

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Research

Do you have any idea who the Mona Lisa is? Who have not heard of the Mona Lisa? Many people are familiar with it thanks to Leonardo da Vinci's paintings. However, behind the Mona Lisa painting's meaning, it obviously represents the philosophy of humanism by focusing on humanity and realism. It also depicts nature, as seen in the painting's background with the figure. The Mona Lisa was created during the Italian Renaissance, when Humanism was the dominant ideology. This portrait of a woman, painted between 1503 and 1506 in Italy, is a perfect representation of the time period.

There is plenty of knowledge acquired from history, which could not be avoided or ignored. The period of revival from the dark ages, also known as the Renaissance period, is a historical event that seems to teach us a lot, including a connection and a transition from medieval to modern times. Humanism was one of many Renaissance movements that awakened the intellectuals of the people.

In the Renaissance period humanism emerged, apart from liberalism and rationalism. Humanism itself can be called a doctrine, which not only upholds human values and dignity, but also fosters a better humanism understanding. It is an antihumanism in which we as men must subject ourselves to the above church dogmatic teaching, named God in all his commandments, that the birth

of Humanism is a first step in thinking that mankind's interests must become reality and be a critical one of the powers held up by the church authorities in the 14th century. In those days, humans were not able to develop their potential or make their own choices in life in a reasonable way. Humanism has sparked debate because it is regarded as a dangerous for whose spread must be halted. As humans, we either live alongside or are surrounded by other humans.

Humans are an object that is fascinating to discuss, including their thoughts and ideologies. Humanism, which has been briefly discussed by the authors above, is one of man's ideologies. When discussing humanism, it can be related to their freedom to speak, freedom to act on their thoughts, and freedom to uphold the dignity of a human being. We can obtain these things if we live or live in a place that provides and actually uses this system of freedom, such as a country with a democratic system, in which people have the freedom to express their opinions but must be mindful of others' tolerance. This system is used in several countries, including Indonesia.

Humanism's advancement is not only an enemy of religious fanatics, but in some cases, such as in certain political systems that emphasize that the people or the military must submit to all ruling governments. People who have a sense of humanity are only a collection of weak people and trash in their eyes. The interests of the state and government are important, and they must be prioritized above all else. There is no freedom for them, no one can oppose whatever the ruler wants, and this is where the government's power takes on an

absolute form. Totalitarianism is one type of government system that combines absolute power with a lack of freedom.

In general, totalitarianism is rarely adopted by a country; only a few countries, such as Germany, Italy, and the Soviet Union, are known to have used a totalitarian political system. These countries became silent witnesses to their people's dark times, when history says they were led by a creepy leader: Hitler in Germany, Mussolini in Italy, and Stalin in the Soviet Union. Joseph Stalin is known as the Soviet dictator. The Soviet Union and Germany were successful in deporting, imprisoning, and murdering their own workers. Stalin, on the other hand, was able to surpass Hitler as the most horrific mass murderer in history; he was responsible for the deaths of approximately 20 million people, not including soldiers and civilians killed during World War II.

Totalitarian refers to a person who governs totalitarianism with absolute power and is not bound by the constitution. Totalitarianism is a political issue that can arise in everyday life. Literary works have a close relationship with society because they are a reflection of society or have been recognized as facts. People's lives can be used as literary objects. Literary works include books, anthologies, journal and newspaper, article, letters, novels, poetry, song, and many more. Simply put, all examples aim to express our feelings, thoughts, ideas, imaginations, and experiences. Everyone can learn and gain knowledge from literature. In other words, it assists us in comprehending people, society, events, and culture.

One of the literary works is a film, and in this study, the writer will discuss one of the films, Child 44. The writer will talk about one of the films, Child 44. This film falls into the genres of crime, drama, and history. The film Child 44 was released in 2015 and is based on Tom Rob Smith's 2008 novel of the same name, which was written by Richard Price. The novel and film are based on the case of Soviet serial killer Andrei Chikatilo. The story presented in this film focuses on the main character, played by a well-known actor, Tom Hardy, who plays Leo Demidov.

When an orphaned boy tried to escape from an orphanage in 1933, he was taken by a Red Army unit and adopted by the army commander, who gave him the name Leo Demidov. In 1945, Leo led the Soviet Union to victory in the Battle of Berlin and was hailed as a hero. Leo was also the head of the Ministry of State Security (MGB) and moved to Moscow after marrying Raisa in 1953. He is in charge of leading a unit tasked with tracking down traitors to the state.

When Leo was carrying out his duties with his subordinates to find Anatoly Brodsky somewhere, one of his subordinates named Vasili shot a farmer dead and he attacked Vasili because he did something against Leo's orders, and Vasili had a grudge against Leo. Vasili also gave Raisa's name to Major Kuzmin as a traitor to the state, and Kuzmin asked Leo to investigate his own wife. Another incident occurred when the son of his best friend, Jora, was discovered dead by the railroad tracks; at the time, the autopsy revealed that there had been rape as well as organs taken by the suspect, but the case was

unfortunately ruled an accident by the train. When Leo eventually declared that his wife was innocent and refused to arrest her, he was suspended from his post and banished to the province of Volsk with his wife, where he became a lowly policeman under General Nesterov's command.

One day, he also suspected the corpses of a boy who died by the train tracks and had the same wounds as Jora. Leo also investigated with General Nesterov, and his suspicions were reinforced by the 43 bodies of boys they discovered along the train line from Rostov on Don to Moscow. As an important component of literature is literary works, this is one of the most interesting film because of its historical conflicts and its replay of the events that have actually occurred. Therefore, the writer conducts the research on Child 44 Movie, one of the literary works to analyze the portrayal of humanism by the main character "Leo Demidov" as a police agent of the Soviet Union where the Soviet Union is a country that opposes humanism itself.

## **B. Question and Scope of the Research**

### **1. Questions of the Research**

Based on background of research above, the research questions are stated as follows:

- 1) What are characteristics of humanism in the main character in the Child 44 movie (2015)?
- 2) How is the action of humanism that depicted in the Child 44 (2015)?

## **2. Scope of the Research**

The scope of this research is how the main character “Leo Demidov” as a police agent of Soviet Union in the Child 44 (2015), showed his humanism. The writer employed the theories proposed by Wells (2006) and Norman (2004).

## **C. Objective and Significance of the Research**

### **1. Objective of the Research**

According to the question and scope of the research above, the objectives of the research are described as follow:

- 1) To comprehend the characteristics of humanism in the main character in the Child 44 (2015).
- 2) To analyze how Leo Demidov as a police agent describes the action of humanism in the Child 44 (2015).

### **2. Significance of the Research**

For the significances of this study, the writer is expected from this study is to provide valuable information and knowledge about humanism concept. This study uses descriptive qualitative method focusing on the literary work in the series and interpretation on the analysis. The writer uses two significances, there are theoretical and practical point. Theoretically, this research can be used as a reference for literature study, especially about humanism for the readers. Practically, this research can be used to add insight of the characteristics of humanism.

#### **D. Operational Definition**

To avoid misunderstanding in comprehending the research, it is important for the writer to define several terms.

1. Humanism

Humanism is a view or movement that promotes freedom for mankind and upholds human dignity.

2. Film

A film is a collection of moving images that are displayed on a screen with various effects to draw the audience's attention.

3. Character

Character is the representative of dramatic or narrative work.

4. Characterization

Characterization is the depiction of the characters in a story or who carry out the plot, while characterization is the depiction of characters, habits, or the way the character acts or thinks.

#### **E. Systematization of the Research**

In the systematization of the research, the writer divided this paper into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I is introduction that explains about the background of the research, question and scope of the research, objective and significance of the research, operational definition, and systematization of the research.

Chapter II discusses about Theoretical Description. This chapter describes about description of humanism, description of film, and research of relevance.

Chapter III is Methodology Research, which consists of method of the research, procedure of the research, technique of the data collection, technique of the data analysis, and data sources.

Chapter IV is Analysis Data which explains about the implementation of the research which consists of data description, data analysis, and also interpretation of the research findings.

The last chapter, Chapter V consists Conclusion and Suggestion. This chapter gives the summary of conclusion which relate to analysis discussion and suggestion which relate to significance of the research.

