

The Study of Literary Pragmatics Approach to Moral Values in The Novel *Surat Kecil Untuk Tuhan* By Agnes Davonar

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the form of moral values in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* and the benefits of moral values for readers in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* by Agnes Davonar. The approach used in this study is a literary pragmatic approach. This research is a qualitative descriptive study. The source of the data in this research is the text in the novel entitled "*Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan*" by Agnes Davonar which contains moral values. Data collection techniques were carried out by means of documentation and literature study. This research is focused on problems related to the analysis of moral values with a pragmatic approach. The results of the study show that the form of moral has three types, namely the first form of moral values in human relations with God has a variant in the form of believing and praying to God, the second form of moral values in human relations with oneself has variants of patience, sincerity and the responsibility of students towards education, while the form of moral values in human relations with other humans is the advice of parents to children, advice between friends, parental love for children, children's love for parents, affection between friends, and parental responsibility to children. The benefits of moral values contained in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan*, there are several variants, namely accepting God's destiny, being steadfast, being resigned, liking to work hard, praying to God, not giving up easily, and not being steadfast in facing trials.

A. Introduction

The pragmatic approach is an approach that views literary works as a means to convey certain goals to readers. In this case, these goals can be political, educational, moral, religious, or other goals (Pradopo: 2006). Meanwhile, according to Teeuw, as quoted by Zainudin Fananie, the pragmatic approach is an approach based on readers. (Fananie: 2002) The success of a literary work is measured by its readers. A

successful literary work is one that is considered capable of providing "pleasure" and "value". Although the pragmatic dimension includes the author and the reader, it is the reader who is dominant. Therefore, the process of communication and understanding of literary works influences and determines the reader's attitude towards the literary works they encounter.

Shaffer states that moral values related to behavior have a very important element in everyday life that is directly related to society. Meanwhile, according to Tampubolon, the form of moral delivery is a form related to the behavior of human life with its own personality, where morals also have a very good role for real life (Tampubolon: 2020).

The embodiment of moral values expressed in the fictional story of this novel, illustrated in the behavior of the characters told in the novel, here the author provides a detailed description of the content of the story in the novel, which is conveyed directly through conversations told in the novel through a message of mandate related to the behavior of individual characterizations, which before reading the contents of this novel in the introduction to the story the author provides a detailed framework of human life in this fictional story.

In general, this novel was published in 2008, is an extraordinary essay that tells the life of a girl who suffers from a tumor disease, and in this novel there are various kinds of moral values that we can take lessons from in order to be applied in real life and in acting in everyday life (Rosyanti: 2017). In particular, this study will examine the novel through a pragmatic approach, this is because the pragmatic approach is one approach that reveals certain goals to its readers.

In depth, the value of goodness in the novel's story is very good as an object of research, because this novel is very extraordinary to inspire many groups of people, besides that in this novel also has a very extraordinary main character Gita Sessa Wanda called Keke who is described as a former child artist in 1998.

B. Research Methods

The type of research used is *library research*, which is a series of activities related to library data collection methods, reading and recording and processing research

materials. This research is included in literature research, namely research conducted using literature (literature) in the form of books, notes and reports on research results and previous researchers (Mahmud: 2011).

The data collection techniques used in analyzing the data in this study are as follows: Reading the entire content of the novel "Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan" by Agnes Davonar carefully and directly collecting data by searching and marking fragments of the novel that contain moral values; analyzing and interpreting data in accordance with the keywords made according to the theoretical basis; describing the moral values contained in the novel "Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan" by Agnes Davonar; concluding the results of the analysis of moral values in the novel "Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan" by Agnes Davonar (Sudaryanto: 2003).

The data analysis technique used is qualitative data analysis. Data analysis is the process of systematically searching and compiling the data obtained. Data analysis is the process of searching for and systematically compiling the data obtained. Data analysis is done by organizing data, breaking it down into units, synthesizing, arranging into patterns, choosing which ones are important and which ones will be studied, and making conclusions that can be told to others. (Sugiyono: 2012)

C. Results and Discussion

1. Forms of Moral Values in the Novel Surat Kecil Untul God

a. Have faith

The relationship between man and God is a special relationship. Humans as creatures will not be separated from the creator. Although consciously or not, all human needs are psychically or always directed to the creator. Conscientiously, man's relationship with God always has a larger portion when compared to other creatures, although sometimes man's relationship with the creator is addressed in various ways. Good or bad human behavior will affect the strength of faith in God.

"The reason I chose Al-Kamal as my place of study is because I want to explore the value of Islam more deeply and I really want to be able to read the Qur'an fluently".

The quote is the delivery of the moral value of faith. The quote above explains that Keke chose Al-Kamal school because she wants to explore the value of Islam and wants to read the Qur'an fluently, and that is a form of Keke's faith in God. Because Keke's father always reminds Keke of a verse in a Hadith which is about the goodness of people who read the Qur'an and teach it. Because the real happiness of parents in the afterlife is a child who can read the Qur'an. Surrender is another term for tawakal, which means leaning in Arabic. Surrendering to God after making maximum effort is the meaning of Tawakal.

b. Surrender

Surrender is one word that is often identified with the meaning of giving up. But behind that word, it actually has an extraordinary meaning. Surrender is a word that we should understand as a spirit to continue working hard and praying. Resignation is a form of human faith in God. The data in the novel Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan shows the resigned attitude of Keke's parents over the cancer that befell their daughter. Keke's father has done everything he can to find the best treatment for his daughter, but the disease lodged in his daughter's body is still there. The father figure only believes in God's greatness for his daughter. The data excerpt is as follows.

"My body felt weak and I couldn't see clearly the light in my eyes. That's when I surrendered my life to God."

c. Patience

Patience is one of the fundamental characteristics of people who are devoted to Allah SWT. Patience is half of faith. Davonar, as the author of this novel, has given a simple but direct touch of morality. The attitude of accepting whatever God gives us is seen in the novel Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan, namely in the character Keke. Keke receives trials from God in the form of soft tissue cancer that is lodged in her body. The way Keke accepted the deadly disease with patience and sincerity finally resulted in healing. The way Keke faces and accepts trials from God can be used as an example in everyday life. The patience shown by Keke can be seen in the following quote.

"My prayers have been heard by God. My patience and willingness to accept all these trials have been rewarded with healing".

"I learned one thing in dealing with all this. Now I'm ready for whatever God wants. Yes!!! I will be strong in facing any trials from Him. God.... Thank you for this wonderful test."

The data quote above explains that Keke is an extraordinary figure. She tries to be patient in facing trials from God. Keke remains strong in facing any trials from God. She is ready with whatever God gives her. The patience possessed by Keke's character is extraordinary. Even though Keke has a deadly disease and it grows back on other parts of her body, Keke remains patient. Keke never gave up and remained strong in undergoing trials from God.

d. Advice

Advice is an upbringing and warning that is given based on truth with the intention of reprimanding and building someone up with good intentions. Advice is always educational. Advice can also mean Value, good instruction, warning, suggesting, or advising someone on various matters.

Advice also teaches how to think and act properly. Advice is not only done by parents to children, but also advice between friends. Here are some of the results of advice between friends Only one word I can say to my best friend Fahda.

"Sometimes we will just be a child in our parents' eyes. But believe me whatever decision they make for us, it is the best thing of all. Because they as parents have determined the path and direction where we will become a better life. Without them we are nothing in this world".

From the data quotation above, it can be explained that advice between friends is given by Keke to her best friend named Fahda. Keke gave input to Fahda because according to Keke whatever the parents decide is the best thing of all. Because parents understand better and understand the best way for their children, and Keke emphasized that without parents we are nothing and cannot be like now.

2. The Benefits of Moral Values in Agnes Dovanur's "Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan" for Readers

Moral is something that the author wants to convey to the reader, which is the meaning contained in a literary work and the meaning suggested through the story. This means that the author conveys moral messages to readers through literary works both directly and indirectly. Moral characters in literature have the same meaning as the definition of morality itself. Moral character is the value of good and bad done by the character in the literary work itself.

Accepting God's destiny means sincerely accepting the provisions or fate that God has determined for us, both in the form of favors and disasters. Like the character Keke in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* by Agnes Davonar, the character Keke accepts whatever God gives her. Keke accepts God's destiny that has been outlined for her, namely in the form of parental separation that makes her choose her father and leave her mother. The data found in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* is accepting God's destiny. The data is as follows.

"At first I was always complaining to God about our family situation. But eventually I thought that I was wrong about my thoughts. I shouldn't be like that, I shouldn't complain, I should live everything well".

From the data quote above, it shows that the character Keke, who initially complained about what God gave her for her family who was separated and required her to choose her father, finally accepted it sincerely what had become God's destiny. She thinks that she should not complain about God's destiny and thinks that she must live well. In addition to the data above, Keke's character shows that she accepts God's destiny by simply surrendering to God about the disease she has. Keke has a deadly cancer and before she knew about the disease lodged in her body her father had kept it a secret. She did not understand about the deadly disease, after she found out about the deadly disease she surrendered everything to God. The form of surrender is also a form of Keke accepting the destiny of God.

Firm stance means a strong stance that we make as a guide in living life. People who have a firm stance are people who have opinions that are not easily changed. The firm stance shown in Keke's character in the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* is as follows.

"But this is important for our team. Keke has to come. Do you want Andi's permission? If it's a problem with the doctor, Keke can tell Dad to back off!"

The data above shows that Keke's character is a human being who has a strong stance and is firm in her stance. Even though Keke is sick in order to save her volleyball team, she is willing to postpone her schedule to see a doctor and still wants to defend her volleyball team.

D. Discussion

Literary work is a main container of ideas that exist within the author, where literary work itself is a very important material in the field of Indonesian language. Literary work is also very important for society because literary work itself is an expression that relates to thoughts that have a very good relationship in human life. In addition, literary works have benefits for readers because literary works themselves are structures that seem to describe and involve humans in real life.

According to Pradopo (2006), the pragmatic approach is an approach that views literary works as a means to convey certain goals to readers. According to Wiyatmi (2006), an introduction to literary studies that discusses the pragmatic approach is an approach that views literary works as a means to convey something in the form of politics, education, morals, religion, or other goals. The success of a literary work is measured by its readers. A successful literary work is one that is considered capable of providing "pleasure" and "value". Although the pragmatic dimension includes the author and the reader, it is the reader who is dominant. Therefore, the process of communication and understanding of literary works influences and determines the reader's attitude towards the literary works he/she encounters. The success of a literary work is measured by its readers. A successful literary work is one that is considered capable of providing "pleasure" and "value". Although the pragmatic dimension includes the author and the reader, it is the reader who is dominant. Therefore, the process of communication and understanding of literary works influences and determines the reader's attitude towards the literary works they encounter.

According to Nurgiyantoro Burhan (2013) human problems with themselves can vary in type and level of intensity. Human problems with humans in everyday life are

inseparable from the Creator. As a human being remembers God by worshiping according to the teachings of the religion he adheres to. the behavior of human relations with himself is classified in all forms of moral teachings related to the individual as a person who shows the existence of the individual with various attitudes attached to him.

The novel entitled *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* is a book based on the true story of a young girl named Gita Sesa Wanda Cantika aka Keke, a beautiful, smart girl and a 13-year-old former child singing artist, who was the first soft tissue cancer patient in Indonesia. The cancer attacked her beautiful face and made her look like a monster, so the doctor also predicted that her life would not be long anymore. Unwilling to give up on her situation, her father continued to fight so that Keke could escape the doctor's verdict of death. The father's struggle to save his daughter was so touching, Keke who realized her life would end then wrote a small letter to God. God gave her grace in her life, Keke was able to survive with the cancer for three years even though in the end she had to give up fighting the disease.

The moral values of the characters in this literary work can be made as a soritola and in everyday life. One of the moral values in this novel is the love that parents give to children, this parental love is so sincere. Moral is something that the author wants to convey to the reader, which is the meaning contained in a literary work and the meaning suggested through the story. The type of moral value itself can cover a wide range of issues, which is to say, infinite in nature. It can cover all issues of life and living, all issues concerning human dignity. The following is a synopsis of the novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan*.

This novel tells the sad story of a girl named Keke or Gita Sesa Wanda Cantika. She was affected by a rare disease called *Rapdosniosarcoma* or in layman's language known as soft tissue cancer. Keke was the first patient in Indonesia to be detected with the disease. This makes her story very moving. Keke was diagnosed with the disease at the age of 13 and in just five days the soft tissue cancer slowly changed Keke's young face. She became someone unrecognizable because her face became something that was not pleasing to the eye. For children, perhaps Keke's face would be called a monster...

Keke's struggle was sweet, because the team of doctors managed to cure her disease. This became an achievement in itself for the world of medicine in Indonesia at

that time and became a byword in other countries. Many asked how the malignant disease could be conquered. The polemic finally got an answer, because Keke was only "temporarily cured". Some time after she underwent treatment, the malignant cancer returned and once again attacked her body and spirit. Keke realized that the time to live could no longer be extended with medicine and others. Sure enough, so on December 26, 2006 she had to die.

Types of moral values in literary works If a work of fiction contains and offers morals to readers, of course there are many types and forms of moral teachings that are suggested. In a long work of fiction, there is often more than one moral message. This is not to mention based on the consideration and interpretation of the reader, which can also differ in terms of number and type. The type and or form of moral message contained in a literary work will depend on the beliefs, desires, and interests of the author concerned.

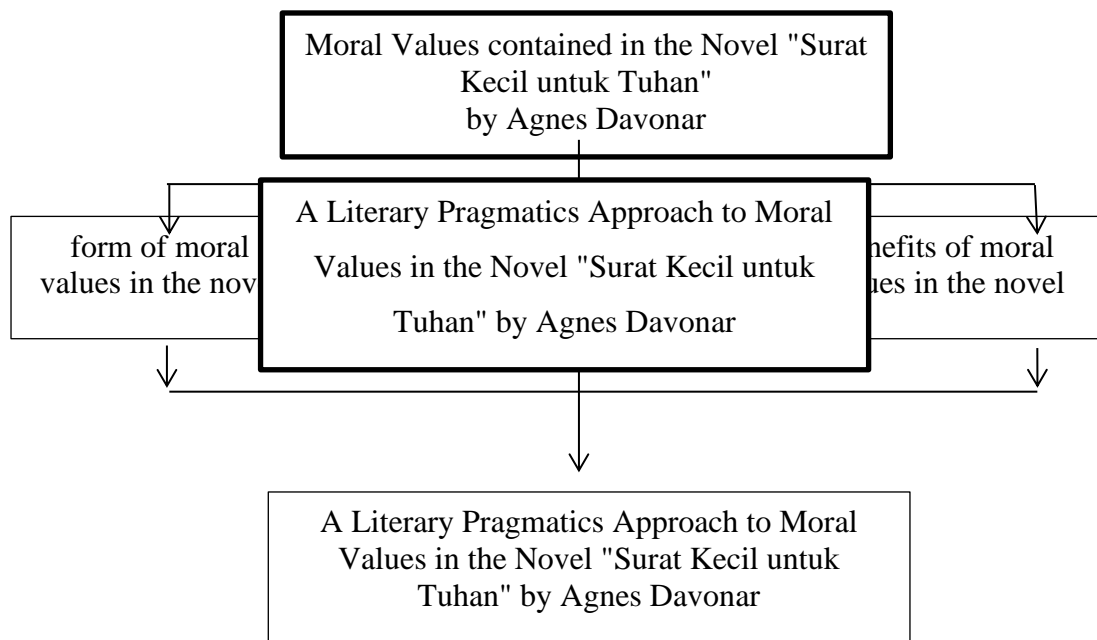
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The direct form of conveying moral messages is identical to the way of describing character traits, *telling* or *explaining*, and *expository*. If in the description technique the author directly describes the characterization of the story character which is "telling" or makes it easier for the reader to understand, this also happens in conveying moral messages. This means that the morals to be conveyed or taught to the reader are done directly and explicitly. The author in this case Literary works are aesthetic works that have a function to entertain, provide emotional and intellectual pleasure. To be able to play such a role, a literary work must have a complete unity between all its elements. Direct moral messages usually feel forced and less coherent with other elements. Direct moral messages can also involve or be involved with the story, the characters, and the storyline. That is, we are dealing with a story, but the content of the story itself is very tendentious, and the reader can easily understand the message. Works of fiction that contain direct moral messages are often found in early Indonesian novels, although sometimes they can still be perceived in later novels. When compared to the previous

form, the form of conveying moral messages here is indirect. The message is only implied in the story, coherently combined with other story elements.

The moral messages that can be taken from the novel Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan by Agnes Davonar are based on direct and indirect delivery. The direct delivery consists of: (1) Accepting God's destiny; 2) Believing in God the Creator; (3) Sincerity; (4) Fortitude, and (5) Patience shown through the main character, Keke. Then the indirect form of delivery in this novel consists of: (1) Parental advice; (2) Parental love; (3) Parental responsibility; and (4) Friendship between the main character and other supporting characters.

Moral values that relate humans to other humans in the social or natural environment are shown by the characters in the story. The characters Keke, Mr. Jodi, Andi, Mr. Yus and Keke's friends often present aspects of doing good to others, having a sense of empathy and solidarity with others, and not having prejudice against others. Meanwhile, moral values that relate humans to God are reflected in the characters' stories. The characters present in the story often bring aspects of believing in God, being grateful to God and carrying out his commands and staying away from his prohibitions.



E. Conclusion

Based on the results of research and discussion of the novel "Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan" by Agnes Davonar, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The form of moral values contained in the novel Surat Kecil Untuk Tuhan includes: The form of moral value has three types, namely the first form of moral value in human relations with God has variants in the form of faith and prayer to God, the second form of moral value in human relations with oneself has variants of patience, sincerity and student responsibility for education, while the form of moral value in human relations with other humans has advice from parents to children, advice between friends, parents' affection for children, children's affection for parents, affection between friends, and parents' responsibility to children. The most data found in the form of moral values is the form of moral values of human relations with other humans in the form of parental affection for children.
2. The benefits of moral values of the main character in facing life problems in the novel Surat Kecil Untuk Tuhan include good and bad behavior. There are several variants of the character's morals contained in the novel Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan, namely accepting God's destiny, being firm, surrendering, working hard, praying to God, not giving up easily, and not being steadfast in facing trials. The most data in the main character's morals are accepting God's destiny and not steadfast in facing trials.

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