

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the study, research question, objective of the research, significance of the research, and scope of the research.

A. Background of the Study

Textual understanding is a preference or method related to literal text meaning. Text is also an explanation about the structure of the statement and the real word of the author or books. Textual understanding is understood by orientation on the text. And contextual is understood by the situation and condition of literary work development. Textual understanding focuses on grammatical work with literal understanding and it is disposed to analyze a text and context. On the other side, there are contextual understanding, it focus on understanding text-based on the way of context using. Textual usually explain about text based on the main idea, lesson, or comprehension based on written sources. In etymology, textual about notes similar with the manuscript. In terminology, textual understanding is a comprehension of text orientation.

The relationship with textual religion understanding for the author, Paulo Coelho interpret that human can live without institutionalization religion. The human can continue spiritual income to correct human existence. Human believes in God people but mustn't be religious. The religion for Paulo Coelho only one of the tool from the other tools to introduce God. In his quotation, Paulo Coelho said that " God is not an institution, not also singular interpretation". If a religious expert interprets that God through a scripture, Paulo Coelho takes the other way. The way is spiritual literature approach, the effect Coelho's writing about age and sex, territory and ethnic, religion and culture.

Paulo Coelho was born in Rio on August 17th, 1947. He is Pedro Queima Coelho de Souza's son, his father is an engineer and his mother Lygia is a housewife. Paulo Coelho's life is very hard and he must fight with struggle is not easy but in his life trip he gets extraordinary enlightenment to

achieving his dream to become a writer. He was born by the middle family in the urban environment. In seventeen years old, he studies in Jesuit San Ignacio school in Rio De Janeiro. He was not like in school. Although he was not like in his school, the school was first place shows off his talent in writing. He had become the winner in a poet writing competition in his school.

The Paulo Coelho's experience above was appreciated in "The Alchemist" novel. This novel is personification in the character "Santiago" as the main character in the novel. Santiago was a shepherd and everyday he lose his time to search a grass, sometime he must sleep with his sheep. Santiago also has a dream and he is always struggling to achieve it. The characteristic of Santiago describes Paulo Coelho's life in his childhood. Life is very hard and full of challenges but Paulo Coelho can overcome them well done.

The Alchemist novel tells us about Santiago, he is a shepherd who lived in Andalusia. On the other side, Santiago's parents ask him to become a Pastor but Santiago prefers to work as shepherd. This novel story was started when Santiago was herding his sheep near an abandoned church, he sleeps and dreams. In his dreams, Santiago would find a treasure inside Mesir's pyramid but he could not interpret his dream, therefore he visit an oracle or Gipsi to interpret the dream. And the result, he could achieve his dream to find the treasure in the pyramid. Santiago's trip to Mesir which purposed to find worldly treasure, changes become a treasure in himself. Santiago's trip was a difficult trip, he had to fight with a various problem.

One day in his trip, Santiago met with a male who called Melkisedek, he was a Salem King. The meeting result in a discomfort to choose between treasure, his sheep, and a beautiful girl.

On the next trip to the desert, Santiago was deceived by a camel trader and him lose his money and sheep. Therefore, he just found a job to get back his money and sheep. Santiago met with crystal trader and he was offered to work in his store and Santiago receive the job. Since Santiago worked in the store, he got enough advantages to bought some sheep and the crystal trader

was also very excited because Santiago could bring positive change to his store. But a long time later, Santiago decided to stop from his job because he must continue his trip to Oasis.

After Santiago arrived in Oasis, he met with a British male who has a different goal with Santiago. He wants to meet Arabian people who lived in Oasis, an area which is mostly inhabited by women. The Arabian people could change a metal becomes gold which is mentioned, Alchemist. Santiago wants to learn how to process metal to gold and The Alchemist shows the process.

In Oasis, Santiago also met with a young woman who lived in Oasis. The woman could explain about The Alchemist, the woman's attitude made Santiago amazed with the woman. A long day later, Santiago continues his trip to the pyramid. Finally, he could find the hill and him grateful to God who gives a conviction about fate after he fights many challenges, he could find the treasure, and he could also find his real love Fatimah.

The Alchemist novel also gets a public response. According to public, the novel is a bestseller book and there are many moral lessons can be taken in every paragraph. The story is covered very simply and the content of motivation. The motivation among others the study of mettle and persistence and there is also the studies of struggle meaning that described by Santiago's trip from Andalusia until Mesir. In the novel, The Alchemist is interpreted as a wise human. The point of the public response here, public is more emphasize on contain Alchemist motivation in the novel. It makes the readers don't feel boring when they read the novel. On the other side, the novel is not too thick so it is very understood.

If viewed from a sociological perspective is a viewpoint such assumption and opinion about social phenomenon. The relationship between the theory and the characteristic of Santiago, the choice of Santiago to work as a shepherder will result in an advantages for him in the world because Santiago assumed that his job will make him achieve his dream like getting success, independently, and getting marriage mate.

Religion is a rule of organizing in human religious duties to Allah SWT, and the rule of the human relationships with the other human and also human and society. According to KBBI, religion is a system that can regulate the system of faith and trust rule and workship of Allah SWT accompanied by rules that are directly related to the characteristics of human relations with other humans or humans with the surrounding environment. Religion understanding consists of textual understanding and contextual understanding. In textual, religion is described based on text and contextual, it can be seen that contextual Islam is Islam that is understood according to the situation and conditions in which Islam developed.

Textual understanding is a comprehension of orientation on text and contextual is the comprehension of extra-text. Textual focused on the discussion of grammatical performance, use literal comprehension so that it uses analysis of reflection to praxis.

According to Marx's theory, life determines consciousness. His theory can also be applied in the context of religion, such as the condition of suffering that alters religious thinking and concept. Also, religion not only helps the poor and the oppressed people to survive but also to change the condition to be better. For them (the poor and oppressed people), religion can encourage them to respond to the enormous problems caused by globalization, such as poverty, environmental crisis, social justice and the like. All in all, Marx's criticism of religion not only offers some challenges and opportunities for religious believers to evaluate and renewal with a new spirit but also functioned in giving the best and concrete solution.

Based on analysis above about *The Alchemist* novel by Paulo Coelho, the writer will explain about criticism against textual religious understanding in *The Alchemist* novel because of Santiago's experience of getting success from his dream related to textual religious understanding. The writer chooses the novel because the novel is the international bestseller and the novel becomes one of the best-selling books in history and setting the Guinness World Record for the most translated book by a living author.

B. Problem Statement

Based on the explanation in the above background, there is some problem statements consist of.

1. What are the indicators of textual understanding of religious teaching??
2. How is the criticism against textual understanding of religious teaching depicted in the novel?
3. Why did the author address textual understanding of religious teaching in the novel?

C. Objective of the Research

Related to the research question, the researcher will explain about the objective of the research below.

1. To know about the indicators of textual understanding of religious teaching.
2. To understand about criticism against textual understanding of religious teaching depicted in the novel .
3. To reveal the reasons why the author addressed textual understanding of religious teaching in the novel.

D. The Benefit of the Study

The result of the research is hoped can give some benefits for the student, the lecturer, and the researcher. The following are some benefits of this research :

1. Theoretically

The result of this study was expected for the student to develop their comprehension about a textual understanding of religion. The research can add knowledge about how to process of analysis literary work. Students can understand how to process in achieve our dream such as the main character in The Alchemist novel and the student can know about content textual understanding of religious teaching.

2. Practically

The result of the research can become reference to development the other literary work. The research is hoped can facilitate in English teaching and the lecturer can more understand about literary theories. The study can become as an unforgettable experience to make research and the researcher can also know about some literary theories.

E. Paper Organization

This study is declared by five chapters consist of chapter I, II, III, IV, and V. Chapter I consist of: Background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and paper organization. Background of the study explains the definition of textual understanding in religious teaching, attention of the author against the phenomenon of textual understanding, profile of the author related with the novel, and public response of Alchemist. Problem statement explains about the three questions of this research refers to what, how, and why. The objective of the study explains about the relation of the three questions research. The benefit of the study serves about three advantages for student, lecturer, and researcher. Then, a paper organization explains all five chapters. Next, chapter II consists of previous study and underlying theory. Previous study server about some studies from the previous researchers of The Alchemist novel. Underlying theory shows the using of sociological perspective theory related to issue novel. Then, chapter III consists of the type of the study, the object of the study, type of data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique of collecting data. Chapter IV consists of finding and discussion. Finding is some proofs of three problems statement and discussion will discuss the proofs. Chapter V consists of conclusion and suggestion of all analysis in this study.