

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer explains about the background of the study which portrays the writer's reasons to conduct this research. The writer also elaborates more about the problems of the study and the objectives of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

India is the one of the countries that was colonized by Britain. Britain colonized India because India had a big population and natural resources. Zachary Nunn (2001, para 1) states that "India is the jewel of the crown in the British Empire" which makes Britain never easy to detach India. However, after the World War II British was bankrupt. This condition led India for gaining its independence on 15 August 1947.

Nevertheless, India people do not totally feel free with their freedom. After they gain the independence, there are so many problems in India. The big problem emerges between two religion communities in India, Hindu and Moslem. They fought each other and this condition led many India people to do a migration. As Kosinski and Elahi explained as follows:

These small-scale internal migrations within the sub-continent were replaced by large-scale external migration when the partition in 1947 created India and Pakistan. Withdrawal of the British from India and the partition were associated with a massive transfer of population estimated at 14.5 million between the short span of 1947-51 (Kosinski and Elahi, 1985, p.4-5)

Brah (1996, p.21) also states that during the 1950s there is migration of labour from the ex-colonies to the metropolis. One of the ex-colonies states is India. There are many people from India who move from their homeland to another country, such as Britain, USA, Malaysia, Australia and etc.

America is the most visited country to immigrate by India people. Bradbury & Temperly (1998, p.20) state that “America is a nation that is profoundly mixed ethnically, geographically, socially-sustained and changed by constant waves of immigration from an ever changing range of sources”. America becomes country where immigrants from all over the world gather to gain a new and better life. It makes America becomes multicultural and multiracial country because the immigrants who come to America try to combine their original culture and imitate the American culture.

Meanwhile, at past, America was colonized by The White colonizers and carry on their imperialist main purpose which was known as 3G (Gold, Gospel, and Glory). The White colonizers forced American people to receive White’s values and culture. Thus, after the colonization era, America has dominated by Whites people and they become ‘superpower’ country and considers themselves as the superior country. They consider that their culture is more sophisticated than other country especially from the ‘third country’, like an India country. Furthermore, immigrants who most of them come from the ‘third country’ have to accept the white’s culture which dominate the ‘third country’ culture. Immigrants who come from the third country often feel confused whether they have to receive the domination white’s

culture or keep hold tightly their culture. This situation emerges the confusion between two cultures that are the original culture which is brought from their homeland and the culture in their new region.

The migration of India people to another country creates a term of India diaspora. According to Webster’s Dictionary (2003), diaspora refers to a ‘dispersion from’. Hence the word embodies a notion of a centre, a locus, a home from where the dispersion occurs. It invokes images of multiple journey.

Aschcroft, Griffith and Tiffin (1998, p.68) explain that diaspora is “The voluntary or forcible movement of people from their homelands into new regions.”

Moreover, Brah (1996, p.179) says that “The diaspora might have resulted from the capture or removal of a group through slavery or systems of indentured labour, as, for example, in the formation respectively of African and Asian diasporas in the Caribbean”.

Brah (1996, p.179) also states that “the dispersion occurred as a result of conflict and war, resulting in the creation of a new nation state on the territory previously occupied by another, a population movement could have been induced as a part of global flows of labour, for example African-Caribbeans, Asians, Cypriots, or Irish people in Britain”. Those statements imply clearly that the causes of diaspora were because of conflict or war in their homeland, the expulsion of colonizer and even the voluntary of people. As described above, India people spread the world as the result of internal conflict in their homeland. The other reasons of their separation

from their national territory due to the forcible movement from the colonizer and in other cases India people immigrate for one that is reason to get the better life.

The widespread of India people in the United States increases from year to year. The greater number of Indian people, at least in the first fifteen years, were to arrive as professionals, though subsequently many more have come under family reunification preferential categories. By 1975, the number of Asian Indians had risen to well over 175,000 (Vinay, 2011, para 1).

The migration of these Indians to the United States brings a serious problem on global scale. Many such as 'settled' regions were developed historically as plantations or agricultural colonies to grow foodstuffs for the metropolitan populations, and thus a large-scale demand for labour was created in many regions where the local population could not supply the need (Ashcroft, Griffiths and Tiffin, 1998, p.69). It indicates that the movement of India to America does not bring an advantage to Indian life because they are dominated by American in many aspects.

America which dominated by White colonizers in the past is represented as the superpower country. America dominates the 'third world' like an India in every line. American who has connection with the Europeans in the past, considers itself as the superior country which tries to play the domination role. It makes the 'third world' like an Indian feeling an inferiority. Eventhough there is no relation directly colonization between America and India in the past, but America has domination power to that country which define as underdeveloped, poor condition and backward.

America tries to play a decisive role through international monetary bodies, through

the fixing of prices on world markets, multinational corporations and cartels and a variety of educational and cultural institutions.

Further, the problem of India people doing migration is also occurred in the cultural aspects. Hofstede (1994, p.85) classified the elements of culture into four categories: symbols, rituals, values, and heroes. One of the major differences which can be seen between American and Indian culture that is the value in family relations.

While the Indian people are very much family oriented, the Americans are individual oriented. In India culture the family values are given more prominence than the individual values. On the other hand, in American culture the individual values get prominence than the family values.

Other difference can be seen in the ritual of marriage. In American culture, one can marry as they wish when they wish. While in India culture, the family choose the mate for their child, which is called an arranged marriage. In most cases, the bride and groom do not even talk to each other until after they get married (UKessay.com, 2003, para 3).

The movement of India people to the other country especially America makes them have double identity. Since, the immigrants who have the original culture which is brought from their homeland try to adapt and combine their culture with American culture. The mixing of both cultures influence to the original culture in many aspects such as in language, custom, behavior, attitude, cultural heritage, even in value and belief. This situation makes them confused whether they have to maintain their origin culture or they have to follow and imitate the American culture. However, the people

who come from the 'third world' often feel that their culture is left behind far away.

In this case, American who represented as the white and has the power colonizes indirectly to Indian because the connection of colonized and colonizer does not always relate to direct colonization. Furthermore, Indian who are represented as the third world does not feel confident with their culture. It makes Indian in two choices between keeping hold tightly their culture and imitating American culture.

The migration changes their personal identities. This loss of a stable "sense of self" is sometimes called the dislocation or de-centering of the subject. This set of double displacements-de-centering individuals both from their place in the social and cultural world, and from themselves - constitutes a "crisis of identity" for the individual. As the cultural critic, Mercer (1990, p.43) describes, "identity only becomes an issue when it is in crisis, when something assumed to be fixed, coherent and stable is displaced by the experience of doubt and uncertainty".

The identity crisis also appears within Santosh. He is a character in the short story entitled *One Out of Many* by V.S Naipaul. The story tells about Santosh's confusion because of the clash of two cultures, Indian and American. It was told about Santosh, a slave who moves to Washington because he has to follow his employer who called 'Sahib' means master. He comes from village (Bombay) so when he decided to follow his employer he feels afraid and anxious because he knows that the country which he visit will be very different from his country.

This story portrays Santosh's confusion regarding his identity and culture because as a foreign newcomer in plural and multicultural country, he becomes the

representation of his country. Thus, it is about the confusion clash of two cultures, Indian and American. It is seen in the beginning of Santosh's journey. While in the airplane some people stare at him as a strange person because of his appearance.

He wears his ordinary Bombay clothes, the loose long-tailed shirt, the wide-waisted pants held up with a piece of string and also brings his bundles not suitcase.

Moreover, he feels uncomfortable when tries to go for a walk with barefoot and once again people stare at him as strange person whereas at Bombay he can do that.

In this story, Santosh feels distracted whether he has to adapt the American culture and belief or he has to keep his identity which represents his country. In the end of the story, Santosh finally marrying with a black maid who was legal citizen at America. Santosh marrying her to get a green card to become a legal citizen. In fact this situation made him worthless, besides he 'sells' his pride with marrying a black maid for the sake of become a legal citizen, he also imitates the American culture so that people could receive him as an equal.

From the beginning of the story until the end, Santosh experiences simultaneous and contradictory attitudes or feelings in himself and it is called Ambivalence. As Ashcorft, Griffith and Tiffin (1998, p.12) state that "Ambivalence is a term first developed in psychoanalysis to describe a continual fluctuation between wanting one thing and wanting its opposite." In this story Santosh portrays as unstable person. He often thinks in two different situations and over confuses just because of his thought.

One Out of Many is the one of the stories which is included in V.S Naipaul's book with the main title *In a Free State*. This book was published in 1971. It won the year's of Booker Prize. The plot consists of a framing narrative and three short stories, the last one also titled *In a Free State*. The writer chooses and focuses to the one of those stories entitled *One Out of Many*. This story is interesting because it raises the issue about finding cultural identity, the confusion between two cultures, ambivalence, and also hybridity issues. This story sometimes still relates to our image as Indonesian that might likely happen due to the clash of global and traditional values. Hence, this study is aimed to reveal the process of searching identity by Santosh and the ambivalence which emerges within Santosh. Thus, the writer will entitle her works *The Construction Cultural Identity Of Santosh In One Out Of Many* by V.S Naipaul. In addition, the writer hopes something valuable will be gained through the understanding of Santosh's life in this story and also could be as the reflection to us.

1.2 Problems of Study

According to the background, the writer raises the problems of her research as follows :

1. What are the ambivalences which faced by Santosh in *One Out Of Many*?
2. How does Santosh construct his cultural identity in *One Out of Many*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the writer wants to achieve the objectives of the study that can answer the problems of the study. The objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the ambivalences within Santosh in *One Out Of Many*.
2. To find out how Santosh constructs his cultural identity in *One Out of Many*.

