

THE EFFECT OF READING THE NOVEL "LAUT BER CERITA" ON THE MINDSET OF STUDENTS IN ASSESSING INDONESIAN HISTORY AND POLITICS THROUGH LITERARY WORKS

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ABSTRACT

The current young generation has a low interest in history and politics. History and politics are often considered boring and uninteresting. Apart from that, the rapid development of the times makes history seem to be forgotten and denied. History is something that teenagers consider to be just a thing of the past. In fact, the formation of a nation, including Indonesia, of course involves history and politics which have an important role in formulating its existence. There are actually many things that can be done to foster the interest of the younger generation so that they are interested and willing to study history and politics, one of which is through literary works. In fact, history was once part of literature, therefore students' thinking patterns regarding history and politics can develop through learning literary appreciation, namely by reading and analyzing a literary work. Political history, which is part of life, is reviewed in novel form so that it can provide an attraction for readers to study political history indirectly. Reading the novel "Sea Ber cerita" by Leila S. Chudori can have an influence on the reader's own mindset regarding interest in contemporary history-politics indirectly both in terms of expanding historical-political knowledge, developing empathy for various perspectives, and stimulating reflection about values of life.

Keywords: *Influence, Literature, History-Politics*

ABSTRAK

Generasi muda saat ini memiliki minat yang rendah terhadap sejarah dan politik. Sejarah dan politik seringkali dianggap sebagai hal yang membosankan dan tidak menarik. Selain itu perkembangan zaman yang begitu pesat, membuat sejarah seperti dilupakan dan disangkal. Sejarah khususnya, menjadi hal yang dianggap kaum remaja sekedar masa lalu saja. Padahal terbentuknya suatu bangsa termasuk Indonesia, di dalamnya tentu saja terlibat sejarah dan politik yang mempunyai peranan penting dalam merumuskan keberadaannya. Banyak hal sebetulnya yang dapat dilakukan untuk menumbuhkan minat generasi muda agar tertarik dan mau mempelajari sejarah dan politik, salah satunya adalah melalui karya sastra. Pada kenyataannya sejarah pernah menjadi bagian dari sastra, karena itu pola pikir siswa mengenai sejarah dan politik dapat berkembang melalui pembelajaran apresiasi sastra yaitu dengan cara membaca dan menganalisis suatu karya sastra. Sejarah politik yang merupakan bagian dalam kehidupan diulas dalam bentuk novel sehingga dapat memberikan daya tarik bagi pembaca untuk mempelajari sejarah politik secara tidak langsung. Membaca novel "Laut Ber cerita" karya Leila S. Chudori dapat memberikan pengaruh terhadap pola pikir pembaca itu sendiri mengenai ketertarikan terhadap sejarah-politik kontemporer secara tidak langsung baik dari segi memperluas pengetahuan sejarah-politik, mengembangkan empati terhadap berbagai perspektif, dan merangsang refleksi tentang nilai-nilai kehidupan.

Kata Kunci : *Pengaruh, Sastra, Sejarah-Politik*

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a vast country with a strong diversity of cultures and customs. As a country with a pluralistic diversity that is rich in history and culture, of course there are many values (history being one of them) that bear witness to the existence of the Indonesian state so that it can remain as strong as it is now. Likewise, increasingly dynamic political developments have become a part of this country's progress.

However, now we are faced with the reality of the young generation's low interest in history and politics. History in particular is often considered boring and uninteresting. Apart from that, the rapid development of the times makes history seem to be forgotten and denied. History is something that teenagers consider to be just stories from the past. In fact, the formation of a nation, including Indonesia, of course involves history and politics which have an important role in formulating its existence. Without relying on history and politics as a unifying cultural symbol, the Indonesian nation would certainly face difficulties in formulating its identity and would certainly be easily divided. History as part of national life functions as a very important strengthening tool for the establishment of a nation that is still in the process of becoming a more advanced nation.

One of the things that causes the younger generation's low interest in history and politics is because at school they consider history lessons to be boring and uninteresting subjects because they have to memorize past events, names of kingdoms and year numbers. While politics is considered something difficult and confusing because it is full of dynamics, especially now in the post-reformation era, citizen participation in the political arena is showing symptoms of lethargy which is indicated by a decline in the quality and quantity of political participation, making the younger generation increasingly lazy about studying politics. There are actually many things that can be done to foster the interest of the younger generation so that they are interested and willing to study history and politics, one of which is through literary works.

In fact, history was once part of literature. Until now, history is also attached to literature, especially in terms of the use of written manuscript sources. History has entered and is known to the public in various forms. History, which is generally written in the form of scientific books that are difficult to understand, is now often expressed in book form as other forms of reading such as historical literary works, in the form of poetry, short stories and novels.

Literary imagination about independence even preceded and provided inspiration for independence movements which became the agenda of political movements in the future (Latif, 2009: 12-13). Literature cannot be separated from the history and politics of Indonesia. The presence of literature in the past has awakened the nation's intellectuals to become a nation that must be free from colonialism. The struggle of the Indonesian people was also accompanied by progress in the field of literature. Literary works containing history and politics must not be written based solely on the author's imagination. This literary work is formed based on a story which cannot be separated from its preparation based on factual events that occurred.

So far, many Indonesian literary works contain political history based on true stories. For example, the novel “Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck”, which is a famous Indonesian historical novel by Buya Hamka. A novel set in the colonial period and telling the story of a love triangle between Zainuddin, Hayati, and Aziz, and depicting the erosion of values and traditions by European modernity.

Students' thinking patterns regarding history and politics can develop through learning literary appreciation, namely by reading and analyzing literary works. Through novel analysis, students have ample space to explore and understand a literary work in depth, both in expressing, developing and expressing ideas, being creative and increasing understanding of the content of the literary work. Through reading activities, students will be able to understand the content and values in literary works and use it as a means to develop their mindset so that students are able to become human beings who have good character, are able to survive and adapt to the social environment, especially understanding how history works. and politics in everyday life in his country. And have certain knowledge and mindset regarding history and politics in their own country.

Another problem that arises is students' low interest in reading literary works, especially those with heavy themes such as history and politics. Reading is often considered a boring and sleepy activity. Reading works is generally done by students only because they receive a learning assignment from the teacher, it is not an activity that they are interested in or a necessity because it has become a hobby. In this regard, because interest in reading is still low among students, their understanding of the content of the reading will be lacking. In fact, reading literary works, especially those with historical and political themes, will have an internal influence on students to be open-minded, broad-minded, and have an attitude towards life towards history and politics. This is in accordance with psycholiterary theory, especially

regarding reader psychology. Reader psychology itself is a type of study and part of literary psychology which focuses on readers of literary works outside of the author, who when readers read and interpret literary works experience various mental situations as an influence from the literature they read.

According to Wiyatmi (2011:56-57), Reader psychology is a type of literary psychology study that focuses on readers, who when reading and interpreting literary works experience various psychological situations. The subject of study in reader psychology are readers who actually read, appreciate and interpret literary works. As humans who have psychological aspects, when reading, appreciating and interpreting the literary works they read, the reader will communicate between interactions and dialogue with the literary works they read.

The communication referred to in Wiyatmi's theory can produce several psychological situations that occur to the reader internally, namely something that can be in the form of emotions that are released while reading or afterwards. For example, when reading a literary work, the reader will feel various feelings, ranging from happiness, sadness, emotion, anger, or crying because their soul has been touched by the depiction of experiences and stories that emerge from the characters in the literary work.

Belong to Wicaksana's (2018:3), literary works are able to influence readers through the moral messages conveyed by the author. This is obtained through self-reflection. Literary works are a reflection of the psychology contained in the characters created by the author. This causes readers to experience psychological problems when they start to get involved in. Then good literary works produce character values in them. Readers can emulate existing character values and apply them in everyday life. Suprpto, et al (2013:4). From the two opinions above, it can be concluded that a literary work, when studied by a reader, can have an indirect influence on the reader, either through implicit moral messages or from the story and character depiction of the characters.

Based on the explanation above, it can be seen that a literary work can have an internal influence on the reader through several things that appear in the literary work such as the story, characters, message, etc. In this research, related to students' low interest in reading and lack of knowledge of political history, the author will explore research regarding the influence of reading literary works containing political history on the mindset of class XII students in assessing Indonesian history and politics through literary works. Meanwhile, the novel chosen to be given to students was the novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori. The choice of this

novel was linked to the mission of the novel which tells the story of Indonesian political history in the contemporary political era, namely the reform era.

METHOD

This research is research to determine the influence of literary works on readers' mindsets after studying them in depth, which was carried out through document analysis in the form of literature studies and questionnaires. The form of this research itself is descriptive qualitative in the form of a depiction of a certain situation using analytical methods. This method is used to examine the contents of a document. Meanwhile, the data source used in this research is a library study document of the novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori as well as other data sources in the form of a questionnaire to assess the extent of the influence of the novel on students' mindsets in assessing Indonesian history and politics.

The type of research method chosen is descriptive analysis, while the definition of the analytical descriptive method according to (Sugiono: 2009; 29) is a method that functions to describe or provide an overview of the object being studied through data or samples that have been collected as they are without carrying out analysis and draw conclusions that apply to the general public. In other words, analytical descriptive research takes problems or focuses attention on problems as they exist when the research is carried out, the research results are then processed and analyzed to draw conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori is a book created and told in several story chapters. In the first act of the novel, which is set in 1998, it tells the story of a student named Biru Laut, the young man was kidnapped by a group of unknown people and he did not even know about it. Together with three friends in his group, Biru Laut was taken to an unknown place and then locked up for some time with various incidents ranging from: being held captive, interrogated, beaten, kicked, hanged, to being electrocuted so that Biru Laut et al would reveal the mastermind behind the group's movements. they were in the activist and student movements at that time. Two years after Biru Laut mysteriously disappeared and was not found, his sister Asmara Jati and the Missing Persons Commission Team and Biru Laut's lover, Anjani, tried to find traces of those who were missing. Likewise, the parents and wives of activists who were

also missing also demanded clarity on the fate of their family members. Meanwhile, from the quiet seabed, Biru Laut told the world about what happened to him and his friends.

Reading as part of literacy is an intellectual activity which can certainly influence the reader's mindset significantly. Historical-political novels in particular offer a unique perspective on past events presented through the eyes of historical or fictional figures involved in those events. Novels that discuss political issues wrapped in history can provide new and in-depth understanding of the dynamics of social and political life in a society.

The results of research conducted on a group of reading enthusiasts at the Katapang Literacy Community (Kolika) showed that reading historical and political novels had a positive and indirect effect on the mindset of the research subjects. Based on the research results, it can be explained that the influence of reading historical and political novels through the novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori is as follows.

Increased Understanding and in-depth Knowledge of History and politics

Apart from the interesting story themes, through historical and political novels, readers can of course develop a deeper understanding and knowledge about historical events and their context. In the next stage, readers will be able to relate past events in the story to their impact on current social, political and cultural conditions.

Apart from that, novels and stories with historical-political nuances often depict situations and atmospheres of the complexity of power relations, ideological conflicts, and political dynamics that exist in society. Through the activity of reading novels on this theme, readers can gain a deeper understanding of how history occurs and takes place, how public policies are made, how power is exercised, and the impact of history and politics on everyday life.

After reading historical-political novels, readers from the Kapatang Literacy Community (Kolika) gain understanding and knowledge about political history. Among them is increasing insight into the background and history of the political turmoil in the reform era in 1998 which involved the student movement which at that time succeeded in besieging the Republic of Indonesia DPR Building and voicing the resignation of the president's power at that time which was filled with rampant corruption, collusion and nepotism.

Reflection on Values and Morals and Social Conditions

The stories contained in historical novels often convey messages about universal values such as justice, friendship, courage, and so on. Readers of historical novels will respond by reflecting these values in their daily lives.

Meanwhile, political novels often reflect the social and political realities of a certain period. Through their stories and characters, these novels can raise awareness of relevant social problems, such as economic inequality, corruption, or ethnic tensions. Readers can consider how these issues are reflected in real life and how society can interact to change them.

The violations of humanity with kidnapping and torture depicted in the novel “Laut Bercerita” provide a reflection of the thoughts of readers in the Katapang Literacy Community (Kolika) that violations of humanitarian values and principles are violations of humanity that should be addressed and not repeated in real life on a daily basis. For example, Penembakan km 50, Penembakan Rembang, or the brutality of motorbike gangs.

Development of Analytical and Critical Skills

Reading historical and political novels requires deep analytical and critical thinking. Readers are challenged to understand the background of each character, motives and conflicts that occur. This can help hone analytical and problem-solving skills, which are useful in everyday life situations as well as in understanding complex political news.

Reading the novel “Laut Bercerita” by readers indirectly develops critical thinking about the content of the story. Like why did Biru Laut et al make the move? Why were they kidnapped and abused? Or what can be done to help others?

Empathy and Understanding of Different Perspectives

Political novels often depict conflicts between various groups or individuals with different backgrounds and views. Reading about the experiences and perspectives of the characters in the novel Laut Tells can help readers to better understand the various political viewpoints that exist in society. This can certainly strengthen feelings of empathy and tolerance for differences of opinion.

If they oppose the perpetrators and have empathy for the events in the novel, it will have an impact beyond understanding that the younger generation must know the history of what

happened in the country, so that they have an attitude of assessing the current conditions, at least empathy and attention and being able to assess the injustices that occur. happen.

Values in the novel Laut Bercerita

In the novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori, there are several deep and relevant values that readers address based on research on book readers in the Katapang Literacy Community (Kolika), including:

1. Human Values

After being analyzed by readers, this novel illustrates how important it is to maintain human values in the midst of political upheaval and social conflict. The main characters such as Biru Laut, Arifin Bramantyo, Kinan Kinanti, etc., although involved in political activism, still show empathy and concern for fellow humans. Readers think that the activists are trying to help people who are affected by unjust policies in the countries they live in.

2. Value of Justice

Based on the reader's understanding, the center of the story in this novel is the struggle for justice. The characters struggle against injustice in the novels they read, both experienced and witnessed by the characters naturally, both directly and indirectly. From the reader's perspective, Biru Laut et al show their determination to expose the truth and speak out about violated human rights despite the enormous risks they have to face.

3. Friendship and Solidarity

The relationship between Biru Laut, Arifin Bramantyo, Kinan Kinanti, etc. in the novel Laut Bercerita read by the Katapang Literacy Community (Kolika) illustrates the power of solidarity and friendship in the midst of trials and pressure. They support each other, encourage each other, and together face the tough challenges they face.

4. Civil Heroism

The novel "Laut Bercerita" raises the theme of civil heroism, the characters with smart and brave characters that readers understand do not use violence or physical strength to fight injustice, but they use their voices, their writing, and their courage to speak and act for better change.

Through these values, readers understand that Leila S. Chudori not only presents an engaging story, but also invites readers to reflect on the meaning of justice, courage in

facing injustice, and the importance of solidarity in facing difficult times in the nation's history.

Discussion

Reading the novel "Laut Bercerita" by Leila S. Chudori can have various deep influences on the reader. The following are some of the positive impacts that can be felt after research subjects at the Katapang Literacy Community (Kolika) read this novel:

1. Deeper Understanding of History

The novel "Laut Bercerita" provides a deeper picture of Indonesian history, especially the important period from 1965 to 1998. Readers gain a broader and more complex perspective on important events, political conflicts, and their social impact on society and individuals.

2. Reflection on Social and Political Conditions

"Laut Bercerita" seems to invite readers to reflect on the social and political conditions in the Indonesian context at that time, as well as how power dynamics and political changes affect the daily lives of ordinary people. This can trigger critical reflection on current social conditions and their relevance to the past.

3. Introduction to Complex Characters

The characters in the novel "Laut Bercerita" have complex backgrounds, struggles and moral dilemmas. After reading about the journey of Biru Laut et al, it opens the reader's eyes to the psychological and moral complexities faced by individuals in harsh political situations.

4. Empowerment of Alternative Narratives

Through the perspective of its characters, this novel introduces an alternative narrative that may rarely be heard or represented in official history. This gives readers the opportunity to hear different voices and question established narratives.

5. Increased Empathy and Social Awareness

By following the emotional and intellectual journeys of the characters, readers can develop deeper empathy for the suffering and struggles experienced by others, as well as social awareness of issues of justice, human rights, and the importance of solidarity in the face of injustice.

6. Inspiration to take action or take an active role

This book can inspire readers not only to be passive spectators of the socio-political life around them, but also to play an active role in fighting for the human values and justice raised in the novel "Laut Bercerita".

Overall, reading "Laut Bercerita" is not just about getting literary entertainment, but is also an in-depth learning experience about history, human values, and human complexity in facing tough historical challenges.

This research provides insight into how historical literature not only brings the past to life but also shapes the future through its influence on individual thought patterns. As in literary psychology, the reader is like a king who has the right to create a red and green work. Then you have the freedom of imagination which is often uncontrolled so that literary works are often more beautiful than the original when read by readers so that they stick in their minds.

CONCLUSION

These findings show that reading historical and political novels is not just simply entertaining, but also has a significant impact on individuals' mindsets. By expanding historical knowledge, developing empathy for multiple perspectives, and stimulating reflection about life values, reading historical novels can form more complex thought patterns and a deeper understanding of the world. The implications of this research can be used to encourage the reading of historical novels in formal and informal education as a means of enriching learning experiences and developing critical literacy.

Reading novels with historical and political nuances is not only beneficial for personal development, but also for a broader understanding of the social and political dynamics around us. By deepening knowledge about politics, improving analytical skills, and broadening perspectives, readers can become more informed citizens and aware of the role of politics in our lives. Even simpler, readers will absorb more historical and political material in the form of stories than formal non-fiction writing such as that contained in textbooks.

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