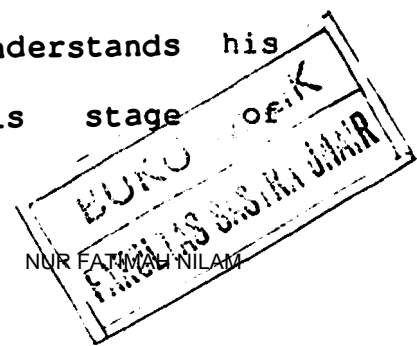


CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Autonomy is related to the fact that human is an individual creature with consciousness. Before achieving autonomy, there is an indispensable development of consciousness that human must go through. First, he is conscious of himself physically: he feels pain and hurt as well as pleasure and comfort on his body. Second, he is conscious of his environment, of another humans outside himself: he notices the effect that is caused by the existence of other humans being such as love, pain, joy of companionship, even loneliness. The third stage of consciousness development, is the most abstract dimension of consciousness in which human is conscious of his own meaning of existence among other individuals in the universe whether in the past or in the future: he thinks about his past and may feel guilt or satisfaction, or contemplates his future which fills him with anxiety or hope. At times in this stage, he wonders about life, its meaning, and its mystery. A person understands his authenticity when he comes to this stage.



consciousness. After a complex set of experience that he has gone through along his life, he realizes too, that he has his own meaning of life and has to make choices in order to gain it. Autonomy is achieved by this level of consciousness.

As options are open to an individual, he is challenged to make best decisions for himself by his use of reason. By this point, autonomy begins to take shape. An ideal autonomy can be achieved by exercising one's own critical and rational faculty within plural tradition, since it requires two conditions to be satisfied. In the first place, it requires that the person's beliefs be coherent and consistent; secondly, their coherence must be the outcome of a continuing process of critical adjustment within a system of beliefs in which it is possible to appraise one section by views drawn from another.

Stephen Dedalus needs to achieve his autonomy because he realizes his authenticity as an embryo artist. He searches his life direction through obedience and rebellion, conformity and contradictory to the values of his society what his soul longs for. His rationality and

consciousness selects for him, the value that conforms his authenticity as an artist. His autonomy is achieved as he decides to leave his country 'flying' like Daedalus in the Greek myth for his freedom. After all he has found the meaning of his life in the radiance of art, although there may be more experience that he will attain for another search.

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