

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher highlights the background of the study, scope and limitation of the study, statements of the problem, purposes of the study, significances of the study, and definition of key terms.

### **A. Background of the Study**

Diaspora is an antique word with new definitions. The word diaspora first appeared in the third century BC which refers to the movement of the population from its original homeland. Diaspora is defined as the movement of a large group of people from their ancestral homeland or home country to other countries in the world (Cohen,1997). The experiences of diasporic people are not easy because in their movement, they face many difficulties. They are not only facing the problems from themselves but also face problems from their new environment. Before they can go away from their homeland, they pass the condition which cannot let them move easily. Thus, they should keep their motivations stronger. After they are successful in moving in the new places, they should face a difficult condition in living in new places (Cohen, 2008, p.1-19)

The first problem is living in different culture. The second problem is the attitude changing. People who is moving and living in the new place and new environment which has a different culture with their former place may have a new mindset. The third point is identity crisis. The identities of diasporic people in each individual can be different. They will feel confused because they are in two different cultures. They are hard to decide what culture they have to put on, that makes them difficult in identifying who they are or which identity they are. They may choose to set their identity to homeland which they want to return or to the host country where they settle down in. They face the crisis of identity which makes their existence more difficult (Safran, 1991, p.83-99)

The problem of identity is also caused by colonialism. Colonialism makes some results such as they create system of fear to colony countries. From the result, they are oppressed or colonized fell

incapable defended them, because the mentality of inferior class gives a fact that they cannot fight the superior of European or Western country. What colonized can do is making a resistance for them, one of the resistances is imitating. Colonized imitates the colonial actions, but they never really become them. That is the problem which caused by colonialism in long term. The researcher uses the postcolonialism point of view to see diasporic characters. Postcolonial studies are literary criticism approach to colonialism track record (Setiawan, 2018, p.19-42)

Those problems also can be found in nowadays society and it is represented in novel *The Year of the Runaways* (2015). The novel is about the story of three man, they are Avtar, Randeep, Tarlochan(known as Tochi) and one Indian-Britain girl, Narinder. They live in India with different problems and decide to leave their homeland and move to England. For examples Tochi, he pushed hard by his poor and uncertain circumstances respectively, reach England for a better future. The setting of the novel itself is in the England where the existence of Western people are superior.

The researcher analyzed novel *The Year of the Runaways* (2015) because this novel offers an understanding of the theme of post colonialism in narrative telling, under the relationship between characters and the global movement of modernity. This novel was nominated for the 2015 Man Booker Prize and awarded with a European Union Prize for Literature in 2017(Wikipedia). The researcher is interested in analyzing diaspora because there are many factors which cause the movement of people from their homeland to another country. When people move to another country, they will find themselves in a new environment and culture, and then adjust themselves with the new environment easily until they experienced a changing which makes them more confidence in new environment as it is represented in *The Year of the Runaways* novel

## **B. Scope and limitation of the Study**

The scope that the researcher conducted on Postcolonial cultural studies on *The Year of the Runaways* novel (2015) and the researcher's limit of the study is highlighting the diasporic body of main character in that novel. Diasporic in this context refers to the change

of appearance, behavior, identity and those impacts by using Homi K. Bhaba theory on postcolonial critic (1994)

### **C. Statements of the Problem**

Based on the background above, the problems can be specified as below:

1. How are diasporic body toward Tarlochan narrated in Sunjeev Sahota's The Year of the Runaways?
2. What are the impacts of being diasporic on Tarlochan as it is represented in Sunjeev Sahota's The Year of the Runaways?

### **D. Purposes of the Study**

According to the problems that have been exposed above, the purposes of the study are:

1. To describe the diasporic body toward Tarlochan narrated in Sunjeev Sahota's The Year of the Runaways;
2. To explain the impacts of being diasporic on Tarlochan as it is represented in Sunjeev Sahota's The Year of the Runaways in which how other characters give responses toward Tarlochan identity crisis

### **E. Significances of the Study**

Reflected to the purpose of the study, the significances of study can be written as below:

1. For teachers  
Hopefully this research may be useful for teaching about colonialism, and give students foundations to keep their culture and identity
2. For Education  
Hopefully this research can be the references to give understanding of post-colonial to students
3. For readers  
Hopefully, this research can discover the understanding about diaspora and cultural points such as identity, nationalism, and locality

**F. Definitions of the Key Terms**

This part is an important part to help the reader understand this study.

So, these key terms of the used theory are useful to understand the context and the problems of this study. The key terms can be seen as below:

1. Diaspora: Diaspora has various meaning, but in this context, it refers to the movement of a group of people from their country to other countries in the world.
2. Postcolonial Analysis: Postcolonial analysis concerns about the relation between the colonizers and colonized which evokes the term of hybridity, mimicry and ambivalence.