

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Generally the meaning of literature in modern English is everything that is written down or the using of language in written form. According to Hornby (1959:357) states that, "Literature is writing or study of books, valued as work of art (drama, fiction, poetry, biography) constructed with technical book and journalism.

Literary works such as drama, poem, and novel are more interesting to read and compare with technical books or textbooks because they give the readers pleasure. Kennedy states that, "Among the forms of imaginative literature in our language, novel has long been the favorite of both writers and readers. For more than two hundred years, only the lyric of poem has rivaled the novel in attracting outstanding practitioners" (1983:180).

In full-length novel has more an incident, scenes or episodes than short story or drama. A novel may have a number of settings and may take a long span of time. Novel may have more than one themes and climax, both minor and major conflict. Kennedy (1983:180) states that:

A novel is a book-length story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense which, while we are reading, we experience actual life. This sense actually, which is also found in artful short stories, may be the quality that sets the novel apart from other long prose narratives.

The novel entitled *Pride and Prejudice* is a romantic novel and it is chosen by the writer to analyze because Jane Austen is one of the famous novelist. Jane Austen found inspiration to write the novel *Pride and Prejudice* in Hampshire. She wrote her works drawing on large circle of friends, social gatherings and places around Hampshire, a place that she visited to devise the characters and settings for her novel.

Pride and Prejudice is usually considered to be the most popular of Jane Austen's novel. It portrays life in the genteel rural society of the day, and tells of the initial misunderstandings and later mutual enlightenment between Elizabeth Bennet and the naughty Darcy. The *Pride and Prejudice* refers to the ways in which Elizabeth Bennet and Darcy first met each other. In this novel, Jane describes the main character Elizabeth Bennet clearly, precisely and in detail, so that the readers can feel her personality along the story.

In this thesis, the writer tries to analyze the main character in the novel *Pride and Prejudice* based on the psychology theory about theory of needs from Abraham Harold Maslow who concerns about self-actualization. The writer wants to know the self-actualization of Elizabeth Bennet.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In this thesis, the writer limits the discussion of the novel. They are as the followings:

1. What conflicts are faced by Elizabeth Bennet?
2. What are characterization and personality character of Elizabeth Bennet?

