# MORAL VIRTUES AS REFLECTED IN JAY GATSBY IN FITZGERALD'S "THE GREAT GATSBY" NOVEL

# A THESIS



By:

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# FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

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#### ABSTRACT

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#### Gatsby

From reading a novel, readers will improve not only their vocabulary but also their knowledge that they have never had or experienced about other people's life. Many people do not realize that they can learn not only from the moral of the story but also the moral of each character Inside a novel. It is crucial for the readers to analyze which characters are morally good by learning from those fictional character's moral virtues so they can improve their own moral. The writer chooses "The Great Gatsby" that was written by F. Scott Fitzgerald. This study is considered as qualitative research. In this study the writer focuses on the analysis of the character traits and moral virtues of Jay Gatsby. The writer uses the objective approach by M.H. Abrams and the theory of moral virtues by Aristotle.

The writer finds that Jay Gatsby's character traits are dishonest, fearful, show off, ambitious, faithful, perfectionist, self-restrain, calm, kind and mysterious. For the other three major characters character traits they are: curious, honest, caring, flirtatious, materialistic, selfish, careless, arrogant, unfaithful, brutish, racist and anxious. These traits which had been mentioned before possessed not only by the characters inside a novel but also parts of the human character in general. The writer also finds that Gatsby only qualify one out of nine virtues that has been mentioned by Aristotle in his Nicomachean Ethic book. Gatsby has high selfrestrained which can hold his tongue from drinking alcohol, only temperance virtue which qualifies in Jay Gatsby's character. Even Gatsby gives large parties and in his parties, he does not only provide dinner and orchestra but also liquors. Even though he provided liquors but Gatsby still avoided drinking alcohol because he learned from his pasts supervisor's experience and he realized that alcohol had a negative effect that is not good for his body. Eventually, after finding out the character traits and the moral virtues of Jay Gatsby, the writer hopes that English Department students can improve their own moral character. This moral character study will be a good reference for the students especially for students who want to take an in- depth study in literature field.