

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Most Individuals go through different stages in life, one of which is adolescence. During this time, individual transition from childhood to adulthood tries to merge their past experiences with their current expectations. This is a time of self-discovery where individuals explore their thoughts, feelings, desires, strengths, weaknesses, and values. Robinson stated self-discovery is an ongoing process that helps them understand their personality, passions, goals, and beliefs. (Robinson, 2016:1). In today's world it is even more complicated for an individual to navigate a multi-faceted social landscape, trying out different roles and values to achieve what is called self-discovery. Journaling, meditation, therapy, introspection and trying new things are key to this process achieving self-discovery. Self-discovery is crucial for personal growth and development. Individuals need to gain more insight into themselves over time.

Self-discovery is also revealed in literary works. In literature, self-discovery is a recurring theme where characters go on a journey to find themselves, understand their motivations, and define their identities. This journey of self-discovery can be physical, emotional, psychological or a combination of them. Self-discovery in literature often involves big challenges, conflicts and transformations that lead to deep personal development and growth. Literature mirrors the complex journey of self-discovery, giving the writer a narrative space where characters explore their identities, beliefs and place in the world. Through literature,

individuals can connect with the struggles and triumphs of characters and gain insights into their own lives. Self-discovery is a central theme in many classic and modern literature.

One of the literary works that shows a journey of self-discovery is a novel written by Rudyard Kipling entitled *Kim*. Rudyard Kipling's *Kim* is a deep exploration of self-discovery through the experiences of the main character named Kimbal O'Hara. Raised by Indians, but descendant of Irish Heritage, Kim embodies the cultural hybridity and questioning his identity is the main central premise of the story. The novel follows Kim's journey of self-discovery as he travels with a Tibetan lama and gets involved with the British secret service's espionage activities known as the *Great Game*. The term *Great Game* is used to describe the rivalry that occurs between Great Britain and Russia as their spheres of influence in Mughal India.

Throughout his adventures Kim grapples with his dual heritage and the conflicting loyalties it brings. Kim experiences with the lama is a quest for spiritual and cultural understanding and his role in the Great Game is the political and strategic challenges of his identity. These journeys lead to achieving Kim self-discovery, gaining deeper understanding of himself and his place in the world.

This research thesis is about self-discovery in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*. It will look into all the factors that contribute to Kim's self-discovery. The analysis will be the cause of Kim's self-discovery, the process of Kim's self-discovery. and the impact of Kim's self-discovery. This analysis will look into Kim's initial motivations and circumstances that propel him, his cause of self-discovery, and his

encounters with other characters in the novel. It then looks at the stages and signs in his journey, how his experiences and challenges affect his self-discovery. Finally, it looks at the outcomes of Kim's self-discovery, how his journey affects his beliefs, decisions and interactions, and provides a full analysis of his transformation. This research thesis will give a full account of Kim's self-discovery, the causes, progress and impact of his self-discovery.

### **1.2 Research Problem**

1. What are Kim's causes of self-discovery in his life in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*?
2. What are the Process of Kim's self-discovery in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*?
3. What are the impacts of Kim's self-discovery in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*?

### **1.3 Objectives of Study**

1. To analyze the causes of Kim's self-discovery in his life in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*.
2. To analyze the process of Kim's self-discovery in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*.
3. To analyze the impacts of Kim's self-discovery in Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*.

### **1.4 Previous Study**

The first previous study is an international journal entitled *Artist of Empire: Kipling and Kim*, written by Clara Claiborne Park in 2003. Park examines the novel within the context of its critical reception and historical backdrop. She highlights the portrayal of colonialism and the British Empire's impact on India, emphasizing the tension between the British imperial worldview and the Indian context. This

analysis explores Kipling's personal views and the broader implications of his depiction of the empire.

The second previous study is an international journal entitled *Immersing the Chela: Religion and Empire in Rudyard Kipling's Kim*, written by James H. Thrall in 2004. Thrall explores the interplay between colonialism and religion in the novel. He focuses on Kim's dual identity as both a British agent and a disciple of a Buddhist lama, examining how Kipling portrays the intersection of religious devotion and imperial politics. This article highlights the complex dynamics of religion, empire, and identity in *Kim*.

The third previous study is an international journal entitled *The Psychology of Victorian Buddhism and Rudyard Kipling's Kim*, written by Deanna K. Kreisel in 2018. Kreisel examines how Victorian-era interpretations of Buddhism influence the psychological dimensions in *Kim*. She analyzes Kipling's incorporation of Buddhist themes, reflecting the Victorian fascination with Eastern philosophies and their impact on the characters and plot. This article provides insights into the cultural and intellectual context of the Victorian era and its manifestation in Kipling's work.

The fourth previous study is an international journal entitled *The Representation of the Orient in Rudyard Kipling's Kim*, written by Nick Scott in 2014. Scott critically analyzes how Kipling portrays Indian culture and society. He uses Edward Said's concept of Orientalism to highlight the negative stereotypes and colonial perspective embedded in the novel. The article argues that Kipling's

depiction of India reinforces the imperialist agenda by idealizing the West and depicting the East as irrational and uncivilized.

The fifth previous study is an international journal entitled *Orality in Kipling's Kim*, written by David H. Stewart in 1983. This journal explores Kipling's use of oral storytelling techniques to enhance the narrative and reader experience. This journal discusses how Kipling's blending of oral and written traditions creates an engaging and immersive story. This journal highlights the linguistic creativity in *Kim* and its reflection of Anglo-Indian English, contributing to the novel's authenticity and charm.

The sixth previous study is an international article journal entitled *The Unbearable Whiteness of Being: Misrecognition, Pleasure, and White Identity in Kipling's Kim*, written by Tim Christensen in 2012. This journal examines the complexities of racial identity and imperialism in *Kim*. This journal uses Lacanian misrecognition to analyze the performative and pleasurable aspects of white identity in the novel. This journal argues that Kipling's portrayal reinforces racial hierarchies and the privileges of being white in British-occupied India.

The seventh previous study is an international article journal entitled *Le grand jeu and the Great Game: The Politics of Play in Walter Scott's Waverley and Rudyard Kipling's Kim*, written by Chris Ann Matteo in 2000. This journal explores the "Great Game" as a political and metaphoric framework in *Kim*. This journal argues that the novel uses the Great Game to reflect geopolitical struggles and the intricacies of colonial power dynamics. This journal highlights the psychological aspects of participating in the Great Game and its impact on identity and loyalty.

The eighth previous study is an international article journal *Kipling's Kim: Rehearsals and Echoes*, written by D.H. Stewart in 1985. This journal discusses Kipling's use of language to create an aural effect in *Kim*. This journal identifies four distinct "voices" that blend dialects and translated vernaculars, tracing these techniques to Kipling's earlier works. This journal provides a detailed analysis of how Kipling's language enhances the novel's sound and visual brilliance.

The ninth previous study is an international article journal entitled *Le grand jeu and the Great Game: The Politics of Play in Walter Scott's Waverley and Rudyard Kipling's Kim*, written by Geoffrey Hamm in 2013. This journal explores how *Kim* shaped the public perception of the Great Game. This journal discusses the novel's romanticized depiction of espionage and imperial rivalry, reinforcing British imperial ideology. This journal argues that Kipling's portrayal of the Great Game has a lasting impact on cultural memory, presenting it as both heroic and justified.

The research thesis entitled *Kim's Self Discovery in Rudyard Kipling's Kim* is very different from any other previous study by focusing on self-discovery and acceptance influenced by living without parents and past experiences of Kimbal O'Hara. It offers a unique and personal exploration of identity that contrasts with the thematic analyses found in the articles above. The writer stands out by focusing on the personal and psychological aspects of Kim's cause of self-discovery, particularly his feeling to seek self-discovery by various aspect how this shape his journey toward self-discovery and acceptance his dual heritage. This contrasts with

the broader thematic and political analyses of identity, imperialism, and colonial power dynamics found in the articles above.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

In this research, the scope of study focuses on analyzing both intrinsic and extrinsic elements of Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*. The intrinsic elements examined include character, setting, and conflict, which are critical to understanding the narrative structure and thematic depth of the novel. Additionally, the extrinsic element of Kim's self-discovery journey is analyzed, exploring how Kim's cause of self-discovery and past experiences shape his identity and personal growth, the progress of Kim's self-discovery, and the impact of Kim's self-discovery as he discovers more of himself.

### **1.6 Organization of the Writing**

#### **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the writer will discuss the background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, previous studies, scope of the study, and also the organization of the writing.

#### **CHAPTER 2: THEORY AND METHOD**

This chapter contains the theories and methods which will be used for the research. They will be divided into three sections: intrinsic elements, extrinsic aspects, and research methods. In the first section, it will be divided into three sub-chapters which contain character and characterization, setting, and conflict. In the second section, it will discuss the detailed explanation of self-discovery concept by Tyrone and the objective of self-discovery. In the third section, it will discuss the research methods which are used for the study.

### **CHAPTER 3: DISCUSSION**

In this chapter, the writer will get into details about the discussion of the topic about Kim self-discovery impact. The first part will discuss the intrinsic analysis of the story and in this part, it will talk about Kim's character and characterization, conflicts experienced by Kim, and setting of *Kim*. In the second part, it will discuss Kim's cause of self-discovery, Kim's self-discovery impact, Kim's self-discovery impact.

### **CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION**

This chapter contains the conclusion of the discussion's result about the research.