

and life is important enough because it becomes the starting point to define the function of human kind in life. Based on the definition of the function of human kind, then the life itself with all its aspects, the relationship is formulated. In this way, the relationship is intended to maintain the substance of human kind and life. Although it seems that the relationship is in mutual one, it is, however, really much determined by human kind for the main actor of life is human kind.

To carry out the further study on the relationship as stated above, the writer here chooses a poem, one of the literary genres, because it contains universal values. The universal values are often and should be pursued by all of human-kind within its lives.

Robert Frost, an American poet, has many poems describing about life, especially in terms of human-kind. His subject matter includes nature, uncertainty of life, worry about fate, courages, beauties, and the man itself.

In this study, the writer is going to analyze a poem of Robert Frost which has a title The Road Not Taken. Here, Frost describes the choice of life. In this poem, he pours his idea that, as human kind, he wants to show that human kind is often encountered by choices

which contain their own risks. In these choices, a man should have a bravery to choose one of them with its own risks. Without having bravery to choose, a man cannot survive in this life.

Besides, the writer chooses the poem of Robert Frost since he is comparatively an important poet in his country. He was four times awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1924, 1931, 1937, and 1943. He also received the medals of the American Academy of Art and Letters in 1938 and of the Poetry Society of America in 1941. (Bozmann, 1958: 543). His importance partly lies on his choice of subject matter in writing poems. His poems are as many as about nature and man such as Fire and Ice, Desert Place; courage such as in The Act of Living, Out, out~; retreat for strength like in Birches, Away; labor's fact like in The Death of Hired Man, Mowing; and the cooperation of man like in The Tuft of Flowers. The US President, John F. Kennedy in the film A Lover's Quarrel with the World said, "Robert Frost was much honored during his lifetime, it was because a good many preferred to ignore his darker truths." (Shon, 1969: iii). The president admitted that the truth (or what a poet calls it the subject matter) chosen for his poems was very crucial at that time.

Thus, the poem chosen is really a poem of an outstanding poet in the late of 19th century as well as the beginning of 20th century. This is interesting since at this range of period, the world (read: life) has been changing as the Civil War in US (1861-1865) and the World War I (1914-1918) made all people suffer from hunger, poverty, disease, and lack of ideology, struggle for survival, religious faith. These situations can have made a new impression of life towards human's opinions which some of them are reflected in the given poem.

The poem tells us about the choice of life. This choice will have determined the future life. So, in this case, the poet, as a speaker in the poem, tells his relationship as human-kind with his life. This is what the writer will analyze.

As the point of view the writer takes is from the poet's thought about the relationship between human kind and life, so, in this thesis, the writer applies a philosophical approach. Philosophy deals with human's thought on nature of reality. It seems that the approach used fits the problem.

Besides, as the poem is a literary work, the writer also uses a literary approach in order to analyze

the poem comprehensively. Hence, the final result hopefully will be a total analysis of the poem.

I.2. Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to describe and evaluate the relationship between human kind and life through Robert Frost's The Road Not Taken.

How does the relationship go? Does the man influence life or does life influence the man? Here, the writer will deeply look at the relationship between the two factors, namely human-kind and life which are reflected through the poem.

I.3. Significance of the Study

The study on the relationship between human kind and life through the poem makes our life meaningful. Everyone who exists in this life has indeed that relationship. So, the relationship is a universal matter. Thus, to understand the relationship is by no means the absolute right of the poet. The universality of a literary work depends on the freedom of readers to give meaning and to interpret it. Therefore, the writer's inter-

pretation in this thesis is very significant to construct the convincing understanding about life, especially in terms of relationship with us.

The interpretation on the relationship here is transcendental and that could be different, even contrary to Frost's interpretation. This is due to the different background between Frost and the writer. It actually gives an added value to the poem itself and reflects that, in real life, differences are common matters.

By knowing the relationship between human kind and life, it is hoped that we are not alone living in the world. One of the significant things in this study is to give a view that we should keep in with one another as a manifestation of the writer's faith that is to worship Allah The Almighty as stated in Holy Qur'an: "And I (Allah) have not created Jinn and the Men but they may worship Me." (QS. Al-Dhariyat: 56).

Moreover, the result of the analysis, hopefully, can be used for comparative material of further studies, especially those that deal with the relationship between human kind and life or with Robert Frost's characteristics in writing his poems.

I.4. Method of the Research

This study is a library research. The writer collected and selected some Frost's poems and then chose the most representative one (according to the determination of the writer), especially which described the relationship between human kind and life.

Basically, the application of the method of the research has to be able to bring forward the intended description and the analyzed interpretation of the work. Due to how the writer analyzes the poem, the method being used here is analitic descriptive. This method is regarded as the most suitable one to describe the analyzed meaning of the work to achieve the final desired result.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK