

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Reason for Choosing the Topic

*Inheritance of Loss* is the second novel by Indian author Kiran Desai. Kiran Desai was born in Delhi India 3 September 1971. Through her novel *Inheritance Of Loss* she won the 2006 Man Booker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Fiction Award In January 2015.

*Inheritance of Loss* is a novel that tells the story of Indian society before the British colonial era and British colonial era. Take the place in a village in india namely kalimpong, darjeeling and the border area of India around the Himalayan mountains. This novel is interesting to analyze because it depicts Indian society which has been influenced by British colonial culture. This novel follows the life of Indian society in the 80s where Indians lived during the postcolonial period. in this novel tells the interest of several characters such as Sai, the cook, Lola and Noni in British culture.

Sai is a figure who has been influenced by British culture and then returns to his native India. after both parents died, they were raised by nuns in an orphanage. after that he was taken care of by his grandfather's maid who was called a cook. As a result of living abroad Sai has imitated the culture and done so in the village he lives in India. Like reading British books and magazines, following Christmas celebrations.

Then in *Inheritance of Loss* describes imitation of culture through the cook as a helper Jemubhai Pattel. Jemubhai Pattel is an Indian who has returned from England to take his judicial education. after the return of Jemubhai Pattel from England who had imitated the lifestyle of the British. Jemubhai drinks like ovaltine, whiskey. This makes The Cooks also want to feel like English people are more advanced than their Indian culture. The cooks always cooking westernized food such as grilled meat, imitating how to cook English people. Indian society which has become too British and has forgotten the traditional way of Indian life.

The narrator also plays a role in shaping the issue that Indian society has imitated British culture from various aspects of culture. This indicates that cultural control by English colonial has succeeded in influencing the way of Indians' views of their native culture. British tried to influence the economic system, language, beliefs, food, lifestyle. some cultural imitation by Indian society like Indians initially traded traditionally slowly making a restaurant business. In imitation of language by Indian people also adopted by the narrator in this novel, Indian people who are speakers of Urdu language began to use English in daily activities such as talking to their families. The narrator also raised the issue of the Indian belief system. Indians who embrace Hindu beliefs are slowly imitating the beliefs of British people is Christians.

Cultural imitation conducted by the Indian community through several characters, The writer is interested in analyzing this novel. The Writer doing in-depth research related to cultural issues that occur in the novel *Inheritance of Loss*,

and has its own views in the study of literature. Based on the whole story in this novel the theory of literature to doing research on this novel is the postcolonial theory.

Post-colonial theory According to Abrams *Glossary of Literary Terms* states that, The critical analysis of the history, culture, literature, and modes of discourse that are specific to the former colonies of England, Spain, France, and other European imperial powers. These studies have focused especially on the Third World countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean islands, and South America (231). Then according to Ashcroft write *key concept of postcolonialism second edition*, Postcolonial literature is written in English about the influence of culture aspects and society after colonial which means the period after independence. Postcolonial discusses the various effects of colonial culture (168).

To limit postcolonial research, The writer only focuses on discussing mimicry that occurs in Indian society in this novel. According to *Bhabha* mimicry is behavior and values by colonized people contains both mockery and certain 'threats', so mimicry is at once a resemblance and a threat. And also (*Bhabha In the key concept of postcolonialism second edition Ashcroft write*) explain in The location of culture The copying of the colonizing culture, behaviour, manners and values by the colonized contains both mockery and a certain 'menace', 'so that mimicry is at once resemblance and menace' (1994 : 86)

.The writer wants to analyze and criticizing the focus of mimicry problems contained in the novel *Inheritance of loss by Kiran Desai*. Because in this novel there

is a lot of description of the Indian community which is influenced by British culture and wants to imitate British culture.

## **1.2 Objective and Scope of the Study**

The object for the research is a novel *Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai. The objective of this research is to describe the postcolonial study toward the *Inheritance of Loss*. To the limit the study, the writer focus on describing mimicry of the Indian toward British culture.

## **1.3 Formulation of the Problem**

In analyzing the research, identify problems of the study is to identifying the problems, the writer formulates it in the form of research questions :

1. How is British and Indian culture as reflected in Kiran Desai's a *Inheritance of Loss* ?
2. How is Indian mimicry toward British culture in Kiran Desai's a *Inheritance of Loss* ?

## **1.4 Review of Related Literature**

To do this research, the writer conducted a review of previous researchers who had discussed the same topic. There are three researchers who have done research with the same novel.

### 1.4.1 Previous Study

The discussion about Kiran Desai's *Inheritance of Loss* has been held by Golla (2016) with the *Facing The Postcolonial Dilemas: A Study of Kiran Desai's novel 'The Inheritance Of Loss'*. The researcher analyzes about identity, displacement. The result is to present description of the postcolonial dilemma in character Biju and Sai. The author describes that this novel discusses the dilemma caused by the colonial culture itself against the country's native population and the struggle to rebuild the original culture but between cultures that are transformed into colonial culture. Then the natives become westernized and some survive their culture so they are free of identity and confusion which leads to frustration and disbelief.

Sabo (2012) also did a research on *Disjunctures and Diaspora in Kiran Desai's The Inheritance of Loss*. In the article she focuses on discussing about cosmopolitanism, diaspora, immigrant, narrative. The result is material experience of various ethnic diaspora and about the phenomenon of diasporic dissemination in its context. Then about the diaspora through hybrid culture. The researcher tells how he has an opinion about the social and political conflicts that occur in this novel representing diaspora related immigration relations as migrants with white people as a host by describing the experience of the diaspora.

Andersson (2014) *Of Ambivalence, Anxiety and Acceptance A Postcolonial Reading of Kiran Desai's The Inheritance of Loss* to find postcolonial studies, globalisation, identity formation, hybridity, hegemony, South Asian diasporic fiction.

The result Related reactions about india original identity in the relationship between hybridity and western hegemony, then lifted the phenomenon of cultural. The researcher argues that the ambivalent causes are not only differences but are also hegemonic and assimilated by a western culture so that there is an identity crisis that they have with heritage culture. sometimes ambivalent brings challenges to their future but they agree to accept a past that is a contradiction and some agree. identity and cotradiction values of their history. The researcher tries to raise the issue of colonialism through the relationship between colonizing and colonize contained in the novel *Inheritance of Loss*. Based on the background of the story, setting the place and time then the description of the character and history in the story reflects the postcolonial era. although several other writers have raised postcolonial issues such as dilemmas, disjunctions, anxiety, ambivalence.

Based on the study preview, there are three researchers who have conducted research with the same novel. To distinguish it from previous researchers, the writer focuses on discussing mimicry contained in the *Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai.

## **1.5 Theoretical Framework**

### **1.5.1 Post-colonialism**

Postcolonial is about the impact of colonization on cultural systems and society. postcolonial gives a chronology of the post-independence period. Postcolonial use focuses on the cultural production of society used in historical, political, sociological and economic analysis.

one example of postcolonial theory is imperialism. imperialism is a practice, as well as a theory that represents a colony territory. The colony will be more profitable economically, strategically and politically.

To understand the topic of this research, the writer needs a theory to support and connect with research on *Inheritance Loss*. Mimicry is one part of postcolonial theory that is used to get information on how the process of getting cultural imitations in literature. According to *Tyson*, Many of these individuals tried to imitate their colonizers, As much as possible, in dress, speech, behavior, and lifestyle. Postcolonial critics refer to this phenomenon as mimicry, And it reflects both the desire of colonized individuals to be accepted by the colonizing culture and the shame experienced by colonized individuals concerning their own culture, which they were programmed to see as inferior (2006:421).

According to Bhabha *In the key concept of postcolonialism second edition Ashcroft write*, mimicry is behavior and values by colonized people contains both mockery and certain 'threats', so mimicry is at once a resemblance and a threat. And also explain in *The location of culture* The copying of the colonizing culture, behaviour, manners and values by the colonized contains both mockery and a certain 'menace', 'so that mimicry is at once resemblance and menace' (1994 : 86)

The writer choose the concept of mimicry by *Tyson* and *Bhabha* to support analyze this object for the research. This approach useful to analyze the mimicry that reflected into the literary work.

### **1.5.2 Historical approach**

Busha in *Research Methods in Librarianship: Techniques and Interpretations*, states that, Historical approach values the aspects which can be considered as history, such as information, documentations, and also images which have happened in a society or nation. In this approach, not all experiences happened in the past are considered as history, only those historical experiences which relate to the creation of the literary work can be considered as supported history. Then he state “historical approach reveals relationship between the literary work and cultural aspects and ideology which affect and create human history. It is also suggests that to criticize the literary work, it should be based on era in which the literary work is written” .The history of before and during colonization of the British empire is relevant on the supporting data to see how the process of mimicri occur.(19)

In the discussion of the history of a country will discuss about events that occurred in the past. So in the discussion of literary works will be greatly helped by the discussion of history relating to the state, such as social, political, and education with the economy, religion, and customs related to research. history based on the culture they have.

### **1.6 Method of the Research**

The research is conducted by applying close-reading method based on Jacobus (1995). Based on Post- colonial approach (*Bhabha 1994*) and (*Tyson 86*). According to Jacobus the method is that the researcher notes specific uses of language, such as



imaginary, symbols, repeated terms, pattern of expression, the tone of speakers, and the main idea of the writer introduces.

In this research, the note of the concept is based on the Post-colonial approach. In other hand base on the close reading Jacobus about Post- colonial to do the method step. First, read in a context of its own historical. Second, limitation ,aspiration and values effect its literarture , becoming part of its meaning and therefore affect our interpretation.

, understanding intellectual trend and scientific, psychological, economic and political theories of the tima is essential to interpretation. Fourth, details about the life of the author can be relevant to an interpretation, Fifth, The study of history is a primary preparation for interpreting any work of literature . And the last ,search and read the source and journal that people who have been analyze the same novel for previous study.

The writer will know if the analyze would be the same with the other and make the different point of view. Based on the method it will be know and found the Mimicry in Indian culture.