

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

The earth as a place to live for all living things, in the 20th century, is in a phase where environmental issues are the main focus to be resolved. This is inseparable from our desire as human beings so that the survival of future generations is maintained. According to CNN Indonesia, the age factor of the Earth that is old 4.5 billion years and also the natural resources that are decreasing every year are reasons why these environmental problems are important to note (2019).

There are several examples environmental issues that are often a topic of discussion such as; pollution (air, land, water), population, climate change, global warming, deforestation, careless waste disposal, and depletion of the ozone layer. In addition, the case regarding plastic waste found in the ocean has also been highlighted. In a statement quoted from the World Economic Forum, it was explained that in 2016 there were more than 150 million tons of plastic in the world's oceans and 8 million tons flowing into the sea every year. This can lead to water pollution and damage to sea creatures on a large scale. (Damarjati, 2018)

Matters relating to environmental issues have been discussed and often become the subject of public discussion. Countries around the world have also discussed this. Countless world organizations have made it clear that

saving the environment is a top priority. In the G20 Conference at Osaka in 2019, one of the important issues discussed was environmental problem. This can be the proof that the environmental problem is so important to solve because it has a very large impact on every element in society. (2019)

There are also some of international organizations that are engaged in the empowerment and preservation of the environment such as WWF (World Wildlife Fund / World Wide Fund for Nature). Founded in 1961 and based in Switzerland, the organization has grown rapidly and has many branches in other countries and is one of the largest organizations in the world that is very concerned about the environment and its sustainability.

In Indonesia, the WWF organization started their activities in 1962 and was officially inaugurated as an official legal entity in accordance with the regulations in Indonesia in 1996. WWF Indonesia itself has a National Secretariat office in Jakarta, and to date has 25 branch offices scattered throughout Indonesia. The beginning of their campaign was to conduct research in Ujung Kulon to save the population of the nearly extinct Javan rhinoceros in 1962. (1)

In effort to solve environmental issues, there were several activists that involved. Not only men, but women activists also participated. Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Nadine Chandrawinata, Tasya Kamila, Joe Taslim are the examples of influential activists who also have a role in maintaining and preserving nature. They usually conduct campaigns and invite all elements of society in the world to be involved and play a role and care for

and preserve the nature around them, and provide education and information on what will happen if humans do not take care of and nurture nature. It is indeed not an easy task and responsibility for them to do. They usually deal with conducting delivery or approaches that are tailored to the characteristics of the area or the characteristics of the people who live in the place they are going to go.

Speaking of environmental activists, there is an environmental movement whose aim is to restore the balance of the earth. This movement was later known as ecofeminism. In Northern India in 1973, women took part in the Chipko movement to protect forests from deforestation. Nonviolent protest tactics are used to occupy trees so that loggers cannot cut them down. (Petruzzello, 2015)

In Kenya in 1977, the Green Belt Movement was initiated by Professor Wangari Maathai, an environmental and political activist, and is currently underway. This is a rural tree planting program led by women. This movement was designed by Maathai to help prevent desertification in the area. This program creates a 'green belt' of at least 1,000 trees around the village, and gives participants the ability to take responsibility in their communities. In the following years, the Green Belt Movement was an advocacy to inform and empower citizens through seminars, for civic education and the environment, and to hold national leaders accountable for their actions and instill agents in citizens. (2)

In 1978 in New York, environmentalist mother and observer Lois Gibbs led her community, 'Love Canal' in protest after learning that their entire neighborhood was built on a poison dump. Toxins in the soil cause diseases in children and reproductive problems among women, as well as birth defects in babies born to pregnant women who are exposed to poisons. The Love Canal movement eventually led to the evacuation and relocation of nearly eight hundreds families by the federal government. (3)

In Indonesia, there is Aleta Baun who frees Mollo, NTT, from mining. Aleta and Mollo indigenous people fought for more than 13 years to close the marble mine. They believe in the natural parts of the human body. "We believe Fatu, nasi, noel, afu masan a'tatif neu monit mansion. Stone as bone, soil as meat, water as blood and forest as skin, lungs and hair." (Dian, 2017)

According to her, destroying nature is like damaging the body itself. Forests have the function of protecting land and protecting water sources. Like skin and hair that protect meat and blood. If the forest is damaged, the land will be infertile. Stone mountains also store water, underneath there is always a water source.

Mollo residents are uniting to drive mining companies, said Aleta, because they do not want to lose Mollo's identity. "We know fautkanaf, haukanaf and oekanaf or name stones, wood names and water names. Our customs will disappear when the rock was destroyed; the forest and water sources are damaged. "

Now, the communities around Mollo form groups of women weavers and organic agriculture, as well as livestock groups. They green the area around the water source with native plants, build food barns and multiply natural dyes for weaving. Even though the mining company was successfully expelled, their struggle was not over. (Dian, 2017)

Within a few decades after R.A. Kartini succeeded in fighting for gender equality between women and men in Indonesia, a number of prominent women figures emerged, both in action and in government positions. This was previously rare because usually it was dominated by men. But in the past few years, we can see the opposite. The examples of women as dominating figures are Susi Pudjiastuti and Tri Rismaharini. These two people besides having important positions in the government, they are also people who are very concerned about the environment and the preservation of nature.

In Republic of Indonesia, Susi Pudjiastuti is Indonesia's Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries under President Joko Widodo's 2014-2019 Working Cabinet. She is also an entrepreneur in fishery and air plane transportation. During her tenure, she carried out many policies which sought to maintain natural resources from the sea sector. She also advised every fisherman in Indonesia to carry out fishing according to the standards and regulations set by the government, and would take firm action if there were fishermen who tried or committed violations. The real evidence of the decisive action taken by Minister Susi is the sinking or extermination of illegal vessels and also foreign vessels trying to enter Indonesian waters to carry out fishing.

From 2014 to June 2019, there were a total of around 516 ships that had been destroyed or sunk. (Tri, 2019)

In her several years as the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Minister Susi made a number of achievements and also received an award for her performance. Some of the prestigious awards she received include: She was one of 100 figures of the world's best thinkers by the Foreign Policy Magazine, chosen as "Creative & Innovative Person of the Year" in the Indonesia Choice Awards 5.0, which was broadcast live on Net TV on April 29 2018, then the Peter Benchley Ocean Awards for the leadership category in May 2017. This award is the world's highest maritime award. She got it from the vision and policy of economic development and marine conservation in Indonesia. Susi Pudjiastuti was also named the British public broadcasting company, BBC, as one of the 100 women who inspired in September 2017. (Cahyani, 2019)

The last one was the award from WWF on September 16, 2016. One of the largest organizations in the world awarded her the "Leaders for a Living Planet Award" for her achievements as one of the individuals in the world who contributed significantly to nature conservation and sustainable development.

The other figure of the woman who cares about the environment is Tri Rismaharini. She was one of the officials in the Surabaya city government and was elected as Mayor of Surabaya for two consecutive periods due to her performance and achievements in building the city of Surabaya. Since her

leadership from 2010 until now, many people in Surabaya can see so many urban parks being built, roads in urban areas that are clean, and also plants such as flowers and trees that are easy to find in every corner of the city.

In her nine years working as Mayor of Surabaya, she received several awards ranging from domestic to overseas. The following are some of the awards received by her: On October 1, 2018, at the World Habitat Day event at the UN Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, She received the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor award from one of the UN agencies, UN-Habitat. The award was given because of her policy in solid waste management and also successfully encouraged people to reduce and recycle household waste. (2019)

In addition, a few years before, specifically in 2013 the Bungkul Park in Surabaya was awarded as the best park in Asia, given by the United Nations to her in Japan. (Riski, 2013)

In the same year, she was also nominated for the top ten for the most inspirational female category by Forbes magazine, and in 2014 was ranked third in the list of World's Best Mayor by "World Mayor", a study institution in the field of urban development studies based in London, England. (Budi, 2019)

From the two female figures, we can see that they are very dominant and prominent compared to men in general and prove that in this world there are figures of great women who can change the environment of their society to be better and healthier.

The feminist movement that promotes equality in saving the environment is called Ecofeminism, a movement that seeks to create and preserve nature and the environment based on femininity / women. Women are considered to play a strategic role in an effort to prevent or at least create a comfortable and beautiful natural environment.

The Ecofeminism movement first emerged from a feminist figure named Francoise d'Eaubonne in 1974 through his book "Le Feminisme ou Lamort". Through the book, Francoise tries to arouse, suggest and tap the feminist conscience to pay more attention to his nature, which shows a prolonged crisis, does not find or get the best solution method.

The Ecofeminism movement departs from an assumption that exploitation and hegemonic-expansiveness over nature are parallel to cases that occur in women. Women experienced subordination in the structure of their lives, social, economic, cultural, and political, which was broken down by a movement that placed women as the main actors.

Looking at natural phenomena that occur, ecofeminism will and has offered a holistic, pluralist and inclusive perspective that emphasizes the existence of a balanced relationship (equilibrium) between men and women. They are both obliged to care for, maintain and preserve the environment without any tendency to damage and exploit nature and its ecology.

Moreover, the ecofeminism movement will try to make the community in the frame that women also have the ability to maintain and care for the preservation of the environment, the planet and its earth. According to



Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies, Ecofeminism see social, cultural and structural problems, in the form of very strong domination in relations between groups of people and relations with nature-environment which can lead to a lot of suffering for humans themselves, whether in the form of war or destruction of their environment. (Vandana Shiva and Maria, 2005)

In a 1993 essay entitled "Ecofeminism: Toward Global Justice and Planetary Health" written by Greta Gaard and Lori Gruen, it describes what they call the "ecophysical framework". This essay provides a wealth of data and statistics, in addition to describing the theoretical aspects of ecophysical criticism. The framework described was intended to develop a way of seeing and understanding the current global situation. So that the readers can understand better and also get to the point, then what can be done to improve the visible pathologies.

Gaard and Gruen argue that there are four sides to the framework for forming Eco-feminism, namely: The mechanical materialism of the universe resulting from the scientific revolution and the subsequent reduction of all things into mere resources to be optimized. The emergence of patriarchal religions and their stand on the gender hierarchy together with their rejection of immanent divinity. Self and dualism, and the inherent strength and ethics of domination that they have. Capitalism with its intrinsic need for exploitation, destruction, and instrumentation of animals, earth, and humans is only for the purpose of creating wealth. They argue that these four factors have led us to

what ecologists see as a "separation between nature and culture" which is the main source of disease for our planet.

In *Ecofeminism* (1993) written by the authors Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies reflecting on modern science, its acceptance as a universal and value-free system. Instead, they view the dominant flow of modern science as a projection of Western male values. The privilege of determining what is considered scientific knowledge has been controlled by men, and much of history is limited to men.

There are many previous studies which are connected to Ecofeminism. Here are the examples; first, is "*The Contribution of Ecofeminism Philosophy in Environmental Management Research*" by Hamidi Ismail, Muhammad Subhan & Tuan Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain (2016). It states that ecofeminism and philosophy of knowledge in environmental care is certainly one of the efforts made by women for decades. The aim is to change people's mindset to see that women should fight for the preservation of the environment alongside men. The second is "*Pemerian Alam Sebagai Simbol Femininitas dalam Novel Hana wo Hakobu Imouto*" by Wawat Rahwati (2018). This study attempts to understand about the interconnection between nature and women in one of Japanese literary work named *Hana wo Hakobu Imouto* written by Natsuki Ikezawa. The third is "*Gerakan Sosial Perempuan Ekofeminisme di Pegunungan Kendeng Provinsi Jawa Tengah Melawan Pembangunan Tambang Semen*" by Annisa Innal Fitri & Idil Akbar (2017). This study aims to see a women's social movement that can play a strategic role to strengthen

community resistance movements, as agents to fight for democratic rights, justice and the liberation of the people. The fourth is “*Patriarchal Viewpoint on Women and Nature: An Ecofeminist Reading on Dan Brown’s Inferno*” by Atyaka Laksmitarukmi (2017). It scrutinizes Dan Brown’s *Inferno* (2013) as the primary source of the study because the raised topic in the novel is relevant to the current situation of the equal position between women and nature as the feminine in patriarchal viewpoints as well as how the masculine treats the feminine. The fifth is “*Eco-feminism: Role of Women in Environmental Governance and Management*” by Ranjeeta Mukherjee (2013). This study aims to explain women as consumers and producers, caretakers of their families and educators, women play an important role in promoting sustainable development through their concern for the quality and sustainability of life for present and future generations. Also, women have unique value as well as role in environmental governance. Based on those five previous studies, this research is interesting to analyze.

Ecofeminism is an interesting topic to be discussed in a number of media, one of which is through movie. Movie as one of the mass media that attracts the audience interest in consuming information was different from other media. While newspapers provide information visually through writing and images and the radio provides information in audio through sound, then the film is present by combining both. The message conveyed in the film to audiences is portrayed in an audio-visual and accompanied by motion.

One of the movies that have moral message and also educate the audience is Moana Movie. The movie was produced by Disney and released in Indonesia on November 25, 2016, which deals with the issue about environment and woman.

For the last decades, the environment condition has been getting worse and worse and this condition will become a threat for people on Earth. A lot of environmental issues such as the vandalism of biodiversity, degrading the ozone layer, toxins, dying ocean and changing climate make human should think and be aware of the natural condition (Olson online). The degrading ozone layer and changing climate are a couple of threats that human beings feel right now. The environmental problems such as climate change and global warming are very familiar now. Those are the effects of unawareness of human with their environment and make disaster happen. The impact of global warming and climate change has been felt by human from the past several years in their surroundings. The data from Environmental Change and Security Program (ECSP), the literature on climate change and security focuses on two interrelated processes of environmental problem. First, increasing temperatures, precipitation anomalies, and extreme weather which are expected to aggravate the ongoing degradation of environmental resources. Second, the warn of rising sea levels, as well as more extreme weather conditions, will force millions of people to migrate. (Urdal 2007). Obviously, climate change will bring about more damage and more abrupt forms of environmental change than we have experienced in the past.

Gender is a cultural concept that seeks to make distinctions in terms of the roles, behaviors, mentality, and emotional characteristics between men and women developing in society. Referring to Mansour Faqih's opinion, Gender is an attribute of both socially and culturally and socially constructed men and women. For example, that woman is gentle, beautiful, emotional, and so forth. While men are considered strong, rational, manly, mighty, and can not cry. Characteristics and properties are themselves interchangeable traits. Changes in these traits can occur from time to time and from place to place, as well as those changes can occur from class to different classes of society. A more concrete and operational understanding of gender is proposed by Nasarudin Umar who believes that gender is a cultural concept used to identify differences in roles, behaviors and others between men and women developing in societies based on social engineering.

One of many motion pictures that highlight the issue of gender is called Moana. In Moana Movie, it brings gender issue where Moana is a woman who substitutes the position of man which has more power to take care of nature.

Moana movie was directed by Ron Clements and John Musker. Both directors, before directing Moana (2016), also directed the two of best and very popular movies at the time named: The Little Mermaid (1989) and Aladdin (1992). It shows that Moana movie has a good quality and recommended to watch. For the story, it begins with the girl named Moana. She is a good girl and also cares, nurtures, and maintains the environmental conditions around her. In addition she is also the daughter of a tribe chief and

will replace her father when she is ready. The story begins when a man named Maui picks up a “TeFiti” stone and causes a big disaster. “TeFiti” stone is a sacred stone and will lead to the destruction of nature and surroundings if there is someone who takes it from its place. The disaster eventually reached the area where Moana and her people lived. To prevent the catastrophe, Moana eventually made a very risky journey for the safety of her people. She gets a message from his grandmother that only she who can restore the natural and make it as usual or normal.

During her way, Moana sometimes finds many obstacles and also problems that she has to face on her own. However, thanks to the perseverance, patience, and unyielding attitude that Moana has, the journey ends with well also the natural conditions back again as usual and her people can live with healthily and prosperously.

From the brief portrayal of the film Moana above, the audience is able to see within the film that Moana sends out a clear ecofeminist message where we see a clear relationship between woman and nature. In Moana, the foremost dazzling comparison made approximately woman to nature is Te Fiti, the mother island, depicted as a sustaining, divine, nature-Goddess. At that point, Moana being the legitimate courageous woman proposes that the as it were way nature can be reestablished is through the control of woman.

This Moana's movie is interesting to be discussed because in this movie there are elements of Ecofeminism and symbols that symbolize empowerment and domination. The writer chose the Ecofeminism theory to understand the

ecological crisis found in the film *Moana* because Ecofeminism offers a holistic, pluralistic, and inclusive perspective and behavior that allows men and women to build equal relationships to prevent violence, oppose war and protect the environments where they live. Besides, the audience can see the female figure in this film has the equality with the male figure. With these reasons, the ecofeminism theory by Greta Gaard (1993) will be used to analyze the object of research because the theory was related to the problems that will be discussed in the next chapter.

The qualitative method will be used with the main focus of analyzing several scenes in the film along with text analysis. It will also be discussed in the third chapter for the detail.

## **1.2 Research Question**

According to the background of the study above which is telling about the description of the relation between woman and nature in the *Moana* movie, the writer wants to analyze :

1. How is ecofeminism represented in *Moana*?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Based on that question and the statement above, the research will focus on the purpose of the study which is to describe Ecofeminism in *Moana* Movie (2016).

#### 1.4 Significance of the Study

After reading this thesis, readers are expected to be able to learn and understand each message, meaning, and purpose of the film they have watched. In addition, improve their information and knowledge, sharpen analytical skills, and also provide new inspiration. This research is also expected to raise awareness for all people to care for and preserve the nature around them. This research is also presented to students of state and private universities who will carry out further analysis of ecofeminism.

Besides, the study can enrich the knowledge and the world of research on Ecofeminism and literary studies in general because the discussion about the dominance of woman, the close relation between woman and nature, as woman in here acts as the guardian for the nature are relating to Ecofeminism. The study also could fill the gap of research between the previous studies and this study.

#### 1.5 Definition of the Key Terms

*Ecofeminism:* An interdisciplinary movement which represents the synthesis of the radical movement in ecology and feminism. It is a movement that calls for a new way of thinking about nature, politics, and spirituality. (Mukherjee 2013)

*Woman:* A category that opposed to a man in social value and moral worth, would have considerable difficulty in maintaining distance from the people



she interact with, always care for children, and the lives was marked by neither privacy nor distance. (Rosaldo et al, 1974)

*Nature:* Nature is a contested term that means different things to different people in different places. Generally, this contestation revolves around three main meanings: the 'nature' or essence of a thing; 'nature' as material place external to humanity; and 'nature' as universal law or reality that may or may not include humans. (Demeritt 2009)

*Leader:* The leader is a group member who has the most influence on the group's activities and who plays an important role in formulating or achieving group goals. A leader is a channel for thoughts, actions and activities that are influential and carry out the work. (Kartono, 2003: 27)