashbacks, the incidents in his life which provided him with each answer. These flashbacks tell the story of Jamal, his brother Salim (Madhur Mittal), and Latika (Freida Pinto). The story of Jamal's life includes his managing, at age five, to obtain the autograph of Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan, which his brother then sells, followed immediately by the death of his mother during the Bombay Riots. Soon after, Salim and Jamal meet Latika, another child from their slum. Salim is reluctant to take her in, but Jamal suggests that she could be the third musketeer, a character from the Alexandre Dumas novel, whose name they do not know. The three are found by Maman (Ankur Vikal), a gangster who

tricks and then trains street children into becoming beggars. When Jamal, Salim, and Latika learn Maman is blinding children in order to make them more profitable as singing beggars, they flee by jumping onto a departing train. Latika catches up and takes Salim's hand, but Salim purposely lets go, and she is recaptured by the gangsters. Over the next few years, Salim and Jamal make a living travelling on top of trains, selling goods, picking pockets, working as dishwashers, and pretending to be tour guides at the Taj Mahal. At Jamal's insistence, they return to Mumbai to find Latika, discovering that she has been raised by Maman to become a prostitute whose virginity is expected to fetch a high price. The brothers rescue her, and Salim draws a gun and kills Maman. Salim then manages to get a job with Javed (Mahesh Manjrekar), Maman's rival crime lord. Arriving at their hotel room, he orders Jamal to leave him and Latika alone. When Jamal refuses, Salim draws a gun on him, and Jamal leaves after Latika persuades him to go away.

Years later, while working as a tea server at an Indian call centre, Jamal searches the centre's database for Salim and Latika. He fails in finding Latika but succeeds in finding Salim, who is now a high-ranking lieutenant in Javed's organization, and they reunite. Salim is regretful for his past actions and only pleads for forgiveness when Jamal physically attacks him. Jamal then bluffs his way into Javed's residence and reunites with Latika. While Jamal professes his love for her, Latika asks him to forget about her. Jamal promises to wait for her every day at 5 o'clock at the CST station. Latika attempts to rendezvous with him, but she is recaptured by Javed's men, led by Salim.

Jamal loses contact with Latika when Javed moves to another house, outside of Mumbai. Knowing that Latika watches it regularly, Jamal attempts to make contact with her again by becoming a contestant on the show *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. He makes it to the final question, despite the hostile attitude of the show's host, Prem Kumar (Anil Kapoor), and becomes a wonder across India. Kumar feeds Jamal the incorrect response to the penultimate question, and when Jamal still gets it right, turns him into the police on suspicion of cheating. Back in the interrogation room, the police inspector (Irrfan Khan) calls Jamal's explanation "bizarrely plausible" and allows him to return to the show. At Javed's safehouse, Latika watches the news coverage of Jamal's miraculous run on the show. Salim, in an effort to make amends for his past behaviour, quietly gives Latika his mobile phone and car keys, and asks her to forgive him and to go to Jamal. Latika, though initially reluctant out of fear of Javed, agrees and escapes. Salim fills a bathtub with cash and sits in it, waiting for the death he knows will come when Javed discovers what he has done. Jamal's final question is, by coincidence, the name of the third musketeer in *The Three Musketeers*, a fact he never learned. Jamal uses his Phone-A-Friend lifeline to call Salim's cell. Latika succeeds in answering the phone just in the nick of time, and, while she does not know the answer, tells Jamal that she is safe. Relieved, Jamal randomly picks Aramis, the right answer, and wins the grand prize. Simultaneously, Javed discovers that Salim has helped Latika escape. He and his men break down the bathroom door, and Salim kills Javed, followed by Salim's death at the hand of Javed's men. With his dying breath,

Salim gasps that God is great. Later that night, Jamal and Latika meet at the railway station and kiss. The movie ends with a dance scene on the platform to "Jai Ho." It is then revealed that the correct answer to the opening question is: D) it is written.

The public response consists of positive and negative response. The response from movie critics outside India is very positive because they argue the movie gives more choice of movie genre based on its mixed story about English and Indian. The other contradictive responses are from American and European mass media which said that the movie has a problem in its storytelling.

A few critics outright panned it. Mick LaSalle of the *San Francisco Chronicle* states that, *Slumdog Millionaire* has a problem in its storytelling. The movie unfolds in a start-and-stop way that kills suspense, leans heavily on flashbacks and robs the movie of most of its velocity. The whole construction is tied to a gimmicky narrative strategy that keeps *Slumdog Millionaire* from really hitting its stride until the last 30 minutes. *Slumdog Millionaire* has been a subject of discussion among a variety of people in India and the Indian diaspora. Some film critics have responded positively to the film. At the same time, others objected to issues such as Jamal's use of British English or the fact that similar films by Indian filmmakers have not received equal recognition. *Slumdog Millionaire* has stirred controversy on a few issues including the welfare of its child actors and its portrayals of Indians and Hinduism.

This movie won eight out of ten Academy Awards for which it was nominated. They are : Best Achievement in Cinematography for *Anthony Dod Mantle*; Best Achievement in Directing for *Danny Boyle*; Best Achievement in Editing for *Chris Dickens*; Best Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures, Original Score for *A.R. Rahman* ; Best Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures, Original Song for *A.R. Rahman* (music) and *Gulzar* (lyrics) For the song "Jai Ho"; Best Achievement in Sound for *Ian Tapp, Richard Pryke, Resul Pookutty*; Best Motion Picture of the Year for *Christian Colson*; Best Writing, Screenplay Based on Material Previously Produced or Published for *Simon Beaufoy*. Release and box office performance. In the Australia, North America, Europe, India and Asia – Pacific. Following the film's success at the 81st Academy Awards, the film topped the worldwide box office (barring North America), grossing \$16 million from 34 markets in the week following the Academy Awards. Worldwide, the film has currently grossed over \$377 million.

There are four points that make the writer interested in analyzing this movie. Firstly, from the character and characterization in the film *Slumdog Millionaire*. Jamal embodies the character type of the underdog. A character type is a conventional, stereotypical character normally played by a well known actor possessing physical features that embody that stereotype. The director gives strong major characters to keep the story line not static and interesting. The characterization of that movie may give the real portrait of the society.

Secondly, *Slumdog Millionaire* movie can be moral spiritual lesson for someone life. The audience can get moral lesson that can change their life to be better. They also get knowledge because this movie raises India history.

Thirdly, the plot of this movie is unique, it can be seen from Jamal's experiences jump of one time into another time or it is started from present time and followed by the other past event.

Fourth, The movie has an interesting setting. *Slumdog Millionaire* movie is a Hollywood movie, but the setting of the movie in the India. It is a good setting because to join some different movie cultures in a movie. From the setting, we can find the other side of Mumbai's life.

Based on the background above the writer chooses the title of this research "Oppression Against the Poor in Danny Boyle's *Slumdog Millionaire* Movie (2008): A Marxist Criticism".

B. Literature Review

The first study about *Slumdog Millionaire* movie conducted by Najjahul Immtihan entitled "Representations of Brotherhood and Equal Opportunity in Danny Boyle's *Slumdog Millionaire* movie (2008): A Semiotic Approach" assumed that the writer finds the kinds of representation of brotherhood and equal opportunity in *Slumdog Millionaire* movie. The study belongs to the qualitative study. There are many representations of brotherhood and equal opportunity in *Slumdog Millionaire* movie.

The second study written by Budiasih Wulan Nugroho entitled “Globalization of Pop culture in Danny Boyle’s *Slumdog Millionaire* movie (2008): Sociological Approach” assumed that writer find example of Pop Culture in entertainment that is “Who Wants to be Millionaire”. It seems that Pop Culture especially who wants to be a millionaire quiz gives influence for Indian people surrounding, because this program became famous. The writer sees this movie in social condition of the influence pop culture in social behavior occurred in India during twenty century.

Based on the descriptions above, the researchers above are different with the writer here, because the first and second research use semiotic and sociological as approach but the writer uses Marxist criticism. The similarly of these researches are the use of *Slumdog Millionaire* movie (2008) as data source.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is how the oppression against the poor is reflected in Danny Boyle’s in *Slumdog Millionaire* Movie.

D. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem that has stated above, the writer formulates the objective of the study as follow:

1. To analyze Danny Boyle’s in *Slumdog Millionaire* movie based on the structural element of the movie.
2. To describe the oppression against the poor in Danny Boyle’s in *Slumdog Millionaire* Movie based on Marxist Criticism.

E. Benefits of the Study

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is expected to give additional information to literature research especially those dealing with Danny Boyle's in *Slumdog Millionaire* Movie.

2. Practical Benefit

This study can develop the writer's skill and ability in applying the Marxist Criticism in Danny Boyle's in *Slumdog Millionaire* Movie.

F. Research Method

The writer will describe the methods that use on research. There are five elements to support in research method, there are:

1. Type of the Study

The type of this study is a qualitative research in which the writer does not need statistic to collect, to analyze, and to interpret.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

The types of data of this study are the images and the text which forms such like words, phrases, sentences in a dialogues or monologues. There are two types of data source. The first is primary data source that is the play of the *Slumdog Millionaire* movie directed by Danny Boyle. The secondary data sources; consist of the other data related to the research such as some literary books, criticism, and sentences occurring in the movie related to the topic.

3. Object of the Study

The object of this study is the movie *Slumdog Millionaire* directed by Danny Boyle and Written by Simon Beaufoy.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of collecting data in this study is note-taking and image-capturing. The steps of collecting data are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie for the several times.
- b. Searching the script of the movie from internet.
- c. Reading the script repeatedly.
- d. Marking the point in the script to make easy analyzing it.
- e. Taking notes of important in both primary and secondary data.
- f. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- g. Taking notes from the material and some other resources related to the movie and the analysis.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer uses Marxist Criticism and applies it by using the descriptive analysis. In addition, the writer also uses the structural analysis of the work. It concerns with the structural elements of the movie and Marxist Criticism.

G. Research Paper Organization

This research paper consists of six chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which contains the background of the study, literary review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research

method, and the last is research organization. Second chapter is underlying theory. The third chapter deals with Social background of *Slumdog Millionaire* movie. Fourth chapter deals with the structural analysis of *Slumdog Millionaire* movie. Analysis and discussion of *Slumdog Millionaire* movie is presented in fifth chapter. Finally, the sixth chapter consist conclusion and suggestion.