

## CHAPTER I

This chapter discusses some aspects that deal with the topic of research, background of study, research questions, objectives of the study, and scope and limitation of study, significance of study and definition of terms.

### 1.1 Background of study

During the early years of the colonial period, the colonies had strategies for provisioning and control of the high seas in the superiority military on domination. The scramble among the European Powers for territory in Africa and Asia at the end of the nineteenth century. Prior to the last quarter of the nineteenth century, Britain, France, and other European nations maintained colonial enclaves on the west coast of Africa (Wayne, 1981:91). Meanwhile the Africans, with limited military capacity, found themselves unable to resist for any extended time European plans for their territories. In none of these national economies was colonial investment likely to lead directly to a rise in the Index of Profit. It was always a minority of special interests in each nation that argued, on public platforms, among businessmen, and in parliaments for the colonial policy (Wayne, 1981: 96).

There are reasons for their expansion as Middleton (2008;76) stated that Africa's coastal areas, and progressively its interior lands, were subsequently used as sources of raw agriculture and mining materials, and outlets for colonial expansion. In the 1950s and 1960s, African countries applied the trade system to continue the colonialism. From this view, the colonial rule, practice conflicts forcibly reduced by colonial powers Middleton (2008;174). It can be seen as African cannot get the independence and freedom for the inhabitants. Against the colony, Toure stated in Middleton that the nation prefers poverty in freedom than opulence in slavery (2008;72). In fact, African cannot be separated from a slavery.

Slavery is one of colonialism's forms which can be seen in many ways and everywhere in this world. For instance, the slavery in Africa. "Slavery in the history of Africa was practiced in many different forms and some of these do not clearly fit

the definitions of slavery elsewhere in the world. Debt slavery, enslavement of war captives, military slavery, and criminalizing slavery were all practiced in various parts of Africa.” (Foner, 2012; 18). The fact that the slave trade is not from another country, but, African itself. Slave’s journey to a life of servitude often began in the interior of Africa with his or her capture as a prize of war, as tribute given by a weak tribe, state to a more powerful one, or by outright kidnapping by local traders Middleton (2008;103). Tribalism is only one of the slavery by local African itself.

To fight the slavery, people make any movement toward the slavery, it is seen as a form of nation identity or nationalism. One of the nationalism movements that supposes is literary work, in order the message from the work can be accepted meaningful for the reader and wished to be able to change the slavery in Africa. Since the mid-nineteenth century, a wealth of writings on African American slave songs has been produced internationally by devoted amateurs and scholars in multiple disciplines, which serves as testimony to the virtually universal appeal of this inspirational, heart-rending, mystical, satirical, tragic, hopeful, pragmatic, and altogether multifaceted body of music and verse. Slave songs have been collected, recorded, performed, and studied as artifacts of slave culture, windows of insight into the sociopolitics of plantation life, a repository of African survivals for a diasporic population, the “true history” of plantation life for the slaves. These include the early ritual hunting, work songs, complex verbal/oral forms like incantatory poetry, chants and many more. Therefore, “the scope of the poetic practice in Africa is so vast as to defy easy summation.” (Simon, Gikandi, 2003).

Moreover, the African itself can appreciate their own nation. Many male writers from Africa wrote the literary work to show his or her disappointment, the suffer, the humiliation of black blood to reveal the slavery, to express opposition to colonialism and assimilation and to lift up African values and culture, and some of its writers expressed much bitterness and pessimism. Based on slavery is the subject of slavery in African societies, that one cannot appreciate fully the social, economic or political dimensions of the African past and present without some reference to it.

The African literature is common to have a starting point that develops out of

a colonizing experience, an experience based on racial imperatives. Those experiences make response among the African people through the literary work. As Killam states that African peoples made to it, and in what ways the experience of being colonized has spilled over into the postcolonial and independent period. Because it is a literature about race, culture, and power, African literature considers a political literature. ( 2014; 11). One of them is David Diop on his poetry Africa and Listen Comrades. The poem Africa remains significant even after many years of “independence” from colonial rule. For poem Listen Comrades the painful experience of slavery, where the African was captured as a slave and transported from Africa was captured as a slave and transported from Africa to America (Eltis, 2008; 31)

As Dakar writes in David Diop 1927-1960: Diop goes on to urge the black African people to stand up to the humiliation and pain that they suffered in their own motherland, reminding them of the strength and pride they have in them (1983; 382). He stresses the need to say no to the whips of the colonial masters who make them work under the hot midday sun, leaving ugly scars on their backs. Despite this suffering the narrator urges Africans to be strong and resist being broken by the heavy weight which colonialism symbolizes

These poems talks about a guy (the author) who has never been in Africa, but who remains proud of the achievements of his continent; the author also sort of talks about his pride in how the Africans got out of slavery and about how Africa remains the bravest continent and stuff like that. Despite the race, the author is proudly telling that racial difference isn't the hindrance to fulfill what our goals are. With courage and aspirations, he describes how Africa acquired their freedom as our country does.

The researcher concerns in Africa and Listen Comrades for some reasons. Firstly, Those poems are portrayed the slavery in postcolonial era that happened in Africa. Secondly the issue is current in many countries. Phenomena such as slavery, the government rules that are unbalanced, the movement against the governments and other. Thirdly, as far as researcher concerns that there is no thesis for poem Africa and Listen Comrades, as a research object and also nationalism as the theory to conduct the thesis. Therefore, the researcher thinks the study on the topic is needed.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study,

1.2.1 How is slavery depicted in poem Africa and Listen Comrades?

1.2.2. How is nationalism depicted in Africa and Listen Comrades?

## **1.3 Objectives of Study**

1.3.1 To describe the depiction of slavery Africa and Listen Comrades

1.3.2 To elaborate the nationalism Africa and Listen Comrades

## **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

In this scope, the writer only focuses on term nationalism on Poem“ Africa” and poem “Listen Comrades”The writer just a limit on the nationalism which appear as the topic and the society or the community which formed of their slavery.

## **1.5 The Significance of Study**

The researcher expect that this study can give positive contribution to the educational field. It gives useful understanding about the Nationalism that depiction in poem. It is also expected that it is useful for students of English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surabaya or other students who study about Postcolonial literature.

## **1.6 Definition of Related Terms.**

### **1.6.1 Colonialism**

The policy or practice of acquiring full or partial political control over another country, occupying it with settlers, and exploiting it economically (English Oxford Living Dictionaries, 2017).

### **1.6.2 Nationalism**

A term that speak of the entry into full self-realization of a unitary subject known as the people Eagleton, et.all (1990: 28 )

### **1.6.3 Slavery**

Slavery refers to a condition in which individuals are owned by others who control where they live and at what they work Kachur(2006: 13)