

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Man is a part of society. As a member of society, man cannot be separated from social problem such as alienation. Alienation is separation or estrangement. Alienation happens if in society, man has to work to fulfill his economic needs. Work should give satisfaction to man, but in fact, for most of people, especially the labor in capitalism system; work does not bring about their essence but exactly creates their alienation.

In alienated work relations, people become separated from their creative human nature and compelled their labor for the benefit of others. According to Marx quoted by Magill in Setyowati (2001: 13), the workers' product becomes in class societies. Under capitalist, wageworkers lose control over their product.

For Marx (Fromm, 2001: 69) alienation in work progress cannot be separated with alienation from man himself, from each other and world. A direct consequence of man alienation from product of labor, man activity and species life, is that man separate from the others. When man has conflict with each other's, he also has conflict with himself. Man has relation with himself, with each other, with labor and with objects of labor. Generally, man alienates from his species life means that every man alienates from the others, and every others man also alienate from man life (Fromm, 2001: 69). Man, who

alienated, is not only alienated from the others, but also from the essences of humanity and from species being. So alienation is one of phenomena in the society.

Interrelated to literary work particularly novel, the phenomena and problems in society are often depicted by an author in his or her works. One of the most popular Russian writers of the time, Count Leo Nicolaevich Tolstoy (then more known as Leo Tolstoy), was the famous writer of the nineteenth century who focused most of his novels on the social realities of nineteenth century Russia. And *Anna Karenina* is one of Tolstoy's works, which tell about Russian society in the second half of nineteenth century.

*Anna Karenina* was published in serial form from 1873-1877. It created a great stir in society, and from the time claim that everyone in Russians society was discussing this book. The critical reaction was mostly positive and like the novel itself, passionate ([www.classicnote.com](http://www.classicnote.com)). In the novel, which consist of 963 pages. The novel was widely regarded as a triumph. At the time of *Anna Karenina's* composition, Tolstoy was undergoing another important stage in his religious process. He was questioning the integrity of the Greek Orthodox Church and the morality of the Russian society world. *Anna Karenina* told a tragic story of a married woman, who follows her lover, but finally at a station, throws herself in front of an incoming train. In this novel, *Anna Karenina* created her alienation with her society and with her son (Serezha), it is caused by her love affair with Vronsky.

In *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy not only related a telling portrait of Russian society in the second half of the nineteenth century, but also portrayed his personal transformations during this time. A great deal of the spiritual underpinnings of *Anna Karenina*, especially Levin's struggle to find the Lord, are based on Tolstoy's own life. Tolstoy expresses his beliefs and action through his character Levin, the landowning aristocrat who searches for a higher meaning in life ([www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/anna/tg\\_history.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/anna/tg_history.html)).

A remarkably prolific writer, Leo Tolstoy, was Russian novelist and philosopher, considered one of the world's greatest writers. Leo Tolstoy was born on August 1828 at Yasnaya Polyana, the fourth of five children, to wealthy noble parents. Orphaned at 9, Tolstoy was brought up by relatives and educated by French and German tutors. At 16, he entered the university of Kazan, where he studied languages and law, though he showed far more interest in gambling, drinking, and women. Tolstoy became disenchanted with formal education and left the university in 1847 without a degree ([www.classicnote.com](http://www.classicnote.com)).

In 1851 Tolstoy followed his brother into army service in the Caucasus, where he wrote *Childhood* (1852). This became the first part of an autobiographical trilogy, which include *Boyhood* (1852) and *Youth* (1857). In 1854 he took part in the defenses of Sevastopol, descriptions of which were published in Nekrasov's journal *The Contemporary*. In 1852 Tolstoy married Sophia Andreyevna Bers, a young, well-educated woman who bore him 13 children. During this time he wrote *The Cossacks* (1863) and his masterpieces

*War and Peace* (1864-1869) and *Anna Karenina* (1873-1877) ([www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html](http://www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html)).

About 1876 the doubts that had beset Tolstoy since youth, fed by his puritan temperament in conflict with his sensuality, gathered force. The result of his painful self-examination was his conversion to the doctrine of Christian love and acceptance of the principle of non-resistance to evil. The steps in his conversion are set forth in his *Confession* (1882). For the rest of his life Tolstoy dedicated himself to the practice and propagation of his new faith, which he expounded in a series of works, among them *A Short Exposition of the Gospels* (1881), *What I Believe In* (1883), *What Then Must What Do?* (1886), and *The Law of Love and the Law of Violence* (1908) ([www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html](http://www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html)).

Moral questions are central to Tolstoy's later works, which include the story "*The Death of Ivan Ilyich*" (1886), the drama *The Power of Darkness* (1886), and the novel *The Kreutzer Sonata* (1889). To his last period belongs the essay *What Is Art?* (1897-1898), in which he argued for the moral responsibility of the artist to make his work understandable to most people; he denounced acknowledged masterpieces, including his own earlier works. His last works also include the novels *Hadji Murad* (1901) and *Resurrection* (1899) and the drama *The living Corpse* (pub. 1911). And Tolstoy left his wife and was taken ill on a train. He died on the platform of Astopovo railway station on November 7, 1910 ([www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html](http://www.bartleby.com/65/to/TolstoyL.html)).

However, it will be interesting and challenging to study the happening of alienation in *Anna Karenina* using Marxist perspective. In this study, the writer encourages herself to give a title “ALIENATION IN LEO TOLSTOY’S *ANNA KARENINA*: A MARXIST APPROACH”.

## **B. Literature Review**

Although Tolstoy is a famous writer, as long as the writer knows, there has been no particular study of Leo Tolstoy’s novel *Anna Karenina* conducted by former student in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, Sebelas Maret University and Gajah Mada University.

*Anna Karenina* is an interesting Russian novel and it is masterpiece of its author, Leo Tolstoy. And there is no writer who had conducted a research on Leo Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*, so it will challenge the writer to study the novel using Marxist perspective.

## **C. Problem Statement**

The major problem of study is “how alienation is reflected in Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*” viewed by Marxist perspective.

## **D. Limitation of the Study**

The problem is limited on how major character’s alienation, Anna and Levin, is portrayed in Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina* viewed by Marxist perspective.

### **E. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on the Marxist perspective.

### **F. Benefits of the Study**

The benefits expected from the study include the following:

1. To give additional contribution to the other literary researchers especially in study of Leo Tolstoy's work.
2. To give additional information to the literary research, especially those dealing with *Anna Karenina*.

### **G. Research Method**

In doing this study, the writer uses library research by using restrictively qualitative research. In collecting data for this research the writer refers some books about the author and his literature work.

To understand this novel, the writer previously relates one and another to make this easily to analyze. There are four points that should be included in research method:

#### **1. Object of the Study.**

The writer's object of study is novel *Anna Karenina*, written by Leo Tolstoy.

## **2. Type of Data and Data Source.**

### a. Type of Data.

The types of data are texts: words, phrases.

### b. Data Source.

There are two kinds of data source namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is novel itself; *Anna Karenina*. The secondary data are taken from other sources, which relate with the primary data such as the biography of the author, the sociological history in Russia, website about the novel.

## **3. Method of Data Collection.**

The method used in this research paper is library research, which means that from both, primary and secondary sources are collected and recorded in a short document used as evidence.

## **4. Technique of Data Analysis.**

The writer employs descriptive analysis in analyzing the data in order to make information of the text and content analysis using of deductive and inductive meaning.

## **H. Paper Organization**

To make it easier, the writer divides this study into six chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, the benefits of the study, research method and paper organization. The second chapter is the underlying

theory, which covers Marxist approach. The third chapter deals with the social historical background of Russian in the nineteenth century. Structural analysis is presented in the fourth chapter. The fifth chapter is Marxist analysis, and conclusion and suggestion are presented in the sixth chapter.