

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In analyzing Booker T. Washington's struggle in elevating his dignity along with his race's through education, some theories and approaches are applied in order to support the analysis as well as to give objective and vivid analysis. The theories and approaches that are applied are expressive theory, intrinsic, psychological, and sociological approaches. All of these theories and approaches are explained further below:

A. Expressive Theory

Literature is the manifestation of a certain thought and feeling in writing. That is why the thought and feeling of the author are important and deeply involved in its creative process. The theory that describes about it is the expressive theory of art. M.H. Abrams in The Mirror and the Lamb states that an expressive theory is work of art that is essentially the internal made external, resulting from a creative process operating under the impulse of feeling, and embodying the combined product of the author's perceptions, thoughts, and feelings (22). Thus, the definitions of expressive theory above give vivid picture that literature is the expression of what the author has in mind including his feeling. All those can not be separated from literature especially in its creative process. They support the creative process to make good and valuable work of art.

From the explanation about the theory above, it is clear that it can support the analysis of the main character, who is also the author of the novel, especially his struggle to realize his ideals.

B. Intrinsic Approach

Wellek and Warren in Theory of English Literature say, "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 on this study should be directed toward the work itself" (Wellek and Warren 157)

Applying the intrinsic approach means a process of analysis and interpreting of a literary work should be based on the internal elements of the work itself. In the analysis of the main character's struggle, the elements that are used to support the analysis are plot, character, and setting.

B.1. Plot

In Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing, plot is a plan or groundwork of human motivations, with the actions resulting from believable and realistic human responses. In a well-plotted work, nothing is irrelevant, everything is related. In plot time is important not because one thing happens after another, but because one thing happens because of another (Roberts & Jacobs 98).

The most significant element of the plot is conflict. In conflict human responses are brought out to its higher degree. In its most elemental form, a conflict is the opposition of two people. They may fight, argue, enlist help against each other, and otherwise carry on their opposition. Conflicts may also exist between larger groups, although in imaginative literature, conflict between individuals are more identifiable and therefore more interesting. Instead of those above, conflict may also exist between an individual and larger forces, such as natural objects, ideas, modes of behavior, public opinion, and the like. In addition, conflict may occur not necessarily as direct opposition, but rather as contrasting ideas or values (Roberts & Jacobs

99). From the description above is clear that conflict is very important in a story. This importance is also stated below:

There maybe a collision between one character and another, between a character and some elements in the world about him-even the world of physical nature-or between impulses and values within him. No conflict, no story (Brooks, Burses, and Warren 11).

The story usually begins by explaining the situation at the start and by introducing the characters. Incidents are used to carry the action forward, to share the protagonist and antagonist in action. The conflict grows more and more intense until it reaches the point where something has to be done. The problem has to be settled and the conflict decided. The highest point of the struggle is called the climax. The action before it is called rising action while the action after it is called falling action (David 8). And at the end of the action above, there must be a resolution or conclusion that is the rounding-off the action (little 85).

The comprehension of the plot in Up From Slavery will help to analyze what are the main character's ideal, what obstacles he faces and how he overcomes them, what circumstances and influences that play important role in his decision to dedicate his life to the elevation his race's dignity and betterment of life and the last is what the outcomes of his struggles.

B.2. Character

Commonly character of fiction is divided into two categories: simple and complex characters. Other critics, in making essentially the same division, sometimes use different terms. One of the suggestive statements of distinction we have in mind is that E.M Foster, who,

in his Aspects of the Novel, divides the characters in fiction into “flat” and “round” character (Kenny 28).

In How to Analyze Fiction, the simple or flat character is “less the representation of a human personality than the embodiment of a single attitude or obsession in a character” (Kenny 28). Included among the simple characters are the entire familiar types, or stereotype, of fiction. The mark of the stereotyped character is that he can be summed up adequately in a formula; such as; the noble savage, the trusted old family retainer, and the poor but honest working girl are few familiar fictional types. But not all-simple characters are stereotypes like those referred to above. The essence of the stereotypes may be expressed in a formula that applies to a large number of fictional characters, drawn from a large number works of fiction. The second type of simple character is like the stereotype. He may be summed up in a formula but he differs from the stereotype in that his formula is his own (Kenney 29).

Another kind of character is a complex character or, called “round” character by foster because he can be seen from all sides of him. The complex character is obviously more lifelike than the simple because in life people are not simply embodiment of single attitude. The mark of the complex character is that he is capable of surprising us (Kenney 29).

Booker T. Washington, the main character of the novel, is the complex or round character. Through, the comprehension of his character hopefully will help the analysis of his struggle to elevate black’s dignity.

B.3. Setting

Everything that happens somewhere at some time. That element of fiction which reveals to us the where and when of events we call setting. In other words, the term “setting” refers to the point in time and space in which the events of the plot occur (Gill 38). In Mastering English

Literature, setting covers the place in which characters are presented, the social context of the characters, such as their families, friends and class, the customs, beliefs, and rules of behavior of their society, the scenes that are the background or the situation for the events of the novel, and the total atmosphere, mood or feeling that is created by these (Gill 106).

Just like the other fictions, Up From Slavery setting is very important. Through setting the social condition of him and black people and also the step of his struggles are described. That is why the comprehension of the setting above will help the analysis of the main character's social conditions particularly and Afro-American's condition generally that will lead him to the struggle to realize his ideals and dreams.

C. Psychological Approach: Maslow's Hierarchy Needs

Literature as psychological symptoms contains psychological phenomena that are presented through the characters. That is why in analyzing literary works, psychological approach can be used (Aminudin 93). The using of this approach in literature is accepted since there is indirect and functional relation between literature and psychology (Yatman 165 & Roekhan 144). Indirect relation is that literature and psychology has the same subject that is human psychology. A writer and a psychologist are ordinary human beings that can comprehend human psychology deeply. The result of this comprehension will be processed and then presented in literary works. There are two differences between literature and psychology. The first is that literature and psychology lay on the result of the comprehension. In literature the result will be processed and then will be presented in literary works while in psychology the result will be described in the formulation of psychological theories. The second is that in literature the psychological symptom is from imaginative characters while in psychology they are from the real characters. Besides the two differences above, psychology and literature have

the same functional relation. They are useful for the means to learn the psychological conditions of others (Aminudin 93).

From the explanation about the relation between psychology and literature above, I use psychological theory: Maslow's Hierarchy of Need to support the analysis since in Up from Slavery this psychological phenomenon is found.

Maslow stated that people have hierarchy of needs ranging from the most basic, physiological needs to higher, more humane, creative ones. Furthermore, he explained that it was necessary to satisfy needs lower on the hierarchy before the individual could begin satisfying the higher ones. The highest need, self-actualization, could be realized only after all the lower ones were satisfied (Zanden 132). Dealing with that human's needs above, Maslow argued that it could be broken into five basic categories of needs and it is called Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. They are (Roediger III, Rushiton, Capaldi, & Paris 222-223):

1. **Physiological needs:** This category consists of such basic survival need as food, air, water, sex, shelter, and sleep.
2. **Safety needs:** This category includes safety from danger, illness, economic, disaster, and the unexpected in general.
3. **Social or love needs:** This category includes affection belonging with people and having a place in a group.
4. **Esteem needs:** Esteem needs is divided into two types. The first is the need for self-esteem that consist of self-confident, achievement, knowledge, and independence. The second deals with one's reputation, such as the need for approval, prestige, and recognition of one's work. For instance: teachers and administrators want to feel that their labors are appreciated and respected by the students and community they serve.

5. **Self-actualization needs:** This category is at the highest level in Maslow's motivation hierarchy. It includes the need for self-fulfilment. Maslow states that this need is behind the drive to become everything one is capable of becoming. This need presses for continued self-development and a release of creative energies (Roediger III, Rushiton, Capaldi, & Paris 223). Whether a professor, a high school teacher, a co-operate manage, or a parent, the drive to be effective, creative, and happy in that role is a manifestation of self-actualization need.

In Up From Slavery, the main character experiences human needs above in his life and he struggles to satisfy them. While his struggle to elevate his dignity through education that will analyze in this thesis is his way to satisfy one of his higher needs instead of basic need. Thus, this psychological approach will really help the analysis of the main character's struggle above.

D. Sociological Approach

Sociological approach is from the assumption that literature is the reflection of life. Through literature, an author describes the problem of life in which he involves. Literature receives the influence from society as well as gives to the society. Even the society adjusts the value of literature in a certain period. Meanwhile, authors who are the member of society can not avoid the influence from the environment that raises as well as shapes him (Atar 73). The sociological phenomenon that influences the work of literature that is going to be analyzed is ascribed and achieved status which hold the main character and he tries to gain.

The casual conversation about status conveys connotation of influence, wealth, and fame. But according to sociologists, the term "status" refers to any of the full range of socially defined positions within a large group or society from the lowest to the highest position. There are two kind of status according to them, they are ascribed and achieved status (Schaefer 112).

Ascribed status is assigned to a person by society without regard for the individual's unique talents or characteristics. Commonly, this assignment takes place at birth, an individual's racial background, gender, and age. These characteristics are biological in origin but are significant mainly because of the social meanings that they have in human culture. It is hard for people to be able to change an ascribed status in some cases. There are some constraints that have to be adapted. The status holds for everybody although he can try to change the way that society views an ascribed status (Schaefer 112).

Unlike ascribed status, an achieved status is gained by an individual largely through her or his own effort. To gain the status, an individual must do something such as get education, learn a skill, establish a friendship or create an invention and hard work.

Between ascribed and achieved status, there is close relationship since ascribed status influence achieved status. Malcom X wrote in his autobiography that his position as a black man (ascribed status) was an obstacle to his dream of becoming a lawyer (achieved status). Until now ascribed status of sex, race, and ethnicity often have an important impact on one's potential to achieve a desired professional and social status (Schaefer 113).

What happened to Malcom X is experienced by most of black-American including Booker T. Washington, the author as well as the main character of Up from Slavery. As blacks, they face the same problem concerning with race problems. They often injustice and inhumanity treatment that have lasted since the system of bondage existed. These problems do not raise because they are from the second class of society but it is because they are blacks and having special characteristic. Their ascribed status often becomes the obstacles in their life especially when they struggle to achieve equality, right, and achieved status that give them more appropriate place in their society either black or white.

Living in freedom does not give them genuine freedom and equality that then bring them to betterment of life and the achievement of their achieved status, so that is why they keep to struggle wherever they are, whenever and whatever period they lived. The awareness and the understanding of how important is human right and equality in all aspects become stronger and stronger and keep to drive them to the struggles.

From the description above, it is clear that the approach will help the analysis of the main character's social condition as an Afro-American that will encounter many obstacles in his struggle to realize his ideals and also for the achievement.