Religious Values in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” Novel by Piepjet Senja and Its Implementation on Bahasa Indonesia Learning In Senior High School

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Abstract – Values contained in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja could influence student’s character. Curriculum 2013 applied in schools requires teachers to build students character with learning materials. One of values from character education that have been given in school is religious value. It underlie this article about religious values in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja and its implementation on learning in schools. Result of this research was implemented in Bahasa Indonesia learning material arrangement on theme of extrinsic and intrinsic elements of novel. Statement of problems in this research was that how the relevance of character education values in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja on Bahasa Indonesia learning in schools is. Purpose of this research was to describe the implementation of “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” by Pipit Senja on Bahasa Indonesia learning in schools. This research used qualitative research method. Intrinsic elements of the novel could be implemented by using the result of the research as a media to find moral messages from the novel. The media from the research result could be used as an example for students when they were assigned to find moral values/messages from other novels.

Keywords: religious value, novel, Bahasa Indonesia Learning

1. Introduction

Indonesia had been having such anxiety on the future of its young generation. Andrea Hirata by his novels had helped to reveal stories by delivering values of character education that had been missed by today’s teachers. The availability of novels which contain values of character education is such a relief for the teachers. Nowadays, every teacher has an important role to stimulate students or young generations to read a lot, especially reading novels in which positive values and education exist for negative values that would end with memorable lessons.

Literary work is a work by human being that reveals thought, idea, concept, and feeling response of its creator about the essence of life by using imaginative and emotional language (Nurgiyantoro: 2007:2). Novel as a product of literature takes an important part to provide various possibilities relating to the life. Education in this era of advance development seems to likely miss the values of character education just because of the ambition to complete graduation target of students in National Exam (Ujian Nasional).

Meanwhile, non-academic aspects that actually become main foundation in character education gain less attention so that the students gain less benefits too. It is ironic that nowadays reality shows that National Exam forces students and schools as the stakeholders to commit fouls or negative things, dishonesty, and anything wrong to complete graduation target. In contrary, purpose of
education is as a mode to grow, reinforce and strengthen nation characters and it is very different to what becomes vision and purpose of character education.

Learning activity could be more interesting if it could accommodate what the students interest on. One of the interests is reading a novel based on student’s psychological development. Teacher could bring some novels containing stories of teenager’s life by considering the content inside the novel. The content of the novels should be able to teach students about morality and manners.

“Kapas-Kapas di Langit” by Piepiet Senja is one of novels containing religious values. Furthermore, a literary work as “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” by Piepiet Senja could be one of teaching materials used by teacher in Bahasa Indonesia learning especially on theme of modern or popular novels in Senior High Schools. “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” by Piepiet Senja was selected as it told about a child revelation about a Moslem girl who could speak in international forum. What the main character had experienced could provide such motivation to students in the implementation of their character education.

2. Research Method

This research used qualitative research method. The qualitative research method was basically similar to hermeneutics method. It meant that generally hermeneutics, qualitative and content analysis method used some ways of interpretation by presenting it in form of description. Objects of the research was “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Piepiet Senja. Data in this research was data of words, sentences, and discourses contained in the novel. Data source of this research was “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Piepiet Senja. Data collection technique used in this research was library technique. Data analysis technique used in this research was heuristic and hermeneutic reading technique.

3. Discussion

Religious Values in “Kapas-Kapas Di Langit” Novel by Piepiet Senja

Religious value is a set of behaviour that is obedient to religion doctrine, tolerance among religions, and harmony among religion communities. The religious values in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja were reflected by obedient behaviour toward Allah SWT. There were 10 excerpts of religious values in the novel.

“Haliza, saudara seiman berbusana Muslimah seperti dirinya, tampak agak gelisah berdiri canggung di antara para gakusei”

The religious value in the excerpt reflected an attitude by a moslem girl that every moslem girl should wear moslem dress as required. In this excerpt, the author provided her own view about Islam by how to dress.


The sentence above reflected an obedience to God or Allah SWT. How Garsini and Haliza said greetings each other was the characteristic of moslems. Living abroad did not stop them to greet each other using that kind of islamic greeting which has a meaning of peace prayer for each other.
1) "Lekaslah shalat subuh tu!" sepasang alisnya yang indah terangkat.
   "Masya Allah, kok aku baru ingat ya?"
   Garsini berusaha tetap tersenyum riang. "Tak ada apa-apa, tapi aku harus shalat maghrib dulu. Mmh, begini saja kita ke kafetaria itu dulu, ya? Sementara aku shalat kau bisa menikmati..."
2) "Apa yang Kakak lakukan barusan?" tanya Kagume tatkala melihat Garsini usai mendirikan shalat isya.

The previous excerpt described an obedience by Garcini and her friends. They lived abroad within community from various tribes and religion. Having intensive routine there, Garsini still took time for five -time prayers. According to her, it was committed as part of syi'ar or publication for Islam. It reflected religious behaviour by Garsini in "Kapas-Kapas di Langit" novel by Pipiet Senja.

"Kenapa mestik takut? Karena ada Allah Sang Maha Penunjuk. Dialah yang senantiasa mengarahkan kaki-kakiku ini hingga tak nyasar..."

The excerpt explained that Allah is always with His creatures. He is The Guide. How Garsini behaved reflected aspect of religious values in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipiet Senja. Garsini was so obedient and believe to the existence of Allah who will guide her to the right path.


The excerpt above described one of aspects in character education: religiousness. Religious value was clearly described on the excerpt. The description was delivered by the mother’s dialogue when providing advices to her child. Obedience toward mother was also committed by Garsini, so she did not forget her mother advices. Mother is a person who has been given a task from Allah to take a good care of her children. Thus, obeying what mother says is similar to being obedient to Allah.

"Iman dalam Islamku menghalangi diri ini agar tidak membenci siapapun." Kata garsini

Constancy of faith (imaan) lets a person not to recognize hatred. The quotation “Iman dalam Islamku menghalangi diri ini agar tidak membenci siapapun” indicated that religious value had been embedded in Garsini’s self. The faith and obedience to Allah was always embedded in herself so she could control the hatred.

"Shalat, itu sembahyangnya pemeluk Islam, Kagume..." Kemudian Garsini menjelaskan beberapa hal perihal Islam, seperti yang dituntut oleh gadis belia itu. Rukun Islam, rukun Iman, perihal tata cara ibadahnya bahkan pandangan keyakinan yang dipeluknya itu tentang pacaran.

The excerpt describe about a religious publication (syl’ar) in "Kapas-Kapas di Langit" novel by Pipit Senja. The strong bound of Islam in Garsini’s self eased her to give such an explanation about Islam to Kagume. Kagume was a Japanese girl who interested on Garsini’s self character. It was easy for Garsini to publicize Islam.
Relevance of Religious Value in “Kapas-Kapas Di Langit” Novel by Piepset Senja on Bahasa Indonesia Learning in Senior High School

Student awareness in reading is an important thing to develop character. Thus, literary learning is very relevant to use to develop students’ character. Consequently, students could improve their understanding about life and humanity. They could recognize the values growing in society. The improvements would be on social and culture knowledge, empathy, and a good personality.

This novel was a kind of which telling about teenager’s stories and social life. “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja tends to motivate students of Senior High School to continue their study abroad like the characters in this novel. Persons on this age of Senior High School student started to determine their identity, so they had some visions for their future. By this novel, hopefully the students could imagine the ups and downs in life of studying abroad, and know the problems in real life and the solutions.

Age and psychic related each other for students. Some things in this novel could influence the psychology of students in a life with various temptations. “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja fit to the age and psychology of students in Senior High School. This novel told about a life of college by an Indonesia student who lived abroad. There were some love things, so students could recognize the goods and bads of what was told in the novel.

Dictions used in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja were simple, easy to understand, because the dictions were based on the diction mastery of students in Senior High School. The utterances used in the novel were also polite, neat, and not kinky. The structure of sentences used by the author could be understood by readers especially the Senior High School students. “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja used some words from other languages such as Japanese, English and Sundanese. The language aspect used by the author was determined by not only the problems in the novel but also how the author write could be realized by the readers.

Criteria of culture background related to social life behaviour in a society or nation. Each nation has their own cultural characteristics. Habits in society were different to each other nations. “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja describe a life of an Indonesian student in Japan who still gave a respect to Japanese culture without abandoning Indonesian culture.

Bahasa Indonesia learning provides knowledge, skills of language and literature. Another purpose is to grow and develop students’ positive attitude on Indonesian Language and Literature. Orientation of language learning emphasizes on communication skill. Literary learning improves skills of understanding, relishing, and appreciating literary works. We could obtain some good values from “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja and also appreciate other culture with a proud of our own culture.

Aesthetic value in literature could be recognized as a value of beauty as describe in the novel. Comprehension on aesthetic value was reflected on the dictions used by Pipit Senja in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel. The dictions related to the beauty of meaning that could beautify the novel. It led to the student interest to read the novel.
Implementation of Religious Value in “Kapas-Kapas Di Langit” Novel by Piepjet Senja on Bahasa Indonesia Learning in Senior High School

Values in the novel could be taken as an example for a person's life. One of the values that could be used in learning was religious value. The implementation of religious value on students is very important as it could influence behaviors (akhlak), theology (akidah), prayers (ibadah) and morale. The implementation of religious value in "Kapas-Kapas di Langit" novel by Piepjet Senja was appropriate for students as learning materials.

Result of research was implemented on teaching material arrangement in Bahasa Indonesia learning on theme of extrinsic and intrinsic elements of a novel. The extrinsic element of novel could be implemented by using the research result to obtain religious values in other novels. The intrinsic element of novel could be implemented by using the result of the research to obtain messages from the novel. Learning media from the result of the research could be used as an example when it is required for students to obtain messages from other novels.

4. Conclusion

Result of research about religious value in “Kapas-Kapas di Langit” novel by Pipit Senja could be implemented on a learning in school. The implementation could be in form of learning material or media. In this article, the implementation was on learning material of literary learning. It is possible that the implementation could be on learning media of other themes in Bahasa Indonesia subject.

Reference