

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

From the beginning to the end of the discussion, it is inevitably necessary to close this study with clear conclusion, which regards several significant points. First of all, a work of literature can not present historical moments or figures as exactly the same as what is regarded as the reality in the official history. *The One Day of the Year* is therefore not a documentary work telling a true story as chronologically close to the factual event of the Anzac legend. It is because of the impossibility of giving objective representation of history and because history can only be represented in the form of interpretation, not fact. Therefore, the play can provide various views of how the historical facts of Anzac Day have been believed to happen, not how they actually happened. This is clearly portrayed in the play through the different point of views of the characters that belong to different generations.

Secondly, people's different interpretations towards a particular thing can be resulted from the influence of the discourses circulating and competing in the time and place in which they live. In one hand, the ideas portrayed in the play are shaped and influenced by the dominating discourses when the play was written. On the other hand, the play itself provides different discourses for its readers to grasp these discourses through the way the characters think about the day.

Thirdly, different interpretations by different people can easily cause emerging conflicts, both within inner-self of each individual and between or

among individuals. This kind of conflict can be seen obviously as a conflict of views, which should not be seen as merely a result of the existence of the different interpretations. Rather, it can be explained that this conflict emerges because such different interpretations are shaped by competing and contesting discourses. In this case, there are new discourses which create new interpretations that will compete and deconstruct the existing ones. In this way, one discourse may seek others' negative sides, or even, consider the other discourses as wrong. However, through this conflict of views, the play shows that it is more important to search more meanings from such competing interpretations rather than to debate whether one meaning is more accurate than others. Therefore, in regarding the content of the play, it should not be said as a wrong or bad representation about how Anzac Day can be interpreted. In fact, the play celebrates the different views which show what people might not consider about the meanings of the day.

Finally, with the perspective of New Historicism, this study on Alan Seymour's *The One Day of the Year* can encourage readers to learn the significance of re-evaluation toward what people did long time ago and what they do today. It also invites the readers to realize that in real life a conflict of view is sometimes inevitable. However, it is not impossible to cope with such conflict by considering that it is just matter of interpretation, and thus not necessary to decide whose view is right or wrong. In this case, it is essential to have awareness that ones do not have to agree with what others think, but should respect others' feelings about it.

# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**