

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I.1. Background Of The Study

Reading Naguib Mahfouz's novel Respected Sir brings us into a distinct life of a man who is pursuing career in his entire life. The main character of this novel, Othman Bayyumi, is a humble man from lower society in Cairo, but his nature does not stop him from coveting the Director Generalship of the governmental department he has entered as an archives clerk. It is a vision that becomes a lifelong pursuit, superseding all other interest or people in his life.

The writer of this thesis is interested to analyze the character and the characterization of the main character of this novel because he has a unique world view based on his thought about man, life and God. The main character of this novel believes that his life is on the holy path of divinity to be successful, to get the highest position of his department.

Naguib Mahfouz creates a character who thinks that he is on the holy path of divinity by working as a government employee. He uses Islamic colour on Othman

Bayyumi's struggle to reach his dream. His thought, his speeches, his attitude and his action--in pursuing career--depict the life of a man who dedicates his life to his philosophy of life based on his religion. A man that pursues career as a religious task.

How the main character lives is determined by his philosophy of life. The philosophy becomes his standard of guidance on how he conducts his life. It becomes the value system of his life; being the background of his view about himself, the people around him, and the world outside. The thesis tries to reveal Othman Bayyumi's world view--his philosophy of life-- through intrinsic analysis of the novel.

I.2. Statement Of The Problem

From what has been implied in the Background of The Study, the statement of the problems are :

1. What is Othman Bayyumi's view of man, life, and God ?
2. How does this view influence his life?

I.3. Objective and Significance of The Study

1. To Explore Othman Bayyumi's view of man, life, and God.
2. To reveal a philosophy of life or world view through the study of the main character presentation.
3. To see how a literary work is used as a medium to convey certain philosophy of life.
4. It is hoped that the study can give a contribution to literary study about the relation between philosophy and literary work.

I.4. Scope and Limitation

The protagonist's thought, attitude, and action in Respected Sir conveys philosophy of life. The life of the protagonist in pursuing his career is based on his philosophy. The analysis of the thesis is limited and concentrated on the intrinsic analysis of the novel to reveal Othman Bayyumi's view of man, life and God --his philosophy of life.

I.5. Theoretical Background

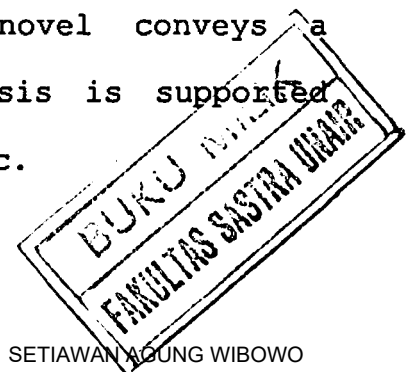
Wellek and Warren in their Theory of Literature say that a study of literary work should have been based on the

interpretation and analysis of the literary work itself. "The first and the most prominent concentration of this study should directed toward the work itself" (Wellek and Warren 139).

Based on this statement, Abrams' objective theory is used as the background theory of the intrinsic approach. Further, philosophical approach is used to support the description and analysis of the quality and development of the protagonist. This is based on Wellek and Warren's view on literature "Frequently literature is thought of as a form of philosophy, as 'ideas' wrapped in form" (110).

I.6. Method Of The Study

The study is a library research. It means that the writer of this thesis seeks and selects some references from library to support the analysis of the topic. The novel Respected Sir is the main source of analysis, in which the writer of this thesis attempts to grasp the essence of the novel through his own interpretation. Concerning that the novel conveys a certain philosophy of life, the analysis is supported with some references of the related topic.



I.7. Key-terms and Definitions

view :personal opinion or attitude on a subject.

world view :conceptions about nature, self and people.

philosophy of life :a set of beliefs or an outlook on life that is a guiding principle of behaviour.

islamic philosophy

of life :an outlook on life that is guiding principle based on islamic teachings.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK