

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In this modern era, people are competing to make the social change. One of the social changes is the social mobility. They believe that the higher society could make them happier. Social mobility is a movement in the social structure, there are certain pattern which organizing the social group (Soekanto 2001: 68). According Kimball Young and Raymond W. Mack, social structure “is consists of the characteristics relation between an individual and their group” (in Soekanto 2001: 275). According to Horton (1980: 36), social mobility is the movement from a social class into another social class. The movement is marked by the structural change which is consists of the relation between an individual and their group. Both of individual mobility and group mobility have a social impact. It also has an impact in the structure alteration.

The social mobility is more easily happen in the open society because it might allow for the levels movement (Kerbo 2003: 14). As the opposite, the closed society is harder to get the levels movement. It could be see in the feudal society, which is following the caste system. If there is someone who was born from low caste family, he would be in that caste forever from his entire life. He would not get the movement even if he is an expert. The criteria of that stratification based on the generation line. There will be no social mobility from lower to higher stratification.

The social mobility explanation not only in Sociology but its also can be found in the Marxism. Marxist is the part of literary criticism, its theory is an approach based on the socialist and dialectic theories. Marxist criticism suggests the literary works as the reflections of the social organization from which they are originate. Based on Marxists, literature viewed as a social organization and has its specific ideological function, based on the ideology and the author background. It also analyzing the class constructs which depicted in the literature.

There are some literatures, which adapt the social mobility issue. The writer could illustrate it implicitly or explicitly. They want to deliver the social mobility in their era to the reader. One of the writers, which adapt the social mobility issue, is George Bernard Shaw.

George Bernard Shaw is an Irish novelist, critic, and playwright who lived in United Kingdom. He was born in Dublin, Ireland on July 26, 1856. He is the third and the youngest child in his family. His early education took from tutoring sessions, which provided by his clerical uncle. Under his mother guidance, he explored the art's world through the regular visit in Ireland National Gallery. In 1872, his sister moved in London with his mother and left his father in Ireland. He moved to London for years later in 1876, after his two sisters had move. It is a place where he wrote regularly and had been struggle financially. His mother supported him essentially meanwhile he spent his time in British Museum reading room, working on his very first novels. Shaw joined the Fabian Society in 1884. It was a kind of socialist group, whose goal was nothing short of England's transformation through the more vibrant intellectual and political base. He became involved heavily, even editing a famous tract the group published (*Fabian Essays in Socialism* 1889).

A year since Shaw joined the Fabian Society, he landed some of his writing work in the form of book reviews and art, theater criticism and music. He began a theater critic in 1895 for the Saturday Review and started to write his own plays. There are more than sixty plays, which he wrote in his life including the popular works, such as *Arms and the Man* (1894), *Man and Superman* (1902), *Pygmalion* (1912) and *Saint Joan* (1923).

Arms and the Man was first published in 1898 and produced on April 21st, 1894. It was his first commercial success. *Arms and the Man* is a comedy or humorous play, which shows the failure of war and deals which presented in funny ways with the hypocrisies of the human nature. This playwright adapts the social mobility issue.

The play of *Arms and the Man* began in the Raina Petkoff's bedroom in a Bulgarian town during the Serbo-Bulgarian War in 1885. The opening of the play

is Catherine Perkoff (Raina's mother) and Raina have just heard that Bulgarians scored a victory in a cavalry charge, which led by Raina's fiancé (Major Sergius Saranoff). He is in the same regiment with Raina's father (Paul Petkoff). Raina is very impressed with the noble deeds of Major Sergius Saranoff. It makes her afraid that she might never be able to live up to his nobility. At this moment, the maid of her family called Louka comes in Raina's bedroom with a news. She said that the Serbians chased through the streets and it is very necessary to close every windows and locking up the door in the house. But, when Raina reading in the bed, she heard the shots and there is a noise in the balcony window. A bedraggled Servian soldier is appears with his gun in his hands. He begin threatens to kill Raina if she makes any sound. He carries no cartridges. He always carries chocolate creams. Since then, Raina calls him a chocolate cream soldier. When Raina goes out to call her mother for help, he crawls into her bed and instantly fall asleep. When Raina and her mother re-enter her room, he sleeps tightly that they could not awaken him (*Arms and The Man* 1894: 2-16).

The second act began four month later after the war in the garden of Petkoff's home. A servant named Nicola who is a middle-age man is lecturing Louka. She has a plan that she will marry the upper class man to increasing her social class. Major Petkoff has arrived at his lovely home from the Serbo-Bulgarian war. Then Raina's fiancé, Major Sergius Saranoff arrives in Major Petkoff's house. He is the leader of the successful cavalry charge. They discuss about the war and then they begin to talk about the famous Swiss soldier who escaped from Serbo-Bulgarian war. Raina and Sergius begin discussing their love as the Petkoff's go in their home. She declares romantically to Sergius that both of them have reach the higher love (*Arms and the Man* 1894: 16-25).

After that, Raina goes inside her home to get his hat, meanwhile Louka comes in the garden and Sergius start asking Louka about the higher love. Sergius flirts her clearly and Louka delares that Raina is no better than she is. She said that Raina has an affair behind him while he was away at the Serbo-Bulgaria war. Raina is curious whether Sergius has affairs with Louka or not. Sergius convince to Raina that he is not cheating. Sergius has called away as Catherine enters the

garden. Then they discuss about how incensed they are, that Sergius has a relation with the story about the escaping Swiss soldier. However, Raina does not even care whether or not Sergius have heard about that story and leaves her mother in the garden alone (*Arms and The Man* 1894: 25-29).

Louka comes and tells Catherine that there is a man who is looking for her. His name is Captain Bluntschli. He comes to return the Major Petkoff's old coat. Unfortunately, Paul caught that there is Captain Bluntschli in her garden. Paul greets him warmly and insists that he must be their houseguest until he comes back to Switzerland (*Arms and The Man* 1894: 29-33).

The last act shortly began after the lunch that they had and take place in the library of Petkoff's home. Captain Bluntschli attending the large amount of confusing paperwork while Sergius and Raina's father are observes. When Bluntschli and Raina left alone in the library, she started the talk by giving a compliment to Captain Bluntschli who looks better than he was before. After that moment, he got a telegraph about the death of his father and an arrangement about his father's property that soon become all him (*Arms and The Man*, 1894: 34-41).

As they leaving the library, Louka has entering the library with her called own fashion. Sergius then enters the library. He is flirting with Louka when he asks about her and Bluntschli. Sergius then apologize to her and begin to kisses Louka in front of Raina and Bluntschli. Then they become engaged in that moment. Bluntschli has also in love with Raina. He got permission from Raina's parent to marry him. Actually, his property is too much. He is the emperor of the Switzerland. (*Arms and the Man* 1894: 42-56).

Arms and The Man has been adapted into a movie in 1932 was directed by Cecil Lewis. It is a British film adaptation with Barry Jones as Captain Bluntschli and Anne Grey as Raina Petkoff. It also has a German version. It entitled *Helden (Heroes)*. It starred by O. W. Fischer and Liselotte Pulver. It was become a runner up in the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film (1958). This play also has an audio version, which produced by BBC, CBC, and L.A. Theatre Works.

The term of “chocolate cream soldier” in the play also inspired to humiliate in the military. It uses for mocking the military agent. In Israel, the soldiers use the term “chocolate soldier” (*Hayal Shel Shokolad*). It means that the soldier is a weak and he cannot fight in the proper way. The other military who use that term is the Australian Citizens Military Force. They use the term “chokos” or “chocolate soldier” to someone who were not the permanent soldiers.

There are some reasons why the researcher has an interest in studying this play. *Arms and the Man* is a play about bourgeois competence and mendacity. In *Arms and the Man*, he describes the social problem, which happened in the 18th century. He also describes the social stratification and the social mobility implicitly. He makes every character in his work so realistic with the problems that usually happened in our society. This play is reflecting the social life in 1885 in the elite community. George Bernard Shaw wrote the plays realistically and beautifully. The second is the researcher has an interest with Raina and Louka who are feminist in her years. It makes the researcher want to make a research for another issue.

Based on the illustration above, the researcher want to analyze this play using Marxist Analysis entitled **Social Mobility in Shaw’s Arms and The Man (1894): A Marxist Analysis.**

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background above, the researcher formulated the research questions in George Bernard Shaw’s *Arms and the Man* script, as follows:

1. What are the indicators of social mobility in Shaw’s *Arms and the Man*?
2. How social mobility depicted in Shaw’s *Arms and the Man*?
3. Why does George Bernard Shaw address social mobility in *Arms and the Man*?

C. Objectives of the Study

1. To describe the indicators of social mobility in Shaw’s *Arms and the Man* script.

2. To describe how social mobility is depicted in Shaw's *Arms and the Man* script.
3. To reveal the reason why George Bernard Shaw addresses the social mobility in *Arms and the Man* script.

D. Benefits of the Study

This research organized by the writer in order to have benefits, as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher writes this research paper in order to give information and contribution to the literary study in Shaw's works *Arms and the Man*.

2. Practical Benefit

The researcher expects that this research paper could give the significant information for all people, especially for students of English Department and people who study literary to increase their knowledge in analyzing *Arms and the Man* script using Marxist analysis.

E. Research Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters, as follows: **Chapter 1** consists of Introduction and explains the background. It consists of: (1) Background of the study, (2) Problem statement, (3) Objectives of the study, (4) Benefits of the Study, (5) Research paper organization. **Chapter 2** related its theoretical review, consists of: (1) Underlying theory, (2) Previous Study, (3) Novelty of the research. **Chapter 3** is the research method covered: (1) Type of the study, (2) Object of the study, (3) Type of the data and the data source, (4) Technique of the data collection, (5) Technique of the data analysis. **Chapter 4** is analysis and discussion consists of: (1) Results of the study, (2) Discussion. **Chapter 5** is conclusion and suggestion, covered: (1) Conclusion, (2) Suggestion.