

THE VALUES OF CHARACTER EDUCATION IN THE NOVEL BY ANDREA HIRATA

Sri Wahyuni¹, Fentry Hernaningsi Ruing², Andi Farid Baharuddin³

Sawerigading University Of Makassar

sriwahyuni018@gmail.com¹, fentryruingunsa@gmail.com²,

andifaridbaharuddin@gmail.com³

E-ISSN : 2828-3627

Abstract

The aim of this research ; 1) to find out the values of character education contained in the Novel by Andrea Hirata ; 2) to find out the dominant character education values in Andrea Hirata's novel. The research approach used in this study is a descriptive qualitative approach with the type of library research. This study uses qualitative analysis, namely analyzing data related to the problem being studied, then selected based on logical thinking to avoid errors in the data analysis process. The results showed that the character education values contained in Andrea Hirata's novel are: *Amar Ma'ruf Nahi Mungkar*, Pray on time, have an honest attitude, cultivate a disciplined attitude, work hard, have an independent attitude, foster democracy in oneself, have a social care attitude and have a responsible attitude.

Keywords : *The values of character education, Laskar Pelangi Novel, descriptive qualitative.*

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INTRODUCTION

Education is currently still the most effective means of educating the nation's life. The progress of a nation can be seen from the quality and development of ongoing education. Therefore, education must continue to be improved and developed in order to produce the expected generation. (Kesuma et al., 2011) revealed that national education functions to develop capabilities and shape the character and civilization of a dignified nation in order to educate the nation's life, aiming at developing the potential of students to become human beings who believe and fear God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, and become a democratic and responsible citizen

In this super modern era of globalization, students are faced with the challenges of global competition and cooperation in life, including in an atmosphere of great ideological competition which is full of value and moral dilemmas (Kagan in Santini et al., 2021)

Therefore, it is not enough for students to only be provided with knowledge of the basic concepts of each subject so that students become smart. Much deeper that must be achieved is how students can develop their character through fostering

value and moral reasoning that can civilize students to have strong characters as is the goal of national education above and be able to compete and collaborate effectively in this millennial century. Hasan (Santini et al., 2021)

The inculcation of character education values does not have to go through formal educational institutions such as schools, but in reading books such as literary works there are a lot of character values that can be learned. In literary works, the author tries to describe all the events that people experience in everyday life. Literary works are also inseparable from the recording of cultural events in human life. Literature and culture have the same object, namely humans and society, humans as social facts and humans as cultural beings (Ratna in Irma, 2018)

Besides beauty, literature is always considered as a value bearer which is dramatized by the author. Sumarjo's opinion (Faisol, 2015) is interesting to observe "However interesting a work is if it contains experiences that mislead human life, it does not deserve to be called a literary treasure".

Literary works receive influence from society and at the same time are able to influence society, one of which is the novel. Sudjiman (Irma, 2018) says that the novel is a fictional prose that presents characters and displays a series of events and settings in a structured manner.

All these shortcomings did not become a barrier for Mrs. Muslimah and Mr. Harfan (Teacher of the Rainbow Troops) with the ten magical students who had the title "*Laskar Pelangi*".

Seeing the description above, the author intends to explore and research more deeply about the contents of the novel *Laskar Pelangi* which the author puts in the title "The Values of Character Education in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata"

RESEARCH QUESTION

Based on the background, the problems of this research are:

1. What are the character education values portrayed in the Novel of *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata?
2. What is the dominant character education values portrayed in the Novel of *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROBLEM

Based on the formulation of problem above, the problem objectives are:

1. To find out the Character Education contained in the Novel of *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata.
2. To find out the dominant character education values in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH

Give understanding on reader of the importance of character education.

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Approach

The research approach used in this research is a descriptive qualitative approach with the type of library research. The research in this thesis uses library research, which, according to Kaelan (2005), emphasizes the processing of theoretical meaningfulness, not literature research that requires processing empirical meaningfulness tests in the field.

In this study, the researcher uses two characteristics, namely: humans as a tool or instrument, meaning that the researcher himself or with the help of others is the main data collection tool, and the second characteristic, descriptive, namely the data collected in the form of words.

B. Data Source

Hubberman emphasized that qualitative data is the source of a broad and wellgrounded description and contains an explanation of the processes that occur in the local scope.

The sources of data that researchers use are as follows:

1. Primary Data

The primary source which is the main source in this research is the novel by Andrea Hirata entitled "*Laskar Pelangi*" which was published by Benteng Pustaka in 2005.

2. Secondary Data

The secondary source is the second source of the results of use other sources that are not directly related but are very helpful in extracting material study.

3. Data Collection Technique

The author uses documentation techniques or commonly referred to as study documentation. namely data collection through written items such as books, novels, magazines, documents, regulations, minutes, diaries and so on. And in carrying out this documentation study, the researcher chose the novel *Laskar Pelangi* as the material for collecting the data .

4. Research instruments

The position of researchers in qualitative research is as an instrument. The research instrument here is intended as a data collection tool and must be really designed and made in such a way that it produces data as it is.

5. Data Analysis

Moleong stated that data analysis is the process of organizing and sorting data into patterns, categories, and basic units of description so that themes can be found and working hypotheses can be formulated as suggested by the data. In this research, the analytical method used is Content Analysis. According to (Endaswara, 2021) this analysis is a research technique to make replicable inferences and data exposure by taking into account the context.

Content analysis in literature is based on three important assumptions of literary works, namely the phenomenon of hidden message communication, which contains valuable content for the reader.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

In this section, the researcher describes the character values contained in the *Laskar Pelangi* novel by reviewing the theory in chapter 2, namely In the character education book in Theory and Practice perspective (Zamroni, 2011) writes that the government in this case the Research and Development Agency, Curriculum Center The Ministry of National Education has formulated character education materials, which includes religious aspects, honesty, tolerance, discipline and hard work.

1) Religious Values in the novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

Quote 1. *"..... Then right under the sun, there were bald Arabic letters which later after the second grade, after I was good at reading Arabic letters, I knew that the writing reads amar makruf nahi mungkar, which means: enjoining the good and forbidding the evil." That is the main guideline for Muhammadiyah members. Those words stuck in our hearts until we grew up"* (Hirata, 2005:19)

Quote 2. *"..... Live only from the teachings of the Qur'an, hadith and Sunatullah, that is the main guidance of Muhammadiyah. God willing, after you grow up, you will be bestowed with lawful sustenance and a sakinah life companion."* (Hirata, 2005:230)

2) The Value of Honesty in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

Quote 3. *"...Another trait of Sahara that really stands out is her incredible honesty and true respect for the truth. He doesn't lie. Even though he was threatened with being thrown into the lake of blazing fire, not a single lie would come out of his mouth"* (Hirata, 2005:53)

Quote 4. *"... On my chest was a round blackish red mark, a trace of omniscience. When my mother asked me about the sign, I did not move, because the lessons on Budi Pekerti Kemuhammadiyah every Friday morning did not allow me to lie to my parents, let alone my mother".* (Hirata, 2005:57)

3) The Value of Tolerance in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

Quote 5. *...." Chiong Si Ku or prayer grabs are held every year. A lively event where all Chinese citizens gather. Not infrequently his children who migrated home for this event. Many other entertainments are attached to this religious ritual, such as areca nut climbing, merry-go-round, and Malay orchestra, which attract everyone to visit. Thus, this event can be called a medium where the four main components of sub-ethnic groups in our village: the Chinese, the Malays, the islanders in sarongs, and the Sawang people gather".* (Hirata,2005:171)

4) The Value of Discipline in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

Quote 6.” *It can be said that Lintang often risked his life to pursue education, but he never missed a day. Eighty kilometers to and fro by bicycle every day. Never complained”* (Hirata, 2005:64)

5) The Value of Working Hard in the Novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata

Quote 7.” *After a day of teaching, Mrs. Muslimah continued to work receiving stitches late into the night to earn a living, supporting himself and his younger siblings”* (Hirata, 2005:26)

DISCUSSION

1. The values of character education depicted in the novel of *Laskar Pelangi*

a. Religious Value

By looking at and examining each sheet of *Laskar Pelangi* Novel, the researcher can give a response that there are several things that can be learned from *Laskar Pelangi* Novel in terms of religious values. By looking at quote 1 in the exposition of the research results, it can be analyzed that the first teachings received by Ikal and his friends were guidelines for religious life, namely the Qur'an and Hadith. It teaches about the holy book Al-Quran which was revealed by Allah to the Prophet Muhammad SAW that every Muslim must learn and practice.

b. Honest

Honesty is behavior based on efforts to make oneself a person who can always be trusted in thoughts, words, and actions, both towards oneself and others. Excerpt 6 teaches the reader that an attitude of appreciating the truth is the meaning of honesty. As in quote 6, it is Sahara who remains in her stance to remain honest in any condition. Although his honesty will lead to disaster for himself, the attitude of the Sahara who respects the truth deserves to be used as a guide.

c. Tolerance

Tolerance is an attitude of mutual respect between each other with all the differences whether race, ethnicity, religion, culture. In the novel also found the attitude of tolerance described by Andrea Hirata as in quote 9 can be understood when an event where all Chinese citizens gather, so many people from various ethnicities gather to visit and enjoy the event. Tolerance is very important because with mutual respect, social life will be peaceful, peaceful and harmonious.

d. Discipline

Discipline is an attitude or action that shows orderly behavior and obeys various existing rules and regulations because it is with this discipline that will lead a person to success. A quote in the novel that describes discipline as in quote 10, in that quote Lintang never skips school, his attitude shows that Lintang is a disciplined student. Even though Lintang had to travel a very long way from home to her school, she still went to school diligently.

e. Hard work

Based on the data exposure, it can be seen that in the *Laskar Pelangi* novel also found educational values, namely hard work described by Andre Hirata where in a quote 12 it can be seen that Mrs. Mus is a very extraordinary hardworking figure, after teaching Mrs. Mus does not immediately rest but continue to work in an effort to provide for himself and his family.

2. The dominant character education values in the novel

From several values of character education that the researchers found, the researcher can draw a conclusion where the dominant values for character education described by Andrea Hirata in the novel *Laskar Pelangi* are:

a. Religious values

Religious values are one of the dominant values for character education described by Andre Hirata in the novel *Laskar Pelangi*, which teaches about how a person stays away from everything that is prohibited by religion, such as prohibiting shirk as described in the following excerpt.

"...Remember this young man, there is no wisdom whatsoever from polytheism, what you get from these occult practices is an error that is getting deeper and deeper because of the multi-layered nature of shirk. The devil fancies you every time you fan those incense coals."(Hirata, 2005:231)

b. Polite

Politeness is also an important attitude, especially in the formation of student character. Andrea Hirata also describes a fragment in the novel *Laskar Pelangi* as follows:

"...After loading the groceries into the like of a pickup, the iron-boned man received some money. He thanked me with a polite bow and then returned to his shop."(Hirata, 2005:300)

c. Discipline

Discipline is one of the important things in life, especially in education, therefore Andrea Hirata in the novel also describes the values of discipline as in the following excerpt:

"...It can be said that Lintang often risked her life to study, but she never missed a day."(Hirata, 2005:64)

"...Even though his house is the farthest away, when he comes he is the earliest."(Hirata, 2005:74)

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research that has been done by the author, it is known that in relation to education, it appears that the values of character education have the same orientation, namely to form a better person to become a good citizen. So it can be concluded that there is a relevance between the values of character education in the novel by Andrea Hirata and education at Madrasah Ibtida'iyah.

The values of character education contained in the novel by Andrea Hirata are: amar ma'ruf nahi mungkar, pray on time, have an honest attitude, cultivate a disciplined attitude, work hard, have an independent attitude, foster a democratic attitude in oneself. , have a socially caring attitude, and have a responsible attitude and the dominant character education values contained in the novel of are: religious value, polite and discipline.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent and the most Merciful. All praise be to Allah SWT Lord of the world, who has given the mercy, direction, guidance to us and who has given fluency and pleasure so that the writer can complete this paper.

Secondly peace and salutation always be given to our prophet Muhammad SAW, a true revolutionary who has guided us from the darkness to the lightness.

However, this success would not be achieved without those supports, guidance, advice, help and encouragement from individual and institution, and I realize that an appropriate moment for me to deepest gratitude for:

1. Prof. Dr. A. Melantik Rompegading, S.H., M.H., as the Rector of Sawerigading University of Makassar.
2. The Dean of Dean of Faculty of Letters, Fentry Hernaningsi Ruing, S.S. M.Hum., and also my Favorite lecture.
3. My high appreciation and great thankful to my first consultant, Fentry Hernaningsi Ruing, S.S. M.Hum., and my second consultant, Andi Farid Baharuddin, S.S. M.Hum, for their valuable time, knowledge, and guidance with all their patience and wisdom during the process of accomplishing this thesis.
4. All the lecturers in English Department and all the staffs who have helped the writer in processing of graduating paper administration.
5. My Parents and my beloved husband who always support me.
6. For everyone who has helped me complete this research.

Finally, the author realizes that this paper is far from being perfect, so the writer hopes this paper will be useful especially for the author and for any reader or any researcher. Therefore, the author would like to accept some suggestion to correct this weakness of this paper.

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