

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

The earth is the planet we live on (Bull 2008;141). Last (2001) in the book a Dictionary of Epidemiological defines the environment as all that which is external to the individual human host. Can be divided into physical, biological, social, cultural, etc., any or all of which can influence health status of populations. "The environment provides the food people eat, the water they drink, the air they breathe, the energy they command, the plagues and pests they combat and the mountains, seas, lakes, streams, plants and animals that they enjoy and depend upon". According to this definition, the environment includes everything that humans need so it is undeniable that even genes can be influenced by the environment in the short or long term.

The earth is currently in critical condition. The effects of the damage to the environment is felt by everyone. As time goes by, the earth begins to feel uncomfortable to live in. This is because of the actions of human who could not protect the earth. Everything that humans do has some impact on the environment. Pollution is a negative result of human activities in the environment.

So many concerned people with the current state of the earth are raising ideas in the form of movies, poems, song, ect. In this case according to the title of this research someone created a song is to express their feeling and to entertain the listeners. According to Bull (2008) song is a short piece of music with words that you sing, and the words of a song are called lyrics. Songwriter usually use figurative language to make the song lyrics beautiful. On the other hands, we as the song listeners always get difficulties in interpreting the song lyrics.

Figurative language is language which contains many figures of speech (J.A Cuddon, 1976). Figurative language is language that uses words or expression with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. The researcher wants to concern in Michael Jackson's *Earth Song*, *Heal the World*, *Cry*, *We are the World*, and

*We are Here to Change the World* to get the theme and how the theme is conveyed in the songs.

Michael Jackson was famous as the King of Pop. He was born on August 29, 1958 and died on June 25, 2009. He was the best-selling American singer, songwriter, and dancer. As a child, Jackson became the lead singer of his family's popular Motown group, the Jackson 5. He went on to a solo career of astonishing worldwide success, delivering No. 1 hits from the albums *Off the Wall*, *Thriller* and *Bad*. In his later years, Jackson was dogged by allegations of child molestation. He died of a drug overdose just before launching a comeback tour in 2009 ([www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com)).

In this research the researcher chooses the five songs by Michael Jackson in which he put the message of keeping the earth as a better place for living. The songs inspire people to hold hands and to keep the world where we stand. Not only that, the songs by Michael Jackson were used as a means to help people in distress. Michael Jackson songs were released worldwide to aid the poor in Africa and the US and he became seen as a humanitarian. So, through his song, many people have been assisted in an indirect way.

## **1.2 Statements of the Problem**

Dealing with the background above, the researcher would like to focus on some problems formulated as follows:

1. What is the theme of Michael Jackson's *Earth Song*, *Heal the World*, *Cry*, *We are the World*, and *We are Here to Change the World*?
2. How is the theme conveyed in Michael Jackson's *Earth Song*, *Heal the World*, *Cry*, *We are the World*, and *We are Here to Change the World*?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the statements of the problem above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find the theme of Michael *Earth Song*, *Heal the World*, *Cry*, *We are the World*, and *We are Here to Change the World*.

2. To describe how the theme is conveyed in Michael Jackson's *Earth Song, Heal the World, Cry, We are the World, and We are Here to Change the World*.

#### **1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

The scope of this study is Michael Jackson's *Earth Song, Heal the World, Cry, We are the World, and We are Here to Change the World*. The study focuses on the theme of Michael Jackson's *Earth Song, Heal the World, Cry, We are the World, and We are Here to Change the World* and how the theme is conveyed in the song lyrics.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The study aims to find out the theme and to describe how the theme is conveyed in Michael Jackson's *Earth Song, Heal The World, Cry And We Are Here To Change The World*. This study is expected to give contribution to the readers in finding and understanding themes in songs and the ways the themes are conveyed.

#### **1.6 Organization of the Study**

This thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction which consists of background of study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope and limitation, significance of the study and organization of the study. The second chapter consists of review of related literature which consists of the discussion on the definition of theme, figurative language, types of figurative language, and semantic approach. The third chapter consists of research design, literary approach, research instrument, sources of the data, data collection procedure, and data analysis procedure. The fourth chapter is the analysis where the researcher solves the problem based on the problem statement. The fifth chapter is the conclusion. At the end of the thesis, the researcher puts the appendix that consists of the biography of the songwriter and the song lyrics.