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Journal of Scientific Research, Education, and Technology

e-issn: 2962-6110 | p-issn: 2964-7843 | jsret.knpub.com



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# Analysis of Literature Sociological Approaches on The Novel Stepping By J.S. Khairen Through Cultural Values

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The aim of this research is to find out the sociological approach to literature and to know the cultural values in the novel Mejuang by J.S Khairen. The object of this research is the novel Mejuang by J.S Khairen first published in March 2020. The research method used is descriptive qualitative which analyzes the sociology of literature approach and the meaning of cultural values. The data in this study are text excerpts in sentences found in the novel Mejuang by J.S Khairen. Data were analyzed using the Analysis Interactive model technique from Miles and Huberman (1994:12) which divided the analysis activities into several parts, namely: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing or data verification. The results of this study indicate that the cultural value contained in the novel Mejuang by J.S Khairen is knowledge that includes knowledge, namely education. Beliefs that include belief in large stones, mystical beliefs of evil spirits and beliefs in messages from ancestral spirits. Morals that include sympathizing, big-hearted, honest, full of compassion. Law that includes customary law and statutory law. Customs which include the custom of wearing Sumbanese woven cloth, traditional ceremonies, the custom of eating betel nut, traditional houses, kissing the nose, customary eldest father, horse fights, custom of Sumba Wolla Mpadu and Pasola holidays, hamayang pray to ancestral spirits.

Keywords: Approach, Sociology of Literature, Novels, Cultural Values

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Literature was born due to the basic human urge to express his own existence, great concern for humans and humanity, as well as attention to the world of reality that lasts all day and throughout the ages. Literature is a form and result of creative art whose object is human and their life uses language as the medium. As stated by Renne Wellek and Warren (2016: 98), literature is a social institution that uses the medium of language. Literature "presents life", and "life" consists mostly of social reality, although literary works also "imitate" nature and the human subjective world.

Literary works cannot be separated from people's lives, in literary works there are realities experienced by the people themselves. Literary works are popularly said to be a form of work of art because literary works are elevated through an author's creative process. Literary works are creations that are conveyed communicatively about the author's intent for aesthetic purposes. Almost every talk about literary works, especially in relation to intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. Either directly or indirectly it always involves talking about background. The social system that produces it, so does the creator subject as its creator. According to Damono (2003:2), literary works present a picture of life and life is a social reality. Literary works are the result of human imagination that takes human life as a source of inspiration. A literary work is a meaningful structure and as a work of art that contains beauty, aspects of morality, static values and a number of knowledge about life. Literary works are able to provide the widest possible opportunities for human resources to have the refinement, nobility, character, which is so necessary in social interaction in society.

Guided by the appreciation that is the basis for associating with literary works seriously, so that understanding, appreciation, sensitivity to feelings and positive thoughts arise towards literary works. This research is also included as an alternative to studying literature from a cultural perspective without forgetting its social aspects. Furthermore, it is intended to reveal the social problems of the community among the community itself. This is what drives the enthusiasm of researchers to make this problem the object of this study, and try to uncover the values of life contained therein. In simple terms it can be said that value is something that involves good and bad.

Indonesia is a country that is very rich in cultural diversity, this is because Indonesia consists of various ethnic groups where each ethnic group has differences and uniqueness both in terms of regional languages, customs, habits, and various other things that enrich diversity. from Indonesian culture itself. Basically, every cultural group is always in a dynamic situation which changes every time. On the one hand, he meets and associates with other cultural groups. On the other hand, he experiences friction between various elements within to reinterpret the values and foundations of his culture. This point of view emphasizes that culture is a process or a verb so that it is closely related to society's creative agenda. Culture is one of the values that we can find in the novel.

There are basically two approaches to literature, namely: the intrinsic approach and the extrinsic approach. The elements of the novel which are raised from this point of view of literary works are the theme, plot or plot, character, style of language, and characterizations. While extrinsic elements in the form of external influences contained in the literary work include sociology, politics, anthropological philosophy and others. As stated by Damono (2003: 3), a literary approach that considers aspects of society is called sociology of literature by using text analysis to find out its structure which is then used to understand deeper social phenomena outside of literature.

According to Faruk (2010), the sociology of literature is a science that is able to link between human works and life in society. By using different theories and methodologies, but in principle, they have a lot in common. Sociology of literature is a branch of research that is reflective. The study of sociology of literature examines the socio-cultural conditions

of the people described in the novel, ignoring the aspect of authorship. Sociology of literature has developed quite rapidly since studies using the theory of structuralism are considered to have stagnated. Driven by the awareness that literary works must function the same as other aspects of culture, literary works must be understood as an integral part of the overall communication system. In this context, the sociology of literature and literature is actually the same problem. Like sociology, literature also deals with humans and society as an effort to change that society.

Apart from that, Damono (in Faruk, 2015: 5), also suggests that there are three types of approaches in the sociology of literature, namely the sociology of the author which issues social status, social ideology, and others that concern the author as a producer of literary masterpieces, sociology of works literature which is concerned with the literary work, and sociology of literature which is concerned with readers and the social influence of literary works. The relationship between literary works and socio-cultural realities reinforces the notion that literature is a social institution. Judging from the sociology of literature approach, literary works exploit humans and society. This is the main reason why the sociology of literature is important and by itself it is necessary to develop patterns of analysis as well as theories related to it.

Guided by the appreciation that is the basis for associating with literary works seriously, so that understanding, appreciation, sensitivity to feelings and positive thoughts arise towards literary works. This research is also included as an alternative to studying literature from a cultural perspective without forgetting its social aspects. Furthermore, it is intended to reveal the social problems of the community among the community itself. This is what drives the enthusiasm of researchers to make this problem the object of this study, and try to uncover the values of life contained therein. In simple terms it can be said that value is something that involves good and bad.

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Cultural values are a set of values that are agreed upon and embedded in a society, organizational sphere, or community environment, which have been rooted in habits, beliefs, and symbols, with certain characteristics that can be distinguished from one another as a reference for behavior. and responses to what is about to happen or is happening. According to Koenjaraningrat (2009: 153), cultural values are the first level of ideal or customary culture in the form of conceptions about the ideas or things that are most valuable in people's lives which are the most abstract and customs. Culture is something dynamic that is always changing. The relationship between culture and society

is very close because culture is a collection of people who hold a value system, namely in the form of rules that determine something or an object or action that has a higher value. Cultural values are values in the novel that are related to the customs, culture, and habits of a society. Usually this value can be identified by depicting the customs, language and style of speech of the characters that reflect a certain language, and the habits that apply to the places of the characters.

The researcher is interested in analyzing the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen by examining cultural values through a literary sociological approach. The importance of this research is because there are cultural stories that really happened in the Sumba area, and the culture in the Sumba area is still thickening. So that the novel Mestep by JS Khairen has never been studied by other researchers. In the novel Mestep by JS Khairen, it tells about the journey of 4 friends in the land of Sumba. The main character is Aura, the daughter of the King of Sumba who is tasked with carrying out the message from the spirits of the ancestors. Together with three other friends, Aura and her friends try to solve various problems that differ in their determination as Sumbanese women and their knowledge in the fields of economics and martial arts. The uniqueness of this novel lies in the strong Sumba background. From start to finish, it was as if we were invited to go on an adventure directly to various corners of Sumba with four friends.

#### **METHODS**

The method in this research is descriptive qualitative research. Based on this, this research is dynamic so it is not bound by the research location.

According to Sugiyono (2005:62), technique data collection is the most strategic move in research , because objective main from study is get data. Technique data collection used in study This is technique read , see And note because of the data form text . Technique note done with method read especially formerly the novel Then record the required data . Writer only retrieve data, source library , notes as well as related matters \_ with research .

As for steps in deep data collection study This is as following:

- 1. Read the novel Stepping by JS Khairen.
- 2. Mark related words with mark culture in the novel Stepping by JS Khairen .
- 3. Record related data with mark culture And group.
- 4. Classify And analyzing data based on the novel Stepping by JS Khairen.

#### **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

The discussion of research results in this study discusses the educational values contained in the novel Guru Aini by Andrea Hirata. Discussion of research results as follows:

#### a. Knowledge

Knowledge is a result of curiosity through sensory processes, especially in the eyes and ears for certain objects. According to Donsu (in Yusmanjar, 2017: 7) knowledge is an important domain in the formation of open behavior or open behavior. Knowledge or

knowledge is the result of sensing an object through its five senses, such as sensing objects of sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch. Knowledge in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen is shown through knowledge of science, as well as knowledge of objects that have high selling value.

#### b. Trust

Belief is closely related to religion or religion. Belief does not have to be based on the concept of the oneness of God, but can relate to worldly aspects, belief also does not require belief in prophets, but rather the cult of supernatural beings or people who are considered holy or have advantages over ordinary humans. Trust is a symbolic expression of a society in dealing with conflicts that occur. Through this belief, people learn about the moral and cultural values contained therein. According to Anderson (in Widiyanto, 2008) belief is a tool that functions as national or cultural symbols that evoke uniform loyalty in society, both horizontally across regions and vertically across classes. Belief in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen is shown through belief in large stones, mystical beliefs of evil spirits, and belief in ancestral spirits.

#### c. Moral

Moral is the rules of norms and institutions that regulate the behavior of individuals in their lives with social groups and society. Moral is a standard of good and bad that is determined for individuals as social members. According to Ernawati (in Lestari: 2018) that morals are procedures, customs, habits, morals, behavior, decency, in the form of true values for humans that are in accordance with the measurements (values) of society that arise from the heart and not coercion from outside which is also accompanied by a sense of responsibility for the behavior (the action). The moral in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen is shown through sympathy, big-hearted, honest, full of compassion.

#### d. Law

According to Ali (2012: 28), law is a set of legal principles, legal rules, legal norms that govern and determine what is prohibited and what is right, recognized by the state but not necessarily valid in reality because there are internal factors (psychology) and external factors (political, cultural, social, economic) which if violated will get sanctions. The law in JS Khairen's Novel Mejuang includes customary law and statutory law.

### e. Customs

According to Nurlin Ibrahim (in Putra: 2017) customs are provisions from the ancestors and are adhered to from generation to generation. It is a tradition that regulates the society's original Indonesian products which can be felt by its members by binding. The customs contained in the novel Mestep by JS Khairen include Sumba Weaving, Traditional Ceremonies (marapu), Betel nut, Traditional houses, Kiss the nose, Stone Graves, Pasola, Kidnapped Marriage, Wolla Mpadu and Pasola Days, Hamayang

#### **CONCLUSION**

Conclusion from study This based on the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen contains cultural values and sociological aspects of literature. Described as following:

- 1. The cultural values contained in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen include knowledge, beliefs, morals, laws and customs. These cultural values are obtained by analyzing the forms of values contained in the novels studied. This value is embodied in the various behaviors and characteristics of the characters in the series of stories contained in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen. Conclusions can be drawn, including:
- a. The knowledge contained in the novel Mestep by JS Khairen is an effort made by society to increase human understanding of various aspects of reality in the human realm, the certainty that knowledge is obtained from its limitations. Knowledge is in the form of knowledge such as education which makes people add to knowledge that was not previously understood.
- b. The belief contained in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen is an effort made by the community that is closely related to religion or religion. This belief places more emphasis on the cult of supernatural beings or people who are considered sacred or have advantages over ordinary humans. In this study the researchers found several forms of belief, including the belief in large stones which is the belief that large stones are the Marapu belief in the Sumba area which have high value to be used as graves, the mystical belief of evil spirits is the belief of Sumba that if newcomers do not eat betel nut they will plagued by evil spirits and the belief in messages from ancestral spirits is a belief in Marapu that it is a belief sent for descendants of kings who grew up on Sumba and the message was conveyed to Aura.
- c. The moral contained in the novel Stepping by JS Khairen is everything related to a person's behavior, attitude, good or bad behavior. In this study, researchers found several forms of moral values, including sympathy, big-hearted, honest, full of compassion.
- d. The law contained in the novel Mejuang by JS Khairen is a set of legal principles, legal rules, legal norms that govern and determine what is prohibited and what is right, recognized by the state but not necessarily valid in reality because there are internal factors. (psychology) and external factors (political, cultural, social, economic) which if violated will be subject to sanctions. In this study, researchers found several laws, including customary law and statutory law.
- e. Customs in the novel Stepping by JS Khairen are provisions from the ancestors and are adhered to from generation to generation. It is a tradition that regulates the community of original Indonesian products in the Sumba region which can be felt by its members by binding. In this study, researchers found several forms of Sumbanese customs, including Sumba Weaving, Traditional Ceremonies (marapu), Betel nut, Traditional houses, Kissing the nose, Stone Graves, Pasola, Kidnapping Marriage, Wolla Mpadu and Pasola Days, Hamayang.

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