

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

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

Every person in the world has rights. Rights can be obtained since human beings are born. There are a lot of rights, such as right to life, right to vote and right to work. Human rights are not of a legal nature, but of a moral nature; the enforcement of human rights is needed and should be universal so that the human race can continue to advance and flourish. (Darraj, 2010: 24).

Right to work is the part of human right. The right to work is the concept that people have a human right to work, or engage in productive employment, and may not be prevented from doing so. Right to work is listed in Universal Declaration of Human Rights under Article 23.1:

Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Beside that, Right to work is also listed in The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights states in Part III, Article 6:

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Cora Vreede de Stuers in her research on women in Indonesia distinguishes the situation of women based on historical background (De Stuers, 1960). The position of women is constructed by tradition. Village

women have an active role in the economic organization of farming, gardening, livestock, and trading. The division of work of women and men in Java is determined by ability and gender. Women get employment according the nature and flexibility income in trading vegetables and rice, harvesting rice and etc. Anderson states that: “Woman’s role in economic life has always been underestimated, there are assumptions that woman who works for wages is doing it for “pin money”, and women’s work is not as valuable as man’s. The result was woman’s work has not been paid the same as men’s get”. (Andersen, 1997:75).

*The years of the Voiceless* novel is written by Okky Madasari. It was published on July 2013. Okky Madasari’s novel “*Entrok* (2010)” is translated into English by Nurhayat Indriyatno Mohamed as “*The Years of the Voiceless*” in 2013 which told about life under militarism during the Indonesia’s New Order era. It also shows how people use their position of power as a tool to oppress people who do not have power.

*The Years of the Voiceless* was written by Okky Madasari. Actually her name is Okky Puspa Madasari, but known as Okky Madasari. Okky was born on October 30, 1984 in Magetan, East Java, Indonesia. She graduated from Gadjah Mada University’s International Relations Department in 2005 with Bachelor Degree in Political Science. She has chosen to become a journalist and writer ever since her graduation. In 2012, she took sociology for her Master's degree from the University of

Indonesia, and graduated in July 2014 with a thesis on *Genealogy of Indonesian Novels: Capitalism, Islam and Critical Literature*.

Okky Madasari is an Indonesian author and journalist. She won an Indonesian major and most celebrated literary prize, Khatulistiwa Literary Award, in 2012 for her third novel, *Maryam*. At the age of 28, she is the youngest ever to win this prestigious award. Okky Madasari married Abdul Khalik, a journalist with English-language newspaper in Indonesia (*The Jakarta Post*, 2003-2012, and *Jakarta Globe*, 2012-present) they met when both of them covered the United Nation Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in Bali January 2008 before they married in December 2008. Okky's novels actually talk about human rights and freedom. Okky Madasari is a realist, all of her novels show about what happened in Indonesia (Rayda, 2013).

There are some novels that have been written. Her first novel *Entrok*, an epic about life under totalitarian and militarism during the Indonesia's New Order era, has been translated into English and was published in July 2013 under the *title of The Years of the Voiceless*. Her second novel is *86* (2011). Her third novel *Maryam* (2012) which describes how Ahmadis are violently thrown away from their own home and homeland without any protection from the government winning the 2012 Khatulistiwa Literary Award. The novel has been translated into English under the title of *The Outcast*. The last novel is *Pasung Jiwa*, released in May 2013. It tells about individual struggle to break free from

his or her own individual limitation as well as the containment of norm, tradition, religion, state and economic dominance of the few rich. Pasung Jiwa has also been translated into English under the title of *Bound* in July 2014.

The word “*Entrok*” is from Jawa that mean Bra. There are two narrators: Sumarni, a girl who grows into puberty in a village near the East Java city of Madiun in the early period of Indonesian independence, second is Rahayu as Sumarni’s daughter. It began when Sumarni lived with mother who was called "Simbok". Singget village was place where Sumarni and Simbok lived. Simbok worked as cassavas cutter in those people who sold cassavas in the ngranget market. In Ngranget market, the women were paid with food, while the men were paid in cash. Sumarni wanted to have a Entrok. She began working as a women porter. Every day Sumarni worked as porter, and her fee was collected bit by bit until finally she was able to buy Entrok. Then Sumarni married with Teja and had a daughter named Rahayu. Sumarni moved from a porter become trader in Ngranget market. Sumarni expanded her business of selling profit, and also can be credited.

The people in the village always assumed marni was moneylenders, although they did not stop borrowing money to Marni. Not only were the villagers, but the officials also squeezed Marni. Military also did the same. They always oppressed the villagers to use their positions as a shield. If there were people fight against, the officer put them in prison.

Rahayu studied in Yogyakarta. She became the first graduate in the village. Marni was let down by Rahayu because Rahayu wanted to get married with Amri, a man who has a wife. Marni faced difficult times in her life. Her husband died, while her business was bankrupt. In addition Sumarni heard that Rahayu went to jail. After Rahayu was out of jail, she became very quiet. Actually her new ID card get branded PKI. The sign on her ID card maybe will make Rahayu difficult to get job. Sumarni did anything to make Rahayu back again.

Sumarni wanted to see her daughter happy again, so she was looking for a young man who wanted to marry her. After getting Sutomo, Marni prepared all the wedding preparations. However, one day before marriage, Sutomo and his father came to the marni's house and request to cancel his marriage, because he found that Rahayu's ID card was labeled PKI.

There are three reasons why the writer is interested in studying this novel. The First reason is that *The Years of the Voiceless* is a good novel, where the crime and the freedom in that era are shown nicely in the story. Beside that, Okky used some taboo words but it is not pornography, she just wants to reveal and open the readers mind about the fact.

The second reason is *The Years of the voiceless* gives the writer the real feelings of the society about their way to live and the writer can take the value of *The Years of the Voiceless*, if they want to get what she want, they have to work hard to get it, like Sumarni.

The third reason is this novel also told how hard woman got work in that era. It makes a woman has to do easy jobs, because in that era, it is considered that woman is not as strong as men.

Based on the data above, the writer analyzes *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by Okky Madasari using a feminist approach. Thus the writer will conduct a research entitled ***RIGHT TO WORK REFLECTED AT OKKY MADASARI'S THE YEARS OF THE VOICELESS (2013): A FEMINIST APPROACH***

## **B. Literature Review**

In this study, the researcher presents the literature theory dealing with the novel entitled *The Years of the Voiceless*. The Years of the Voiceless is a good novel to be read. As far as the writer concerns, the research on the *The Years of the Voiceless* has been conducted by some students. The first research is conducted by Tsalasaniarsa Riefky Septiyanto (IKIP PGRI Semarang, 2011) entitled *Kritik Politik Dalam Novel "ENTROK" Karya Okky Madasari dan Alternatif Pembelajaran Sastra di SMA (Sekolah Menengah Atas)*. This research describes about political criticism and the alternatives teaching for Senior High School.

The second research is conducted by Defi Prihatiningsih (UNNES, 2012) entitled *Uang dan Kekuasaan pada Masa Orde Baru dalam Novel Entrok karya Okky Madasari: Kajian Hegemoni Gramsci*. This research

describes about practical hegemony in new order era and how the money and authorization play in that era.

Based on the descriptions, the researchers above are different with the writer because the theory is different. The writer here wants to conduct a study on *The Years of the Voiceless* novel based on Feminist Approach. The writer focuses on the reflection of the right of work in *The Years of the Voiceless* novel. The similarities of these researches are the use of *The Years of the Voiceless* novel (2010) as the source.

### **C. Problem Statement**

The problem statement of this research is “How is right to work reflected at *The Years of the Voiceless*?”

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

The writer focuses this research in analyzing right to work in major characters which is reflected in *The Years of the Voiceless* novel (2013) based on A Feminist Approach.

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

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze Okky Madasari’s *The Years of the Voiceless* novel based on structure elements of the novel.
2. To reveal right to work of the major characters on a feminist approach.

## **F. Benefit of the Study**

The study is expected to give benefits as follows:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

The writer wishes that this study can impart a new contribution and information to the large body of knowledge, especially the literary study on *The Years of the Voiceless* novel (2013).

### **2. Practical Benefit**

This study is wished to give deeper understanding and enrich both knowledge and experience especially for the writer, generally for other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and also can be used as reference by other university students who are interested in literary study on *The Years of the Voiceless* novel (2013) based on a Feminist Approach.

## **G. Research Method**

In this research, the writer analyzes Okky Madasari's *The Years of the Voiceless* novel (2013). There are five elements that should be taken into account in this research, they are:

### **1. Type of Research**

In writing this study, the writer employs the descriptive qualitative research. Moleong (1983:3) affirms that qualitative research is research which result in the descriptive data in the form

observes people or behaviors. Then, the steps of conducting data qualitative study are (1) determining the object of the study, (2) determining the source of the data, (3) determining the method of data collection, and (4) determining the technique of data analysis.

## **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by Okky Madasari which is published in 2013. It is analyzed by using Feminist approach.

## **3. Type of the Data and Data Source**

There are two types of data namely primary data and secondary data that are needed to do this research.

### **a. Primary Data**

The primary data are the data obtained from all the words, dialogues, phrases and sentences in the novel. The primary data source of the study is *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by Okky Madasari.

### **b. Secondary Data**

Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism and some articles related to the novel. The secondary data of the study are taken from any information related to the novel.

#### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

In conducting the study, the writer uses the techniques in collecting the data as follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly
- b. Taking notes of important part in both primary and secondary data
- c. Underlying the important word, phrases and sentences which are related to the study.
- d. Arranging the data into several parts based on its classification.
- e. Selecting the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which does not support the topic of the study.
- f. Drawing conclusion of the analysis that has already done in the former chapter and formulating its pedagogical suggestion.

#### **5. Technique of The Data Analysis**

In analyzing data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The steps of technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows:

- a. Analyzing the structural elements of the novel. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the novel.
- b. Trying to decide the feminist analysis of the literary work. Focus will be paid on the meaning of right to work.
- c. Making discussion of the finding.
- d. Making conclusion.

## H. Paper Organization

The organization of this study is explained in order the reader can understand the content of the paper easier. The organizations are as follows:

Chapter I is introduction consisting of background of the study, literary review, problem statements, limitation of the study, objective of the study, the benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization

Chapter II is the underlying theory that contains the notion of feminist approach, notion of right to work, and structural elements of the novel and theoretical application.

Chapter III is social background of Indonesia society in 20<sup>th</sup> century which covers social aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect, religious aspect, women condition in Indonesia era and life of author.

Chapter IV is structural analysis, it covers (1) the structural element of *The Years of the Voiceless* novel; it consists of narrative elements of the novel such as characteristics and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme; (2) Discussion.

Chapter V is Feminist analysis of *The Years of the Voiceless* novel. The writer will present feminist analysis which relates human facts,

collective subject, world view, and structure of work, dialectical conception between comprehension and explanation, and discussion.

Chapter VI is the last chapter of this research paper that consists of conclusion and suggestion of the study.