

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

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The writer in this chapter is to write short conclusion of all the main ideas reflected from George Bernard Shaw's Major Barbara. Further, based upon all the ideas, he suggests all the readers some related, important advice.

5.1 Conclusion

After much discussion, the writer concludes that all the questions arisen from the statement of the problem are distinctly answered.

From the whole discussions, the writer would like to give the following personal comment. Everything which is labeled with religion is not always a guarantee of perfection – no defects. The Salvation Army is firstly smeared with weaknesses and flaws. This condition comes from the erroneous exegesis of Christian scriptures of the Salvation Army. On the contrary, Undershaft, who is often seemingly in contradiction with Christianity, can actually offer some suggestions as contributions for the Salvation Army to perfect its missions performing.

Based upon previous discussions, it is apparent that there are two sides which have different ways of thinking and perceptions of life and religion. But both of them have similarity as to save human beings. The Salvation Army brings salvation to all human souls and improves the social welfare – even though formerly it is not totally successful yet. And Undershaft suggests worldly wisdom and proposes how to live prosperously. He is really concerned for the fulfilling of life necessities. At first glance he seems to be a money hunter, materialist, and unconcerned about religion. But many of his strongest convictions and most of his personal conduct are those of a religious man. Factually, he cares a lot for humanism. He gives priority to the nature of human beings that to live in the world is to humanize themselves first and then to perform their duties of keeping, managing, and executing to use the surroundings efficiently.

To live in the world is not only to look after religious concerns, but also to work to fulfill life necessities. As long as man lives in the world, he still needs to meet his life needs. A jobless person can hardly ever meet his needs. Accordingly, he cannot live a wealthy life, but on the contrary tends to live in suffering and to experience some attendant miseries repeatedly. In this condition, he cannot swell a religious life radiantly. Thus the writer agrees that both of religion and the fulfilling of life necessities must be

given priority. Both of them must exist in human life proportionally. It proves what Shaw suggests through Undershaft is righteous.

In this way, to delve for righteousness and go into perfection, one must smartly and scrupulously interpret the truth and purpose of a thing. In understanding some religious concerns, one must realize that the good and the bad or the right and the wrong of religious scriptures depend on how the person interprets, approves, and applies them to daily life. The cleverer he interprets, approves, and applies them, the better his religion is. The writer is very convinced that the doctrines of all religions teach mankind goodness and righteousness to have a peaceful, converted life on earth and in heaven.

However, unfortunately people often misinterpret them that they have different interpretations which might keep them away from each other. In fact even those differences can cause contradictions which give them an opportunity to feel hostility towards others. Such hostility triggers to extend enmity which often continues into a war. Everyone knows that war always brings about disaster, suffering, poverty, and even death.

This absolutely big, fatal mistake is caused by blind adherence to a religion which may turn to fanaticism. There have been a lot of disasters and deaths caused by such fanaticism.

5.2 Suggestion

Having concluded the main ideas in the drama and given some comment, in all modesty the writer puts forward his suggestions as follows :

1. It is advisable that one not assume what he knows and is convinced about is always true.
2. It is essential that one not ever regard himself as to always live a pure life. Everyone must remember that to err is human.
3. The writer suggests that one not ever judge someone else on the appearance.
4. It is demanded that one be tolerant of someone else's criticisms, ideas, or opinions. By having respect for them, he can eliminate or at least bring some critical contradictions closer to each other and consequently attain fine ambience to create successful objectives of cooperation.
5. It is recommended that one not measure someone else's ideas or opinions based on his own mind of capacity. It is not objective and does not bring about uses and advantages.
6. The writer proposes that one listen to anyone - especially those who are considered incompatible - without prejudice.

7. In analyzing someone else's thoughts and feelings – especially those which are unusual and eccentric like Undershaft's ideas – it is imperative that one always look on them with a critical eye.
8. In appraising the others, one is urged to consider the interrelated point between their ideas or opinions and their social culture, study background, and work background.
9. It is also advisable that one not be proud or satisfied of himself easily. It makes himself haughty, unable to be introspective, and accordingly isolated from self-correction and someone else's advice.

At last the writer hopes that the readers reading this drama will come to a realization that literature in fact reflects values of human behaviors, cultures, religions, human issues, and so on. It leads themselves into an understanding on supreme values like moral, honesty, and loyalty. Those values wise up the readers to see the aspects of life. They can sharpen a sensibility of what is right or wrong and will enrich and widen the perception of life. Therefore, studying a work of literature, the readers will enlighten and lead themselves into an acceptance of a better moral attitude towards things like religious faith or a sense of social justice, for instance.

The writer finally suggests that all the readers and especially those who do not highly respond to literature read more and more literary works.

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