CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the research background, problem identification, scope of the study, research questions, purpose of the study, definition of key terms, and significance of the study.

1.1 Research Background

Life has a close relationship with the relationship between humans and the environment, humans and other humans, and humans and God. This close relationship will create a life of balance and harmony. Bourke and Geldens (2007) say that although they are occasionally used synonymously, balance is frequently seen as a part of the more general concept of harmony. For instance, Kjell et al. (2016) state that harmony in the Life Scale defines harmony as necessitating balance and flexibility (in harmonizing many areas of life). This approach is also applied in this instance, where balance primarily serves to convey the nature of the connection between two dialectically related events. At the same time, harmony denotes the dynamic coordination of various "balancing actions." Therefore, we, as God's most perfect creatures, should have knowledge and behavior that is balanced and in harmony to prosper the lives of fellow human beings. It can be done in daily activities, starting from the most miniature 'family' environment and then gradually implemented in the broader community.

On the other hand, harmony means the same. According to Magnis-Suseno (1984), as cited in Atmadja (2019), harmony has a meaning where human life does

not have conflict. Even if there is a conflict, conflict is a sure thing to happen in society because, in society, there are several people who have different desires or interests; moreover, conflicts will occur, and open conflicts should be avoided. Conflicts must be managed wisely, including deliberation and consensus, introspection, or using a power approach – leaders can manage conflict appropriately to maintain harmony. All societal conflicts must be resolved in a familial and careful manner because humans have different sensitivity levels. In addition, self-introspection is an essential part of resolving topics where if we introspect ourselves, we will accept the consequences and be more aware of taking action. These methods are applied simultaneously to create social harmony as a capital for sustainable peace. Therefore, harmony can make life peaceful and prosperous.

Harmony is the primary goal of THK (*Tri Hita Karana*), where the concept of THK is one piece of Balinese culture that encourages people to understand the three sources of happiness is the *Tri Hita Karana* notion (Atmadja, 2019). Laksmi et al. (2021) state that a healthy relationship can encourage the release of the hormone of happiness, which will optimally activate the body's defensive mechanism and boost the body's resistance to many diseases. Divayana et al. (2020) state that three factors contribute to happiness: *Parahyangan* (a positive relationship with God), *Pawongan* (a positive relationship with others), and *Palemahan* (a good relationship with nature and the environment). To achieve a balance of these three things, *Tri Hita Karana* is very appropriate to be implemented. Gunawan (2011) says *Tri Hita Karana* is briefly formulated as three things that can cause humans to achieve prosperity, happiness, and peace. Hence,

to achieve this happiness, everything must be seen as a system consisting of three elements, namely soul, energy, and a container, that must exist in a dynamic balance with one another (Kaler, 1983: 86 as cited in Gunawan, 2011). Universally, nature is also seen as a system that involves God as the soul, humans as actors, and the environment as a vessel. Thus, the teachings of *Tri Hita Karana* (THK) suggest that humans should always balance themselves with God, other people, and the environment.

The harmonious relationship between humans and God is based on the concept of 'the ruled' or man and the universe and 'the ruler' or God (Atmadja, 2019). This relationship gave birth to an understanding that God is the origin and goal of human life because God is the one who created it, and God will also give life to humans. This understanding gave birth to various religious views, including (1) Believing that God is the source, regulator, and fuser of everything in this universe and to Him all creatures will go; (2) belief that God is absolute, not limited by the dimensions of space and time; (3) believe that natural laws govern the universe with the blessing of the Lord of the universe (God); (5) believe that one's position as a creature is controlled by God through an attitude of devotion (Gunawan, 2011).

A harmonious relationship between humans and nature is developed from the parable like a fetus in a womb. In this case, the human being is the fetus, and the environment is the womb. If humans destroy the environment, they will be the first to be destroyed. Gunawan (2011) says his view is further elaborated in the form of actions and views as follows: (1) Believing that humans are part of nature in the universal system; (2) believes that the happiness of life is determined by the ability

to adapt and take advantage of the laws of nature; (3) believes that the preservation of nature is a prerequisite for obtaining peace and happiness in life; (4) believes that time is a limiting factor for all activities and values that are tentative and conditional; (5) believe in the existence of supernatural beings and nature as well as efforts to harmonize themselves with these supernatural powers. The *Tri Hita Karana* is more than a theory; it is already an attempt to practically apply universal Hindu principles in the modern world. It is notably geared toward businesses, specifically hotels, which expanded quickly in Bali (Pickel-Chevalier & Ketut, 2016).

Literature can be enjoyed by all people (Gill, 1995). According to Hunt (1994), children's literature is a type of reading made to be read by children. Children's literature is often called a "Tale," known for its simplicity and universality but contains essential cultural and ideological elements (Leonardi, 2020). It is not easy to refer to the original story as there have been many versions, each justified by a specific historical era and cultural context. Leonardi (2020) states that children's stories and fairy tales have been translated, rewritten, and changed for various reasons, including to meet their target audiences' social, historical, and ideological needs. Under the general title "children's literature" are picture books, nursery rhymes, lullabies, story books, poetry, puzzles, fairy tales, and folk tales all under.

The novel is literary fiction in the form of writing that makes its readers imagine the story contained therein (Gill, 1995). According to Yasin (2022), the novel piques readers' interest because it leaves a lasting impact through compelling storylines and plots. On the other hand, a novel is one of the many literary creations

that make up prose fiction. The novel presents a variety of topics regarding people and humanity as prose fiction (Hanisa, 2016). Moreover, Yuliani et al. (2013) state that the novel is a writing that distinguishes the human situation from the search for the meaning of life. Because it portrays human activities and the environment, the novel conveys certain aspects of humanity's love, life, and existence. Based on the statements, it can be defined that a novel is a part of literature that has an interesting plot and storyline based on the narrator's imagination of human life. People can enjoy themselves while learning a lot about human characters by reading novels. However, according to Callista and Simanjuntak (2022), a novel should have benefits that readers can learn, not just an exciting story without a moral message. Nowadays, novels are not only used as a means of spreading messages but also as a way for characters to express themselves. Novels based on the real-life experiences of the characters or their authors aim to inspire readers and teach them valuable lessons. Lastly, inspiration comes from a character or author, not only the author's message to the reader.

A novel can be examined from various points of view, such as its subject to moral, social, and theological analysis (Suryaningrum et al., 2015). Character and morals are closely related because morals are reflected in character. Aspects of the novel include characters, and morality is one of the four degrees of characterization. The four levels are physical, social, psychological, and moral (Suryaningrum et al., 2015). We can observe a straightforward character description because of this level. Moral principles serve as the basis for education by instilling virtues such as integrity, dependability, responsibility, harmony, and many others (Suryaningrum et al., 2015).

Novel and human behavior have a correlation that is related to each other (Abrams, 1999). Novels refer to literary works made by humans where the author makes them with imagination that comes from human nature and behavior (Abrams, 1999). Meanwhile, *Tri Hita Karana* refers to human nature and behavior in everyday life, such as relationships with others, God, and the environment (Atmadja, 2019). In the novel by Roald Dahl, there are several stories related to the proper implementation of *Tri Hita Karana* and deviant behavior from the teachings of THK. In this study, the researcher uses the *Tri Hita Karana* theory to analyze the behavior related to THK from the character in Roald Dahl's novel, *Fantastic Mr. Fox* which tells the story of 3 farmers who have bad behavior and continue to target the family of Foxes. Furthermore, these three novels were chosen in this study because, according to the researcher, these novels can bring some suitable life lessons. This novel focuses on the relationships in the theory of *Tri Hita Karana* and how the characters in the novel can change themselves for the better or get results according to what they have done.

1.2   Problem Identification

Tri Hita Karana is a local value owned by the Balinese people and is used as a life guide for the Balinese people (Laksmi et al., 2021). This local value is something that is rarely known globally or internationally. On the other hand, when EFL students study literature, especially novels, they will think globally because literature is universal, while *Tri Hita Karana* is a local value for Balinese people. However, we can also find the *Tri Hita Karana* values contained therein when studying literature. We must not forget the root of our life, *Tri Hita Karana*, a life

guide to achieve harmony. A balanced life will be created if we have a good relationship with God, other humans, and the environment. Therefore, if *Tri Hita Karana* is introduced globally, these local values will become international so everyone can know good and evil. Therefore, this research will link local values and literature, which are said to be global, to be interrelated. In Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, several things are related to the *Tri Hita Karana* values, which will determine good and bad behavior in the international arena. So that anyone who studies literature also gets value from the literature.

1.3   Scope of the Study

The scope of this research is the description of the characterization of Mr. Fox in the novel *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. This study describes the characters of the main character in the novel and describes the behavior of *Tri Hita Karana* values in the novel. Therefore, this study focused on the characters of Mr. Fox and described *Tri Hita Karana* values portrayed in Mr. Fox's characters.

1.4   Research Questions

The research question is formulated by relating to the research background as follows:

1. What are the characters of Mr. Fox in Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*?

2. What are *Tri Hita Karana*'s values reflected through Mr. Fox's characters in Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*?

1.5   Purpose of Study

Based on the research problems above, the purposes of this study are :

1. To describe the characters of Mr. Fox in Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox.*

2. To describe the behavior of characters presented on Mr. Fox in Roald Dahl's Fantastic Mr. Fox that belongs to the *Tri Hita Karana*.

1.6   Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding and ambiguity, the definition of key terms is intended to provide the definition and purpose of the analysis.

1.6.1   *Tri Hita Karana*

According to Atmadja (2019), *Tri Hita Karana* is three concepts of harmonious relationships; if these three concepts are implemented, a harmonious life will be created. They are *Parahyangan*, a harmonious relationship between humans and God; *Pawongan*, a harmonious relationship between humans and humans; and *Palemahan*, a harmonious relationship between humans and God to achieve happiness and prosperity.

1.6.2   Character in Narrative

According to Gill (1995), a character is a figure described by the author with a personality that can be displayed in conversation, acting, and thinking.

1.6.3 Characterization

According to Gill (1995), characterization means how to create a character, whereas the method of characterization in the study of literary works is a method of describing the character of the characters in a work of fiction.

1.6.4 Character Revelation

According to Meredith & Fitzgerald (1993), character revelation is character disclosure that can be done by characters and readers in various ways to reveal the true character.

1.6.5 Character as Traits

According to Meredith & Fitzgerald (1993), the characterization of the novel is determined by the character's traits, where several traits are used to describe the character.

1.7 Significances of the Study

This study has two significances: theoretical significance and practical significance.

1.7.1 Theoretical Significances

This research is expected to influence literature as a source of learning positively. Teachers can use novels as Literature learning media for students because providing literary learning to students can add to their social and cultural insights (Van, 2009). In addition, in this study, *Tri Hita Karana*'s behavior is helpful

as a reference for social life. This research is also expected to help further research on the same topic.

1.7.2   Practical Significances

The practical significance of this study is for teachers, EFL students, society, and future research.

1.7.2.1 For Teacher

This research is expected to be a reference for teachers in teaching novels. In addition, this research is expected to be a reference for teachers to introduce *Tri Hita Karana* through novels, which are then presented to their students. Teaching using novels can create practical classes with interactive narrative learning (Camingue et al., 2020).

1.7.2.2 For EFL Students

This research is expected to contribute to student learning, especially language learning for EFL students. This research can increase students' understanding of novels and can also make students improve their skills and think more critically (Ansari et al., 2015).

1.7.2.3 For the Society

This research is expected to provide good benefits for society in social life. *Tri Hita Karana* can be used as a guide in social life to achieve happiness and harmony (Atmadja, 2019).

1.7.2.4 For Future Research

Other researchers who desire to study novel analysis might use this research as a starting point and resource. Additionally, this research will impart a fundamental understanding of innovative analysis. The research is available for other researchers to read and comprehend to learn about novel analysis.