The character education of the novel “Rantau 1 Muara”

Achmad Yasin
Bina Sarana Informatika University
e-mail: achmad.yai@bsi.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This research method uses a qualitative descriptive method with analytical techniques. The research object used is the novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi. This research focuses on researching the values of character education which include religious values, honesty, hard work, creativity, curiosity, love of the motherland, respect for friendship, friendship/communicative, fond of reading, and social care. Data collection techniques were carried out by means of researchers reading, understanding, determining each element of the novel intrinsic and extrinsic. Then the researcher determines every statement from the characters contained in the novel and then analyzes it and applies it in learning literature in high school. The results of this study can be concluded that there are 77 value statements of character education which are divided into 7 religious values, 5 honest values, 8 hard work values, 6 creative values, 4 curiosity values, 8 love the country values, 5 respect achievement values, 21 values friendly/communicative, 6 values fond of reading, and 7 values social care. In this study, friendly/communicative values dominate, this has been proven by the many algorithms that refer to these values.

INTRODUCTION

Education is able to direct children to be intelligent and well-mannered person. The function of education is to produce human beings strong in society. Through education it is hoped that someone can understand with reason, understand with his feelings and can run or implement the acquired knowledge in people's lives.

Learning is an activity carried out by students to get information, knowledge in a comfortable learning environment that makes it easier for students to gain new knowledge every day. In order for learning activities to achieve results the maximum need to be cultivated factors that support such as good student conditions, facilities and a supportive environment, as well proper learning process. In the implementation of learning, the three factors namely students, environment, and institutions are very influential to the success of the learning process. In addition to the facilities and infrastructure that support the success of learning activities. Another aspect is the teacher. Teachers who act actively build a fun and conducive learning atmosphere, teachers also need to innovate in their teaching methods this is to shape the character of students.

Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the System National Education states that Education is conscious and planned effort to create an atmosphere of learning and learning process so that students are active develop his potential to have spiritual strength religion, self-control, personality, intelligence, morals noble character, as well as the skills needed by himself, society nation and state (Yaumi et al., 2014). In this study, according to Juwariyah & Sumartini (2019) especially Indonesian language and literature teachers are often constrained in reference to teaching materials that are applied to students, the application of appropriate teaching materials is also often not considered. Meanwhile, students need new things for them to learn.

Learning Indonesian language and literature will be easier and more enjoyable if the selection of learning materials is appropriate. a teaching material that is relevant and "close" to students' lives, plus the language used is easy to understand. This can be balanced by reading and appreciating period novels now, without neglecting old novels (formerly). In addition, learning literature is still emphasis
on history and literary theory for classic reasons like limited time or minimal, binding curriculum, and for the sake of exam success.

A novel is a type of literary work that is popular and loved among young people because the story is interesting and leaves a special impression on the reader. The impression readers get varies from the impact of the story to knowing the events of the story. The novel is a journey of a person's life story, presenting the events experienced by the characters in the series and showing the character and characteristics of each character in the story. As an imaginative work, fiction offers various problems of humans and humanity, life and livelihood. The author lives these problems with full sincerity which is then expressed again through fictional means according to his views.

According to Nuragiyantoro (2018) elements of construction exist in the novel, including internal and external elements. The internal element consists of the theme, namely the main idea of the story, the time and place, i.e. the event of the story, the point of view, i.e. the way of looking at the author puts itself in a specific position in the story, the plot, namely the structure of the sequence of events, the characters and characteristics in the story, namely the actors who portray the characters in the story, the style of the language, namely the language used to show the interactions between the characters, and the messages, namely the messages, advice that the writer conveys to the reader.

When reading a novel, the reader will get the values contained in the novel such as social, cultural, moral, religious, character education values and others. According to Diana (2016) The novel as a work of fiction offers a world, a world that contains an idealized model of life, an imaginative world, which is built based on its intrinsic elements, all of that goes according to its coherence system.

Researchers are interested in analyzing the value of character education. According to Chairiyah (2017) Character education is a continuous and never-ending process, resulting in a balanced quality improvement. Realizing students with good character is the government's strategic agenda Indonesia at this time. The agenda has even been implemented through a national movement since 2010. According to Murdiono et al. (2014) Character is a way of thinking and behaving that is characteristic of a person, which character both seen as capable of directing and influencing a person or group of people to do well.

According (La ode Onde et al., 2020) character is not limited to knowledge alone, one who has good knowledge not necessarily able to act accordingly knowledge, if not trained (be habit) to do the good. According to Rahmat & Tanshzil (2017) characters also span the realm of emotion and self habits. Thus, it takes three components of good character (components of good character), namely moral knowing (knowledge about morals), moral feeling or feelings (emotional reinforcement) about morals, and morals action or moral action.

According to Rofi’ie (2019) Character education is a system that instills values character in students, which contains components of knowledge, individual awareness, determination, and the will and action to carry out values, both towards God, oneself, fellow human beings, the environment, and nation that will eventually create the best human being. According to Yaumi et al. (2014) There are 18 values in character education values including religious values, honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creative, independent, democratic, curiosity, national spirit, love of the motherland, respect for achievement, friendly or communicative, love peace, love to read, environmental care, social care, responsibility.

The novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi is the choice of researcher because the novel contains character education values that can be found in the storyline and the characters in the novel, especially Alif as the main character struggling to achieve his dreams. After Canada and Singapore, Alif wants to set foot in America. With faith, perseverance, and prayers, Alif struggled to win a Masters scholarship in America.

Researchers see not only the story of Alif's extraordinary struggle, but also his love story. The love he meant was not only for the girl he married, but love for the Creator, how Alif was grateful that as long as his dream came true. To his mother, how did Alif always ask for the mother's prayers and blessings to get convenience and be more confident in making important decisions. Towards his friends, how Alif takes a lot of lessons from his friends, and appreciates the differences of opinion that always occur. Towards Indonesia, how is Alif's attitude, who decided to return to Indonesia after getting everything he wanted in America.

The researcher found the relationship between the Rantau 1 Muara novel and current high school students. Currently high school students seem to have lost their way, we can see many cases
involving high school students who are the successors of this nation. From cases of cheating during exams to cases of brawls between students, this concern must come to an end, because the future of the nation lies with them, but behind it all, not a few are able to excel at the national and international levels.

With the inspirational contents of the Rantau 1 Muara novel, it is hoped that it will motivate high school students to study harder so that their goals can be realized. It is not impossible with this motivation, to get a scholarship to continue higher education at the world's favorite university like Alif in the novel. Alif's passion and persistence in studying is a good example for students to achieve their dreams like Alif. Not only persistent in studying, but also good in attitude and speech. This shows that being smart or intelligent must also be balanced by attitude.

This research is related to what has been researched by Wicaksono & Sumartini (2014) entitled “Novel Negeri 5 Menara Karya Ahmad Fuadi sebagai Pilihan Bahan Ajar Sastra Indonesia di SMA.” discusses the novel as one of the learning materials for Indonesian literature in high school and briefly discusses strengthening the character of the main character of the novel. The purpose of this study is to determine the value of character education contained in the novel Rantau 1 Muara and can be one of the materials for learning literature in high school.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study seeks to naturally describe the strengthening of character education through the novel as a literature teaching material in high school. Therefore, research it is appropriate to use a descriptive qualitative approach. This is in line with the characteristics of the study qualitative as research conducted with the aim of knowing the value of character education and its relevance to current students. Qualitative research can help researchers to access the thoughts and feelings of research participants, where possible developing an understanding of the meaning derived from their experiences.

According to Anggito & Setiawan (2018) Research comes from the English word "research" or in another sense it is called research. Research consists of two words "re" which means back and "to search" which means searching. When interpreted linguistically means "looking back". Qualitative research is the collection of data in a natural setting with the intention of interpreting phenomena that occur where the researcher is the key instrument. Qualitative descriptive research is aimed to describe and describe phenomena that exist, either character natural as well as human engineering, which is more paying attention to the characteristics quality, interrelationships between activities. Data collection techniques used are observation, interviews and literature study/documentation. Where as selection of informants using techniques purposive sampling (Anggito & Setiawan, 2018).

This research uses a descriptive method. According to Utami et al. (2021) descriptive research means research that is directed to provide facts, symptoms, or events in a systematic and accurate manner regarding the nature of a population or a particular area. The characteristics of qualitative research are as follows, research data is in the form of words, processed using a description method, the main research instrument is humans, more concerned with process than results, and research results can change according to the progress of the times. According to Alfianika (2016) Descriptive research states qualitative descriptive approach focuses on a scientific point of view and based on characters contained in the data, as well as describe in detail the facts contained in the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, researchers chose 10 out of 18 values of character education including, religious, honest, hard work, creative, curiosity, love of the motherland, respect for achievement, friendly or communicative, fond of reading, and social care. The research findings prove that from the entire novel which contains 46 chapters with 395 pages in the novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi, 27 quotations contain character education values.

Religious

Obedient attitude and behavior in carrying out the teachings of the religion they adhere to, tolerant of other religious practices, and always living in harmony with adherents of other religions.
“Kalau aku tidak capek, malam-malam aku bangun dan bersimpuh di sajadah minta kemudahan dalam hidupku dan karierku. Di saat khusyuk do’a, kadang-kadang aku terganggu oleh linduran dangdur ala Pasus yang meringkuk di balik sarungnya.” (page 71)

The quote above describes Alif spending a third of the night to worship God Almighty, Alif is aware that effort alone is not enough to achieve a goal.


The quote above explains Alif's thoughts about happiness, that happiness can be achieved if our two tasks as humans can be carried out, then as humans we will get happiness in this world and the hereafter.

**Be honest**

Behavior based on efforts to make oneself a person who can always be trusted in words, actions, and work.

“Tapi dengan satu syarat ya.”

Wah, ternyata ada maunya.

“Sebut saja mas. Aku turuti.”

“Kamu bersedia jadi koresponden Derap untuk Amerika Serikat.”

“Siap mas. Siapa takut!” sambutku lega.

Alif was entrusted by Derap to become a correspondent in the United States, because Derap believed in Alif's potential and Alif still wanted to be a part of Derap even though Alif had to continue his Masters degree in the United States.


This is the first task of Alif and Dinara who are trusted by Derap to conduct interviews and investigations about America's role in Indonesia in 1965, with their good cooperation to get good results.

**Hard Work**

Behavior that shows genuine effort in overcoming various learning and assignment obstacles, and completing assignments as well as possible.

“Tentulah aku beruntung. Seandainya dia tahu dan meraskan bagaimana aku mengorbankan kenikmatan-kenikmatan sesaat untuk bisa sampai “beruntung”. Berapa ratus malam sepi yang aku habiskan sampai dini hari untuk mengasah kemampuanku, belajar, membaca, menulis, dan berlatih tanpa henti. Melebihi antusiasmaku diatas rata-rata orang lain agar aku bisa meningkatkan harkat diriku.” (page 8)

To achieve what he wants, Alif is willing to reduce his sleeping allowance to study and practice his abilities, so that Alif can be above the average of other people his age.

Pasus tells how he managed to conquer the conglomerate that was assigned to him for an interview. His persistent and clever efforts to take advantage of the hobbies of his sources made Pasus get good interview results, and he was awarded the journalist of the week award at Derap.

“Minggu ini aku memutuskan untuk kerja paruh waktu di kampus sebagai staf Ticket Master, agen penjualan tiket pertandingan olahraga dan musik. Kantornya ada di tengah kampus, sehingga memudahkan aku untuk membagi waktu antara kelas dan kerja. Waktu kerja juga diatur, hanya 20 jam dalam seminggu. Walau gajinya kecil, hanya 6 dolar per 1 jam, tapi ini pekerjaan yang pas buat aku sekarang. Tidak terlalu banyak tuntutan, hanya menjaga loket dan kalau sepem embeli, aku bisa sambil membaca buku kuliah dan mengetik paper. Aku juga mulai mencari informasi tentang beasiswa dari kampus. Aku tahu Dinara juga punya mimpi melanjutkan sekolah ke luar negeri.” (page 240)

Studying and working side by side certainly drains a lot of energy. Alif realizes that to marry Dinara and bring her to America, it requires large capital, by working part time as a Ticket Master staff to be the solution.

Creative
Think and do something to produce new ways or results from something you already have.


Alif was refused when he was late paying tuition fees and re-registered, then proudly pointed out that Alif was late because he represented Unpad as an exchange student to Canada, because of this proof Alif could re-register for college next semester.

“Untuk mempermudah komunikasi dengan beberapa redaktur, aku kini punya pager yang kerap bergetar di pinggang. Setiap getar, rasanya sebuah kemewahan. Setiap getar biasanya membawa rezeki.”(page 9)

With the result of sending a lot of writing to various print media, Alif is often asked to write by various print media in Bandung. The creative idea emerged, Alif made a pager to make it easier to communicate with several print media editors.

Pasus recounted how cleverly he ingratiated his interviewee. By taking advantage of the interviewee's hobby, he immediately became close like an old friend who had not met. Finally, Pasus got good interview results from him.

Curiosity

Attitudes and actions that always seek to know more deeply and broadly from something that is learned, seen, and heard.


Alif has just received a letter from Jakarta, he is accepted to work there, with the arrival of the letter, butterfly knowledge becomes an example for Alif to make decisions. Alif feels the need to prove whether this butterfly science works.

“Tahukah kalian, kalau menulis itu sesungguhnya membuat kalian awet muda?” Kami menggeleng lesu.
“Aku bertanya iseng,”Lho, kok seperti jamu saja Ustad, bisa bikin awet muda.” (page 39)

Flashback, when Alif and his friends were at Islamic boarding school, they felt lazy and bored being in the Syams magazine community because of the routine they lived. Alif was curious about what Ustad had said, then Ustad gave advice to them so that they were excited about carrying out their duties at Shams magazine again.

Love of the Motherland

Ways of thinking, behaving, and acting that show loyalty, care, and high appreciation for the nation’s language, environment, physical, social, cultural, economic, and political politics.


His return from Canada made Alif's nationalist level rise. This is evident in the quote above, how he proudly nailed the Indonesian flag on his bedroom wall.

“Dalam sekejap, Indonesia dipenuhi demonstrasi seiring dengan harga dollar yang membubung dan kenaikan harga BBM. Aku dan Geng Uno, walau sudah lulus, tetap ikut bergabung dengan demo mahasiswa sampai ke Gedung Sate. Ketika hampir semua kampus bergerak di segala penjuru Tanah Air. untuk pertama kalinya Pak Harto yang selama ini perkasa, tampak mulai goyah.” (page 19)

The New Order period, the moment to save Indonesia again due to the economic crisis that hit. All students in Indonesia demonstrated to overthrow Pak Harto's leadership.

Appreciate Achievements

Attitudes and actions that encourage him to produce something useful for society, and recognize and respect the success of others.

mahasiswa yang terkenal. Ia disegani oleh kawan dan lawan dan juga dipuja oleh para mahasiswa.” (page 11)

Wira and Alif appreciate each other's strengths, Alif who successfully flew to Canada for a student exchange, while Wira as an activist on campus and known as the leader of the student movement earned him the respect of friends and enemies alike.

“Konsistensi yang diperlihatkan Randai sebentar lagi akan mengantarkan dia mencapai impian kami berdua dulu, yaitu belajar membuat pesawat sampai ke Jerman, tempat Habibie bersekolah. Sedangkan aku?” (page 29)

“Jika aku lihat Randai, maka dia sudah melakukan konsistensi paling tidak enam tahun sampai sekarang. Kultiah teknik penerbangan selama lima tahun dan dia langsung bekerja di industri penerbangan. Dia fokus, dia tekun, dia konsisten di bidangnya. Tidak heran kalu di punya terobosan dalam hidupnya.” (page 29)

Since childhood, Randai and Alif have always competed to show who is better between them. When he graduated from college, Alif realized that he had lost far from Randai, who was consistent in his field and would soon realize his dream. Alif appreciated Randai's struggles, saw Randai's consistency, Alif reflected, assess himself, and realize that writing is his current field.


Dinara's praise and appreciation was given to Alif who became the journalist of the week, an award for journalists who managed to make good coverage from sources that were quite difficult to beat.

Friendly/Communicative
Actions that show pleasure in talking, socializing, and working with others.


Alif and his landlady are quite close, this is evident in the quote above. Assisted by the chatty character of a boarding house mother, Alif often gets the hottest news from her.


Uda Ramon was willing to share his boarding room with Alif who moved to Jakarta from Bandung, because Alif was accepted to work in Jakarta.


Alif and Pasus' closeness began when they first met at Derap, they told each other about themselves to be more intimate and became the subject of their conversation throughout the day.
Alif’s friendship in Derap was very close, with a relaxed but serious atmosphere that made each other friends, co-workers who worked well together.

Likes to Read

The habit of providing time to read various readings that provide virtue for him

“Malam-malam ketika akan tidur, aku tinggal mencomot buku yang ini kubaca sebagai pengantar tidur dari perpustakaan redaksi. Rasanya seperti memiliki perpustakaan pribadi. Begitu terus aku lakukan setiap hari.”(page 70)

Since college, Alif has liked to read before going to sleep, apart from gaining knowledge it can also be a bedtime. Alif stayed long enough in the office, in order to save living expenses, so Alif easily read whatever books he liked in the office library.

“For the sake of the scholarship he wants almost every free time, and before going to bed, Alif takes the time to study TOEFL

“Alif bangkit, beranjak turun ke perpustakaan. Siapa tahu membaca bisa menenangkanku dan membuatku mengantuk. Atau mungkin aku bisa menemukan buku tentang pekerjaan yang bisa memotivasiku. Mungkin ada sesuatu yang bisa buat aku punya keyakinan lebih kuat tentang masa depan kerjaku.” (page 110)

One night, Alif couldn't sleep. Alif decides to go to the library, he finds a book that can motivate him according to what he wants to achieve, after reading the book and transferring the sentence to his notebook, Alif is increasingly confident to face his future.

Social Care

Attitudes and actions that always want to provide assistance to other people and communities in need


Setelah saling melambaikan tangan, dia kembali menuju meja kami. (page 203)

At the beginning of Alif’s meeting with Mas Garuda, Alif already knew that Mas Garuda was a good person, this was proven when Mas Garuda helped a wheelchair-bound grandmother who wanted to go down the ramp.

Mas Garuda, who knows that Alif is having trouble finding the right place to live, Mas Garuda offers Alif to live together, living with Mas Garuda will certainly save his living expenses.


One morning, Alif fell ill because he was tired of working and studying. Mas Garuda, who considered Alif like his own brother, took care of Alif even though he had to be late for work.

From the ten values of character education in the novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi which have been analyzed it is concluded that:

1) Religious Value
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 2 quotations containing religious values are found.

2) Honest Value
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 2 quotes are found that contain honest values.

3) The Value of Hard Work
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 3 quotes are found that contain the value of hard work.

4) Creative Value
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 3 quotes are found that contain creative value.

5) The Value of Curiosity
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 2 quotations are found which contain curiosity value.

6) The Value of Love for the Motherland
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 2 quotations containing love for the motherland are found.

7) Value Appreciate Achievement
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 3 quotes are found that contain the value of appreciating achievement.

8) Friendly/Communicative Value
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 4 quotes that contain friendly/communicative values are found.

9) Value Likes to Read
   In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 3 quotes are found that contain the value of reading fondness.

10) The Value of Social Care
    In the entire novel which contains 46 chapters, 3 quotes are found that contain the value of social care.

Based on the results of the analysis of the novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi. Friendly or communicative values, hard work, and love for the country dominate the character education values in the novel, compared to the other seven values. The results obtained from the analysis of the novel Rantau 1 Muara by Ahmad Fuadi, are loaded with character education values, believed to be values that provide guidance to students to become human beings with character.

Regarding the criteria for determining literature learning materials in high school, this novel shows its feasibility, because the content is very impressive, can provide fun, learning, full of life motivations that make students rich in experience and knowledge from the novels they read. The values of character education are a picture of human struggle in reaching life. Humans who want to move forward must have big goals, be patient, work hard, and have the courage to face something. These values are instilled in students so that they gain useful life experiences, have a mature mindset, and live a more educated life. Thus literary works in novels can equip students to live a more educated, virtuous and cultured life.
CONCLUSION
The results of this study can be concluded that there are 77 value statements of character education which are divided into 7 religious values, 5 honest values, 8 hard work values, 6 creative values, 4 curiosity values, 8 love the country values, 5 respect achievement values, 21 values friendly/communicative, 6 values fond of reading, and 7 values social care. In this study, friendly/communicative values dominate, this has been proven by the many algorithms that refer to these values. Through this novel, the author invites you to achieve the highest goals, no matter how high your goals will be achieved if there is a persistent desire and effort and always pray. The Rantau 1 Muara novel will certainly inspire anyone who reads it, especially school students who sometimes don't know what potential lies within them, this novel invites readers to find out how much we know ourselves.

REFERENCES