

**THE PORTRAYAL OF WOMAN IN *MRS. DALLOWAY* BY
VIRGINIA WOOLF**



THESIS

*Submitted to the faculty of Cultural Sciences
Hasanuddin University
In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements to Obtain an Undergraduate Degree in
English Literature Study Program*

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ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM

FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCE

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FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCE
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With reference to the letter of the Dean of The Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University No.1430/UN4.9.1/KEP/2020 regarding supervision, we here by confirm approve the thesis draft by Halijah (F041171016) to be examined at the English Department Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

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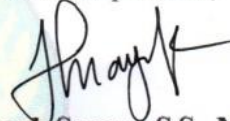
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THESIS
THE PORTRAYAL OF WOMAN IN MRS. DALLOWAY BY VIRGINIA
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BY
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It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination on June 29th 2021,
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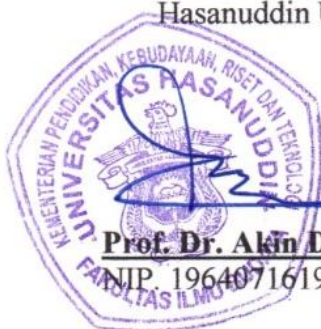
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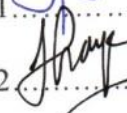
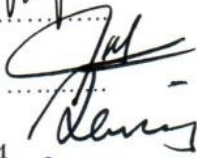

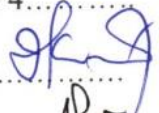

Today, June 29th 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **HALIJAH** (Student Number: **F041171016**) entitled:

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WOOLF**

Submitted in fulfillment one of the requirements of undergraduate thesis examination to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S.) Degree at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

Makassar, June 29th 2021

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DECLARATION

The thesis of **HALIJAH** (Student Number: **F041171016**) entitled, “**THE PORTRAYAL OF WOMAN IN MRS. DALLOWAY BY VIRGINIA WOOLF**” has been revised as advised during the examination on June 29th 2021 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduate Thesis Examiners:

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Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by herself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except the quotations and references.

Makassar, 29th June 2021



Halijah

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Praise God almighty, for the presence of plenty of mercy and his grace, so that the writer can complete the thesis with the title *The Portrayal of Women in Mrs. Dalloway*. In completing this thesis the writer needs the support of assistance and contributions from many parties. Therefore the writer would like to thank profusely to those who have helped.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to give my deepest gratitude to my beloved parents. Thank you for love, patience, understanding and all the financial support throughout the years. To my beloved brother, sisters, and my cute niece, I am very thankful for being such nice and wonderful family. May God always take care and bless you.

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Last, I very sincere thanks to who are not mentioned personally here, without their patience, guidance, support and cooperation this thesis will not be finished. The writer realizes that this thesis is still far from perfect. Therefore, all suggestion and criticism for perfection will be writer accepted with pleasure. The writer hopes that this thesis is helpful for all readers who are interested in analyzing the similar topic.

Makassar, June 7th 2021

Best regards,



Halijah

ABSTRAK

HALIJAH.2021 “*The Portrayal of Women in Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf*” dibimbing oleh **Herawaty** and **Andi Inayah Soraya**.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk: (1) untuk menjelaskan gambaran wanita dari karakter utama dalam novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, dan (2) untuk menjelaskan gambaran wanita yang mewakili keadaan wanita Inggris pada abad ke 20 setelah perang dunia I.

Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah novel *Mrs. Dalloway* karya Virginia Woolf yang diterbitkan pada tahun 1966. Selain itu, pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah pendekatan genetik strukturalisme yang berfokus pada elemen intrinsik, yaitu, karakter, alur, latar, dan tema, serta menganalisis gambaran perempuan dalam karakter utama dalam novel dan elemen ekstrinsik dalam karya sastra yang menganalisis gambaran wanita yang mewakili keadaan wanita Inggris pada abad ke 20 setelah perang dunia.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dalam *Mrs. Dalloway*, Clarissa dengan penggambarannya sebagai tokoh utama dalam novel memiliki 8 gambaran, yaitu, seorang istri yang hanya bisa mengandalkan popularitas suaminya, hidup seperti ratu, wanita yang penuh keraguan, memiliki kecenderungan menjadi lesbian, senang berpesta dan mendapat pujian, memiliki jiwa yang kosong dan penuh kepalsuan, memiliki kecemasan dalam hidupnya, dan menerima dan mensyukuri keadaan, sedangkan penggambaran keadaan wanita Inggris pada abad ke 20 setelah perang dunia memiliki 3 gambaran, yaitu trauma perang, kebebasan yang tidak bertanggung jawab, dan masalah sosial.

Kata kunci: *Potret, Karakter Utama, Perang Dunia, Britania, Novel Mrs. Dalloway*

ABSTRACT

HALIJAH.2021 “*The Portrayal of Women in Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf*” supervised by **Herawaty** and **Andi Inayah Soraya**.

The study aims to: (1) explain the potrait of women in main character in *Mrs. Dalloway’s* novel, and (2) explain the potrait of women represents in Britain 20s after the first world war.

The methods of research that is used in this study is descriptive qualitative method. The data source in this study is the *Mrs. Dalloway* novel by Virginia Woolf, published in 1966. Moreover, the approach that used in analyzing this study is Genetic Structuralism Approach which focuses on the intrinsic elements, namely the character, plot, setting, and theme, and analyze the portrayal of women main character in the novel and the extrinsic elements of literary works which analyzed the potrait of women represent in Britain 20s after the first world war.

The results of this study indicates that in *Mrs. Dalloway*, Clarissa by his Portrayal as a main character in the novel, she has 8 potraits, including: A wife who can only rely on her’s husband popularity, Live like a queen, Doubtful woman, Has a tendency to be a lesbian, Happy to have a party and get compliments, Empty soul and full of falsehood, Has anxiety in herself,and Accept and be grateful for the situation, while the depiction of the condition of british women in 20th century after the first world war has 3 potraits, namely Trauma of War, Irresponsible freedom, and social problem.

Keywords:*Portrayal, Main Character, World War, Britain, Novel Mrs Dalloway*

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Literary works are the author's reflection on life and life combined with the power of imagination and creation which is supported by her experiences and observations of that life. The author can express his imagination, observations and reflections in literary works so that literary works can create their own world and become unlimited. According to Ibrahim (1986:4) Literary works are the result of human activities that live in society with all the feelings, literature is the result of human creation that expresses the thoughts, ideas, understandings, and responses of the creator's feelings, about life by using imaginative and emotional language.

In literature, discussion about women is always an interesting topic to talk about. Not only her personality or existence, the effort to obtain her rights as a woman is also one of the study materials that deserves to be a research topic, one of them is about women's subordination. A woman is a figure who has two sides. On the one hand, women are beauty. Her charm makes boys fall in love. But women are considered weak at the other side. Her weakness is finally used as an excuse for evil men to exploit her (Sugihastuti and Suharto, 2010:32).

Subordination of women who always place women in a lower position than men makes women in a position of oppression, inferiority, lack of freedom over themselves and their lives. Consequently women's role are often neglected in public life because women are only suitable for family roles.

The awareness and anxiety felt by women and men who are aware of the imbalance between them in their social life have led to emergence of the feminism movement. This movement finally refers to the theory of equality between men and women which is meant to obtain women's right. According to Goefe in Sugihatuti and Suharto (2010:18) feminism as a theory of equality between men and women in the political, economic, and social fields, or organized activities that fight for women's rights and interest. The theme of feminism is then raised in various types of literary works, including in novels. The purpose of expressing the theme of feminism is to equalize the position of women and men.

One of the leading novelists who is often referred to as a feminist with her work that always supports women's human rights is Virginia Woolf. Virginia Woolf is a prominent English writer whose full name is Adeline Virginia Woolf also well known for several of experimental works, especially novels, short stories, critiques, diaries, biographies, and daily essays. One of Virginia Woolf's phenomenal works is novel *Mrs. Dalloway*. *Mrs. Dalloway* was published on 14 May 1925 by Hogarth Press. The novel is a transition of traditional style in writing to avant-garde technique. It very influences the modern literature in 20th century. It is one of Woolf's best-known novels. In October 2005, *Mrs. Dalloway* was included on *TIME* magazine's list of the 100 best English-language novels written since 1923.

Mrs. Dalloway novel describes the life of a female character named Clarissa from a feminist perspective, her rights are limited after marrying Richard Dalloway. Her marriage is a prison-like marriage. Most of her time is spent at

home. The only thing she can do is throw a party. Clarissa is very happy to gather with nobles, important and famous people, this is what causes Clarissa to hold a party at her house attended by many guests, including her former lover and prime minister. She is indeed very good at attracting the sympathy of others, the guests praise her shrewdness in serving his guests, Clarissa feels proud of herself for having managed to hold a successful and busy party.

Clarissa is a woman who is strong, full of struggles for her happiness, and tough to face difficulties in her life. Clarissa managed to illustrate that women can create their own happiness and take away their freedom even though they are married. This novel was chosen as the object of this research because this literary work elevates women in their existence to defend themselves and fight for what they think is right.

The reason why the writer chose this literary work is because the writer feels curious in analyzing it which discusses the portrayal of women in this novel, the writer wants to know how the portrayal of women in England during 20th century after war is reflected in this novel. The writer also wants to know what is the life of the women as the main character in his marriage. By doing this research, the writer can provide reading material to the reader to be used as a reference for further research.

Based on the aspects above, the writer intends to conduct a research entitled *The Portrayal of Woman in Mrs. Dalloway* to provide and to explain how Virginia

Woolf expresses her views on ideal women through the main character in *Mrs. Dalloway* novel, Clarissa Dalloway.

1.2 Identification of problem

Based on the explanation of background study above, the writer formulates the identification of the problem as follows:

1. Gender inequality in women main character
2. Freedom in marriage
3. Feminist background in Britain
4. How the main character fighting for freedom and happiness.

1.3 Scope of problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, The scope of the problem in this research is focusing on analysis the main character in the novel, *Mrs. Dalloway*, to see how the portrayal of women in fighting for happiness. The writer chooses the genetic structuralism approach to analyze the subject of problem in this research.

1.4 Research question

Based on the scope of study above, the writer formulates the research question as follows:

1. How does the author present the portrait of women main character in the novel ?
2. To what extent does this portrait of women represent Britain 20's after the first world war ?

1.5 Objective of study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of the study is as follows:

1. To explain the portrait of women main character in *Mrs. Dalloway's* novel
2. To explain the portrait of women represents in Britain 20s after the first world war.

1.6 Significance of study

The results if this study are expected to be beneficial both theoretically and practically elaborated in the following section.

1. Theoretically

The theoretical benefits of this research are expected to apply literary theory in particular the theory of feminist literary criticism and its use in analyzing a literary work.

2. Practically

The practical benefit of this research is to enrich the researchers' insights in particular and the reader in general about the ins and out of a work literature in terms of the study of feminist literary criticism.

1.7 Sequence of study

This research consists of five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction that consists of the background of study, identification of problem, scope of problem, research question, objective of study, significance of study, and sequence of

study. Chapter two consists of a literature review which provides review of some previous study and applies some theories to support this research. Chapter three explains methods which the writer used in analyzing the novels, including methodological design, source of data, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data. Chapter four is the analysis that consists of intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements of the novel and the result of analyze the research questions. And the last chapter is chapter five that concludes the whole analysis and provides suggestion.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the writer discusses the literature review, which consists of the previous study, theoretical background, and the condition of British women in 20th century after the first world war.

2.1 Previous Study

As a great writer, Virginia Woolf's work remains popular today. Her works including *Mrs. Dalloway's* novel contain several aspects of literature that are always interesting to research. Many previous researchers have succeeded in identifying the novel and there are several that relevant to this research. There are three previous studies in this thesis. They are written by Indri Indrayani (2014), Putri Ayeshia (2020), and the last is Fardhillah Hanifah (2020).

The first researcher is Indri Indrayani (2014), whose title is *The Representation of Angel in Woman Characters on Woolf's Mrs. Dalloway* (an analysis of feminism issues). She analyzed the issue of feminism of the main character in the novel, namely Clarissa Dalloway, who represents feminism. It has similarities with this research analyzing the same object that is a novel *Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf but with a different approach. Indrayani analyzes the problem of feminism uses the structure theory of the actantial model developed by A.J.Greimas, while the writer uses genetic structuralism. The conclusion of Indrayani's research is Woolf's explains that some female characters are marginalized, men dominate in all aspects such as in the workplace and the family. Women characters include the main woman character, Clarissa becomes

an inferior. She spends most of her time in the house. Her family and society demand her to be an angel for her family.

The second researcher is Putri Ayeshia (2020) whose research entitled *The Main Character's Restlessness of Life in Virginia Woolf's Novel Mrs. Dalloway: A New Criticism Study*. This analysis focused on the formal elements of plot and character and relates them to the theme of restlessness. It has similarities with this research analyzing the same object that is a novel *Mrs. Dalloway* but with different theory. Putri used a new critical theory from Tyson's book, while the writer used theory of feminism. In her research, it can be concluded that the main characters' anxiety can be seen through their actions, speech, and thoughts which ultimately affect their lives. The restlessness of the main characters can be seen at every phase in the plot and the characters form a unity and are connected to the theme of anxiety.

The last researcher is Fardhillah Hanifah (2020) whose title is *The Portrait of Women in Chopin's Short Story of an Hour*. The writer describes the portrait of a woman that is reflected in the short story *The Story of an Hour*. This analysis is focused on portraits of an American woman was reflected in these short stories. It has similarities with this research because it used the same genetic structural approach, but with a different research object. Fardhillah used *The Portrait of Women in Chopin's Short Story of an Hour*, while the writer uses *The Portrayal of Women in Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf*.

Based on the description above, the writer concludes that the similarities and differences between the previous study and the research of the writer are found in the research object, the focus of the approach and the theory used in the analysis. The similarity of this research focuses on the portrait of the main character in the novel and two of the previous study have the same object with the writer and one of the previous study has the same approach.

So based on the research, the writer represent this research entitled *The Portrayal of Women in Mrs. Dalloway*. The writer conducted genetic structuralism approach and theory of feminism, the writer focuses on analyzing the intrinsic elements and the extrinsic element on the portrait of women in Britain.

2.2 Theoretical Background

2.2.1 Genetic Structuralism

Genetic structuralism is a structural analysis by paying attention to the origins of literary works. This approach combines the intrinsic analysis and extrinsic analysis to achieve the meaning of the literature itself. The study of genetic structuralism is quite appropriate to find out the socio-cultural background and to answer what the world view is when making literary works. The founder of the theory of Genetic structuralism is a French sociologist, Lucien Goldmann. The emergence of the genetic structuralism approach is due to dissatisfaction with the structuralism approach, whose study only focuses on intrinsic elements without paying attention to the extrinsic elements of literary works, so that literary works

are considered to be separated from their social context. Genetic structuralism tries to improve the weaknesses of Structuralism approach, namely by including genetic factors in understanding literary works. Goldmann intends to bridge the gap between the structuralism approach (intrinsic) and the sociological approach (extrinsic).

According to Goldmann in Faruk (2010:12) states his theory as genetic structuralism structuralism, meaning that he believes that literary works are a structure. To support his theory, Goldmann built a set of categories that are interrelated with each other, thus forming genetic structuralism. In summary, genetic structuralism also pays attention to intrinsic and extrinsic analysis.

Genetic structuralism uses structural analysis by including genetic factors in understanding literary works. *Genetic is defined as the origin of a literary work which includes the author and historical realities that support the creation of the literary work* (Jabrohim, 2012:80). *Genetic structuralism as the name implies, views literary works as a structure, a system of relations between its element* (Faruk,2010:12)

Jabrohim (2012:81) formulates genetic structuralism into three things. First, research begins on the study of intrinsic elements both partially and in their overall fabric. Secondly, examines the background of the social life of the author's social group because he is part of a certain community of groups; third, examines the social and historical background that also conditioned literary works when they were created by the author.

The important thing in the study of genetic structuralism according to Endaswara (2003:70) is literary work are able to reveal human facts. This fact has

an uncertain event, because it is the response of collective and individual reflection in society to carry out their lives. From here will also emerge human efforts to balance human life with the universe.

So, based on some references above, the writer can conclude that genetic structuralism is an approach in literary studies in researching an object (literary work) which contains intrinsic and extrinsic elements, intrinsic elements that build literary work from within, namely characters, setting, plot, theme, etc. while extrinsic elements are elements that build from the outside, extrinsic elements such as the background of literary work, the background of the author, and the socio-cultural conditions.

a. Intrinsic element

1. Character and Characterization

Character can be defined as someone in a literary work that has identity which is made up by appearance, conversation, action, name and thoughts on in the head. Character is an important element in the literary work. It handles a big role to make a literary work more interesting and alive.

A character is a person who is presented in a narrative work that is interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral and dispositional qualities. These qualities are expressed by what they say and what they do in action. Robert (1993: 20).

The meaning of character is also explained in detail by Bennett and Royle (2004:60), they stated that *characters are the life of literature: they are the objects of our curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike,*

admiration, and condemnation. A character always uses the tools of communication to interact with other characters. His/her dialogue between characters forms a medium between their actions and thoughts. How they communicate with other characters can establish how they feel and are described such as where they come from and their relationship with the character to whose they are speaking.

Pope (2005:133) suggests that there are two categories of character: (a) major character is an important figure at the centre of the story's action or theme. The major character is sometimes called a protagonist whose conflict with an antagonist may spark the story's conflict; (b) minor character is a character that support the major character, the function of it is to illuminate the major character.

a. Major Character

The major character is called a protagonist whose conflict with an antagonist may spark the story's conflict. Protagonist is the major character with whom generally sympathize. *The antagonist is the character or force against which the protagonist struggles* (Pope, 2005:135). A major character is a character that is emphasized to tell the story. The major character always appears in most of the story, either as subject or as object.

b. Minor Character

Minor characters are unlikely to be used as a viewpoint character. Pope (2005:135) states that *the minor characters appearances in the*

literary work will be brief and infrequent although that does not mean that they cannot shine whenever they are in the spotlight. Minor characters essentially two dimensional stereotypes, or flat character. The minor characters are comprised of all the other characters in the story whose are of lesser importance.

2. Plot

Plot is series of stories from the beginning to the end which are arranged chronologically. According to Stanton in Sugihastuti and Suharto (2005: 45) the plot in the story contains a sequence of events, but each event is connected casually. The plot is one of the important fictional elements in which it describes the link between events that happened in a story and determines the serial arrangements of events, incidents, actions or ideas. In other words, a plot is a series of events arranged according to the law of causality because the events in the story relate to each other.

According to Stanson (1965:14) in Gunawan (2007) said that defines the history of the tale that triggered or occur in certain cases by casual occurrences. It is a plot of the story that makes it easy for the reader. Based on Fooster in Nurlinda (2018) there are some elements of plot they are exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.

a. Exposition

The first phase is the exposition, this phase introduces the main character and other characters, setting, the event that starts the journey

of the characters and providing the description and the background of the story.

b. Rising Action

In the second phase, the story builds up as the sequential events happen and so the story becomes more exciting and problems starts to showed up. The purpose is to build suspense all the way up to the climax.

c. Climax

The third phase is the turning point. The problems that have been introduced in the previous phase then peak at this phase. The main character will experience the difficulties and tension in facing the conflict and then burst in some kind of fight, argument or a very emotional moment.

d. Falling Action

In the fourth phase, the events leading to an ending and the main character can gradually overcome the problems and worries begin the disappear. This phase indicate that soon the story will come to an end.

e. Resolution

In the last phase, the problems and conflict officially ends and the protagonist or the main character is able to solve the problem.

3. Setting

Setting is the time and place (or when and where) of the story. It's a literary element of literature used in novels, short stories, plays, films, etc., and usually introduced during the exposition (beginning) of the story, along with characters. The setting may also include the environment of the story, which can be made up of the physical location, climate, weather, or social and cultural surroundings.

According to Sumardjo (1984: 131-132) setting is place or location of the action. The setting provides the historical and cultural context for character. Setting is an important part which builds up the story.

According to Nurgiyantoro (2005:220) There are three major components to setting: place, time, and social environment.

1. Setting of time

Setting of time is a depiction of when the events in a work take place. For example every morning, tomorrow, 2 years ago, and many more.

2. Setting of place

Setting of place reveals the location of the story written by the author. For example in Jakarta, in the bedroom, under a tree, in the house, and many more.

3. Setting of social environment

Setting of social environment refers to matters relating to the social life of society which contain many problems, it can be religion, customs, beliefs, habits, and tradition.

Based on the opinion above, it can be concluded that the setting is a place, time, or socio-culture which provides a concrete and clear basis of the story.

4. Theme

A theme is an idea that is the basis of a story or text, the theme fulfills or covers the content of the whole story, to see the theme of a literary work, the reader must first determine the intrinsic elements in the literary work, because the themes are rarely and almost never expressed, the theme binds all the intrinsic elements.

According to Nurgiyantoro (2005:70) argues that the theme is the basis of the story, the basis idea of a literary work. This general basis idea must have been predetermined by the author which was used to develop the story. Furthermore, Nurgiyantoro (2005:74) explained the theme in a literary work is only one of the elements of building another story, which together opens a totality. In fact, the existence of the theme itself depends on other elements. The theme of a story may not be conveyed directly but implicitly through the story.

Based on some of these opinions, it can be concluded that the theme is the central idea or subject matter that underlies a story which is the starting point for the author in creating a story or literary work.

b. Extrinsic Elements

Extrinsic elements are the elements that build a literary work from the outside, extrinsic elements such as the background of literary work, the background of the author, and the socio-cultural conditions. Extrinsic elements are elements that are outside the literary work or story, but also determine the form and content of a work or story. Extrinsic elements include religion, politics, history, and culture". (Aminuddin, 2004: 85).

The same thing was also stated by Nurgiyantoro (2005:23) extrinsic elements are elements that are outside the work of fiction that affect the birth of the work but do not become part of the work of fiction itself. Wellek and Warren (1956 via Nurgiyantoro, 2009:23) also argue that extrinsic elements are the author's subjectivity state regarding attitudes, beliefs, views of life that underlie the birth of a work of fiction, it can be said that there is no author's biography that determines the characteristics of the work to be produced.

Extrinsic elements provide knowledge and understanding of something to the observer through the content of values embedded in a literary work. The extrinsic elements are religious values, moral values, social values and cultural values. (Aminuddin, 2004:85).

2.3 The Condition of British Women in 20th Century After The First World

War

War is an event that has the same age as human civilization on this earth. Where war is born from the relationship that exist between humans themselves. War is an event that will tell the history of human life and civilitation on this earth. Events of war usually occur with reasons between two parties who do not want to give in to an interest. Whether it's political, economic, social and other interests. According to Oppenheim (1952:202) "*war is contention between two or more states through their armed forces, for the purpose of overpowering each other and imposing such condition of peace as the victor pleases*"

War is the greatest humanitarian tragedy in the history of human life, because it does not only cause casualties but also immeasurable property and value, such as the war that occurred on 28 July 1914 - 11 November 1918, where the countries in the world were divided into two alliances. Destroy each other. This period is known as the first world war.

During the post war, it was disturbingly clear that life was not normal in Great Britain. It was true that the war had changed all of Great Britain's part and aspect of life, including:

a. Economic Condition

Britain had to face the economic problems which are left by the war. It soon became disturbingly clear that life was far from normal and that the comforting framework of pre-1914 could not be easily restored. There were new

and disruptive economic problems that are resulted from the loss of foreign markets and the sale of overseas investment to pay for the war. The most ominous aspect of this war was the huge increase in the national debt. The huge debt that Britain had to be burdened was to the United State. The capital of the debt stood at £ 706 million in 1914. Six years later it had soared to £ 7,875 millions (Morgan, 1988: 534-535). This resulted in a passionate cry for 'economy', and increased the difficulties for Great Britain to pay the food and raw materials which she had to import, because after the first post-war booming a depression followed and foreign nations restricted their imports by prospective tariffs. Thus, Britain should impose tariffs to prevent the dumping of cheap goods on her shores and to encourage home industries, but the free trade tradition proved too strong. Through the influence of the conservative, free trade was finally abandoned, though the tariffs which were introduced lower than those of most nations (Dartford, 1958: 155-157). Economic confusion was truly hurtful to many older members of the middle classes. Pensioners and those who lived on fixed incomes could not survive in the post-war inflation that gripped many countries. The status and prestige of professional and of the broader middle class were seriously threatened by these years of continuing crisis (Clough, 1969: 1199). On the other hand, for the wealthier the 1920s were a time of prosperity. Taxation, though heavy by earlier standards, was light compared with the level of 1940 onward. Domestic servants, though much less plentiful than before 1914, were still available, and many big country houses were still fully maintained, especially if they were within easy reach of London.

b. Social Condition

The social problems during the post war in Great Britain mostly dealt with unemployment, education, and population problems. In the case of unemployment, during these years, the workless was steadily increasing and was never fewer than one million. Twentieth Century Britain said that by June 1921 the total of unemployed had reached 2 millions (Richards, 1968: 184). When in 1929 the great depression hit United States, the condition of Britain's unemployment became worst. The whole world, including Great Britain got the impact of the depression and was in a state of acute economic depression. Thus, it caused great suffering as many workers lost their employment. The bad effect was on morale, those who had not had a job for years found it very difficult ever to readjust their selves to work. Unemployment was at its worst in South Wales and Durham. Soon after the Armistice, the government passed Education Act, which reorganized the whole school system and greatly increased the opportunities for secondary and university education among the poorer classes. In 1925, the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act were passed. It introduced small pensions for widows and orphans and a pension of 10s. a week for insured workers and their wives at their age of 65. The scheme was financed by payments from workers and employer (Dartford, 1958: 154). Among the changes worth noting between the two World Wars were those concerning the numbers and distribution of the population. In general, numbers continued to rise because of the improvement in the medical and health services. The better feeding also made people live longer. Thus, the numbers of old folk were growing

(Richard, 1968: 185). It was said in *The Oxford Illustrated History of Britain* that in general the condition of English society for some people was not such a bad time, with prices starting to fall, houses more freely available on easy terms, and more leisure interests to pursue. Newer technology-advanced industries were mushrooming. But for many other areas, it was a time of growing despair and disillusion. The countryside, for instance, was sunk in depression in the twenties after the brief, heady revival of the wars years (Morgan, 1984: 542).

c. Women's Position

During the post-war, the women gained many developments in emancipation and new freedoms. The women had more rights and freedom in their life. Quoting Dartford's *The Growth of the British Commonwealth*, that in 1918, the government gave the vote for women for the first time, but only to those over thirty years of age (1958: 154). Then, on 1928, conclusively the vote was extended to women over twenty-one on the same terms as men (Morgan, 1988: 538). In general, girls no longer stayed at home until they married, but instead finding jobs as secretaries, nurses, teachers, and the like, the typewriter and telephone in particular provided many new jobs. In 1901, the number of women who worked in the whole of Great Britain (including Ireland) had been a little over 3 millions. Before the war, only the most daring women had smoked, and then usually in private; by the twenties, large numbers smoked, even in public. In most of these times, the expressions of revolt and emancipation of women were wider. They were able to enjoy other freedoms as well, to develop their career, to enjoy new leisure interest such as the films, to pursue a more open and less

constrained 'sex life', and to wear clothes that were spectacularly far less drab on puritanical (Morgan, 1988: 538). They were freed from their old-restrictions, and they also competed to put themselves on equals footing to men. Denise Richards in his twentieth Century Britain argued that after the long horror of the World War I, there were many people who took advantage of the new freedoms, the freedom from the older strict social conventions, and the freedom to make more equal terms of relationship with the opposite sex (1968:351).