

## SOCIAL VALUES IN TERE LIYE'S NOVEL *HUJAN*

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### Abstract

This research focuses on social values reflected in Tere Liye's novel entitled *Hujan*. The research is aimed at revealing the kinds of social values in the novel. Soekanto (1982) states that social value is a concept in a man in a society about what is considered good and bad, beautiful or not and right or wrong. In this reserach, the theory of social values is proposed by Djamaris (1993) who claims that social values can be divided into ten kinds namely Affection, Forgiveness, Obedience, Courtesy, Deliberation, Mutual Cooperation, Sympathy and Empathy, Wisdom, Respecting Others, and Responsibility. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative and structural objective approach developed by Semi (1985). The research result shows that seven kinds of social values are found in the novel: Love, Forgiveness, Obedience, Mutual Cooperation, Wisdom, Respecting Others, and Responsibility. However, the most dominant social value found in the novel is affection; which is reflected mainly from parents and friends.

**Keywords:** love, forgiveness, obedience, mutual cooperation, wisdom, respecting others, and responsibility.

### Introduction

Literary works never start from a social void (Hardjana, 1991: 71). It means that literary works are written on the basis of social life, recounting cultures behind it. Literature is a good composition to describe something about human life that is full of values. One of the literary works in which moral values could be analyzed is novel. The values contained in a novel are not just in the forms of social values but also educational, religious and cultural values. A novel is also a reflection of reality of life.

Novels of modern life give the readers such an insight into social life in every community. All good novelists are keen observers of character, and communicate some of their knowledge of men and women to their readers. The stories they tell are faithful copies of real life, and so enable the readers to derive from them, without the danger involved in personal experience, much valuable knowledge of the world, which may protect people against temptations to folly and vice. (Rokhmansyah, 2014) Last and most important of all is the consideration that the greatest novels place before the readers characters with high ideals whom through the author's skill the readers learn to admire and love as if they were real human beings. Thus, they are

often far more efficacious in inspiring high thoughts and noble resolves than the most eloquent preacher, the wisest moral philosopher, or the most persuasive didactic poet. (Wellek and Austin, 1995)

Many writers have expressed many opinions on what they believe makes a great novel. Some feel it is the mystery within the novel. Some feel it the underlying message that the author is trying to portray the readers, and others may feel it is the rising action of drama and conflict of the characters within the story. All these assumptions and opinions can be true. Every writer has a unique gift that they want to share with a specific audience, rather that audience be children, teenagers, young adults, and or older people. Most books have a dramatic structure, leading the reader through the introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and then the great finish. A great book can offer so much to someone's life. A great book could be a gateway to imagination, excitement, intrigue the readers, give them insight and all kind of emotions. A great book can open a door that can change someone's life and help them come up with new ideas like never before. A great book has qualities of mystery, a detective scheme, and conflict.

The novel is a mighty melting pot, a mongrel among literary thorough-breds. There seems to be nothing it cannot do. It can investigate a single human consciousness for eight hundred pages. Or it can recount the adventures of an onion, chart the history of a family over six generation. If it is a form particularly associated with the middle class, it is partly because the ideology of that class centres on a dream of total freedom from restraint. The novel is an anarchic genre, since its rule is not to have rules. An anarchist is not just someone who breaks rules, but someone who breaks rules as a rule, and this is what the novel does too. Myths are cyclical and repetitive, while the novel appears excitingly unpredictable. In fact, the novel has a finite repertoire of forms and motifs. But it is an extraordinarily capacious one even so.

The focus of the study is social values in the novel *Hujan* by Tere Liye' by means of descriptive qualitative method, appropriately applied in this study as the problem of identifications are concerned with social phenomena. (Semi: 1985). The social phenomena are linked with social values. Social values form an important part of the culture of the society. Values account for the stability of social order. They provide the general guidelines for social conduct. Values such as fundamental rights, patriotism, respect for human dignity, rationality, sacrifice, individuality, equality, democracy etc. guide our behavior in many ways. Values are the criteria people use in assessing their daily lives; arrange their priorities and choosing between alternative course of action. (Soekanto: 1982)

## **Literature Review**

As the study is concerned with a novel, a concept of a novel is to be clarified in this section. Nurgiantoro (2013: 11) explains that the word novel comes from Italian word *novella*, which means a short writing. Novels are fictitious stories intended to give pleasure to the reader by the interesting nature of the events narrated, and of the characters who take part in the action.

Those novels are generally considered best which most powerfully absorb the readers' interest, so that they can scarcely lay aside the book until they have read it right through from the beginning to the end. To do this people may take five or six hours, during which they are to a large extent blind and deaf to all that is going on around them, and omit to perform the ordinary duties of life.

A novel also consists of important elements. A novel can be broadly divided into two elements: intrinsic and elements extrinsic. Nurgiantoro (2013: 30) argues that the intrinsic element is the elements that build the literary works themselves. This is what causes a text to be present as a literary text, elements that will be factually encountered if one reads the work literature. The intrinsic element of a novel is the elements that in directly participate in building the story. It is this intrinsic that makes a novel tangible.

Extrinsic Elements of literature are the elements that are outside of literature, but it does not directly affect the structure or organism system literature. More specifically, it can be said that the role of extrinsic element that affects the buildings element of a story. Therefore, the Extrinsic Elements of literature should be regarded as something important.

Writing a story can be compared as well as building a house, then the extrinsic elements of a literary work is not a brick or other materials to build houses. But extrinsic element is the social and cultural conditions that affect the model builder of a house. Social and cultural conditions of rural and urban communities will be different. as well as the model of the house.

Thus, it can be stressed again that the extrinsic element of literature is building elements beyond literary works such as the social and cultural conditions that influence the author as the creator of a literary work. The extrinsic elements of the novel *Hujan* are tied to social values. According to Soekanto (1982: 55), social values form an important part of the culture of the society. Values account for the stability of social order. They provide the general guidelines for social conduct. Values such as fundamental rights, patriotism, respect for human dignity, rationality, sacrifice, individuality, equality, democracy etc. guide our behaviour in many ways. Values are the criteria people use in assessing their daily lives; arrange their priorities and choosing between alternative course of action.

Values are expected to be followed for judging and evaluating social interaction, goals, means, ideas, feelings and the expected conduct. Without such evaluating standard, it would be difficult to judge individual behaviour or social action. Values aim to integrate expected individual behaviour and social action. It tends to forestall tension and as such have tension management role. It can be stated that social value is a concept in a society about something that is considered good and not good. Value is a benchmark in acting and interacting well with the individual or society. (Herimanto, and Winarno, 2011).

According to Djamaris (1993:49) social values cover love, forgiveness, obedience, courtesy, deliberation, mutual cooperation, sympathy and empathy, wisdom, respect others, and responsibility.

## **Research Method**

The research method used is descriptive-qualitative method, proposed by Semi (1985) stating that qualitative descriptive research method has been very common procedures for conducting research in many disciplines, including education, psychology, and social sciences. These types of research have also begun to be increasingly used in the field of sociology and this is in line with the points of discussion in this study, that is social values in the novel *Hujan*. The method used is to reveal that social values are informed by a person's prevalent perceptions and learning provided both in the family and in his or her close kinship group, and by exposure to the predominant socio-historical environment and influences of the times into which he or she is born, is being raised, and comes of age

## **Discussion**

### **Love**

Love is a very special and meaningful word to each human being. Each human being has his/her own thoughts about love to guide himself/herself to land safely and smoothly into the kingdom of Love. Without this preconceived idea of love, people would be acting like a blind person searching for the light with thousand of obstacles in front of him. The expressions of love in the novel could be seen from the following quotations:

Esok mother's holds Laila arms, stares at her, "you know that I love Esok more than I love myself, and I am sure too that he loves you so much. We have to care him day and night as his love towards anyone will be shining. He is a man of great love that he could easily feels sympathy upon someone's matter." (Liye, 2016: 52)

It is clearly seen here that the words of the mother show great love towards the son, Esok. The mother loves the son very much and she is ready to take care of Esok day and night. Mother love shapes cultures and individuals. While most mothers know that their love and emotional availability are vital to their children's well-being, many of people do not understand the profound and long-lasting impact they have in developing their young children's brains, teaching them first lessons of love, shaping their consciences. This is shown by Esok's mother.

### **Forgiveness**

Forgiveness is an attitude to overcome negative things and judgment of guilty by not denying pain or disappointment, but with compassion or pity to the offending party. forgiveness is the way to cope broken relationships for getting wound healing and opening heart or chest to the offending party. Here's a quote in the novel.

"You are only given one hour, tomorrow! Look, now hit how many?  
"The marines guarding in front of the stadium looked annoyed. "I'm sorry, we got stuck in the rain" "We're not hanging around. We visited

Mother Tomorrow at the hospital, this time Lail explained, stepping forward in front of that tomorrow still holding the handlebars of the bicycle. "We're sorry it's my fault. I promise to help her. Esok then replied, "Don't make your self inconvenient, all is done and forgiveness is always there between us." (Liye, 2016: 60)

The quotation above shows that there is always forgiveness between Esok and Laila. Whatever problem they have, they could easily find a solution as they are in the habit of forgiving each other. To forgive is a divine attribute. It is to pardon or excuse someone from blame for an offense or misdeed.

### **Obedience**

Obedience means being obedient, submissive, obedient to teachings and rules. Obedience also means obeying all rules or commands.

"Tidy your tape, Lail." The 35-year-old woman turned again to his Laila. "Lail hastily nodded and replied, "I will. And after that, in the afternoon I will tidy up all the room as u have told me. (Liye, 2016: 12)

The quotation shows that Lail is an obedient girl and she is also kind-hearted. She lives in an orphanage and she realizes that she has got great blessing having got opportunity to stay there. Therefore, she never refuses any order given to her. She is all the time ready to make all the people there happy.

### **Mutual Cooperation**

Mutual Cooperation or commonly known as *Gotong royong* is a form of cooperation to ease the burden by achieving the desired goals. *Gotong royong* is positive attitude that supports the development and also necessary maintained as a manifestation of the habit of doing something together.

"There are still thousands of bodies that have not been evacuated from behind buildings. Instantly any heavy equipment should work as they cannot handle everything in a quick time. The stench is making the city drowned by profound sadness. " (Liye, 2016: 65)

The quote above describes the situation after the disaster, everyone comes to give help. They all work together to evacuate all the bodies from the sites. Though the work is tough, and then the fields give very bad smelling, all the people do not give any complaint. They voluntarily work to lighten the burden of work. So *Gotong Royong* has been proved as a positive attitude belonging to a certain community to easy every work happening of given.

### **Wisdom**

Wisdom can be defined as an expert in coping fundamental issues related to behavior and meaning of life. Wisdom is a fusion of intellect and character.

"Fourteen days to get along with Esok, Lail starts to know how clever Esok is. The man is a genius. Esok has got a plan to make a water pump, to help all the people there find water easily. That is really a brilliant

idea, a brilliant idea supported by wisdom. Esok has proved himself to be a wise young man, thinking of others' fate." (Liye, 2016: 66)

This shows that Esok is not only a genius but also a man of high wisdom. He thinks of others' fate, thinking all the time how people could run their lives easily. One of the problems always face by the people there is to get clean water; so through his skills and deep thoughts, he is trying hard to reward a water pump machine to them.

### **Respecting Others**

Respecting others is where we are able to understand people. Caring for the environment, helping others, and being able see the advantages of others by participating in their problems.

"Good, Maryam, we do not want to, but that does not mean we have to reject it. Queen Mother has been trying to find the best dress for us, "Lail whispered back." She spends 24 hours in a day, without a single holiday, taking care of the whole parlors, taking care of us that are sometimes hard to manage. She is always patient may to face all residents of the orphanage. "(Liye, 2016: 167)

The quotation above shows that there is a sense of respecting others in the novel. Queen Mother has given them dress and though the dress might not be good, but Lail tells Maryam to accept the dress as a token of respecting the mother. Then Lail also reminds Maryam that the mother has worked so hard for the benefits of all the residents of the orphanage therefore they have to show their respect by accepting the dress and readiness to participate in the social gathering.

### **Responsibility**

Being responsible refers to our ability to make decisions that serve our own interests and the interests of others. We first need to be responsible for ourselves before we can be responsible for others. In learning to be more responsible it is important that we know our limitations. It does not matter how smart we are, there is only so much responsibility that a person can handle. It is also important to remember that we are not responsible for things that are out of our control, for example, how other people feel or how they react to ourselves or others. Sharing responsibility for both success and failure can lead to increased responsibility to oneself and others.

"The tents were set up by the army and a great salutation to them, as some of them have also lost their relatives and family members but they give priority to others. This is an attitude of responsibility. They set up the tents to make a temporary hospital for all the victims of the earthquake. (Liye, 2016: 42)

The quotation above shows that there is an attitude of responsibility in the novel. The army is responsible for erecting tents to be made hospitals for those who survive from the natural disaster. Responsibility is one of the traits of our character which means that a person is able to respond for his actions, is able to take some duties and to face certain consequences of the actions that may occur. Responsibility as the state or fact

of having a duty to deal with something or of having control over someone and this is shown by army helped by the local people.

## **Conclusions**

We believe that social value has a huge potential to help us change the way we understand the world around us and make decisions about where to invest resources. By changing the way, we account for value, we believe that we will end up with a world with more equality and a more sustainable environment.

Tere Liye does not only talk about social problems; through his novel *Hujan*, he also talks about social values. There are seven forms of social values in this novel, experienced and implemented by the major characters: 1) Love, the value of deep affection in the form of love for children, parents and friends. 2) Forgiveness, in the form of admitting mistakes, apologizing and forgetting mistakes. 3) Obedience, in the form of child's obedience towards command. 4) Mutual Cooperation, commonly known as *Gotong Royong*, in the form of helping each other for the sake of public interest. 5) Wisdom in the form of taking right decision for the sake of public interest, 6) Respecting others, in the form of accepting any condition provided by others and 7) Responsibility, in the form of participating in important events for the sake of others.

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