

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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

The term of society has two main senses, one is the generalized of social association or interaction and the other is the sense in which a society is a unity, having boundaries which mark it off from other, surrounding societies. For societal totalities by no means always have clearly demarcated boundaries, although they are typically associated with definite forms of locale. The tendency to suppose that societies, as social wholes, are easily definable units of study has been influenced by several noxious presumptions in the social sciences. One is the tendency to understand 'social systems' in close conceptual relation to biological systems, the bodies of biological organisms (Giddens, 1984: 163).

Generally, society is conducted from many classes. Classes have been conceptualized quite differently in terms of ownership or non-ownership of the means of production, control of various assets within bureaucratic organizations, and possession of marketable workplace skills. Sometimes, classes are defined by occupational prestige scores, arranged in hierarchical fashion; or, more loosely, in terms of generalized social standing in the community at large. Classes have also been described competing cultures, subcultures, or value-systems (Marshall, Swift and Roberts, 1997: 25).

The most ancient of all societies, and the only one that is natural, is the family. Even in this case, the bond between children and father persists only so

long as they have need of him for their conservation. As soon as this need ceases, the natural bond is dissolved. The children are released from the obedience they owe to their father; the father is released from the duty of care to the children, and all become equally independent. If they continue to remain living together, it is not by nature but voluntarily, and the family itself is maintained only through convention (Rousseau, 1999: 46).

Basically man's social being determines his consciousness and the material interests of the dominant social class determine how all classes perceive their existence. All forms of culture, therefore, do not exist in an ideal, abstract form but are inseparable from the historical determining social conditions. They exist, in other words, as a superstructure to the basic economic structure of a society (Carter, 2006: 55).

Pierre Bourdieu postulates an invariant relation of structural determination between economic position and cultural lifestyle. For him, classes always appear as status groups, whose culturally stratified tastes and goods legitimate the system of economic domination by presenting it in a misrecognized form. Naked acts of class interest are clothed with the mantle of the selfless pursuit of commonly recognized symbolic goods, making winners appear not as exploiters but as gifted individuals with superior cultural endowment (Gartman, 2012: 35).

In the Marxist view, the class which has the means of material production at its disposal, consequently also controls the means of mental production, so that the ideas of those who lack the means of mental production are on the

whole subject to it. The ruling ideas are nothing more than the ideal expression of the dominant material relations, the dominant material relations grasped as ideas; hence of the relations which make the one class the ruling one, therefore, the ideas of its dominance. The individuals composing the ruling class possess among other things consciousness, and therefore think (Marx, 1998: 67).

The term of Marxism is not only a theory about material and economic interest, but Marxism also includes a theory of collective or class self-interest. It is not at all surprising or paradoxical to find a man willing to sacrifice his immediate personal interests for some greater ideal or cause, the very passionate adherence to such a cause, its binding force, is almost certain to derive from its collective basis, from its structure as a defense mechanism of the group or class with which the individual feels himself at one. The member of a given class therefore defends not so much his own individual existence and privileges, as the very preconditions of those privileges in general: and in the realm of thought also he is willing to venture only to the point at which those preconditions begin (Jameson, 1971: 186).

Later, to govern the society that is conducted by some classes, we need a system which called as government. They are represented by factions. Generally, factions are divided into two types. The first one is faction that endowed with broad membership across the party apparatus and the provinces and the other endowed with technocrats in the central government. The second one is faction that competes with one another over the degree of monetary centralization, which induces inflationary cycles. Although the competitions

between the generalist and technocratic factions are not zero-sum contests for ultimate control of the party, they have clearly divergent preferences over monetary policies, which compel them to mobilize political resources at their disposal to gain the upper hand (Shih, 2008: 47).

All of the explanations above are reflected in the novel entitled *Divergent*. *Divergent* is the new published novel written by Veronica Roth. It was published in 2011 by Harper Collins Publishers in New York. The book became best seller and the author, Veronica Roth got some honor like Favorite book of 2011, Best Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction 2012 and Best Goodreads Author by Goodreads. It was her phenomenal debut.

Veronica Roth was born August 19, 1988. She grew up in Barrington, IL, a suburb of Chicago. She attended Carleton College in Minnesota for one year and then transferred to Northwestern University, in Chicago. She graduated from Northwestern in 2010 with a degree in creative writing. Her phenomenal works are *Divergent Trilogy* (*Divergent*, *Insurgent*, *Allegiant*). From her works, she proves her existence as a young writer by publishing her books.

*Divergent* shows the human living in the future. The humans live in classes named *factions*; there are five factions that are explained in the novel; *Abnegation* (*The Selfless*), *Erudite* (*The Intellegent*), *Dauntless* (*The Brave*), *Amity* (*The Peaceful*) and *Candor* (*The Honest*). Besides, there is a group names *Factionless*. They live in the city which was broken because of war; the areas of their live are surrounded by the fence.

Decades ago their ancestors realized that it was not political ideology, religious belief, race, or nationalism that is to blame for a warring world. Rather, they determined that it was the fault of human personality of humankind's inclination toward evil, in whatever forms that is. They divided the society into five factions that sought to eradicate those qualities they believed responsible for the world's disarray.

The basic reason of all is to keep the peace and the human's knowledge about their responsibility. To choose the faction, they must be 16 years old. After that they can choose their faction by the aptitude test. If their aptitude is not suitable to five factions, they will be a *Factionless*. But, if their aptitude is suitable for all factions, they will be a *Divergent*, and they will be considered as dangerous people.

For the case is Beatrice Prior as the main protagonist character. She also became a *Divergent*. She had more than one compatibility aptitudes, they are: Abnegation, Dauntless and Erudite. She must struggle to defend from the threat by other people that consider her as a dangerous person. But the main idea of the first novel is not in the main character struggling. More than that, Veronica Roth tries to warn the people of the world to keep the peace. She explains the social condition and describes the social classes that divided into five factions and one group. She also reflects political conflict between factions that want to be the sovereign.

The conflict begins from *Erudite (The Intelligent)* and *Abnegation (The Selfless)*. The conflict happened between them was political conflict. Erudite

wanted to grab the authority of the council from Abnegation. The authority of the council was held by Marcus Eaton, the representation of Abnegation. As the member of the council, Jeanine Matthews, the representation of Erudite, knew that Marcus Eaton was breaking his faction values. Marcus was abusing his son, Tobias “Four” Eaton that causing his son chose Dauntless as his new faction. Besides, Jeanine Matthews did not agree with Abnegation simplicity ways which causing the government does not improve. Jeanine wanted to make an improved government where people will live in wealth and prosperity.

Later, Jeanine Matthews made an article which said that Marcus Eaton did some violence to his son and caused his son moved into another faction. The article did not work to anyone. She decided to make a war plan along with Dauntless leader. The plan was founded by Tobias “Four” Eaton in Dauntless secret file. He tried to stop the plan, but he and all of Dauntless member were injected by simulation serum and controlled by Erudite. The simulation serum did not influence to Beatrice “Tris” Prior, because she was a *Divergent*. Later, Dauntless under simulation attacked Abnegation. That attacked causing many victims from Abnegation. Tris wanted to stop it; she realized Four from that simulation. After that, she along with Four stopped the war by shutting down the simulation program in Dauntless headquarters.

By the explanation above, the researcher decided to analyze this novel. There are many reasons why the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel. First, the story of the novel tells us about the social life, human living, and political conflict that happened among factions. Second, the story of the

novel reflects the tragedy of rebellion and the grab of authority of the council. Third, the story of the novel warns us to always keep the peace; however we are, wherever we are, whoever we are, and whenever we are.

Based on the reason above, the researcher decides to identify the novel. The researcher identified it by using a theory in literary criticism, which is *Marxist Criticism* based on Marxism by Karl Marx. Furthermore the research focuses only on the political conflict among factions. So, the researcher entitled his research “POLITICAL CONFLICT AMONG FACTIONS: A MARXIST CRITICISM ON VERONICA ROTH’S NOVEL *DIVERGENT* (2011).”

## **B. Literature Review**

*Divergent* is a novel written by Veronica Roth and becomes phenomenal after published in 2011 by Harper Collins Publisher in New York.

The first study of this novel was conducted by Nesreen Abdallah Eldoliefy from North Dakota University entitled *Societies of Control in Young Adult Literature: The Panoptic World of Veronica Roth’s Trilogy Divergent* (2015). In his research, Nasreen explain about Foucault’s concept of panopticism to demonstrate the containing nature of the trilogy. The novel represents a repressive ideological agenda that reinforces certain social order and identity on its characters.

Second study was conducted by Sylvia Indah Arlita from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta entitled *A Translation Analysis on Verb Phrase in Divergent Novel by Anggun Prameswari* (2015). It was a linguistic study. In her research, she identifies translation variations of verb

phrase and describe the accuracy translation of verb phrase that found in *Divergent* novel.

Based on the previous study, the researcher decided to analyze this novel with issue of political conflict among factions that reflected in the novel by using Marxist criticism.

### **C. Problem Statement**

There is one problem that is founded by the researcher in the novel. The problem has a corelation with our social life today. The problem is political conflict among factions in *Divergent* novel by Veronica Roth.

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

There are many objectives of the study in this research which are mention as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel by finding the character and characterizations, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme.
2. To analyze the story based on Marxist approach.
3. To find the reason of why the society should be divided into several classes.
4. To analyze the relation between people's aptitude and their faction.
5. To find the tendencies of every faction in the novel by using Marxist criticism.

### **E. Limitation of the Study**

The researcher focused on analyzing political conflict among factions in Veronica Roth's novel *Divergent* (2011) by using Marxist Criticism as a

literary critical theory. There are some questions that represent limitation of the research:

1. What conflict did happen among factions?
2. What factors did cause the conflict among factions?
3. How to solve the conflict among factions?

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

Like the objectives of the study, this research is expected to contribute some benefit as follows:

##### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

- a. The researcher hopes that the study will give some contribution to the larger body of knowledge particularly in literary studies, especially in the study of this novel written by Veronica Roth which reflected the social life in the future.
- b. The researcher wants to give some information which can be used by the other researchers who are interested in analyzing this literary work.

##### **2. Practical Benefit**

The researcher got more understanding about analyzing the literary works, especially in Veronica Roth's novel *Divergent* (2011) by using Marxist Criticism and the researcher can enrich both knowledge and experiences. Beside that the researcher can improve her writing skill in academic writing and also the researcher learns to make some literary works by this study.

## **G. Research Method**

In this research, the researcher identified Veronica Roth's novel *Divergent* (2011). There are five elements that should be taken into account in this research mentioned as follows:

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

The kind of this research is descriptive qualitative research that consists of exactly data and library research that merely focuses on the analysis of textual data. The steps of conducting this qualitative study are:

- a. Determining the object of the study
- b. Determining the data source
- c. Determining the method of data collection
- d. Determining the techniques of data analysis.

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

The object of the study is a novel by Veronica Roth entitled *Divergent* which is published in 2011 by Harper Collins publisher in New York. It will be identified by using Marxist Criticism.

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

Data are the important things in the research process. There are two types of data source namely primary data and secondary data.

#### **a. Primary Data**

The primary data are the main data obtained from all the words, dialogues, phrases and sentences in the novel. The primary data sources

of this research is the novel by Veronica Roth entitled *Divergent* (2011) which published by Harper Collins.

b. Secondary Data

Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism and some articles related to the novel. The secondary data are also taken by searching from some websites which are related to the novel.

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

The researcher needed to collect the data. There are many techniques of collecting data which were applied by the researcher as follows:

- a. Reading the novel completely.
- b. Taking notes of important part in the both of primary and secondary data.
- c. Underlining the important phrase, clause sentences or paragraph 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. Arranging the conclusion of the analysis which is already done in the former chapter and formulating its pedagogical suggestion.

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

In analyzing the data, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The steps of the technique of the data analysis are mentioned as follows:

- a. Analyzing the structural element of the novel.
- b. Decide the structural based on Marxist criticism.
- c. Making discussion of the finding.
- d. Making conclusion giving suggestion and arranging the pedagogical implication.

## **H. Paper Organization**

This research is divided into six chapters, to make the reader easier to understand and get deeper understanding. Chapter I present introduction, which explains the background of the study, literature reviews, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, theoretical approach and paper organization. In Chapter II the researcher shows underlying theory. The underlying theory explains notion of Marxist theory, major principle of Marxist theory, the relation between Marxist and literature, and the theoretical approach. While, chapter III displays social background, which explains the social background of the story in the future. Its contains social aspect, economic aspect, politic aspect, scientific and technological aspect, cultural aspect and religious aspect. Chapter IV is structural analysis, which explains the structural element of the novel and discussion. It contains character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, theme and style. In

chapter V the researcher shows his analysis of the novel based on Marxist perspective. At last in chapter VI, the researcher draws conclusion, gives suggestion, and shows pedagogical implication.