

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Oliver Twist or Parish Boy's Progress is the second novel by Charles Dickens in 1838. *Oliver Twist* is one of the most famous novels Charles Dickens. Among the lists are *Oliver Twist*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *A Christmas Carol*, *David Copperfield*, *Hard Times*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Great Expectation*. This novel tells about orphan children who lived in unsanitary workhouses; children labor and slavery trade was made illegal. *Oliver Twist* has been the subject of numerous film and television adaptations.

Charles John Huffan Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England, on February 7, 1812 until June 9, 1870. He was the second of eight children. Charles Dickens is an English writer and social critic. He created some of the world's most memorable fictional characters and is generally regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian period. Over his career he edited a weekly journal for 20 years, wrote 15 novels, 5 novellas and hundreds of short stories and non-fiction articles.

One of the most created of Charles Dickens is *Oliver Twist* novel. The novel tells about a young orphan. Oliver Twist is born in a workhouse, to a mother not known to anyone in the town. She dies right after giving birth to him, and Oliver is sent to the parochial orphanage, where he and

the other orphans are treated terribly and fed very little. On the day, after finishing his first serving of gruel he asks for more. Mr. Bumble and he outraged, and they decide must get rid of Oliver to Mr. Sowerberry.

When Oliver walks towards London. He meets another boy named Jack Dawkins. Oliver follows, and Dawkins takes him to an apartment in London where he meets Fagin, the aforementioned gentleman, and Oliver is offered a place to stay. Oliver eventually learns that Fagin's boys are all pickpockets and thieves, but not until he is wrongfully accused of their crime of stealing an old gentleman's handkerchief.

The gentleman whose handkerchief was taken, Mr. Brownlow, feels pity for Oliver, and takes him in home. Oliver is very happy with Mr. Brownlow, but Fagin and his co-conspirators are not happy to have lost Oliver, who may give away their hiding place. So one day, when Mr. Brownlow entrusts Oliver to return some books to the bookseller for him, Nancy spots Oliver, and kidnaps him, taking him back to Fagin.

Nancy, overhearing Fagin and Monks, decides that she must go to Rose Maylie to tell her what she knows. Finally, all crimes committed by Fagin and his friends unfold and they get a penalty. Finally, Oliver live happily with Mr. Brownlow.

Many people read this novel and gave good respons. The readers give pro and contra arguement for this novel. The positive response of the novel there are Charles Dickens successfully write this novel, like a social critics Charles Dickens for the country. In this novel we can find great

morals on the characters in the story. Dickens beautifully illustrates the sacrifice of one's self for the betterment and good of others. Setting a character that happens to be a prostitute as a type of Christ. And the other is that among those cold-hearted people there are some more sensitive ones who understand what the boy has to cope with and try to help him.

In this novel reader also gives negative response. There are from the title that the protagonist is a little boy named Oliver Twist. He is the child who suffers from injustice and the reader thing do not like most in this story. There are so many hard-hearted people who think only about themselves and sometimes reader get angry when see such dishonest dan mistreatment.

Oliver Twist novel is bestseller book and *Oliver Twist* has been the subject of numerous film and television adaptations, and is the basis for a highly successful musical play and the multiple Academy Award winning 1968 motion picture made from it. The publishers feel proud can publish this novel, because the uniqueness and beautiful story of social frame. This novel has special meaning and many social moral in the story. This novel make me interested to analyse.

The researcher conducted a study on sociological approach. As a social creature, human being cannot acquit themselves from the social problems in life. It is a fact of life that should be faced. People should survive limited conditions. Million children face moral dilemmas throughout the life, experiencing the horrors of child abuse, which includes

physical torture, mental cruelty, and near starvation. Many children and youth lost their family, missing for the affection, and being forced to enter a lonely world. They have no safety place to call 'home', have no family where they usually share their feeling, and have no parents to whom they ask for security.

Social condition of society can be a conspicuous target of denunciation in literary work (Endraswara, 2003: 77). Literature as a mode of communication, communicates the thought, feeling, expression, and criticism of the author towards the social condition at that time (Endraswara, 2003: 83). Swingewood and Laurenson said:

Literature too pre-eminently concerned with man's social world, his adaptation to it and his desire to change it. Thus the novel as the major literary genre of industrial society can be seen as a faithful attempt to recreate social world of man's relation with his family, with politics, with the State. (Swingewood and Laurenson, 1972: 12)

In *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens offers some background information on the various aspects of Victorian England's history, including some issues related to the New Poor Law, sickness and death, class distinctions, anti-Semitism, the industrial era and its related lack of job security, etc. Through a sometimes sarcastic embellishment of characters and the occasional exaggeration of the aforementioned circumstances in the novel, Dickens produces a book that entertains as well as historicizes and politicizes.

This novel is very beautiful story. The problems faced by society were good bait for producing manuscript and writing a novel. The novel can be an effective media to serve the problems and ideas. A novel not only portrayed a life naturally, but it also portrayed how life should be. So, novels, which have been produced in that period, were called didactic novels (Samekto, 1998: 78).

There are four reasons why the researcher is interested in studying this novel. Firstly, the major character is Oliver Twist. Secondly, the novel is based on the life of Oliver Twist. Thirdly, we can find moral message from the novel. Fourthly, it is because a good setting time and place.

Firstly, the major character is Oliver Twist. Oliver Twist has good character. In this novel Oliver Twist is a child boy and he has no parent. Oliver is between nine and twelve years old. Though treated with cruelty and surrounded by coarseness for most of his life, Oliver Twist is a pious and innocent child.

Secondly, the novel is based on the life of Oliver Twist. *Oliver Twist* deals mainly with poverty, child exploitation and crime—the harvest of social dereliction (Kaste, 1965: 13). The story have interested to read and analyse.

Thirdly, when we read this novel we can find social and moral education of their characters and story. And the last reason is good setting and place. The setting of the novel is between England and London. The setting support and relevance with the story.

For the reason above, researcher intends to conduct a study on sociological approach. By so doing, she gives the title **“PROTEST AGAINST CHILD EXPLOITATION REFLECTED IN CHARLES DICKENS’ *OLIVER TWIST* (1838) : A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH”**.

B. Literary Review

There are some researchers who previously conducted different studies of Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*. Among the lists are “Poverty In Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*: Sociological Approach” by Renitasari Oktaviastuti (2005). “Inferiority Feeling Of Oliver Twist In Roman Polanski’s *Oliver Twist*: An Individual Psychological Approach” by Akhtaj, Nur Aini (2010). “Self Actualization Of Oliver In Charles Dicken’s *Oliver Twist*: A Humanistic Psychological Approach” by Amungkasi, Hanif Lutfiana (2009). “The World View Of Charles Dickens in *Oliver Twist*: A Genetic Structuralism Approach” by Arinto, Tri Yuni (2008). “Dickens’s *Oliver Twist*” by Thomson, Corey Evan. “DICKENS’S *OLIVER TWIST*” by Deutschendorf, Brian.

The researcher uses Sociological Approach to analyze the data and using *Oliver Twist* novel as an object. The researcher analyze **”PROTEST AGAINST CHILD EXPLOITATION REFLECTED IN CHARLES DICKENS’ *OLIVER TWIST* (1838): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH”**.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of the study is “How is protest against child exploitation reflected in Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*?”

D. Limitation of the Study

To carry out the study, the researcher limited the study. It focused on the analysis of protest against child exploitation reflected in Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist* in Early Nineteenth Century from sociological approach by using Swingewood and Laurenson’s theories.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style, and theme.
2. To analyze the novel based on sociological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

By conducting the study, some benefits was gained as follows:

1. To give additional direct references of researchers especially those dealing with Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*.
2. To answer the researcher’s curiosity about Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the writer used a qualitative research. In this library research, data sources are using literature data. It purposes to analyze novel using sosiological approach. The steps to conduct this research are (1) determining the type of the study, (2) determining the object of the study, (3)determining data and data source, (4) determining technique of data collection, (5) determining technique of data analysis.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is how Protest Against Child Exploitation reflected in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

There are two data sources that are needed to do this research, namely : primary data sources and secondary data sources.

a. Primary data sources.

The primary data source is *Oliver Twist* directed by Charles Dickens.

b. Secondary data sources.

The secondary data sources are from other sources related to the study, such as: website, dictionary, some books that support the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The methods of collecting data is note taking. The steps are as follows:

- a. Reading and learning the original novel for several times.
- b. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
- c. Taking notes of important thing both of primary and secondary data source.
- d. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- e. Drawing conclusion based on the analyzing data.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used in analysing the data is descriptive analysis. It concern with structural element of the novel on Protest Against Child Exploitation reflected in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* : Sociological Approach.

H. Paper Organization

The research paper organization of “Protest Against Child Exploitation Reflected in Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*” is as follows:

Chapter I is introduction, it consists of background of the study, Literary Review, Problem Statement, Limitation of the Study, Objective of the Study, Benefit of the Study, Research Method, and Paper Organization. Chapter II is Underlying Theory; it consists of Sociology of literature, the notion issue, the type of sociology literature, structural element of the novel, and theoretical application. Chapter III is Social Historical background of exploitation for children. Chapter IV is Structural Analysis of *Oliver Twist* novel (1) The element of *Oliver Twist* novel. (2) Discussion. Chapter V is Sociological Analysis of *Oliver Twist* novel. It consist of the social aspect, political aspect, economic aspect, science and technology, cultural aspect and religious aspect. Chapter VI consists of conclusion and suggestion.