CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As time progressed, significant transformations continued to unfold. The 20th century, often referred to as the 'modern era', witnessed substantial changes across various aspects of life. These changes, both internal and external, became increasingly evident and manifested in specific forms, such as social uprisings and overpopulation. External changes, in particular, refer to alterations in our surrounding environment, including the influx of foreign cultures. The raises the question: what constitutes social change? Social change encompasses shifts in human social activities and interactions. The rapid development of social and cultural change is largely driven by the influence of globalization, which accelerates the spread and exchange of ideas, values, and cultural practices across societies.

Globalization is defined as the widespread influence of science and culture across the world (Thom Brooks, 2014:34). It presents two contrasting dimensions positive and negative. On the positive side, globalization has significantly accelerated the advancement of information and communication technologies, enabling individuals to think more critically and access knowledge more easily. Conversely, the negative impact of globalization includes noticeable changes in lifestyles and the gradual erosion of local cultures. Nevertheless, beyond these general impacts, globalization has

also brought to prominence a particular issue that continues to be widely discussed today the Feminist Movement. The feminist movement embodies two distinct aspects: positive and negative. On the positive side, feminism serves to elevate women's perspectives, foster a sense of independence and self-reliance, and empower women to compete equally with men. The struggle is known as Feminism. Feminism is a social and political movement that advocates for women's rights (Martha Easton, 2012:1). The term 'feminism' was first introduced by the French feminist Simone de Beauvoir. The author has chosen feminism as the primary focus of this thesis because it remains a highly relevant and frequently explored topic among researchers, including both students and academics.

In the study, the writer examines various elements within the novel *Jane Eyre*, encompassing both extrinsic and intrinsic aspects, as well as the specific type of feminism portrayed, Liberal Feminism. Conceptually, liberal feminism is recognized as a political framework that emphasizes social change, particularly concerning issues of racism and sexism. Proponents of the perspective argue that these issues are often overlooked within the political economy of capitalism, which also perpetuates distinctions in human status (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1991:232).

Jane Eyre, a work of English literature that was popular in its time. Jane is a woman who has had dark times. Her dark period was from by her aunt's family who looked down on her. As a result of her aunt's actions, Jane left town after graduating from Lowood Academy. Jane Eyre was written by a woman who works as a novelist and poet from England, Charlotte Brontë. Behind her work, Charlotte deliberately

keeps a story of struggle that has an overview of the main character's background so that readers can feel the bitterness of life toward women's rights.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the background of the study , there is one form that will be focused. The question is :

1. How is feminism depicted in Jane Eyre?
2. How is relationship between men and women's character in Jane Eyre?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To analyze the representation of feminist struggle in Jane Eyre.
2. To examine the portrayal of relationships between male and female characters in Jane Eyre.

1.4 Previous Studies

The first relevant prior study was written by Martha Easton in her Empirical Study of Feminism (2012). The essay examines the idea of Feminism.

The second relevant prior study was written by Dr. Syed Aamir Syeed in his Empirical Study of Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre (2022). The essay examines the idea of empiricism in Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre.

The paper argues that the novel examines the importance of experience and the dangers of ignoring the emotional and psychological effects of experience.

The research methods used in the paper are close reading and analysis of the novel and critical literary theory. The paper concludes that a balance between reason and emotion, experience and intuition is necessary for a meaningful and fulfilling life.

E. Susana (2023) Moral Principle in Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte. The study aims to explain the moral principles based on Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre, the main character and to characterize moral values by describing an individual who is committed to living a meaningful life, patiently adhering to moral principles without fear of criticism and so standing out from the crowd. In the study, the writer applies the suggested content analysis approach in a descriptive qualitative manner by Sugiyono (2014). A document or record that contained original data or personal information about the subject served as the source of the main data. Because the information was gathered from libraries, library research was also used in the study.

1.5 The study's scope

The study will primarily focus on the exploration of feminist philosophy within *Jane Eyre*. The analysis will examine selected character traits through the lens of various feminist theories proposed by the renowned French feminist, Simone de Beauvoir.

1.6 Research Method

1.6.1 Origin of Information

Two kinds of data are used in this study. The first type of data was gathered from Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. The second type of data was Academic sources, online journals, publications, and digital libraries.

1.6.2 Method of Collecting Data

The library research approach is used to collect data for this study, which is acquired from many sources of library material to provide a more in-depth understanding of the research topic. Research is a qualitative method, a data-collecting approach that involves analyzing and understanding data that is closely related to research problems. The data are derived from books, theories, records, and documents (Sugiyono, 2014). The writer also employs the taking notes approach, which entails writing down and analyzing the characters' conversation for research purposes.

1.6.3 Method of Approach

To assess the data, the writer employs two methods. The first method is an objective approach, in which a literary work is studied just as it is, with no concern for how its circumstances impact it. The literary characteristics include fundamental features such as subject, characters, story, and place. The second method applied Simone De Beauvoir's feminist theory to understand each facet of feminism in Jane Eyre, focusing on the character's portrayal of her role.

1.7 Writing Organization

The study to construct the thesis covers four important chapters:

1. Chapter 1: discusses the study's background, research concerns, aims, previous research, scope, and writing format.

2. Chapter 2: discusses two sections: theoretical foundation and method. The theoretical framework includes both the internal and external components of Jane Eyre. Liberal feminism is treated in the extrinsic elements, whereas character and conflict are covered in the intrinsic aspects. The techniques section has two components: research methods and approach methods.

3. Chapter 3: discusses two topics, such as : internal and external influences. Character and conflict are addressed in intrinsic dimensions. Conversely, the extrinsic component discusses liberal feminism in Jane Eyre.

4. Chapter 4 : concludes the discourse from Chapters 1, 2, and 3.