CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is one of human expression, it comes from the human thought, and it talks about the human life. Literature is presented in society to convey the benefit things about the idea, life, thought, emotion and all of which happen in society. According to Roberts (in Triawati, 2004: 01), literature is a fundamental discipline for the knowledge of man, one that treads the deeper and vaster fields of humanism. Literature helps the readers grow both personally and intellectually, because it enables them recognize human dreams and struggle in different societies that they would never otherwise get to know.

Nowadays literature has been a tool to express what the feeling of someone into beautiful words, such as figurative language and connotation. Literature is a kind of writing fictions. This is far from objectiveness because literature contains subjective or irrational elements. Commonly an irrational element is about imagination or feeling.

Literature as a subject worthy of academic study was first identified in the nineteenth century. The use of literature is very much the same as the use of history or philosophy for it helps us to understand our fellow human being better. It is because the materials of literature deal with human experience. Literature cannot be separated from our ordinary life. It helps people understand other people’s feeling, thought and attitude toward life. Besides
knowing the definition of literature, it is also necessary for knowing the reason why people love reading literary works. The scope of literature is very wide slice there are so many things which can be talked to, for example about the situations which happen in the world today or even criticize the social problems in the world through literature. But it is also important to notice whether the literature is good or not. That is why in order to make good literature, there should be noticed some of these qualities, such as Psychological truth or holding the mirror up to nature, Originality, Craftsmanship, and A consciousness of moral values.

The works of literature are divided into three kinds. They are poetry, drama and novel. Each of them has much in common but there are some differences, the Poetry is written in lines by focusing rhymes scheme; drama can be written down in the form of words of poetry. But it is focused in dialogue and performance. A drama is a work of literature or a composition which is designed for performance purpose and delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various actions often either monologues or dialogues of a character or a group of characters. Another definition drama is a play as a work of art composed of work spoken, or motion performed, by imagined characters and having a subject, action, development, climax and conclusion. Most of drama has to be presented in theatrical performance although there is also some dramas which is not needed to be acted at stage and dominated with dialogues between the characters. Poetry often uses particular forms and conventions to suggest alternative meanings in the words,
or to evoke emotional or sensual responses. Meanwhile, a novel is a narrative kind of writing which is focused on sequence of events, time, and solution contain more than a thousand words and have the aspect of novel; they are plot, character, theme, and setting.

Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to study about novel in this thesis. According to Oxford English dictionary (in Hawthorn, 1985: 01), a novel is a factious prose narrative to tale of considerable length (now usually one long enough to fill one or more volumes) in which characters and actions representative of the real life of past or present times are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity.

Novel is an extended fiction, phrase narrative dealing with human character and actions of a period of time. Novelist frequently focuses on the tension between individuals and the society. It means that the writer can know an important event in society and in a country through a novel. In this case, the writer has some reasons for choosing this title to be analyzed. Firstly, *The Kite Runner* quite different although people might think the central theme here is classic. It is somehow remarkable because not only it is beautifully written and easy to understand at the same time, it is also provocative, emotional and compulsive. Political and social situation are wonderfully depicted in Afghanistan; they make the story more believable and convincing. Second, *The Kite Runner* ranks among the best-written and provocative stories of the year so far. Naturally the novel has intrinsic aspects. One of them is psychosocial.
God created everything in couple, man and woman, good and bad, white and black. Every people has two sides of their selves as optimistic or pessimistic, independent or dependent, emotional or unemotional, adventurous or caution, aggressive or passive.

Discussing about personality means talking to the journey of life, from birth to death, what happened in child, young and adult, how can baby (nobody) became old (somebody), how they can grow up and be what the kind of people later, it is analyze what influence them to be like they are now.

From the explanation above, the writer tries to analyze the personality by using psychosocial theory, it is analyzing the personality relating it to the external and internal factor, versus two different sides in human self. In short this theory said that development of personality is marked by conflict.

The personality that will be analyzed represented by the main character of the Khaled Hosseini’s novel entitled The Kite Runner Amir. First, the writer will explain the reasons why choosing novel entitled The Kite Runner.

In this research the writer chooses the novel entitled The Kite Runner because it is one of many novels that give positive effect. It is a very great, complicated, perfect novel. It is an American afghan novel, page by page full of unpredictable moment, and the most important one is The Kite Runner has worthy works. It makes the reader know how to be better.

Anyway, there are some reasons why the writer chooses the novel, The Kite Runner. First, the writer is influenced by the new east center phenomena that booming in Indonesia lately, beginning with novel Ayat-Ayat cinta by
Habiburahman el Shirazi in Indonesia which tells much about east center costume, Moslem culture, that is followed by many appearance of novel with the same theme. It makes the writer thinks to analyze novel which has religion background especially Islamic which has relation with Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and the writer’s religion. By browsing information from internet and searching in library and book store, the writer gets some Islamic novels recommended such as Burned Alive by Sound, Daughter of the Wind or Habiby by Sahabanu. But the fact, it is too difficult to find out those novels in English version. After hard effort finally the writer find out the Islamic fiction, so different with Ayat-Ayat Cinta that tells amazing love, but the writer to be sure that The Kite Runner is as amazing, as worthy as Ayat-Ayat Cinta, as unique and not loss with those novels above.

*The Kite Runner* was published by Bloomsbury, London 2008 a fresh novel and first book from Afghan which describes great story. It is already is third best seller and published in many language editions. The novel consists of 340 pages and twenty five chapters. In library or in bookstore, it is categorized as religion novel or Islamic fiction. The novel describes how peaceful Islam is, how Afghanistan at that time, the richness of Afghanistan culture although in other chapter tells about culture in United States that is chosen be second setting. It presents the contradiction in culture, the way of life, point of view and education.

Second, the story pictures something different from other common novels. Most novels talk about the theme of love between men and women,
discrimination, politics, war, even thriller or horror. *The Kite Runner* is different. It presents unique story, not about love story but about identity, loyalty, courage, deception, where friendship or brotherhood is precious, about the traumatic childhood that is faced by the main character Amir with his friend Hassan.

Third, it has social atmosphere, the story pictures the real social condition in Afghanistan. It makes the writer sure that anytime, anywhere the social class always exists all over the world and it always declares the same right. *The Kite Runner* presents the real social condition; there is social stratification, in Afghanistan which leads to social distance among the citizens. There are Phastun and Hazara. Phastun is high class and Hazara is lower class.

Fourth, the writer is also impressed with the author, Khaled Hosseini who was born in Kabul on March 4, 1965. After PDPA (The people’s Democratic Party of Afghanistan) seized control of the government in 1978 and the Soviets occupied Afghanistan shortly thereafter, the Hosseini’s family decided to seek political asylum in the United States instead of returning to Kabul. They moved to San Jose, California, where Hosseini graduated from high school. He attended Santa Clara University and earned a degree in biology. After college, Hoseini decided to become a physician. He attended the University of California-San Diego’s School of Medicine, where he completed his M.D. in 1993. He served his medical residency at the well-respected Cedars-Sinai hospital of Los Angeles and became an internist.
Hosseini started writing *The Kite Runner* in 2001 while he was a practicing physician. He is an afghan who is able to write *The Kite Runner* that told intertwined of personal conflict and tragedies against a historical background of national and cultural trauma. *The Kite Runner* is the third best seller novel in United States. It proves that united States that identically with a glamour, liberal, freedom are interested in a worthy noble novel by Moslem Afghanistan, *The Kite Runner*.

This novel has the main characters, they are Amir and Hassan. Amir is the story's narrator and protagonist. He is an Afghan man who had a privileged childhood in the Wazir Akbar Khan neighborhood of Kabul. The defining event in his life is his betrayal of his closest friend, Hassan. Amir lives in San Francisco from the age of eighteen. He returns to Afghanistan at the age of thirty-eight and ends up adopting Hassan's orphaned son, Sohrab. Hassan is Amir's most loyal and devoted servant, who is born with a cleft lip. Hassan and Amir were nursed by the same woman and unbeknownst to them both, they are half-brothers. Hassan is illiterate but smart and stands up for others. He is also the best kite runner in Kabul. He dies at the hands of the Taliban, defending Baba's house from takeover.

*The Kite Runner* begins by introducing Amir, a writer living in San Francisco California who when receiving a phone call from Rahim Kahn an old family friend, is taken back to his childhood in Kabul Afghanistan. Here they meet Hassan who is Amir's childhood friend as well as a servant boy in Amir's house. Both Amir and Hassan enjoy flying kites and end up winning a
kite fighting tournament. On that same day Amir witnesses Hassan being sexually assaulted by a group of bullies and this ultimately ends up fracturing the friendship permanently. As the film progresses, Amir is persuaded by Rahim to return to Afghanistan after all these years, and it is on his return that he finds out what the Taliban has done to his country and his friend.

And the last why the writer prefer to choose Amir’s personality to be analyzed because it represents the confuse in human life, where Amir in his childhood to the adulthood facing many thing that makes him make wisdom decisions. It also represents that the childhood very influence in adulthood. Where in his all development stage facing choices, some of them choose the false and the other choose the right, why he feels traumatic and does fatal mistakes when he was child and how in his adult he can redeem his traumatic childhood in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner.*

B. Literature Review

The novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini’s is an interesting novel. As far as the writer concerns, the research on the novel *The Kite Runner* has been conducted by two researchers.

The first research by Willey (2004) under titled “Introduction of The Kite Runner. This research explains that the subject matter is about a social class namely Phastun (high class) and Hazara (low class). It was the real social condition of Afghanistan that felt directly by the author, and about culture in United States that already felt too by the author.
The Second research by Andrew (2002) the title is *The Psychology Approach on The Kite Runner*. He analyzes about extrinsic element of the novel, include the biography of author and how he creates this novel, Afghanistan at that time include society, government, politic, economy, etc. Andrew said that the intrinsic element in this novel still be the great one.

Different from two papers which have discussed Khaled Hosseini’s work, the writer takes initiative to analyze the same work in different point of view, by using psychosocial theory. The researcher wants to analyze the personality development of main character Amir, entitled “Amir’s Personality Development in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* by a psychosocial approach”.

C. Problem Statement

In this study, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The major problem is how Amir’s personality development is reflected in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* by using psychosocial approach.

D. Limitation of the Study

To make the research clear and directed the writer going to limit objectives of this study to the two parts, such as:

1. To describe Amir’s personality development based on a psychosocial theory.
2. To describe external factors that influenced Amir’s personality development based on a psychosocial theory.

E. Objective of the Study

Dealing with the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the personality development of the main Character “Amir” in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* based on psychosocial approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

Two kinds of benefits that can be gained from the study are as follows:

1. **Theoretical Benefit**

   To give additional information and contribute to the larger body of knowledge, particularly to the further study of Khaled Hosseini *The Kite Runner*, based on Psychosocial Approach of Amir’s Personality Development.

2. **Practical Benefit**

   The research expected to give some contributions to the common students of English studies in discussing similar or related study. The study is enriching knowledge and experience of the other students who have interest with literary study on the psychosocial in the novel.
Give deeper understanding and enrich the knowledge of the writer and the readers about Khaled Hosseini *The Kite Runner*, based on Psychosocial Approach of Amir’s Personality Development.

G. Research Method

1. **Type of the Study**

   The writer uses a library research, which employs qualitative method (Moleong, 2000: 31). The writer applies psychoanalysis of the main characters as a means of further research.

2. **Object of the Study**

   The object of this study is Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*, published by Bloomsburry, London 2008.

3. **Type of the Data and the Data source**

   In doing this study, the writer uses two sources of data, there are:

   a. **Primary Data Source**

      The primary data source is the novel *The Kite Runner* itself by Khaled Hosseini.

   b. **Secondary Data Source**

      The secondary data source is taken from other sources, which are related to the primary data such as biography of the author, some books of psychological and so forth.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The technique of collecting data in this study is library research. The data from both primary and secondary sources are collected and
recorded in a sort of document as evidence. The techniques of collecting data are as follows:

a. Reading the novel

b. Browsing to the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.

c. Taking notes of important data from both primary and secondary data.

d. Arranging the data into several parts according to its classification.

e. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

By analyzing the text of the novel the research, the writer tries to find out the setting of place and time and personality of the novel. The technique critical reading has done to understand the theme, plot, setting, characters, and social values of the novel.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique employed in analyzing the data is describing analysis. It concerns with the relationship between the novel and the psychosocial theory to show how the personal development is reflected in the character in this novel.
II. Research Paper Organization

This research paper is classified into five chapters. The first chapter deals with The Background of the Study, Literature Review, Problem Statement, and Objective of the Study, Benefit of the Study, Research Method and Research Paper Organization. The second chapter covers the Underlying Theory of Psychosocial Approach, structural of the Novel, and analyzing Khaled Hosseini’s The Kite Runner. The third chapter concerns with the Structural Analysis of the Novel and the Discussion, which includes the structural elements of Khaled Hosseini’s The Kite Runner. The fourth chapter covers the Psychosocial Analysis of the Novel and the Discussion. The last chapter is the Conclusion and Suggestion.